

Adult C Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Action Plan

Recommendations / Aims	Action (s)	Target Date	Lead	Progress/ next steps	Status (RAG) Rating
<p>In relation to Finding 1: There is currently no accommodation readily accessible for women with the combination of needs related to chronic trauma, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness and domestic violence and abuse. Women wishing to remain within a couple are even less well served in terms of accommodation. This leaves practitioners having to rely on perseverance and luck to access viable accommodation.</p> <p>In relation to Finding 2: Current service set ups locally are not joined up or tailored to the needs of a small cohort of women who struggle with a combination of needs related to chronic trauma, drug and alcohol dependencies, homelessness and domestic violence and abuse. This leaves some of the most vulnerable women either excluded from services altogether based on eligibility criteria, or unable to access them because of the lack of proactive, flexible and intensive outreach support.</p>					
Ensure that all agencies who come into contact with women with multiple complex needs recognise the risks of homelessness and are equipped to provide a range of services and / or signpost to preventative support.	<p>Agree a common definition of multiple complex needs and a multi-agency assessment and care planning tool that supports practitioners to identify and respond effectively to this cohort.</p> <p>This should consider drawing upon the learning from the Fulfilling Lives Programme and utilise multiple complex needs assessment tools, specifically the JSNA.</p>	Jul 2021	Head of Adult Safeguarding (ESCC) via OPS		R
Ensure that local authority housing departments are able to recognise the requirements of people with multiple complex needs who are at risk of homelessness and have access to an appropriate range of options, including temporary and supported accommodation.	<p>Develop a pathway and guidance to enhance needs assessments and housing support for this cohort.</p> <p>This should take into account the findings of the needs assessment and strategy around the provision of support in safe accommodation for people experiencing domestic violence, which will be sent to the Home Office by August 2021, and</p>	Oct 2021	Head of Adult Safeguarding (ESCC) / District & Boroughs via OPS		R

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	<p>include mechanisms to ensure that local authorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> do not discharge their duty or make intentionally homeless decisions for this cohort without flagging cases to ASCH. Agree not to place women with multiple complex needs out of area, unless there is no other option and to not place out of area would lead to them being street homeless. If placed out of area, housing to prioritise return to East Sussex. Where possible housing to utilise cross boundary agreement between East Sussex district and boroughs to facilitate return. 				
	<p>District and Borough's to provide assurance to the SAB that temporary accommodation providers and housing options staff to be trained in Domestic Abuse / Trauma Informed Practice.</p>	<p>Dec 2021</p>	<p>District & Boroughs</p>		<p>R</p>
<p>District and Borough representatives to assure the SAB that the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) 2017 is supporting opportunities in practice for timelier responses to relieve homelessness regardless of priority need (and intentionality).</p>	<p>Housing needs managers from each District and Borough Council to present an update to the SAB providing assurance that their current processes have been updated to reflect their responsibilities in regard to the implementation of the HRA.</p>	<p>Jul 2021</p>	<p>District & Boroughs</p>		<p>R</p>

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<p>Agencies to reassure the SAB that the planned changes to accommodation services and housing provision as set out in the Board response are meeting the needs of women with complex needs and are trauma-informed and provide assertive outreach.</p>	<p>Leads to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> report to the SAB regarding the evaluation of accommodation services, specifically in relation to Emerging Futures. update on the introduction of a trauma-informed capacity building project into domestic abuse refuges and commissioned supported accommodation services. 	<p>Jan 2022</p> <p>Jan 2022</p>	<p>NPS</p> <p>Strategic Commissioning Manager ESCC</p>		R
<p>The SAB should consider developing a multi-disciplinary function for people with multiple complex needs at an operational level (mirroring the MARAC/ MAPPA mechanisms) in which lead professionals who are trauma-informed and gender-specific, are allocated to individuals and co-ordinate their care across agencies.</p>	<p>Set up a task and finish group to develop a multi-agency risk management framework. This will include mechanisms to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bring agencies together to develop a 'team around the person' to ensure a more coordinated response. Identify a clear lead agency / practitioner. Support those adults with complex needs and at high risk, but who may fall below eligibility criteria / statutory thresholds. 	<p>Jul 2021</p>	<p>Head of Adult Safeguarding (ESCC) via OPS</p>		R
<p>The SAB to undertake a multi-agency case file audit to evaluate the impact of the actions detailed within this action plan in relation to findings 1 and 2.</p>	<p>PQA Subgroup to undertake an audit of cases to establish the extent to which a multi-agency approach is effective in supporting women with multiple complex needs who experience domestic violence</p>	<p>Apr 2022</p>	<p>PQA Subgroup</p>		R

