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**Safeguarding Adults Serious Adults Review**

**Sub Group**

**Terms of Reference**

The purpose of the Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) sub group is to advice the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB), Chair and members of when the criteria for conducting a SAR have been met and to oversee and quality assure all SAR’s that are undertaken by the RSAB.

**1. Specific Responsibilities**

Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 requires local Safeguarding Adult Boards (SAB’s) to arrange a SAR when an adult in its area 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 person at risk.

The Act also enables the SAB’s flexibility to choose a proportionate methodology to carry out reviews in other cases where it feels this would be appropriate in order to promote effective learning and improvement action to prevent future deaths or serious harm occurring again. This may be where a case can provide useful insights into the way organisations are working together to prevent and reduce abuse and neglect of adults. SAR’s may also be used to explore examples of good practice and lessons learnt that may be applied to future cases.

The SAR sub group will support the RSAB to ensure robust, transparent and consistent practice in relation to SAR’s by:-

* Receiving all requests for SAR’s on behalf of the Chair of the RSAB.
* Making recommendations to the Chair in respect of whether a review should be commissioned by reference to the statutory criteria set out below.
* Making recommendations which will include the type, governance and methodology of the review to be undertaken.
* Ensuring that decisions regarding SAR referrals are made within 1 month of the referral being received.
* Commissioning and overseeing SAR’s and any other reviews agreed by the Chair.
* Ensuring that reviews are completed within six months of the Chair’s decision, if this is not possible because of complexity, reporting this to the RSAB with amended timescales.
* Receiving completed reports to quality assure before presenting to the RSAB Chair and its members.
* Monitoring and reviewing action plans of all SAR’s undertaken in the RSABarea and reporting to the RSAB Chair and its members on progress and/or concerns on a regular basis.
* Ensuring that recommendations arising from each SAR are communicated to all agencies and are subject to review of implementation.

Where the Chair decides that a SAR should be undertaken, the sub group will:

* Determine who should be involved in the SAR (which agencies and organisations and whether expert/specialist advice is required).
* Commission a Lead reviewer(s) who is independent of the case and of the organisations whose actions are under review.
* Consider the involvement of the adult, family or advocate in the SAR process.
* Ensure those actions for which the RSAB has lead responsibility are implemented.
* Monitor the timely implementation of the SAR action plans.

When the sub group considers that the criteria for a SAR have not been met, it will:

* Make recommendations to the RSAB Chair on the possible alternatives to a SAR. For example where there are concerns regarding the role of a single agency, that agency may be requested to produce a single agency review. Where there are thought to be lessons to be learned across more than one agency a recommendation may be made for a systematic incident review
* The final decision of whether the criterion has been met and whether SAR will be held will be made by the RSAB Chair.

**Statutory Criteria for Conducting a Safeguarding Adult Review**

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| The Safeguarding Adults Board is the only body that can commission a safeguarding adult review.  The RSAB must arrange a safeguarding adult review of a case of an adult in its area with needs of care and support (whether or not the local authority was meeting those needs) if:  a) There is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, its members or organisations worked together to safeguard the adult  AND  b) The person died and the SAB knows/suspects this resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not it knew about this before the person died)  OR  c) The person is still alive but the Safeguarding Adults Board knows or suspects they’ve experienced serious abuse/neglect, sustained potentially life threatening injury, serious sexual abuse or serious/permanent impairment of health or development. |

**2. Format**

The Assistant Director of Adult Social Care chairs the group with an appointed Deputy Chair from any of the other partner agencies.

Meeting of the SAR sub group will be calendared monthly but the group will only met when there is a need.

Each statutory member agency should nominate a lead officer and deputy with sufficient authority to speak on behalf, feedback and effect necessary changes on issues brought to or arising from the group.

Terms of Reference for the SAR sub Group will be reviewed annually.

**3. Safeguarding Adults Serious Adults Review Sub Group Membership:**

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| **Organisation and Group Remit** | **Name** | **Job Title** |
| Chair | Ian Spicer | Ass Dir ASC |
| Deputy Chair | Andrew Wells | Head of Service Safeguarding |
| CCG | Rebecca Odell | Adult Safeguarding |
| SYP | Gary Thompson | PVP Policy and Compliance |
| RMBC | Jacqui Clarke | Commissioning |
| RSAB | Jackie Scantlebury | Safeguarding Adult Board Manager |
| CCG | Dr Leigh Oughton | Named GP Safeguarding Vulnerable adults |
| TRFT | June Lovett/Jean Summerfield | Assistant Chief Nurse (Vulnerabilities) |
| RDASH | Kate Baxendale | Nurse Consultant Safeguarding |

**NB:** Other partner agencies will be co-opted as appropriate to the Safeguarding Adults Review Sub Group if their expertise is required.

Review Date: March 2020