

Kingston Safeguarding Adults Board



Annual Report 2021-22

Introduction from the Interim SAB Chair

Welcome to the KSAB Annual Report for 2021/2022. This is the first annual report that I have contributed to in the role of Interim Chair and I would like to thank Gemma Blunt, Corporate Head of Adult Safeguarding; Claire Singers, Senior Practitioner Safeguarding Adults and Dawn Fenton, Board Support Officer for their commitment and valued support whilst I have been in post.

Since the retirement of our previous Chair (April 2021), I have been covering the role from July 2021 up until July 2022. During this interim period, board partners agreed this was an ideal opportunity to review the board, its work and to look at ways of developing more partnership working with other local boards.

Following this review, we were able to advertise and appoint a new Independent Chair and to review and refresh our subgroups and work plans. The KSAB is a strong board with committed attendance and input from all partner agencies. There is continuous reflection and challenge on our work and we are always looking at ways to improve the safeguarding experiences for the people of Kingston as well as looking at ways in which to get the safeguarding message out to the members of the public.

Some of the work that has gone on in the past year has been looking at how safeguarding is made personal and what is important to people who have gone through this process. This work was led by our local Healthwatch service.

During National Safeguarding Adult's Week, held in November, training sessions were delivered by members of the board and covered Basic Safeguarding Adult Awareness, Prevent, Think Family and Adult Child to Parent Violence. These sessions were open to members of staff from all health and social care organisations and voluntary sector staff across Kingston.

In the last year we have had reports from partner agencies that their compliance for staff training on adult safeguarding have met required compliance targets, therefore supporting staff to understand how to recognise, report and support people who are at risk of abuse. This is due to the hard work of safeguarding leads within each organisation.

Some other areas of work the board have been engaged in is developing easy read information on adult safeguarding to support people with a learning disability and those for whom English isn't their first

language to make the safeguarding adults process more accessible.

Part of the board work is to have regular updates on the local and national learning disability mortality review (LeDeR) as this is seen as part of the safeguarding agenda locally.

I can report that for the past year all reviews have been completed in required timescales and learning into action is driven forward by our local learning disability specialist services and by our local acute trust learning disability liaison professional.

The KSAB is responsible for receiving referrals for Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR's) and for undertaking the commissioning of these reviews if they meet the referral criteria.

In the past year we have received six referrals for consideration, two of which were accepted and are underway.

There was also a completed SAR which was of a young person who sadly took their own life. The recommendations from this review will be published and

local and national learning events from this are planned for the autumn of 2022.

To recognise and show our appreciation of the hard work of the local work force, the Kingston board have developed a staff awards programme “KiSPA” whereby members of the board and partners can nominate people from their areas whom they feel have gone that extra mile and gone above and beyond their role.

We are pleased to announce that Sandy Rosher, Social Worker for Kingston Local Authority Adults team was presented with this award in recognition for her skill, commitment and hard work with a particular complex Modern Slavery case that was referred through to Adult Social Care.

As well as our local staff award scheme, there is a National Safeguarding Adults Awards which is new this year and have arisen as part of the National Safeguarding Adults Managers Network.

There were two nominations from the Kingston board that were submitted, and these were previous KiSPA recipients. The nominees were the Metropolitan Police and Your Healthcare District Nursing Team.

We were very happy to find out that the District Nursing Team from Your Healthcare were winners for their category. Well done to you all!

In summary chairing the KSAB for the past year has been a great and valuable experience and has given me an opportunity to support all partners and to maintain the focus of the board whilst it has been in review and transition.

I think it is important to state the strength of partnership and commitment of all our board members and organisations who serve the population of Kingston as well as other neighbouring boroughs.

I would like to thank everyone who is part of the board and all colleagues in health, social care and voluntary sectors for their support with the work of the board and in safeguarding adults in Kingston.

I am really pleased to introduce all the following work of our health and social care partners across the Royal Borough of Kingston Upon Thames.



Peter Warburton
Interim SAB Chair
Kingston Safeguarding Adults Board

KSAB Sub-Groups

Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Sub-Group

The SAR Sub-group considers cases where there has been a death or serious incident in the borough, of an adult with care and support needs, where a failure or possible failure to work together to promote the safety and prevent neglect, abuse or harm to an individual has been identified. The Group recommends to the board whether the criteria are met for conducting an independent Safeguarding Adult Review (or SAR). The sub-group continue to meet quarterly and virtual, with ongoing work progressing.

