

People of Rotherham are able to live a life free from harm where all organisations and communities

- Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business
- Work together to prevent abuse
- Knows what to do when abuse happens



# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2020/21

# INTRODUCTION BY MOIRA WILSON

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults  
Board Independent Chair



**I am pleased to present  
Rotherham's Safeguarding Board  
Annual Report for 2020/21.**

**The past year has been one of  
unprecedented challenge as we  
tackled the impact of the Covid  
19 pandemic on all aspects of**

**our lives. Throughout the year partners have worked  
tirelessly to keep people safe, support each other and  
adapt to new ways of working.**

Inevitably there have been some changes to delivery of our strategic plans as resources were focussed on supporting the most vulnerable people through the pandemic.

Nevertheless, as this annual report shows, the Board and its subgroups has continued to meet regularly via Microsoft Teams to ensure that the vital work of safeguarding continues and we both support and challenge each other to improve practice.

I was particularly pleased that we were able to move Safeguarding Awareness Week in November 2020 onto a virtual platform, with many more people being able to access training and workshop sessions than would have been the case in person. We will continue to build on the opportunities that new ways of working have given us, as well as recognising the importance of face to face contact in vital aspects of safeguarding work.

As this annual report is published, we are looking forward to continuing to work together to deliver our strategic priorities of:

- prevention and early intervention
- making safeguarding personal
- assuring the quality of our safeguarding work across Rotherham
- actively working with people who use our services to hear their feedback and learn from their experiences

I would like to thank all partner members for their continued support and contribution to the Board's work, both during the past most challenging of years and into the future.

# MESSAGE FROM Cllr DAVID ROCHE

Chair of the Health and  
Wellbeing Board



**Welcome to  
the Rotherham  
Safeguarding  
Adults Board  
Annual Report  
2020/21.**

Looking back on the year 2020/21 we faced challenges never experienced before and safeguarding the most vulnerable in our society became even more important. All of the Safeguarding Board partners faced pressures never experienced before and still the priority of "Safeguarding is everyone business" remained the top priority and so the years annual report is gratefully received by me and all of the partners of the Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge the commitment of all the board partners including the statutory, independent and voluntary community sector who continued to work together to deliver on the day-to-day business of safeguarding during a year never experienced before. Safeguarding requires strong partnership working and last year definitely proved that here in Rotherham we have a safeguarding board that will work together to safeguard its citizens and to continue to raise awareness of safeguarding.

Thank you all.

Recognise. Respond. Report.

# Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business

## RECOGNISE • RESPOND • REPORT

**The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board works to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect.**

The RSAB's objective is to ensure that local safeguarding arrangements and partnerships act to help and protect adults at risk or experiencing neglect and/or abuse.

The RSAB is a multi-agency strategic, rather than operational, partnership made up of senior/lead officers within adult social services, criminal justice, health, housing, community safety, voluntary organisations.

It coordinates the strategic development of adult safeguarding across Rotherham and ensures the effectiveness of the work undertaken by Partner Agencies in the area. The Rotherham Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board ('RSAB') aims to achieve those objectives whilst supporting individuals in maintaining control over their lives and in making informed choices without coercion.

### Who is at risk?

**An adult at risk is someone who is aged 18 or over who:**

- Has needs for care and support
- Is experiencing or is at risk of abuse or neglect, and is unable to protect themselves

### What is abuse?

**Abuse can be:**

- Something that happens once
- Something that happens repeatedly
- A deliberate act
- Something that was unintentional, perhaps due to a lack of understanding
- A crime

**Abuse can happen anywhere, at any time and be caused by anyone including**

- A partner or relative
- A friend or neighbour
- A paid or volunteer carer
- Other service users
- Someone in a position of trust
- A stranger

### Types of abuse:

#### **Physical abuse**

Hitting, kicking, punching, inappropriate restraint.

#### **Domestic violence or abuse**

Psychological, physical, verbal, sexual, financial or emotional abuse by a current or former partner or family member.

#### **Organisational or institutional abuse**

Poor treatment in a care setting.

#### **Financial or material abuse**

Theft, fraud, misuse of someone else's finances.

#### **Sexual abuse**

Being made to take part in a sexual activity without consent.

#### **Discriminatory abuse**

Harassment based on age, gender, sexuality, disability, race or religion.

