



Newsletter – October 2020 incorporating Adults Safeguarding Week Monday 19th October to Friday 23rd October

This newsletter is produced by the Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board (KSAB) to keep you up to date on safeguarding issues. The Board has simplified the look of this newsletter edition to ensure it is digitally accessible to everyone. The Board welcomes any feedback / comments / suggestions in relation to this. Please email KSAB@kirklees.gov.uk.

Message from the Board

During this period of continued uncertainty, the Board recognises that there will need to be constructive consideration of any adjustments to care and support arrangements put into place for adults at risk. The Board is continuing to perform its duties, as much as partner priorities and new Coronavirus legislation allow. This means that for the first time in the Board's history, we are working virtually, which has posed challenges, to which we have risen.

With that in mind the Board are delighted to publish this newsletter as a digital representation of Adult Safeguarding Week. Where we would - in normal circumstances - engage directly with local communities during Adult Safeguarding Week, we have tried to bring together information from our partner agencies which can be shared digitally across the borough. This newsletter contains useful information as part of Adult Safeguarding Week to help raise awareness of preventative measures that can be taken to keep our citizens safe during this challenging and unprecedented time. It has been developed to assist council staff, partner agencies and the public.

As well as addressing your wellbeing and the Board's responsibilities towards Safeguarding during the Covid 19 pandemic, Adult Safeguarding Week covers other key themes where we're working hard to protect you. Combatting modern slavery, supporting individuals vulnerable to radicalisation, highlighting economic and domestic abuse, and ensuring those in care are treated with dignity, respect and compassion are some of those highlighted in this newsletter. But the Board recognise that most citizens concerns in the Borough will be focused on the continued effects of the Covid 19 pandemic on all our lives. So, there is advice on how to ensure good physical and mental health. And we discuss issues surrounding self-neglect and suicide prevention to help both frontline professionals and our citizens.

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Modern Slavery

Modern slavery is closer than you think – Understanding modern slavery and human trafficking

Modern slavery is a hidden crime, and its victims may be especially isolated during the coronavirus outbreak. During the pandemic, criminal gangs may exploit people's vulnerabilities, such as sudden unemployment or loss of earning, by drawing them into Modern Slavery.

Victims who are living in secure accommodation may be feeling particularly anxious and lonely, as a result of social distancing. Some of them may feel so desperate that they decide that life will be better if they return to the people who are exploiting them.

It can be challenging to identify a potential victim of modern slavery and potential victims may be reluctant or unable to come forward themselves. That is why it is important for frontline staff and others in the community to look out for signs of modern slavery.

A potential victim of modern slavery may:

- Show signs that their movements are being controlled
- Show fear or anxiety
- Allow others to speak for them when addressed directly
- Look malnourished, unkempt or have untreated injuries
- Not be in possession of their passports or other travel documents, as these documents are being held by someone else
- Not have control of their own money or bank accounts
- Believe they must work against their will
- Be subjected to violence or threats of violence against themselves or against family members and loved ones

For more information on COVID-19 and modern slavery visit [Gov.uk: Coronavirus \(COVID-19\): support for victims of modern slavery](https://www.gov.uk/government/coronavirus-covid-19/support-for-victims-of-modern-slavery)

More information about modern slavery and human trafficking and to report online visit [Kirklees Modern Slavery](https://www.kirklees.gov.uk/modern-slavery)

Other ways to report

Call the modern slavery helpline on 08000 121 700

Call Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555 111

You do not have to be sure that Modern Slavery is taking place...a suspicion is enough.

Tackling radicalisation and online grooming during the Covid 19 crisis and beyond

The COVID-19 crisis has impacted many aspects of policing and Prevent is no exception. We receive around a third of our referrals from the education and health sectors, and as a result of schools closing and the increase in NHS workload, there has subsequently been a decline in the number of referrals since the lockdown was introduced. However, alongside our partners, we are continuing to safeguard people that we were already helping through the [Prevent programme](#), as well as supporting new referrals during this difficult time.

Prevent Duty – Prevent E-learning Course

Under the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 there is a requirement for individuals in education to be aware of the “need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. The Home Office have produced a new online e-learning Prevent resource aimed at individuals with responsibilities under the Prevent Duty. The e-learning is designed to help raise awareness of radicalisation, will help individuals to identify the signs that someone may be at risk of radicalisation and where to go to for support.

