



**Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board**  
**Easy Read Annual Report**  
**2022 - 2023**



## Message from our Chair

### **Professor Keith Brown, who is the Independent Chair of Worcestershire Safeguarding Board says:**



This Annual Report shows all the hard work that has gone on this year. Whilst most of us, don't have to worry as much about covid 19 it is still difficult for some. The health and social care services have struggled with getting staff which can make it hard for them to deliver services as well as they would like at times.

I want to thank the Safeguarding Board staff who have worked hard to make sure there are good services for the most vulnerable people living in Worcestershire. This year we have improved our Self-Neglect and Hoarding Policy and introduced a Complex Adult Risk Management (CARM) framework, both which will help to make people's lives safer. We have also produced two podcasts which can be found on the WSAB website.

Please take time to read this report, it shows how hard the services work together in Worcestershire to make things better for those people with care and support needs.

# What does the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board do?



## The Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board:

- ↗ Keeps people safe from abuse or neglect
- ↗ Makes sure that agencies all work together so that people are kept safe and supported to make their own decisions
- ↗ If abuse or neglect does occur, the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adult Board will make sure it is looked into

# Who is part of the Safeguarding Board?



**The Board is made up of people from many agencies:**

- Worcestershire County Council
- West Mercia Police
- NHS Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
- Hereford & Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
- Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
- National Probation Service
- Regulatory Services



# Who is part of the Safeguarding Board?



## Agencies continued:

Worcestershire Voices

Representative from Worcestershire Housing Strategic Partnership

Representative from Care Homes Representative from

Carer Reference Group Representative from Advocacy

Reference Group Representative from People with Lived

Experience (PwLE) Lead Councillor for Adult Social Care

Public Health

Representative from Independent Health Providers

# The Safeguarding Board's Annual Budget



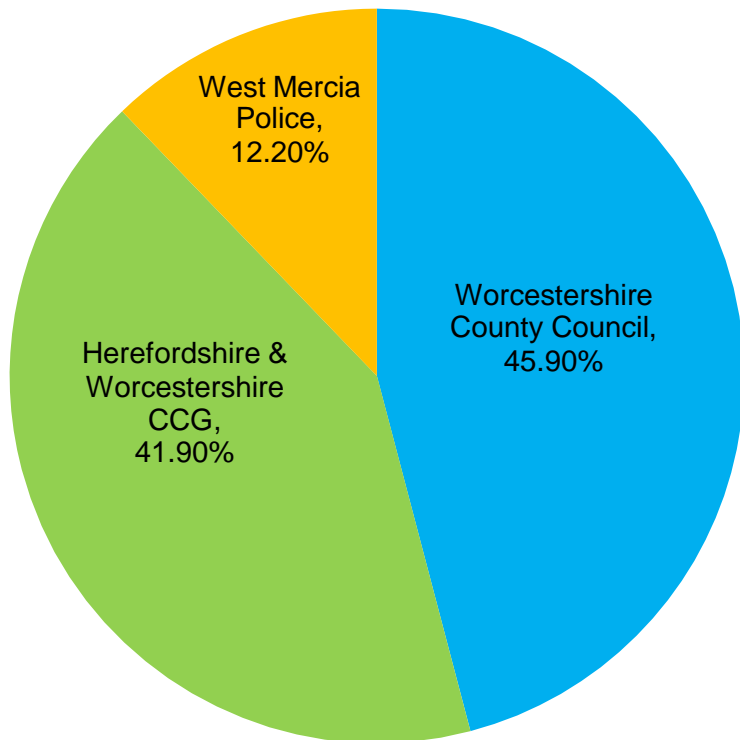
- ↗ The Annual budget for the year 2022 – 2023 was £134,450
- ↗ This is the money that the Board can use to support the service
- ↗ The total spent for the year was £174,385. The overspend was predicted and covered by money from previous years.

## How was the money spent?



Staff and Administration Costs	£113,537
Special Projects <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploitation and CARM Coordinator (temporary)</li></ul>	£15,001
Safeguarding Adult Reviews	£15,229
Other Work	£30,584
<b>Total Spend</b>	<b>£174,385</b>

## How is the Safeguarding Board funded?



**The Annual Budget is made up from money given by these three partners:**

- ↗ Worcestershire County Council - 45.9 %
- ↗ Herefordshire & Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group - 41.9 %
- ↗ West Mercia Police - 12.20 %

# How does the Worcestershire Safeguarding Board Work?



↗ There are 3 reference groups that find and raise safeguarding issues to the Safeguarding Board. They act for people with support and care needs, their carers and families

↗ There are 3 subgroups that work with the Worcester Safeguarding Adult Board. They work together to make plans so the Safeguarding Board can do their job

