



Safeguarding Adult Reviews - Information for families

Introduction

The Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, a multi-agency partnership set up by the Care Act 2014, has produced this leaflet to assist families and friends to understand what the purpose is of a Safeguarding Adults Review.

When an adult who needs care and support either dies or suffers serious harm **and**

- Abuse or neglect is thought to have been a factor, **and**
- Partners could have worked more effectively to protect the adult concerned

then the Care Act 2014 says that the local Safeguarding Adult Board may need to review what has happened. This is called a Safeguarding Adults Review, or SAR for short.

A SAR does not replace but may be in addition to an inquest or any other form of inquiry or review.

This leaflet tells you what happens when a SAR is required to be undertaken, and what you should expect.

Purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Reviews

A SAR is to see whether any lessons can be learnt about the way organisations worked together to support and protect the person who suffered harm. The reviewers will not seek to blame anyone or an organisation but consider what happened and what could have been done differently. They will try to ensure that public bodies like social services, councils, police and other community-based organisations understand what happened and identify where responses to the situation could be improved. They will also recommend actions to improve responses to keep adults with care and support needs safe from abuse or neglect in the future.

How will the SAR be conducted?

There are different ways in which a SAR can be carried out, but they all involve gathering as much information from as many sources as possible. The reviewers can then try to work out exactly what happened, and why. A review meeting will be held involving all the organisations and agencies who had recent involvement with the person who died. They will consider whether things could or should have been done differently and ask how things could be done better in the future.



Your involvement in this review

The people conducting the review understand this is likely to be a very difficult time for you and your family, friends, and carers, but we want to learn as much as possible about how to do things better in the future. We would welcome your involvement in the process. We believe you should have the opportunity to discuss any concerns you have and to share your thoughts and opinions

If you do decide to take part in the review, we will ask you to share your understanding of what happened and why.

You can give your thoughts and views in all or some of the following ways:

- In writing or via a recording
- Via a telephone conversation
- Face-to-face meeting with us. This meeting will not take place in a court, and you will not be asked to share your views under oath. You will be asked questions to help the SAR understand the issues your relative faced and how you thought they were supported.

What happens to the information you share?

The information you share will help us build a comprehensive picture of what happened and in turn will help us identify recommendations for change. These recommendations will then be put into an action plan.

Your input will be confidential, and you will not be named in the final report.

How long will the review process take?

It is difficult to say how long a review will take, it very much depends on the amount of information to be gathered and/or people spoken to. You will be given a point of contact who will contact you by your preferred means to keep you updated so that you know how the review is progressing.

Next Steps

The decision to take part in this review is yours, and if you do not wish to take part your decision will be respected. We will notify you when the review is completed, and the report is available.



If you would like to take part or have any further questions about the review process, please contact the people at the bottom of this notice. They will either answer your questions or direct you to someone who can.

Publication

The Care Act 2014 says that the SAB should consider publishing the review so that others may also learn from the findings. Your views on this will be considered but it is hoped that you will support any decision to publish the report. It will be anonymised, and no real names used.

Further information and support

[Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board – Hull Collaborative Partnership](#)

[Care Act factsheets - GOV.UK](#)

[Safeguarding Adults Reviews \(SARs\) - SCIE](#)

[Briefing for practitioners - Analysis of Safeguarding Adults Reviews | Local Government Association](#)

[What is a Safeguarding Adults Review \(SAR\) in Health and Social Care? – Care Learning](#)

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