



# Cheshire East SAB Newsletter

## • Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board (CESAB) Update for Information

August 2024

Welcome to the Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter. We hope that you find this newsletter a useful tool, and that it helps to keep you up to date with some of the local and national issues in relation to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect.

Please do not hesitate to contact CESAB with any queries or information you would like to submit to be used in future newsletters. Contact details at the bottom of this page.

### 1. Anonymous Referrals

Individual members of the public who make an adult safeguarding referral may prefer not to give their name or alternatively they may disclose their identity, but not wish for it to be revealed to the adult at risk concerned. This type of referral can be challenging to manage, and the following One Minute Guide has been produced to support safeguarding professionals when dealing with requests for anonymity.

[One Minute Guide – Requests for Anonymity](#)

### 2. Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA)

A lasting power of attorney (LPA) is a legal document which allows individuals to give people they trust the authority to manage their affairs if they lack capacity to make certain decisions for themselves in the future. One of our local Discretionary Safeguarding Adult Reviews highlighted the need for all multi-agency professionals to always seek evidence of Lasting Power of Attorney arrangements, and to clearly document this in case notes and records.

There are several factors to consider when thinking about LPA and SCIE have clearly outlined these in the following link - [Lasting power of attorney - SCIE](#)

### 3. Updates and Resources

- CQC Local Authority Assurance Update

#### Report to Local Safeguarding Adults Board CQC Local Authority Assurance update July 2024 Current Situation

To date Cheshire East has not been notified by CQC of a planned Assurance visit. Information gleaned from the CQC website currently indicates that 44 Local Authorities have received notification of a planned Assurance visit. All are in various stages of the process. The first CQC reports (following the pilot work in 5 Local Authorities) were published in May 2024. These relate to Herefordshire, Hounslow and West Berkshire who were all rated as “Good” overall. Further details can be found on the CQC website through the links below.

- Hertfordshire [Overall summary - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)
- West Berkshire - [Overall summary - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)
- Hounslow - [Overall summary - Care Quality Commission \(cqc.org.uk\)](#)

#### The Process

##### Information Return

When a Local Authority receives notification of a CQC Assurance visit they are required to provide specific information to CQC within a tight period. This includes the Local Authority Information Return.

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The Information Return is a key aspect of CQC's assessment of how a Local Authority is conducting its adult social care functions reflected in Part 1 of the Care Act 2014. It enables CQC to review key documents, information and data before their onsite activity, helps CQC to plan their assessment and forms part of the evidence they will assess.

All the information gathered from Local Authorities enables CQC to assess each Local Authority while providing insight into regional and national trends, performance and innovation across the sector. Some of this information will also feed into CQC's national reporting for example in the 'State of Care' report.

#### **Self Assessment**

Local Authorities can also choose to provide a Self-Assessment against the 4 Key Themes (Working with People, Providing Support, Ensuring Safety and Leadership) with the Information Return. There is no nationally agreed format for this document, it is not a mandatory requirement. The intention is that Cheshire East will provide a self-assessment document it provides an opportunity for us to:

- Assess and judge our performance against the quality statements
- Provide evidence to support our judgements
- Highlight areas of key success, risk and challenge
- Identify actions taken in relation to the most significant risks

The Cheshire East Self-Assessment is actively being worked on and updated.

#### **Case Tracking**

Each Local Authority is required to submit the details of 50 cases for case tracking against criteria defined by CQC and to have sought consent from those individuals (or their advocates) to being contacted by CQC as part of this process. From this list CQC will select up to 10 people to contact. They will ask people questions about their experience. This will take place prior to the onsite activity in the Local Authority.

Prior to the planned assurance visit CQC will also complete desktop work in relation to each local authority who have received notification of an assurance visit. This will include the analysis of publicly available data, contact with people who use and access services (as described above), with partners and with providers to obtain their feedback.

#### **Notification and Planning**

Local Authorities are typically informed of their onsite visit 4-5 months in advance.

The Schedule of activity during the onsite visit will be agreed by the Executive Director of Adult Social Care and the Lead Inspector. Scheduling and logistics will be undertaken by a dedicated team in Adult Social Care who will support this activity.

