



**Bath & North East Somerset
Local Safeguarding Adults Board**

**KEY MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIR
March 2017**

The LSAB met at Avon Fire & Rescue HQ on 21st March 2017 and the Chair Reg Pengelly would like to share the following messages with you:

Presentation

The Board received a fascinating presentation from Dr James Gregory of Bath University summarising research into the psychology of hoarding. Regrettably there was far too little time available to cover this subject fully but the presentation provided an assurance that considerable work was underway both in the UK and internationally to better understand the issue and opportunities for intervention / prevention. Of particular interest was that the highest peak ages for onset of the psychological triggers for hoarding occur between 11 and 20 years! Perhaps the most important message for practitioners working with people who hoard things is that there may be multiple rationale for different objects of hoarding behaviour and thus what might be seen as an acceptance for the clearance of one type of hoarded material may not apply to others and clearing everything without fully understanding their rationale, could lead to significant distress.

Case Study

A Housing Association representative discussed how a severely depressed individual with capacity, had been supported through multi agency work and the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal. Of particular interest was the use of the “Every Child Matters” outcomes framework as a tool for assuring the best possible outcome. This was a very complex and challenging case in which the individual had attempted suicide. In due course the individual had been voluntarily admitted into psychiatric care and in time an appropriate placement secured.

Chairs Report

I have tendered my resignation effective from September 2017. Although I had intended to stay in post until September 2018, there is a period of significant reform for both LSCBs and LSABs on the horizon arising from enactment of the Children and Social Work Bill and new statutory guidance

(Working Together) about to be published as a result of the Wood Review. It is clear to me that both Boards will need a Chair by the end of this year that is able to remain in post to see these reforms through. A recruitment process for the new Chair has already started and the closing date is 7th April 2017. Further information can be had from Dami Howard, the Business Manager for both Boards. dami.howard@BATHNES.GOV.UK

As a result of a review of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, fresh legislation is expected very soon. Further information will be provided when we have it.

As a result of our Joint Business Development session and a subsequent meeting of the Sub Group Chairs, we have agreed to combine the LSCB and LSAB Communications Groups into a single sub group serving both Boards.

In future, representatives of generic groupings of organisations such as the voluntary sector will be known as “Advocates” for their sector thus reflecting their role in providing a perspective at Board discussions.

The Quality Assurance and Performance Monitoring Group (QAAPM)

A huge amount of work to assure the quality of work to safeguard adults has been undertaken by this group including some “mystery shopping”; a review of individuals who are supported through the safeguarding process more than once during a 12 month period; the finding from an audit of the quality of safeguarding referrals received – the following findings are of significant to all providers:

- All organisations/professional referring into safeguarding are reminded of the need to consult with the individual, unless it is not safe to do so, before making a referral.
- Any organisation bound by the Duty of Candour should include in their contact the details of the steps they have taken to inform the person or their representative of the concern and the action they will be taking.
- The Safeguarding Chairs to be asked to ensure that it is clearly recorded at the point of decision which Agency is being asked to lead under the Self-Neglect Multi – Agency Approach.

The above actions will be monitored by the QAAPM group.

The Policy and Procedure Group

This group have produced a new Prevention Strategy. The work will be completed when relevant agencies have developed delivery plans for implementation of the strategy and this will be undertaken prior to the June LSAB. A Large Scale Perpetrator Policy is in development and a Task and Finish Group will undertake some further work to finalise this prior to June.

New joint FGM Guidance with the LSCB and updated Information Sharing Protocol were approved and will be available soon on the LSAB website.

Your Care Your Way

The LSAB was briefed on the new commissioning arrangements with Virgin Care as the “Prime Provider”. Assurances were received regarding arrangements for safeguarding and accountability to the LSAB.

Domestic Abuse

A significant piece of work is underway, led by Bruce Laurence, the Director of Public Health on behalf of the Responsible Authorities Group (RAG) who leads on this issue. It is evident that financial pressures are being felt and some reconfiguration of current services will be required. As ever, the role of voluntary sector organisations in this field is indispensable and some very positive work is taking place in B&NES.

Stop Adult Abuse Week

This takes place from 12th to 16th June. Please look out for a pack to help you raise awareness including using Facebook, Twitter and by email. If you are planning any events please let the Chair of the Communications Group know so that these can be publicised:

Sonia.hutchison@banescarerscentre.org.uk

Reg Pengelly
Independent Chair
B&NES LSAB