



What is a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)?

When an adult who needs care and support either dies or suffers harm, and when abuse or neglect is thought to have been a factor, the Worcesterstershire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) may need to review what has happened. This is called a Safeguarding Adults Review or SAR for short.

These reviews are to see whether any lessons can be learned about the way organisations worked together to support and protect the person who died or suffered harm.

A SAR is **not** an enquiry into the cause of an individual death or injury and it does **not** look for someone to blame. A SAR referral can only be made by an organisation. If a person is unhappy about the care and support that has been given to an adult, they should raise their concerns with the organisation/s concerned.

SARs can only be carried out if particular criteria are met:

- The adult has care and support needs and is therefore unable to protect themselves from abuse or neglect
- The adult has died, and WSAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not it knew about or suspected the abuse or neglect before the adult died) or
- The adult is still alive, and WSAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect

During the SAR all of the organisations who worked with the adult are asked to provide information about what they did and to think about what they can do better in future. An independent person looks at all of the information and writes a detailed report which explains whether care professionals can learn anything from what happened.

If you want to know more about the guidance for Safeguarding Adults Reviews, this can be found on Worcesterstershire Safeguarding Adults Board Safeguarding Adults Review webpage www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wsab