

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter

Issue 1: February 2020

Working together to enable adults in East Sussex to live a life free from harm, abuse and neglect

Welcome to the first edition of the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board newsletter



Graham Bartlett, Independent Chair
East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board

This quarterly newsletter has been created as a way of sharing and distributing information and learning on behalf of the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). Its aim is to share news about the work of the Board and to raise awareness for those who have an interest in adult safeguarding issues.

As this is a new publication, we welcome your feedback, views and ideas for future content. Please contact us at ESSAB.Contact@eastsussex.gov.uk

Please share this newsletter with colleagues and anyone you think may find it informative.

Who we are and what we do

The East Sussex SAB is a multi-agency partnership of key statutory and voluntary agencies who work together to safeguard and protect adults with care and support needs.

Our shared vision is for all agencies to work together effectively to enable the citizens of East Sussex to live free from abuse and neglect, and to promote widely the message that safeguarding is everyone's business. Our members work together with local communities to ensure:

- There is zero tolerance to the abuse and neglect of adults;
- Empowerment and a Making Safeguarding Personal approach underpins all safeguarding adults work;
- People know what to do when abuse happens and how to report concerns.

Who we are and what we do – continued....

The Care Act 2014 outlined three core functions for a SAB:

1. Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how we will meet our objectives and how our member and partner agencies will contribute.
2. Publish an annual report detailing how effective our work has been.
3. Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) for any cases meeting the criteria.

The SAB is chaired independently, meets four times a year and is supported by a number of subgroups that are crucial in ensuring that the priorities set out in the [SAB Strategic Plan 2018 - 2021](#) are delivered. These subgroups ensure that the work of the Board really makes a difference to local safeguarding practice and to the outcomes adults and their carers wish to achieve.

For more information on the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board see our [website](#).

News from the Board

The last Board meeting was held on 30th January 2020 and attended by over 20 members from organisations working with adults with care and support needs across East Sussex.

Below is a summary of the main items discussed at the meeting:

Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) Representation

Work was undertaken during 2019 to expand the membership of the Safeguarding Community Network (SCN), one of the subgroups of the SAB. The purpose of the SCN is to bring together adult and carers, and community services with the aim of enabling a two-way exchange of information with the Board to improve safeguarding experiences and inform policy development. An update was provided at the meeting that six new members from the VCS network have recently joined the SCN, which includes representation from homelessness and veterans' charities, a family support group as well as health and wellbeing services. The Board looks forward to the valuable contributions these new members can make to supporting the work of the SCN.

Organisational Change Research Project



A report was presented to the Board outlining the learning from a research project undertaken by the University of Sussex, which the East Sussex SAB has participated in. The project has explored how existing research and findings from SARs involving self-neglect can be embedded into practice and how organisational change from this learning can be best facilitated. The SAB will be developing an action plan to respond to the recommendations made in the report. A briefing to provide an overview of the research project will also be published in the near future.

Delyth Shaw (SAB Development Manager), Dr David Orr (University of Sussex) and George Coleby (SAB Quality Assurance and Learning Development Officer) at a Focus Group meeting held in June 2019 as part of this research project

Operational Practice Subgroup Progress Report

The purpose of the Operational Practice Subgroup is to coordinate local safeguarding work and ensure that the priorities of the SAB are put into place operationally. The Chair of the Operational Practice Subgroup, Mark Stainton (Adult Social Care and Health, East Sussex County Council) presented a report highlighting key progress made by the group over the past year.

Key achievements include:

- Work to strengthen responses to concerns about Modern Slavery.
- The publication of the [revised self-neglect procedures](#) contained within the Sussex Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures.
- The launch of [Guidance on Raising Concerns about Abuse and Neglect](#), which is designed to assist agencies in considering risk relating to potential safeguarding concerns and enables safeguarding concerns to be reported in a consistent way.
- The publication of [Mental Capacity Act Policy and Procedures](#), which provides guidance on the understanding of the Mental Capacity Act and its application in practice.
- The completion of all recommendations set out within the [Financial Abuse Strategy](#) action plan. This has included publication of multi-agency guidance, a toolkit and screening tool.

Information Sharing Protocol

An updated Information Sharing Guidance and Protocol was presented to the SAB for agreement. Discussions will be taken forward over forthcoming months to consider developing this into a pan-Sussex protocol.

