



North Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board

[Adult Safeguarding Board | Adult Safeguarding Board](#)

January 2025 Issue 01

What we need from you:

We would love to hear from you.

What would you like to see in these newsletters?

Practice Issues/ good multi-agency safeguarding work? Key safeguarding topics? Learning from SARs?

We would also like to be able to promote and share non-urgent items here.

Is there anything you would like to see at the board meetings? Would your organisation be able to present what they do?

Please email: SABmanager@n-somerset.gov.uk

Welcome to the first edition of our safeguarding adult's newsletter for 2025. Please share widely within your organisation. This and previous newsletters are available on the NSSAB website.

Introductions

Liz Langson NSSAB Board Manager:



I thought I would start the new newsletter off by introducing myself, for those that don't know me. I am a social worker by background and after 10 years of frontline practice, in mental health and safeguarding I took the role of the NSSAB Board Manager on a part time basis. I still practice as a social worker and do independent work where some of you may see me with my other hats on. I am also a wife and a mum of 3 girls, 3 cats and a dog who keep me on my toes daily! When I am not working or mummying I am swimming/ dunking myself in cold water!

Training and Learning opportunities

Domestic Abuse Training:

Safer Stronger North Somerset

FREE domestic abuse training for local health and social care professionals in North Somerset

Providing a basic awareness and understanding of how domestic abuse presents, how to safely enquire and the best ways to support victims and survivors to obtain help.

This training is free for professionals working for an organisation, which operates in North Somerset and is kindly hosted by Somerset County Council (a fee applies for organisations outside North Somerset).

To register for the online suite of training modules, visit: <https://practitioners.somersetdomesticabuse.org.uk/>

Further information and support can be found on our website: <https://saferstrongerns.co.uk/information-advice/domestic-abuse>

Or contact Hannah Gray, Domestic Abuse & VAWG Lead, North Somerset Council: hannah.gray@n-somerset.gov.uk

Anyone interested in completing the training will simply need to follow the link in the attached flyer to sign up using their professional email. You are also welcome to sign up too!

<https://saferstrongerns.co.uk/sites/default/files/2025-01/free%20domestic%20abuse%20training.pdf>

- [book Thursday 13 Feb 2025](#)
- [book Thursday 13 March 2025](#)
- [book Wednesday 2 April 2025](#)
- [book Thursday 3 June 2025](#)

Hannah Gray Community Safety Partnership.

Following a DHR (still awaiting Home Office sign off), we recently launched a new toolkit, which is available on the updated Safer Stronger North Somerset website and have also distributed posters across the area, targeting places like gyms and places where people socialise.

[32609 Stay safe with online dating branding toolkit.indd](#)

[SS Homepage | North Somerset Council](#)

NSSAB Subgroups

What we are doing behind the scenes...

SAR Committee:

We have just commissioned a Lead Reviewer, Stella Smith who comes with a great background in adults services. Stella will be working with us over the next 6 months to complete a statutory SAR. The themes in this SAR look at suicide in a care home, exploitation and cuckooing. We will be working closely with Stella to embed learning across the area and raise aware of these issues.

Learning and Development:

Knowledge and skills framework continues to be worked on. Plans to start bite size learning around SAR's themes are being discussed and designed.

Policy and Procedures:

Jo Hopkins Principal OT at NSC has taken on the role to chair this group. She has been supported by Gavin Hutchinson from NSC who has been working very hard with this group to review and refresh all policies.

Quality and Performance:

Reviewed the SAC data Looking at a work plan that is effective and productive

Communication and Community engagement working group:

Leaflets and community promotion
Safeguarding referral forms and new public and professional forms
Website redesign

Free training: Providing support to fraud and scam victims

The National Trading Standards (NTS) scams team have 2 training dates left. The training is based on best practice, research, expertise and ideas from members of the NTS scams team's coercive control: supporting scam victims taskforce. There are similarities between domestic abuse victims and fraud and scam victims, and the training will demonstrate how we can use the parallels between the groups to support victims. You can book a session using the links below: [Friday 31 January 10.30am to midday](#) and [Monday 3 February 1.30pm to 3pm](#).

Children's Partnership: Free adolescent safety framework training sessions

<https://nsscp.co.uk/free-adolescent-safety-framework-training-sessions>

FREE ADOLESCENT SAFETY FRAMEWORK TRAINING SESSIONS

Workshop dates:
16th January, Vision WSM
Book Thursday 16th January 2025 9:30-12:30
6th Feb, Venue TBC
Book Thursday 6th February 2025 9:30-12:30
20th March, Castle Batch Children's Centre
Book Thursday 20th March 2025 1:30-4:30
12th June, Castle Batch Children's Centre
Book Thursday 12th June 2025 1:30-4:30

You will:
Develop an understanding of young people's experiences of significant harm beyond their families and how to respond - contextual safeguarding.
Understand the new ASF framework including:
• the underpinning theoretical approach
• the model of multi-agency coordination
• the pathway for the assessment of need and provision of help
• the toolkit for professionals.
Identify and champion your role and responsibilities in changing culture and practice for children and young people in North Somerset.

A North Somerset Safeguarding Partnership initiative to:
1. Understand the experiences of children and young people.
2. Improve the quality of co-ordinated and consistent multi-agency safety planning when children are experiencing harm outside the home.
3. Identify children and young people early to increase safety, build on strengths and enable pro-social identity development.
4. Ensure evidence-informed and consistent multi-agency interventions.
5. Understand strategic and operational issues affecting children and young people at risk outside their home.

Partners: Avon and Somerset Police, North Somerset Council, Healthier Together, Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Integrated Care Board, NHS.

