



ANNUAL REPORT 2021-22



INTRODUCTION

The South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board's (SGSAB) Annual Report is designed to give an overview of multi-agency work across South Gloucestershire.

In line with best practice this annual report and will be shared with:

- The Director of People, South Gloucestershire Council
- The Director of Adult Social Services
- The Chief Executive of South Gloucestershire Council
- The Police and Crime Commissioner
- The Children, Adults and Health Cabinet
- The Health and Wellbeing Board
- The Safer and Stronger Communities Strategic Partnership
- The South Gloucestershire Children's Partnership

This report has been authored by Sarah Taylor, Business Manager.

The report was approved by the Safeguarding Adults Board on 8th September 2022 and published on the SGSAB website on 8Th September 2022

Should you require the report in any other format to support accessibility please contact [Sarah Taylor](#)

MESSAGE FROM OUR INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Welcome to the new look, innovative, visually impactful, interactive, informative, 2022 annual report for the South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board – SGSAB.

Thank you, Sarah!

For readers who may not be familiar with some of the language used in adult social services, a “Safeguarding Concern” is a report where there is “reasonable cause to suspect that an adult who has care and support needs, is at risk of or experiencing abuse and neglect”.

A Safeguarding “enquiry” is a statutory responsibility placed on a Local Authority where “it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. When an allegation about abuse or neglect has been made, an enquiry is undertaken to find out what, if anything, has happened”

An enquiry follows a concern.

Page 5 of this report reflects the huge volume of work, originating as concerns, some of which then progress to an enquiry, which the Adult Social Care Teams and all our SAB partners have dealt within the timescale of this report – a time, throughout which there were the additional challenges of working during, and dealing with, a global pandemic.

Pressures on services have been immense but, despite these, the delivery of safeguarding services to vulnerable adults in our communities, has continued.

As you will see within the Quality Assurance sub-group update and, in 1 case within the Safeguarding Adults Review sub-group update, self-neglect features all too often.

There is evidence that Covid-19 has caused the number of self-neglect cases to rise.

“Why?” has not, so far as I am aware, been researched yet, but I suspect, lockdowns, isolation, reduced contact with family, friends and or carers, have all played a significant part in the reasons for this rise.

Safeguarding Adult Reviews – SARs, are a vital part of learning and improving safeguarding practices the object being to learn where partnership working could be improved to prevent, or at least reduce, the risk of similar occurrences but these too have added further pressure on all SAB partners involved. The fact that we commissioned two, “discretionary” SAR’s evidences the importance we place on learning. Where relevant, that learning is then threaded into the numerous and varied training courses offered to all our partners.

Finally, I would like to thank all members of the Board and in particular, the sub-group members, for their commitment to the work of the Board as set out in our business plan.

Tony Oliver, Independent Chair

ABOUT THE BOARD

Safeguarding Adults Board have three main duties

- Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute
- Publish an annual report detailing how effective their work has been
- Commission safeguarding adults reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.

The board has an independent chair, Tony Oliver. The board structure consists of quarterly full board meetings, quarterly meeting of a performance monitoring and subgroup chairs group and five permanent subgroups, for this reporting period, all of these meetings have taken place virtually. This has worked well, and attendance has remained good. The subgroups are:

- Learning and Development
- Safeguarding Adults Review
- Quality Assurance
- Policy and Procedure
- Communication & Engagement

SAFEGUARDING ACTIVITY



4152 Safeguarding Concerns



1087 Section 42 Enquires



66 other safeguarding enquiries



41.5% of enquiries are about Neglect & Acts of Omission



59% of concerns are about women



20% of enquiries are about financial abuse

Safeguarding Adults in South Gloucestershire



15% of enquiries are about physical abuse



39% of these are in the person's own home



20% of enquiries are about Domestic Abuse



2 Safeguarding Adults Reviews



53% of these are in residential or nursing care homes



25% of adults who had a S42 enquiry were asked what their desired outcomes were



45% of adults who had a S42 enquiry have 'not known' or not recorded about their desired outcomes

THE WORK OF THE BOARD

Much of the work of the board takes place in the sub groups which are well represented by multi-agency partners. The chairs of the groups meet together quarterly and all of them provide reports to the full board meetings each quarter.



Policy and Procedure Sub Group

This subgroup focusses on the revision and creation of policy, procedure and practice guidance to support professionals from all organisations working with adults in South Gloucestershire. This year the following have been published/updated. Click to access the full document.



Click the icon
for the new
Homelessness
Guidance



Click the icon
for the new
Resolution of
Professional
Differences
Guidance



Click the icon
for the new
Safer
Recruitment
Guidance



Click the icon
for the new
Organisational
Abuse
Guidance

All of the multi agency Policies, procedures and guidance documents can be found [on this page of the website](#)

Communication & Engagement

This subgroup is a joint group with the Children's Partnership. Key work covered centred around Stop Adult Abuse Week



Stop Adult Abuse Week

This year we moved the week to November in line with the National Safeguarding Adults Week. We ran a week of workshops at lunchtime each day for professionals working across five SABs on the theme of Creating Safer Cultures. We also published a resources newsletter that you can [read here](#)



There were over 1000 bookings for the workshops

Quality Assurance

The QA sub group meets every quarter and undertakes a multi agency audit on a theme. Read the audits by clicking the icons below:



Click the icon to read the Hoarding Audit



Click the icon to read the Domestic Abuse Audit



Click the icon to read the Exploitation Audit



Click the icon to read the Self-Neglect Audit

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS REVIEWS



During the year 2021-22 the SAR sub group received our highest number of referrals in a year.

Six cases were referred for review by the SAR sub group.

Three of these did not meet the criteria for a SAR.

One met the criteria for a SAR and this has commenced and is due to be completed by September 2022

Two met the criteria for Discretionary SARs under the Care Act 44.4 and we pioneered a new, swifter approach for these two SARs. This approach is now being used by other Safeguarding Adults Boards. You can read the Discretionary SAR Learning below:



Click the icon
above to read
'Holly'
Discretionary SAR



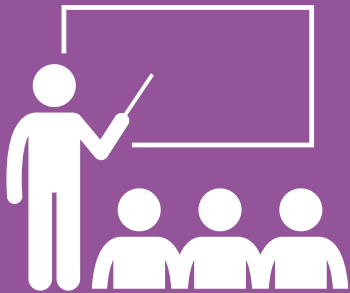
Click the icon
above to read
'Mrs Y'
Discretionary SAR

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The SAB offers a comprehensive multi agency safeguarding training offer, although much of this continues to be delivered online. Overall attendance rate is 82%



A brand new course has been added this year - Adult Exploitation



225 delegates attended
'Raising Safeguarding
Concerns'

100% of people said they felt good
or very good in terms of
their confidence after
this course

People said they knew
what to do if they
have concerns about an adult

Delegates on all training are sent a follow up evaluation six weeks after the event to try and gather some impact evaluation data so that changes in practice can be identified.

13 Provider organisations are part of the Trained Trainer network delivering the Raising Safeguarding Concerns course to their own staff.



IF YOU ARE WORRIED ABOUT AN ADULT CONTACT OUR SAFEGUARDING TEAM:

Monday – Friday 9am-5pm 01454 868007

Out of hours and at weekends 01454 615165

If you are deaf or hard of hearing text 'EDT' followed by your name and message to 60066



IF YOU ARE LOOKING FOR SAFEGUARDING TRAINING:

The information about the multi agency training offer is [here](#)



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO READ OUR SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD NEWSLETTERS:

The newsletters are published [here](#)



Scan the QR code to visit the SAB
website [here](#)