[Homeoffice eLearning - Prevent](#)

Channel Awareness Training

Channel provides support to individuals who are vulnerable to being drawn into any form of terrorism. The aim is to divert that person from their path of radicalisation **before** they become involved in any terrorist-related criminal activity. The Channel process assesses referrals, and when necessary brings together a number of partner agencies, to discuss the concerns raised and organise a bespoke safeguarding support package for the vulnerable individual.

This [online training](#) provides a comprehensive overview of the Channel process, how to make a referral and what support is available to those most at risk.

Domestic Abuse

Domestic abuse can occur in any kind of relationship - between intimate partners, family members, people with additional needs and their carers.

There are different kinds of abuse, but it's always about someone having power and control over you. Some people need to use violence to control another person, but some people can gain that control through threats and manipulation. Anyone can be a victim of domestic abuse, regardless of gender, age, ethnicity, socio-economic status, sexuality or background.

Figures from Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership suggest that:

Each year around 2.1m people suffer some form of domestic abuse - 1.4 million women (8.5% of the population) and 700,000 men (4.5% of the population).

1.6 women a week – or 7 a month – are killed by a current or ex-partner in England and Wales.

68% of victims of Honour Abuse or Forced Marriage are at risk of serious harm or death.

Over 80% of high-risk victims report experiencing physical abuse.

Nearly 90% of high-risk victims report experiencing emotional abuse and/or coercive control (jealous and controlling behaviour).

Approximately 42% of domestic violence victims have been victimised more than once.

Victims experience an average of 20 incidents of domestic violence in a year, which can often increase in severity each time.

As well as short term injuries, victims of abuse suffer long-term physical health consequences. Health conditions associated with abuse include: asthma, bladder and kidney infections, cardiovascular disease, fibromyalgia, chronic pain syndromes, central nervous system disorders, gastrointestinal disorders, migraines/headaches.

Domestic abuse has significant psychological consequences for victims, including anxiety, depression, suicidal behaviour, low esteem, inability to trust others, flashbacks, sleep disturbances and emotional detachment.

Domestic abuse victims are at risk of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) – as many as two-thirds of victims of abuse (64%) developed PTSD in one study.

To get in touch with Pennine Domestic Abuse Partnership contact them at <https://pdap.co.uk/>

You can also contact the National Domestic Abuse Helpline and Support at nationaldahelpline.org.uk

Economic and Financial Abuse

Financial abuse is an aspect of ‘coercive control’ – a pattern of controlling, threatening and degrading behaviour that restricts a victims’ freedom.

It’s important to understand that financial abuse seldom happens in isolation: in most cases the persons alleged to have caused harm use other abusive behaviours to threaten and reinforce the financial abuse.

Financial abuse involves the person alleged to have caused harm using or misusing money which limits and controls their partner’s current and future actions and their freedom of choice. It can include using credit cards without permission, putting contractual obligations in their partner’s name, and gambling with family assets.

Financial abuse can leave women with no money for basic essentials such as food and clothing. It can leave them without access to their own bank accounts, with no access to any independent income and with debts that have been built up by abusive partners set against their names. Even when a survivor has left the home, financial control can still be exerted by the abuser with regard to child maintenance.

Sadly, the vast majority of survivors experience financial abuse at some point.

What is economic abuse?

Economic abuse is wider in its definition than ‘financial abuse’, as it can also include restricting access to essential resources such as food, clothing or transport, and denying the means to improve a person’s economic status (for example, through employment, education or training). The charity Surviving Economic Abuse describes it in the following way:

“Economic abuse is designed to reinforce or create economic instability. In this way it limits women’s choices and ability to access safety. Lack of access to economic resources can result in women staying with abusive men for longer and experiencing more harm as a result.”

The Charity Women’s Aid detail the impact of economic and financial abuse at their website [WomensAid: Financial abuse](#)

Wellbeing

Advice and Tips on maintaining good health while in Lockdown

As the situation regarding the Covid 19 pandemic continuously changes across the UK and in Kirklees we are acutely aware of the impact across our communities in terms of their health and wellbeing. And in particular the effect on mental health.

The coronavirus might affect not only your physical wellbeing but also your mental health. As guidelines and instructions change the mental health symptoms might worsen. You might notice several mental health issues such as increased anxiety, stress, excessively checking for symptoms, feelings of irritation, insecurity, the normal aches will feel like you have the virus, sleeping troubles, feelings of helplessness.

