

# Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board

## Summary Minutes

Meeting held on **Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2024**, 1-3.30pm, via Teams

Please note these are not full minutes. They are intended to provide an overview of discussions and decisions. Due to the confidential nature of some of the items discussed, it is not possible to publically share full minutes.

The Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is the multi-agency partnership responsible for ensuring that adults at risk in Newcastle are safeguarded and protected.

### **Safeguarding Adults For Empowerment (SAFE) Research**

Dr Sarah Lonbay and Keith Chappel from Sunderland University attended the NSAB to talk about a new, three-year, research project which is commencing. The aim of the research is to improve adult safeguarding for older adults by addressing gaps in the understanding and implementation of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) for older adults. This will be achieved through in-depth understanding of the perspectives and experiences of older people, family members, and social care leaders and practitioners. The research will use arts-based methods to explore the concept of safety with older adults; whilst semi-structured interviews will be conducted with older adults at risk who have experienced safeguarding adults procedures, as well as family members. Additionally, interviews will be conducted with advocates and social workers to examine how MSP is being implemented in practice. Public and professional dissemination of the research findings and outputs will be done through practice guidance, a toolkit for evaluating practice, academic conferences, publications, and research blogs.

### **Rough Sleeping, Homelessness and Safeguarding Adults**

The NSAB received assurance on safeguarding responses to adults who are homeless or rough sleeping from Newcastle City Council's Active Inclusion Service. This was in response to a letter from the Department of Levelling Up, Communities and Housing about recommendations for SABs. Information was given on the approach to preventing homelessness and rough sleeping. The Homelessness Prevention Forum is the main partnership group concerned with responding in this area and it was felt there were opportunities for those with safeguarding adults expertise to be involved and strengthen relationships. The NSAB agreed that they would include actions around rough sleeping or homelessness within their annual report and strategic annual plan when it was felt to be relevant and a priority in Newcastle. Safeguarding Adult Reviews would only be undertaken when the criteria had been met.

### **NSAB Annual Report**

The [NSAB's Annual Report for 2023-24](#) was agreed.

### **Domestic Abuse Audit**

The Improving Practice Committee had undertaken a multi-agency audit around domestic abuse. Overall the cases reviewed demonstrated examples of good practice, particularly in terms of use of the MARAC DASH tool and referral of high risk cases. There was excellent spread of knowledge on all cases with most agencies able to share relevant intelligence on each case audited. There was not however a clear sense of connecting domestic abuse incidents where there are informal or formal carer roles, which represented missed opportunities for additional support or signposting. In addition, these cases represented an opportunity for agencies to consider how alerts/triggers could be utilised in information systems where MARAC warnings are not applicable. The audit report will be presented at the Local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board.

### **Board Member Development**

The NSAB agreed to run a series of half hour development sessions prior to each Board meeting from January 2025 onwards. These would be open to sub-committee members to attend.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2024, 1-3.30pm

For more information about Safeguarding Adults, and the work of the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board, please visit: <https://www.newcastlesafeguarding.org.uk/>