



Warwickshire
Safeguarding

QUARTERLY NEWS BULLETIN

December 2021 – Volume 3

Welcome from Independent Chair & Scrutineer

Welcome to the third edition of Warwickshire Safeguarding's quarterly news bulletin. The Business Team and I continue to be overwhelmed by the positive response these bulletins have received, so we hope this edition will be just as popular and helpful to you.

The on-going Covid-19 situation continues to be a concern for all however, I would like to acknowledge the continued support and commitment of all our partners to the work of the safeguarding partnership. Through this, we have been able to ensure lessons can be drawn and impact on change/improvement in safeguarding practices, where required. I would like to thank you all very much for your ongoing support.

In this latest edition you will find information on the following;

- learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs) and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) which supports improvement in practice
- Information on any changes/updates to safeguarding policy and procedures; and
- Notification of forthcoming safeguarding events and seminars across the partnership

As before, we hope you find the information helpful. Please do take the time to read this and help us to promote these bulletins across your respective organisations.

Lastly, as we head towards the festive period I would like to wish you all a very safe and healthy festive break and good wishes for a Happy New Year!



Elaine Coleridge Smith
Warwickshire Safeguarding Independent Chair & Scrutineer

Who are we?

Warwickshire Safeguarding is a multi-agency Partnership established to ensure safeguarding measures are met and that vulnerable adults and children across Warwickshire are protected from harm and abuse and lessons are learned from case reviews and improvements identified/implemented.

Meet the Business Team

Amrita Sharma
(Business Manager)

Caroline McCluskey & Holly Reed
(Quality, Learning & Improvement Officers)

Kiran Mahal
(Business Development Officer)

Jennifer Coxley
(Business Development Officer)



For further information and to keep up to date with our latest news, please visit:

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk



Warwickshire Safeguarding Annual Report: 2020 - 2021

Each year the safeguarding partnership produces and publishes an annual report.

This year's annual report outlines the new safeguarding arrangements for adults, children and young people in Warwickshire under the governance of Warwickshire Safeguarding. The report provides an overview of safeguarding activity carried out between April 2020 and March 2021 and the work undertaken by the safeguarding partnership to deliver its strategic priorities. This work involves a high degree of multi-agency co-operation and collaboration to ensure Warwickshire has effective safeguarding arrangements in place which help promote learning and improvement.

Without doubt 2020-2021 has been a very challenging year for everyone involved in safeguarding of children, young people, families and adults.

The Covid pandemic quickly influenced every aspect of work. The Coronavirus Act 2020 did not relax safeguarding and Warwickshire was expected to continue to offer the same level of oversight to children, adults and families.

Warwickshire Safeguarding has learnt a great deal from undertaking serious case reviews, SARS and alternative reviews. Each of these reviews has identified areas of good and best practice as well as areas that require improvement. Our ability to scrutinise our shared practice has improved considerably this year, as has the direct involvement of the Executive Team with each of the reviews being undertaken.

In many ways Warwickshire safeguarding continues to function as previously with changes introduced partly as a result of Covid. A huge amount of impressive work has been undertaken this year under the direction of the Warwickshire safeguarding Business team and this is evidenced in the report.

Full details of the partnership's work over the period of 2020-2021 can be found by clicking on the link below:

[file:///C:/Users/ASHA8/Downloads/Warwickshire%20Safeguarding%20Annual%20Report%202020-2021%20FINAL%20COPY%20\(1\).pdf](file:///C:/Users/ASHA8/Downloads/Warwickshire%20Safeguarding%20Annual%20Report%202020-2021%20FINAL%20COPY%20(1).pdf)

WARWICKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING

ANNUAL REPORT

2020 - 2021





Changes to Safeguarding Policies and/or Procedures

Integrated Front Door

Warwickshire introduced its new integrated front door, The Children and Families Front Door, replacing the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) as the first point of contact for safeguarding concerns for children and young people on Tuesday 28th September 2021. This enables Warwickshire to bring together Early Help and Children's Social Care to ensure children and young people receive the right support at the right time.

The new Front Door arrangements aim to ensure that all enquiries and contacts (MAC) are triaged upon receipt and directed to the appropriate service within the Front Door to support with the query, providing a seamless process with children receiving a service proportionate to their needs in a timely way. This expertise of the Front Door comprises of Early Help Professionals, Child and Family Advisors, Social Workers, Team Managers alongside multi-agency partners integrated within the Front Door and some 'virtual' partners for information sharing.

To view the document on the Integrated front door [Click here.](#)

Escalation Protocol

All practitioners working with children, young people, adults with care and support needs and carers have a responsibility towards their clients to ensure that the child's or adult's welfare is seen as a priority at all levels of practitioner activity. Practitioners are individually responsible for being satisfied about the substance and progress of safeguarding plans for service users. This protocol recognises this and provides a tool to support individuals to exercise this responsibility when they are concerned about the actions or inactions of other agencies or practitioners.

