



News letter

Welcome Message

I am pleased to welcome you to the February edition of the Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) Newsletter. This issue highlights several important developments, resources and awareness initiatives that support our shared commitment to safeguarding adults across Warwickshire.

This month, we are pleased to share new resources to promote Safe and Found Online, now available in Warwickshire. I encourage all partners to download and share the new promotional materials to help raise awareness across our communities.

We also draw attention to the Government's new National Plan to End Homelessness, which places lived experience, prevention and multi-agency collaboration at its core. Alongside this, we are pleased to share two valuable 7-Minute Briefings: a new one on executive functioning difficulties and a reminder about the Mental Capacity Act, a cornerstone of safeguarding practice.

Looking ahead to the coming months, there are also a number of awareness events, including World Autism Acceptance Month in April and International Wheelchair Day on 1st March, which remind us of the crucial role accessibility, inclusion, and respectful engagement play in safeguarding and empowerment.

Finally, I would like to thank all partners for your ongoing commitment to safeguarding adults in Warwickshire. Your dedication, collaboration and reflective practice make a meaningful difference every day.

As always, we welcome contributions for future newsletters and encourage you to share learning, events and updates with the WSAB team.

Elaine Coleridge-Smith
Independent Chair of WSAB





Safe and Found Online: Now open in Warwickshire

Safe and Found Online is a secure digital platform designed to help emergency services find missing people. It allows individuals, families, carers or professionals – with consent or in a person's best interest where appropriate – to log key information about a person who might go missing on Safe and Found Online's website. This can include photographs, details of medical conditions and emergency contact information. If the person is then reported missing, specialist officers from Warwickshire Police can access the details uploaded to support a faster and more informed search.

Download and share the new promotional poster

A new poster has been created to raise awareness of Safe and Found Online, and we are asking all colleagues across health, housing, policing, social care and community services to download and use these materials now. By sharing and displaying the poster in your workplaces, waiting rooms, outreach settings and online channels, you can help more people register early, ensuring that if the worst happens, vital information is already in place to keep them safe.

Download and share the new poster now.

Visit [Safe and Found Online](https://www.safeandfoundonline.co.uk) to register details so they are where they need to be if the person goes missing.

Stay Safe with Safe and Found Online

- 1 Register a Profile:**
Carers/family members can create a profile and upload photos and important information
- 2 Keep Information Updated:**
Ensure the profile is regularly updated to maintain accuracy
- 3 Access in Emergencies:**
Police can access these profiles swiftly to aid in search and rescue efforts

Why use Safe and Found Online?
Immediate access to detailed profiles saves time during search operations. A digital format allows for quick updates and easy access to current information. Safe and Found Online helps reduce the risk of harm to individuals with dementia who go missing.

Keep loved ones safe
Visit www.safeandfoundonline.co.uk

The Digital Information Bank committed to Safeguarding Vulnerable People.

As part of their Missing Persons strategies, UK Police Forces are encouraging carers of vulnerable people who are a risk of going missing to compile useful information about them. This data is recorded on a form provided by the Police and can save vital time in putting together a search and rescue plan in a missing persons event. These forms are called "Protocols". We have worked in partnership with several English police forces to create digital versions of these forms. This means life saving information can be with the police at the touch of a button.

[Registration](#)



Summary: The ‘National Plan to End Homelessness’

The Government’s ‘National Plan to End Homelessness’ is a new policy paper setting out their strategy to make homelessness rare, brief and non-recurring. The document recognises the scale of the current crisis and places lived experience and multi-agency collaboration at its core. It acknowledges that homelessness reflects wider social inequalities and requires coordinated action across housing, health, social care, justice, and education.

Key ideas from the ‘National Plan to End Homelessness’

The plan presents key ideas including prevention measures, through a 10-year social and affordable homes programme, reforms to strengthen tenants’ rights and measures to address poverty. This is built upon by the new duty for public services to collaborate and prevent people leaving prison, care, and hospital into homelessness and crisis prevention through risk assessment tools and improved legal support.

Improved emergency responses are also included, aiming to end the use of B&Bs for families and introducing a new duty for councils to notify schools and GPs when a child is in temporary accommodation to safeguard these children.

Improved links between housing and support services such as health, substance-use and employment support aim to improve recovery and stability and reduce long-term rough sleeping.



Read the full plan: [A National Plan to End Homelessness](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/672212/national-plan-to-end-homelessness.pdf) (GOV.UK)



Focus on Learning

New: Executive Functioning and Homelessness 7-Minute Briefing

This briefing has been developed to support colleagues across housing, social care, health, policing and wider frontline services to better understand how executive functioning difficulties can affect people experiencing homelessness.

