

Welcome to the newsletter from the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB). The GSAB is a multi-agency partnership that is committed to promoting the health and well-being of adults at risk in our community.

As well as this newsletter, we also send out GSAB Alerts to those signed up to our mailing list. Alerts are sent via email and provide information on hot topics. To sign up for GSAB Alerts, please visit <https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/gsab/> and sign up in the top right hand corner of the homepage.

GSAB Vision

“To provide assurance that adults at risk are safeguarded from abuse and neglect. All partner agencies of the GSAB will work together to assure that people who have care and support needs are empowered to be kept safe from harm, abuse and neglect and that when abuse occurs, partner organisations respond effectively and proportionately”.

How to report a safeguarding concern

- Professionals: Use the Online Portal
<https://forms.gloucestershire.gov.uk/AdultSocialCareReferral>
- Members of the public: Telephone 01452 426868 (8am to 5pm Monday to Friday). You can also email: socialcare.enq@gloucestershire.gov.uk
- For out of hours, call the Emergency Duty Team on 01452 614194

Information that would be helpful includes:

- Why you are concerned
- The name, age and address of the adult at risk
- If anyone lives with them
- If they are getting help from any organisation
- Who may be causing the abuse

Don't delay in reporting the abuse, even if you are not sure about some of these details.

GCC Safeguarding Adults Single Point of Access

The Single Point of Access (SPA) continues to be successful. Professionals making a referral receive a response via the Online Portal regarding the outcome of the referral, which has been a positive development.

Care providers remain the largest group of referrers, with health and the police being second largest. The next steps are to roll out the portal to the Blue Light Services who currently still use the Adult Helpdesk.

1887 referrals have been received since the start of the Portal and the weekly average is 471. Almost half of the referrals are passed to the team as a safeguarding concern, which has increased the workload of the practitioners. However, the referrals are appropriate and relevant.

The Portal has helped to identify trends and common themes, which has enabled effective information sharing with commissioning teams and partners.

The next steps are to plan for the Blue Light Services using the Portal, as NHS 111 SWAST and Police are still using the Adult Helpdesk to make referrals.

The feedback about the SPA from professionals continues to be positive overall, with very few issues with the Portal being reported.

Use the following link to make a referral:

<https://forms.gloucestershire.gov.uk/AdultSocialCareReferral>



GSAB Roadshows 2024

The theme of the 2024 GSAB Roadshows is 'Reviews in Gloucestershire', with presentations on

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs), Children's Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs). There will be a face to face event at The Pavilion, Cheltenham on the afternoon of Wednesday 10th April and a virtual event, with the same content, on the morning of Tuesday 16th April (via MS Teams).

To book a place on either event, please use the Eventbrite links below:

Face to Face Event (10/04/24)

[GSAB Roadshow \(Face to Face\) Tickets, Wed 10 Apr 2024 at 13:00 | Eventbrite](#)

Virtual Event (16/04/24)

[GSAB Roadshow \(Virtual Event\) Tickets, Tue, Apr 16, 2024 at 9:30 AM | Eventbrite](#)

Being Carer Aware: How Gloucestershire Carers Hub Empowers You and Your Clients

As professionals working in Gloucestershire, we encounter individuals in numerous caring roles every day. Whether you're a social worker, healthcare provider, community leader, or another dedicated professional, you understand the invaluable impact unpaid Carers have on the lives of others. But what about their own well-being?



Introducing Gloucestershire Carers Hub

Imagine a resource specifically designed to support the unpaid Carers you work with, empowering them to navigate their challenging roles with greater confidence and well-being. That's what Gloucestershire Carers Hub offers.

Here's how they benefit both you and your clients:

For Your Clients:

- **Comprehensive Support:** The Hub provides emotional support, information, guidance, and practical assistance, ranging from support groups, training, exercise sessions and more. This empowers unpaid Carers to manage stress, access resources and information.
- **Improved Well-being:** By addressing unpaid Carers' needs, the Hub helps them prioritise their own physical and mental health, leading to increased resilience, reduced stress, and a renewed ability to care for

those they support. This ultimately translates to improved well-being for both unpaid Carers and the individuals they support.