The new Escalation Protocol provides 3 key stages and should be used in all situations where there are concerns about practice, decision making or resource allocation.

To view the document on the Escalation Protocol [Click here.](#)

Exploitation Strategy (2020-2023)

The safeguarding of children, young people and adults with care and support needs from the psychological and physical harm caused by exploitation is a priority for Warwickshire Safeguarding. A multi-agency and collaborative view of safeguarding is required when considering exploitation. Warwickshire Safeguarding's new strategy provides the strategic framework to further develop and strengthen our response in the identification, assessment and intervention of children, young people and adults with care and support needs who are experiencing or may be at risk of exploitation.

To view a copy of the Exploitation Strategy [Click here.](#)



Published Reviews

Provided below are details of reports which have been recently published by the partnership following the conclusion of safeguarding reviews. Copies of the full reports relating to children and adults can be found by clicking on either of the following links:

[Children's Reviews](#)

[Adults Reviews](#)

NOAH: Noah was born prematurely (under 30 weeks) and prior to his birth he was subject to a Child Protection Plan due to concerns over domestic abuse and substance misuse between his parents. When Noah was able to leave hospital, he went to live with his mother at his grandparents' house. When Noah was a little over 3 months old, he became unwell with cold like symptoms. Noah's mother took him to the GP and she was given advice to manage Noah's symptoms. That night Noah's mother bathed and put him to bed as normal and Noah's symptoms appeared to improve. Noah woke shortly before midnight so to settle him, Noah's mother brought him into her bed and they both went back to sleep. Noah's mother woke early the following morning and realised that Noah hadn't woken up for his feed. When Noah's mother checked him, she found he was unresponsive with vomit on the bed next to him. Noah's grandparents called an ambulance and Noah was taken to the local hospital where he was sadly pronounced dead.

To view the full Lessons learned briefing [Click here](#)

JACK: Jack is a young teenager who sadly took his own life. In the time leading up to Jack's death the UK was in lockdown due to the Covid 19 pandemic. Just prior to the lockdown the process had begun for Jack to move to a new school following a number of fixed term exclusions. Jack's parents were divorced, and Jack had recently moved from living with his father and siblings to living with his mother. Jack was experiencing some difficulties in his life and was displaying some behaviours at home and at school. There was minimal multiagency involvement with Jack in the year preceding his death, although there were four referrals for the family to children's social care and one single assessment was completed; none of which resulted in intervention or support. Apart from school there were no other agencies involved with Jack at the time of his death. No school staff had any contact with Jack during the lockdown period prior to their death and there is no recorded information about them during this period.

To view the full Lessons learned briefing [Click here](#)

ALAN: Alan was born 3 months prematurely at home and due to a lack of oxygen he suffered from brain damage causing him to have physical and mental health issues; he had learning disabilities, was on the autistic spectrum and suffered from bipolar disorder. Alan lived at home from birth up until he was admitted to hospital as an inpatient, in October 2018, having been sectioned under the Mental Health Act. Alan was discharged from the hospital in 2019, when he was housed in a Housing Association tenancy, achieved through the local authority, in his new home in Warwickshire where he was cared for by a local care provider.



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Alan was provided with 2 to 1 care 24 hours a day with 1 waking night and 1 sleeping night carer. Towards the end of Alan's life, the level of care at night was increased due to Alan's behaviour becoming more challenging. In December 2019, he was admitted to Warwick Hospital via the Emergency Department, having been found unconscious whilst sleeping. Alan passed away a week later. Alan was 44 years old at the time of his death.

To view the full Lessons learned briefing [Click here](#)

NEIL: Neil was placed in temporary residential care following his eviction from his flat due to anti-social behaviour. At the time of his death, he had been in residential care for 20 months, moving on three different occasions as placements broke down due to his behaviour. The last placement was in a neighbouring county as local provision had been exhausted. Records describe Neil as having ADHD, alcohol problems and possible cognitive damage due to brain tumour. He had a history of drinking heavily and, when intoxicated, his behaviours would be difficult to manage. He assaulted staff and residents on a number of occasions and would also be verbally offensive; police were often called but staff never proceeded with the charges which meant that Neil faced no consequences for his behaviours. During the national lockdown due to the Covid-19 pandemic and following an incident at the residential unit in April 2020, Neil was evicted from the residential service. Neil had also stated that he wanted to leave. He was given his possessions, and some money, and was provided with the details of the housing advice service, and he was recommended to present himself there as homeless. Contact was made with the service to advise that Neil would be presenting.

Sadly, Neil died in May 2020, his identity was only determined following his death.

To view the full Lessons learned briefing [Click here](#)





Briefings

Lessons Learned Briefings

Lessons Learned Briefings are produced following the completion of a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR) or a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR), or in those cases where the criteria for a formal review was not met however; the initial scoping process identified key areas of practice which highlighted the need to promote awareness.

