



Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter

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News from TSAB

Since our last newsletter, TSAB has met virtually on 13th December. Minutes are published on the [TSAB Website](#) retrospectively following sign-off at the next meeting.

Agenda highlights included:

- Sign off and presentation from the Independent Author of the Bernadette Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Report highlighting the learning across Tees as well as best practice
- Overview from the Board's Performance and Quality Sub-Group on the Quarter 2 Performance Report 2023/24
- An update on the Missing from Home approach from Cleveland Police
- An update on the Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV) Inspection Framework

Documents:

Refreshed:

- ✓ [Multi-Disciplinary Team Guidance](#)
- ✓ [Self-Neglect – 7 Minute Guides \(Short Guidance for Practitioners\)](#)

For Awareness:

- ✓ [Child to Parent Violence and Abuse Pathway / Screening Tool](#)
- ✓ [NEW: DHSC—Pressure Ulcers: How to Safeguard Adults](#)

Reporting Abuse

If you need to report a Safeguarding Concern, please visit our dedicated [How to Report Abuse Page](#) on the TSAB website. The page hosts the TSAB Concern Form which should be completed and submitted to the relevant local Adult social care service or alternatively you can contact them by using the contact numbers listed on the page. Training examples are also available for use.

As a reminder you should report abuse when:

- The adult has **needs for care and support** (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs)
- **And is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect**

THERE ARE MANY SIGNS OF ADULT ABUSE, DO YOU KNOW HOW TO RECOGNISE THEM?

See it, report it!
If you suspect a neighbour, friend or family member is being neglected or abused, or you need help yourself.

Call your local Adult Social Care team:

Hartlepool	01429 523 390
Middlesbrough	01642 065 070
Redcar & Cleveland	01642 771 500
Stockton-on-Tees	01642 527 764
Evenings & Weekends	01642 524 552

Call Cleveland Police 101 or 999 in an emergency

visit our website 

www.tsab.org.uk

 Network Safeguarding Adults Board

Changes to our e-learning system - Important information for all users

On **1st April 2024** our e-learning provider (Me-Learning) are upgrading the system that we use for our e-learning courses. The new system will be more secure, more accessible and will work more efficiently when accessed on tablets or mobiles.

In preparation for the change all users will need to ensure that they have completed any unfinished courses and that they have downloaded any certificates that they require.

After 31st March users will no longer have access to the existing system.

Further communication on how to register on the new system will be available closer to the time.

Training Courses 2024/25

Our Training plan is being refreshed and developed for 2024-2025 and new dates will be advertised soon. To view and request a place on any of our current training courses please visit our [Training Courses and Events page](#)



Good News Story

In November 2023 Thirteen Housing Group were shortlisted for the Innovation Champions award at the National Safeguarding Adult Board Excellence Awards. The award recognises where someone/team has been creative and set new ways of working with adults at risk. We are delighted to announce that they were winners!

Developed and delivered by colleagues within Thirteen, learning experiences were set up in some of Thirteen's empty properties, with scenarios about self-neglect and domestic abuse to help colleagues identify signs and record safeguarding concerns that they might see when visiting people's homes. Scenes within the properties were created to be as realistic as possible.

Feedback from colleagues included: "The training was brilliant, as it was interactive and true to life of situations often encountered."

To date over 900 delegates both internal and external have taken part.

Congratulations to everyone involved!



Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Reports

We have recently published the [Bernadette SAR Report, Learning Briefing & Recorded PowerPoint](#)

Bernadette

Bernadette was 32 years old and lived with her male partner. She had diabetes, depression and a history of drug and alcohol misuse. She was known to a number of agencies but her engagement with services was inconsistent. Bernadette had also been identified as a victim of Domestic Abuse and had previously been subject of Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC).

Bernadette had contact with health services on a number of occasions, including A&E. On the day before her death, she presented to acute services with injuries, but left prior to examination – she was deemed to have mental capacity with respect to this decision.

This SAR looks at how services worked together to support Bernadette and highlighted the following themes:

- Professional curiosity
- Mental capacity and considering executive capacity
- Consent to share information and when professionals can reasonably override the lack of consent
- Recognising Self-Neglect and using the Section 42 (Safeguarding) Framework
- Understanding the Drug and Alcohol Related Death process

Organisations are encouraged to read the SAR Report and Learning Briefing and use the Power Point Presentation to consider and apply the learning to their own practice.