SARs are written to provide learning for all organisations to ensure mistakes are not repeated and that all staff learn from the Review, provide support to adults with care and support needs. They are not about apportioning blame to individuals or agencies.

The Board takes SARs very seriously and continues to have oversight on the recommendations, expecting feedback from agencies on what they have done.

In this last year (April 2021 to March 2022), 3 new SAR referrals were made however only 2 met the criteria for a SAR.

In June 2021, the SAR Sub-group welcomed a new Chair – DI Ryan Green.

The ongoing work on 2 SAR's mentioned in the previous Annual Report have now been published and will be reported in next year's report.

Training Sub-Group

The principal achievement of the Training subgroup in 2021/22 has been laying the foundations for the preparation of the KSAB Training Strategy although it was not published until October 2022. The need for an updated and refreshed strategy had been identified in 2019, but the onset of the pandemic meant that work was deferred as the group endeavoured to monitor how well the delivery of training was being sustained in a difficult operational environment.

The strategy has tried to identify minimum standards, how to make training easily accessible and ensure that there is an effective means of monitoring impact. Partner organisations were also invited to describe how they implement national and regional training requirements.

Equipping staff and volunteers at every level of organisations in Kingston with a responsibility for supporting the delivery of high-quality adult safeguarding practice remains a key priority for the partnership. The subgroup has examined ways in which the capacity to deliver training at lower levels can be enhanced. Training potential trainers is one obvious way to do this, whilst a good range of on-line learning tools continue to be available. The subgroup has endorsed the ongoing roll out of the subject matter expert programme of focussed webinars. These sessions are vital to ensure practitioners are fully briefed on topics they will come across in their day-to-day work or new areas of practice such as addressing modern slavery.

In 2022/23 the subgroup will take steps to review its purpose and how it functions as the pandemic has re-shaped some aspects of delivery. The subgroup does not design nor deliver courses, but can assist to be assured about the quality of training being delivered.

Communications Sub Group

The sub-group continues with a focus on delivering adult safeguarding messages to the residents of Kingston and continue to meet virtually on a quarterly basis.

During 21/22 new Joint Chairs for the sub-group were identified and a formal handover was completed at the sub-group meeting in February 2022. The new Joint Chairs of the Comms Sub-group are, Amanjit Sandhu and Claire Singers, both Senior Social Workers for Safeguarding Adults in RBK.

The group has distributed leaflets to GP practices and Covid Vaccination sites throughout the borough to raise awareness of Adult Safeguarding. We also continued to explore and source Easy Read Safeguarding Adult literature.

The sub-group continue to take learning from SAR's and have developed and updated 7 minute briefings in relation to the following areas:

- Mental Capacity Act
- Professional Curiosity
- Domestic Abuse

During National Safeguarding Adults week, as part of the Subject Matter Expert Programme, 2 hour sessions were delivered virtually on PREVENT; Basic Safeguarding Adults Awareness (2 sessions); Think Family; Adult Child to Parent Violence.

Going forward into 22/23, the sub-group aims to redraft the Comms Strategy and continue to focus and explore different ways to deliver and raise awareness of adult safeguarding to residents and businesses within Kingston.

Partner Key Achievements 2021/22

Your Healthcare (YHC)

2021/2022 saw a rise in the number of safeguarding alerts raised by practitioners, with the most prominent area of concern being Neglect/Self-neglect. Whereas, safeguarding regarding YHC services remained low. As part of the response to this YHC joined with partners to review how local multi-agency network responds to self-neglect concerns.

YHC was also honoured to be awarded the “We see you, We hear you” National Safeguarding Board award for “Empowerment Champion”. YHC continues to be an active member of the safeguarding partnership board and its working groups.

Though we prioritised face to face patient contact YHC has continued to use video conferencing to support faster multi-agency communication and respond to patient need more effectively. YHC also entered a partnership arrangement with Hounslow and Richmond Community Health Trust which has resulted in shared learning and co-production of resources to assist our practitioners. This reduced duplication of effort is bringing more knowledge and resource to projects.

