

SSAB NEWSLETTER



ISSUE 40 | AUGUST 2022

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **Local News**
 - WEAAD 2022 update
 - Self-Neglect Multi-Agency Risk Assessment
 - Self-Neglect Poster
- **National News**
 - End Modern Slavery at Hand Car Washes
 - Guidance for Dealing with Forced Marriage
 - Domestic Abuse Act Statutory Guidance
- **Equality, Diversity & Inclusion**
 - Discriminatory Abuse Briefing
- **Learning and Development**
 - SSAB Training Offer 2022-23
 - Dark Web Explained
 - Policy and Procedure Spotlight
 - E-Learning Launch
 - Energy Advice Training for Frontline Staff
 - Panahghar Training Offer
- **Making Safeguarding Personal**
 - Screening Tool for Economic Abuse
 - Advocacy Briefing
 - Predatory Marriage
- **National Policies, Procedures & Guidance**
- **Board & Sub-Committee News**

Contact Info:



ssab@solihull.gov.uk

Connect with Us:



[Website](#)



[Twitter](#)



[YouTube](#)

LOCAL NEWS

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day 15th June 2022 – Update

World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was held on 15th June 2022 and to mark this event, [Age UK Solihull](#) shared information about this day through their website and social media pages. They received photos of staff from local organisations wearing purple and received donations raising a brilliant £332!

Some organisations who have taken part include the Prince of Wales nursing home who sent videos of staff & residents discussing the topic. University Hospitals Birmingham, Ward 515 held a cake sale to mark the day with all proceeds being donated to Age UK Solihull. Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust shared this event on their staff intranet page.

SSAB shared Age UK Solihull's poster, information about the event and the [donation link](#) on the Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council staff intranet site through a pop-up box. SSAB also shared information through their social media page. SSAB's Safeguarding Performance & Development Lead attended Age UK Solihull's club on World Elder Abuse Awareness Day, taking photos of the group and the volunteers who do an amazing job to support the community.

Age UK Solihull have shared that next year they hope to re-introduce face to face events and direct mailing to promote World Elder Abuse Awareness Day in 2023.



Self-Neglect Multi-Agency Risk Assessment

Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board have recently launched a Multi-Agency Self-Neglect Risk Assessment. Solihull Safeguarding Adults Board (with agreement from Birmingham) have decided to adopt this tool and we are encouraging all professionals to familiarise themselves with this tool. It should be completed by professionals concerned about the possible risk of self-neglect and can be used to identify the level of risk. It could also be used to support a referral to Adult Social Care in Solihull. [Find the tool on our website.](#)

The screenshot shows the top portion of a form titled 'Solihull Multi-Agency Self-Neglect Risk Assessment'. It includes a disclaimer, a warning that the tool is not for use with individuals who are not at risk of self-neglect, and a section for 'Referrer Details' with fields for Name, Address, Telephone number, and Email. There is also a section for 'Client Details' with fields for Name, Date of birth, Telephone number, and Address. A 'Risk Level' section is partially visible at the bottom.

Self-Neglect Poster

This self-neglect poster is hoped to be a helpful resource for practitioner's when they are working with someone who may be self-neglecting, offering tools, information, and practical ideas to support them.

This poster is a live design enabling practitioners to scan or click on the QR code to access the resource. The poster is colour coded to reflect the different types of resources available i.e. Articles, Videos, Webinars, etc. The resources are from a range of key websites such as Community Care, Social Care Institute for Excellence and Research in Practice and includes the West Midlands Adult Self-Neglect Best Practice Guidance which is used in Solihull. As mentioned above, we have adopted Birmingham's Self-Neglect Multi-Agency Risk Assessment tool which you can also find a link to, in this poster.



[Find the poster on our website.](#)

NATIONAL NEWS

End Modern Slavery at Hand Car Washes

There are thousands of hand car washes across the UK. You probably pass one every day. While many of these are legitimate businesses, some are run by unscrupulous people determined to exploit their workers to make as much money as possible. In these instances, these workers may be victims of modern slavery.



The Clewer Initiative's Safe Car Wash App enables anyone who has contact with hand car washes to identify and report slavery. By asking a series of questions related to the indicators of modern slavery, the app assesses if there is a high likelihood that modern slavery is occurring at the hand car wash. If modern slavery is likely, the user can submit a report to the Modern Slavery Helpline at the touch of a button.

First launched in 2018, the Safe Car Wash App has been downloaded over 31,000 times, resulting in more than 7,800 reports. Following feedback from users, improvements have been made to the app. Users no longer need to submit any personal details before filing a report. Importantly, reporting slavery and ending exploitation is now easier as users can submit a report at the click of a button. Additionally, numerous changes have been made that make the data gathered more useful to law enforcement agencies.

