



## Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter Issue 6 April 2024

### Welcome to the PSAB newsletter!

Welcome to the spring edition of the PSAB newsletter. This time we have a guest article from Portsmouth Carers Service, a report on our recent annual conference, and our usual updates on resources and training for professionals:

- PSAB Conference
- Carers Service (guest article)
- Who are the PSAB?
- Learning from our audit of safeguarding concerns
- Emollients fire safety campaign
- Safe and Well training
- New resources for professionals
- Upcoming Training and Events

If you have any feedback about this newsletter please let us know at [PSAB@portsmouthcc.gov.uk](mailto:PSAB@portsmouthcc.gov.uk). Your feedback really helps us to make the newsletter more useful and interesting for you in future.

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## PSAB Conference

On 8<sup>th</sup> March we held the second Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board conference at Portsmouth Football Club. The theme this year was 'Perspectives on Managing Risk'.

Our keynote speaker was Mike Ward from Alcohol Change UK, who spoke about **managing risk for vulnerable dependent drinkers**. Mike covered the effects of alcohol on the brain, executive capacity, and using legal powers to safeguard dependent drinkers. Dan Warren-Holland kindly stepped in at the last minute as one of our other speakers was unwell, and gave a presentation on **managing risk in peer support**. Dan spoke about the impact of vicarious trauma on peers and how we can work in a trauma informed way to support them. Dr Nina Silson, our Named GP for Safeguarding Adults in Portsmouth, spoke about her experiences of **managing risk in primary care**. We then had two different perspectives on **managing domestic abuse risks** - Louisa Watkin from Stop Domestic Abuse and Sayma Begum from Portsmouth City Council gave a presentation covering local services and pathways, and Inspector Andrea Heywood gave the police perspective. Finally Sergeant Lewis Swan talked about the work of the Priority Crime team.

The presentations from the conference can be found on the [PSAB website](#).

The conference was also a great opportunity for networking and getting to know people from other organisations. Over 100 people attended from different sectors and professions.

The feedback was very positive, with lots of comments including "Very informative", "great day of inter professional sharing", "Fantastic day, all speakers were passionate and informative!"

At the end of the day. Homeless Social Worker Chris Penney and Social Work student Holly Abraham delivered the leftover food for clients at the homeless day service.



*Speakers and delegates and the PSAB conference*

## Carers Service

The learning from a number of our recent safeguarding adults reviews has shown that **sometimes adults weren't always identified as carers or offered carer's assessments**. Making sure that unpaid carers get the support they need can make a real difference to them and to the person they are caring for.

Ben Muller, Acting Team Manager of Portsmouth Carers Service has written a guest article explaining the work of the service and how to access support:

*Portsmouth Carers Service works to support unpaid carers who are taking care of the residents of Portsmouth. The 2021 census identified over 15,000 carers in the PO1-PO6 area, many of which have eligible needs in their own right. The Care Act 2014 provides carers with parity of esteem alongside the person they are caring for and they have the right to request a Carers Assessment.*

*Portsmouth Carers Service carry out the majority of Carers Assessments although they can be completed other professionals if appropriate. A Carers Assessment is a guided conversation which explores the caring role, what is important to that person and what support is needed to enable that carers to continue to care in a way that they choose. It is a gateway to services including carers breaks, respite, wellbeing classes and emotional support.*

**If you identify a carer, please discuss carers support with them.** If they would like to be referred to Portsmouth Carers Service, more information can be found on our website [www.portsmouthcarersservice.co.uk](http://www.portsmouthcarersservice.co.uk). We accept referrals from professionals as well as self referrals.



Portsmouth Carers Centre

## Who are the PSAB?

We write a lot about the Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board (the PSAB) but not everyone will know who is on the Board and what their role is.

The Care Act sets out a requirement for every local authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board. The role of the Board is help and protect adults with care and support needs who are experiencing (or are at risk of experiencing) abuse or neglect. The Care Act says we must do this

by co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does to safeguard adults in our area. The Board's duties include:

- Setting out a strategy and plan for safeguarding adults in our area
- Producing an annual report
- Carrying out safeguarding adults reviews.

