Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR)

Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Background

A Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is a statutory duty of the Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) under Section 44 of the Care Act 2014. A SAR must be undertaken when an adult or adults with care and support needs dies 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. A SAR must also be undertaken if or an adult or adults with care and support needs have not died but WSAB 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.



Where can I find further information?

- The Care Act 2014 Section 44
- WSAB Website: Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- West Midlands Regional Safeguarding Information Hub

What is the purpose of a SAR?

The purpose 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; and agree on how the learning will be acted on.

What happens next?

If the outcome of the Rapid Review determines the case meets the criteria to conduct a SAR, an Independent Lead Reviewer will be appointed to oversee the process. Agencies will be contacted to engage with the review via submission of written information and Reflective Learning Events. Family members and review subjects will be invited to contribute. Once the review has concluded, the findings will be published on the Warwickshire Safeguarding website.

Who can refer a case for a SAR?

Anyone can refer a case for a SAR when it fits the criteria. When you are satisfied the case meets the criteria, you should email a copy of the referral form securely to the address on the SAR referral form. The SAR guidance document and form can be found on Warwickshire Safeguarding's website. Alternatively, please contact Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board Business Team for an electronic copy of the SAR referral form.

What happens next?

The referrer who requested the SAR will be notified of the outcome of the Rapid Review. If the criteria are not met to undertake a SAR, the individual/ organisations will be notified, and the Safeguarding Reviews Subgroup will ensure any learning from the Rapid Review is shared. Where the criteria for a SAR is not met but learning is identified, the Rapid Review outcome may be to recommend an alternative form of safeguarding learning review to undertaken.

What happens when I refer a case for a SAR?

Upon receipt of a SAR referral, the Independent Chair & Scrutineer for Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board will determine whether the SAR referral meets the criteria and if additional information is needed. WSAB has adopted the Rapid Review process introduced within Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) for all new SAR Referrals which are to be progressed for further information gathering from partner agencies.

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk

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