



Safeguarding Adult Reviews **Guidance for Families**

What is a Safeguarding Adults Board?

Safeguarding Adults Boards were established under the Care Act 2014. The Act requires all local authorities to set up multi agency safeguarding adults arrangements to lead and co-ordinate safeguarding arrangements in the local area.

Windsor & Maidenhead's arrangements bring together the key organisations who work with vulnerable adults, or those at risk, in order to make sure that they are working effectively in partnership to keep adults safe. It includes local health trusts, Police, local authority adult social care services, housing associations, local care providers (such as domiciliary services or residential care homes) Probation, local voluntary organisations and Healthwatch.

You can find out more on our website – please see <https://rbwmsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/p/about-us/about-our-multi-agency-safeguarding-arrangements>

What is a Safeguarding Adult Review?

Conducting a safeguarding adult review is a legal responsibility, therefore, families are not required to give consent. However, we will give you the opportunity to get involved if you would like to.

The review considers how local organisations worked together to look after the adult at risk at the centre of the review. It may also look at how they are working with other adults at risk in the immediate family or care settings. The review considers what was done, what lessons can be learned for the future and what changes may need to be made. It is not a criminal investigation or public enquiry and its aim is not to place blame but to learn.

Who undertakes Safeguarding Adult Reviews?

A panel of professionals from the relevant community and adult care services, health services, the Police and sometimes other organisations will be set up for each review. An independent person, who has not been involved in the case, will lead the review.

The panel will meet to review information from each organisation or agency that has worked with, or provided services, to the adult at risk or their family. The

independent author will then prepare a report. This report will detail what lessons have been learnt, identify good practice and make recommendations for all those involved in order to improve services.

How long will the review take?

It usually takes six to twelve months from the start of the review to publication of the report.

How are families involved?

We will give the adult concerned (if this is appropriate) and you, their family and/or carers, the opportunity to share your understanding of what happened and why, about what worked well and what could have been done differently. You will be offered the chance to talk to the independent person leading the review. However, you do not have to do this if you don't want to.

Any information you provide will be treated confidentially and used to help the review panel build a full picture of what has happened and in turn identify recommendations for change.

You should also be informed when the review is nearly finished so that you have the opportunity to discuss the findings of the review before publication.

What happens after the report is finished?

We will publish the report on our website at <https://rbwmsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/p/safeguarding-adults/case-reviews> .

The report will not give any personal details or information which would identify the adult at risk, family or anyone else involved.

We will then produce an action plan based on the recommendations of the report to make sure improvements are made to the way in which organisations work together to keep adults at risk safe. The Executive Steering Group, which oversees the local multi agency safeguarding arrangements and is our equivalent of a Safeguarding Adults Board, will make sure the actions are carried out and have a positive impact.

Further Information

If you want to know more or have any questions please look at our website

<https://rbwmsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/>

or email us at Safeguarding.Partnership@RBWM.gov.uk