



Safer Seven

Your 7 minute safeguarding bulletin



1 Safeguarding Adult Reviews

A safeguarding adult review (SAR) is a multi-agency review to determine what agencies involved could have done differently to prevent abuse/neglect or a death from taking place.

The aim is not to assign blame – it is to promote learning & development to prevent further incidents from occurring and improvement in the way agencies work together.

2 SARs are undertaken when:

- There is cause for concern about how agencies worked together to safeguard an adult; **and**
- The adult has died, & DSPP knows/suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect **or**
- The adult is still alive, & DSPP knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect.

3 What Difference do SARs Make?

- SAR recommendations are used to agree an action plan to make changes or improvements to services to reduce the risk of future harm.
- Action plans are agreed and monitored to make improvements.
- Learning from the review is communicated with partners.

4 Making a Referral

- The individual/agency should complete the SAR referral form with as much information about the case as possible.
- Email the form to DSPPB@dudley.gov.uk
- It will be reviewed by the Business Unit Manager and Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults.
- A decision about how to progress will be made and the referrer will be notified. More information may be requested if required.

5 What Happens Next

- If it meets criteria agencies involved will be asked to provide scoping information regarding their involvement.
- This information will be reviewed by the partnership and a decision will be made whether to progress to a review.
- If it doesn't meet criteria the referrer will be notified and another course of action may be agreed e.g. single agency review.

6 How reviews are carried out

- SARs are written by an external independent reviewer with specialist skills & knowledge.
- Terms of reference for the review are agreed with the reviewer.
- All agencies involved contribute providing chronologies of their involvement & take part in multi-agency meetings.
- The draft report & action plan are created by the reviewer & signed off by DSPP, before being published.

7 Published Reviews

Once any review is complete, the report is considered by the safeguarding partnership before publication and any learning identified is shared with partner agencies. Copies of SARs and other learning reviews published by DSPP are available on our website.

Further information on SARs, the pathway and referral form can be found at DSPP's website [HERE](#)