#CreatingALearningCulture



SAR Training Resources

Following the publication of the [James and SK SAR Reports and Learning Briefings](#) that we highlighted in our November 2023 Newsletter, [Recorded PowerPoint Presentations](#) have now been published. The presentations provide an overview of the SARs along with the key themes and recommendations made.

Diabetes and the links to Safeguarding Adult Reviews

Research conducted by TSAB and other North East Local Authorities has identified that a number of SARs involve individuals who have/had diabetes. The North East SAR Champions hosted a Diabetes awareness session linked to SARs, as part of National Safeguarding Adults Week (NSAW) in November 2023.

The session provided a valuable insight and highlighted:

- ✓ An overview of what Diabetes is/ who gets it and why.
- ✓ How the condition is managed.
- ✓ Challenges for people who are diagnosed.
- ✓ How it can present and manifest if not managed appropriately (i.e. links to self-neglect, alcohol or substance misuse, mental health issues, trauma and constraints to lifestyle.
- ✓ How practitioners can support and the pathways available.

The recorded [Diabetes and the links to SARs](#) session is available to view now.

Spotlight on Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence

Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence Awareness Week falls between 5th - 11th February 2024. The week provides an opportunity for organisations to raise awareness of Sexual Abuse and Sexual Violence and the support that is available.



What is Sexual Abuse?

Sexual abuse is any contact or non-contact sexual activity that happens without consent or understanding, or with forced consent. Sexual abuse includes and is not limited to:

- Rape, attempted rape or sexual assault / Date Rape
- Sexual photography or forced use of pornography or witnessing of sexual acts
- Involvement in pornography without consent
- Inappropriate touching
- Sexual harassment
- Sharing intimate images without consent – known as Revenge Porn
- Indecent exposure
- Any sexual activity that the person lacks the capacity to consent to

Any sexual act or contact that makes someone feel uncomfortable, afraid, or intimidated could fall in the category of sexual abuse. The person being exploited may believe their abuser is their friend, boyfriend or girlfriend.

Spotting the Signs of Sexual Abuse

- Unexpected or unexplained changes in behaviour
- Bruising or injury particularly to the thighs, buttocks, upper arms or marks on their neck
- Sexually transmitted diseases, urinary tract infections (UTI)
- Self-harming
- Poor concentration, withdrawal, sleep disturbance
- Excessive fear/apprehension of, or withdrawal from relationships
- Fear of receiving help with personal care
- Reluctance to be alone with a particular person
- Pregnancy in a woman who is unable to consent to sexual intercourse
- Bleeding, pain or itching in the genital area



In Teesside, there are specialist services available to support those who have experienced Sexual Abuse and Violence; follow the links for more information.

[Arch Teesside](#) is a specialist sexual violence service offering free and confidential support, help and advocacy to people in the Teesside area who have experienced rape and sexual abuse, at any point in their lives, whether they have reported to the police or not.

[Teesside SARC](#) offers a comprehensive service for adults living in Teesside, who have experienced sexual violence or sexual abuse. They can access The Teesside SARC via the Police and other professionals, as well as via the self-referral pathway (booking an appointment at the SARC, without Police involvement). At the SARC, individuals will be offered support and guidance, a medical assessment/treatment, a forensic examination, and the opportunity of aftercare referrals for support services.

[A Way Out](#) are a specialist service supporting women and young people who have experienced sexual abuse and sexual exploitation.

Support is also available from Domestic Abuse services including [Harbour](#), [My Sisters Place](#), [Eva](#), and [Halo](#).

Spotlight on ARCH Teesside

ARCH Teesside is a specialist sexual violence service offering free and confidential support, help and advocacy to people in the Teesside area who have experienced rape and sexual abuse, at any point in their lives. They have been supporting survivors of sexual violence for over 26 years, with the expansion and development of services to ensure that all survivors of sexual violence have support as and when they need it.



Alongside their core services of advocacy support through the criminal justice system and counselling, pre-trial therapy and play therapy, they also provide support for parents and caregivers through The Light Project. The Light Project is a mix of 1:1 and group work to support parents and caregivers to help support any parents of children and young people accessing the service.

