

Welcome to the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board briefing. The West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board meets four times a year and discusses how agencies should work together to keep adults at risk of abuse or neglect safe in Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham.

For 2021-23 we have agreed to focus on four main priorities which are: self-neglect, pressure care management, organisational safeguarding and Board statutory tasks (safeguarding adult reviews etc). The Board have agreed that they will remain flexible to make changes to its priorities as needed in response to national and local learning; in order to ensure that there is capacity within the partnership and to deliver on the most pressing priorities for the West of Berkshire.

The Board last met in December 2021. There was a busy agenda with the Board: endorsing a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR); seeking assurance that learning from two other cases linked to safeguarding adults had been addressed by the partnership; considering self-neglect from the perspective of the individual; reviewing the self-neglect training offer across the partnership; considering safeguarding concerns and enquiry data and comparing this across our comparator groups.

The Board said thank you and goodbye to Patricia Pease (MBE) who has represented the Royal Berkshire NHS Foundation Trust so effectively for many years and welcomed Alison Drew as the Trusts new Board member.

Contact the Board

If you would like any further information on the Board, please contact the Boards Business Manager Lynne Mason:

Lynne.Mason@Reading.gov.uk

Our Websites:

[Home | Safeguarding Adults Board
\(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](http://Home | Safeguarding Adults Board (sabberkshirewest.co.uk))

[Home Of Berkshire Safe Guarding For Adults
\(berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk\)](http://Home Of Berkshire Safe Guarding For Adults (berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk))

Are you Pressure Care Aware?

A priority for our Board is to improve our understanding on what the partnership needs to do to ensure that our way of working with people at risk of pressure sores is consistently of best practice standard. The Board have agreed that supporting the partnership in raising awareness around appropriate pressure care management for professionals, volunteers, those at risk of developing pressure ulcers and their loved ones, is important.

We are continually updating our website with information in regards to pressure care management which can be found here: [Local Guidance | Safeguarding Adults Board \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](http://Local Guidance | Safeguarding Adults Board (sabberkshirewest.co.uk))

Information includes:

[Pressure Ulcer Pathway](#) - Guidance to support decision making in raising a safeguarding adults concern, in response to pressure ulcers.

[The 5 key messages to Prevent Pressure Ulcers](#)

Aimed at individuals at risk of developing pressure ulcers to highlight the importance of pressure care prevention, created by Shropshire Community Health NHS trust.

TVN2gether Stop the Pressure Video Series

As part of [Stop the Pressure 2020](#), TVN2gether launched a series short videos on things you need to know about pressure care. The videos can be found here: Episode 1 - [Assessment of Risk](#), Episode 2 - [Skin Inspection](#), Episode 3 - [Surface](#), Episode 4 - [Keep Moving](#), Episode 5 - [Incontinence](#)

[Postural Management Awareness Video](#)

[Postural Management Service](#)

Is a single point of access for West of Berkshire Care Home residents, who require support in Postural Management. For more information on what service is on offer and how to make a referral please see the following [leaflet](#). There is also a [leaflet](#) for individuals and their carers.

Practice Learning notes from SARs where pressure care management has been identified as an area for learning can be found on our website: [Aubrey](#), [Gemma](#), [Ben](#), [P](#), [Graham](#), [Ken](#).

Emergency Duty Service

The telephone number for the Emergency Duty Service, which covers the all of Berkshire has changed. For out-of-hours social care and safeguarding emergencies for vulnerable adults and children, please contact the Emergency Duty Service 01344 351999 or edt@bracknell-forest.gov.uk

Please ensure your organisations forms, leaflets, websites etc. are updated with the revised number.

Bitesize Learning Session

You are invited to two-hour virtual workshops that are free to attend and open to all sectors across Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham. Each workshop has a presentation on a specific theme, followed by discussion. No need to book, just log in on the day.

Please look out for communication about our bitesize learning events for 2022 we plan to deliver sessions on self-neglect, pressure care management and learning from SARS.

