



Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter



[Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board](#) is a multi-agency partnership providing strategic leadership for adult safeguarding across the City of Sunderland to promote the welfare of adults at risk of abuse and neglect, and is responsible for ensuring the effectiveness of what partner agencies do to support this. Follow us on Twitter: @SunderlandSAB

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Who Should Read this Newsletter?

Everyone with an interest in safeguarding adults, enabling them to live their lives free from abuse and neglect, to access and receive appropriate care. We hope this newsletter is a useful resource for you to receive information regarding safeguarding adults, keeping you up-to-date, sharing good practice and important information. Please feel free to share this newsletter across your organisation.

Safeguarding Learning Week 2023

Monday 20th November - Friday 24th November

How you can prioritise the welfare and wellbeing of yourself and others?

To coincide with National Safeguarding Week, Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) and Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) are hosting a week-long event which we aim to be a celebration of all we do in Sunderland to support our own and our colleagues' wellbeing when working in safeguarding.

The week will address the following themes:

- Our Role in Safeguarding
- Leading on Safeguarding in our Organisations
- Secondary and Vicarious Trauma
- Adopting a Trauma Informed approach to Safeguarding
- Co-Production with Experts by Experience

We are using the week to celebrate good practice and champion some of the fantastic work already underway in this area, learning from our strengths.

During the week we will be making available learning resources and promoting local and regional training sessions linked to the daily themes. We will be releasing further learning opportunities, both locally and regionally, closer to the week. Please follow our social media channels for updates: @sunderlandSCP @SunderlandSAB

#SafeguardingSunderlandTogether

Based on the response to Safeguarding Learning Week 2022, we expect some sessions will become fully booked quickly. We will be implementing a waiting list on all sessions but please be aware that space on some sessions will be limited. If you are unsure you will be able to attend, please cancel your booking so another can attend in your place.

We will be welcoming and promoting any external activity relating to this topic during the week, so if your service wish to hold an event or have learning to share please let us know. We look forward to spending time with you all in November! #safeguardingsunderlandtogether

Note: We have carefully chosen venues for the week but some may have limited parking due to the events on offer. Please ensure you plan your journey accordingly.

Visit the SSCP website to learn more, view the timetable & book places: [Sunderland Safeguarding Learning Week 2023](#)

Domestic Abuse Routine Enquiry (DARE) - Free Training

Hampton Trust has been working with domestic abuse perpetrators for over 26 years. As an organisation, they have been advocating for early perpetrator interventions for many years. They are therefore pleased to be working with Northumbria Office of the Police & Crime Commissioner (OPCC) to provide their Domestic Abuse Routine Enquiry (**DARE**) toolkit training to frontline professionals across Northumberland, North Tyneside, Newcastle, Gateshead, South Tyneside, and Sunderland.

What is DARE?

The Domestic Abuse Routine Enquiry (**DARE**) toolkit training has a perpetrator focus as and aims to provide a wide range of multi-agency professionals with the tools they need to **identify, explore** and **engage** domestic abuse perpetrators so they can be successfully referred on to specialist local services.

The **DARE** toolkit training is CPD accredited and consists of three compulsory half-day workshops over a three-week period.

The core modules include:

Week 1 - How to identify domestic abuse perpetrators.

Week 2 - How to explore risks & context associated with domestic abuse perpetrators.

Week 3 - How to engage domestic abuse perpetrators and nudge them into specialist services.

The **DARE** Toolkit training does not require professionals to deliver in-depth specialist work with domestic abuse perpetrators, rather it encourages a wider community response in which all agencies share responsibility for identifying those who harm within their client groups, opening up conversations about their abusive behaviours and creating opportunities to refer these clients to the right intervention at the right time.

Are There Any Eligibility Requirements?

To be eligible for this fully funded training, you will need to have:

1. Attended a Domestic Abuse Basic Awareness course of at least 3 hours duration.
2. Experience of working in/delivering frontline services in the statutory or voluntary sector.

3. The permission of your line manager to attend the training.

Why should you become DARE aware?

