

SPRING 2023

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If your agency would like to contribute to a future KSAB newsletter, please let us know at ksab@kirklees.gov.uk

Kirklees
Safeguarding Adults
Board

Newsletter

**A welcome to you all from
Rob McCulloch-Graham, Independent Chair**



Welcome to our spring newsletter from the Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board.

It does feel as if it's been a long winter and I think we are all looking forward to a bit more of the sun.

The Board and the partnership of agencies continue to focus their work on keeping the people of Kirklees safe from abuse and neglect.

This on-going task has become even more challenging with the recent economic strains which are disproportionately hitting those who can least support themselves.

This coupled with the challenges to our workforce in recruitment and retention has increased the pressures being faced by all our services.

Our joint endeavours are therefore more important in identify areas of most risk and supporting the teams of staff as their workload increases.

On the back of covid, these pressures do seem relentless, and our thanks must go out to every individual supporting the safeguarding agenda.

I wish you continued success in these difficult times and hope you will find this edition of our newsletter helpful and interesting.

Every best wish,
Rob

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. McCulloch-Graham'.

Rob McCulloch-Graham

KSAB Board meeting February 2023

Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board holds a full board meeting every quarter where senior leads from partner agencies come together to discuss key areas of the work of the Board. Here follows a short summary of points raised.

The Setting the Scene Story for the meeting was delivered by Ruby Elyamani, Senior Practitioner, Kirklees Adult Social Care Operations. The case study was in relation to an 80 year old male with care and support needs under the Care Act 2014 who resides in Kirklees. He has always lived an independent life but since 2019, there have been a number of safeguarding concerns regarding the relationship with his son. The adult at risks son would financially abuse his father to fund his drug addiction, and this would result in the adult at risk having no food or electric for himself.

The most recent safeguarding concern was an allegation of physical abuse (domestic violence), financial abuse, psychological and emotional abuse. The adult at risk was assessed to have the mental capacity to make decisions in regards to making decisions to keep himself safe, his contact with his son, and the safeguarding process. It was however raised that he was making decisions under duress.

Throughout this safeguarding process, there was excellent multi agency working under the Joint Multi Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy & Procedure. There was positive partnership working between Adult Social Care, West Yorkshire Police, a local Drug & Alcohol Service, Probation and Housing. There were regular Multi-Disciplinary Team meetings led by Adult Social Care and safeguarding meetings in which professionals liaised with one another to create an action plan to safeguard the adult at risk and to try and engage with his son to access support.

The adult at risk was supported to give up his tenancy in the community and to move into a long term placement within a safe environment with staff onsite and security cameras in place. His son still remains in contact with him and he continues to give him money therefore there continues to be risks associated with this, however the adult at risk has more choice and control as to when and how often he gives him money and is able to safeguard himself, he is no longer physically assaulted. The section 42 safeguarding duty was met.

Every Board meeting features a legal highlight report from Kirklees Council Legal Team. One of the cases featured in this quarter involved A Court of Protection judge ruling that a woman with type 1 diabetes and mental health issues can go home, after being deprived of her liberty in a specialist facility which she expressed she “hated” being in. Please refer to [The full judgement](#) for more detailed information.

[Making Safeguarding Personal Toolkit](#) guides you through the best approach and effective application of safeguarding with a range of helpful tools and practice based case examples.

Local Government Association

Cost of living support:

- [Financial support and debt advice](#)
 - [Keeping your house warm and reducing energy bills](#)
 - [Support with the cost of food](#)
 - [Warm spaces](#)
 - [Free support from libraries](#)
 - [Mental health support](#)
-

Board members discussed the significant system pressures over the winter period facing the health and social care partnership as a whole system. There appears to be a working hypothesis emerging from anecdotal intelligence from frontline staff coupled with supporting data received into the Board's Quality & Performance subgroup suggesting an increased complexity and acuity of presenting issues. The hypothesis pointing towards this being as a result of the continuing Covid legacy, cost of living challenges, in addition to usual winter pressures as well as staff recruitment and retention playing a part. These elements, singularly or combined are leading to a surmisation across the sector that this could result in an increase in Section 42 referrals.

It was agreed that as a partnership, we need to carry out additional analysis of the data and seek further views from individual agencies and particular sectors where there is a greater increase in terms of the numbers of concerns. Further to this we need to consider any thematic conclusions that could drive improvement work, such as further education, training or communication. This may well lead to a need for targeted audit work.

It was suggested that the Board should consider its role, in seeking assurance and identifying any opportunities to explore this further within the planned Challenge Events carried out in March between the Board and partner members.

