

Factsheet 6

Safeguarding Adults Reviews: Information for families and carers

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Introduction

- The aim of a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is to carry out a multi-agency review which seeks to determine what relevant agencies and individuals involved could have done differently that could have prevented harm or a death from taking place. A SAR is held when an adult at risk dies, or experiences serious neglect or abuse, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect them.
- This is to consider whether there are any lessons which may be learned about the way organisations have worked with you and your family.
- We acknowledge this is likely to be a very difficult time for you and we want to learn all we can for the future.
- The Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board believes that you should know about the review and have the opportunity to discuss any concerns that you may have and share any good things about the help you received.
- This information has been designed to explain what happens and what support we offer.

What is a Safeguarding Adults Review?

- The purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review is to establish how organisations, agencies and professionals work together to support families to keep vulnerable adults safe.
- This is not an enquiry into the cause of an individual death or injury.
- It is completely separate from any investigation being undertaken by the Police and/or Coroner and it concentrates on the work of the professionals, organisations and agencies who have been involved with your family.
- A review panel which consists of senior managers from those organisations will meet to have a close look at the work of all the professionals and agencies who have been involved with you and your families.
- The members of this panel could include representatives from Health, Adult Social Care, Police or other organisations that were involved with the individual.
- Other organisations and agencies may be asked to attend or give information.
- Once a Safeguarding Adults Review has been commissioned, each organisation or agency will be asked to gather and analyse any professional records relating to the individual and their family.

What happens next?

- Each agency or organisations will provide to the Safeguarding Adults Review panel full details of when and what services they gave.
- The panel will consider all the reports in detail in order to find out if expected standards of work have been met and organisational or agency policies and procedures have been followed.
- A summary of the decisions that were made, services that were either offered and/or provided and any other actions that were taken will be considered in detail.
- This is to identify whether any lessons can be learned about the way agencies and organisations work together to safeguard vulnerable adults.
- In addition, you will have the opportunity to talk about any involvement that either the individual or their family had with the agencies and organisations.
- When the Review has been completed agencies and organisations will then consider what actions they may need to take to change the way they support vulnerable adults and their families.
- A Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board representative will inform you of the outcome of the Review and of any lessons that have been learned.
- A member of the Review panel (usually the Chair) can arrange to meet with you to discuss this process and your contact with the organisations, agencies and professionals involved.
- A suitable time and venue will be arranged.
- Having support during this meeting is encouraged, this could be a family member or a family friend, or any other professional you think appropriate. Home visits will be agreed if you wish, alternatively a venue of your choice will be considered.
- If you wish to arrange such a meeting please contact the RBSAB Business Unit Manager who will make arrangements for someone to call you back.

Other Information

This is one of a series of factsheets produced by the RBSAB. The factsheets available are:

Factsheet 1: What happens when abuse is reported – Information for adults who may be being abused or neglected

Factsheet 2: Safeguarding Adults – Information for family and friends

Factsheet 3: The stages of the Safeguarding process?

Factsheet 4: What is a Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiry?

Factsheet 5: What is a Section 42 Strategy Meeting?

Factsheet 6: Safeguarding Adult Reviews – Information for families and carers

Factsheet 7: Information for a person alleged to have caused harm

Factsheet 8: What happens after you report a safeguarding adults concern?
Understanding the Safeguarding Process

All the factsheets are available at
www.rochdalesafeguarding.com

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Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board

is committed to Safeguarding Adults

and will continue to establish a society

where there is zero tolerance to adult abuse.