The Care Act states that the membership of the Board must include the Local Authority, the Police, and Health (Integrated Care Board), plus other partners to help achieve its aims. The Portsmouth SAB includes Housing, Public Health, Children's services, Fire, Ambulance, Solent NHS Trust, Portsmouth Hospitals University NHS Trust, Healthwatch, Probation, Department of Work and Pensions, University, Further Education College and representatives from the voluntary sector and care providers. Each member nominates a senior person to represent them on the Board. The Board also has an Independent Chair. The Board meets quarterly, usually in person in the Civic Offices.

We also have subgroups for specific areas of work: quality assurance, safeguarding adults reviews, community engagement, policy development, housing, health and fire safety. Board members and other partners are represented on our subgroups.



*PSAB members at our March Board meeting*

## Learning from our audit of safeguarding concerns

As part of the PSAB's role in assuring ourselves that safeguarding processes are working effectively, we do an annual audit of the quality of safeguarding concerns that are received by the Adult Safeguarding Team. This involves a panel of auditors from different organisations looking at a random sample of concerns received in one month.

We found some good practice:

- The [PCC safeguarding concern form](#) is being widely used.
- In the majority of cases, concerns forms are being **submitted in a timely manner**.
- The majority of referrers note **appropriate actions already taken**.

Areas for improvement noted by auditors included:

- **Consent was an issue** in a large proportion of referrals, and it was clear that adults who would be able to give consent were not always being asked to provide this.
- Linked to this, **the views and wishes of the adult were not collected** in the majority of cases, even though there are prompts to do this on the form.
- It was **not always clear why referrals were being made** to Adult Safeguarding or what the adult or referrer expected from the referral. Concern forms often gave too much narrative and not enough information or detail about the risks.

Remember we have a [One Minute Guide to Making a Referral to Safeguarding](#) to help support professionals to make safeguarding referrals. You can also review the [4LSAB Safeguarding Concerns guidance](#) to refresh your knowledge on when and how to refer to safeguarding.

Following on from the audit we will be developing a short guide specifically about consent.

## Emollients fire safety campaign

The PSAB works with Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (HIWFRS) and the other local Safeguarding Adults Boards (4LSABs) to improve fire safety through our Fire Safety Development Subgroup. We have reviewed a number of fire deaths or near misses recently where emollient creams have been a factor.

As a result HIWFRS have joined forces with the NHS Hampshire and Isle of Wight Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Community Pharmacy South Central to launch a safety campaign around the fire risks of emollients.

Emollients are creams, sprays, and lotions that may contain paraffin or other products like butters and oils. Both paraffin and non-paraffin emollients can act as an accelerant when absorbed into clothing and exposed to naked flames or other heat sources.

Things you can do to reduce the risks:

- Never smoke in bed.
- If your clothing, bedding/blankets are affected by emollients:
- Be cautious when smoking.
- Take care when cooking with gas or electric hobs.
- Do not sit too close to any open fires, gas fires or halogen heaters.
- Wash your clothing and bedding daily at the highest temperature recommended. Although this will lower your risk, washing fabrics does not completely remove all fire risks.



You can find out more about the campaign [here](#).

## Safe and Well training

Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service (HIWFRS) has recently employed new Community Development Officers. Part of their role is to offer training on reducing fire risks and how to refer people to HIWFRS for a [Safe and Well visit](#).

The training covers:

- Who is more at risk from fire in the home?
- How can we reduce the risk?
- How to make a referral to HIWFRS
- Why is it important to make us aware of these risks?

We are looking at providing some multi-agency training on this, but if you would like to speak to a Community Development Officer about Safe and Well training specifically for your service or team, please contact Kelly Hedges ([Kelly.hedges@hantsfire.gov.uk](mailto:Kelly.hedges@hantsfire.gov.uk)) or Alex Jansz ([Alex.jansz@hantsfire.gov.uk](mailto:Alex.jansz@hantsfire.gov.uk)).