There is a clear identified need for perpetrators to be identified much sooner and before their behaviour escalates into the most serious harm. Many frontline staff tell Hampton Trust that they don't have the skills, tools, or confidence to start a conversation with someone they suspect may be harming a partner or ex-partner. Staff working in a variety of multi-agency settings, if given the right training, can start to play a role in helping make perpetrators more visible and supporting them to access the right help and support at the right time.

DARE was originally funded by the Home Office in 2021 and successfully piloted in Hampshire with more than 400 professionals across various frontline services receiving the training. An independent evaluation of the training undertaken by the University of Southampton, concluded:

'Through the engaging format of the training, participants learn strategies, techniques, and tools which they can incorporate into their practice, as well as the information needed to provide appropriate support, signposting, and referrals. The result is trainees' increased confidence and ability to approach conversations around Domestic Abuse more constructively.'

Full details about the training, the [evaluation](#), the [DARE webinar](#), and the toolkit are available at www.daretoolkit.org.uk.

How do I get on this training?

To reserve your free space please confirm your availability with your line manager **for all 3 sessions of the course**, select a date from the following links and fill in the online booking form:

Training Dates:

- Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th November: 9am - 12.30pm [Booking Form](#)
- Tuesday 5th, 12th, 19th December: 9am - 12.30pm [Booking Form](#)
- Thursday 4th, 11th, 18th January: 9am - 12.30pm [Booking Form](#)

Please note, dates and training numbers need to be confirmed by Hampton Trust before your place is accepted. You may have to wait up to two weeks before you receive an email confirmation so please hold the dates in your diary until this happens.

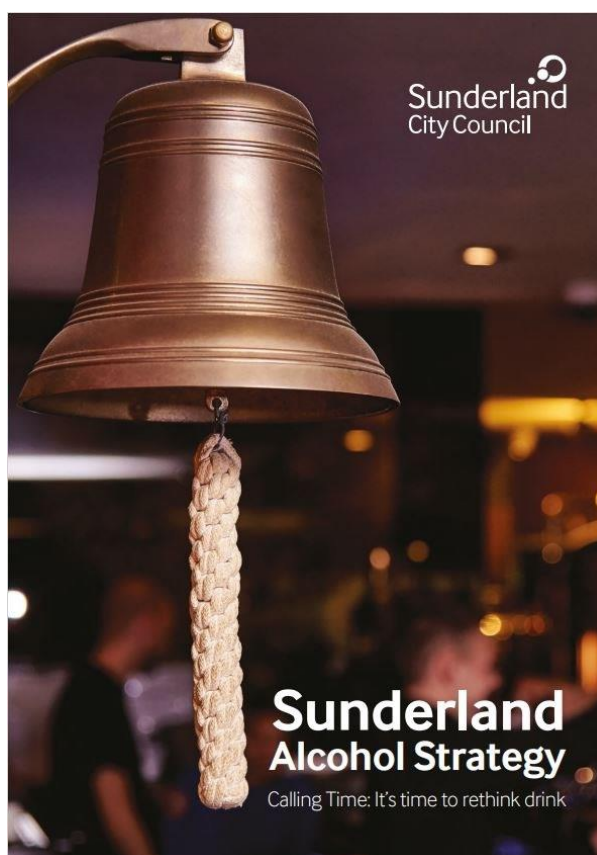
By filling in a booking form you are also consenting to your details being shared with your line manager, the funder (Northumbria OPCC) and the Local Authority training lead to ensure that places are allocated fairly.

What to expect

Once your place has been confirmed, you will be sent instructions on how to join the training. The training can be accessed anywhere as it is delivered online via Zoom.

After completing a short post training survey, you will be posted a **DARE** Toolkit, this provides a recap of the training and effective tools to identify and understand perpetrators of domestic abuse, and how to motivate them to get help.

Sunderland Drug and Alcohol Partnership Alcohol Strategy



The Sunderland Drug and Alcohol Partnership are delighted to announce the launch of their Alcohol Strategy - Calling Time: It's Time to Rethink Drink, which is now live on the Sunderland City Council webpage: <http://www.sunderland.gov.uk/calling-time>.