Key achievements in the year were:

- The development of resources to support practitioners to identify concerns regarding self-neglect or mental capacity which can mean early intervention and prevention and support.
- The continued development of virtual communication resources and carry out a complete review of training
- Increased partnership working with HRCH

South West London & St. George’s Mental Health NHS Trust (SWL)

SWL’s MH Trust’s key achievements for 2021/22 are:

- **New Co-produced Safeguarding Adults Policy** - SWL reviewed and refreshed the 2018 ‘Safeguarding Adults at Risk Policy’, with special thanks to the Making Safeguarding Personal group and Sutton 1 in 4 who made invaluable contributions. The refreshed policy is fully aligned with the principles of Trauma Informed Care and places the principles of making safeguarding personal as a golden thread through all our work.
- **Development of bespoke Safeguarding Adults level 3 training package** - SWL collaborated with South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLAM) to develop a bespoke safeguarding adults training package which is compliant with the key competencies outlined in HEE and Intercollegiate Framework. The e-learning element of the package includes co-produced DVA training videos.
- **Secondment of a Domestic Violence & Abuse Lead** - SWL successfully securing funding for a Domestic Abuse Lead who came into post initially on a six-month contract. Whilst in post the DVA Lead created a 5 Borough referral form to include and direct risk management, safety planning, referrals, and safeguarding practices in relation to DVA. The DVA also delivered targeted training to strengthen knowledge and skills of staff in relation to domestic abuse and the link with mental health and lastly developed a co-produced policy to support staff experiencing Domestic Abuse.
- **New Prevent Policy** - SWL designed and rolled out a new ‘Prevent’ policy to ensure that the Trust meets its statutory Prevent Duty in line with requirements of the Counter-Terrorism and

Security Act 2015. The primary aim of this policy is to ensure that ‘adults at risk’ and children & young people, are protected from radicalisation whilst under the care of this Trust and that staff members, and volunteers are able to identify any possible signs of radicalisation and raise their concerns with their line manager.

Royal Borough of Kingston - Community Housing

The Housing Options service is collaborating with colleagues in Public Health as part of the Kingston United for Ukraine group who are leading on providing assistance and support to households arriving in Kingston having fled the war in Ukraine. With the first households reaching the six month stage of their stay with their host families, new options and initiatives to help them secure longer term accommodation are needed. The partnership has established a variety of re-housing options for these households and has developed a range of translated information to help them understand how obtaining housing in the UK works and what they need to be aware of. The Housing Options Service has received 41 approaches from Ukrainian households whose placement is due to end or who can no longer remain in their placement for other reasons.

In relation to provision of emergency accommodation demand from homeless households approaching Community Housing at a point of crisis continued during the course of the year requiring our service to provide, on an emergency basis, 265 new placements.

In helping manage this level of demand, Community Housing’s ability to procure homes in the private rented sector to prevent homelessness was impacted by

changes in market conditions. However, despite a less favourable private sector market a total of 39 homes were procured in 2021/22, in order to prevent households from becoming homeless, under the Council's Tenant Finder Service (TFS). This was a 25% increase in the supply of affordable homes achieved under TFS in the previous year.

Despite the challenges in accessing the private rental market due to increases in demand for accommodation, a decrease in supply of private rented homes and an inflation in rents our Private Lease Scheme, which provides longer term lettings to homeless households as temporary accommodation, procured 26 new homes and ensured 84 existing leases were extended protecting the homes for occupiers for the next 3 years.

Whilst Housing Services undertook regeneration work on the Cambridge Road Estate requiring residents to decant into vacant social housing, in the course of 2021/22 Community Housing was able to let 53 two bedroom sized homes as social housing tenancies to 33 homeless households and 29 three bedroom sized properties to 15 homeless families providing a secure and affordable home with a social landlord in Kingston.

Community Housing has successfully bid for Rough Sleeper Initiative funding each year from central Government since 2018 which has enabled Kingston to develop a rough sleeper pathway with partner organisations to ensure those who are sleeping rough or at risk of rough sleeping are provided with support, assistance and accommodation where possible.

Preventing a return to the streets is very high on our agenda and this requires good communication between partners and a greater understanding of the complexities as to why people reach a point where they end up on the streets. One new initiative currently under consideration is a Housing First model which would enable those with the most complex needs to be placed into, and maintain, accommodation. A feasibility study of this approach is presently underway.