Peer Challenge and Support

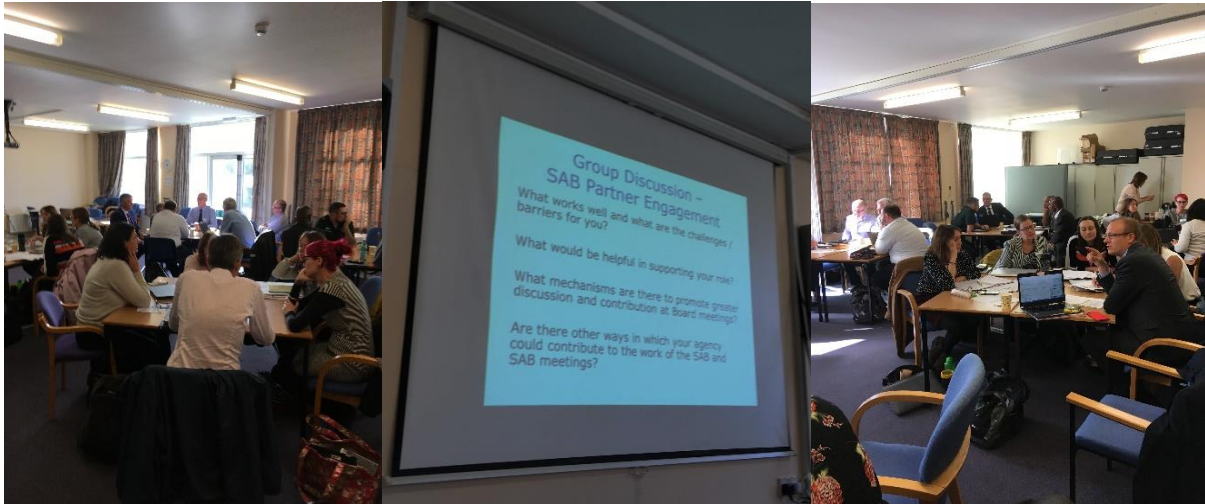
In July 2019 a Sussex-wide peer challenge event took place, in which SAB partner agencies were asked to report on how they are meeting key standards in relation to safeguarding adults and to identify any areas for improvement. Progress of the action plan was reported to the Board and reflected that several actions have been completed since the previous Board meeting.



Pictures from Sussex SAB Peer Challenge event held in July 2019

Future events - SAB Business Development Day

In March 2020 we will be holding a business development day to reflect on the past twelve months, and to look at the priorities that will be included in our next Strategic Plan 2022 – 2025. The planning for this event will also consider the feedback provided by SAB partners at the last meeting in October 2019 regarding how we can promote broader engagement from all partners in the work and activity of the Board activity.



Pictures from SAB Partner Engagement discussion held at the SAB meeting in October 2019

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)

SABs have a statutory duty under the Care Act to undertake Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) – formerly known as Serious Case Reviews. This is when:

- An adult dies as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.
- An adult is still alive but has experienced serious abuse or neglect and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.

The purpose of having a SAR is to consider any lessons to be learnt from the circumstances of the case regarding: the ways in which professionals and agencies work together to safeguard adults, review the effectiveness of procedures, and highlight good practice.

Updates on current SAR activity were provided to the Board meeting on 30th January, and findings from these reviews will be shared in future newsletters.

SAB Multi-Agency Audits



On behalf of the East Sussex SAB, the Performance, Quality and Audit Subgroup is responsible for the co-ordination and management of multi-agency audits and aims to undertake two themed audits per year. In 2019 a multi-agency audit was completed in relation to young people at risk of exploitation, with the purpose of the audit being to assess the effectiveness of multi-agency responses in this area.

A [learning briefing](#) has been produced to summarise the key findings and includes guidance and resources for staff who work with children and young adults who are at risk of exploitation.

SAB Learning and Development Opportunities



The East Sussex SAB provides a well attended training program which covers a range of safeguarding topics, including e-learning and face to face courses. These courses are open to staff from a range of agencies who provide services to residents of East Sussex.