The mental health foundation is part of the national mental health response during the coronavirus outbreak. They say it's OK to feel vulnerable and overwhelmed as we read news about the outbreak particularly if you have experienced trauma or mental health problems in the past, or if you are shielding, have a long term physical health condition or fall into one of the other groups that makes you more vulnerable to the effects of coronavirus.

They say it's important to acknowledge these feelings and remind each other to look after our physical and mental health. We should also be aware of and avoid increasing habits that may not be helpful in the long term like smoking, drinking and overeating. They provide many useful tips which can be accessed by visiting their website at [Mental Health Org: Coronavirus tips](#)

Mental Health at Work – supporting yourself and colleagues

Things are hard. For many, there's a painful sense that we've lost the way things used to be. The old ways of working, of meeting and of living really might, simply, not quite return. For some, uncertainty about job security is adding to the pressure. And, perhaps for most of us, there's an abiding sense of worry in the air. The organisation Mental Health at Work recognise it's a massive period of transition – whether those are in the past, going on right now, anticipated for the future or just speculated about. And transitions are taxing. In this environment, what's the most helpful way of interacting with each other at work? They make some good recommendations for coping in this uncertain period in their article which can be found at [Mental Health at Work](#)

Social Isolation and Loneliness

The Making Every Contact Count (MECC) Community of Improvement (CoI)

The MECC CoI is a collaborative strategic partnership with representatives from all 15 Local Authorities within Yorkshire and the Humber, working alongside key wider public health workforce partners in the NHS, Emergency Services and 3rd sector.

Their aim is to maximise the collective support provided within the region to fully utilise the millions of day to day interactions that organisations and people have with other people to support them in making positive changes to the physical and mental health and wellbeing of people in their communities.

They say that loneliness is a common emotion and it is likely that, at some point in our lives and whatever our age, we will experience it. Various studies estimating the levels of loneliness in Great Britain show that 5 – 16% of people aged 65 or over report feeling lonely all or most of the time and up to a further 30% say they feel lonely “sometimes”. Loneliness and social isolation are harmful to our health: research shows that lacking social connections is as damaging to our health as smoking 15 cigarettes a day (*Holt-Lunstad, 2015*).

Risk factors that increase the likelihood of someone experiencing loneliness include living in rural environments with poor transport connections, having a lack of family nearby, having a caring responsibility, living on a low income, bereavement, poor mobility, losing hearing and/or sight, and having certain long-term conditions (such as dementia), as well as a range of other possible characteristics, situations, or experiences. Sometimes, a person experiences multiple risk factors simultaneously. They offer some very useful advice on practical interventions for people at risk of social isolation and loneliness under “ask”, “assist”, and “act”. This can be found at their website, [MECC - Isolation and loneliness](#)

Suicide Prevention and Support

The Zero Suicide Alliance (ZSA) have some excellent on line training which provides a better understanding of the signs to look out for and the skills required to approach someone who is struggling, whether that be through social isolation or suicidal thoughts.

The training comes in 3 step modules:

Step 1 Step Up social isolation module. This module gives a brief introduction to social isolation and how to help someone who may be isolated. In five to ten minutes the module covers adjusting to the new normal following the Coronavirus, and takes into account the significant changes in how many of us live and work

Step 2 ZSA Gateway module. This recently launched module gives a very brief introduction to suicide awareness. In just five to ten minutes you could learn the skills to help someone considering suicide. This module will give you tips on how to approach someone if you are worried they may be considering taking their own life.

Step 3 ZSA Suicide Awareness Training. This is a more in depth suicide awareness training session which takes approximately twenty minutes. It aims to give you the skills and confidence to help someone who may be considering suicide. It focuses on breaking stigma and encouraging conversations

The training can be accessed via the Zero Suicide Alliance’s website at [Zero Suicide Alliance](#)

Self-Neglect

Adult Safeguarding Week 2020 highlighted many of the ongoing concerns surrounding our citizens wellbeing. The short accessible film below details processes and successful outcomes resulting from good communication across partner agencies in the crucial area of self-neglect. To access this fascinating short film click on the link here [SELF NEGLECT FILM](#)

Safeguarding Adults Reviews

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARS)

What is a SAR?

A safeguarding adults review (SAR) is a multi-agency review process which seeks to determine what relevant agencies and individuals involved could have done differently that could have prevented harm or death from taking place.

The purpose of a SAR is to promote effective learning and improvement and is not looking to apportion blame.