As well as campaigning, training and challenging myths, stereotypes and rape culture on a regular basis, their work has also seen them developing a prevention programme. The ARCH-ED Prevention Programme is based on research undertaken to ensure children and young people have awareness and information about important issues such as consent, healthy relationships, pornography and the digital world.

Recently in partnership with Youth Focus and Teesside Mind they launched Hope For Change, a project working with women aged between 16-25 who want to have their voices heard around barriers to mental health support.

You do not need to report to police to access ARCH services.

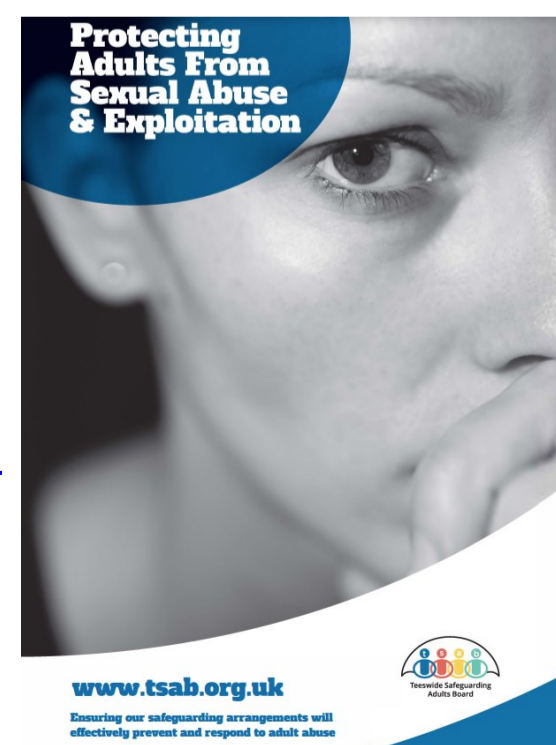
Referrals can be made via the [Arch Website](#), select from the 'Get Help' dropdown option either Professional Referral or Self Referral.

ARCH are a victim focused organisation and as such they do not accept referrals for anyone who is subject to an ongoing police investigation for sexual, domestic, or violent offences, or for anyone who may pose a risk of harm to others.”



How to get involved with the campaign:

- ✓ Print, and display [TSAB's Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation Leaflet](#) to share with colleagues and members of the public. (Also available in [Vietnamese](#))
- ✓ Read and share [TSAB's Adult Sexual Exploitation Practitioners Toolkit](#)
- ✓ Find out more about the specialist services in your area and strengthen your links with these professionals
- ✓ Share TSAB's social media posts during the week on Facebook/ X – @TeeswideSAB
- ✓ Raise awareness within your communities and networks
- ✓ Strengthen your own understanding of [Sexual Abuse and Sexual Exploitation](#) (you could complete some of our [e-learning](#))
- ✓ Our Learning from SARs Adult Sexual Exploitation Briefing will be launching on Tuesday 6th February. Visit our [Learning Briefings webpage](#) to access this



Dates for the Diary (Click on the Important Dates image for more information)

- ✓ **Sexual Abuse & Sexual Violence Awareness Week** - 5-11th February 2024
- ✓ **Deaf Awareness Week** - 1-7 May 2024



TSAB Annual Consultation Survey 2023-24

Thank you to all professionals, service users and the general public across Tees who have given their views to help us to inform the Board's future safeguarding priorities across the next 12 months. The results are now being analysed and a further update will be provided in our May 2024 Newsletter.

National Safeguarding Adults Week 2023



A huge thank you to everyone who took part in National Safeguarding Adults Week in November 2023. The campaign was an incredible success due to the hard work, commitment and engagement from partner agencies.

The Board will be planning activity for National Safeguarding Adults Week 2024 and arranging a dedicated Task & Finish Group in the summer months. If you would like to be involved please contact: tsab.businessunit@stockton.gov.uk

Safeguarding Children Partnerships Information

[Hartlepool & Stockton-On-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter](#)

[South Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter](#)

Find Support in Your Area

The Board's website also sets out relevant [support services](#) by type of abuse and by each individual Borough across Tees. If you think someone with care & support needs is neglecting themselves you can contact your [Local Authority](#) or for hoarding matters your Environmental Health Office for advice. The list is not intended to be a definitive source of Information for all Service Providers.



Social Media and Website

We aim to share key messages from official sources via our social media channels as well as other communications.



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