#### **Neglect or acts of omission**

Failure to provide care or support.

#### **Psychological and emotional abuse**

Shouting, ridiculing, or bullying.

#### **Modern slavery**

Human trafficking and forced labour.

#### **Self-neglect**

Declines essential care support needs, impacting on their overall wellbeing



***Doing nothing is not an option!***

# ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS REVIEW of 2020/21

The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) held its first meeting of 2020/21 on the 17th May 2020 and all board members were able to meet via the virtual platform of Microsoft Teams and this was to be the way we would meet for the rest of the year and into 21/22. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, virtual meetings have now become the norm for the board and all the subgroups and even when a technical issue may arise, all our members have continued to support the work of the RSAB.

As many of our partners faced unprecedented work pressures and faced the daily challenges of frontline working to protect the most vulnerable in our society, safeguarding had never been more important. Regular meetings were organized to ensure that safeguarding was business as usual and help and advice was available to all partners.

All face-to-face training was cancelled and it would be several months until we could resume with a virtual training package that the partnership could access. Safeguarding Awareness Week had originally been planned for July 2020, so the decision was made to postpone until November 2020. Safeguarding Awareness Week 2020 was a joint venture with Rotherham Children's Partnership and Safer Rotherham Partnership, during the 16th until the 20th of November an extensive range of training and awareness sessions were available via virtual platforms to all of the safeguarding partnership. Training on self-neglect and hoarding, making safeguarding personal and trauma resilience were just a few of the sessions available and the South Yorkshire Working Together Group offered a full day training event on transitional safeguarding.

The RSAB launched the Self-neglect and Hoarding Policy and Procedure, and they continue to offer training sessions to embed the policy and to ensure that everyone is comfortable using and following the procedure. The policy was given

high praise by South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue services who said it was an easy to follow and concise document.

People in Positions of Trust (PiPoT) Policy was also launched in November 2020, the statutory guidance to the Care Act 2014 requires Safeguarding Adults Boards to establish and agree a framework and process to respond to allegations against anyone who works (either paid or unpaid) with adults with care and support needs. Awareness sessions were held during Awareness Week and further sessions will continue throughout the year.

With the change from face-to-face training to virtual training the RSAB began the task of commissioning a new training provider that could offer a full range of safeguarding training online. Late 2020 we commissioned the services of Breaking the Cycle whose online training courses were made available from March 2021 and positive feedback has received from attendees regarding their course delivery.





## The priorities for the board for 2020/21 were:

Priority	Resulting Action
Joined up partnership working to target areas of service to improve awareness and guidance for service users and staff.	<p>Safeguarding Awareness Week 2020 saw the Adults and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships work alongside the Safer Rotherham Partnership to deliver training and awareness sessions. Over 40 virtual sessions were on offer to all colleagues across Rotherham.</p> <p>In March 2021 a Partnership Board session was held on the topic of Mental Health and a simple plan and roadmap to provide clarity on shared ambitions, service offer, and roles/ responsibilities is being developed.</p>
Ensure training and learning materials, guides and toolkits are available to partners to fully support Making Safeguarding Personal agenda.	The work to embed the Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) principles has carried on throughout 2020/21. Bespoke training was commissioned and delivered and will be recommissioned in the year ahead to ensure we continue on our MSP journey.
Monitor and assure the governance and effectiveness of the Adult Safeguarding Board.	<p>The Adults and Children's safeguarding partnership requested all partners refreshed their self-assessment submissions. Challenge meetings were held to discuss safeguarding arrangements and identify where improvements and changes could be suggested.</p> <p>The board received reports of case file audits carried out by the Performance and Quality subgroup, the audits reported on safeguarding cases that had been recorded as "no further action" and that had been recorded as a safeguarding concern. The report identified training and work needed to improve the quality and recording of safeguarding.</p>
Ensure RSAB's Communication Strategy is relevant, up to date and effective and has community involvement.	Communication during 2020/21 was mostly of a virtual nature and our face-to-face involvement and consultation was inevitably affected. The work to refresh the communication strategy will be carried out during 2021/22 to include the refresh of the website and launch of a electronic newsletter and partnership briefings.

