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SAFEGUARDING ADULTS E-BRIEFING

November 2020

**This briefing is aimed at staff in all organisations signed up to the Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures.**

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Andrew Searle TASPB Independent Chair

**Message from Independent Chair of TASPB**

Hello, my name is Andy Searle and I am the Independent Chair of Tameside Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.

We have prepared this newsletter to inform the reader a little more about the Board and its purpose and hopefully raise the awareness of adult safeguarding to a wider audience and choose to do so in November as it coincides with the National Safeguarding Adults Week 16th – 22nd. We hope it allows time to focus on safeguarding adults, but in doing so realise that the abuse and neglect of adults is a reality and needs to be ‘tackled’ 52 weeks of the year day in day out.

Adult safeguarding is about protecting the health, wellbeing and human rights of adults at risk, enabling them to live safely, free from abuse or neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and reduce the risks associated with abuse and neglect. It is important to make the individual’s wellbeing central and supported and that respect to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs is given.

The above paragraph in many respects sums up the responsibilities and approach the Safeguarding Adults Board has and it does so with through partnership working, we have in place specific policies and procedures supporting and giving guidance to those involved with adults at risk.

My role as Independent Chair is exactly that - I am not a Council or Health employee, I am truly Independent and support and encourage partners around the table to work collaboratively for the benefit of adults with needs for care and support. I hold partners to account, ensuring that they do what they say they are going to do and ensure that ALL play their role in multi-agency approach to addressing the issues surrounding abuse and neglect in the adult world.

This year has been different and difficult for everyone due to the COVID pandemic and the impact on some individuals including adults at risk may have been greater than others. I have had assurances from partners that any individual requiring help and support through the safeguarding arrangements has received such support and that investigation have continued.

We have held Board meetings and sub group meetings via computer as opposed to face to face meetings, everyone has embraced a different way of working and I wish to put on record my gratefulness to all those involved in safeguarding work over the year. I will ask for a continued partnership approach ensuring that dignity and respect is at the heart of all things adult safeguarding.

I hope you will find the newsletter interesting and any feedback will be welcome.

I finish my contribution asking that we all remember

***“Adult Safeguarding is everyone’s business “***

**Meet TASPB Members**

Hi there, my name is Sandra Whitehead and I am the Assistant Director for Adult Services. I have worked for Tameside Council since 1991, and am very proud to have worked for Adult Services through my time with the Council.

I have worked in many roles during my career, having started as a casual support worker, supporting people with learning disabilities to live in their own home. I have worked on the Commissioning Team to develop and set up services with the independent sector.

I am now responsible for working with our staff and management teams to ensure we are supporting people to live well, in a safe environment, be that a house in the community, a care home, during a stay in hospital or when using a local service or activity. Safeguarding is at the core of the work that we do. I have been a member of the local Adult Safeguarding Protection Board and am passionate about the work that we carry out to ensure we work to prevent people being at risk, and that where this does happen we investigate and learn for the future.

Sandra Whitehead

Safeguarding means protecting the health, wellbeing and human rights of adults at risk, enabling them to live safely free from abuse and neglect. It is vital that the local partners work closely to ensure that local people can live safely and independently in Tameside, and that where there are safeguarding concerns our focus is on making the individual safe, and working with them to find a solution that is important to them – this is at the core of Making Safeguarding Personal.

***RAISING AWARENESS***

**Making Safeguarding Personal.**

**What is Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)?**

***MSP is about having conversations with people about how to respond in safeguarding situations in a way that enhances involvements, choice and control as well as improving quality of life, wellbeing and safety. The Care Act advocates a person centred rather than process driven approach and many councils have already adopted this way of working*** *(guidance for completing Safeguarding Adults collection (SAC) 2018-19)’*

TASPB acknowledge practitioners in Tameside, support people to make difficult decisions, using person centred and outcome focused approaches to safeguard adults well.

As the safeguarding framework has evolved across Tameside, TASPB have recognised that practitioner’s approaches to respond to the safeguarding adult situations have also evolved. Making Safeguarding Personal enhances practitioner’s approaches to enable adults at risk to feel in control. In addition MSP enables practitioners to focus on a person led approach which is not process driven and use their skills, knowledge and professional judgement to safeguard adults at risk. Ultimately, this work captures and improves outcomes for the adult at risk of abuse.

This means…….

•             People are being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions.

