

Salford Safeguarding Adults Board Latest News

March 2021 – 6th Edition

Dear Colleagues,

There is lots of optimism for the future with the onset of Spring and the rapid progress of the Covid-19 Vaccination Programme – thank you to everyone involved in this. There is also some trepidation as restrictions start to lift – it's really important that we all continue to be patient, follow the rules and most importantly stay safe.

We would like to show our appreciation and thank you all for your hard work, resilience and commitment to safeguarding throughout this challenging time.

8-12th March 2021 is Social Work Week

This week is Social Work Week and we would like to express our **sincere thanks** to all Social Workers in Salford for the fantastic work they do.

Message from Steve Pugh, Chair of SSAB

It's social work week - a time and opportunity to celebrate the contribution social workers make to our lives and communities.

I qualified as a social worker in the 1980's and although this is some time ago essentially social work hasn't changed. We continue to work with people who are going through difficult times in their lives. We work to support, empower, effect change and protect and safeguard the most vulnerable people in our society.

Whilst the legal framework has changed, the values of social work have not changed over these years as we continue to ensure that adults with care and support needs who are at increased risk of harm and abuse are at the centre of everything we do. That we value and respect people and their differences, helping them to access the resources and expertise which are available to them and which can help them to transform their lives.

As the Independent Chair of Salford's Adult Safeguarding Board, I can see social workers across the city taking a key role in protecting our adults at risk of abuse and neglect and working closely and effectively with other colleagues. As a result I can see the excellent work that is undertaken within the city which leaves me proud to represent you and proud to call myself a professionally qualified social worker.

Social Work England Virtual Events throughout Social Work Week

Social Work England are hosting a number of virtual events to mark the occasion. More details can be found on the [Social Work England](#) website.

New – Salford High Risk Advisory Panel

SSAB is pleased to be introducing this new approach to support professionals who are dealing with complex and high-risk cases. The Care Act 2014 recognises self-neglect as a potential safeguarding matter and there are occasions where adults who have care and support needs and have mental capacity will self-neglect and/or put themselves at risk of severe harm or even death. Such cases can present a real challenge partners who are trying to work with and support them.

This new High Risk Advisory Panel aims to provide a multi-agency risk enablement approach to offer advice and support in cases where single or multi-agency responses have been unable to reduce the level of risk, whilst empowering the adult and recognising their human rights.

Adult Social Care is the lead agency for implementing and co-ordinating the panel because they have statutory responsibility to coordinate a safeguarding response under the Care Act 2014, however the panel will be made up of senior representatives from multi-agency partners.

The Panel is intended to be a professional forum and will be chaired by Adult Social Care. In attendance will be senior leaders from across the safeguarding partners including: SRFT Adult Social Care, SRFT Acute and Community Services, Greater Manchester Mental Health, Salford Clinical Commissioning Group, Greater Manchester Police, Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service, Housing, Probation and Legal Services. Other agencies will be invited to attend as required dependent on their knowledge / involvement with adults being discussed. The first panel took place last week and it will be meeting monthly.

Under this process, each agency maintains their statutory safeguarding duties and responsibilities.

Referrals should only be made to this process when **all** single and multi-agency processes, including Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiry have been tried and not enabled the risks to be effectively addressed or reduced.

For more information, please see the [High Risk Panel Policy and Terms of Reference](#) which has been published on the SSAB website.

We have also produced a [7 Minute Briefing](#) and [plain text version](#) which we would encourage you to use to share and discuss it within your organisations / your teams.

How to refer:

If you would like to refer a case to the panel, please see the Referral Form (Appendix 2) and the Checklist (Appendix 3) which can be found on the [SSAB website](#).

What happens next?

If the case is deemed appropriate, it will be added to the agenda for the next panel meeting and the appropriate manager will be asked to present the case. The panel will discuss the case and they will try to offer support.

Work will take place to review the success of the panel and the impact it has. If you refer a case to the panel, you may be asked to provide feedback as to how useful you found it.

Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiry

If you are concerned about an adult who has care and support needs and is self-neglecting or putting themselves at risk of harm or death, but there hasn't been a Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiry then you should refer them into the safeguarding process in the first instance.

Ideally, you should seek the adults consent before referring someone into the safeguarding process, however this isn't always possible and adults can be referred without their knowledge / consent.

Often agencies on their own will not have the full picture of what is happening and therefore understand the level of risk. By referring someone into safeguarding, this will enable multi-agency information sharing, risk assessment/management and co-ordination of any response to take place.

For more information see the section reporting concerns to adult social care on the [SSAB website](#).

Safeguarding Adult Review 'Eric' - Learning Event 3rd February

On 3rd February we held a virtual learning event to share the learning from this recent Safeguarding Adult Review which has now been [published here](#) on the SSAB website. Thank you to all those who attended. The event was recorded so if you missed it, or would like to access the recording, you can watch it on YouTube via this link: https://youtu.be/PbsrAm_RYI

Finally...

If you would like us to include anything in our next bulletin or have any feedback, please e-mail us: ssab@salford.gov.uk

Best wishes

The SSAB Team