

Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board



E-Newsletter - Edition 1
April 2018

Welcome to the Spring 2018 edition of the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) e-newsletter. This is a re-launch of a previous newsletter and the intention is to circulate it on a quarterly basis. We hope this newsletter will be a way of keeping you up to date with the work of the NSAB, as well as sharing good practice and important information.

Please also visit the [NSAB webpages](#) which include a lot of useful information, links and contacts.

Board Business

- The NSAB recently published the [Joint Serious Case Review \(Sexual Exploitation\)](#) alongside the Newcastle Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB). The report contains a number of local and national recommendations. Some of the key learning points which have already been carefully considered include: the complex nature of sexual exploitation; the extreme and long lasting impact it has on victims; that sexual exploitation happens to adults as well as children; and difficulties in identifying and preventing exploitation.
- The NSAB is finalising their Strategic Annual Plan for 2018-19. This outlines what the Board will focus on over the coming year. Some of the key priorities already identified are: overseeing the implementation of an Adult Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH); addressing the recommendations from the Joint Serious Case Review; exploring factors that may increase risks to adults with care and support – in particular looking at themes around: “gangs”; social isolation and loneliness; and substance misuse. The plan is currently being consulted upon and it will be formally agreed at the Board meeting in May 2018. If there is anything you think the NSAB should include in their plan, please contact safeguardingboards@newcastle.gov.uk or complete the [Let’s Talk Survey](#) (before 13 April 2018).
- At the March 2018 meeting, the NSAB said farewell to three members who were stepping down. Helen Lamont (Newcastle upon Tyne Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust), Liz Wright (Skills for People), and Laura Seebohm (Changing Lives) were thanked for their contributions to the work of the Board.

Board Business cont.

• The Board have been considering the implications of the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) which come into force on 25 May 2018. Many of the main concepts and principles of the GDPR are much the same as those in the current Data Protection Act. If agencies are complying with the current law then most of the approach to compliance will remain valid following the introduction of GDPR. In particular, the GDPR will not change the various lawful basis' we have for sharing information (with or without a person's consent). The NSAB has an [Information Sharing Agreement](#) in place which describes the approach to information sharing for the purposes of safeguarding adults. It is not anticipated that this will change significantly going forward, but it is in the process of being reviewed.

Safeguarding Training

The NSAB, NSCB and Safe Newcastle now produce a [joint training programme](#) that is accessible to all staff and volunteers working in Newcastle. Whether your primary role is to work with children, adults, or both, we encourage you to view safeguarding as something which can affect people across the life course and to develop an awareness of the multi-agency frameworks in place to manage concerns of abuse and neglect. Courses include: Safeguarding, Mental Capacity Act, Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, Sexual Exploitation, Female Genital Mutilation, and Child Neglect. A comprehensive [e-learning programme](#) is also available.

Multi-agency policy and procedures update

The NSAB have recently reviewed the [multi-agency safeguarding adults policy and procedures](#). Very minor changes have been made, but professionals and agencies should ensure this version is being used and that any single-agency procedures are in-line with this review. Changes to highlight include: further clarity on the criteria for safeguarding adults (Section 42) enquiries (page 6, Policy) and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (page 75-76, Procedures); more information on mate crime and modern slavery (pages 30 & 31, Policy); amending the section on "Disagreements, challenge and escalation" (pages 82-83, Procedures); and more guidance around investigation reports (page 61, Procedures).

Practice Guidance

The NSAB produces a wide-range of practice guidance to support staff. Recently reviewed or published guidance includes: Carers Risk Assessment Tool; Service User on Service User Abuse; Organisational Abuse Enquiries; Care to Care Practice Guidance. They can be all be found [here](#).

Spotlight On...Self-neglect

Last year, 13% of safeguarding adults referrals related to concerns about self-neglect. Self-neglect has only recently fallen under the safeguarding adults framework and responding effectively to it can sometimes be a challenge. Self-neglect can include various different circumstances including: hoarding; lack of self-care; lack of care of one's environment; refusal of services. The NSAB have worked with other Safeguarding Adults Boards in the region to produce [Self-Neglect Practice Guidance](#) to support staff in this area. Some of the key messages included within this are:

- Use safeguarding adults procedures where these would apply;
- Consider (and assess where appropriate) mental capacity;
- Find out the adult's views and what they want to happen;
- Identify key individuals and agencies involved. Share information and work together;
- Consider what legal options are available (e.g. Environmental Health, Mental Capacity Act, Housing, Mental Health Act, Fire)
- Record risks and actions taken;
- Be flexible and persistent;
- Consider risks to others.

Contact

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