The Sunderland Drug and Alcohol Partnership, which is made up of [Sunderland City Council](#), [Northumbria Police](#), [South Tyneside and Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust](#), people with lived experience, [Wear Recovery](#), [NERAF](#) (Northern Engagement into Recovery from Addiction) and other partners, have co-produced this strategy which outlines a collaborative approach to reduce alcohol related harms in our communities.

The new strategy, Calling Time: It's Time to Rethink Drink, focuses on prevention, helping people who drink moderately to cut down, alongside ensuring the provision of quality treatment and recovery services for those who require advice on reducing alcohol consumption and more specialist support.



1 - L - R: Cllr. Kelly Chequer, Kieron Brady, Julie Parker-Walton

Former Sunderland footballer Kieron Brady has shared how alcohol impacted his life. “The true cost of alcohol goes beyond currency,” he said. “Alcoholism was en route to killing me, it was proving destructive and debilitating in the months and years before I stopped. The symptoms of the illness were extreme, but the consequences of the consumption were every bit as chaotic.”

Kieron explained how quitting drinking altogether has been transformational for him. He said: “The benefits of sobriety have been endless and still emerge to this day, more than 14 years after I had my last drink. I was mentally fettered to the idea that life without alcohol held no meaning. I now feel free - my mental health restored, and I have peace of mind. Sobriety is not merely about not drinking but altering the toxic mindset that was so prominent and recovering having gone through a wonderful, and necessary, transformation.”

He also shared some tips for anyone worried about their own alcohol use, adding: “I sought help from those similarly afflicted, I grew willing to listen and to replicate what they had done and have reaped the rewards ever since, including being positioned to advise and assist hundreds of people with a toxic relationship with alcohol”.

“I would encourage anyone who is worried about their drinking to ask themselves why they drink in the manner they do, as this may represent underlying problems which may be unlikely to improve without external support.”

The Chief Medical Officer recommends no more than 14 units of alcohol a week, spread across 3 days or more. There’s no completely safe level of drinking but sticking within these guidelines lowers your risk of harming your health. Find out more about units at www.reduceyourrisk.tv

Transitional Safeguarding: A Knowledge Briefing for Health Professionals

research
in practice

Transitional Safeguarding: A Knowledge Briefing for Health Professionals



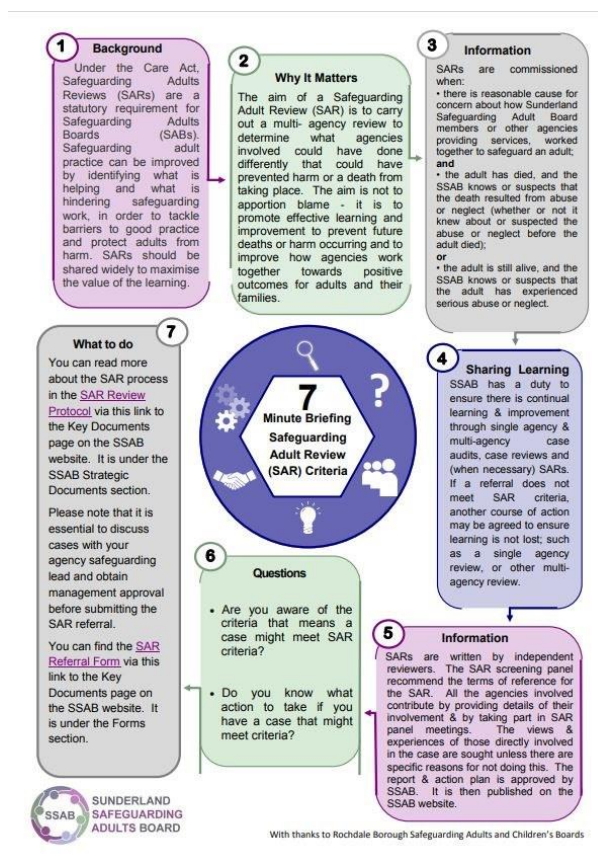
The publication *Transitional Safeguarding: A Knowledge Briefing for Health Professionals*, co-authored by Philip Winterbottom, Sarah Cerioli and Melanie Hayward, is aimed at health professionals involved in safeguarding children and young adults accessing healthcare - from practitioners and managers through to commissioners, strategic leaders, and others with accountability for safeguarding in health services. It will also be useful for those who don't usually work with young people and/or young adults directly, but provide care or support to their family members or carers.

