

Summary of the minutes for the Salford Safeguarding Adult Board (SSAB)

Date	13 th March 2025
Time	9.30am until 12.00pm
Venue	Ms Teams
Chair	Francine Thorpe
Minute Taker	Hilary Byles
Agenda planned by	Jane Bowmer/Francine Thorpe

Item 1 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies

FT welcomed everyone to the meeting and introductions were made.

Item 2 – Minutes/Action Log

The minutes of the last meeting were approved:

The action log was discussed and updated.

Item 3 – Update on the implementation of Right Care Right Person (RCRP)

DC shared a presentation on RCRP but clarified that the information (from the launch of RCRP on 30/09/2024 until 30/12/2024) is now out of date. The most up to date data on RCRP is due to be published next month. DC can attend a future board to give more up to date information on the first 6 months of the implementation of RCRP

Item 4 – Business Manager's Update

JB discussed the headline information from the Business Manager's update which gave an overview of the work of the board in the last quarter.

Key Points:

- The Board's Tri-X (who host the SSAB's multi agency policies and procedures) contract is due for renewal, this was discussed.
- MH will be leaving her post to become the new Business Manager at the Safeguarding Adults Board in Bolton. The training, which is already planned will go ahead, but some future events may need to be revised until the post is backfilled.
- The work of the subgroups was discussed.
- Feedback from recent Voice of the Adult (VOTA) discussed.
- **Local updates** – The SAR process is being strengthened with planning meetings and learning events. The decision-making flowchart has been amended to strengthen assurance, so that decision-making can be audited in light of the relevant legal framework.
- **Regional Updates** – JB has created a **memorandum of understanding** for Greater Manchester to ensure consistency from referral to decision-making. This is out for consultation.
- The **Greater Manchester self-assessment** is in draft form going through consultation across GM at present. There is a proposal for a **Greater Manchester Information Sharing Agreement**.
- An update was given on **Multi Agency Audits** – Themes of audits for 25/26 have been confirmed. Think family and Equality & Diversity audits are currently underway.
- **Positive feedback** was shared–

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- The Independent Reviewer for SAR Harry was impressed with Salford's exploitation strategy and has referenced Salford's work in a SAR undertaken in Tameside and recommended that they contact Salford about this policy.
- JB has also received feedback from a commissioner in Sheffield who has been impressed with the exploitation resources on Salford's website and has asked to use them.
- JB has been asked by Michael Preston-Shoot to co-author a national essential guide to SARS. This has not yet commenced.

DHR Governance

JB and RB presented the proposal that Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) should be integrated into the work of the SSAB. Governance and funding would stay within the CSP (Community Safety Partnership) but training, development, performance and quality assurance would sit under the SSAB. This proposal will strengthen our approach to learning across the city as well as reducing any duplication.

The board was supportive of the proposal to bring DHRs under the work of the SSAB.

Item 5 – Update on CQC Self-Assessment

EQ gave an update on CQC Self-Assessment on Theme 3 – How the local authority ensure safety within the system (QS1: Safe Systems, pathways and transitions/QS2: Safeguarding) including waiting lists and DOLs

Key points:

- ASC have been reviewing their CQC approach.
- The self-assessment for Salford is being re-defined to make it an easily readable, person-centred document with practical examples. Information about impact will also be included.
- EQ shared the document regarding the information request with partners.
- No more than 5 documents should be submitted for each of the assessment areas.
- After the self-assessment is submitted, there is then about 4-5 months before CQC inspectors come to Salford, and they will expect to see an improvement in the data. It would therefore be helpful to have a reference point about the current position in relation to the requested data.
- EQ explained that the CQC inspectors will do about 16 focus groups per day for three days, and one of those focus groups will look at the Safeguarding Adults Board. FT and statutory members of the board will be expected to attend this focus group. The CQC will also look at how wider partners can be involved; a total of 8 partners will be involved in the focus group. Safeguarding will also be covered in the political focus group and a practitioner's group will also take place. There will also be some dedicated 1:1 session, including for MS who is the Principal Social Worker for Adult Social Care.
- EQ shared 3 slides on the 'Ensuring Safety' theme. EQ agreed to disseminate the slides after the meeting so partners could provide feedback on whether this is the right information to be included.

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Item 6 – Verbal update on the development of the Adult MASH in Salford

CL and MS gave a verbal update on the development of the Adult MASH.

Key points:

- CL has been working with senior and middle leaders to identify key strong staff to spearhead the Adult MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub).
- Funding has been identified for a MASH Team Manager, which is a vital role. The NCA governance structure will need to be followed to get this signed off before the role is advertised. Some partners will be invited to sit on the recruitment panel.
- A business case is being compiled to support a request for additional staffing resources.
- MS reassured the board that governance and due processes are being considered in addition to the recruitment and resourcing aspects.
- There is a forthcoming meeting with Children's Services colleagues to identify the governance implications for the MASH. The most significant implication will relate to information sharing. The NCA is already a signatory to the MASH Information Sharing Protocol, so the most significant potential issue may already be addressed. Advice will be sought from senior leaders if any other issues arise.
- If any partners have concerns about the multi-agency aspect of the MASH they can contact CL or MS to discuss.
- **Update on the ASC MASH, the timescales for its implementation and impact on other partners to be given at a future board meeting.**

Item 7 – Update from GMMH

CB gave a presentation on 'GMMH Recovery Delivery and Safeguarding Developments and Improvements':

Key points:

- A positive comment from an NHSE team member was that the foundations are now in place, so now the 'so what' aspect needs to be asked.
- There will be a separate presentation to the board about GMMH's forensic services to provide assurance.
- Areas for improvement:
 - The trust is working towards moving from NOF 4 to NOF 3.
 - Level 3 safeguarding training compliance to meet the 85% target.
 - A clear audit process needs to be established so impact can be measured.
 - There is an ongoing review of the safeguarding staffing establishment.
 - There is a current review of the s.75 agreements.

Item 8 – SCC Modern Slavery Matrix

SK joined the meeting to give an update the Modern Slavery Maturity Matrix.

Key points:

- In 2024 the Local Government Association launched a modern slavery maturity matrix, with the aim of allowing Local Authorities to assess their current responses to Modern Slavery on a scale of 1-4. (1= in need of development, 4 = fully mature).

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- Concurrently, SCC commissioned an internal audit on the council's response to Modern Slavery.
- The matrix and the audit resulted in an action plan, which was approved by the Corporate Management Team in February 2025. The Corporate Management plan also recommended that Salford should seek to achieve level 3 of the Maturity Matrix in relation to all the actions.
- The action plan includes 14 actions, 11 of which are complete (where level 3 has been achieved).
- The 3 remaining actions are in progress, and the authority is on course to complete them.

Item 9 – Agreed Information to be shared with other Boards/Partnerships and Subgroups

- The DHR proposal is going to the Community Safety Partnership board for sign off.
- Information about the commissioning of placements from NHS England is to be shared with the Greater Manchester Chairs and Business Manager's Meeting.

Item 10 – Risk Register

The risk register was discussed and updated.

Item 11 – AOB

The board joined with FT as she thanked MH for her fantastic training and development work that she has done for the board and wished her well in her new role as the safeguarding adult board manager in Bolton.

FT thanked everyone for their contributions, and closed the meeting.