

# NSSAB Newsletter - Issue 1



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## Welcome and Introductions

Hello and welcome to the first issue of our NSSAB Newsletter.

Please enjoy a warm drink whilst you scroll through. We will aim to keep these as brief as possible and include any non-urgent circulations, which would otherwise come through your inbox individually. We don't expect you to read it in entirety - please skip to the parts which relate to you, your service or what piques your interest.

At present, these will be monthly or on ad-hoc basis if no updates are necessary. Please contact [SABmanager@n-somerset.gov.uk](mailto:SABmanager@n-somerset.gov.uk) if you have any non-urgent items you wish to circulate within this newsletter.

*We are looking forward to seeing you at our next **Board meeting on 12th December**. We will be circulating 2024 meeting dates shortly.*



### Teresa Bell - Independent Chair

I'm very pleased to be the Independent Chair of NSSAB. Since joining the Board last year, I've enjoyed getting to know more about North Somerset and to be working with the partnership to prevent local people with care and support needs from risk and neglect. I have a background in both the voluntary and statutory sectors, including as a Director of Adult Social Care.

I'm now an independent consultant in social care and safeguarding and I chair other Safeguarding Adults Boards across England. I'm particularly committed to developing policy and practice using co-production methods, to ensure that these are informed by the voices of people with lived experience. I also work with ADASS (Association of Directors of Adult Social Services) and the LGA (Local Government Association) on consultancy commissions and producing guidance documents.

#### *Likes:*

- Walking in the countryside or by the sea – preferably with my dog
- Yoga
- Radio 6 Music

#### *Dislikes:*

- When people don't pick up after their dog
- Coffee
- Realising too late that I've dropped a stitch when I'm knitting



### Nabila Marrow - Board Manager

I am the interim manager whilst our permanent Board Manager, Liz Langson, is on maternity leave. Prior to my appointment, I have been working at North Somerset Council since mid-2020. In that time, I have been part of and supported the Safeguarding, DoLS, Children in Care, Quality Assurance, Learning & Development and Policy teams. During this time, I spent 1.5 years supporting the Board and many of its subgroups.

I belong to the council's REACH (Race, Ethnicity and Cultural Heritage) staff forum and am co-Chair for our LGBTQ+ group, whilst lending lived experience to multiple policies and programmes run by the local authority. I look forward to bringing these lenses and the others of my intersecting identities into this role, especially as we gain momentum and purpose within our Communication and Community Engagement subgroup.

#### *Likes:*

- Emails with clear instructions and dot points
- Time to formulate thoughtful responses
- Multiple crafts and creative outlets

#### *Dislikes:*

- Block text
- Wet socks
- The amount of forgotten crafts and creative outlets in my house



### Rachel Porter - Support Officer

I am the Business Support Officer for NSSAB and have been in post since June 2023. I am enjoying this new role and working with a variety of partners. I support the Chairs, Board, and subgroup members with administrative duties. This is a new and challenging direction for my career, and I look forward to assisting with developing and supporting the North Somerset Safeguarding Board and Subgroups.

I previously worked as an Associate Lecturer at a college working in Foundation Studies, teaching employability, life skills and core functional skills. I intend to use my knowledge and experiences in this new and exciting role.

#### *Likes:*

- Running and keeping fit
- Visual Learning
- Going away in my van to Cornwall

#### *Dislikes:*

- People being mean to others
- Mixed Shellfish dishes
- People that drop litter



## SARs (Safeguarding Adult Reviews) of Interest

Joshua - *Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board*

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*"The Adult: Joshua was a 35-year-old Black Caribbean man. He was of Guyanese background and came to the UK as a child. Joshua was close to his family, especially his mother, who also lived in Lewisham. Joshua was the eldest child and had four siblings. It was recorded that Joshua identified as both a Christian and a Rastafarian. Joshua was described as a 'popular' man; 'other residents looked up to him.' He was recognisable and well known in the local area."*

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**Please note that this SAR's central themes regard racial issues.**

**"What Happened:** Joshua was seen by supported living staff on the street at different times on 09.03.18. When staff were unable to locate him they escalated their concerns and the police were called, twice, the second time by a member of the public after a man was seen climbing over residential fences and onto school playing fields. The police attended and requested an ambulance. Upon arrival the London Ambulance Service reported that Joshua was being restrained on the floor and was in the recovery position. It was unknown how long Joshua had been restrained for. On examination, Joshua was in cardiac arrest and cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) was commenced. Joshua's breathing was assisted and he was conveyed to hospital whilst CPR was continued throughout the journey. He was declared deceased at the hospital. At the Coroner's inquest the jury found system-wide failures contributed to his death. A Regulation 28 Report to prevent future deaths was issued to the Metropolitan Police Service and the London Ambulance Service. The jury recorded the medical cause of death as Acute Behavioural Disturbance (ABD) (in a relapse of schizophrenia) leading to exhaustion and cardiac arrest, contributed by restraint struggle, and being walked."

