



Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter Issue 8 September 2024

Welcome to the PSAB newsletter!

Welcome to the autumn edition of the PSAB newsletter, which contains the latest news and resources for everyone working with adults at risk in the city. We hope you find it useful.

- Mary Safeguarding Adults Review
- Supporting Veterans
- Safeguarding Adults Week
- Stigma Kills
- Project W
- Family Approach
- Safeguarding Awards nominations
- Mental Health Hub evaluation
- New resources for professionals
- Upcoming Training and Events
- Good news

If you have any feedback about this newsletter please let us know at PSAB@portsmouthcc.gov.uk. If you could contribute a guest article on a safeguarding topic, please get in touch.

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Mary Safeguarding Adults Review

The '[Mary Safeguarding Adults Review](#)' (SAR) was published last month. The Care Act requires Safeguarding Adults Boards to carry out SARs in certain circumstances - when an adult with care and support needs dies and there is learning about how agencies worked together to safeguard the adult from abuse or neglect.

Mary was in her 30s when she died. Mary had several physical and mental health conditions and had never lived independently as an adult. Mary was in the care of colleagues from the NHS and local authority in Southampton but had been placed in a care home in Portsmouth. She initially was relatively well and enjoyed taking part in walking, netball and gem art. Unfortunately Mary's mental health deteriorated and, despite support from care home staff, she self-harmed and wasn't able to care for her needs. She became a risk to herself and others and had to leave the care home. The months leading up to her death were unsettled, and Mary experienced overdoses, hospital admissions and homelessness. Mary was found unresponsive following a suspected overdose and sadly died in hospital four days later.

We worked with Southampton colleagues to gather learning from what happened to Mary and there were recommendations for them to take to try and prevent these circumstances happening again. However, there is clear learning for Portsmouth as well.

A summary of the lessons from the review is below:

- Significant delays in undertaking a new Care Act assessment and aftercare review
- The social worker did not meet Mary face-to-face, which created barriers to communication
- Use of the [Multi-Agency Risk Management Framework](#) (MARM) could have helped manage risk
- Missed opportunities for proactive discharge planning
- Ready access to support and a high level of supervision would have been essential
- Escalation was not at the appropriate level of seniority
- Frontline staff did not receive timely support after Mary's death

You can read **learning briefing** for the Mary SAR on the [PSAB website](#). The learning briefing gives a short summary of the case and the findings, and with some points of learning and reflection for professionals.

Supporting Veterans

You may remember that there was some learning from one of the Safeguarding Adults Reviews that we published last year, '[Paul](#)', about how well services identify and support Armed Forces veterans - including professionals' understanding of the [Armed Forces Covenant](#). About 18% of Portsmouth's population (37,000 people) are part of the Armed Forces Community (either currently serving, a veteran, reservist, or immediate family members), so it is really important that everyone working in the city understands the challenges they face and how we can support them. One of the key pieces of learning from the Paul SAR was that veterans don't always tell services that they are a veteran and therefore don't always get the services they are entitled to - so professionals need to be proactive and ask, and record this information.

Solent NHS have created some **One Minute Guides for professionals**:

- [Armed Forces Covenant and Due Regard Duty](#)

- [Armed Forces Community Help and Support](#)
- [OpCOURAGE](#) (the NHS mental health service for those who have served in the UK armed forces)

You can also access [e-learning about the Armed Forces Covenant](#): there are e-learning modules to raise awareness, plus specific ones for customer-facing staff, and those who work in health and housing.



Safeguarding Adults Week 2024

The 4 Local Safeguarding Adults Boards (4LSAB) in Portsmouth, Hampshire, Isle of Wight and Southampton are proud to support National Safeguarding Adults Week, which runs from **Monday 18th to Friday 22nd November 2024**. We are working with our partner organisations and local communities to promote National Safeguarding Adults Week to raise awareness of a range of important issues relating to the abuse or neglect of adults with care and support needs. Every day of this working week, we will be shining a spotlight on a specific theme.

We are planning a series of online 'lunch and learn' events with the other 4LSABs which will be held across the week, and will also have a resource area on our website. We'll send more details out in mid-October including booking details, and more information will be available on the [Safeguarding Week page](#) on our website.



#StigmaKills campaign

One of the PSAB's current strategic priorities is to challenge stigma, marginalisation and unconscious bias. Several of our recent [Safeguarding Adults Reviews](#), including Kim and Ronnie, have identified learning that where clients perceive there is marginalisation, stigma and unconscious bias, this can create a barrier for them when they are seeking effective support from

services. Our Engagement subgroup has also heard from people with lived experience in the city about their experiences of feeling stigmatised and how ashamed and lonely this can make them feel. This is particularly common for those who use substances or who have experienced homelessness. The subgroup has also heard some very positive stories about when professionals have been able to work in a trauma-informed way to break down stigma and see the person behind it.

The NHS Addictions Provider Alliance has created a #StigmaKills campaign to challenge stigma and get people to think differently:

Stigma is created through our perceptions, words and actions. Stigmatising beliefs and attitudes have a devastating effect on a person's ability to seek help and support.

