

Safeguarding Adult Review – ‘JW’

Salford Safeguarding Adults Board
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JW died in hospital in November 2015 at the age of 55. She experienced severe learning disabilities, mobility and communication difficulties. She lived in a residential home in North Wales until its closure in May 2013 when she returned to Salford. Her home was a supported tenancy where she lived safely for two years although she was admitted to two different hospitals in that period experiencing problems with her unique physiology and her bowel condition.

On behalf of Salford's Safeguarding Adults Board, I wish to express our deep regret about JW's death and would pass our condolences to her family.

Salford's Safeguarding Adults Board commissioned the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) in February 2017 to undertake a Safeguarding Adult Review into the circumstances of JW's death with a focus on how the risks for adults with learning disabilities and complex needs are jointly identified and assessed. The review covers the period from May 2013 to November 2015.

The review does not find that any action or lack of action on behalf of those supporting JW were responsible for her death. However, in terms of lessons that can be learnt, the review does identify that the agencies and practitioners involved with the care of JW could have worked much more closely together in a coordinated response to her complex needs particularly at key transitions such as her discharge from hospital. The review also highlighted issues related to decision making on behalf of JW within the context of the Mental Capacity Act 2005.

The Salford Safeguarding Adults Board has accepted the findings and recommendations of the review.

An Action Plan to address the recommendations of the review has been accepted by the Board which will result in changes to policy, procedures and practice of a range of agencies and professionals in how they identify, assess and manage risk of adults with learning disability and complex needs. Future meetings of the Salford Safeguarding Adults Board will monitor the implementation of the Action Plan and seek assurance that the agencies are implementing and embedding the recommendations of the review into practice.

Dr. Stephen Pugh

Independent Chair
Salford's Adult Safeguarding Board