Royal Borough of Kingston - Adult Social Care

- New Senior SW role was secured and came into post in July 2021. This additional post will support the development of the safeguarding work plan
- Significant progress has been made with developing our quality assurance and safeguarding process, making the links with commissioning quality assurance and reviewing safeguarding pathways. This will provide assurances of good quality and safe service provision as well as drive quality and improvement in the care market. To raise a quality concern please see. [Raise a quality concern](#)
- The Making Safeguarding Personal project, in conjunction with HWK, has now been rolled out to all ASC Social Work Teams and we are beginning to receive feedback from adults at risk and/or their representatives who have been through the safeguarding process, to support the development and improvement of safeguarding practice within RBK.

- As part of the Making Safeguarding Personal project, the Senior Social Workers, Safeguarding Adults meet with HWK on a monthly basis to ensure the project continues to work well and identify any gaps and changes that may be needed
- The Subject Matter Expert Programme is fully established and have been providing sessions bi-monthly throughout the year including:
 - MARAC (Domestic Abuse and DASH risk assessment)
 - DBS and Safeguarding
 - Pressure ulcers and Safeguarding
 - Medication and Safeguarding
 - Basic Safeguarding Awareness
- As part of the Subject Matter Expert programme, we also arranged a 2 hour session every day as part of National Safeguarding Adults Week
- We have launched a new SAM Group Meeting, for all the trained SAM's in ASC. The meetings take place quarterly to share learning, provide any updates and identify any development or training needs. We plan to invite guest speakers and colleagues from the partnership to strengthen our partnership links
- The Safeguarding Adults Senior SW's have also taken over as Joint Chairs of the Communications Sub-Group as of February 2022
- We have continued to develop and strengthen our working relationships with key departments and teams within RBK to work collaboratively around key areas of safeguarding, for example AfC and Transitional Safeguarding and Safer Kingston and Modern Slavery, Domestic Abuse, PREVENT.

- We carried out a Covid-19 Safeguarding Audit in November 2021 in order to review how safeguarding activity was affected by the pandemic to inform our future responses to people with safeguarding needs.
 - We also started the process of reviewing our safeguarding forms on our internal recording system that we use to record safeguarding concerns and section 42 safeguarding enquiries. It is planned for the new forms to be launched across Adult Social Care in August 2022, and to monitor the impact of the new forms to safeguarding practice in 2023.
 - The Covid 19 safeguarding analysis showed that domestic abuse concerns were most prevalent in covid-19 related safeguarding concerns followed by abuse and neglect in a care home and then financial and material concerns. The audit reinforced workers strengths in applying Making Safeguarding Personal principles despite the challenges presented by the pandemic, workers remained focused on preventative work, multidisciplinary working and empowering clients throughout the safeguarding process.
- The audit identified several areas to develop safeguarding practice in the future including, strong collaboration with voluntary services, supporting carers, outreach in relation to scams awareness, increased use of telecommunication across partner agencies and re-establishing professional forums such as the Self-Neglect Focus Group. This will continue to form part of the focus of safeguarding work in the next year.

Kingston Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) Learning from Lives & Deaths of people with a Learning Disability & Autistic People previously known as “The Learning Disability Mortality Review (LeDeR)”
 The LeDeR program was set up to review all deaths of people with a learning disability in every locality across

England. It has direct links to adult and child safeguarding. The reviews aim is to identify good practice and where things have gone well in care and treatment for people with a learning disability and to use this information to support service improvement and development. The CCG has been charged with running and overseeing this programme locally and ensuring any issues and learning that are identified within local reviews are acted upon and shared. The CCG has continued to support the LeDeR programme over the past year and to ensure that all reviews are undertaken and completed within the required timescales.

The local area steering groups have met on a quarterly basis to receive completed reviews presented by reviewers, to consider outcomes and recommendations from the reviews and to quality assure the reviews. Steering groups and local area contacts are also responsible for sharing learning and following up on actions and recommendations.

The CCG Safeguarding Adults Lead for Kingston has acted as the main local area contact for LeDeR and will continue in this role until a new full-time team responsible for the LeDeR programme is put in place when the CCG moves over to become an Integrated Care Board.

SWL CCG Liberty Protection Safegaurds & Mental Capacity Act Webinar 2022

The SWL CCG Safeguarding Adults Leads organised an afternoons conference and webinar on the subject of Mental Capacity and Liberty Protection Safegaurds on 29th March 2022. The webinar hosted 4 guest speakers that included Tim Spencer Lane from the Law Society; Elaine Ruddy, LPS Lead at NHSE; Hannah Nicolas, Solicitor specialising in MCA and LPS; Dr Elizabeth Alton, GP Lead with special interest in MCA and LPS. The webinar had

attendance of over 100 participants with a wide range of professionals across SWL health system. Feedback from the webinar was extremely positive.

