



Safeguarding Adults Review

'Zahra'

Publication Statement

The Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) has today published the findings of a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) regarding Zahra.

This SAR was commissioned to ensure that there was an independent review of the circumstances surrounding the death of Zahra, in order to identify any insights and learning about the ways in which professionals and agencies worked together to safeguard her. The purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review is to promote learning and improve practice, not to re-investigate or to apportion blame.

Zahra's family have suffered a great loss and we thank those who knew Zahra and contributed to the review

The review considered the following specific issues.

- Agencies communication and working together to support those with language barriers.
- Capacity assessments in relation to those with substance misuse
- Mental health and risk of self-harm/self-neglect

As well as highlighting good practice, the review identified important learning and key areas for further improvement. The SSAB accepts the recommendations in full and will work with agencies to share and embed this learning within respective organisations and the wider system. The SSAB will hold involved agencies to account and seek assurance that the recommendations are implemented and also monitor the impact of changes to ensure that others are protected in the future.

Teresa Bell,
Independent Chair
Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board
February 2024