



**Bath & North East Somerset
Local Safeguarding Adults Board**

**KEY MESSAGES FROM THE CHAIR
DECEMBER 2016**

The LSAB met at Keynsham Civic Centre on 13th December 2016 and the Chair Reg Pengelly would like to share the following messages with you:

We welcomed our first ever independent Lay Members; Amanda Cranston and Marjorie Stephinson. Both will bring considerable personal expertise and a vital community perspective to the work of the Board.

Case Study

DHI presented to the Board a case study of self-neglect in which a male heroin and crack/cocaine user living in a Housing Association property had injured himself in a fall whilst getting out of his shower. His injuries meant that he required support to meet his daily basic needs. The case was referred for safeguarding but did not meet the criteria for an enquiry and that the [Self Neglect Protocol](#) should be used instead. The Statutory Drug and Alcohol Service (SDAS part of AWP) undertook to organise a professionals meeting and multi-agency support of which DHI staff were involved. Most importantly the service user was consulted and his views as well as those of his family were supported throughout. He continues to be supported.

The Board recognised the extremely difficult and complex issues presented in this man's circumstances and the way health, housing, social care and voluntary sector agencies worked together to try to provide a collective, joined up response.

Audits

Audit reports from AWP and the Council were reviewed by the Quality Assurance, Audit and Performance Management sub group. Feedback from these were shared with the Board and the overall findings were that in 75% of cases practice was good or excellent. A number of areas for improvement were identified as set out below and the Board will keep an eye on the progress of these:

- There was a degree of uncertainty whether service users were being offered an advocate or that an advocate had been invited to attend safeguarding meetings, the Board agreed that assurance was needed regarding this;

- There was an apparent mismatch on whether feedback was provided to the agencies who had reported the initial concern. The audit report stated that a very high level of feedback had been provided however anecdotal information from agencies suggests this to be a low level in reality. Work will be undertaken to reconcile this;
- The findings of a “Deep Dive” review of a tragic case (Family E) in which the mother of a child subject to a child protection plan committed suicide was discussed. Several learning points for agencies were highlighted; single and multi-agency action plans are being developed and monitoring by the LSCB. An anonymised version of the [E Family Case Review](#) is available via the LSAB website.

Domestic Abuse

The LSAB received an update report from Lores Savine (Community Safety Officer, Council) on the work of the Responsible Authorities Group in developing a Multi-agency Domestic Abuse Statement that will be circulated for consultation, alongside a review of current arrangements led by Bruce Lawrence (Director for Public Health - Council). The Board discussed the recent Domestic Homicide Review B&NES has undertaken and the associated action plan. The DHR awaits approval from the Home Office before it can be published and required some clarification on the actions.

Care Quality Commission (CQC)

The Board received a briefing about the work of the local CQC from the Inspection Manager of the Bristol and B&NES Team. Importantly the Board were reassured that CQC were effective in responding to concerns as well as in conducting their routine inspection programme.

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The Board recognised the work of the Joint FGM task and finish sub group around joint Guidance for both Boards on Multi-Agency Guidance on FGM for all professionals. However further clarification is required around reporting and support for adults before this can be published. The guidance is already available on the LSCB website for those supporting children and young people. The Board also received the FGM poster developed by the same sub group and are also looking at publicising the use of similar materials published by the Police and Crime Commissioner.

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The B&NES MASH was launched in September; a core group of agencies are co-located at the Police Centre in Keynsham. Anecdotal feedback has been positive despite several “teething” problems that have arisen. Please note the MASH does not receive direct referrals, all concerns about a child or an adult MUST continue to be made using the existing routes. A suite of performance indicators is in development. For more information on this please contact Dami Howard, dami_howard@bathnes.gov.uk, LSCB Business Support Manager.

NEW LSCB & LSAB Joint Website

The Board received a brief demonstration of the new combined LSCB and LSAB website. This will be established separately to the B&NES Council website and will facilitate far easier access to information and resources. We hope the website will be live in February 2017.

Chair's Report

Four of the issues mentioned above are just as relevant to safeguarding children as they are to adults: Family E review, Domestic Abuse, FGM and the work of the MASH.

Both the LSAB and the LSCB will continue to explore opportunities for closer collaboration.

Many of you will have attended the very successful joint Stakeholder Event last month and I offer my apologies to those who were unable to get a place as the event was fully booked in a matter of days. At the present time, we have a pilot joint Training and Workforce Development Sub Group and in February both Board's membership will meet together to consider how to improve upon joint business development. Ultimately these efforts will I am sure, lead to more effective outcomes for those we are all committed to support whether they are adults or children.

The above is a brief snapshot of a huge range of issues that were discussed. The work to support the Board is undertaken by the Sub Group membership whose commitment and expertise is much appreciated and valued.

We would be keen for you to be aware of the work of the [B&NES Safeguarding Children's Board \(LSCB\)](#) as well, the link will enable you to look at their Key Messages as well.

May I take this opportunity to thank you for your commitment to support and protect adults with care and support needs and to wish you and yours a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Reg Pengelly
Independent Chair B&NES LSAB
December 2016