As part of the comitment to the LPS, the CCG/ICB is working towards employing a Lead Co-ordinator to support the system with implementation of the LPS and links with NHSE and partners.

The National Safe & Wellbeing Review Programme for People with a Learning Disability December 2021

The National Safe & Wellbeing Review Programme was identified as part of the NHSE response to the Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) concerning the deaths of 3 people at Cawston Park Hospital in Norfolk. The reviews were undertaken to check the safety and wellbeing of all people with a learning disability and autism (children, young people, and adults) who were being cared for in any mental health hospital, learning disability or autism inpatient setting funded by CCG’s or provider collaborative on 31 October 2021.

The purpose of the National Review Programme was to:

- undertake a safe and wellbeing check for each person
- to seek assurance that people are being properly cared for and are leading good lives in hospital
- for commissioners to take immediate remedial action if a review shows that a person is not safe and well
- to be carried out swiftly and at a point in time so that any key themes and learning can be identified

The approach adopted for the Safe and Wellbeing Reviews was one that listens to and considers the views and information available from a range of sources including:

- The individual
- Family and loved ones
- Responsible clinicians and multi-disciplinary teams

The approach also required reviewers to determine their level of confidence in the care provided, to identify

actions, to feedback on these actions and the outcomes to the individual. SWL CCG submitted data to NHSE on 34 people with a learning disability and/or autism who are in a mental health hospital setting funded by the CCG. SWL CCG also established an oversight panel to scrutinise the reviews which included a range of senior clinical staff from across SWL and a core group of people with lived experience. All 34 reviews were signed off by the SWL oversight panel.

Kingston & Richmond Safeguarding Training for GP's

These forums are run quarterly for an afternoon and have representation from all GP Safeguarding Leads within practices across Kingston and Richmond.

These were facilitated by the named GP for safeguarding across Kingston & Richmond and supported by both Designated Safeguarding Adult Leads. Presentations and discussions included this year have covered Information Sharing Pregnancy to Adulthood, SIRS, Think Family Information Sharing; DA Act 2021: what do GPs and surgeries need to know?; DoLs to LPS; Contextual Safeguarding and how to share information; National Reasonable Adjustments Flag (NRAF) SWL and KHFT Early Adopters; GP referrals to Kingston & Richmond CAMHS Single Point of Access and assessment of risk in deliberate self-harm.

Royal Borough of Kingston – Community Safety Team

- Coordination of a Modern Slavery Working Group in collaboration with Adult Social Care and Achieving for Children. This working group has continued to raise awareness about Modern Slavery, has promoted a local referral pathway and is embarking on a local data mapping pilot to enable local partners to be better equipped to identify, refer and support victims of modern slavery.

- Implementation of a VAWG survivors forum which meets every 8 weeks and discusses good practice and gaps in relation to the local partnership approach to VAWG. So far the topics covered have been victim-blaming language, trauma-informed support and impacts of domestic abuse on children.
- Following feedback from the survivor's forum on the impact of negative language, we developed a language campaign around Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). This has included a [video](#) and [guidance document](#) around appropriate language to use in regards to victims of VAWG, highlighting the impacts of victim blaming language and encouraging the local partnership to hold reflective practice sessions on their own language use.
- A deep-dive into adult child-to-parent abuse/violence cases discussed at the MARAC and strengthening relations between community safety and adult social care. This has included providing specialist training and working closely to identify the needs of adult child perpetrators and their victims.

A continued commitment to bring specialist training into the borough around VAWG. This has included training sessions on coercive control, tech abuse, MARAC training and supporting those with complex needs. This has also included input from independent professional experts (from a by and for service) into honour based abuse cases at MARAC. This is to safeguard the victim/survivor and to upskill the MARAC panel around the complexities of this form of abuse.

