

Chair's Blog Spot

Hello All,

Since the New Year, the KSAB has been busy working on the finalisation of Safeguarding Adult Reviews and coming together, in person, for the Development Day.

I am pleased to see the work of the SAR Sub-group has been strengthened to provide improved governance around SARs. This will ensure that the commissioning of future SARs is clearer for families and practitioners, and that there will be a greater focus on the impact of the learning from SARs to help us to continually improve the outcomes for those individuals who need our support to stay safe.

In May 2023, Healthwatch Kingston published their Making Safeguarding Personal Report for 2022-23. At the October 2023 SAB meeting, the report was presented to members. The report was well received, and the SAB are committed to taking forward the recommendations made by Healthwatch Kingston.

There were recommendations for Adult Social Care and for the SAB. In the Annual Report for 2023-24, Adult Social Care will be asked to talk about any plans following on from the recommendations.

The recommendation for the SAB focused on the need for an improved understanding of safeguarding processes across all partners of the Kingston safeguarding system to ensure all partners provide a seamless and positive safeguarding experience. An example was given of how safeguarding works between hospital and care home providers.

As Chair of the SAB, I welcome this recommendation to hold the mirror up for SAB members to aim to work more effectively together to safeguard individuals with care and support needs. In terms of the example of hospital to care home safeguarding, this featured in the Connie Safeguarding Adult Review, published in September 2022. Following this, Kingston Hospital presented, at the SAB, on progress with developing tools to support safer discharge from hospital. A golden thread for the SAB development day in February 2024, was that agencies safeguard best when they do it together. The SAB discussed the need to improve the data and understanding of safeguarding activity. Therefore, a Performance and Audit Sub-group will be established during 2024 to facilitate the focus on data to inform the work of the SAB. By doing this, the SAB will be able to monitor how SAB partners work through the safeguarding system to support individuals. Additionally, SAB members will be asked to demonstrate how they keep their staff informed about the safeguarding system and escalate any concerns.

Best wishes,
Nicky

Spotlight on.....

SAB Development Day 2024

In February 2024, all members of the SAB got together for a Development Day, in person, to review the past work plan, to look forward to the next 12 months, and reflect on past activity. Members focused on the SAB's three Priorities, which are:

- **Priority 1** – Adults at Risk are at the core of all prevention work undertaken by the Kingston Safeguarding Adults Board
- **Priority 2** – Improve the outcomes for those individuals who have experienced abuse or neglect by committing to the 9 key safeguarding principles for Kingston
- **Priority 3** – Use the learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews to continually improve practice across Kingston. We learn from reviewing our safeguarding practice and embed this into our practice

The Independent Chair stated the SAB will strengthen learning from all reviews and ensure learning is disseminated to all practitioners and partner organisations.

The SAB received an update on the ASC Peer Review and impending CQC Inspections. The session confirmed RBK's Peer Review taking place from the 11th-13th March. The Peer Review will focus on only two areas*, with the Inspection covering all 4 main areas. They are:

1. Working with People*
2. Providing Support
3. Ensuring Safety*
4. Leadership

The day also saw presentations from the following:

- Healthwatch Kingston briefed the SAB on 'Involving those with Lived Experience', what the next 12 months will look like, and how the SAB and its partners can contribute;
- Toby Meller-Rodrigues from the Data & Insight Team presented the Census and Population Data and specifically how the SAB can use this information;
- Gemma Blunt presented the Safeguarding Data and how the SAB should be data led and encouraged the SAB to consider how best to identify any themes, trends, and other useful improvements;
- Nicola Brownjohn presented the proposed Structure of the Safeguarding Adults Board 2024/25, along with volunteers and membership. The session focused on the SAB and its sub-groups structure and the agreements for the next 12 months. The aim is to agree the structure of the SAB, consider the Work Plan, and the functions of the sub-groups as partner engagement could be improved; along with the proposed New Structure for the SAB and its membership.

'Safeguarding is Everyone's Business'

Participation and Feedback

We would welcome articles highlighting your, your colleague's or even your organisations achievements or publicising planned events.

We would also like feedback and suggestions on how we can ensure the newsletter is relevant and helpful.

Please participate by emailing us at ksab@kingston.gov.uk with the subject line '**SAB Newsletter**'