



WSAB newsletter JULY 2024

As the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Executive Board now meets twice a year, the WSAB are changing the newsletters content. A Board update newsletter will still be sent out in October and April following Executive Board meetings. The remaining quarterly newsletters (July and January) will concentrate on sharing information driven by Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) learning, alongside other information and updates on national, regional, and local policies, practice, and events.

Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Learning and Key themes

A SAR is a multi-agency review process which seeks to determine what relevant agencies and practitioners could have done differently to prevent harm or a death from taking place. The purpose of a SAR is not to apportion blame. It is to promote effective learning and improvement in practice, to prevent future deaths or serious harm occurring again. Further information on a SAR can be found on our website via this link: [WSAB SAR Information](#)

Over the years, locally and nationally, several reoccurring themes have emerged through SARs. The WSAB have developed its website pages to provide details of the learning from SARs on these themes. These pages include links to local policies, procedures, and guidance, alongside links to useful resources.

These include links to the following learning pages:

- [Mental Capacity Act](#)
- [Making Safeguarding Personal](#)
- [Professional Curiosity](#)
- [Multi Agency Working/ Information Sharing](#)

Professional Curiosity

This year the WSAB agreed to concentrate on sharing learning on professional curiosity, as it is increasingly being identified in learning from SARs.

Professional Curiosity is a combination of looking, listening, asking direct questions, checking out and reflecting on all the information we receive. It means not taking information at face value and triangulating all information from different sources to gain a better understanding of the people and families we support.

Alongside the [Professional Curiosity SAR learning](#) page. There is also a dedicated page on Professional Curiosity which can be found by following this link [WSAB Professional Curiosity Resource Page](#).

Please take some time to look at these pages as they include useful information and links.

Safeguarding Adults Week 2024

This year the National Safeguarding Adults Week will take place from 18th November. The national Safeguarding Adults week was established by the Anne Craft Trust with the aim is to highlight key safeguarding key issues, start conversations and raise awareness of safeguarding best practice. Details on events being held by the Anne Craft Trust can be found via the link below.

[Working in Partnership: Safeguarding Adults Week 18 – 22 November 2024 – Ann Craft Trust](#)

WSAB Safeguarding Week – Professional Curiosity

Locally, we are planning to hold some bitesize sessions across the week. These will all link into the reoccurring learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews and the WSAB objective this year to develop learning and practice on **professional curiosity**.

The sessions will include the following areas:

- Motivational Interviewing
- Trauma Informed Practice
- Establishing Professional Boundaries
- Carers Rights

Further information on local events can be found via this link [WSAB 2024 Safeguarding Week](#) We will update this page as more information becomes available, including booking details.

Other updates - local SAR learning.

Mary SAR - 'Think the Unthinkable and use of the escalation policy.'

Mary, a young lady in her early 20's, with complex needs, was found to be approximately 30 weeks pregnant, by her stepfather. Mary did not have had mental capacity to consent to a sexual relationship.

Further details of this SAR can be found via the following links:

- [Mary SAR Executive Summary](#)
- [Mary SAR Learning Brief](#)

One of the learning points from this SAR urges practitioners to work with other professionals and share information as early as possible. They should also consider the need to call a best interest meeting where they have concerns. Practitioners are reminded to consider '**Thinking the unthinkable**' and check out all potential risk areas.

Following another recommendation, the WSAB Escalation Policy has now been reviewed and relaunched. This should be used where there is professional disagreement around a case and can be found via this link: [WSAB Escalation Policy](#) .

Peter SAR - Cuckooing

Peter was a 66-year-old white male, with mobility issues and a history of substance misuse. He was a victim of physical abuse and financial exploitation, by a 'friend' who had assumed a caring role. This type of exploitation is often referred to as cuckooing.

Good practice identified through this review included cuckooing polices from Bromsgrove and Redditch, which are now being promoted county wide. Further details of these along with information on cuckooing can be found on the following WSAB webpage [Cuckooing - Worcestershire Safeguarding Boards \(safeguardingworcestershire.org.uk\)](#)

WSAB -Adult Safeguarding Recognition Awards

As part of the Safeguarding Week the WSAB want to recognise those individuals and organisations who work hard to ensure that adults with care and support needs, alongside their families and carers, are kept safe and well. The following four categories have been identified.

- **Safeguarding is Everybody's Business award. -**
- **Practitioner "best safeguarding practice" award –**
- **Prevention 'best practice' award'**
- **Long term commitment to safeguarding practice.**

A recognition ceremony will be held during the week.

Nominations should be submitted by 1st October.

Further information and the nomination form can be found via this link:

[Nomination Form - WSAB Safeguarding Recognition Awards](#)

Recently Published or Updated Policies and guidance

Below are some links to recently published strategies, policies, procedures and guidance.

Local Documents

WSAB document links

- [WSAB Escalation Policy](#)
- [WSAB Missing Person from residential and domiciliary care procedures](#)

Adults Social Care (Worcestershire County Council) Document Links

- [Adults Prevention and Early Intervention Strategy | Worcestershire County Council](#)
- [Adult Social Care Strategy | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Regional Document Links

- [West Midlands Emergency Services Toolkit.pdf \(safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk\)](#)

National Documents Links

- [Promoting less restrictive practice: reducing restrictions tool for practitioners | Local Government Association](#)