The briefing draws on evidence from research and practice to describe:

- What transitional safeguarding is
- Why transitional safeguarding is needed
- How the adoption of transitional safeguarding across health is key to developing a truly person-centred approach to safeguarding young people into adulthood
- What you can do - as a practitioner, supervising manager, senior manager, or board member to help implement and embed transitional safeguarding.

The briefing, published 18th October 2023, is available by following this [link](#).

Focus On: Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs)



2 - Click [here](#) to download

In accordance with Section 44 of the Care Act (2014), a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) must arrange a SAR of a case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting those needs) if:

- There is concern that partner agencies could have worked together more effectively to protect the adult, **and**;
- The adult has died and the SAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not it knew about or suspected the abuse or neglect before the adult died), **or**;
- The adult is alive, and the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect. (*Note: Also included within the definitions of abuse and neglect are self-neglect and self-abuse.*)

In the context of SARs, something can be considered serious abuse or neglect where, for example the individual would have been likely to have died but for an intervention or has suffered permanent harm or has reduced capacity or quality of life (whether because of physical or psychological effects) as a result of the abuse or neglect. In such cases, section 42 enquiries into what happened to the person may still need to take place in parallel, to ensure the person's immediate safety and the safety of any others who may be at risk but should be limited to those purposes rather than duplicating more thorough investigations into the history which may take place through a SAR.

The purpose of having a SAR is not to reinvestigate or to apportion blame; any evidence of professional negligence would be dealt with through appropriate routes such as disciplinary procedures in the relevant agency.

A SAR is not an enquiry into how an Adult at Risk has died or who is culpable; that is a matter for coroners and criminal courts respectively to determine as appropriate. Rather it is to identify any lessons that can be learned from the case:

- To establish whether there are lessons to be learnt from the circumstances of the case, about the way in which local professionals and agencies work together to safeguard adults;
- To review the effectiveness of policy and procedures (both multi-agency and those of individual organisations);
- To inform and improve local multi-agency practice;
- To improve practice by acting on learning (developing best practice);
- To prepare and commission an Overview Report (depending upon the methodology chosen to support the review process) which brings together and analyses the findings of the various Single-Agency Reports from agencies in order to make recommendations for future action.

The focus of a SAR should be upon the way in which local professionals and agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults. The focus will be on the outcome of the process; the recommendations/actions and the monitoring and reviewing of the recommendations/actions. It will ensure that all appropriate actions have been taken with a view to learning lessons for the future both locally and nationally. It will also focus on how the learning is shared with appropriate partner agencies.

Each member of the SAB must co-operate in and contribute to the carrying out of a review under section 44 with a view to:

- (a) Identifying the lessons to be learnt from the adult's case, and
- (b) Applying those lessons to future cases.

The Safeguarding Adults Board is the only body able to commission a SAR.

Any agency, professional or individual may refer a case believed to fit the criteria for a SAR as outlined above. The referral should be discussed with the agency's safeguarding lead before being submitted to the SAB. For Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board, this is on the SAR Referral Form which is accompanied by SAR Referral Guidance.

Once an agency has identified that a SAR may be required, the referral must be made immediately.

When completing the reason for referral section the referrer should set out their rationale as to why they believe the case may meet the criteria for a SAR. This will ensure that the SSAB consideration of the case specifically addresses the areas of concern identified by the referring agency and will support effective decision making by the SAR Sub-Committee on behalf of SSAB.

If the case meets the SAR criteria, a SAR Panel will be set up to take forward the SAR process. In most cases, this includes commissioning a SAR Independent Author who was not involved in the case, to look at all the information from the involved agencies. The SAR Independent Author will then produce an independent Overview Report, which collates the information, analyses it and makes

recommendations. The recommendations must be SMART (Specific, Measurable Achievable/Attributable, Realistic and Time-specific).