Find out more at:

<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/practitioners/workforce-development/bite-size-workshops/>

Our 2020/21 Annual Report was published in December 2021 and can be found here:

<http://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk/board-members/priorities-plans-and-reports/>

Reading Borough Council's Safeguarding Advice Line

Reading's Adult Social Care Safeguarding Adults Team has a dedicated telephone line for professionals for advice or guidance around situations/incidents they are concerned about. This is to support safeguarding practice decision-making and to ensure information relating to the support someone needs is sent to the correct team(s) to avoid delay.

You can contact Reading's Safeguarding Team;

Tel: 0118 937 6550 Email: safeguarding.adults@reading.gov.uk

If there is a need for support that doesn't indicate a safeguarding concern, please contact Reading's Contact Centre;

Tel: 0118 937 3747 Email: CSAAdvice.Signposting@reading.gov.uk

There are options on Reading 's website for an online referral to be made for both safeguarding matters and requests for support.

For safeguarding: www.reading.gov.uk using the options of 'Contact Us/Report, pay, apply/Report/Adult Safeguarding Referral Form'

To refer for social care support: www.reading.gov.uk using the options of 'Contact us/ Report, pay, apply/Inform/ASC Referrals'

Podcasts for and by minoritised communities

["Empower & Enable"](#) has three episodes produced for and by Oxfordshire's minoritised communities focusing on mental health, accessing domestic abuse and sexual violence support, and power and gender socialisation.

The conversations seek to build knowledge and awareness within communities and strengthen people's confidence to speak about key issues. They aim to support local and national professionals to develop their practice by better understanding how nuanced cultural factors impact upon people's experiences and create barriers for those who may need to seek help and advice.



Is a free and independent support service, providing a confidential, personal and safe space for anyone who has been abused by someone in the Church or as a result of their relationship with the Church of England, the Catholic Church of England and Wales or the Church in Wales. For further information and/or to make a referral please visit their website: [Safe Spaces England and wales](https://www.safe-spaces.org/)

Safety information about vaping and medical equipment

Please see the key safety messages and link below relating to vaping equipment and dynamic mattresses, for information for professionals and individuals with pressure mattresses. <https://www.nationalfirechiefs.org.uk/Vaping-tobacco-position-statement>

Key messages for vaping include safety messages for all rechargeable electronic devices:

- Buy products from reputable dealers.
- Only use chargers designed for use with the specific device. Some chargers may overcharge the product, leading to an increased risk of fire.
- Never leave a vaping device charging unattended, and never leave them charging overnight-especially next to your bed.
- Never use a vaping device close to medical oxygen, flammable emollient creams or airflow mattresses.
- Do not buy counterfeit goods as batteries and/or chargers are unlikely to have overcurrent protection and could lead to batteries exploding.
- Never modify or adapt personal vaporisers and their associated kit.
- Never use damaged equipment or batteries. Fire is not the only risk posed by vaping products and the liquid they contain can be highly toxic.

Resolving Professional Disagreements In cases that meet the statutory criteria for Safeguarding Adults - Escalation Policy

Effective working together depends on an open and honest approach to relationships between agencies. Problem resolution is an integral part of professional co-operation in a multi-agency approach to safeguard adults. Occasionally situations arise when an agency feel that the actions, inaction or decisions of another agency do not adequately safeguard an adult at risk of abuse or neglect. Such situations have been highlighted in several Safeguarding Adult Reviews. This multi-agency guidance defines the process for resolving such professional differences, when a case meets the statutory criteria for safeguarding adults , and should be read alongside [Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures](#) as well as relevant internal organisation policies on escalating matters in dispute. Click [here](#) for the escalation policy.

Pan Berkshire Policies and Procedures

The purpose of these Policies and Procedures is to support staff to respond appropriately to all concerns of abuse or neglect they may encounter, providing a consistent response across Berkshire. There is a dedicated website: <https://www.berkshiresafeguardingadults.co.uk/> anyone is able to submit an amendment request that will be considered by the Pan Berkshire Policies and Procedure Subgroup.