- Continued support through funding to the Kingston Women's Hub that provides longer term and holistic support to women impacted by all forms of VAWG and disadvantages.
- Raising awareness of the [Prevent Duty](#) placed on specified authorities and improving multi agency responses to safeguard people who may be at risk of being exploited by radicalisers and subsequently drawn into terrorist related activity. This has included the implementation of a Prevent National Referral Form, ensuring representation from adult safeguarding on [Channel Panel](#) and the delivery of briefings and training sessions, including a session at the KSAB Subject Matter Expert Programme.
- Kingston's Community MARAC (multi-agency risk assessment case conference) is focused on resolving complex, high risk anti-social behaviour cases. It has played an important role in identifying the underlying causes (of ASB issues) and any risk or safeguarding issues relating to the victim and/or offender. This has informed a set of actions for each case in order to increase safety and reduce risk.
- We have established a Kingston and Richmond Vulnerable Adult Supported into Adulthood (VASA) Panel following the development of a [Kingston and Richmond VASA Protocol](#). The protocol identified that while there was an array of services available to young people under the age of 18 years and that there was a noticeable reduction in services or an increase in thresholds for specialist services once they reached the age of 18 years. The panel is a partnership approach between organisations in the Kingston and Richmond boroughs and considers cases of young adults who remain at high risk of contextual

harm despite previous intervention efforts, at the point of transition into adulthood or up to 25 years. It considers high risk, complex cases where people are at risk of sexual or criminal exploitation, including county lines and aims to coordinate a multi-agency support plan and agree to additional resources committed by the partnership.

- Kingston Integrated Offender Management (IOM) is a multi-agency panel and continues to work to address the underlying needs/behaviours of the cohort of high risk repeat offenders. Closer working with the Victim IOM police officers means that victims of crimes associated with our IOM offenders are being offered support and safety planning. Greater efforts have been made to safeguard IOM subjects who are victim/offenders, taking into account their vulnerabilities. Additionally, the acquisition of Criminal Behaviour Orders (CBO's) for a number of our IOM subjects hopes to safeguard both the victim(s) of their offending (including the wider community) and also to safeguard themselves from further offending (through the use of exclusion zones and 'no contact' prohibitions).

Kingston Hospital Foundation NHS Trust

- At Kingston Hospital, we have had to adapt our training and processes to suit the ever-changing environment. COVID led the hospital to provide training and meetings via a virtual platform. Over 2021/22 this was adapted to a hybrid model where training was delivered both online and face to face to give areas options for staff and make training as accessible as possible. Preparation was made to roll out Level 3 Safeguarding Adults training across the Trust to go live in April 2022. Feedback from ward areas via our quarterly safeguarding steering group, led us to prepare initially for face-to-face sessions which we opened up to all Band 6 and above nurses,

midwives and allied health professionals. This will be reviewed in next year's report.

- We have also had further expansion to our Learning Disability Liaison service due to a grant received from work our Lead LD Practitioner was completing with NHS England for the Reasonable Adjustment Flag Digital Project. This provided funding for a Band 6 Practitioner in a seconded post which we are hoping to make permanent in 2022/23, due to the excellent feedback we have had throughout the year.
- The hospital has continued its work to provide relevant domestic abuse support and services to patients and staff alike. Our Independent Domestic Violence Advisor (IDVA) is now permanently onsite for the first time since the start of COVID Pandemic. This has led to regular Emergency Department staff training, referrals to the IDVA service increasing, and the ability to provide a specialist service onsite. Service promotion continues to all areas of the hospital and our IDVA regularly feeds back into the Trust Safeguarding Steering Group any themes, information and learning that need to be cascaded to staff.
- 2022/23 will have a large focus on close working with the safeguarding children and midwifery team, adoption of the Level 3 training, and continuing to expand the Learning Disability and Domestic Abuse services in the Trust.

Healthwatch Kingston(HWK)

2021/22 was a successful year for HWK's involvement with the Adult Safeguarding agenda in Kingston and beyond.

- Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) pilot (Year 2)
HWK has continued to deliver the MSP pilot in Kingston by working with the RBK Adult Safeguarding Team to ensure that feedback from local people with lived experience of the safeguarding process, improves the overall service. The full MSP End of Year Report is available [here](#)
- London Safeguarding Voices (LSV) Group - The LSV will bring together three people with lived experience of Safeguarding from each London borough. HWK worked with local Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Chairs and Managers, and local Healthwatch organisations to identify a range of local representatives with lived experience of Safeguarding, tapping into and sharing local approaches. This initiative will support the LSAB to ensure its work is co-produced and more person-centred in future.
Recruitment of Kingston upon Thames LSV Member Stephen Bitti (HWK Chief Executive Officer) and Hen Wright (HWK Projects and Outreach Officer for Young People and Safeguarding) met with Peter Warburton, interim Independent Chair of the Kingston Safeguarding Adults Board (KSAB) and Gemma Blunt, Corporate Head of Safeguarding at RBK, to discuss how KSAB would recruit three People with Lived Experience to join others from across London to place voices at the heart of the London Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB). In this meeting SB and HW were able to meet with and subsequently recruit Kingston borough's first LSV group member, whom has both personal and professional experience of safeguarding and has already been a great asset to the group. The full LSV End of Year Report, including HWK planning and subsequent participation in the annual London Safeguarding Adults Board Conference 2021 is available [here](#)

Metropolitan Police Service (SW BCU)

- South West BCU police strive to ensure we are supporting vulnerable adults in our community. To this end, through the Kingston MARAC we have our officers working closely with our key partners to provide initiative approaches to protect them. Our Community Safety Teams have provided support in dealing with many complex investigations in vulnerable adult care settings.
- We continue to promote the success in utilising virtual meetings to maximise attendance from partners and allow for constructive risk management when assessing cases, both locally with Mash teams, strategy discussion and through our MARAC and SARs panels. The outcomes of these sessions and reports often lead to learning for us and our partners, and we have established clear processes to sharing this learning, both within our local area and wider across the Metropolitan policing area through our Continuous Policing Improvement Command.
- Throughout 2021/22 we have been working on improving our response to Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG), which is in many cases related to Adult Safeguarding. We were successful through the Safer Streets (Round 4) bidding programme in obtaining a £182K (joint between Kingston, Richmond, Wandsworth, Merton councils and SW-Police) to implement a number of interventions to improve public safety. One of these is about improving our officers' awareness of having a Trauma Informed approach to victim engagement. We believe once implemented that this will improve our performance in serving the local community.

Learning from SARs

During 2021/2022, there was one SAR completed. This was in relation to the suicide of a young adult.

The learning from this SAR has focused on raising awareness of the suicide risks for younger adults, those who have faced trauma in their childhood and identify as LGBTQ.

The SAR recommended that the KSAB:

- Audit multi-agency information sharing protocols to determine whether or not they promote effective joint working, cooperation and prevention when working with people at risk of suicide.
- Lead a multi-agency audit of risk assessment and management processes for suicide across all agencies.
- Undertake a learning event to promote the findings from the SAR to enable wider discussion of the matters of life trauma, adoption, identity and depression and associated suicide risks.

A learning event is planned for 2022/2023 and the SAR subgroup will be working on taking forward the recommendations to report to the KSAB in April 2023.

How to report a Safeguarding Concern

The Care Act 2014 puts adult safeguarding on a legal footing. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adults wellbeing is promoted, including, where appropriate, having regard for their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the Local Authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

If you have a concern regarding an adult, and it appears that the above 3 points are met, complete the online web-based Safeguarding Adults Concern form [here](#).

The Royal Borough of Kingston Adult Social Care Safeguarding & Access Team can be contacted on:

020 8547 5005

Email: adult.safeguarding@kingston.gov.uk

Out of Hours: 020 8770 5000

If it is a criminal offence please contact the police on 101 or if an emergency on 999

How to make a SAR Referral

Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) were previously known as Serious Case Reviews. They are held when an adult with care and support needs dies or suffers significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect. Safeguarding Adult Reviews are not inquiries into how someone died or suffered injury, or to find out who is responsible. They:

- look at any lessons we can learn from the case about the way professionals and agencies worked together
- review the effectiveness of our safeguarding adults procedures
- inform and improve practice
- identify what can be done better to avoid a similar circumstance from reoccurring

The Safeguarding Adult Board aims to share learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews widely: with local organisations and through the London and National Safeguarding Network across London and nationally.

Section 44 of The Care Act 2014 requires Safeguarding Adults Boards to undertake a Safeguarding Adult Review when specific criteria are met. This is when abuse results in the death or significant and possibly life-changing harm of an adult with care and support needs.

Anyone may make a [referral](#). It is recommended that you refer to the SAR criteria contained in the SAB Kingston [SAR Protocol](#).

The SAR Sub Group usually makes a decision relating to any SAR referral within four weeks of receipt, and will inform the referrer of the decision made.