In accordance with the Care Act (2014) guidance, the SAR should be completed within 6 months of the original decision to proceed, unless there are particular circumstances which mean an alternative timescale has had to be agreed at the outset as part of the initial SAR panel meeting.

Consideration and due regard to family members, carers and the individual (where relevant) must be observed as all times in the SAR process, with consideration given to the involvement of an Independent Mental Capacity Advocate.

The report will contain an Executive Summary which, subject to legal confirmation, will be made public on the Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board website and via Partner Agency websites. The Publication arrangements for each SAR will be agreed by the SSAB as part of the Board's sign off arrangements.

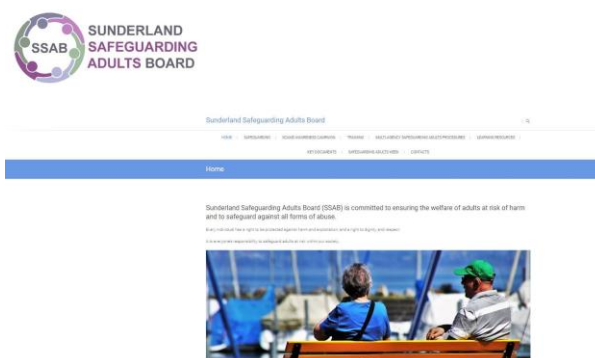
All actions and recommendations resulting from the SAR process will be incorporated into an action plan. SSAB, via the SAR Sub-Committee, will be responsible for ensuring the monitoring and implementation of the Action Plan. It will ensure that all recommendations are actioned and will request updates from the relevant agencies. The Action Plan will remain on the agenda until such a time that all actions have been completed. The Action Plan will be shared with the Quality Assurance Sub-Committee at an appropriate stage (depending on the nature of the actions identified) to consider if any themed audit and/or assurance work is required.

The SAR Panel will be responsible for identifying 'Lessons Learnt' from Reviews to be shared across the multi-agency partnership, focusing on key messages for practitioners and front-line staff. This may take the form of multi- or single-agency briefing sessions, briefing notes and updates to multi-agency safeguarding training provided by SSAB, via formal communication links with the training provider.

To read the SARs that SSAB has published, see the [SSAB website](#).

For more general information on SARs, see the [Social Care Institute for Excellence \(SCIE\) website](#).

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Website



Have you had a look at what's on offer yet? The [SSAB website](#) has a range of resources to support safeguarding adults practice and is regularly updated. As well as providing links to access multi-agency [training](#), the website also hosts:

- New-look [multi-agency safeguarding adults procedures](#)

- Learning resources, including published Safeguarding Adults Reviews, 7 Minute Briefings on a range of topics, self-neglect resources
- Key documents: publications, newsletters, forms, guidance, SSAB Annual Reports, Complex Adults Risk Management (CARM) documentation
- Safeguarding adults campaigns information

Safeguarding Conference 2023

The South Tyneside & Sunderland 'Think Family' Safeguarding Conference covering safeguarding children and adults issues took place again this year after a gap of 3 years due to COVID. It was held on 20th September 2023 and professionals from a range of agencies that support children and adults who are at risk of abuse and/or neglect attended to gain more knowledge on the following topics:

- Mental Capacity, Professional Curiosity and Executive Functioning – Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (including the 'Alan' SAR, published in Sunderland in 2021) – presented by Mike Ward, Senior Consultant at Alcohol Change UK. Read more about the work of Alcohol Change UK and access resources at: [Alcohol Change UK](#)
- Youth Suicide – presented by Dr Sangeeta Mahajan, a Consultant Anaesthetist at Guy's and St Thomas' Hospital, London, who lost her son to suicide. She is a mental health activist and educator, a qualified trainer in Youth Mental Health First aid and has trained doctors, teachers and others to identify young people in difficulty at an early stage. Through writing and speaking, she endeavours to engage with people from all communities to prevent young suicide by raising awareness and reducing stigma. Read more and access resources at: www.sangeetamahajan.org
- Knife Crime & it's impact on children & young people – presented by the Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit and the Connor Brown Trust. Read more and access resources at: [Northumbria Violence Reduction Unit](#) and [Connor Brown Trust](#)
- Learning from Fire Deaths – presented by Alan D'Arcy, Youth & Safeguarding Manager, Tyne & Wear Fire and Rescue Service. Read more about their work at: www.twfire.gov.uk. To access the free home fire safety check, go to: www.safelincs.co.uk/hfsc

Useful Resources

Please note, these links are being provided as a convenience and for informational purposes only; they do not constitute an endorsement or an approval by SSAB of any of the products, services or opinions of the Board or its representatives. SSAB bears no responsibility for the accuracy, legality or content of the external site or for that of subsequent links. Please contact the external site for answers to questions regarding its content.