The Board's Strategic Plan for the coming year was presented for consideration, agreement and sign off. It outlines the Priority Shared Objectives of the Board for 2023/24:

- Support the workforce to safeguard adults at risk in Kirklees
- Learn from our experience
- Partnership Working
- Community/Public Engagement

Other Board standing items which were discussed at the February meeting included highlight reports from the Quality and Performance Subgroup and SAR subgroup. The SAR subgroup highlight report provided further detail about the Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) referrals into Board, and of those, the ones that will progress to either a full SAR or a Discretionary SAR.

National and Regional updates relevant to the Board were also discussed.



Joint Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy NEW! Online website launch

Our Joint Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures will soon be available to be used by all partner organisations in West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and City of York in a brand new online website. The site will Go Live on Monday 24th April 2023.

The Joint Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures as it currently exists will be transferred into an easy to use online system. It will be accessed via the link from the Board's [Safeguarding Adults Information for Professionals](#) web page under the Policies, procedure, guidance and forms section. The new format is managed by Tri.x, a name which staff and volunteers across the service may hear about. Tri.x is the company managing the platform which the policy sits on. The information is still being provided by Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board in conjunction with their regional consortium colleagues. There are many benefits to the new look procedures:

- Accessible, user friendly and well structured
- Relevant and helpful to a range of direct practice situations
- Makes sense of complex legislation and statutory requirements in a practical way
- Reflects the needs of practitioners across the full range of adult health and social care
- Provides practical support with a range of exclusive tools and guidance - tried and tested by practitioners and adults with care and support needs
- Promotes a personalised approach to practice
- Makes best use of available technology, including flexible content management, 24 hour and mobile access
- Provides access to a range of trusted tri.x resources, including a comprehensive glossary

You are invited to attend one of the online launch sessions that will take place over the coming weeks. These sessions will walk you through the new procedures system, to ensure that you get the most out of using it. You only need to attend one session as the same information will be presented each time.

You don't need to book - simply join the session on the day. The 3 different meeting links are detailed down the side and these will take you straight into the relevant Teams meeting. Copy and paste the link into a diary appointment and you're good to go on the day of the session.

The first session will be recorded and will be circulated across the partnership and will be included in the [KSAB Multi-agency L&D Offer](#).

The Policy and Procedures are intended for use by all practitioners, volunteers, services and partner agencies in Kirklees. The procedures are divided into the following sections:

- Safeguarding Adults Core procedures
- Safeguarding Adults practice guidance
- Learning and Improvement

Meeting links:

Thursday 27 April 10 - 11am

Host: Sally Gillies (Tri.x)

[Link to join](#)

Tues 2 May 1 - 2pm

Host: Sally Gillies (Tri.x)

[Link to join](#)

Fri 12 May 11am – 12pm

Host: Sally Gillies (Tri.x)

[Link to join](#)

A black speech bubble with the words 'UPCOMING EVENTS' in white, bold, uppercase letters, set against a background of light-colored wooden planks.

20 June 2023

10am – 3pm

Drop-in event

Brian Jackson House,
Huddersfield

“Can I afford to buy it?”

“Should I move into a care
home?”

Joint Network Event – Mental Capacity Act (Making decisions) - What does it mean for you in your role?

The KSAB is keen to embed learning around Mental Capacity and the executive functioning part of the assessment as this is a learning objective from many Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) locally/ regionally and nationally. We are also aware this runs through DHRs and CSPRs. With this in mind we are holding a joint event with the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Partnership and Kirklees Communities Board.

We are holding the event in June to coincide with West Yorkshire Safeguarding Week. The event is a full day face to face drop-in session with expert speakers who specialise in Mental Capacity, with resource pulled from across the partnership and a panel of experts for staff to ask questions. There will be a market place of information tables / stalls aimed at different levels of competence / understanding – so that staff can drop in and choose a time that suits their needs and allowing a flexible approach in the hope that many professionals can attend.

The Mental Capacity Act is not as scary as it appears. It is a law that protects people over the age of 16 around decision making.

Every adult has the right to make their own decisions. We all make decisions on a day to day basis, from what we want to wear, is it safe to cross a road, to making a large purchase. There may be times when people lose the ability to make decisions (lack capacity) and when this happens we should be able to offer support no matter who we are or what role we do

Aim of the Day: we would like to demystify any anxieties that you may have around supporting people in decision making so they are as safe and happy as they wish to be in leading their normal life.

We are in the early stages of planning. The proposal is to start at the very basic awareness of mental capacity and move forward throughout the day into more complex areas of Mental Capacity exploring whether a person is able to act on that decision (executive functioning).

We strongly encourage attendance from all staff and volunteers that have contact with young people over the age of 16 and adults within Kirklees who may be at risk of abuse or neglect. There will be an opportunity to book at place at the speaker ‘slots’ in the near future. Details (when available) will be published in the [Multi-agency L&D Offer](#)

Partner News

Touchstone Advocacy – Ask 4 Advocacy

As the commissioned statutory advocacy provider for Kirklees, ASK 4 Advocacy are acutely aware of the importance of safeguarding vulnerable adults within our community.