The Safeguarding Adults Board has four subgroups to ensure the board priorities are delivered. The subgroups each have a work plan and during 2020/21 they were able to deliver the following specific pieces of work:

### Performance and Quality Subgroup

Priority	Resulting Action
Develop a quarterly performance report that will inform the board of safeguarding activity across Rotherham.	The Performance and Quality subgroup worked with the Rotherham Council performance team to produce a performance report that presented data under the heading Proportionality, Prevention, Partnership, Accountability, Protection and Empowerment the six principles of safeguarding.
Work with the partners of the Safeguarding Board to re-fresh the safeguarding self-assessment for the planned challenge meetings in June 2021. The self-assessment is a joint exercise with the Children's Safeguarding Partnership.	The Safeguarding self-assessment was completed in March 2021 in preparation for the challenge meeting that will happen in June 2021. The Performance and Quality subgroup will monitor the action plans developed by the partners that involve work with adults.

### Workforce Development

Priority	Resulting Action
Commission a range of training packages that deliver a multi-agency approach to safeguarding and respond to highlighted gaps in training by exploring bespoke training packages.	<p>Covid-19 impacted on training and face to face training was suspended.</p> <p>RSAB commissioned virtual training packages to deliver training that was highlighted as an urgent need, this included self-neglect and hoarding, and inherent jurisdiction.</p> <p>In November 2020, the RSAB commissioned the company Breaking the Cycle to deliver Safeguarding Training for the partnership. Training is available for all partners to book and is advertised across the RSAB partnership.</p>
Ensure training and learning materials, guides and toolkits are available to partners to fully support Making Safeguarding Personal agenda.	<p>Making Safeguarding Personal Training was commissioned to by the Workforce Development subgroup and delivered during Safeguarding Awareness Week 2020.</p> <p>A seven-minute briefing has been developed and is available to the partnership.</p>

## Policy and Practice

Priority	Resulting Action
Develop guidance for the Safeguarding Partnership on People in Positions of Trust PiPoT.  Raise awareness and ensure that all partners have guidance in place to deal with PiPoT.	The RSAB PiPoT policy was launched during Safeguarding Awareness Week November 2020. The Policy and Practice subgroup work with all partners to ensure PiPoT leads and guidance are in place in each organisation.
Develop a Self-neglect and Hoarding Policy and Procedure that delivers a partnership approach to working.	The Rotherham Self-Neglect and Hoarding Policy and Procedure was developed with all partners and was launched in November 2020 during Safeguarding Awareness Week.  The Policy has been praised by partners as being easy to work with.

## Safeguarding Adults Review

Priority	Resulting Action
The SAR subgroup commissioned two SAR's during 20/21 and one SAR named David was published March 2021.	SAR David was completed and signed off by the RSAB in January 2021, the report was published on the RSAB website in March 2021 and share across the partnership to disseminate withing their organisations.  The SAR involved self-neglect and the effect that the lack of face to face involvement had during Covid-19.

**The safeguarding board will continue to meet on a quarterly basis and this may be via a virtual platform or with the reintroduction of face to face meetings, the executive group and all four of the subgroups will also continue with business as usual and meet regularly to ensure the work of the board continues throughout 2021/22.**

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board will ensure that any unfinished actions from the second year of strategic objectives that were affected by Covid-19 are completed in year 3. The subgroups will be focusing on the third year of the strategic plan during 2021/22 and will want to assure the board that all aims set out in the 3-year plan are well underway to being complete as planned.

Service user engagement has always been a challenge to the RSAB and many other boards and this will be a focus for the four South Yorkshire adult boards to come together and share experience and learning from practice across Yorkshire and Humber. The Working Together Training Partnership will facilitate a customer engagement event to share ideas and good practice that will help the RSAB deliver on the strategic aim of improving customer engagement.

The year ahead will see the safeguarding partnership delivering a full training package that will be offered as online learning and they will reconsider the possibility of face-to-face training in 2022.

Safeguarding Awareness Week will be held in November 2021 and will deliver training and awareness sessions in collaboration with the Children's Safeguarding Partnership, Safer Rotherham Partnership and all of the partner agencies across Rotherham.

Work will continue to promote the Self Neglect and Hoarding Policy and Procedure to ensure all our colleagues are aware and able to use the policy when needed. We will ensure that all learning for Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) is shared across the partnership and we will explore different ways of ensuring the recommendations made by the authors are embedded in practice. The SAR subgroup will closely monitor all recommendations and action plans and report to the board on progress made and outstanding actions. It is important that all safeguarding adult reviews are used to improve and inform services and the lessons learnt in previous SARs are built upon and are evident in practice.





## Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board – Aspiring to be the Best that we can be Strategic Plan 2019 to 2022

Our Strategic Priorities	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION</b> Working with partners to develop preventative strategies that work to reduce the risk of abuse and neglect.	Continue to strengthen links and work closely with all partners to provide assurance that the preventative strategies are effective via self-assessment and joint learning events.	Joined up partnership working to target areas of service to improve awareness and guidance for service users and staff.	Develop methods of sharing and embedding learning for reviews and lessons learnt.
<b>MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL</b> Continue to develop and assess the effectiveness of MSP, ensuring a high quality, personalised safeguarding response as the norm in Rotherham.	Ensure that all partners are working with the Making Safeguarding Personal agenda and delivering a person centred approach to safeguarding with appropriate use of advocacy.	Ensure training and learning materials, guides and toolkits are available to partners to fully support Making Safeguarding Personal agenda.	Work with national guidance to measure the effectiveness and impact of MSP to ensure Rotherham are 'getting it right'.
<b>QUALITY ASSURANCE</b> Ensure the quality of Safeguarding within Rotherham is timely and proportionate and individual's outcomes are realistically achieved.	Continue to develop a robust audit programme and capture intelligence data to shape service provision.	Monitor and assure the governance and effectiveness of the Adult Safeguarding Board.	Commission a Peer Review of the Rotherham Safeguarding Board.
<b>SERVICE USER ENGAGEMENT</b> Full and real user involvement across all service groups. Bring the voice of the service user to the board.	Develop ways of gaining the views of people who have experienced and worked with the safeguarding service.	Ensure RSAB's Communication Strategy is relevant, up to date and effective and has community involvement.	Engage with networking events across the borough and South Yorkshire to share and learn from peers.

## KEY PARTNERSHIP CONTRIBUTIONS 2020/2021

The partners of the Safeguarding board all have a responsibility to help deliver the priorities that are set out in the strategic plan. Each partner has provided evidence to how they deliver the four priorities of the Board. Here are some examples of the good practice, learning and customer stories that ensure that the Rotherham Safeguarding Partnership is committed to working together to safeguard its citizens and to continue to raise awareness of safeguarding.

### Rotherham Council

#### Making Safeguarding Personal

Rotherham Council have worked with the Performance and Quality subgroup of the board to carry out case file audits, the purpose was to highlight the use of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) during a safeguarding investigation. Results were positive and evidence was that safeguarding practice considered the views and wishes of the person being safeguarded. Recent performance data taken shows that there is an improvement in numbers asked and expressing outcomes and wishes as part of MSP, 100 per cent of those who do set outcomes are recorded as being fully or partially met. Person-centred care means working together with the individual to plan their care and support to meet their unique needs. This cuts down the risk of negative, unfair or harmful treatment and neglect. The individual is put at the centre, able to choose and control how they want their care and support to be delivered.

Rotherham Council will be introducing an exit style questionnaire for people exiting safeguarding and are working with the board and Absolute Advocacy to develop an easy read questionnaire to gain a fuller and richer picture of peoples experience of safeguarding. We will use these findings to work with the board and partners to ensure all safeguarding services have the person at the centre and we are listening to the voice of the person.

Mavis and her son were referred to Safeguarding following concerns regarding self-neglect, concerns about the son not meeting his mums care needs. Domiciliary service support was offered and following liaison with housing more suitable housing was identified that would give Mavis the opportunity to be more independent. Ongoing work was completed and identified that Mavis's son was reluctant to engage with professionals and support was required to ensure GP appointments, medication ordered, benefits claimed and prompting to maintain cleanliness in the property. Mavis and her son have a very close relationship and are inter dependent. she is very independent and reluctant to accept help with her personal care. On the surface there are concerns that her son does not meet her care needs however it is clear from the outcome of the safeguarding he did not have the skills and historically this is the way they have always lived.

The services involved are now more understanding of this and realise the importance of working with both Mavis and her son to support Mavis with her care needs and the physical environment they live in.

## Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust:

### Customer Engagement

Our safeguarding concern forms encourage staff to include the wishes of the patient and/or their family (where appropriate). We also have the 'Your opinion counts' forms to capture the views of patients and visitors.