Download the [Safe Car Wash App](#), submit a report, and help end modern slavery at hand car washes.

Multi-Agency Statutory Guidance for Dealing with Forced Marriage

[This statutory guidance](#) sets out the duties and responsibilities of agencies with the aim of protecting children and adults facing forced marriage. It highlights specific arrangements that may inadvertently place a victim at risk of harm.



Foreign, Commonwealth
& Development Office

These include failure to share information appropriately between agencies, the involvement of families, breaches of confidentiality, and all forms of family counselling, mediation, arbitration and reconciliation.

Frontline professionals handling cases of forced marriage are strongly recommended to consult the [multi-agency practice guidelines](#)

Domestic Abuse Act Statutory Guidance

The Home Office launched its [Domestic Abuse Act Statutory Guidance](#) in July. It is a framework document designed to support organisations to identify and respond to domestic abuse and promote best practice.



Home Office

The guidance has been informed by the results of a public consultation carried out in August and September 2021.

It is aimed at statutory and non-statutory bodies working with victims, including children or perpetrators of domestic abuse, and at those dealing with other consequences of domestic abuse.

EQUALITY, DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

Discriminatory Abuse: A briefing for practitioners

This briefing produced by the Local Government Association, forms part of a larger piece of work, and series of activities and resources, to gain a better understanding of discriminatory abuse, how to recognise equality characteristics in case management, and more broadly recognise unconscious bias and discrimination in practice, approaches, and strategies within adult safeguarding.



[Click here to read the briefing](#)

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

SSAB Training Offer 22-23

The SSAB is proud to share their Training Offer for 2022-2023. There are a range of training sessions on offer such as Domestic Abuse and Coercive control, 'Safeguarding Vulnerable Dependent Drinkers', Professional Curiosity, and LGBT 101: Terminology, Legislation and Inequalities.

Taking part in learning and development is crucial to enabling practitioners to undertake their role effectively. Please take a look using the links below and book on to the training sessions via Eventbrite, using the links included in the Offer.

You can view the [training offer on our website](#), or a [PDF version](#).



Dark Web Explained

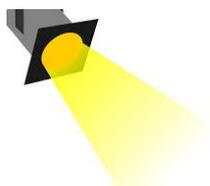
This resource has been developed by the National Crime Agency in collaboration with The Children's Society and Marie Collins Foundation in response to recommendations from professionals and from research which found that many professionals, parents and carers do not understand the Dark Web and feel unequipped to talk to a young person about it should the need arise.



The Dark Web explained consists of a short informational film with a separate fact sheets for professionals and parents and carers.

[Find the resources here](#)

Policy and Procedure Spotlight – Home Invasion



This section of the newsletter will draw attention to policy, procedure, or guidance in Solihull. This time we are focussing on home invasion.

Home invasion is when a person's home is used by other people for criminal activities. These activities are usually the production, storage and/or supply of drugs or weapons and can sometimes involve holding parties & encouraging sexual activity. It can be part of a bigger, organised plan to move drugs, weapons, and people around the country. It means someone is trying to invade a home and take it over. You might have heard this referred to as "cuckooing". The term was adopted because a cuckoo will often take over another bird's nest destroying the eggs in it and lay its own eggs for the bird to look after; so, it is a term that has been used instead of saying that someone is trying to invade a home and take it over.

Often it starts by a person trying really hard to be nice to someone they have targeted, giving them more and more attention, offering to help them out or buy them things that they may need or want as gifts. When they have gained trust and the person starts to see them as a friend, they find ways to turn the friendship into something else – asking them to do things like store packages, allow parties at their home.

These are some of the most common signs to look out for. If you notice any of these

things it could mean that the person's home is being invaded:

- An increase in people you don't know leaving or entering the home
- An increase in cars, taxis, or bikes outside
- Increase in litter outside
- Increase in antisocial behaviour
- Property falls into disrepair
- Signs of drug/ alcohol use and/or parties
- Friends or family members are no longer able to visit
- Person becomes withdrawn
- Person has items that you feel they may not usually be able to afford

Find out more information about exploitation on our website here [Solihull Exploitation Procedures and Guidance](#), including a leaflet you can share with people you are supporting or their families here [Is My Home Being Invaded?](#)



There is also an easy to read version of the leaflet available here [Is my home being invaded? Easy to read version](#)

E-Learning Launch

We are pleased to announce that we have launched our new Safeguarding Awareness E-learning resource. We have been working really hard behind the scenes on this to produce an up to date and user-friendly e-learning product that will provide an introduction to safeguarding adults.



[Find the new E-learning resource here.](#)

FREE Energy Advice Training for Front Line Staff

Are you a front-line worker who works with vulnerable clients? Has the recent cost of living crisis worried you or your service users?