A SAR (Statutory SAR) must always be conducted when:

There is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, member agencies or persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard an adult with care and support needs (regardless of whether the local authority was meeting any of those needs) who:

- Has died (including suicide) and the SAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (regardless of whether or not the abuse or neglect has been reported); or
- Is still alive and the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect.

Who can request a SAR

Any agency, professional or agency volunteer

The request should go through their organisation's appropriate management structure

The organisations relevant senior manager and/or representative on the Safeguarding Adults Board will then make the SAR request.

What happens next?

On receiving a request, the Chair of the SAR subgroup and Safeguarding Adults Board Manager will meet to decide whether the criteria for a SAR has been met and if so takes the request to the Boards SAR subgroup

The SAR subgroup is a group of professionals from different agencies who look at all requests for a review; this group then decides on whether a SAR needs to take place

If a review is required this group also decide how a review is to take place

This must then be ratified by the Independent Chair of the Board

What happens next

There are different ways in which a SAR can be carried out. The SAR subgroup will decide on what type of review will provide effective learnings and improvements to prevent future deaths or serious harm. Each SAR will involve gathering as much information from all relevant organisations who had involvement in the case.

An independent author will be commissioned who has no involvement in the case will be asked to lead on the review and report back to the SAR subgroup

What happens after the review

The independent author will be asked to provide the SAR subgroup with any lessons learnt and any improvement that may be required

The SAR subgroup will finalise the recommendation and improvement on behalf of the KSAB and then will monitor the improvement plan over a period of time.

If you have any queries on the SAR, please contact the safeguarding adults partnership team

Telephone: 01484 221717

E-mail KSAB@kirklees.gov.uk

Web kirklees.gov.uk/safeguardingadultsboard

Dignity in Care

The National Dignity Council exists to shape and influence the work of the National Dignity in Care campaign and also campaigns for and supports dignity champions.

The campaigns core values are about having dignity in our hearts, minds and actions changing the culture of care services and placing a greater emphasis on improving the quality of care and the experience of citizens using services including NHS hospitals, community services, care homes, and home support services.

Before the Dignity in Care launched numerous focus groups took place around the country to find out what Dignity in Care looked like to people. The issues raised at these events resulted in the development of the 10 point dignity challenge (now the 10 dignity Do's). The challenge describes values and actions that high quality services that respect people's dignity should:

1. Have a zero tolerance of all forms of abuse.
2. Support people with the same respect you would want for yourself or a member of your family.
3. Treat each person as an individual offering a personalised service.
4. Enable people to maintain the maximum possible level of independence, choice and control.
5. Listen and support people to express their needs and wants.
6. Respect people's right to privacy.
7. Ensure people feel free to complain without the fear of retribution.
8. Engage with family members and carers as care partners.
9. Assist people to maintain confidence and positive self esteem.
10. Act to alleviate people's loneliness and isolation.

To find out more about the Dignity In Care campaign follow this link to the National Dignity Council's website [Dignity in Care](#)

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees

TSL Kirklees started out as a group of likeminded leaders of third sector organisations who wanted to work together and support each other. It developed into a membership organisation that aimed to bring together and represent the whole of the third sector in Kirklees, and in 2015 became a fully-fledged charity. They are still a membership organisation at heart, but now also work to support and grow the sector in Kirklees, and act as an umbrella body for a number of projects that will help them do that.

They work with voluntary and community groups, charities, social enterprises, clubs, associations and other not for profit organisations in Kirklees to help them achieve their aims and do more. These groups can access any of the free projects and services and can also chose to pay a minimal fee and become members.

TSL have a small staff team who are based in Huddersfield, but work throughout Kirklees together with a specialist team of project development workers and are managed by a Board of Trustees.

Third Sector Leaders Kirklees mission is to support and champion the third sector throughout Kirklees, to create a united voice that can shout about what we do to promote and develop the sector and to help organisations work together to change lives and do things better in our local communities

The Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board are delighted that Third Sector Leaders are now one of the Boards partner agencies linking up with the Boards Learning and Organisational Development subgroup adding value to the scope of safeguarding adults.

To find out more about the work of Third Sector Leaders Kirklees follow visit their website [Third Sector Leaders Kirklees](#)

Welcome to ...

Ronnie Lodge who started as Business Support Manger in the Adults Partnership team at the beginning of August. Ronnie will be responsible for providing business operational support to the Board, so that it can work effectively with partner agencies, carrying out the Council's statutory responsibilities towards Adult Safeguarding in Kirklees.