- from [7 Minute Learning Briefing - Joshua](#)

[Safeguarding Adults Review - Joshua](#)

[Statement on Behalf of the Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board and all of the Relevant Partner Agencies](#)



### Submitting a SAR Referral

You can submit a SAR referral at our website: <https://nssab.co.uk/safeguarding-adult-reviews-sar>

Before submitting, please ensure you have considered the below:

We will order a safeguarding adult review (SAR) when an adult in the area dies as a result of abuse or neglect, known or suspected. The SAR will also review whether partner agencies could have worked better to protect the adult.

We are also required to arrange a SAR if we know or suspect that an adult in the area has experienced serious abuse or neglect.

Serious abuse or neglect, which will result in an SAR, can occur in the following situations:

1. Where a lack of care would have resulted in the death of the individual, had intervention not occurred
2. The adult in question has suffered permanent harm, reduced capacity or quality of life as a result

We may also arrange for a SAR in other situations if it involves an adult with care and support needs.

All other safeguarding and welfare concerns via this page: <https://nssab.co.uk/how-you-can-get-help>



## Requests

### Violence Against Women and Girls Contact Callout - *Alison Jenkinson, Avon and Somerset Constabulary*

ACC Joanne Hall is the chair of the VAWG Steering Group, made up of external agencies all working towards the same aim. The working groups were initially set up after a summit in 2022.

The aim of that summit was *“To bring together a range of organisations, groups and individuals to influence and action change to eliminate violence against women and girls within an ambitious time frame across the area of Avon and Somerset.”*

We currently have representatives from key organisations such as the CPS, Council’s, British Transport Police etc. however we are wanting to ensure we have involved as many relevant stakeholders as possible when working towards holding another summit in 2025.

The focus of the group is to be a strategic coordinating group across our agencies working under three pillars:

1. Trust and confidence
2. Pursuit of perpetrators
3. Safer spaces

As you are aware as I am force wide I lack the local knowledge as to what is out there for all areas. Can you please make suggestions of agencies within your locality area’s which may be a good fit into this piece of work.

Many thanks in advance

[Alison Jenkinson](#)

Partnership Liaison Manager

Lighthouse Safeguarding Unit (LSU) | Avon and Somerset Constabulary



1 - Poster for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women march, as part of the 16 Days of Action national campaign to end gender-based violence.

### Preventing and disrupting exploitation across the Southwest region - Jackie Thomas, Children's Society

Across the Southwest region, I am researching into the emerging trends and themes of exploitation, to inform evidence led interventions over the next year. Collating this on a monthly basis, this will then lead to bespoke workshops, systems change initiatives, and partnership working to explore how we can prevent and disrupt these.

Please could you send me any concerns, current and emerging trends of exploitation you are seeing, I would really appreciate it. These will be shared across the prevention programme so we can form a national picture of how the landscape of exploitation is changing, and how we can collaboratively work to protect young people from future harms.

Regarding the transitional safeguarding points below, these are the questions which I am looking to explore with children's and adults' safeguarding teams.

- a) *How to multi-agency partnerships approach 'risk'?*
- b) *Look at how 'Adultification' can criminalise young people*
- c) *Share promising practice*
- d) *Support safeguarding partnerships*
- e) *Look at service design, and how services are commissioned?*
- f) *Including health in our conversations*



The next step will be to create an interactive 'listen and learn' session for all safeguarding leads across the region to explore further what are the barriers within the systems, what is working well, and how can we improve outcomes for young people.

Looking at the emerging themes, we can then discuss how we can prevent and disrupt these types of harms. The findings from this session will be shared with all partners and their teams.

Many thanks,

[Jackie Thomas](#)

*Prevention Officer South West*

The Children's Society

**Please submit any information to Jackie ASAP by end of November.**

[South West Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust \(SWASFT\) Review - Mandy Cooke, Independent Reviewer](#)

I have been tasked with undertaking an independent review of the safeguarding service delivered by South West Ambulance NHS Foundation Trust (SWASFT). I have presented my initial findings to the lead Director and my view is that the current processes for managing referrals from SWASFT to yourselves and other agents and the quality of these referrals needs to change. I am therefore looking at this next stage of the review, to better understand what these processes could look like and how this would and should be integrated, communicated and agreed with Local Authorities.

To this end I am seeking a conversation with like-minded individuals who would be prepared to engage with me from each of your organisations so that I can start to look at potential options. Going forward, there will be increasing opportunities to meet with the lead Director for overseeing this Safeguarding improvement plan and more work is required to develop the paper that will need to be signed off by the Board but on behalf of the team, I wanted to say we are committed to making some changes to improve this service and we would welcome your input to help us on this journey and shape it.

Please do get back to me so we can agree a time to have a Teams call with you as individuals if you have any views. That also includes issues that you have faced with SWASFT that you would like to see improved on.

