

Safeguarding Adult Reviews - What you need to know



What is a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR)?

A Safeguarding Adult Review is a statutory duty of the Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) under Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 and must be undertaken when:

- An adult or adults with care and support needs die as a result of abuse or neglect and there is a concern that partnership agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult/s.

OR

- An adult or adults with care and support needs has not died but the Safeguarding Adult Board knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect with a concern that partnership agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.

SARs are not enquiries into how an adult died and who is responsible. That is a matter for the coroner or criminal courts.



What is the purpose of a SAR?

The purpose of a SAR is to:

- learn from cases where agencies could have worked together more effectively.
- consider whether serious harm could or could not have been predicted or prevented and develop learning that enables the partnership to improve its services and prevent abuse and neglect in the future.
- identify any issues in multi or single agency policies and procedures.
- agree on how the learning will be acted on and what is expected to change.
- publish a summary report which is available to the public.

SARs help to improve services, inter-agency working, share best practice and lessons learnt and better safeguard adults from risk of abuse and neglect.



Who can refer a case for a SAR and how?

Anyone can refer a case where it fits the above criteria.

Referrals must be made in writing using the SAR referral form. The copy of the guidance document can be found in:

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/safeguarding-adults/i-work-with-adults/safeguarding-adult-reviews

If you would like more information, please visit www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk or contact wsab@warwickshire.gov.uk



What happens when I refer a case for a SAR?

- Information will be requested from agencies known to be involved in the case as part of the initial scoping exercise.
- The SAR sub-committee will meet to discuss the information and consider whether the case meets the SAR criteria.
- The SAR sub-committee will make a recommendation to the WSAB Independent Chair.
- Where the criteria is met, the individual/organisation that requested the SAR will be notified and engage in the proceedings of the review. Families will also be invited to contribute to the review.
- If the criteria is not met, the individual/organisation will be notified and the SAR sub-committee will ensure any learning from the scoping exercise is retained by WSAB for future reference.



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults Board

SAFEGUARDING IS EVERYONE'S RESPONSIBILITY