

# **Safeguarding Adult Review: Adult D**

## **Executive Summary for publication**

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**March 2017**

## **1. Introduction**

### 1.1 Criteria

A Local Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) must undertake reviews of serious cases in specified circumstances. Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 sets out the criteria for a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR):

A SAB must arrange for there to be a review of a case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority has been meeting any of those needs) if—

(a) there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, members of it or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult, and

(b) condition 1 or 2 is met.

Condition 1 is met if—

(a) the adult has died, and

(b) the SAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not it knew about or suspected the abuse or neglect before the adult died).

Condition 2 is met if—

(a) the adult is still alive, and

(b) the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect.

A SAB may arrange for there to be a review of any other case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority has been meeting any of those needs).

Each member of the SAB must co-operate in and contribute to the carrying out of a review under this section with a view to—

(a) identifying the lessons to be learnt from the adult's case, and

(b) applying those lessons to future cases.

1.2 This SAR report should be read alongside the SAR report for Adult C. The SARs for Adult C and Adult D were carried out simultaneously by the same report author but published as separate reports.

## **2. Decision to hold a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)**

**2.1.** The Independent Chair of the then Nottingham City Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board made the decision to undertake a SAR on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2015. The decision to hold

a SAR was based upon the view that there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, members of it or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult; that the adult was still alive and that the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect. This SAR relates to a case of false imprisonment and assault, in the context of the new safeguarding category of modern slavery

2.2. This review has been jointly commissioned with the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) although Nottingham City Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board, which has now been renamed the Nottingham City Safeguarding Adults Board (NCSAB) is the lead SAB.

### 3. Methodology

3.1. The methodology for this SAR has been developed to ensure the learning is gained in an effective and timely way, in line with the Care Act 2014 requirements. Key aspects of the process included:

- Multi-agency chronology (factual log only)
- Case summary & appraisal
- The formation of a SAR panel (comprised of City and County SAR subgroups plus additional agencies) to consider agency submissions and agree Overview report
- Practitioner event

3.2 Hayley Frame, Independent Reviewer, was appointed to undertake the SAR.

### 4. Organisations involved in the SAR

4.1 Organisations involved in the SAR were as follows:

- Adult Social Care – Nottingham City Council
- Nottinghamshire Police
- Derbyshire Police

### 5. Relevant findings

8.1. ADULT D was not known to agencies within the scoping period. As such there is no information from agencies that has contributed to the learning in this case.

8.2. ADULT D however has met with the author and has spoken of her experiences. ADULT D described the abuse that she experienced, including physical abuse, being given drugs to stay awake, being forced to look after the family's animals, and having to care for the children.

8.3. It is evident that ADULT D moved from one area to another, and then went missing, without any professionals being aware of this, as there was no active involvement

from agencies. ADULT D's bravery ensured that the abuse ended and that the perpetrators were brought to justice.

- 8.4. A significant area of learning arising from this review is how practitioners work with deception as it is evident that no agency was aware that ADULT D was being abused.

## **6. Recommendations for NCASPB and NSAB**

- 6.1. There are no recommendations arising from this SAR specifically although the SAR in respect of ADULT C has recommended amongst other things that the Board is to seek assurance from agencies that awareness has been raised with the workforce through relevant and appropriate channels regarding modern slavery. This should include the full range of situations that could indicate modern slavery.
7. This report and its recommendations were accepted by the NSAB on 17<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and the NCSAB on 7<sup>th</sup> December 2016 subject to some very minor revisions which have been signed off by the independent Chair of NCSAB.