We receive referrals from Adult Social Care and Health Professionals where Safeguarding concerns, investigations and appropriate risk reduction steps are ongoing. Our role is to amplify the voice of the vulnerable adult impacted by the risk reduction, or control measures under consideration to keep them safe. A fine balance must often be struck between ensuring the safety of the vulnerable from abuse in its many forms and recognizing that too risk averse an approach can be over restrictive of an individual's liberty and their right to make decisions which others may feel to be unwise.

An ongoing concern which we, along with other voluntary organisations as well as Health and Social Care providers are those who are not receiving adequate provision due to a range of complex and interlinked needs and whose vulnerability is to some extent hidden in plain sight. We encounter this predominantly through the referrals to us that people make for themselves (often having sought help from a range of agencies without success) who are aware that their physical and mental health is in decline. These individuals are often vulnerable to financial, physical and potentially sexual exploitation. They are often in poor accommodation which impacts upon their health, stigmatized as 'challenging' by services and desperate for their voices to be listened to.

The pandemic and its aftermath have only exacerbated an already challenging, and sometimes tragic, situation for people suffering from poor mental health in Kirklees. There are many situations where safeguarding processes could alleviate suffering if appropriate intervention were available. These may be considered the 'hidden' safeguarding concerns which it is incumbent upon us all to seek to address.

A potential way forward is to encourage people to seek assessment of need under The Care Act 2014. In many such cases, should the individual have 'substantial difficulty' engaging in the assessment and any safeguarding process they would be entitled to advocacy under the legal framework.

To find more information about how advocacy may be of benefit either visit [Touchstone support :: Ask 4 Advocacy](#) or telephone 01924 460211 to discuss with our duty advocate.

In this issue we are showcasing
Ask 4 Advocacy and Third
Sector Leaders (TSL) Kirklees





Partner News

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees is a local charity that provides support to voluntary and community groups, charities, social enterprises, clubs, associations and other not-for-profit organisations in Kirklees.

We offer free training, networking, funding advice and support. See [TSL Kirklees :: Get help with safeguarding](#) for more information.

Our safeguarding support to third sector organisations in Kirklees includes:

- Help with safeguarding policies and procedures
- Support with the DBS process
- A Safeguarding Network for Safeguarding Leads

We also deliver training to groups, free of charge and at a time that suits them (including evenings and weekends).

The training we offer includes:

- Adult Safeguarding Basic Awareness
- Understanding Professional Boundaries (workshop)
- Training for Designated Safeguarding Leads of third sector organisations.

We are pleased to share that we have now developed a new training session specifically for Trustees and Committee members to understand their Safeguarding Responsibilities.

For more information or to signpost a group, please contact:

Becky Bracey, becky@tslkirklees.org.uk

Partner Online News

Here are a selection of agency newsletters you may find useful:

[Kirklees Together online](#)

[Carers Count Jan-April 2023 newsletter](#)

[Healthwatch Kirklees news](#)

Learning & Development

The new Safeguarding Adults Multi-agency Learning and Development Offer for 2023/24 is now available. It can be viewed online by staff and volunteers working with adults with care and support needs in Kirklees. It can be accessed directly via this [link](#) or by visiting the [Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board](#) webpage and looking in the 'Safeguarding Adults Information for Professionals' section.

Please check it out to see what is available and book your place now following the instructions in the Offer brochure.

Up and coming learning/development on offer

April

- 19th Safeguarding Adults Refresher Training
- 19th MCA and DoLS - Basic Awareness
- 25th Mental Capacity Act Forum
- 27th DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Awareness Sessions
- 19th DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Forum

May

- 11th Safeguarding Adults Basic Awareness
- 15th Hoarding – Working Together to Support Adults and Risk Management
- 18th DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Forum
- 23rd DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Awareness Sessions
- 31st Mental Capacity Act Forum

June

- 8th MCA and DoLS - Basic Awareness
- 9th Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator Role and Holding a Planning and Outcomes Meeting (full day)
- 5-6th Safeguarding Adult Undertaking Enquiries (2 day course)
- 15th Safeguarding Adults Refresher Training
- 15th Self-neglect Multi-agency Working and Using the Risk Management Protocol (full day)
- 20th DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Awareness Sessions
- 20th MCA - Assessing Capacity, Best Interests Decision Making and Working with Unwise Decisions
- 28th Mental Capacity Act Forum
- 29th DoLIC (Deprivation of Liberty in the Community) Forum

Kirklees
Safeguarding Adults Board
Partners in promoting choice and control

FRACCA
Newham
Lacola
MBS
Kirklees

Multi-agency
Learning and Development Offer

2023 - 2024
Safeguarding Adults

Please see [Safeguarding Adults Multi-agency Learning & Development Offer](#) for full details of everything on offer for 2023/24