They create stereotypes, judgements and biases, stopping us from seeing the human being behind the illness. Stigma creates walls, loneliness and poor health, & ultimately stigma kills.

They have a video and a blog on the [Stigma Kills website](#) where you can also pledge your support, plus a range of [social media resources](#).



Project W - Women Empowering Women

A new women's substance misuse service, Project W, launched in July 2024. Project W wants to engage any Portsmouth woman who needs support with substance use or a history of rough sleeping.

The service provides:

- Access to a recovery or family worker
- Access to peers
- Free refreshments and a Light lunch
- Weekly Freedom Programme /domestic abuse support (2-4pm)
- Access to computers/IT Suite

Project W runs every Thursday 10am-4pm at the Ambition Portsmouth office, Kingston Road PO1 7DX.

The new project came from a women's substance misuse needs assessment carried out by Portsmouth City Council's Public Health team. Service users told the team about the barriers they experience in accessing mixed substance use services - including finding them intimidating and triggering, needing to access multiple services often working in silos, and logistical difficulties like travel and childcare.

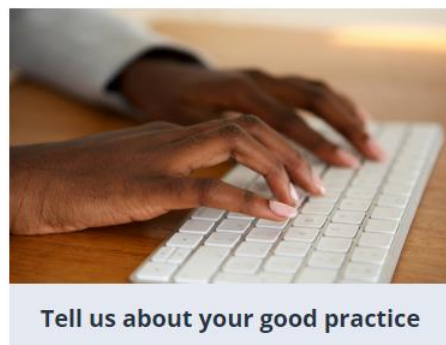
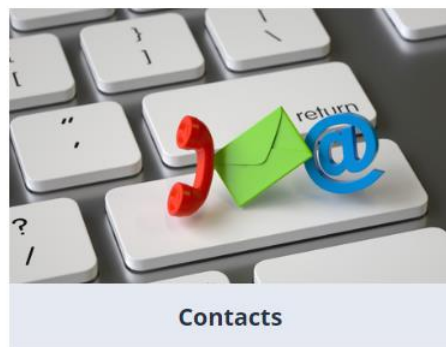
Initial feedback from women using the new service has been really positive.

For more information, or for support accessing Project W, contact Fran Brooker franbrooker@intuitivethinkingskills.com / 07464 981060.

Family Approach - Portsmouth case study

The HIPS and 4LSAB Family Approach Toolkit was updated earlier this year. The guidance and toolkit were commissioned in response to findings from a range of reviews across all the Childrens Safeguarding Partnerships and Safeguarding Adults Boards which highlight the need for professionals to work effectively together to achieve better outcomes for adults, children and their families.

The toolkit contains a wide range of resources to support professionals and we also have a [Portsmouth family approach case study](#) based on a local review.



Safeguarding Awards Nominations 2024

The National Safeguarding Adults Boards Safeguarding Adults Excellence Awards recognise the hard work and dedication of any professional and/or team across England who have gone over and above this year, who continue to provide an outstanding commitment and effort to safeguard adults and their families.

We are looking for your nominations in the following 8 categories:

1. Empowerment Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated empowering individuals
2. Prevention Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated and acted to prevent abuse or neglect
3. Proportionality Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated being balanced in their approach to ensure the least intrusive response
4. Partnership Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated working in partnership
5. Accountability Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated keeping others accountable, including themselves
6. Protection Champion - someone/team who has demonstrated protecting adults at risk
7. Lifetime Award - includes anyone who has demonstrated more than 15 years of experience in safeguarding adults
8. Innovation Champion - includes all areas of where someone/team has been creative and set new ways of working with adults at risk

If you know an inspirational professional or team whose work deserves to be recognised, please complete this quick [nomination form](#) to ensure they are considered nationally for their efforts. It would be fantastic if the safeguarding work from Portsmouth could be showcased nationally!

All nominations will be considered on their own merit, a decision awarded and acknowledgements made in National Safeguarding Adults Week, November 2024. The winners of the National Award will be recognised in a press release, photo opportunities and signed certificate from the National Safeguarding Adults Boards showcasing the, 'We See You - We Hear You,' campaign.



Mental Health Hub evaluation

Clare Campbell, new Community Mental Health Engagement and Research Manager at HIVE, writes:

HIVE Portsmouth is seeking feedback from residents about their experiences with mental health services in the city, such as the Portsmouth Mental Health Hub, which was launched last year. Whether this is a personal experience or that of a friend or family member, by highlighting emerging issues we can steer the conversations held by key people who come together to look at areas of development. Feedback is invaluable and will support the continuous improvement of mental health services in Portsmouth.

If you could share this request within the communities that you support, we would be very grateful. Anyone able to share their feedback can do so by emailing clare@hiveportsmouth.org.uk or, if preferred, I am available for in person meetings at the Central Library.

New resources for professionals

We have reviewed and updated the [4LSAB Multi-Agency Guidance on Information Sharing](#).

The Carers Centre has produced **new e-learning called 'Carer Aware'** which aims to share the experience of carers and why they need your help, explain what the Care Act 2014 means for carers, and help you to notice carers and have a conversation with them about their needs.