If you want to find out about safeguarding training or apply for a place, please visit the [East Sussex Learning Portal](#)

The following SAB multi-agency courses have been set up for 2020:

Adopting a Whole Family Approach to Domestic Abuse

Event Code	Venue	Event Sessions	Start date	Session 2	Start time	End time
CWA294AB	Hornitye Park Sports Complex	2	05/03/2020	12/3/2020	09:30	16:30
CWA328AB	Lansdowne Hotel	2	05/05/2020	12/5/2020	09:30	16:30
CWA329AB	Denton Island Community Centre	2	02/07/2020	9/7/2020	09:30	16:30
CWA330AB	The Hastings Centre	2	16/09/2020	23/9/2020	09:30	16:30
CWA331AB	Lansdowne Hotel	2	03/11/2020	10/11/2020	09:30	16:30
CWA332AB	Denton Island Community Centre	2	14/01/2021	21/1/2021	09:30	16:30

Multi-Agency Self-Neglect Training

Event Code	Venue	Event Sessions	Start date	Start time	End time
ASC/20/182	St Marys House, Eastbourne	1	08/04/2020	13:00	16:30

Mental Capacity Act 2005: A multi-agency approach to complex cases

Event Code	Venue	Event Sessions	Start date	Start time	End time
ASC/20/172	Friars Walk, NHS High Weald Lewes Havens CCG,	1	01/04/2020	09:30	13:00
ASC/20/173	Bexhill Health centre	1	22/07/2020	09:30	13:00
ASC/20/174	ESFRS Training Centre	1	29/10/2020	09:30	13:00

In addition to the courses outlined above, dates are being set up for SAB multi-agency training in 2020 in relation to Coercion and Control and Modern Slavery. Further updates on these courses will be provided in our next newsletter.

E-Learning Opportunities:

East Sussex County Council (ESCC) has developed its own e-learning modules, which include a range of safeguarding modules. Many of these courses serve as a foundation or introductory level to the topic and are a prerequisite for ESCC or SAB classroom-based training.

Event Code	Course Name	Expected Completion time
ASC 18/010	Safeguarding Adults V2	50 minutes
CWC 18/013	Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking	40 minutes
ASC 18/009	The Mental Capacity Act: 2005	50 minutes
ASC 18/003	Domestic Abuse - Foundation Module 1: What is domestic abuse?	30 minutes
ASC 18/004	Domestic Abuse - Foundation Module 2: Impact and building resilience, and barriers to seeking support	30 minutes
ASC 18/005	Domestic Abuse - Foundation Module 3: Risk identification, assessment and management	30 minutes

Spotlight on..... Making Safeguarding Personal



The Local Government Association (LGA) published a briefing in December 2019 entitled '[Myths and Realities about Making Safeguarding Personal](#)'. The briefing has been developed to address misconceptions and a superficial understanding about Making Safeguarding Personal, and to caution those who interpret this approach simplistically. It supports and promotes relationship and strengths-based approaches in practice. It acknowledges the complexity of people's lives and challenges for practitioners to enable people (with representation or advocates, if they lack mental capacity) to keep themselves safe and safeguarded, and to achieve resolution and recovery in their lives.

The purpose of the briefing is to expose some 'myths' about Making Safeguarding Personal, which is not just about safeguarding practice, but also about prevention and strategic as well as operational safeguarding.

The briefing is aimed at front-line practitioners and operational managers that have a role in safeguarding adults. It is aimed at leaders at all levels and local councillors. It can also be used by anyone interested or involved in safeguarding adults. We encourage you to use this briefing as a prompt for discussions within your own organisations, maybe within supervision or team meetings.

Raising a Safeguarding Concern

No-one should have to live with abuse or neglect – it is always wrong, whatever the circumstances. Anybody can raise a safeguarding concern for themselves or another person. Do not assume that someone else is doing something about the situation.

If you are concerned about an adult, please use the following contact details. However, in an emergency, stay safe and call 999. You can also contact the police on 101 for non-emergency situations.

Contact **Health and Social Care Connect** available 7 days a week from 8am to 8pm including bank holidays:

Telephone	0345 60 80 191
Mobile SMS Text	07797 878 111
Typetalk	18001 0345 60 80 191
Email	Health and Social Care Connect

Professionals and members of the public can also use an [online form](#) accessed via the East Sussex County Council website.

Outside of normal office hours the Emergency Duty Service will respond to serious Adult Social Care issues that cannot wait until the next working day. The contact number for this service is 01323 636 399.

Get in touch

If you have any suggestions for future topics or comments about this newsletter, please contact us at ESSAB.Contact@eastsussex.gov.uk

You can follow the latest East Sussex SAB news on our website at www.eastsussexsab.org.uk and on Twitter [@SAB_EastSussex](https://twitter.com/SAB_EastSussex)

Upcoming SAB meetings will be held on the following dates:

- 16th April 2020
- 23rd July 2020
- 15th October 2020