[Mandy Cooke](#)

Independent Reviewer

**Please submit any information to Mandy by 22nd December.**

[Sextortion: Help us to empower young people - Alison Jenkinson, Avon and Somerset Constabulary](#)

**Help us to empower young people and halt the rise in sextortion cases, by sharing our campaign messaging**

Last year alone, more than 720 people were blackmailed or bribed in Avon and Somerset through sextortion.

Sextortion is when someone threatens to share sexual images or videos of you, unless you do something for them - like sharing more photos or paying a sum of money.

This type of crime is sadly becoming more and more common, we've seen a repeated 40 per cent increase in reports each year, over the last two years.

It can happen to anyone, but young males are a particular target for criminals - over 50 per cent of victims coming forward are males under 29 years old.

We want to make it harder for perpetrators to commit this devastating crime and to encourage those who are affected to come forward for help. Please watch and share this video on your channels and with your audiences, to help more people understand the risks involved when sharing sexual images and videos.

[Don't Panic! Don't Pay! Don't Communicate! - YouTube](#)

We also have a shortened version that can be [downloaded from Vimeo](#), and added to TikTok or Snapchat accounts, with the hashtag #ASPsextortion, so we can trace its use.

You can also find it on our channels below, if you're able to share or repost:

[Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), [YouTube short](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Miranda, Comms Officer at [Miranda.butcher@avonandsomerset.police.uk](mailto:Miranda.butcher@avonandsomerset.police.uk)

More information here: [Sextortion campaign to empower people, aiming to halt the rise in cases | Avon and Somerset Police](#)

## Updates

### Children's Partnership Newsletter

For those who are also part of the Children' Partnership Board, please keep a look out for their newsletter, which will be circulated shortly.



### New Acute Hospital Safeguarding Leadership Pilot - *Susan Bourne, NBT*

We are commencing a new joint safeguarding senior leadership model across North Bristol Trust and University Hospitals Bristol & Weston.

From 1st December I will be moving into the role of Director of Safeguarding and Claire Foster into the role of Associate Director of Safeguarding across both organisations, for a trial period. This period will allow us to assess how the model works for our acute hospital services across the whole of BNSSG.

Representation at the Board and Partnership meetings (inc. subgroups), MARAC, and PREVENT arrangements, will remain as currently stand for the immediate time, but will be reviewed in the very near future.

Any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch, as always.

Kindest regards,

Susan Bourne

Associate Director of Safeguarding

Integrated Safeguarding Team

Email: [Susan.bourne@nbt.nhs.uk](mailto:Susan.bourne@nbt.nhs.uk)

*DBS Checks - Damian Bright, DBS Unit*

We have continued to make good progress. We currently have approximately 5,000 outstanding DBS applications. We are currently working on applications received 19-days ago. This includes home-based checks

## Resources

[From the Home Office and Police - Support in place via the Victims of Terrorism Unit](#)  
**Support for those impacted by the conflict between Israel and Hamas - Letter**

<https://www.apccs.police.uk/media/9055/home-office-victims-of-terrorism-unit-vtu-letter-to-pccs-october-2023.pdf>

**Support for people affected by terrorist attacks overseas - Leaflet**

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/support-for-people-affected-by-terrorist-attacks-overseas>



# Home Office

## [Establishing modern slavery risk assessment and due diligence in Adult Social Care: A commissioning officer's guide](#)

This guide is aimed at commissioning officers and managers within local authority adult social care teams. It provides advice on how to set up effective local systems to identify and manage the risks of modern slavery in adult social care. As you will see, you will need to establish effective ways of communicating your plans both to other internal stakeholders, including both those more senior and more junior to you within your local authority, and to appropriate representatives from external organisations including any providers that you have who deliver or supervise care on your behalf.

<https://www.local.gov.uk/sites/default/files/documents/Establishing-modern-slavery-risk-assessment-and-due-diligence-in-adult-social-care-a-commissioning-officers-guide.pdf>

## [Unseen App - Guidance for Modern Slavery](#)

The Unseen app provides a simple guide to recognising the signs of modern slavery and human trafficking and is a channel to report concerns in confidence.

There is also a guide to types of modern slavery, an outline of key legislation, and an explanation of how to contact the Modern Slavery & Exploitation Helpline in 27 languages. This latter feature is useful for frontline professionals to communicate with people they suspect are victims of exploitation and who do not have good command of English.

The app is on the phones of thousands of frontline professionals across the UK and is recommended by senior police officers and anti-slavery experts as an important tool in identifying and reporting human trafficking and modern slavery.

It has been developed by Bath-based digital agency Storm.

You can download the app:

- at [www.unseenuk.org/about-modern-slavery/download-the-app](http://www.unseenuk.org/about-modern-slavery/download-the-app)
- by searching "UnseenUK" on your app provider or browser.
- by scanning the QR code to the right



### StreetSafe

StreetSafe is a service that allows you to report safety concerns in public places without giving us your name (anonymously). This includes issues like poorly lit streets, abandoned buildings, or vandalism, as well as instances where you feel unsafe due to someone following or verbally abusing you.

<https://www.police.uk/pu/notices/streetsafe/street-safe/>