We have published three new **One Minute Guides to supporting the Armed Forces community**: [Armed Forces Covenant and Due Regard Duty](#), [Armed Forces Community Help and Support](#), [OpCOURAGE](#).

Upcoming Training and Events - 2024/25 dates

Partners in Care and Health Webinar on Organisational Abuse: What are the challenges and what helps in this area of safeguarding practice?

This free event aims to disseminate learning from the National Safeguarding Adult Review Analysis; provide updates on positive initiatives in this area of care and support; share insights from research and work with people who use these services; provide inspiration to improve what is done locally; and publicise the work of the Organisational Abuse Expert Reference Group.

Tuesday 15th October 2-4pm

Booking online [here](#).

Abuse of Position for a Sexual Purpose

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Constabulary's Anti-Corruption Unit would like to invite you to a short training session on abuse of position for sexual purpose. The session covers:

- Spotting warning signs
- Reporting concerns to the force
- Reviews and appeals

This presentation is aimed at practitioners who work directly with vulnerable people in Portsmouth, and is also relevant for those working in the wider Hampshire, Southampton and IOW area.

The training session will be delivered by Chris Stevens-Ballard, ACU Investigator and PREVENT officer.

The session will last about an hour and will include an opportunity to ask questions.

Booking information:

This training is hybrid. To attend online via Teams, there is no need to book. Please put the session in your diary and join using the Teams link below. To attend in person, please use the Eventbrite booking link below to book a space.

Thursday 23rd January 2025 2-3pm (Online OR Conference room B, Civic Offices, Portsmouth)

Attend online (no need to book) [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Attend in person (booking essential) [Book on Eventbrite](#)

For further information or queries, please contact PSAB@portsmouthcc.gov.uk

The Importance of Community Partnership Information (CPI) Sharing

Aim and learning outcomes:

- In what circumstances the form should be used
- When to call 999/101 to report a crime and when to do a CPI instead
- The importance of sharing information with police and how this relates to GDPR and the data protection act
- The journey of a CPI – what can the results be?
- How the form should be completed
- Common errors seen when partners complete the forms
- How we protect the details of the source of any such information

Target audience:

All front-line practitioners. In particular this is aimed at social workers, health care workers and pharmacists/GPs, schools and care settings, those who work in housing and substance misuse support.

Dates and booking information:

This training is online via Microsoft Teams. There is no need to book. Please put the session in your diary and join using the Teams links below.

- Monday 14th October 2024 13.00 -13.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Information Sharing (Clare's Law and Sarah's Law)

This course will give you confidence when it comes to:

- When and how to share information with vulnerable members of the public about people in their life for safeguarding reasons without the consent of the subject.
- What the Data Protection Act says about sharing information without consent.
- Clare's Law (DVDS) and Sarah's Law (CSODS) – the Right to Ask and the Right to Know.
- Where to find guidance from the government about when and how to share this information appropriately.
- The protections that exist for you if you share such information without consent in an appropriate manner.

This course is delivered by Hampshire and IOW Constabulary. It is aimed at any front-line practitioners working with children or adults at risk, including social workers, safeguarding leads, health workers, housing staff, teachers and those working in child care.

This training is online via Microsoft Teams. There is no need to book. Please put the session in your diary and join using the Teams links below.

- Tuesday 3rd December 2024 09.30-10.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)

Responding to Domestic Abuse

Delivered by Stop Domestic Abuse the “Responding to Domestic Abuse” training combines the previous ‘victim’- and ‘perpetrator’-focused training, and aims to:

- Define what is domestic abuse
- What does domestic abuse look like for: Victims, people using abusive behaviours, children, professionals
- To increase knowledge and challenge stereotypes of victim, people using abusive behaviours, children and professionals.
- Types of relationships
- Engaging with your service users
- Understanding and accessing the referral pathway
- Effective safety planning and its application to your practice

Training dates:

- 8th October 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 6th February 2025 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 11th March 2025 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 14th May 2025 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 10th June 2025 – 9.30am – 4.30pm

To book a place contact Stop Domestic Abuse via email

portsmouthtraining@stopdomesticabuse.uk. The venue will be confirmed once you are booked onto the course.

Good News!

Finally, we have some good news about two key people from our local safeguarding system who have received well-deserved national recognition for their hard work and services to safeguarding

Paul Francis, Community Development and Safeguarding Manager at Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service, has been awarded a British Empire Medal in the King’s Birthday Honours list 2024. The list marks the achievements and service of extraordinary people across the UK. Paul has been recognised for services to public safety. Paul has been a great contributor to the work of the PSAB for many years, and currently chairs the Fire Safety Development subgroup.



Michele Ennis has become a Queen's Nurse. This prestigious title is not a qualification for practice or a reward, but a recognition of her commitment to improving standards of care in the community

and to learning and leadership. Michele is Senior Designate Nurse for Safeguarding Adults within NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight, and has specific responsibility for the Portsmouth area. Michele does a huge amount of work for the PSAB and currently chairs the Quality Assurance subgroup.



Congratulations to Paul and Michele!