↗ The plans are looked at throughout the year



# About the Care Act

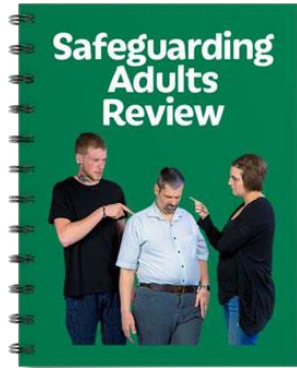


**The Care Act 2014 put a duty into place to do Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) when the following things happen:**

- ↗ When there is a worry about how members of the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) or other providers worked together to make sure an adult is safe
- ↗ And the person dies and it could have been because of abuse or neglect
- ↗ Or the person is alive but they have suffered abuse or neglect

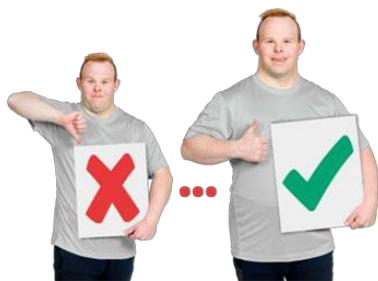


# Why we have Adult Safeguarding Reviews

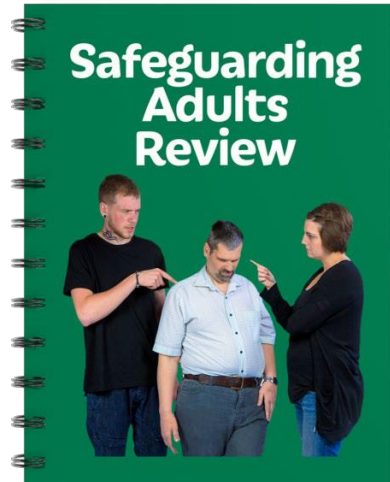


## A Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) is set up to:

- ↗ Find out what other people could have done differently to have stopped a death or harm to someone happening.
- ↗ A Safeguarding Adult Review will involve people from a number of different agencies working together.
- ↗ A Safeguarding Adult Review is to make sure that we learn and make things better to stop deaths or harm happening in the future.
- ↗ A Safeguarding Adult Report will help improve care and support.



# Rapid Review



- ↗ The Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board also have a 12-month rapid review process.
- ↗ This process involves all agencies at an early stage. This has meant that a quick decision can be made to see if a Safeguarding Adult Review is needed.
- ↗ The rapid review make sure that recommendations to improve systems and share learning can be agreed more quickly.
- ↗ There is also a cost saving of up to 50% when compared to the current Safeguarding Adult review process.

# Referrals in 2022 - 2023



**In 2022 - 2023 there were:**

- ↗ 10 cases that were sent to be looked at for a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR).
- ↗ 5 of these cases did meet the level to get a review.
- ↗ One of these will be a full SAR.
- ↗ The rapid review process is being used for the other 4 cases.



## Completed Reviews in 2022 - 2023



### In 2022 - 2023 there were:

- ↗ 3 reviews were finished during the year.
- ↗ One of these was a rapid review which looked at a lady who had difficulties with mental health and alcohol. Details of this can be found by following this link [Alison SAR](#)
- ↗ One of these was a full SAR on a lady who had physical and mental health difficulties and was abused by a friend. Details of this can be found by following this link [Ruth SAR](#)
- ↗ Another was finished the year before and was about care provided in a care home setting. Details of this can be found by following this link [Dorothy SAR](#)

# What we set out to do

**The 2 Safeguarding Adult Reviews that we did in 2021 - 2022 will help us to do things better, this is what we will improve:**



- ↗ Making safeguarding personal (MSP) by working harder to work with people who say they don't want support.
- ↗ Making sure our partners and agencies work well together and talk to each other, particularly when a person has a lot of different needs.
- ↗ Making sure people working with vulnerable adults ask lots of questions so that they understand what is really going on.
- ↗ When a person is finding it hard to make their own decisions, look at all the reasons this might be.



# About Section 42 Enquiries



**Section 42 of the Care Act 2014 means that the Local Authority has to make enquiries into safeguarding concerns.**

There are three things to think about when deciding if a concern meets the rules for a Section 42 enquiry, these are:

- The person has care and support needs
- The person is experiencing abuse or is at risk of abuse
- As a result of care and support needs, the person is unable to protect themselves

# Concerns dealt with under Safeguarding



	<b>Year 2020 - 2021</b>	<b>Year 2021 - 2022</b>	<b>Year 2022 - 2023</b>
Concerns reported	3283	4007	3912
Meets Section 42 rules	902	793	114
Percentage that meet section 42 rules	27%	19%	33%



## Going Forward 2023 - 2024

This year we held a strategy day to look at what we did last year and to make plans for next year:

These are our plans for 2023 – 2024



↗ Make sure our SAR and Rapid Review process can work really well

↗ Make sure more people know about the Complex Adults Risk Management framework

↗ Work on writing and sharing an Adult Exploitation Strategy.

