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Safeguarding Adult Review

Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 stipulates that the Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) has a responsibility to authorise the commissioning of a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR). A review is required to be undertaken if the Board considers that there is significant learning to be gained across partner agencies.

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Background

Barry lived with his wife at their home of 40 years. He had run a well-established local business. He was diagnosed with Vascular Parkinson's symptoms, Cerebral Vascular Disease and Vascular Dementia. He had several Cerebral Vascular Accidents which had affected his mobility. Until 2016 Barry's wife had been his main carer but following an inpatient admission in hospital in 2017 and an increase in needs which included the need for a Percutaneous Endoscopic Gastrostomy Tube (PEG) for feeding, practitioners believed that Barry's care needs could no longer be met within his own home. Barry's wife also felt unable to care for her deteriorating husband at home. This resulted in Barry being admitted into a Care Home where he displayed some mental health difficulties in coming to terms with his current situation and started to become afraid that staff were poisoning him resulting in him refusing food. Sadly Barry continued to deteriorate both mentally and physically and was admitted into hospital in October 2018 where he sadly died.

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Learning Resources

TASPB Safeguarding Adult Review page (tameside.gov.uk)
MCA guidance-Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice GOV.UK (www.gov.uk)

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SAR Themes

- The quality of support
- The use of advocacy services
- Communication and the role of practitioners in ensuring that clients and families are able to participate in decision making.
- Administration of covert medication
- The interface of the Best Interest Assessment with this process.

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Recommendations

There is a need for a multi-agency approach such as "team around the adult" to be implemented in Tameside.

Further training needs to occur across services in Tameside for the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act 2005

Procedures for the administration of covert medication needs to be implemented across care settings in Tameside.

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Safeguarding Adult Review Barry

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Learning

An overarching care plan in place would have provided a co-ordinated approach across agencies

A key worker for family to develop rapport with would have supported Barry and his wife

Reflection of Assessments undertaken, avoids conflict in the management of care

MCA to make decisions should always be documented,

Practitioners need to be clear regarding MCA pathways

Clarity is required regarding the administering of covert medication

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Good Practice

The commitment of agencies to work with family to ensure that the family were able to be independent as far as possible

By all Services, there was an awareness of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 of its relevance to Barry

Speech and Language and Adult Social Care Therapy service worked very hard with Barry to ensure that he was understood.

Mental health services went on to provide a very clear and robust assessment of Barry's mental capacity to make decisions.

7 Minute Briefing

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