

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) are a statutory requirement for Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs). Safeguarding adult practice can be improved by identifying what is helping and what is hindering safeguarding work, in order to tackle barriers to good practice and protect adults from harm.

Adult CC

Adult CC was a 58-year-old man living in supported accommodation in Buckinghamshire. He had a long history of schizophrenia and substance abuse. There was a fire in his bedroom in April 2019 and Adult CC died as a result. A Large Scale Enquiry (LSE) investigating organisational abuse commenced in April 2019, following concerns for many other occupants of supported accommodation run by the same company. This review concluded in April 2020.

Themes that emerged from the Safeguarding Adult Review in to Adult CC;

- ◆ Issues with multi-agency information sharing
- ◆ Communication between partners
- ◆ Transfer of care when moving between areas
- ◆ Understanding Mental Capacity and consent
- ◆ Quality of assessments
- ◆ Adequate understanding and assessment of risks
- ◆ Commissioning of appropriate placements
- ◆ Working with adults experiencing substance misuse issues

Agencies Involved; CCG, Buckinghamshire Council Adult Safeguarding, Bucks Fire and Rescue, Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust, Thames Valley Police, Buckinghamshire Healthcare NHS Trust, Reading Borough Council, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, Round Coppice Farm, Enriched Care

Areas of Good Practice

- ★ Following the accidental fire, Buckinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service responded promptly with immediate checks on fire safety, and then followed up in an appropriate and persistent manner to ensure that the necessary improvements were made
- ★ After the death of another resident, the Safeguarding Social Worker, responded promptly after visiting the premises. He took firm and pro-active measures to inform commissioning Authorities of his concerns about the establishment, and potential risks to all tenants
- ★ The clinical support offered to CC and Round Coppice Farm staff was fairly comprehensive, in spite of the various confusions about which team was responsible. Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust staff were persistent in making sure that CC had his Depot injections during the review period, and in arranging his return to hospital when required
- ★ Ward staff were persistent in repeatedly checking and confronting CC about smoking materials because of the extremely high fire risks
- ★ A Learning Review was arranged in the Reading CMHT focusing on the transfer of patients and the importance of CPA transfer. No patients are now transferred from this team without formal CPA process taking place
- ★ TVP Officers attending Round Coppice Farm for unrelated matters raised Safeguarding concerns through formal Adult Protection reports on two separate occasions in June 2018 and March 2019. This demonstrated that Officers were knowledgeable about potential indicators of abuse, and that they took appropriate action to manage the concerns

Recommendations

Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board to review the need for a revised SAR if/when further information comes to light within 2 years from the publication of this report. The Board should consider an independent IMR or expanded SAR to take into account details of care and support provided by Enriched Care prior to the death of CC

Buckinghamshire Council should host and co-ordinate a Commissioning and Safeguarding exercise by all relevant placing Authorities into the current service delivered by the owners or directors of care provision services operated by the owner or director of Enriched Care. The outcome should inform decisions about current and future placements with this provider. This report to be completed within 4 months of the publication of this SAR

Reading Borough Council and Buckinghamshire Council to review commissioning arrangements for funded placements to ensure that Care Act Assessments for such placements are timely and fit for purpose

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to undertake or commission an independent or peer quality monitoring exercise to review accreditation, the use of the 'Placement Flowchart', termination process and other changes introduced after the death of CC. A random sample of cases to be reviewed to check that patient needs have been appropriately met by commissioned services

Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust to review the contract and quality monitoring process in out of area placements, to ensure all necessary domains of funded services are specified and checked by Care Coordinators as necessary

NHS and Local Authority commissioners to undertake Market Development of dual-diagnosis services to ensure adequate provision is available in the locality for patients with complex mental health needs and drug or alcohol dependence

When a funding authority is commissioning a new placement outside of its own area, it should be essential that a reference is received from the host authority that clearly identifies any outstanding or historical quality or safeguarding issues prior to the placement going ahead. If an acceptable reference is not forthcoming then the funding authority must undertake a robust quality assurance visit in advance of commissioning the placement

Buckinghamshire Council utilises the Provider Assessment and Market Management Solution (PAMMS) to monitor providers with whom Buckinghamshire Council has a 'live' contractual relationship. Consideration should be given to sharing the outcome of PAMMS assessments with other funding authorities that have people placed at those services, particularly if the assessment highlights areas of concern

There is a 'Quality Improvement Project' underway in Berkshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust with regards to clinical documentation in the psychiatric inpatient services. It is recommended that this project identifies how improvements can be made to clinical documentation process and practice and that this learning is shared with partner agencies

Partner Agencies have made a series of Recommendations in IMRs for improvement of process and practice. The Board should review all these Recommendations with partner agencies within one year of the publication of this SAR, to ensure that sufficient progress has been made

Link to the Adult CC report;

[Safeguarding Adult Reviews - Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board](#)
(buckssafeguarding.org.uk)

Who are we and what do we do?

[About the BSAB - Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board](#)
(buckssafeguarding.org.uk)