

# Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board

## Newsletter, December/January 2017/2018



### Chair's welcome

Although we are only at the start of the New Year, 2018 already promises to bring some significant changes to both the board's work and to local safeguarding systems.

The board agreed in December to change the way we work. While we have had four very well attended meetings each year, there is potential for us to do more to make partnership work more effectively. We benefit from having strong representation from across local agencies but we also need to ensure key statutory partners are meeting regularly to discuss emerging issues and agree what actions need to be taken. From April, senior colleagues from Wiltshire Council, Wiltshire Police and NHS Wiltshire Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) will attend an executive meeting once every two months to have those discussions.

This year the board will also publish local Safeguarding Adults Reviews which will tell us more about what we are doing well and what we are not. We know already that two of these reviews are likely to show we need to do more to improve application of the Mental Capacity Act (2005) and to help practitioners recognise and react to the signs of self-neglect. The board's role is to share what we learn and to ask you and your agencies how you are going to change your practice to improve the way we protect vulnerable adults.

Across the partnership work continues to develop a Multi-Agency Development Hub (MASH) for adults. Having professionals from social care, the police and health working together, more closely than ever, can only be a good thing for adults at risk in Wiltshire and I look forward to seeing how plans develop.

We hope to see many of you at our learning events this year – for those of you we don't, may I wish you a good 2018!

**Richard Crompton**  
Independent Chairman of Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board

### Find out more about

This month Healthwatch Wiltshire have turned the spotlight on safeguarding Wiltshire's vulnerable adults. As board chair Richard has been talking to their Highlight team and the interview features in the Spring edition of the magazine. [You can read more here.](#)



### Local learning – Safeguarding Adults Reviews

An independent reviewer is currently undertaking two reviews for the board which will be published in the Spring. Karen Rees has previously written reports for the [Darlington](#) and [Rotherham](#) safeguarding boards and is now using the Significant Learning Incident Methodology to produce two reviews for WSAB.

As part of these reviews, practitioners have been brought together at learning events where they have discussed cases and practice. This discussion has informed the review process and ensures that all of the agencies involved with the vulnerable adult at the centre of each review have met and had the chance to discuss how the system could have worked better to prevent harm.

WSAB reviews will be published at [www.wiltshiresab.org.uk](http://www.wiltshiresab.org.uk) and an update will be provided in the February/March newsletter.

### Bristol Safeguarding Adult Board (BSAB) - 'Melissa' Serious Case Review

In Autumn, BSAB published a Serious Case Review into the case of Melissa Mathieson. Melissa was an 18 year old woman who was murdered in 2014 by a 19 year old man. Both of these young adults were placed in an independent care home in Bristol by their respective local authorities elsewhere in the UK shortly before Melissa's death.

The review highlighted learning of national significance related to Melissa's transition from children's to adults' services, risk assessments, and out-of-area placements. It identified areas of practice which need to change and gives recommendations to help keep people safe. These issues have been raised at our own board with local agencies to check that our systems are better placed to protect vulnerable young adults. An update will be provided to the March board on how member agencies have responded.

You can read the full BSAB response to the review can be found [here](#).

## #16 Days of Action

With more than 3,000 domestic abuse incidents reported in Wiltshire in 16/17, reducing domestic abuse has been and continues to be a priority for local partners. In December, members of WSAB, our Safeguarding Children Board and our Community Safety Partnership helped to raise awareness of this year's '16 days of action on domestic abuse' campaign.

Colleagues from across local organisations came together to hear the heart-breaking story of 20 year old Hollie Gazzard, who was tragically murdered in 2014 by an ex-partner. Hollie's father Nick shared her story and told of his determination to raise awareness of stalking, harassment and domestic abuse. As a result Nick and his family created [the Hollie Gazzard Trust](#). The trust helps reduce domestic abuse through creating and delivering programmes on domestic abuse and promoting healthy relationships, and the session held was a chance to learn about and discuss effective practice. The event helped raise awareness of stalking and harassment and the work being done elsewhere to combat domestic abuse.



## Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board learning event

### Applying the Mental Capacity Act – learning from local experience

On the morning of Wednesday 14 March 2017, Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board will be holding a free learning event in Devizes. This will be an opportunity to hear from local experts and to gain a better understanding of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 to ensure that you, and your teams, are using the act as a framework to empower people to make decisions for themselves wherever possible, and to protect those who lack capacity. The focus of the event will be learning from real life case studies.

Please let the team know if you are interested in attending or if you want to extend this invitation to key staff within your organisation who would benefit from attending for professional development or because they have a particular role or interest in the programme content.

The event is aimed at anyone working in health or social care or who is working with vulnerable adults.

Any **expression of interest should be sent to** [lsab@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:lsab@wiltshire.gov.uk) no later than **14 February**. Places are limited and we are looking to have multi-agency representation so will confirm places by 23 February.

## Wiltshire Community Safety Partnership Vulnerability Event

### The changing face of vulnerability – learning from survivor's stories

This March, Wiltshire's Community Safety Partnership will be running a learning event for senior colleagues and practitioners. The event will focus on how the changing nature of crime locally and nationally is impacting on the profile of victims and increasing vulnerability to criminal exploitation. The day will include a series of sessions led by survivors and professionals and look at how local partners can work to tackle key areas of vulnerability. The sessions will cover:

- County Lines, dangerous drugs networks and criminal exploitation of the vulnerable
- Child sexual exploitation
- Human trafficking
- Radicalisation
- Harassment and stalking

WSAB members will be there to learn from experiences across Wiltshire and Swindon and share information across local partnerships. The discussions that take place will inform the development of a strategy to tackle these challenges. If you want to know more about the event please email [katherine.hoskin@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:katherine.hoskin@wiltshire.gov.uk)

## Training Opportunities

The Church of England has its own Safeguarding training and a framework of courses to suit everyone associated with the church and how much they are involved. The most advanced courses are for clergy and others employed but there are also sessions for laity, including members of the Parochial Church Council who are the local group of laity managing their local church. Details of these courses can be found on [the diocese of Salisbury website](#).



Stay up to date with the board @WiltshireSAB on Twitter or visit [www.wiltshiresab.org.uk](http://www.wiltshiresab.org.uk) to find information about how to protect people with care and support needs from abuse and neglect.

**If you have news or information to share please contact the board at** [LSAB@wiltshire.gov.uk](mailto:LSAB@wiltshire.gov.uk)