Executive functioning refers to the brain processes that help us plan, organise, regulate emotions, and follow through on tasks. When these functions are impaired – which can be associated with trauma, brain injury, long-term stress or neurodivergence – daily activities that many take for granted can become overwhelming. Problems with executive dysfunction are often hidden. This has important implications for how we interpret behaviour. The briefing raises awareness of the issues someone may encounter and suggests and signposts strategies for improving communication and reducing barriers.

Please read and share the **Executive Functioning and Homelessness 7-Minute Briefing**.



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults Board



Search...

English

Leave This Site Now

Report Abuse

Home Safeguarding Adults - Safeguarding Children - Briefings - Something's Not Right

Home / Lessons Learned Briefings

Lessons Learned Briefings

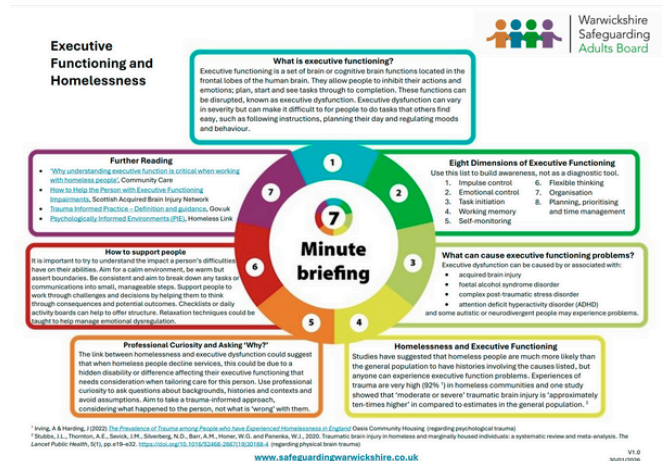
Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board and Warwickshire Safeguarding Children Partnership have introduced Lessons Learned Briefings to help improve the communication of lessons being learned from safeguarding reviews. This is to ensure that the learning is being shared widely and more rapidly so that it can impact positively on future case management.

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 but the initial scoping process identified key lessons and 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 was learned in the review and advice for professionals and the community. It should be noted, all briefings are totally anonymised to protect the identity of the individuals.

The briefings can be downloaded below:

Adult Briefings	Child Briefings	Adult & Child Briefings
Alan's lessons learned (15/11/2021)	Emily & Ryan's lessons learned (13/03/22)	Anna's lessons learned (20/09/23)
Chris' lessons learned (21/02/2020)	Fara's lessons learned (21/06/24)	CJ's lessons learned (29/11/22)
Dorothy's lessons learned (25/11/2019)	Simon's lessons learned (27/09/23)	New Table



Highlight: 7-Minute Briefing on 'The Mental Capacity Act: A Basic Overview'

Consideration of a person's capacity is vital in supporting and protecting the people of Warwickshire.

If you are unsure of what this means or need a refresher, check out Warwickshire Safeguarding Adult's Board's 7-minute briefing on '[The Mental Capacity Act: A Basic Overview](#).'

Explore more learning opportunities

Lots more learning can be accessed on the Warwickshire Safeguarding website:

- [7-Minute Briefing page.](#)
- [Lessons Learned Briefings](#)
- [Safeguarding Adult Reviews](#)



Being Trauma-Informed in Practice – Not Just in Principle

Many of the adults we work with have experienced trauma, whether through abuse, neglect, violence, loss or long-term adversity. Trauma-informed practice asks us to recognise this, understand how trauma can affect behaviour and engagement, and respond in ways that promote safety, trust and empowerment.

Being trauma-informed is not just about the language we use or the policies we follow; it is about how we think, act and reflect in our everyday practice. Taking time to consider how we work with people is essential to safeguarding adults effectively and preventing further harm.

Using reflection to strengthen trauma-informed practice

Trauma-informed approaches can be built into routine professional spaces, including case discussions, team meetings, reflective practice sessions and supervision.



Consider using these prompts to move beyond “talking the talk” and embed trauma-informed practice.

In case discussions, reflective practice sessions or team meetings:

- Have we considered how past trauma may be influencing this person’s behaviour, engagement or presentation?
- Are we responding to risk in a way that avoids re-traumatisation?
- Have we focused on the person’s strengths, choices and what matters to them?
- Were power imbalances acknowledged and managed?
- Did organisational pressures influence how we responded, and how can we mitigate this?

In supervision conversations:

- How comfortable did I feel having difficult or sensitive conversations with this person?
- Did I slow down, listen and remain curious rather than make assumptions?
- How is this work affecting me, and what support do I need to stay compassionate and effective?