Our Patient Experience Team regularly monitor the responses received from the Y.O.C forms as well as taking calls from patients and visitors. This is monitored through our Trust Governance arrangements.

TRFT has several policies in place to support our staff in safeguarding people at risk of abuse and neglect.

Our policies are reviewed regularly to ensure that they are compliant with current legislation and support staff to discharge their accountability where there are safeguarding concerns.

Our policies cover a wide-range of safeguarding activity, including modern slavery, domestic abuse, honour violence and self-neglect.

During Covid, the Trust has continued to prioritise safeguarding by developing a blended-learning approach to enable staff to access training through a variety of means such as e-learning, 7-minute briefings, one-to-one support and group sessions.



## NHS Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group – RCCG

### Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)

NHS Rotherham CCG safeguarding team strive to work in partnership with the voluntary and statutory organisations, making safeguarding personal and embedding that principle into all our work streams. 7-minute briefings for MSP, Professional Curiosity and Safeguarding Adults have been produced and shared for increased knowledge and embedding into practice.

On 1st February 2021 NHS Rotherham CCG hosted a training event with DAC Beachcroft focusing on the key changes introduced by legislation for the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). The new LPS regime will significantly change the process for authorising deprivation of liberty across all health and social care settings.

All, including CCG's will have a wider responsibility. The session focused on:

- What will the new process involve?
- The role of CCGs, hospitals and local authorities in authorising deprivations of liberty as the new 'responsible bodies'
- What you need to do now to get ready.

Thank you for the opportunity  
to assist my community and  
the NHS.

A Governing Body training session took place on 3rd March 2021 and a further multi-agency session is planned for February 2022 prior to full implementation.

NHS Rotherham CCG Safeguarding Team revises provider safeguarding standards annually. These standards are monitored within contracting and performance as part of quality and assurance. The safeguarding standards cover a vast array of legislative responsibilities from Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and the Care Act 2014 through to the FGM Act 2003. They also include best practice expectations such as person-centred care (Making Safeguarding Personal).

All the staff and volunteers are  
lovely people. I'd be happy to  
help you with anything you need  
in the future.

Thank you for the opportunity  
to assist my community and  
the NHS.

Click to view the full  
<http://www.rotherhamccg.nhs.uk/annual-report.htm>



## Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDaSH):

### Quality Assurance

- Safeguarding adults audit completed (Trustwide).
- Continued attendance at the Care Group Quality meetings.
- Improved streamlining of safeguarding practice (clinicians completing IR1s where safeguarding issues and actions are identified).
- Safeguarding remains a standing agenda within these meetings.

Within the Rotherham Care Group there has been a shift with safeguarding practice: our wards and clinical areas hold safeguarding practice and a “think family” approach as a top agenda item when engaging with service users. Our in-patient area over the last year have visibly driven a safeguarding culture: they are proactive and horizon scanning safeguarding concerns or issues and have managed highly complex and challenging situations. There is a culture of ‘board to ward’ safeguarding practice; of learning from events such as SAR’s and LLR’s through the use of Quality Meetings.

As Clinical teams have continued to maintain sight of safeguarding issues through the COVID-19 pandemic; staff throughout the Care Group have continued to exercise a high level of vigilance when working with service users and have continued to seek support, advice and guidance throughout.





## South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service (SYFR):

### Customer Engagement

Community Forums take place in each district as a way of engaging with our communities, this enables us to develop positive engagement in the communities we serve.

We regularly review and evaluate feedback we receive. From listening to our feedback, we are able to make changes and improve on the services that we deliver.

Thank you SYFR for saving my life. I am happy to let you help me and now acknowledge that I do need some support.

Thank you for helping me.



### Keep Safe and Well

South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue's safe and well scheme has been created to improve the safety and wellbeing of members of the community.

By developing referral partnerships with local organisations we aim to improve the targeting and risk management of people from high risk or excluded groups who may be at an increase risk of fire.

Does your organisation provide services or support to high risk or excluded members of the community?

If so please sign up to our scheme **Safe and Well** Scheme.