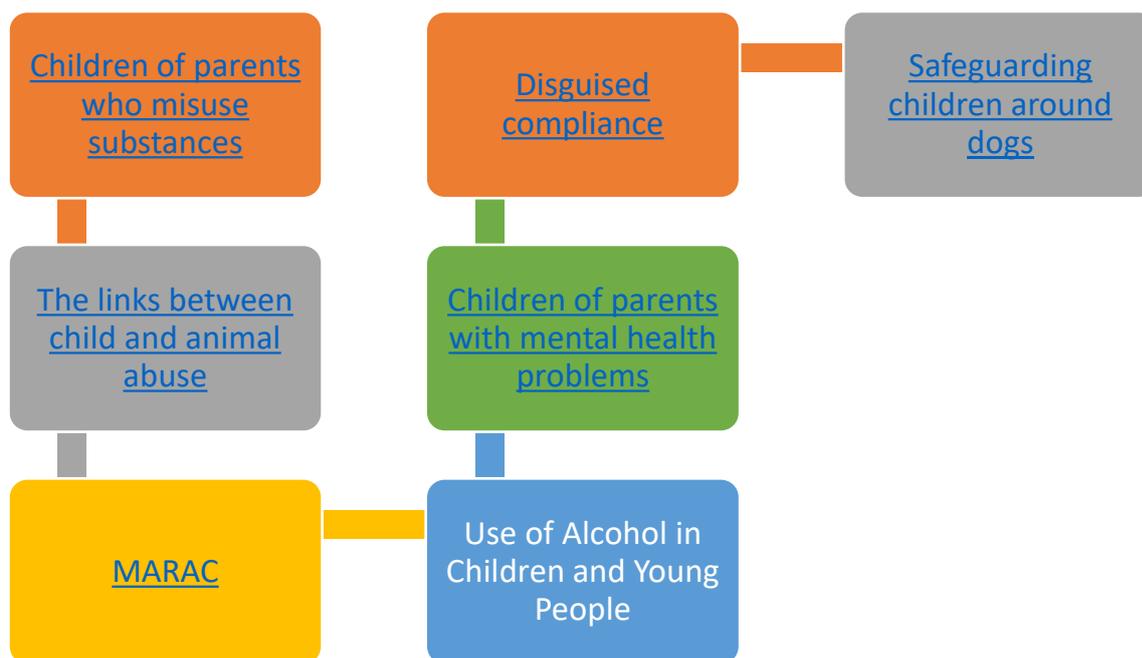
The Lessons Learned briefings have been structured to provide a summary overview of the story of the child or adult, what we learned and advice for professionals and the community. It should be noted, all briefings are totally anonymised to protect the identity of the individuals.

To access copies of all Lessons Learned Briefings go to:

<https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/lessons-learnt-briefings>

7 Minute Briefings

This is a single page briefing providing a quick and simple way to share learning on a range of safeguarding topics identified as key areas requiring further improvement in practice and understanding. The following list of new briefings has now been published on the website since the last news bulletin. To access copies of all 7 Minute Briefings please go to: <https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/7-minute-briefings>





Useful Links and Resources

NSPCC Library

The NSPCC hosts the National collection of case reviews from across other safeguarding partnerships to support local learning. To access the National Case Review repository please go to: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/case-reviews/national-case-review-repository>

Forthcoming Events/Training Opportunities

ECPAT UK training on child trafficking, modern slavery and exploitation 2022

ECPAT UK is a leading UK charity working with child victims of trafficking, modern slavery and exploitation. In 2022 we are delivering a series of courses for frontline practitioners in the West Midlands aimed to help equip practitioners with specialist information about trafficking and give clear, relevant guidance of safeguarding young people in the context of trafficking and exploitation.

ECPAT will be delivering training on the following topics, you can book your place by clicking on the Eventbrite link provided:

- **An Overview to child trafficking, modern slavery and exploitation, 2nd & 3rd March 2022** (9.30-1pm each day)
Register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/an-overview-of-child-trafficking-modern-slavery-and-exploitation-tickets-223921464127
- **Care for child victims of trafficking: Safe accommodation and missing 16th & 17th May 2022** (9.30-1pm each day)
Register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/care-for-child-victims-of-trafficking-tickets-223934342647
- **Child criminal exploitation and trafficking 14th & 15th September 2022** (9.30-1pm each day)
Register at: www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/child-criminal-exploitation-and-trafficking-tickets-223939467977

To report an adult safeguarding concern or to make a safeguarding referral for a child, please contact one of the following:

Adult Social Care: 01926 412080

Children Social Care: 01926 414144

includes options for FIS (Option 1), EH Support Line (Option 2) and Safeguarding (Option 3)