*Alex and Kelly, Community Development Officers for Hampshire and Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service*

## New resources for professionals

The Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton Violence Reduction Partnership has launched a new [Serious Violence Toolkit](#) to support professionals working with individuals and their families impacted by serious violence. This toolkit has been produced to support a co-ordinated approach to tackling and preventing serious violence and understanding its root causes. The Serious Violence Duty means that all partners, statutory and non-statutory have a part to play to reduce violence. This toolkit will explain what that means to you and your organisation.

The [4LSAB and HIPS Adopting a Family Approach Toolkit](#) has been updated.

We have published new [4LSAB and HIPS Practice Guidance on Adults who Disclose Non-recent Sexual Abuse](#).

Homeless Link have published a toolkit on [Safeguarding adults who are experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness](#).

Take Five and Mencap have produced an [Easy read guide to Scams](#). The guide has a particular focus on impersonation scams and romance scams and has been reviewed by a panel of people with learning disabilities for their feedback

## Upcoming Training and Events - 2024 dates

### The Importance of Community Partnership Information (CPI) Sharing

Aim and learning outcomes:

- In what circumstances the form should be used
- When to call 999/101 to report a crime and when to do a CPI instead
- The importance of sharing information with police and how this relates to GDPR and the data protection act
- The journey of a CPI – what can the results be?
- How the form should be completed
- Common errors seen when partners complete the forms
- How we protect the details of the source of any such information

Target audience:

All front-line practitioners. In particular this is aimed at social workers, health care workers and pharmacists/GPs, schools and care settings, those who work in housing and substance misuse support.

Dates and booking information:

This training is online via Microsoft Teams. There is no need to book. Please put the session in your diary and join using the Teams links below.

- Thursday 18th April 2024 14.00-14.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Tuesday 16th July 2024 10.00-10.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Monday 14th October 2024 13.00 -13.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)

### Information Sharing (Clare's Law and Sarah's Law)

This course will give you confidence when it comes to:

- When and how to share information with vulnerable members of the public about people in their life for safeguarding reasons without the consent of the subject.
- What the Data Protection Act says about sharing information without consent.
- Clare's Law (DVDS) and Sarah's Law (CSODS) – the Right to Ask and the Right to Know.

- Where to find guidance from the government about when and how to share this information appropriately.
- The protections that exist for you if you share such information without consent in an appropriate manner.

This course is delivered by Hampshire and IOW Constabulary. It is aimed at any front-line practitioners working with children or adults at risk, including social workers, safeguarding leads, health workers, housing staff, teachers and those working in child care.

This training is online via Microsoft Teams. There is no need to book. Please put the session in your diary and join using the Teams links below.

- Tuesday 18th June 2024 14.00-15.15 [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Thursday 12th September 2024 14.00-15.15 [Click here to join the meeting](#)
- Tuesday 3rd December 2024 09.30-10.45 [Click here to join the meeting](#)

## **Responding to Domestic Abuse**

Delivered by Stop Domestic Abuse the “Responding to Domestic Abuse” training combines the previous ‘victim’- and ‘perpetrator’-focused training, and aims to:

- Define what is domestic abuse
- What does domestic abuse look like for: Victims, people using abusive behaviours, children, professionals
- To increase knowledge and challenge stereotypes of victim, people using abusive behaviours, children and professionals.
- Types of relationships
- Engaging with your service users
- Understanding and accessing the referral pathway
- Effective safety planning and its application to your practice

Training dates:

- 15th May 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 11th June 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 11th July 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 12th September 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm
- 8th October 2024 – 9.30am – 4.30pm

To book a place contact Stop Domestic Abuse via email [portsmouthtraining@stopdomesticabuse.uk](mailto:portsmouthtraining@stopdomesticabuse.uk). Training is likely to move to face to face, however this will be confirmed once you are booked onto the course.