



# ANNUAL REPORT 2022-23



# 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 2023 and published on the SGSAB website on 9th September 2023

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

# MESSAGE FROM OUR INDEPENDENT CHAIR

Welcome to the South Gloucestershire's Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Annual report 2022 – 2023.

Three years on from the start of the pandemic, nationally, regionally, and locally, safeguarding services continue to be challenged by the ongoing longer-term consequences of covid. Whilst not quite as severe as in 2020 – 21, the additional pressures placed on our SAB partners and a significant number of service users, by the economic crisis coupled with, and in part caused by, the war in Ukraine, have led to all SAB statutory and voluntary sector partners working at and beyond capacity throughout the past year. For that, I thank you all.

This year's report evidences the pressures placed on our SAB partners, but despite these, I can assure readers that Safeguarding services continue to be delivered across our area, professionally, enthusiastically and with a sharp focus on outcomes whilst considering the wishes of the service user.

The work of the five SAB sub-groups continues to be an essential part of the effectiveness of the Board and the delivery of our business plan. Their key achievements over this reporting period are attached to this report as hyperlinks. Read collectively, these documents really show the commitment there is in South Gloucestershire to safeguard some of the most vulnerable people in our area.

There are, of course, always ways to improve service delivery and to learn from our own experiences and from those outside of our area. This appetite to learn and improve is evidenced in the work of the sub-groups. For example, at the beginning of every SAB meeting, a SAB partner updates the Board as to how they have implemented a change in practice based on recommendations from a Safeguarding Adults Review. Our Learning and Development sub-group, tailor our training program to suit identified gaps in training and our Quality Assurance sub-group complete audits on topics identified by the SAB, where further in-depth analysis, is sought. Again, the evidence of this work is contained within this report.

Our business plan, 2021 – 2023, contains a few priorities which we were unable to complete due to the pandemic. I am confident that we are on target to meet the challenging targets we set ourselves and these will be reported on in next year's report. Finally, this will be my last foreword to a South Gloucestershire Annual Report. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as the Independent Chair over the past few years and I will follow the continued development of Safeguarding Services in the area, keenly.

Thank you to all.

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



4040 Safeguarding Concerns



1394 Section 42 Enquires



92 other safeguarding enquiries



34% of enquiries are about Neglect & Acts of Omission



55% of enquiries are about a person in their own home



16% of enquiries are about financial abuse

## Safeguarding Adults in South Gloucestershire



14.5% of enquiries are about physical abuse



29% of enquiries have mental health as primary support reason, this is increasing



14% of enquiries are about Domestic Abuse



1 Safeguarding Adults Review



36% of enquiries have physical support as the primary support reason



8% of enquiries are related to self neglect, this has decreased through the year



90% of cases have a decision made within 7 days  
59% on the first day

# 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 Working with Risk Guidance



Click the icon for the new Regional Safeguarding Adults Policy



Click the icon for the new Self Neglect Guidance



Click the icon for the new Domestic Abuse Practice 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 joined our campaign week 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 Responding to Contemporary Safeguarding Challenges. We also published a resources newsletter that you can [read here](#)



There were over 1300 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 Transitions Audit



Click the icon to read the Financial Exploitation Audit



Click the icon to read the Violence against women and girls Audit



Click the icon to read the Mental Health Audit

# SAFEGUARDING ADULTS REVIEWS



During the year 2022-23 the SAR sub group received two referrals in a year.

Both met the criteria for a SAR . The first was for a man who has been anonymised as 'Mr D' and the SAR was published in October 2022.

An action plan is being monitored by the SAR sub group and is nearing completion.

The second referral came from an out of area Safeguarding Adults Board, following the death of a young woman. This SAR has commenced and is expected to be completed in December 2023

You can read the 'Mr D' SAR Learning below:



Click the icon above to read 'Mr D' SAR



Click the icon above to read the learning brief for 'Mr D'

## People in Positions of Trust (PIPOT)

There were 9 allegations received about Adults in a Position of Trust in 2022-23 6 of these were substantiated, 2 inconclusive and 1 unsubstantiated.

These included Domestic Abuse, Financial Abuse and child protection concerns. The individuals were from a range of job roles across agencies.

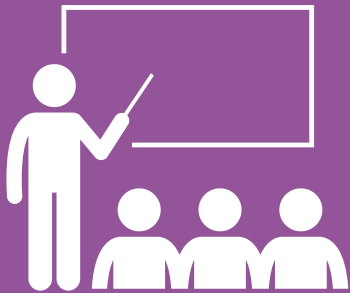


# LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

The SAB offers a comprehensive multi agency safeguarding training offer, although much of this continues to be delivered online. Overall attendance rate is 81%



A brand new course has been added this year -Professional Curiosity in response to learning from SARs and audits.



327 delegates attended  
'Raising Safeguarding  
Concerns'

Excellent course  
The knowledge I gained  
helped build my confidence

Nice mix of different  
professionals to share and  
learn from each other

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.

16 individuals from 13 Provider organisations are part of the Trained Trainer network delivering the Raising Safeguarding Concerns course to their own staff, they have trained 374 people in this period.



## 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](#)