The Board has published a report from the Safeguarding Adult Review into the circumstances leading up to the death of “Tom”.

Tom was found dead in his flat in May 2016. A man was subsequently convicted of his murder and sentenced to life imprisonment and must serve a minimum of 21 years in prison.

The Board held a Safeguarding Adult Review in 2016. The purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review is not to reinvestigate or apportion blame but to establish whether lessons can be learnt from the circumstances of a case that may improve practice or the way in which agencies and professionals work together to safeguard vulnerable adults.

The focus of Safeguarding Adult Reviews, in line with both multi-agency policy and national guidance, is to:

- Learn from past experience and the specific event examined;
- Improve future practice and outcomes by acting on learning identified by the review;
- Improve multi-agency working and compliance with any other multiagency or single agency procedures.

Safeguarding Adults Reviews used to be known as Serious Case Reviews.

The full report from the Review into Tom’s death can be found at [www.rbsab.org](http://www.rbsab.org) where it will be available for 12 months.
The Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board (RBSAB) meets every three months and each newsletter carries a summary of what was discussed.

The last Board meeting was in February 2017.

The final report of the Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) into the death of “Adult B” was presented to the Board. Adult B was murdered in Rochdale recently and the Board extended its sympathies and thoughts to his family and friends.

A SAR is undertaken when an adult at risk of abuse or neglect dies and it is felt that agencies have lessons to learn about the way they worked together. The report is anonymised so the person who died is known as Adult B.

The report was studied and discussed. It contains a number of recommendations for partner agencies - these were accepted in full by the Board and will be actioned as soon as possible. The Board will receive updates at subsequent meetings to ensure these are completed. Following the Board meeting discussions a number of associated actions for Board partners were agreed upon. At the time of the meeting this was agreed for publication and is now available on the www.rbsab.org website and will remain publically available for twelve months.

The Board undertook its annual business planning session. All reports of the progress of the sub-groups were scrutinised and signed off, and their work-plans for the coming year were discussed and agreed.

There are eight sub-groups of the Board, four of which are joint groups with the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Children’s Board. The sub-groups are:

- Training (Joint)
- Communications and Engagement (Joint)
- Excellence in Practice
- Safeguarding Adult Review Screening
- Safeguarding Adult Review
- Complex Safeguarding (Joint)
- Quality Assurance and Practice Improvement (Joint)
- Policy and Procedure

The next issue of this newsletter provide a detailed breakdown of the responsibilities and actions of these sub-groups.

Next year the Board will meet six times, instead of four times as it has in previous years.
Community Safeguarding Forum

The first meeting of the Rochdale Community Safeguarding Forum was held on the evening of 23rd March. The forum, which is open to representatives of community groups, faith organisations, sports clubs etc., attracted 25 attendees from across the Borough.

The Forum discussed how partners could work better together, how information and learning could be shared and planned how future meetings should work.

For more information about the Forum please contact rbsb.admin@rochdale.gov.uk

Lots of free adult safeguarding resources on the SCIE website

The website of the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) gives access to training, e-learning, resources and guidance on a whole range of safeguarding issues.

www.scie.org.uk/adults/safeguarding/
Who’s who?

In each issue we introduce a member of the Board, to help people understand who is on the Board and the types of backgrounds and jobs they have.

This issue features Shirley Waller from Link4Life.

Hello my name is Shirley Waller and I am Health Interventions Manager in Link4Life Culture, Health & Participation Team.

I have been a Company Safeguarding Officer (1 of 8) for over 10 years and a member of the Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Adults Board for 2 years now.

I am responsible for updating our company Adult Safeguarding Policy, providing training for new staff and volunteers on company safeguarding practices and advising managers and staff on queries or concerns.

Link4Life is an independent company and a registered charity, governed by a board of trustees who act in a voluntary capacity.

The purpose of the Trust is to lead and manage the delivery of leisure & cultural provision in Rochdale Borough which gives residents and visitors the opportunity to lead the active, creative and healthy lifestyle of their choice.

