

01 Background:

This case is about Tom who was found dead at his home in spring 2016. Tom was a kind and caring man who once held a responsible position working within the charitable sector. Unfortunately, Tom began to misuse alcohol and his lifestyle changed. He lost his career, his long-term relationship ended and he began living on his own.

Tom began to associate with a group of people who had a similar lifestyle to his own and alcohol was a common bond. These people frequented his home, some with the permission of Tom but others were not welcome and abused Tom's hospitality. There is evidence they stole personal possessions from him and money from his bank account.

Background:

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Tom was well known to statutory and voluntary agencies. He was well liked by those professionals who dealt with him. However, the lifestyle of Tom and others who frequented his home attracted notoriety. Agencies suspected Tom was being exploited; a safeguarding alert was made and two multi-agency strategy meetings were held. Although some actions were taken by agencies, Tom was found dead in spring 2016. Greater Manchester Police arrested a man who had recently started to frequent Tom's home. He was charged with Tom's murder and pleaded guilty in court and received a term of life imprisonment and must serve a minimum of 21 years in prison.

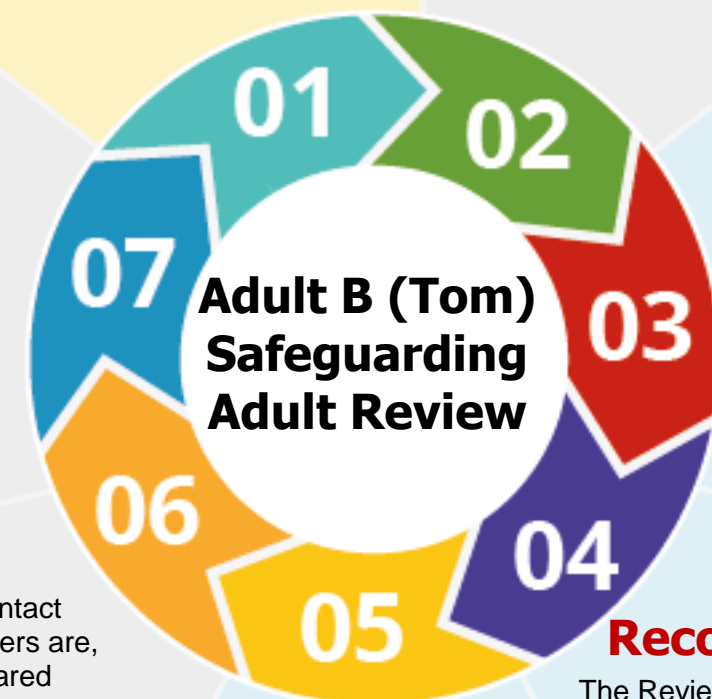
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*Undertake work to ensure that professionals recognise and understand the problem of alcohol misuse and how they can work with and support people who misuse alcohol. In particular, more guidance is needed as to what the thresholds are when assessing the vulnerability of someone who misuses alcohol.

For more information see www.rbsab.org

*Ensure information and contact details for key family members are, subject to their consent, shared with other agencies at strategy meetings unless there is a good reason for not doing so;
*Engage with local banks¹ and financial institutions to ensure they recognise the risk of financial exploitation of vulnerable adults and have measures in place for identifying those at risk and steps to protect them;
*Gives consideration to developing templates for key processes and meetings;

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**Adult B (Tom)
Safeguarding
Adult Review**

Review:

A Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) was held in 2016, to identify how agencies worked together and to learn from any lessons.

The report of the Review was published on 30th March 2017 and will be available on the www.rbsab.org website for 12 months.

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Recommendations:

The Review made 9 recommendations. They are that the Board:

- *Ensure that when an Adult safeguarding referral is made, a Care Act assessment is always considered as a means of gaining as much information as possible even if the subject may not obviously qualify for care;
- * Reinforce the need to ensure a formal capacity assessment is made to check if people's judgements on 'first principle' is accurate and they have capacity within the terms of the Mental Capacity. The outcome of that assessment, and the rationale for it, should always be recorded;
- *Ensure that key family members are identified and consideration given to engaging them in the safeguarding process (e.g. inviting them to strategy meetings if appropriate);

- *Work with all agencies to identify how to improve the level of professional enquiry that is made in respect of concerns about vulnerable adults;
- *Ensure that, in cases where abuse is known or suspected, a named professional who can take responsibility for leading the actions to reduce the abuse is identified from within the partner agencies;

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