•             Adults or their advocate are asked what they want as an outcome from the safeguarding

Arrangements and these directly inform what happens.

**The MSP Journey in Tameside so far……**

Prior to December 2018 Safeguarding Adult Managers were gaining consent from an adult or their advocate on conclusion of an enquiry to take part in a survey to determine their experience of the safeguarding adults arrangements. These Surveys were completed by independent practitioners.

The information TASPB was able to capture after a completed Enquiry was very limited for a number of reasons:-

•             Sometimes TASPB did not receive the contact information for the adult or advocate within a

Prescribed timescales so it was often too late to contact the adult/advocate to complete the survey.

•             In a lot of cases the opportunity for TASPB to make contact was declined and TASPB

Were unable to obtain valuable feedback.

•            Following discussions with NHS Digital who were responsible for the initial pilot and

Implementation of the survey they confirmed that this was a similar scenario for other

Authorities and made the decision to ask the authorities involved in a further pilot to take a different approach.

As a result of this in December 2018 it was agreed to amend the Safeguarding Adults reporting format with the introduction of an updated Enquiry format which included a series of questions taken from the survey to gather information and ensure TASPB are working towards a MSP approach.

Practitioners have embraced the MSP approach which has enabled TASPB to understand how effective the safeguarding adult’s arrangements are in Tameside.

Using the new recording format TASPB have been able to identify trends and ensure work is in place to respond where required.

Earlier this year TASPB sent a reminder to all partner organisations to complete the MSP information on the Enquiry Document. TASPB ask that you all continue to help with this by continuing to support the completion of this section of the Enquiry form.

**NATIONAL ADULT SAFEGUARDING WEEK.**

Every year, TASPB use Safeguarding Adults Week to draw attention to certain key safeguarding themes and to help raise awareness of the risk of abuse to vulnerable Adult’s Abuse in Tameside.

This year TASPB are holding the SAM Development Session on the 18th of November where the event will focus on Complex Safeguarding.

**Ann Craft Trust.**

Please find attached a link to the Ann Craft Trust which you may also find useful as a source of information relating to Safeguarding within this week.

<https://www.anncrafttrust.org/safeguarding-adults-week-2020-dates-themes-and-more/>

**Real Life Stories.**

TASPB are going to share the following stories on our website news page to highlight an area of Complex Safeguarding.

Attached are the individual links for you to share within your own organisations.

Monday

County Lines – Scott’s Story

<https://realsafeguardingstories.com/story/scotts-story-county-lines/>

Tuesday

Megan’s Story – Grooming of a Vulnerable Adult

<https://realsafeguardingstories.com/story/megans-story-grooming-of-a-vulnerable-adult/>

Wednesday

Michael’s story – Coercive Control

<https://realsafeguardingstories.com/story/michaels-story-coercive-control/>

Thursday

Henryk’s Story- Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery

<https://realsafeguardingstories.com/story/henryks-story-human-trafficking-and-modern-slavery/>

Friday

Steven’s Story- Making Safeguarding Personal for a Vulnerable Adult.

<https://realsafeguardingstories.com/story/stevens-story-making-safeguarding-personal-for-a-vulnerable-adult/>

**TASPB UPDATES**

**Website**

The Safeguarding Adults Webpages have been updated to ensure you all have access to any information you need, you will now find pages dedicated to the Care Act and Making Safeguarding Personal.

There is a specific page offering quick reference guidance documents for staff alongside case scenarios highlighting good practice and positive outcomes.

The Safeguarding Adults pages on the website are constantly updated with new information including News and Events and Guidance for staff. Any information you feel would be beneficial to include on the website can be forwarded to tracey.moody@tameside.gov.uk

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/socialcare/adultabuse>

**Annual Report**

The TASPB Annual Report for 2019/2020 has been published and is available on the website.

[***https://www.tameside.gov.uk/socialcare/adultabuse/tasp***](https://www.tameside.gov.uk/socialcare/adultabuse/tasp)

SAFEGUARDING NETWORK

To assist with the completion of safeguarding documents - guidance has been distributed to all safeguarding adult managers and is available to download.

<https://www.tameside.gov.uk/socialcare/adultabuse/policy>

In all cases if you are unsure of how to complete documents do not hesitate to contact the safeguarding team who are happy to help.

**Contact us at** **ProtectAdults@tameside.gov.uk** **if you would like further information or any information you would like to include in the next e-brief**

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