

Publication of the Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) in respect of Elizabeth

The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) has today published a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) into the circumstances of the death of Elizabeth (pseudonym).

The review was undertaken in accordance with Section 44 of the Care Act 2014. The purpose of a review is to examine whether agencies and individuals involved in the case in question might have done things differently to prevent harm or death. Findings are published setting out actions which need to be taken to prevent re occurrence. It is not the role of a SAR to hold individual organisations to account, apportion blame or address professional negligence. Where such issues exist, these matters are addressed in other legal processes.

Following Elizabeth's death, a 'lesson learned' exercise took place in November 2018. The agencies who had been involved in supporting Elizabeth submitted chronologies to try and gain an understanding of what, if anything, could have been done differently. This resulted in a Section 42 safeguarding enquiry and a recommendation for a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) by an independent reviewer in order to examine how agencies responded to Elizabeth and had worked together.

The purpose of the SAR is to identify multi-agency learning for future practice. To this end, the practitioners were invited to a learning event and have fed into the shaping of themes, the learning to strengthen practice and where possible to acknowledge good practice. These themes included:-

- Funding and decision making processes in complex situations
- Multidisciplinary working – putting the team around the person to support person centred care and support
- Sharing learning from safeguarding reviews
- Ensuring signposting to voluntary organisations and charities for people who may have support needs but who may not need mental health intervention.

These themes have resulted in a number of recommendations which have been accepted by the Safeguarding Adult Board. The action plan will be overseen by the Rotherham SAB and progress reported in the annual report.

The Safeguarding Adults Board and the author of this review would like to express their sincere condolences to Elizabeth's family and all those who knew her and have been affected by her death.

Moira Wilson

Moira Wilson
Independent Chair
Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board