- Someone is considered more at risk of fire if they
- Are over 65 years of age
- Live alone
- Have a physical or learning disability
- Have a sensory or cognitive impairment or memory loss
- Take medication that may affect their ability to escape from a fire
- Have a mental health illness
- Have a substance or alcohol dependency
- Are unable to protect themselves from harm for any reason

Please sign up via the website [www.syfire.gov.uk/safe-well](http://www.syfire.gov.uk/safe-well) or email [safe&well@syfire.gov.uk](mailto:safe&well@syfire.gov.uk)

## South Yorkshire Police:

### Prevention and Early Intervention

There are three priorities for policing in Rotherham. They relate to responding quickly and safely to calls for service, dealing effectively with domestic abuse and ensuring victim satisfaction.

A person calling the police in an emergency can and should expect an officer to come to their aid within 15 minutes, and any non-emergency can still expect aid to come to them within 60 minutes. Response times are monitored daily by police and we are consistently hitting targets on 80 per cent of occasions.

Police in Rotherham now consistently take positive action and arrest suspects in around 57 per cent of cases. Recorded domestic abuse, arrest rates and outcomes monitored daily.

A real focus on early intervention linked to Domestic Abuse. For example, the Cease Programme looks to support young victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse through a restorative approach. The aim being to intervene early and prevent an escalation in behaviour/ violence. Referrals monitored on a monthly basis, and feedback from the people referred into the service.

Rotherham Safer Neighbourhoods Service (SNS) comprises of police officers, council staff and a mental health nurse. They are experienced in dealing with those most vulnerable in the community with complex needs. Using numerous pathways, they safeguard and provide long term support to reduce the risk to the individual and demand on services.

This is demonstrated in a case where officers from SYP and Local Authority Environmental Health responded to several reports of anti-social behaviour from an address because of a barking dog. Reports from neighbours stated that the dog was constantly barking day and night and was making their lives a misery.

Officers attended at the address and engaged the occupant. It became apparent that the occupant was suffering with poor mental health and made several references to being suicidal. Local authority officers contacted Safer Neighbourhood Service's supervision who deployed their senior mental health nurse. Following an assessment, the mental health nurse identified that the occupant was indeed suffering. As a result of this assessment the subject is now back into secondary mental health services and has been prescribed new medication. He is now stable and better equipped to deal with daily life.

## Rotherham Voluntary and Community Sector:

The Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS), through the Adult Services Consortium, has continued to show its commitment to Adult Safeguarding across the Borough by contributing to the work of the Adult Safeguarding Board via its nominated representatives.

The nominated representative, who is the Chief Executive of Age UK Rotherham, attends the Safeguarding Adults Board to provide a voluntary and community sector perspective on developments. They also provide a liaison function between the wider sector and the Board to keep VCS organisations updated on safeguarding issues and encourage and support their contribution to this important area of work.



## Workforce and development

In 2020/21 the Workforce Development Sub-group felt the effects of Covid19 and the outcome was that all face to face training was cancelled. Work began to find a new training supplier who could deliver a full training package virtually and cover all the necessary elements of safeguarding training that is needed by the partnership. A new supplier was commissioned late 2020 and a training was available from 1st March, the initial training was limited as the subgroup recognised that colleagues were not available due to work pressures to attend training. A full training timetable will be available as we enter into 2021/22 and when work pressures ease allowing attendance figures to increase.

Following requests for specialist training the group commissioned individual training sessions from specific trainers and these courses proved a welcome addition to the safeguarding training program.

Self-Neglect and Hoarding Awareness	75
Mental Capacity Act	75
Inherent Jurisdiction	50
Making Safeguarding Personal	50

**RECOGNISE · RESPOND · REPORT**

## APPENDIX 2

# KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

### A Concern

A Concern is a feeling of anxiety or worry that a Vulnerable Adult may have been, is or might be, a victim of abuse. An alert may arise as a result of a disclosure, an incident, or other signs or indicators.

A total of **2,781** concerns were reported through the new Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC).

Each concern is looked at and the three-point test is applied.

The safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:

- Has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- Is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect
- As a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

If the concern does not meet the criteria of the three point test the case may be signposted to a different team such as the complex lives team or maybe a care assessment is needed. We will always ensure the person is safe and not in any danger.

**2,781 Safeguarding Concerns were received in 2020-21**

### Section 42 Enquiry

The Care Act 2014 (Section 42) requires that each local authority must make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom.

‘Safeguarding adults’ is the name given to the multi-agency response used to protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect. When an allegation about abuse or neglect has been made, an enquiry is undertaken to find out what, if anything, has happened.

