

Bath & North East Somerset - Local Safeguarding Adults Board

KEY MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIR

MARCH 2015



Key messages from the B&NES Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) held on Monday 23rd March 2015

The LSAB met at the Avon Fire and Rescue Command Centre, Lansdown, Bath. We also welcomed colleagues from the Local Government Association who were carrying out a peer review of local adult safeguarding.

The LSAB began with a case study from social workers at Sirona Health and Care. This was extremely useful and was a very positive example of the person being at the heart of decisions and planning for their protection. This resulted not only in the person becoming much safer but it also led to them becoming much more independent.

The LSAB is updating its Business Plans for 2015-16 and when ready they will be available on the B&NES Council website. <http://www.bathnes.gov.uk> (follow the links via Adult Social Care to the LSAB).

Plans for the “Stop Adult Abuse Week” 15th – 19th June 2015 were discussed and included a wide range of events. It was agreed that there may be opportunities to widen awareness of the work of the LSAB. Suggestions included having a live webcast of the next LSAB meeting. If people would like to take part in the “Stop Adult Abuse Week” please contact Karyn.Yee-King@bathnes.gov.uk

The Chair reported back from national meetings and events, including some updates on the Care Act, mental capacity, self-neglect (which now features within adult safeguarding) and on the response to a complaint from a relative about her parent’s safeguarding. This situation highlighted a number of important points, including the importance of good quality nutrition and hydration, the need for good end-of-life planning and for good information for relatives on continuing health care (i.e. who pays for care and what happens if circumstances change). It also focused on how difficult it can be to pursue a complaint if the provider does not fully co-operate. For commissioners of care there are lessons about the challenges to improving services with large volume providers who hold significant portions of local provision. (This particular provider is now improving but it has taken time). This was helpful learning for the LSAB and will be used to inform how it continues to push for improvement in safeguarding practice.

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New adult safeguarding policies, procedures were approved. They had been updated in line with the Care Act and there is now a sub-regional policy for Safeguarding Adults, ensuring more consistency across Avon and Somerset. An updated self-neglect protocol was also approved.

The new role of Designated Adult Safeguarding Manager (DASM) was discussed. The role is not yet defined but will be a requirement for Health, Social Care and the Police. Other partners will be encouraged to create such a role or adapt existing roles. Further discussion is taking place around this role so it will not be in place by April 1st as originally expected.

An updated draft of the LSAB Risk Register was produced (many thanks to Mick Dixon of Avon Fire & Rescue for compiling this) and should be finalised at the June LSAB.

Revised performance indicators for 2015-16 were approved. We had feedback from Councillor Simon Allen on the Health and Wellbeing Board, which had received and supported the LSAB's Annual Report.

The appraisal process that has been agreed for the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Chair was also approved for the LSAB Chair.

Robin Cowen

Independent Chair 24/3/15