

Safeguarding Adults

News

ISSUE NUMBER 17
February 2021

Chair's Blog Spot

Hello,

Welcome to the first RWSAB newsletter of 2021, produced as we find ourselves in a national lockdown, but ever hopeful that restrictions will ease soon. As ever, safeguarding remains important and we must continue to look out for each other.

I attended the last meetings of our two SAB Community Forums, and was impressed by the efforts being made by our partners in supporting those who need it. You will read an update from Bill Gibbons on the activities of the Alzheimer's Society in Wandsworth below, which he spoke about at one of the forums and shows some of the positive activities taking place during the pandemic.

Some of the Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) that were delayed have now been completed and will be published on the SAB website with seven minute briefings to cascade the learning. Please make use of these briefings and let us know how you use them, and who they have been presented to. We are keen to know what impact they have. I have said in these blogs on several occasions that I think it is important to learn when things go well, SARs tend to highlight learning when things go wrong. The Safeguarding Practice Awards have been introduced to recognise good practice. As well as recognising the team or individual it will allow us to share what has been done well with others.

For our Board members the date of the AGM has been circulated, it is to take place virtually on 30th March 2021, please do your best to take part and help us to develop and improve how safeguarding operates across Richmond and Wandsworth.

Thank you for reading and stay safe,
Richard



Spotlight on...

New RWSAB Website!

The Richmond and Wandsworth Safeguarding Adults Board have launched our microsite and our pages are no longer hosted on the Richmond Council website.

<https://www.sabr Richmond and Wandsworth.org.uk/>

All the information has been migrated to the new site and you will be able to find all relevant resources like leaflets, policy and procedures (including partnership working protocols like the Multi-agency Risk Assessment Framework and the Mental Health Transitions Protocol), SARs and 7-minute briefings, the Annual Reports, etc.

Introducing the DBS Regional Safeguarding Outreach Service

The Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) has recently launched a new Regional Safeguarding Outreach Service to focus on working collaboratively with safeguarding and recruiting organisations. The aim is to work closer with organisations to build and develop relationships, acting as a single point of contact for all DBS related enquiries within their region.

Kiran Rehal is the DBS Safeguarding Outreach Officer for Greater London and will be based in the region. She is available to discuss all matters in relation to DBS, as well as support you and your colleagues in safeguarding and safer recruitment.

Kiran can work with you and your organisation in a number of ways, including:

- Answering phone calls or emails to clarify any DBS related queries/questions or advice;
- Attending meetings, training, conferences or visiting organisations to have a face to face discussion (in lines with pandemic restrictions);
- Developing and delivering presentations, workshops, webinars or discussions to provide an overview of DBS and safer recruitment;
- Taking any feedback, suggestions or comments from DBS experiences and feeding this back into the business;
- Helping to understand what level of check can be applied for and what information these checks will provide;
- Informing organisations and employers of their duty or power to refer individuals who may pose a future risk of harm within regulated activity. Including an overview of:
 - How to make barring referrals;
 - When should a referral be made and
 - How DBS assess whether a referred person should be included on the Children's and/or Adults' Barred List.

Watch this [short video](#) to learn more about the DBS Regional Safeguarding Outreach Service.

If you have any questions regarding the DBS or would like any further information, please do contact Kiran:

Email: Kiranpreet.rehal@homeoffice.gov.uk / DBSRegionaloutreach@dbs.gov.uk

Tel: 0300 105 3081

RWSAB Annual General Meeting (AGM)

30/03/2021 @ 14.00

Via MS Teams

Update from Alzheimer's Society Wandsworth

Bill Gibbons, Dementia Connect Local Services Manager, Alzheimer's Society

Dementia Support in Wandsworth



The coronavirus pandemic has hit people with dementia the hardest, with interruptions and suspensions to health and social care services, upended routines, visitor restrictions and a prolonged period of social isolation. It's frustrating as we know with the right support, many people with dementia can continue living independently for years but the pandemic is robbing them of that chance.

With this in mind, in Wandsworth we have changed the way we work, and because it hasn't been possible to arrange face to face home visits or run groups, we've adapted what we do to find other ways of keeping in touch. So, we now stay connected with our service users on a more regular basis and provide support in different formats like virtual groups, using online platforms such as Zoom; also companion calls. We've been able to work more collaboratively with other organisations too, both voluntary and NHS led, to provide a more collaborative approach to supporting people affected by dementia.

We are now running more activity groups and interactive "Singing for the Brain" sessions than ever before; some even with live musicians playing for us via Zoom. And with support from Wandsworth Council, we are now extending our popular Side by Side service. Side by Side aims at preventing isolation and keeping people active in their community by matching them with a volunteer who loves doing the same things. At the moment, with Covid restrictions we can offer telephone or online activities. However, when lockdown measures are lifted we will be able to offer things like listening to music, singing in a choir, cooking, joining in an activity, or simply taking a walk in the park. It's designed to give people the confidence to take part and to value their own abilities, talents and potential to contribute and achieve.

In the meantime, Our Dementia Support Workers are making regular Welfare Calls to people with dementia and carers, advising on individual issues and needs, liaising with other agencies and sources of support as needed and making onward referrals to other organisations in the Borough.

To stay in touch with us, make a referral or to join in any of our groups, just call us on

020 8687 0922 or email wandsworth@alzheimers.org.uk

Where to find help if you are struggling as a result of Covid-19

New online guide for those needing help

[Richmond](#) [Wandsworth](#)

High-tech help to keep people connected

[Richmond](#) [Wandsworth](#)

Update from SAB Executive

The SAB Executive met on 27 January 2021 and heard updates from the Sub-groups. The [Mental Health Transitions Protocol](#) was signed off and is available to partners for use. Three SAR Reports and a Practice Reflection Review were presented and signed off; the 7-minute learnings are disseminated together with this newsletter.

The first Safeguarding Adults Practice Awards nominations were presented and will be introduced in our next issue.

The SAB Executive agreed to postpone this year's Self-assessment Questionnaire, in light of key partners' focus on the response to the pandemic. This will be reviewed again in July 2021.

Performance and Workforce Sub-group



The Performance and Workforce Sub-group has not met since the last Newsletter.

Communication and Engagement Sub-group



The sub-group met in February 2020 and discussed updates from agencies around Safeguarding.

The Richmond and Wandsworth Community forums discussed continued strive to improve feedback to referrers and the need to increase promoting the Board's leaflet on [Pressure Ulcers for family and informal carers](#) – all partners are encouraged to promote this via their available channels.

Participation and Feedback

Please submit short articles highlighting your or colleague's achievements or publicising planned events. We would also like feedback and suggestions on how we can make sure the newsletter is relevant and helpful. Please participate by emailing us at sab@richmondandwandsworth.gov.uk with the **subject line 'SAB Newsletter'**.

Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Sub-group



The Sub-group met on 07 January 2021 and considered one new referral, which did not meet the criteria for a SAR, instead the Local Authority is doing a Practice Review together with Children Services. The Sub-group also discussed two reports on themes from SARs and reviews for the last 5 years. They highlighted some issues around multi-agency working and communication, and there are recommendation in relation to workforce needs particularly around professional curiosity, understanding risk, working with self-neglect and working effectively with the mental capacity act. It highlights concerns in relation to the transitions pathway.

Four SARs were completed – Harvey, John, Jasmine – and one Practice Reflection Review Grace. The 7-minute learning are disseminated with this Newsletter.