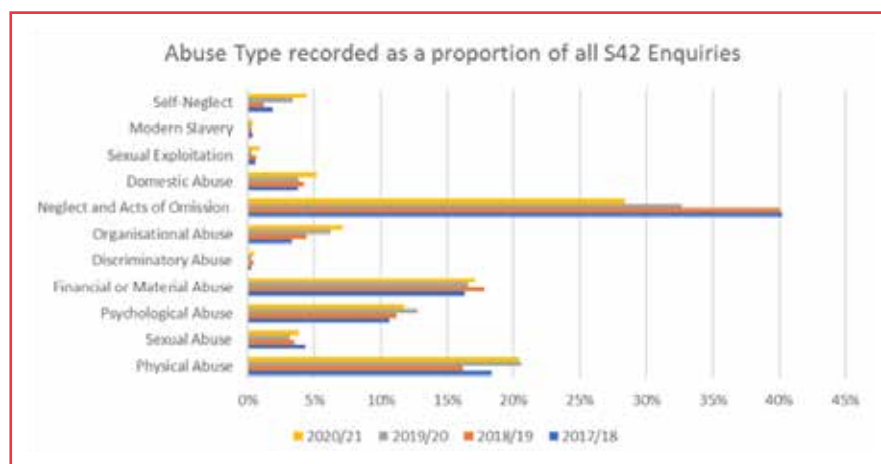
At any point during this investigation a case can exit the safeguarding process.

The subject of the investigation must be aware and, in most cases, agree to the safeguarding enquiry unless they are unable to or a crime has been committed.

#### 759 Section 42 enquiries began 2020-21



The chart shows a significant increase in safeguarding concerns received compared to last year with a 73.5 per cent rise, the number of Section 42 enquires carried out during the year is also significantly higher with a 55 per cent increase.



The chart shows the breakdown in types of abuse recorded over the last four years, with neglect and acts of omission being the largest group of recorded incidents. Neglect and acts of omission covers concerns including

- Failure to provide or allow access to food, shelter, clothing, heating, stimulation and activity, personal or medical care
- Providing care in a way that the person dislikes
- Failure to administer medication as prescribed
- Refusal of access to visitors
- Not taking account of individuals' cultural, religious or ethnic needs
- Not taking account of educational, social and recreational needs
- Ignoring or isolating the person
- Preventing the person from making their own decisions
- Preventing access to glasses, hearing aids, dentures, etc.
- Failure to ensure privacy and dignity

## Decision Making Meeting (DMM)

The DMM will bring all relevant people together to ensure that, if the enquiry continues, the right questions will be asked of the right people. The voice of the person at risk of harm must be heard. Plan the way forward, look at who is best placed to investigate the concern.

This meeting may be held virtually, to ensure it happens in a timely manner.

## Outcomes Meeting

The Outcome meeting will bring all interested parties together including the individual if they wish to attend. Support from friends, advocacy or family is also encouraged. The voice of the person at risk of harm must be heard throughout the meeting and they must be given the opportunity to tell their story.

The meeting will bring the investigation to a conclusion and recommendations must be agreed by all interested parties and timescales and expectations clearly identified.



## Safeguarding Adults Review – (SAR)

A Safeguarding Adults Review must be carried out if:

- A Safeguarding Adults Review must be carried out if
- An adult dies (including death by suicide) and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor in their death. In such circumstances the SAB should always conduct a review into the involvement of agencies and professionals associated with the vulnerable adult.
- An adult has sustained a potentially life-threatening injury through abuse or neglect, serious sexual abuse, or sustained serious and permanent impairment of health or development through abuse or neglect, and the case gives rise to concerns about the way in which local professionals and services work together to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- Serious abuse takes place in an institution or when multiple abusers are involved, the same principles of review apply. Such reviews are, however, likely to be more complex, on a larger scale, and may require more time. Terms of reference need to be carefully constructed to explore the issues relevant to each specific case.

The SAR is commissioned by the SAB and all partners who have had involvement with the subject of the enquiry will be required to participate in the review. The results of the review are published by the SAB in the form of a final report.