The pressures in the last 2 years have left more households than ever struggling to pay their energy bills. Having a better understanding of fuel poverty, and what steps can be taken to tackle it, could help you support those most in need.



This free training session will cover:

- What is Fuel Poverty – and its impact
- Understanding the Energy Crisis, inc. a global and UK perspective, the price cap and why this is happening
- What help is available now
- Longer term solutions

To view and book onto planned dates please click on the following link:

[Energy Advice Training Tickets | Eventbrite](#)

Panahghar Training Offer

[Panahghar](#) are offering two free training sessions as below:



Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse
Wednesday 14th September 2022 - 09:30 to 13:00
Microsoft Teams

Book - [Forced Marriage and Honour Based Abuse Tickets](#) | [Eventbrite](#)

Honour based abuse (HBA) is an umbrella term that encompasses a wide range of criminal offences and abuse which is inflicted on individuals within and by families, extended kin and other social groups with the intention of controlling and regulating unwanted behaviours. HBA occurs to protect the culture, tradition, beliefs, and honour of a family within the community. Any contact a victim has with an external agency could be lifesaving as it might be the one and only opportunity they have to speak up and reach out. Raising awareness is important to break the silence of this hidden crime which otherwise thrives and goes undetected.

Immigration: A case of BME Domestic Abuse Victims
Thursday 15th December 2022 - 09:30 to 13:00
Microsoft Teams

Book – [Immigration: A case of BME Domestic Abuse Victims Tickets](#) | [Eventbrite](#)

What different types of visas are there? What happens to victims of domestic abuse who are in the UK on a spousal visa? How can you help victims who have no recourse to public funds? How do you apply for DDVC? (Destitution Domestic Violence Concession) What is Indefinite Leave to Remain? What about asylum seekers and refugees? What about the EU and EEA settlement scheme? This training session explores all these ideas and considers how immigration and immigration status is and can be linked to domestic abuse.

MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL

Tool Supporting Conversations on Economic Abuse

Domestic abuse takes many forms. Some abusers repeatedly dictate their partner's choices and everyday actions, and may restrict how they acquire, use, and maintain money and economic resources such as housing, food, and transport. This is known as economic abuse. Surviving Economic Abuse have launched a toolkit designed to support you to identify whether someone you are working with is experiencing this form of abuse.



[Find the link to the tool here - Screening for Economic Abuse.](#)

NATIONAL POLICIES, PROCEDURES & GUIDANCE

[Child Protection in England - National review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson](#) published by The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel 26th May 2022.

This national review was initiated in the context of widespread public distress about the circumstances of the deaths of Arthur and Star following the conclusion of two murder trials. The review has distinct chapters covering Arthur and Star's stories with local recommendations made for Solihull and Bradford. There then follows an analysis of the current picture of child protection in England with a set of national recommendations including a significant redesign of child protection practice.



Child Safeguarding
Practice Review Panel

[Draft Mental Health Bill](#) published by Department of Health and Social Care and Ministry of Justice 27th June 2022.



Department
of Health &
Social Care

This draft bill aims to deliver on two government manifesto commitments:

- to reform the Mental Health Act
- to improve the way that people with a learning disability and autistic people are treated in law

This draft legislation is intended to give effect to the policy approaches outlined in Sir Simon Wessely's independent review in 2018. These were subsequently taken forward in the government's white paper Reforming the Mental Health Act in 2021.

[LeDeR Annual Report 2021 - Learning from lives and deaths - People with a learning disability and autistic people](#)



This year's report found a number of things:

1. People with a learning disability continue to have a much shorter life expectancy than the wider general public, with 6 out of 10 dying before age 65, compared to 1 out of 10 for people from the general population. Those with epilepsy and from minority ethnic backgrounds were more likely to die younger.
2. The most common cause of death based on death certificates during 2021 was COVID-19. The estimated excess deaths during 2021 compared to pre-pandemic years was double that of the general population. Being vaccinated reduced the likelihood of dying of COVID-19.
3. Approximately half of all deaths of people with a learning disability were deemed to be avoidable, compared to less than a quarter for people from the general population.

*Although deaths of autistic people are now included in the LeDeR programme, they were not included in this report because this report covers deaths from January 2021 to December 2021 and deaths of autistic people have only been reviewed since January 2022.

[Easy Read version](#)

[Take home facts \(infographic format\)](#)

BOARD & SUB-COMMITTEE NEWS

Safeguarding Adults Board Meeting

The Board's **priority for 2022-23** is:

Board oversight of quality and risk, with due consideration given to the long-term impact of Covid-19, taking into account the learning to date.