#### **Preparation in Cheshire East**

The Social Care Reform, Practice Assurance and Development team are now established and are actively working with Senior Managers to prepare for the Cheshire East CQC Assurance Visit. Briefly their work includes data analysis and data returns working closely with the Business Intelligence team, briefings for staff, Members, and partner agencies, practice assurance and case file audit work, including feedback from people with lived experience in accordance with our Practice Assurance Framework, and the collation of learning and practice improvement activity resulting from complaints and reviews, this includes from SAR's and DHR's. The Strategic Business Manager and Strategic Practice Assurance and Development Manager are currently ensuring that Business Intelligence data is accurately informed by evidence of practice activity. The new team is managed by the Head of Improvement and Assurance who is also the Principal Social Worker for Adults in Cheshire East, a member of the Senior Management Team for Adult Social Care Operations and the lead for CQC Assurance.

Four Senior Managers are identified Workstream leads for each of the Themes and are currently updating the self-assessment and identifying the most appropriate supporting evidence. This evidence has to have currency i.e., from the past 12 months. Given that we don't know when we will receive our CQC assurance visit the information is routinely updated along with the identified cases for the case tracking submission.

CQC updates are routinely reported to the Departmental Management Team by the Head of Service for Improvement and Assurance.

#### **Next Steps**

A draft Self assessment will be shared with the Adults and Health Committee at the appropriate time.

Further updates will be shared as more information becomes available.

#### **Sheila Wood**

**Head of Improvement and Assurance/PSW for Adults**

24 July 2024

- DNACPR Information Pack - Overview ([turning-point.co.uk](https://turning-point.co.uk))

<https://www.turning-point.co.uk/themesdelivery/content-delivery/assets/dnacpr-content/dnacpr-information-pack/content/index.html#/>

Learning Disability England and Turning Point have published a new guide for Do Not Attempt Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (DNACPR). The new guidelines were co-produced by the two organisations with the aim to educate and guide people on the DNACPR decision making process.

During the pandemic, health and care provider Turning Point noted an increase in the amount of people it supported that were subject to DNACPR with learning disability being the reason cited for the order. This action is in contradiction to NHS guidelines which state learning disabilities should never be a reason to recommend DNACPR.

- Cheshire East World Suicide Prevention Day 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Invitation for Professionals to attend: Cheshire East Suicide Prevention Online Conference. Members of the Cheshire East Self Harm and Suicide Prevention Partnership are raising awareness for World Suicide Prevention Day with a virtual event. For further information please visit [Cheshire East Self-Harm and Suicide Risk, Support and Information](#).

#### 4. LeDer – Learning from Lives and Deaths, people with a learning disability and autistic people

[LeDer](#) have published a summary of reviews. If you are a professional and would like a copy of the Cheshire & Merseyside ICB LeDer Programme Q1 Summary 2024/25 or their newsletter please contact the LSAB.

#### 5. Organisational Abuse Webinar

The PCH Safeguarding Team have scheduled an organisational abuse webinar to take place in October.

##### **Tuesday 15th October 2-4pm - Organisational Abuse: What are the challenges and what helps in this area of safeguarding practice?**

This event aims to disseminate learning from the National Safeguarding Adult Review Analysis; provide updates on positive initiatives in this area of care and support; share insights from research and work with people who use these services; provide inspiration to improve what is done locally; and publicise the work of the Organisational Abuse Expert Reference Group.

To register, please click the link below:

<https://lgaevents.local.gov.uk/lga/2233/home>

#### 6. Discretionary Safeguarding Adults Reviews (D SAR's)

Under the Care Act 2014, when someone with care and support needs dies or is harmed as a result of abuse or neglect and it is thought that agencies could have worked better together to prevent the death/serious incident, Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board needs to understand what has happened and why, in order to make recommendations to improve future practice. This process is known as a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR). The Board may decide to conduct a Statutory SAR or a Discretionary SAR dependent on which elements of the Care Act 2014 Criteria are met.