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	and abuse, in managing risk and enabling them to achieve sustained positive outcomes.				
<p>In relation to Finding 3: There is not currently an established multi-agency protocol or supporting tools for the proactive collection of third-party evidence of patterns of domestic violence and abuse. This leaves police responding reactively to incidents of domestic violence and abuse and trying but struggling to gather viable third-party evidence and leaves the voluntary sector frustrated at inaction against known perpetrators.</p>					
<p>Implement improvements to the MARAC process to take forward the learning identified in this review including in relation to:</p> <p>(1) Ensuring all relevant agencies are represented at MARAC meetings to ensure meaningful discussion and safety planning to support the management of high-risk domestic violence cases involving women with multiple complex needs. This should involve those agencies not routinely at MARAC.</p> <p>(2) Improve the way that third party information is shared and captured at MARAC that could be used to inform protection planning and where appropriate link with police prosecutions.</p>	<p>To consider the work already undertaken as part of the Sussex Police Domestic Abuse Improvement Plan and MARAC Review and implement the revised model of the MARAC process including the triage function.</p>	<p>Jul 2021</p>	<p>MARAC Coordinator / Sussex Police via OPS</p>		A
	<p>Ensure that there is police representation at every MARAC meeting, who are of a suitable level of seniority to take operational decisions and be able to submit intelligence logs.</p>	<p>Apr 2021</p>	<p>Sussex Police</p>	<p>Changes implemented to ensure the attendance of a warranted police officer, of at least the rank of Detective Sergeant, is mandated at every MARAC.</p>	G
	<p>Ensure that the MARAC Chair raises a specific action to record intelligence on police systems when relevant.</p>	<p>Apr 2021</p>	<p>MARAC Coordinator</p>	<p>Line supervision for the Domestic Abuse Caseworkers has briefed all of them on the requirement for this to be captured</p>	G

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				and allocated as an action.	
Develop overarching mechanisms which assist SAB partner agencies in contributing third party information that may support evidence-led prosecutions and/or enforcement action in a more proactive way.	Sussex Police to develop Evidence Led Prosecutions (ELP) training package and undertake scoping exercise to be undertaken to determine which SAB partner agencies may benefit from the training package.	Jul 2021	Sussex Police	Feb 2021 – development of ELP training package is nearing completion.	A
	Raise knowledge and awareness of ELP opportunities via a SAB learning briefing prior to roll-out of multi-agency training.	Jul 2021	SAB Manager		R
	ELP training package to be incorporated into SAB multi-agency training programme and promoted via SAB communication channels.	Jul 2021	TWD Subgroup		R
Measure the impact of the above recommendations to evaluate progress made and how well changes are embedded in organisational practice.	Sussex Police to undertake an audit three months after training delivery to establish whether ELPs are being actively considered during MARAC case discussions and actions are being raised to submit intelligence onto police systems.	Oct 2021	Sussex Police via PQA Subgroup		R

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<p>Enhance multi-agency workforce competence and confidence in working with adults who are experiencing domestic violence and abuse. This is with the aim of ensuring more effective safeguarding of vulnerable adults, and collaborative partnership working which is trauma informed.</p>	<p>Develop multi-agency domestic abuse guidance / toolkit which specifically covers the following areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Understanding of indicators of domestic violence and abuse from the perspectives of victims and perpetrators, and the impact on adults and children. • Responding to disclosures of domestic violence, including responsibilities of reporting which may breach client confidentiality, and effective information sharing. • Knowledge around specific assessment tools, including the DASH and specialist support services available. • Case coordination including the role of the lead professional. • MARAC and the interface with safeguarding procedures. • Supporting agencies to effectively and routinely capture and record information that can support evidence-led prosecutions. • The importance of trauma-informed practice. 	Sept 2021	Safeguarding Development Team (ESCC) / Sussex Police via OPS		R
	<p>The content of SAB / ESSCP multi-agency training in relation to domestic violence and abuse and coercion and control to be reviewed and updated in the</p>	Dec 2021	TWD Subgroup		R