Modern Slavery Risk Assessment and Due Diligence Guidelines for Adult Social Care (Virtual Event)

Unseen, the UK anti-slavery charity, saw a [1024% increase](#) in the number of potential victims in care work calling their Modern Slavery Helpline in 2022, an increase from 15 cases involving 63 people in 2021 to 708 people in 106 separate cases in 2022.

In conjunction with the Local Government Association, the University of Nottingham's Rights Lab have published new guidance to support local authority commissioners to establish modern slavery risk assessment and due diligence in their adult social care services.

In this session, we will hear from **Dr Caroline Emberson** who worked with local authority social care professionals to develop the new guidelines, and a panel of local authority representatives, from East Riding of Yorkshire Council and Portsmouth City Council who participated in the piloting process. The speakers will discuss some of the specific risks related to care work and present an overview of the risk assessment and due diligence practices that councils are adopting in response to the challenges emerging from an increase in overseas recruitment across the sector such as illegal pay rates, the repayment of recruitment fees and unsafe working conditions.

Confirmed speakers:

Dr Caroline Emberson, Research Fellow, University of Nottingham's Rights Lab

Natasha Mitra, Head of Helpline Services, Unseen

Cllr Heather Kidd MBE, Chair, LGA Safer and Stronger Communities Board (Chair)

[Follow this link to book a place.](#)

Useful links:

[Modern slavery in supply chains hub](#)

[Modern slavery](#)

[Shiva A Self-Assessment Scorecard and Supporting Guidance for Local Authorities](#)

[Unseen Self-assessment questionnaire](#)

[Partners in Care and Health](#)

[Procurement](#)

[LGA Weekly Procurement and Supply Chain bulletin](#)

National Mental Capacity Forum Webinars

The [National Mental Capacity Forum](#) webinars provide a forum for free training and discussion for anyone involved in applying the Mental Capacity Act in practice.

These 1-hour webinars bring together experts to address specific challenges relating to the MCA, and provide an opportunity for participants to ask questions and raise concerns, shaping the agenda for future webinars.

The webinars are designed for new, novice and experienced practitioners. There are many paths to learning and the webinar series will provide learning prompts for individual professionals, professional associations and networks.

Past webinars

- [Executive disfunction and the MCA](#) (25 April 2023)

- [Practicable steps for people with communication difficulties](#) (19 January 2023)
- [Family members and the MCA](#) (7 December 2022)
- [CPR decisions and the MCA](#) (20 October 2022)

Predatory Marriage

SSAB has resources available about predatory marriage. Predatory marriage is an emerging form of exploitation targeting vulnerable older adults. It can happen anywhere and to anyone but those lacking mental capacity for whatever reason, are especially vulnerable. Coercion and control is a key part of this form of abuse.

A predatory marriage typically involves a situation where one person does not have the required mental capacity to consent to marriage but is persuaded to marry, and is then taken advantage of by the 'predator' to secure financial or other gains. 'Predators' can take advantage of the fact in UK law that entering into a marriage will revoke any will that has formerly been put in place. This means that, when the vulnerable individual dies, the predator benefits from their estate.

SSAB has a [poster](#) and a [7-Minute Briefing](#) giving more information about this issue. Further information can also be found at the following website: [Predatory Marriage UK](#) which describes what happened to Joan Blass, a 91 year old lady with severe vascular dementia and terminal cancer who was tricked into marriage by a man who was a stranger to her, and the family's campaign to have the law changed to prevent this issue happening to other vulnerable people.