### Number of SARs Commissioned 2020-2021

2 SAR's were commissioned in 2020/21.

### Number of SARs Completed 2020-2021

1 SAR was completed in 200/21 Published March 2021

## SAR David

David was a man in his sixties of white British ethnicity. He was known to a number of agencies. He was alcohol dependent, and this impacted on his ability to care for himself. Concerns about David's self-neglect had been identified from 2015 but became more severe from 2017. David's family had a high level of involvement and were deeply concerned about him, regularly seeking help from agencies.

David had four hospital admissions from 2017 until his death, all as a result of self-neglect and in January 2019, David was admitted to hospital in a hypothermic and malnourished state, with severe pressure sores. He was discharged to a nursing care home where he made a good recovery. After a period of reablement, David obtained a new tenancy and his support ended.

Eight months later, David's family again raised concerns about his severe self-neglect and asked for him to receive support. Their understanding was that David was provided with home care support but this was not the case.

Two months later, David's neighbour found him on the floor. His brother believed he had been there for three days. David had not had any involvement from any agency for the last seven weeks. His family had not been able to visit due to Covid pandemic restrictions. David's condition was very poor and he was admitted to hospital where he was in resuscitation for several hours but sadly, he died.

This review examined learning for agencies in working with adults who self-neglect. It considered how agencies worked together and whether there was potential opportunities to avert the tragic circumstance of David's death.

## Recommendations

The RSAB has recently launched new self-neglect policy and procedures. Following this implementation phase, the RSAB should carry out assurance activity to evaluate the difference that these procedures have made. This assurance should include:

- Audit of front-line staff and their knowledge of the new procedures and referral routes
- Feedback from front-line staff regarding strengths/weaknesses of the new procedures and impact on their levels of confidence in working with self-neglect
- Carry out some qualitative sampling of self-neglect cases to evaluate
  - a) the quality of multi-agency practice - ,
  - b) outcomes achieved for adults in accordance with Making Safeguarding Personal
  - c) support and involvement of carers

The sampling should include cases that would be assessed as Level 2 and Level 3 under the procedure risk assessment guidelines (Appendix 1).

- The training that is available to staff to improve their competence in working with self-neglect and their application of the new procedures
- Availability and access to specialist resources such as the Complex Lives team to test capacity to meet the needs of people in the highest risk circumstances

The recommendations will be developed into an action plan that will be monitored by the Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) subgroup until the action plan is completed. All completed action plans are reported back to the board.



# APPENDIX 3

## ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ATTENDANCE

Date of Safeguarding Adults Board Meeting (excludes e-learning)

	April 2020	July 2020	October 2020	January 2021
<b>South Yorkshire Police</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>The Rotherham Foundation Trust</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rotherham Council Director of Social Services</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rotherham Council Childrens Service</b>	Apologies	Apologies	✓	✓
<b>South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue</b>	Apologies	✓	✓	✓
<b>RDaSH</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Rotherham Council Services</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓
<b>Healthwatch</b>	Apologies	✓	✓	✓
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>	Apologies	Apologies	Apologies	✓
<b>National Probation Service</b>	✓	✓	Apologies	✓
<b>Community Rehabilitation Company</b>	Apologies	✓	Apologies	Apologies
<b>Cabinet Member for Adults Services</b>	✓	✓	✓	✓

Rotherham Council's Cabinet Member for Adults Services supports the work the Safeguarding Adults Board with a visible presence at events and discussions throughout the year and is provided with monthly updates on all safeguarding adults' issues as well as the work of the board.

**Do you know the signs of adult abuse?**

**Physical      Emotional      Financial      Organisational**

**Recognise • Respond • Report**

**Rotherham Council 01709 822330**  
**Police** non emergency: **101** or emergency: **999**

**Keeping people safe from abuse is everyone's business**

**For more information about types of abuse**  
[www.rotherham.gov.uk/abuse](http://www.rotherham.gov.uk/abuse)

**NHS**  
The Rotherham  
NHS Foundation Trust

**NHS**  
Rotherham  
Clinical Commissioning Group

**NHS**  
England

**Rotherham**  
**ageUK**

**healthwatch**  
Rotherham

**NHS**  
Rotherham

**CROSS**  
**ROADS**  
**CARE**  
Rotherham

South Yorkshire  
**POLICE**

**South Yorkshire**  
**FIRE & RESCUE**

**carerstrust**  
a Network Partner

**RDASH**  
leading the way with care

**National**  
**Probation**  
**Service**

**Rotherham**  
Metropolitan  
Borough Council