



MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Meeting date: Thursday 25 June 2020

Welcome

SSAB independent chair welcomed Sarah McDermott to the board who took up the role of board manager at the end of March.

Following the recent passing of Dave Hill, Executive Director for Children services, condolences were given.

The minutes from December's board were not included in the agenda due to the reduced length of meeting, members were informed that the minutes would be circulated via email for agreement.

Update on SSAB

- When lockdown was confirmed the Adult Safeguarding Executive (ASE) met and decided that it was prudent to cancel all meetings with the exception of the ASE and SAR group. It was agreed the ASE would meet every 2 weeks via phone until it was appropriate to meet less frequently. The SAR group was to continue but only focus on current SAR's that needed to be brought to a conclusion.
- One of the early decisions was to have a coronavirus page on our website giving access to our ASE meeting notes to keep everyone updated and also to give links to information both locally and nationally on Safeguarding Adults.
- Our new Board Manager Sarah McDermott joined us in late March and although having to work remotely worked hard to make contact with all agencies, and other Boards.
- Every meeting looked at current status, risks of each agency and feedback from the National Chairs Executive. Areas covered the risk around Domestic Abuse increasing because of lockdown, care home support, PPE, the decrease in face to face contact for those people with care and support needs making sure they don't get missed.
- The statutory services managed the challenge well and though there were problems they were well managed. The talk about easements for safeguarding nationally was not taken up in Surrey and this was really positive.

Next Steps:

- The ASE agreed to reinstate the subgroup meetings from July, all meetings will take place remotely. It was felt that the pressure had eased somewhat that would allow us to get working on this year's plan.
- There is a worry that there could be some safeguarding concerns that were not visible at present and that may mean an increase in numbers once people start moving out of lockdown. This is also a concern for Domestic Abuse.
- SAB have been delayed in achieving some of our plans for this year but there will be a continual review on priorities and dates.
- The Quality Assurance process will start again, though we will have to look at schedules to make sure agencies can meet the plan.
- We will re-institute the training, though we will have to look at feasibility of video or delay until safe to hold classroom sessions.
- There are some SARs coming to conclusion so there will be a need to have some learning reviews and we will also look at alternatives for sharing learning that work remotely in the short term.

SSAB Pooled Budget

- The pooled budget was discussed with figures for the outcome of 2019/20 as of the end of March and the current spend against our annual budget.
- As in previous years we have come in under budget primarily because of only two SARs that were in progress that had chargeable costs to the board. It also reflects that we did not have a Board manager for a significant portion of the year.

SAR update

Members of the SAB were provided an update on the current referrals being considered and an update on those going through the review process.

ASC Assurance Report

Assurance data from Adult Social Care was discussed to allow the Board to get assurance and where gaps highlighted, agree remedies for action to address.

MASH update

An update on the MASH was provided by ASC Head Adult Safeguarding.

Learning Disability

'We are seeing an increased numbers of patients with LD who have poor outcomes because there is lack of communication between agencies, if they are in care homes. We would like to see more involvement in discharge planning for LD patients with Social care involvement'

Neglect

A discussion would be welcomed around this self-neglect issue as it is very complex with lack of service offer, capacity and engagement of individuals. Also, the age-old issue of alcohol and non-prescribed drugs, which also relates to hoarding.

Ligature Risk

It has come to our attention from another SAB that there was a young lady who tried to self-harm with a face mask.

SAB would like agencies to raise this within their own agency.

SSAB Risk Register

The risk register was discussed:

- Highlighting better joint working between Adults and Children.
- The SAB budget.
- Lack of training due to COVID.
- Care homes and the Care Home plan including private care homes.
- Lack of face to face contact, could cause lack of enquiries.

Domestic Abuse

SCC confirmed DA figures are up year on year April 67%, May 26% and June 69% there has not been a drop off during lockdown.

Surrey Police confirmed Dave Hill (children's) had been working on this the new refuse in Surrey which was set up in six weeks with Surrey alongside Your Sanctuary and with the support of the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) and the Community Foundation for Surrey. Simon asked if this information is being shared to all agencies.