Stop Adult Abuse Week links:

Celebrating 10 Years
Stop Adult Abuse Week
18-22 November 2024

Logos: North Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board, NSAB, BCSPP, Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board, Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership.

Webinars available here if you missed it: [Stop adult abuse week | Adult Safeguarding Board](#)

NSC Public Health Training:

Public Health offer free mental health related training for people working or volunteering in North Somerset. The training is funded by North Somerset Council Public Health.



<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/public-mental-health-training-team-26311555585>

NSSAB December 2024 Board overview

Lynn Trigg North Somerset Council, Homeless Prevention Team Manager, Adult Social Services who is new to the NSSAB as a member presented the below presentation to us on rough sleeping and the work that her team does. This was a brilliant presentation and given the Ministerial Letter that all Safeguarding Boards received last year it gave us all a good overview. There are also some links here which were shared and valuable to hold.



Rough Sleeping in
North Somerset (2).pdf

Useful Links:

[Street Link - Connecting people sleeping rough to local services](#)

www.Billychip.com

Claire Kidley North Somerset Council Multi Agency Risk Management (MARM) Coordinator presented an update on MARM. A big thanks to Claire on behalf of all partners were given to her, for her work on developing and implementing the MARM so professionally and effectively.



11.12.2024 - Second
MARM Presentation t

Luke Gribble Avon and Somerset Police, Right Care Right Person presented an update.



Right Care Right
Person Adult safeguar

Please see the below link which has been shared with us which is a National evaluation of RCRP. Please do take the time to complete this if you can.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/evaluating-the-implementation-of-right-care-right-person/right-care-right-person>

North Somerset Council: Care Quality Commission initial feedback

2.5 days on site, 8 inspectors, 12 group interviews, 13 single interviews (4 councillors, leaders and our independent chair Teresa Bell) , 111 NSC employees attended (70 for structured interviews, 28 for drop-in sessions and 13 for single interviews), 6 experts by experience attended, various partners and providers interviewed before and after the visit

NSC received high-level feedback from CQC, and they expect the full report and rating to be given in February 2025. After the report is received, NSC will have 10 days to check the factual accuracy. The final report to be published March/April time

A big thank you to partners for engaging with the CQC and the support through this period.

NSSAB meet every quarter, March, June, September and December. We will use these Newsletters to share with everyone what we talk about.

A reminder that the NSSAB meetings are a dedicated opportunity for you to: Attend a multi-agency meeting focusing only on safeguarding adults; Build valuable relationships in your local area; Get lots of information to not only support your own safeguarding practice, but to share with your teams and colleagues too; and ask questions or share experiences in a supportive forum

March 2025 Board speakers:

Cygnets Hospital: Phil Winterbottom and Josh Tapp - *An insight into who they work with and the level of risk they manage.* AWP: Phil Wiltshire - your team your conversation your plan.

Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)

A Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is an in-depth multi-agency review of a case where an adult at risk (with care and support needs) has died or come to serious harm, because of a safeguarding issue, and where it appears the agencies involved could have worked together better.

A SAR is commissioned by the Safeguarding Adults Board. It is very different to a s42 enquiry.

A SAR is about learning lessons and preventing the same thing from happening again. It is not an investigation; it does not apportion blame.



Please see below the link to a Practice Briefing from a SAR commissioned by Somerset SAB. This is a great resource with good learning. It is a chance to reflect on key issues of **Older Adult Domestic Abuse and the complexities around adult children abusing parents**. The tool allows you to consider, together with your team/s, how you can challenge your own thinking and practice in order to continuously learn and develop and work together to improve outcomes for adults.

[Practice-Briefing-Safeguarding-Adults-Review-Family-W.pdf](#)

[Safeguarding Adults Review: Family W 2024.](#)

Practice Example of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Work:

Recently the council responded to a safeguarding adults concern that was initially raised by police, following a person raising multiple allegations of sexual assault. Each allegation related to similar circumstances and areas. Police raised concern around the individual's mental health following a police video interview. A safeguarding adults concern was also raised by North Somerset Housing who were worried about this person being homeless and not engaging. Again, they were concerned that the person was displaying mental health symptoms but was not in receipt of support.

The safeguarding response ensured strong multi-agency collaboration. Despite having discharged their legal duties, the homelessness team have continued to provide emergency accommodation in recognition that the provision of stable housing was a foundation for this person to take the first steps in engaging with statutory services.

Efforts were made by AWP to address mental health concerns, allowing additional time for the individual to engage in and complete assessments. Both PLCS and Early Intervention (EI) Team (mental health services) attended safeguarding meetings, before assessing and determining eligibility. EI identified a significant difference between their initial assessment and PCLS's assessment. As well as considering the safeguarding concerns, this has prompted EI to complete a second assessment and consideration of alternative secondary mental health support pathways.

Police are looking at a trigger plan for this individual which will be shared across the force, this will look at how the police respond when dealing with similar allegations. Safe Link have remained engaged to support the individual with the allegations, despite their lack of active participation, ensuring opportunities for future engagement were maintained.

The safeguarding response has ensured that all relevant information has been shared across the involved agencies, enabling decisions to be made based on the 'whole picture' which has resulted in services going the extra mile to support this person in the context of their limited ability to engage alongside their well-expressed wish to undergo proper assessment and achieve stable housing.

Thank you so much to Zoe Bennett (NSC ASC Safeguarding), Naomi Gourlay (AWP), Rosy Whitfield (NSC Housing) and Amanda Johnson (A&S police) what a great example of what can be achieved for people when key services work together!