Regular, honest reflection helps ensure our safeguarding responses are not only procedurally sound but also person-centred and proportionate. Embedding trauma-informed thinking supports safer practice, better outcomes and more meaningful engagement with adults at risk.



April is World Autism Acceptance Month – A Chance to Reflect, Learn and Act

Every April, **World Autism Acceptance Month** (and day on 2nd April) encourages us to develop our understanding of autism and celebrate the strengths, diversity and experiences of autistic people. These events promote a global commitment to building inclusive societies, and the entire month provides a powerful opportunity for reflection and action in our workplaces, services and communities.

This is a moment to consider how we work with autistic people across health, social care, education, housing, policing and community support. Autism acceptance is about more than awareness: it means actively creating environments where autistic people can thrive, feel understood and be included.



Explore Resources

Find out more about autism and World Autism Acceptance Month/Day:

- [National Autistic Society: advice, guidance and downloadable resources](#)
- [National Autistic Society: World Autism Acceptance Month, April 2006](#)
- [NHS: Where to get autism support](#)

Why it matters

Autistic people continue to face discrimination and barriers across many areas of life. It is crucial that autistic individuals and their families can access tailored information, guidance, and support to overcome these challenges.

Opportunities to explore interests, build friendships and lead fulfilling lives depend on systems and communities that understand and respond to their needs.

How we can all help create a society that works for autistic people

As professionals and community members, we each play a role. This month, we are encouraged to:

- Reflect on how accessible and supportive our services truly are.
- Challenge assumptions and learn more about autistic experiences.
- Create calmer, more predictable environments where possible.
- Listen to autistic voices and amplify their perspectives.

Together, we can help build a society where autistic people are understood, accepted and supported, not just in April, but every day.



International Wheelchair Day – 1st March

What is International Wheelchair Day?

International Wheelchair Day is a global awareness event marked every year on 1st March. It highlights the importance of wheelchairs in enabling independence, dignity and participation. Founded in 2008 by British wheelchair user Steve Wilkinson, the day recognises both wheelchair users and the vital role of services, professionals and communities in supporting access, inclusion and equality.

The impact of wheelchairs on people's lives

For many adults, wheelchairs are essential to daily living. They support mobility, independence and access to work, healthcare, social networks and community life. Access to the right wheelchair at the right time can be the difference between independence and isolation.



What this means for safeguarding

Barriers to mobility, inaccessible environments or delays in equipment provision can increase the risk of isolation, neglect or abuse. Wheelchair users may face additional challenges in accessing services, reporting concerns or being seen and heard. Making Safeguarding Personal includes listening to individuals' experiences, understanding how mobility needs affect their safety, and ensuring responses are proportionate, inclusive and led by what matters to the person.

All agencies have a role in promoting safety and inclusion. This includes ensuring buildings, services and communication methods are accessible; using respectful, person-centred language; and never making assumptions about capacity or independence. Always ask before offering help and involve wheelchair users in decisions about their support. Working together to challenge barriers and improve access helps reduce risk, promote wellbeing and uphold the principles of the Care Act.



Safeguarding Spotlight

Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board: Business Team

The core purpose of Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) is to bring together key organisations – such as local authorities, the NHS, and the police – ensuring that agencies work collaboratively, share information appropriately, and continuously improve their practice.



The WSAB Business Team arrange meetings and coordinate with partners to deliver the aims above, monitor safeguarding through a programme of quality assurance activities, and promote learning across organisations. They also commission Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) when someone dies or is seriously harmed due to abuse or neglect, and agencies could have worked together more effectively.

Key Dates

Recognising and understanding important cultural and religious dates strengthens our relationships with communities and promotes inclusive practice:

- Ramadan: the evening of Tuesday 17 February 2026, and will end on the evening of Wednesday, March 18 (with the exact dates contingent upon the sighting of the moon.)
- Eid al-Fitr on 19th March
- Passover begins 1st April
- Easter weekend 3rd–5th April

Your Events

If you have an event, learning or anything to promote in this newsletter, contact the team at
WSAB@warwickshire.gov.uk

Meet the Team



Elaine Coleridge-Smith
Independent Chair

Amrita Sharma
Business Manager

Jenn Coxley
Quality, Learning &
Improvement Officer

Jen Wrottesley
Business Development
Officer

Contact us at
WSAB@warwickshire.gov.uk

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

Social Care & Support (Adults): 01926 412080
Family Connect (Children): 01926 414144

Quick Links

- 7-Minute Briefings
- Lessons Learned Briefings
- Past Newsletters