



Safeguarding Adults Reviews Factsheet for Families

SAFEGUARDING FACTSHEET

2018

Introduction

The Safeguarding Adults Board must arrange a Safeguarding Adults Review, or SAR, when an adult with care and support needs **and**

There is reasonable cause for concern about how agencies worked together to safeguard the adult **and**

- a. The person died and this is suspected or known to be due to abuse or neglect **or**
- b. The person is still alive but it is suspected or known that they have experienced abuse or neglect, sustained a potentially life threatening injury, serious sexual abuse or serious/permanent impairment of health or development

Anyone can make a referral for a SAR if they think the criteria have been met.

A SAR is completed in order to consider whether there are any lessons which may be learned about the way organisations have worked

with the adult or adults who are the subject/s of the review.

In South Gloucestershire we believe that you should know about the review and have the opportunity to discuss any concerns that you may have and share any good things about the support your family member received.

We acknowledge this is likely to be a very difficult time for you and your family but want to ensure you are involved in the review if you want to be.

This information has been designed to explain what happens during a SAR. We know that there are often lots of different processes that happen following a death or serious injury so please contact us for clarification on any aspects of the review or this factsheet.



Purpose

The purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review is to establish how organisations, agencies and professionals work together to support families to keep vulnerable adults safe.

This is not an enquiry into the cause of an individual death or injury.

It is completely separate from any investigation being undertaken by the Police and/or Coroner and it concentrates on the work of the professionals, organisations and agencies who have been involved with the adult/s.

What Happens?

A Reviewer will be commissioned to write the review. They will not have been involved with the care or support of the adult/s who the review is about.

Professionals and family members may be asked to meet with the reviewer to give information.

Each organisation or agency who have been involved with the adult/s will be asked to gather and analyse any professional records they hold that are about the adult/s who are subject to the review.



The Review Panel

A review panel will be formed. This will be a group of senior managers from local organisations, and they will have a close look at the work of all the professionals and agencies who have been involved with you and your family.

WHO?

This will be representatives from Health, Adult Social Care, Police and Legal Services. It may also include voluntary or community organisations or other relevant organisations.

WHAT?

The panel will consider all the reports provided by agencies and professionals to find out if the expected standards have been met and if agency policy and procedures have been followed correctly

This will help identify whether any lessons can be learned about the way agencies and organisations have worked together.

You will have the opportunity to meet a member of the panel to talk about any involvement that either the adult/s subject to the review, or you and family members have had with the agencies and organisations.

You can have support at this meeting. This might be another family member or a friend, or a professional if you prefer. This meeting can be at your home if you wish, or at another suitable venue.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN THE REVIEW IS COMPLETE?

When the review is complete agencies and organisations will consider what actions they need to take to change the way they work with adults with care and support needs and their families.

There are always ways we can do things better and the review will help us to learn lessons so we can work better together in the future.

Usually, unless there is an exceptional reason not to, the South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board has to publish the final report so it is available to the public. You will be asked whether you want your family member to be identified, or if a pseudonym will be used.

You will see the report before it is published and will be able to comment on it.

You can contact the Safeguarding Board Manager to ask about any part of this process, or if you have questions about this factsheet. 01454 863136 or sgsab@southglos.gov.uk