

## **Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs)**

### **Information for Families and Carers and Privacy Notice**

#### **What is the Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board?**

The Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board (BDSAB) is a statutory body under The Care Act 2014. The purpose of the Board is to protect adults at risk and raise awareness of safeguarding adults, throughout the borough. The Board is made up of local partners including the Council, the Metropolitan Police, North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT), Barking, Havering, Redbridge University Hospitals (BHRUT) and Barking and Dagenham Clinical Commissioning Group, the London Fire Brigade and the Probation Service.

#### **What are Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs)?**

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) are part of the Care Act and became law from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015. The SAB has a duty to commission a Safeguarding Adults Review when an adult in its area dies or suffers as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult. The review will look at how the responses of all agencies involved with the person could have been improved to better support them. The aim of the review is to give organisations an opportunity to reflect, learn and put processes in place to prevent similar things happening to others. The review process will ensure that organisations like the Council, the Police, health partners and other community-based organisations understand what happened that led to the incident, are able to identify where responses to the situation could be improved and will also recommend actions to improve services in the future. These reviews will not seek to lay blame, but to consider what happened and what could have been done differently.

#### **Who will undertake the review?**

The Safeguarding Adult Review Committee reports to the Safeguarding Adult Board and is made up of representatives from local partner organisations. This committee will oversee the review and an additional review team or panel may be formed. The committee will often commission an Independent Reviewer to undertake the review and this person will look at all the information available and they may wish to talk to the people involved, including yourself and other family members, if you agree. They will provide a report to the SAB which sets out their findings and recommendations.

### **Your involvement in this review**

We acknowledge that this is likely to be a difficult time for you and we want to learn all we can for the future. It is very important that, wherever possible, we hear the views of the family and carers who knew the adult. We will ensure that you have a point of contact and that we keep you informed of progress and you will have an opportunity to see the report before it is published. We would like to hear about what your family member was like, what your thoughts are about anything positive and anything that could have been done differently about the services they received. You might also want to recommend other people who should be invited to give their views. You can give your thoughts and views in whichever way you feel comfortable including in writing, via a telephone conversation or face-to-face. If you do not wish to be involved we will respect your decision.

### **What happens to the information you share?**

The information you share will help the review team to build a comprehensive picture of what happened to the person and in turn will help the team formulate their recommendations for change. Your input will be confidential, and you will not be named in the review report unless you wish to be. Your contribution will be valuable and may help change the way local organisations respond to serious situations in the future.

### **How long will the review process take?**

We aim for the review to be completed within six months, but it could take longer depending on the circumstances. We want to ensure that a comprehensive review is undertaken and there is time for information to be gathered and looked at in a thorough way. The Safeguarding Adult Review Committee will be kept informed of progress of the review.

### **What does the review produce?**

A detailed report outlining an overview of the case and recommendations will be agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board and published on the Council's website. You will have a chance, if you wish, to read the report before it is published. An action plan will be developed to ensure any recommendations made in the report are taken forward appropriately.

### **Things for you to consider**

The decision to take part in this review is entirely yours and if you do not wish to take part, your decision will be respected. If you agree, we will discuss how and when you wish to be contacted and we will also let you know when the review has been completed. You will have an opportunity at this stage to read the report before it is published. If you would like to take part or have any further questions about the review process please contact the Safeguarding Adults Board Team on [bdsab@lbbd.gov.uk](mailto:bdsab@lbbd.gov.uk)