

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 X

Concerns the death of Adult X, a 31-year-old man with a diagnosis of Asperger's Syndrome and Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder. Adult X, an ordinary resident of the county of Buckinghamshire, was placed in supported accommodation in Hounslow. Adult X had experience of homelessness and had lived in temporary accommodation. Adult X was placed in supported living in Hounslow as a protective measure after experiencing financial abuse by individuals he had met while living in homeless accommodation in Buckinghamshire. Adult X died in 2016.

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

- ◆ Lack of person-centred care and support planning
- ◆ Poor implementation of statutory guidance and lack of awareness of good practice guidance
- ◆ Failing to recognise the long-term impact of financial abuse and exploitation
- ◆ Risk assessments focussed on historical information, rather than taking current risk in to account. Also did not include any analysis of seriousness or the likelihood of risk occurring
- ◆ Multi-agency approach to safeguarding was not triggered and approach was disjointed. This case lacked in multi-agency collaboration

Agencies Involved; Buckinghamshire Council, Thames Valley Police, West London NHS Trust, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, Independent Supported Living Provider, London Borough of Hounslow.

Six Principles of Safeguarding

★ Empowerment

People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent

★ Prevention

It is better to take action before harm occurs

★ Proportionality

The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented

★ Protection

Support and representation for those in greatest need

★ Partnership

Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse

★ Accountability

Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice

Recommendations

Assessment documentation, care and support plans, and referral paperwork for accommodation placement should include evidence on how service users, and families where appropriate, were involved in the process. Documentation should evidence the service user's views and wishes, and involvement that is genuine and influential

Key steps and principles set out in Statutory Guidance, the ADASS and LGA Advice Note, and ADASS Guidance on Out-of-Area Safeguarding Arrangements should be incorporated into local policy and procedure and embedded in commissioning systems to raise awareness and concordance

Safeguarding interventions offered to victims of financial abuse and exploitation should seek not only to rescue and protect individuals, but to provide remedy and support to address the longer-term impacts of harm

Organisations should review the risk assessment tools and conventions that are used in their setting or adopt an evidence-based approach that can promote good practice in risk assessment

When individuals with care and support needs are experiencing significant harm in the context of exploitative relationships a multi-agency safeguarding process should be triggered in line with section 42 Care Act (2014), statutory guidance, and local multi-agency safeguarding policy and procedures

Resources

[Practical examples of Making Safeguarding Personal from commissioners and providers of health and social care \(local.gov.uk\)](#)

[Types of abuse: Safeguarding adults | SCIE](#)

[#OCD: Starving The Monster | Tauscha Johanson | TEDxIdahoFalls - Bing video](#)

[Safeguarding Adults - Who is a Vulnerable Adult 2020 - YouTube](#)

[Financial exploitation - Preventing Exploitation Toolkit](#)

[HSE National Safeguarding Making Safeguarding Personal - YouTube](#)

[Safeguarding Adults - Prevention & Risk Assessments 2020 - YouTube](#)

[Adult-Exploitation-Strategy.pdf \(buckssafeguarding.org.uk\)](#)

Buckinghamshire Council Adult
Safeguarding Campaign 2021

[See something, say something, do something | Care Advice Buckinghamshire](#)

Link to the Adult X report;

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