


Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Physical Abuse May 2018



Organisations that audited their involvement with the four adults were: Adult Social Care, GPs, Sirona and AWP



Justine: 38 Moderate Learning Disabilities
Two safeguarding referrals about physical abuse from boyfriend who also has LD.



James: 86 Advanced dementia. Physical abuse by both James and his wife have resulted in referrals. Aggressive behaviour towards professionals. Regular multi agency meetings. James currently living in a nursing home

The audit of 1st May 2018 reviewed the records of four adults experiencing physical abuse and open to safeguarding. The aim of the audit was to ascertain whether there were good multi-agency standards for managing cases and whether organisations have implemented a robust and consistent response in line with statutory and good practice guidance, SGSAB policies and procedures and the six key principles underpinning all adult safeguarding work



John: 60 Not previously known to Social Care. 3 safeguarding concerns related to Domestic Abuse from his wife. Controlling behaviour, withholding money & food, verbal and physical abuse



Jane: 82 History of falls and epilepsy. Supporting her husband after he had a stroke. Verbal and physical aggression from husband resulting in broken nose. Husband moved into residential care, Jane visits regularly. Safeguarding ended as no longer at risk while living apart



Findings

- All four cases were categorised as physical abuse, but should have been reported as domestic abuse.
- DASH (Domestic Abuse, Stalking & Harassment) Risk Assessment not being routinely completed by practitioners in all agencies
- Practitioners are not thinking 'domestic abuse'
- Evidence of good multi agency working in two of the cases
- Rationale for decision making is not always recorded
- There is a risk of 'starting again' with a new referral and not reflecting back on case history and risk assessments.



At the meeting of the South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board on 7th June 2018, the finding of the audit were considered. They reflect the findings from the previous audit, and show that Domestic Abuse is not always being recognised by practitioners. It was agreed that a learning brief from each quality assurance audit would be produced to help disseminate learning. Overleaf you will find details of some supporting resources available in South Gloucestershire



Domestic Violence and Abuse Training

There is a new training pathway for inter-agency Domestic Violence and Abuse training in South Gloucestershire. You can build up your knowledge and skills from an introductory e-learning module through to the level of training that you need to fit your job role. There are lots of course dates available in 2017-18.

E-Learning Module: Awareness of Domestic Violence

This package will raise your awareness of the issues surrounding domestic violence, particularly for those workers that come into contact with survivors. The module has been updated to include the impact on children, young people and vulnerable adults.

To access the module: email your details to hrworkforcedevelopment@southglos.gov.uk

Intermediate Domestic Violence and Abuse Training

This 1-day course builds on the Awareness of Domestic Violence and Abuse e-learning module which should be completed before attending this course; it will include a focus on:

- Risk and needs – supporting individuals and families experiencing domestic abuse
- Confidence in safety planning
- Impact of domestic abuse and implications for attachment and development

Advanced Domestic Violence and Abuse Training

This 1-day course builds on the learning and skills gained through attending the Intermediate Domestic Violence and Abuse Training, with additional content including the following:

- Working with denial
- Evidence gathering for assessment
- Assessing the dynamics of domestic abuse within families

Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Violence and Abuse

This 1-day course should only be attended once you have completed the Advanced-level Domestic Violence & Abuse training and will include the following:

- Increased confidence in identifying perpetrator behaviour and risk assessing the impact on all victims
- Exploration of safety issues
- Best practice when working with perpetrators

You can book a place on any of the 1-day courses via South Glos Council's self-serve Learning & Development website <http://learning.southglos.gov.uk>

The usual South Glos LSCB Course Charges apply: https://learning.southglos.gov.uk/courses/bookings/course_charges.asp

- ✓ Make sure you speak to the person **alone**
- ✓ Complete a **DASH** (*Domestic Abuse Stalking, Harassment & Honour Based Violence*) Risk Assessment. A DASH should be completed whenever a professional identifies someone experiencing Domestic Abuse (there is also a Young Person's DASH that may be useful for Adults with a Learning Disability)
- ✓ Consider whether this person should be referred to **MARAC** (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) Complete a referral form and send to MARAC@southglos.gcsx.gov.uk
- ✓ **Contact Next Link** – our South Glos provider of Domestic Abuse support
- ✓ <http://www.nextlinkhousing.co.uk/southglos/>
- ✓ Next Link Helpline **8:30am – 5:30pm Monday to Friday and 9:30am – 1:00pm on Saturday** 0800 4700 280

Check out the resources on the SGSAB website including the *NEW* Domestic Abuse Practice Guidance Due to be published by August 2018