My current role involves managing the Health & Wellbeing team within the Chaps service and includes:

- Lead & manage a range of programmes of activity which promote better health & wellbeing for local people
- Lead implementation of Borough Health & Wellbeing Strategy & promotion of physically active lifestyles
- Deliver specialist programmes which address main causes of ill health & help the management of long term health conditions and promote rehabilitation & recovery

My team work primarily with people who are frail & elderly, have complex health conditions or disabilities, helping them to improve mobility, prevent falls & promote active ageing.

As a company, we work with all age ranges from babies to older adults up to 90+ years of age and are committed to ensuring the safety of all our customers, volunteers and staff.
To keep up-to-date with safeguarding developments, initiatives and reports you can subscribe to the RBSAB website. Each time a page is updated, we’ll send you a message!
GM is UK’s First City Region with zero tolerance to FGM

Local leaders have declared Greater Manchester the first city region in the UK to have zero tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation (FGM).

FGM involves the partial or total removal of the external genitalia or injury to the female genital organs whether for cultural or any other non-therapeutic reasons. Although illegal in the United Kingdom, 530 reports of FGM were made to health professionals in 2016 by females in Greater Manchester and many women are forced to live with the long term impacts of the procedure, including gynaecological problems and mental health issues.

Unfortunately, due to the ‘hidden’ nature of the crime, the true number of victims is unknown.

Jaria Hussain-Iala, Chair of the Greater Manchester FGM Forum said: "FGM is a deeply harmful cultural practice that can cause immense damage to the wellbeing of women and girls. I am very proud that we are to become the UK’s first city region to have zero tolerance for FGM. Greater Manchester agencies have been at the forefront in addressing this sensitive and complex issue for many years, but there is still much more to do.

Survivors/victims and professionals across Greater Manchester can contact the Guardian Project to find support and advice about FGM on 07449651677 or email them at guardian.project@outlook.com.”

One of Greater Manchester’s most high-profile efforts to combat FGM is Operation Limelight, which takes place every summer at Manchester Airport. The multi-agency operation sees Greater Manchester Police, Border Force, the Airport, partners and charities speak to holiday makers to assist victims and those who wish to report concerns about FGM.

Detective Chief Inspector Myra Ball from Greater Manchester Police said “FGM carries a maximum sentence of 14 years in prison and we will work with our partners and support organisations to do everything that we can to prevent and stop them to keep children safe. We do need the public’s help in doing this though. FGM legislation sets a mandatory duty for health, social care professionals and teachers to make a report to the police, and I would like to encourage those who sit outside this category to please come forward with any information, speak to either us or one of our partners so that we can offer support and advice.”
**Monitoring the Mental Health Act report**

Monitoring the Mental Health Act in 2015/16, the CQC’s annual report on the use of the Mental Health Act (MHA), looks at how providers are caring for patients, and whether patient’s rights are being protected.

[Monitoring the Mental Health Act in 2015/2016 can be accessed here.](#)

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**State of health care and adult social care in England 2015/16**

Demands are increasing on health and social care. State of Care – our annual overview of health and social care in England – looks at the trends, highlights examples of good and outstanding care, and identifies factors that maintain high-quality care.

Most services provide people with good care, but variation exists. Some care services are closing, increasing pressure on other services including GP practices and hospitals. Strong leadership and collaboration will be important to ensure services improve and quality is maintained.

[Read the interactive summary here](#)

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**Quick Guide for people who arrange their own home care**

SCIE and NICE have published a Quick Guide for people who use home care, their families and their carers.

The guide tells you what you should expect from a good home care service, what to do if you are not happy with the standard of care and much more information.

[The document is available to view here.](#)
This service aims to create an awareness of unhealthy behaviours and support individuals in working towards changing their behaviour in order to improve their relationships with current or ex-partners.

Once completed the Striving for Change clients may have an opportunity to be referred for further behaviour change intervention.

At the point of referral client will be contacted for an assessment from a dedicated assessment and referral worker.

As part of the process the client’s ex/current partners may be contacted for support.

For referral form and more information contact:

Sherish Aslam
📞 07715 665019
📬 sherishaslam@relategms.org.uk

Beverley Browning
📬 beverleybrowning@interservefls.gse.gov.uk
Are you and your family safe?