##### **Adult AG Discretionary-SAR**

The Board has recently held a Discretionary SAR following the death of Adult AG due to concerns around self-neglect, home environment and the family being seldom heard by services. The following 7-minute briefing for safeguarding adult practitioners has been issued following this review - [PowerPoint Presentation \(stopadultabuse.org.uk\)](#)

##### **Clive Treacey Discretionary-SAR**

Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board (CESAB) and Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Adults Safeguarding Partnership Board (SSASPB) jointly commissioned a Discretionary SAR in the respect of Clive Treacey, who died in 2017. Clive had a learning disability, epilepsy, and complex mental health needs. He was placed by Staffordshire County Council into the David Lewis Centre in the borough of Cheshire East in 1993. This D-SAR relates to historical incidents of abuse and examines what is now in place to protect adults at risk since safeguarding became a statutory duty under the Care Act in 2014.

CESAB and SSASPB appointed Professor Michael Preston-Shoot to be the author of the D-SAR. All relevant organisations participated in the D-SAR and contributed to the learning and provided assurances about current adult safeguarding practices under the Care Act 2014. Full report and 7 minute briefing - [Safeguarding Adult Reviews \(SARs\) \(ssaspb.org.uk\)](#)

#### 7. Preparing for Adulthood – Adult Social Care Team

The Preparing for Adulthood Team consists of Social Workers, Social Care Assessors and a Local Area Co-ordinator and their aim is to support young people and their families/carers transition into adulthood.

The team can carry out adult needs assessments and provide further information guidance and support to help young people to become independent adults. Please find below link to the website which shares advice and useful information regarding preparing for adulthood.

[Preparing for Adulthood](#)

## 8. Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews

The Safer Cheshire East Community Partnership has responsibility for undertaking Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews (DARDRs). These were previously called Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs).

DARDRs take place when the death, including a suicide, of a person aged 16 or over has, or appears to have, resulted from violence, abuse or neglect by:

- a relative
- a household member
- someone the person had been in an intimate relationship with.

### A DARDRs purpose is to:

- review the circumstances leading to the death
- consider where responses can be improved in the future
- identify any best practice to share.

### Background to the name change

In June 2023 the Home Office launched a public consultation, one element of which sought responses in regard to the re-naming of Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). The consultation considered whether the term 'homicide' should be amended in DHRs to reflect the range of the deaths which fall within the scope of a review, such as suicides related to domestic abuse, and other domestic abuse related deaths. This was in response to feedback that the term 'homicide' can be confusing for bereaved families and friends as well as practitioners when reviewing a case that has not been ruled a homicide. Following the consultation, the Home Office confirmed that DHRs would be renamed to Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews (DARDRs) and tabled an amendment to the Victims and Prisoners Bill.

The Victims and Prisoners Bill received Royal Assent on 24 May 2024 and the name change has been confirmed at Part 1 Section 19 of the Victims and Prisoners Act 2024. [Victims and Prisoners Act 2024 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](#)

For more information on SCEP - [Safer Cheshire East Partnership](#)  
Email – [richard.christopherson@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:richard.christopherson@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

## 9. Training Reminder

## FREE TRAINING OFFER

Cheshire East Safeguarding Adults Board are pleased to announce that we are continuing with our free training offer:

### L1 Safeguarding Awareness

This is a comprehensive training session that covers the following

- 1 Understand what adult abuse and safeguarding adults means
- 2 Develop awareness of Key Legislation and Making Safeguarding Personal
- 3 Identify forms of, and be able to recognise possible signs and indicators of abuse
- 4 Understand your role if you suspect an adult is being abused
- 5 Know how to report a concern, disclosure or allegation

The safeguarding sessions are provided by Deborah Waterhouse (training officer). She is happy to come out to your provision, at a time to suit you between the hours of 09:00 and 19:00.

**A session takes 1 hour 30 minutes**

### Care Concern Training—for care providers

This session over **TEAMS** covers the process of submitting a care concern. We also discuss good examples of care concerns, how to differentiate between care concerns and safeguarding and what happens next.

This training is delivered during office hours and **takes 1 hour**

**TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST IN EITHER OF THE TRAININGS, PLEASE EMAIL DEBORAH WATERHOUSE AT:**

deborah.waterhouse2@cheshireeast.gov.uk

(please specify in your email which training(s) you are interested in)



### Key Contacts

To submit news items or for further information contact:

[lsab@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:lsab@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

[www.stopadultabuse.org](http://www.stopadultabuse.org)

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