



WOLVERHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING TOGETHER

Learning Lessons Briefing published following safeguarding review

Released: Tuesday 29th March 2022

A Learning Lessons Briefing has today been published by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together to share key findings from a recent Safeguarding Adults Review.

The review was commissioned by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together to examine the experiences of a 79-year-old woman, referred to in the review as 'Pat', who suffered domestic abuse at the hands of her son, whom she lived with.

He was arrested following a serious assault which left Pat in hospital. He was charged with grievous bodily harm and criminal damage and jailed, while Pat was subsequently discharged from hospital into a residential care home.

The Safeguarding Adult Review considered the findings and key learning themes arising from the information provided by organisations which had been supporting Pat, including a care agency, police, health providers and adult social care services.

The Learning Lessons Briefing is designed to share the learning that arose from the Safeguarding Adults Review with professionals and highlights 10 key findings and recommendations for change.

Sally Roberts, the Chair of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together Executive Board, said: "This was a very sad case in which an elderly woman suffered abuse at the hands of her son. The severity of his actions was recognised by the jail sentence handed down to him by the courts.

"The Safeguarding Adults Review looked in forensic detail at the involvement of a range of agencies with Pat between 2016 and 2019. It identified areas of good practice as well as key learning points.

"As a result, a number of actions are being implemented by Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together Board and the individual agencies concerned, and we are sharing this Learning Lessons Briefing with partner agencies throughout Wolverhampton which we are confident will have a positive impact on the future management of cases such as this."

The Learning Lessons Briefing has been published on the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board website. For more information, please visit www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk.

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Note to editors:

1/ A Safeguarding Adult Review is a multi-agency review process which seeks to establish the circumstances around an individual's death and determine what relevant agencies and individuals involved could have done differently that could have prevented harm or a death from taking place. The purpose of a SAR is not to apportion blame; it is to promote effective learning and improvement to prevent future deaths or serious harm occurring again.

2/ Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 requires a SAR to be carried out “where an adult with care and support needs (whether or not those needs are met by the local authority) in the Safeguarding Adult Board’s area has died as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked together more effectively to protect the adult”.

3/ Wolverhampton Safeguarding Together Board provides strategic leadership for safeguarding work to ensure there is a consistently high standard of professional response to situations where there is actual or suspected harm. For more information, please visit www.wolverhamptonsafeguarding.org.uk.