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	light of any new guidance or supporting tools that are produced, and assurance sought to ensure this is accessed by the range of partner agencies working in this area.				
Establish mechanisms for improved information sharing and recording of case activity between statutory partner agencies in cases of high risk and multiple complex needs.	Establish working group with representation from statutory agencies to review the potential for: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sharing information and intelligence across organisations on individuals with multiple complex needs. 2. This may involve looking at how information is shared across systems 	April 2022	Head of Adult Safeguarding (ESCC), Police, CCG. Link with ASCH Business Development and Insight. Link group to PQA.		R
In relation to Finding 4: A pattern of continuing to give women with complex needs short term prison sentences at a distance from their home area, disrupts any progress they may be making with the support of community teams, provides little time for specialist health care services delivered within prison to establish relationships, potentially leaving women more vulnerable on their release.					
<i>Please note: In line with the Probation Reform Program and nationalisation of probation services, from the end of June 2021 the KSS CRC will become part of NPS under the new arrangements.</i>					
The SAB to receive assurance that the partnership protocol between CGL and NPS is effective in strengthening closer collaborative working for adults who receive short term prison sentences.	CGL and NPS leads to evaluate the implementation of the partnership protocol and report to the SAB.	Nov 2021	CGL / NPS		R

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Agencies working within this area of practice to raise awareness with magistrates of the impact of short-term sentences on women and advocate for community sentences instead of prison for women where this is appropriate.	NPS to produce an article in the April/May edition of The Magistrates Association Magazine.	Apr 2021	NPS		G
	Article to be adapted for SAB partners and included within a SAB Newsletter.	Jul 2021	NPS / SAB Manager		R
	NPS to relaunch the film 'Shadows Behind Me' for use in all magistrates and judiciary training.	Mar 2021	NPS		G
	SAB to consider ways to utilise this film resource on the SAB website and in multi-agency training.	Dec 2021	SAB Manager / TWD Subgroup		R
Ensure effective arrangements are in place to support women who receive short-term prison sentences, often out of area, both in terms of in-reach services and after release.	<p>The SAB to receive an update regarding the outcomes and recommendations of work undertaken to consider the impact of women receiving short-term prison sentences.</p> <p>This should include new arrangements for Through The Gate support and prison in-reach services.</p>	Oct 2021	NPS / CRC		R
Within prison ensure specific health services are commissioned to provide in reach and Through The Gate support.	The SAB Independent Chair to write to NHSE to request assurance as to what arrangements are in place to ensure the effective commissioning of health care services for women in prison with multiple complex needs, including those relating to mental health and substance misuse.	May 2021	SAB Independent Chair		R

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Recommendations across all findings:					
The SAB should ensure that the learning from this review is extensively shared and supports organisational change.	The SAB to produce a learning briefing which highlights the findings from this review and encourages practitioners and teams to reflect on the learning for their service areas.	Dec 2020	SAB Manager		G
	SAB agencies to provide feedback to evidence how the learning has been disseminated and used within their organisations.	Jul 2021	All agencies		R
	The report, Board response and learning briefing should be shared with regional and national SAB networks.	Jan 2021	SAB Manager	Resources shared with neighbouring SABs in West Sussex and Brighton and Hove in December 2020. Presentation to SAB Managers National Network on 19/01/2021.	G

Key to RAG ratings:

Green:	Objective completed / on target
Amber:	Work in progress / further actions planned or required
Red:	Objective not completed / target not met

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Key to acronyms/abbreviations used:

ASCH:	Adult Social Care & Health	MAPPA:	Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements
CCG:	Clinical Commissioning Group	MARAC:	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
CGL:	Change Grow Live	NHSE:	National Health Service England
ELP:	Evidence Led Prosecutions	NPS:	National Probation Service
ESCC:	East Sussex County Council	OPS:	Operational Practice Subgroup
ESSCP:	East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership	PQA:	Performance and Quality Audit Subgroup
JSNA:	Joint Strategic Needs Assessment	SAB:	Safeguarding Adults Board
KSS CRC:	Kent Surrey Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company	TWD:	Training & Workforce Development Subgroup