Learning from the Whorlton Hall Safeguarding Adult Review: a SCIE Webinar

The Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) have a [webinar recording](#) from earlier in 2023 which can be viewed to gain knowledge about the key learning from the Safeguarding Adult Review conducted into the allegations of physical and psychological abuse of people with learning disabilities and autism who were residents at Whorlton Hall in County Durham. The webinar looks at the seven system findings identified through the mandatory Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR), which used SCIE's Learning Together model.

The Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism – Free E-learning

There is a free e-learning course available giving an overview of learning disabilities and autism, developed by Health Education England (HEE). There's also trainer-led training (including people with lived experience delivering some of the training) for those who require a higher level of knowledge because they work directly with people with learning disabilities and/or autism.

Primary and secondary audiences for the training:

- Health workforce
- Social care workforce
- Family, parent, sibling carers and personal assistants of people with a learning disability and autistic people
- Any person who requires a general awareness of people with a learning disability and autistic people

The content of the e-learning session is mapped to the Tier 1 learning outcomes of the Core Capabilities Framework for Supporting Autistic People and the Core Capabilities Framework for

Supporting People with a Learning Disability. It should take one hour and 30 minutes to complete. The e-learning session covers:

Section 1 – Introduction

Section 2 – Understanding learning disability

Section 3 – Understanding autism

Section 4 – Communication

Section 5 – Reasonable adjustments

Section 6 – Summary

Find out more about how to access the training here: [Oliver McGowan Mandatory Training on Learning Disability and Autism](#)

Thematic Analysis of Safeguarding Adult Reviews Involving Adult Sexual Exploitation

The Local Government Association (LGA) will be delivering the fourth webinar in a series that builds on learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs). The free event takes place via Zoom on Tuesday 28th November 2023, 2pm - 4pm.

The webinar will provide an opportunity to explore issues and learning from SARs regarding sexual exploitation. Learning from a thematic review and individual reviews will be shared. Good practice will be showcased, as well as a narrative regarding the ongoing challenges in this area of safeguarding adults work.

To book, please follow this [link](#).

Hourglass Webinars

Throughout 2023, Hourglass is hosting free webinars each month, with each one focusing on a different area around the abuse of older people. The webinars are designed to share specialist knowledge, provoking insightful discussion and asking panellists to offer their viewpoints on how we can prevent and stop the abuse of older people and work towards safer ageing.

Forthcoming webinars:

Lasting Power of Attorney - Informed Decision Making, with Anthony Gold Solicitors: 26th October 2023, 10am - 11.30am

This webinar, hosted by Anthony Gold, will explore the features of PoA, including an understanding of the benefits and risks, and discuss how all sectors can work together to mitigate some of the challenges and concerns about decision making.

Older Male Victims of Abuse - Stereotyped Harm? 14th December 2023, 10am - 11.30am

The abuse of older men is hugely under recognised, under reported and under detected. This webinar aims to raise awareness of the nature and extent of violence and abuse against older men, the barriers to accessing support, practical solutions to support older male victim-survivors, exploration of any unique issues/initiatives across the 4 nations, and agreement to cooperate to drive forward improvements in prevention and protection.

Sexual Abuse of Older People - The Last Taboo? 25th January 2023, 10am-11.30am

This webinar will explore the nature and extent of sexual abuse of older people, the unique challenges and barriers victim-survivors face when accessing support, and the range of options available.

For more information and to book, please follow this [link](#).

Report a Concern

Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard children, young people and adults who may be at risk of abuse.

If you are worried about someone:

- In an emergency call 999
- If there is no immediate risk, call the police on 101

If you are a professional wishing to report a safeguarding concern regarding an adult, follow the link below to the on-line Portal for Providers and professionals: [Worried about someone? \(sunderland.gov.uk\)](#)

If you are a member of the public and worried about your own safety or about the safety of someone else, you can call Sunderland City Council on 0191 520 5552. Alternatively, you can also visit the Sunderland City Council website and complete the member of public [online referral form](#).

If your concern relates to a child, please call 0191 520 5560.

Future Articles

If you have an idea for an article for a future publication, please contact the Strategic Safeguarding Team: strategic.safeguarding@sunderland.gov.uk