The Greater Manchester Fire and Rescue Service are committed to reducing fire deaths and injuries by ensuring that every home in the county has a working smoke alarm. To ensure that this happens they are offering FREE Safe and Well visits that may include FREE fitted 10 year smoke alarms, where appropriate.

A Safe and Well visit is where the Fire Service will:
* Visit your home at a convenient time.
* Carry out a room by room safety check of your property identifying and making you aware of any potential fire risks.
* Ensure you have a working smoke alarm on each floor level that you use and if you don’t, they may fit a FREE ten year smoke alarm where appropriate.
* Help you put together an escape plan in case a fire breaks out in the future.
* They will also offer advice on home security and health and wellbeing, where appropriate.

For more information visit www.manchesterfire.gov.uk

Free Training!

The Rochdale Borough Safeguarding Boards offer a programme of free multi agency safeguarding training for people working with children, young people, adults at risk of abuse or neglect and their families.

The 2016-2017 training programme is now available together with guidance to help you pick which course is most appropriate for you. The training is provided by practitioners who can provide up-to-date, practical guidance and direction. The training ranges from full day courses to 2 or 3 hour seminars, and 1 hour lunch and learn sessions.

Courses are free but there is a charge for non-attendance. In addition there are various e-learning courses available from other sources, details of which can be found on the Board’s website. 7 minute briefings are also available, which are a quick and easy way to learn about a subject in a limited time. 7 minute briefings are on the Board’s website, and more will be added over the coming months.

Details of available training and how to book a place can be found on the www.rbsab.org website.
Communities Defeat Terrorism

The police and the security and intelligence agencies depend on information from you. Be their eyes and ears and help keep yourself, your family and your local community safe by looking out for suspicious activity and reporting it to the police, in confidence.

You may see or hear something that could be that vital piece of information needed to stop a terrorist attack.

Terrorism is rare in the UK, but an attack could happen at any time or place without warning. The current threat to the UK stands at severe, which means an attack is highly likely.

By working together with the police, staying alert and thinking about your safety and security at home or work or when you are out and about, you can make it harder for terrorists to plan or carry out an attack.

What can YOU do?

If you have any information about suspicious activity or behaviour, you can report it in confidence, either by calling the police or making an online report.

There’s lots of information about what to look for and different ways to report concerns, as well as posters to download and an explanation of what happens when you make a report, on https://act.campaign.gov.uk/

Call the police confidentially on 0800 789 321.
What are Deferred Payments?

A deferred payment agreement is an arrangement with the local authority that lets people use the value of their homes to help pay care home costs.

If you’re eligible, the council will pay the costs and the amounts paid are accrued as debt against your property.

You can delay repaying the council until you choose to sell your home, or until after your death.

You will sign a legal agreement with the council, saying that the money will be repaid when your home is sold.

The local authority usually ensures that the money you owe in care fees will be repaid by putting a legal charge on your property.

It does this by contacting the Land Registry to place the charge. The charge is removed when the outstanding debt is repaid.

You can’t usually use more than 90% of the value of your home to pay for fees.

This is to leave you or the executor of your will with enough money to cover the sale costs and to make sure the local authority gets their money back if house prices fall.

A deferred payment scheme will become effective after you’ve been in a care home for 12 weeks or more. This is because the local authority should assist with the funding of your care and disregard the value of your property for the first 12 weeks. Short-term stays in care homes aren’t covered by the scheme.

More details can be found at https://mycare.rochdale.gov.uk/web/portal/pages/moneymatters/payingservices/rc/deferred
To report a Safeguarding concern

If you or an adult you know is in immediate danger contact 999 or call 101 if you think a crime has been committed.

Or contact:

Rochdale Borough Adult Care
Access and Intervention Team
0300 303 8886 [Office hours Monday - Friday 8.30am - 4.45pm]
Email: social.services@rochdale.gov.uk
Web: www.rochdale.gov.uk/mycare

Rochdale Borough Council

Duty Team
0300 303 8875 [Out of hours]

Feedback

If you have any suggestions for topics or comments about this newsletter, please contact Carl Travis on 01706 922594 or email carl.travis@rochdale.gov.uk