



WSAB newsletter December 2024

This quarters newsletter focuses on sharing information driven by Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) alongside updates and information on national, regional, and local policies, practice, and events.

Professional Curiosity – A Priority area of learning

This year the WSAB is targeting learning on professional curiosity, as it has increasingly been 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.

The WSAB has [Professional Curiosity SAR learning](#) page alongside dedicated [WSAB Professional Curiosity Resource Page](#). Please take some time to look at these pages as they include useful information and links.

Spotlight on local SARs with learning on Professional Curiosity

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](#)

This SAR urged practitioners to work with other professionals and share information as early as possible. Practitioners should consider '**Thinking the unthinkable**' and check out all potential risk areas.

It also raised the importance of using the WSAB Escalation Policy where there is professional disagreement around a case and can be found via this link: [WSAB Escalation Policy](#) .

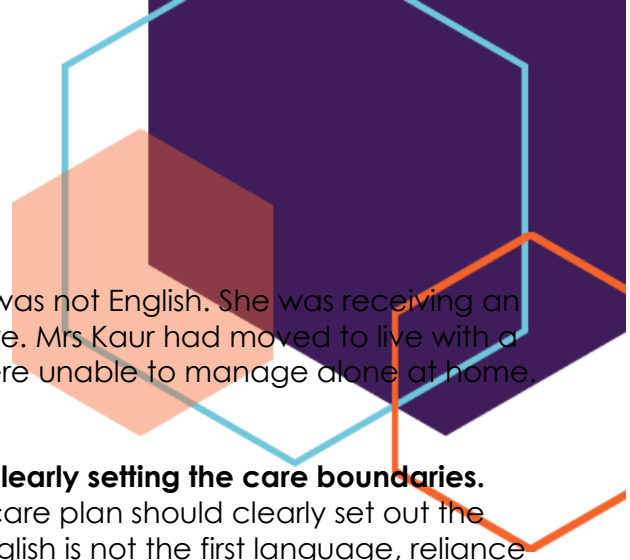
John – Exploring methods of preferred contact and making use of the CARM

John was a 54-year-old white male who had a history of substance misuse, and suspected suicidal incidents following the loss of his family network. He had previously slept rough, but not at the time of his death.

- [Rapid Review SAR Report – John](#)
- [Learning Briefing for professionals – John](#)

This review found learning on the challenges professionals experienced in working with self-neglect, particularly where mental capacity fluctuated. It was often difficult to contact John and there was no evidence of discussions on this. Practitioners were reminded to ensure they **establish the persons preferred form of contact**. They were also reminded to familiarize themselves with and utilise the following WSAB guidance:

- [WSAB Self Neglect Policy \(Revised June 2024\)](#)
- [WSAB Complex Adult Risk Management \(CARM\) Framework](#)



News on other SARs:

Mrs Kaur (Published November 2024)

Mrs Kaur was an 82-year-old Indian lady whose first language was not English. She was receiving an end-of-life package of care funded via Continuing Health Care. Mrs Kaur had moved to live with a family member when their care needs increased, and they were unable to manage alone at home.

- [Rapid Review SAR – Mrs Kaur](#)

Once again there was **professional curiosity** learning around **clearly setting the care boundaries**. Where the family carers are qualified health practitioners the care plan should clearly set out the boundaries of what level of care they provide. Also, where English is not the first language, reliance on family members to provide interpretation should not be assumed, particularly when dealing with matters that require legal or medical consent.

Update on actions taken regarding a SAR – Clear information on finding care

Dorothy SAR. – Information on seeking care

This SAR identified learning in a residential care home where Dorothy sadly died after an incident involving another resident. Details of the SAR can be found below:

- [SAR Dorothy](#)
- [Learning Briefing for professionals – Dorothy](#)

Learning from this review included ensuring that there is clear information available on choosing residential care, day care and support for carers. Since this SAR has been published Worcestershire County Council have reviewed their website and the WSAB are satisfied that this is now available. Details can be found by following the link below.

- [Worcestershire County Council Care and Support Information](#)

Recently Published or Updated Policies and guidance

Worcestershire County Council – Adults Social Care -Customer Journey and Safeguarding pathway

Adult Social Care (ASC) have developed some information to support people to know what to expect when a safeguarding concern is reported and progressed. Details can be found via this link [Safeguarding Adults in Worcestershire](#).

On the bottom of the page which explains how to make a concern there is a useful easy read diagram of the pathway [Report a concern \(pathway\)](#)

They have also produced a briefing which describes the 7 steps for safeguarding in Worcestershire. The information is located on our resident's website at [Safeguarding and concerns about an adult | Worcestershire County Council](#)

Carers Rights

Worcestershire Association of Carers, working with the WSAB, produced the attached document to mark Carers Rights Day on 21st November [Carers Rights Document](#). It provides information on safeguarding as well as carers assessment. It is supported by a dedicated page on their website: [Carers Rights Page](#)