

Multi Agency Quality Assurance Audit: Sexual Abuse July 2024

The adults reviewed for this multi agency audit are aged between 18 and 39. All 6 are female. Two live in their own/family home. Two live in supported accommodation, one in residential setting

The adults in the audit have a range of issues in addition to sexual abuse including mental health, substance misuse, domestic abuse, autism, ADHD, learning disability, risk of homelessness, head injury and physical needs

What we are worried about?

The audit group saw concerns in terms of:

- Police not aware of one adult having a diagnosis of ADHD and Autism, which may have led to the adult having additional support when working with police.
- Next Link not included for an adult or her family experiencing domestic abuse
- No risk assessment for an adult who is experiencing high levels of risk. Should have been a multi agency approach
- Information not shared with new local authority when adult moved
- No advocacy referrals made
- GP not aware of any allegations of sexual abuse for two adults
- For one adult the professional voice rather than voice of the adult was recorded.
- Being able to continue working with someone when their address is fluid, and not all of the workers are aware of the family contacts
- Lack of flagging on police systems to support frontline officers to identify vulnerabilities of adults



Theme: Making Safeguarding Personal

- When working with an adult with LD and you don't know them, speak to professionals who care for them regularly to ensure the best approach and ways of communication are understood to ensure a person centred approach.
- When someone doesn't want to engage with a professional or service work in a multi agency way to find the best person to work with the adult

The audit of 24th July 2024 reviewed the records of six adults who were identified through Adult Safeguarding under the theme of Sexual Abuse. 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.

What Good Practice did we see?

- High quality records including the voice of the adult
- DASH undertaken with victim of stalking
- Good practice and good relationship with GP
- Attempts made to investigate sexual abuse allegation with an adult with very complex medical needs and a brain injury
- Organisational safeguarding team working in a preventative way with a setting.
- Good practice to identify with care provider the best way to approach and communicate with an adult with LD and working in a person centred way
- One25 and Beloved involved appropriately
- Good coordination of professionals working together
- Appropriate referrals to MARAC



Think Family

Make sure you consider who else is in the home and make referrals for other adults and children when appropriate



Creative Solutions

Board is a helpful place to refer to when feeling 'stuck' - click to contact



Working in a trauma informed way when an adult has experienced historic abuse, ensure incidents are not dealt with in isolation



Make use of Advocacy Services – click for Voicability

Click these circles for more information

One25 service works with women who street sex work – click for more

Beloved is another local charity that work with women involved in sex work - click for more

Research in Practice Guide to Sexual Exploitation – click here



Organisations that audited their involvement with the six adults were: Adult Social Care, Sirona, NBT, AWP, Police, Next Link, GPs, DHI, Bromford Housing & Voiceability