At the meeting on 9th June 2022, we received an update on work being undertaken by commissioning following a report by NICE on sexual incidents in care homes in the UK. We agreed to refresh and update our Memorandum of Understanding and received an update on the implementation of Birmingham & Solihull's Integrated Care System. We agreed a refresh and update to our risk register to reflect the issues organisations are currently working to resolve. Finally, we heard about the work in Solihull to support Ukrainian refugees and the safeguards in place.

Next Board meeting is 1st September 2022

Safeguarding Adults Review Sub-Committee

At our meeting on 9th August 2022 we discussed the key learning from a completed Domestic Homicide Review due to be published later this year, and how we can ensure the learning from this case is embedded in practice. We also received a report detailing the improvements made to the local response to homelessness, following the Safeguarding Adults Review of [Paul](#) which was very positive, we agreed some actions to further improve awareness of homelessness resources. We received the findings from a multi-agency all age audit of cases involving exploitation and considered the recommendations which will be overseen by Solihull's Exploitation Reduction Delivery Group. We also discussed and agreed some actions to help keep learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews in the collective memory of organisations to support frontline practice.

Next meeting is 8th November 2022

Engagement & Prevention Sub-Committee

At our meeting on 26th July, the group received information about Predatory Marriage and the findings from Healthwatch, Solihull. Feedback was sought for the Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board's online feedback forms which support people/ family/ professionals to share their experiences of their safeguarding process. Feedback was also sought for Solihull's Safeguarding Awareness E-learning. The group received information about the Solihull Place Survey and discussions were encouraged to share what concerns people may have fed back to partner organisations. The sub-committees Terms of Reference was reviewed and the Risk Register for this subcommittee was discussed.

Next meeting is 11th October 2022

Performance & Audit Sub-Committee

At our meeting on 28th July, the group received information from the Performance Dashboard for the previous quarter, received feedback following a health dip sample audit and received information from UHB regarding their MSP Audit findings. The group agreed plans to undertake single agency audits regarding practitioners understanding of MCA and DoLS and agreed plans to share their organisation's response & actions to cases which don't progress to Local Authority referrals. A draft action plan for SAB following the JTAI and National review was shared with the group and provisional timescales agreed. A new Audit schedule was shared with the group for feedback and the Exploitation Case File Audit Report & Action Plan was discussed. The sub-committees Terms of Reference was reviewed and the Risk Register for this subcommittee was discussed.

Next meeting is 27th October 2022

Policies & Procedures Sub-Committee

At our meeting on 5th July 2022 we agreed to share locally a tool to support practitioners with discussing economic abuse – see Making Safeguarding Personal section of this newsletter. We also agreed to use Birmingham’s Self Neglect Assessment Tool in Solihull. This tool was developed by Kirkless and Birmingham Safeguarding Adult Board and is a practical tool to help practitioners concerned about possible risk of self-neglect – see local news section of the newsletter. We also received an update on some “Engaging Adults” guidance currently being produced by SSAB’s Performance and Development Lead.

Next meeting is 18th October 2022.

Learning & Improvement Sub-Committee

At our meeting on 14th July, the group received information about LGBT+ and Domestic Abuse and information about Predatory Marriage. The group was asked for feedback regarding the SSAB Self-Neglect Poster and Birmingham’s Self-Neglect Risk Assessment tool, both were positively received. Solihull SAB’s Safeguarding Awareness E-learning was shared with the group for feedback and the group was asked for topic ideas for the reinstated Learning Forum starting in September. We considered and agreed to commission training as part of SAB’s Training Offer. An Economic Abuse Screening Tool was shared with the group as a practical tool to help practitioners to support people they work with. The sub-committees Terms of Reference was reviewed and the Risk Register for this subcommittee was discussed.

Next meeting is 13th October 2022



Sue Ross
SSAB Independent Chair



Rachel Swain
SSAB Business Manager
rachel.swain@solihull.gov.uk
Tel: 0121 788 4376



Kirti Mistry
SSAB Performance & Development Lead
kirti.mistry@solihull.gov.uk
Tel: 0121 704 7491



Demi Williams
SSAB Management Assistant
demi.williams@solihull.gov.uk
Tel: 0121 788 4387



Rhys Cartwright
SSAB Administrator
rhys.cartwright@solihull.gov.uk
Tel: 0121 788 4390

West Midlands Adult Safeguarding Policy & Procedures

Adult Safeguarding: Multi-Agency Policy and Procedures for the protection of adults with care and support needs in the West Midlands --- [Click here to view the Procedures](#)

To Report Abuse

Tel: **0121 704 8007** (Office Hours)
Tel: **0121 605 6060** (Out of Hours)
Tel: **101** – Police (Call **999** in an emergency)

Safeguarding Referral Form

Public - [Find the details on our website](#)
Professionals - [Click here to make a referral to SMBC Adult Social Care](#)