- **Stronger Connections:** The Hub fosters connections between unpaid Carers through Carer Cafes and online coffee mornings, creating a sense of community and belonging, reducing feelings of isolation, and offering valuable peer support.

For You:

- **Empowered Clients:** When unpaid Carers feel supported and informed, they become more effective advocates for those they support, leading to smoother interactions and collaborations.
- **Reduced Workload:** By connecting your clients with the Hub's resources, you can alleviate the pressure on yourself and focus on other aspects of your professional role.

Promoting Awareness:

- **Share resources:** Inform your clients about the Hub's services through leaflets, website links, Be Connected programme or presentations.
- **Make referrals:** Connect clients who might benefit from the Hub's support directly to our services by referring online: [Refer a Carer - Gloucestershire Carers Hub](#)
- **Collaborate with the Hub:** Explore opportunities for joint workshops or information sessions.

Together, we can create a stronger support network for Gloucestershire's Carers, enabling them to thrive and continue their invaluable roles.

Visit the Gloucestershire Carers Hub website: [What do Gloucestershire Carers Hub Offer? - Gloucestershire Carers Hub](#) or call 0300 111 9000 to learn more about Carer Aware and the information available for you.

Supporting unpaid Carers is not just about them; it's about creating a ripple effect of positive change that benefits the individuals they support, the wider community, and ultimately, themselves. Let's work together to ensure no Carer feels alone in their journey.

Learning from GSAB Audits - Discriminatory Abuse

A multi-agency audit was conducted in November on the theme of Discriminatory Abuse. Below is the learning from this audit. [Leaflets and handouts | Safeguarding Adults in Gloucestershire](#)

GSAB Safeguarding Audit Group - LEARNING ON A PAGE November 2023



Clare's Law Domestic Abuse Disclosure

This scheme enables the police to release information about any previous history of violence or abuse a person might have. Under Clare's Law you can:

- apply for information about your current or ex-partner because you're worried they may have a history of abuse and are a risk to you
- request information about the current or ex-partner of a friend or relative because you're worried they might be at risk

Please note: The Clare's Law (DVDS) scheme does not replace: CRB (Criminal Record Bureau) Checks, DBS (Disclosure and Barring Service) checks, subject access requests or FOI requests.

[Request information under Clare's Law: Make a Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme \(DVDS\) application | Gloucestershire Constabulary](#)

GSAB Updated Policies and Procedures

The following have been updated in the last month:

- Medication Errors and Safeguarding Guidance
- Safeguarding vs safeguarding
- GSAB Board Member Induction Pack
- Safer Recruitment Guidance
- Escalation of Professional Differences Guidance
- Self-Neglect Guidance



Copies can be found on the GSAB Website: [Multi agency safeguard policy and procedures | Safeguarding Adults in Gloucestershire](#)

Discharging People at Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness

Homelessness is not just about housing. People at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, often have physical and mental ill health including high levels of frailty, brain injury and disability.

These long-term conditions interact with each other (so called 'multimorbidity') and are often exacerbated by:

- poverty
- psychological trauma
- drug and alcohol use
- self-neglect

People at risk of, or experiencing homelessness, die at a much younger age on average than the general population. These premature deaths could be prevented with better access to healthcare. New guidance published on 26th January 2024, Discharging People at Risk of or Experiencing Homelessness,

includes examples of best practice, including step by step guides and example pathways, which can be adapted to suit local practices, for discharging patients:

- at risk of or experiencing homelessness
- with safeguarding concerns
- with no recourse to public funds (NRPF)

Further details can be found at: [Discharging people at risk of or experiencing homelessness - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/discharging-people-at-risk-of-or-experiencing-homelessness)

Domestic Violence and Abuse: Help from DWP

A guide for domestic violence and abuse victims about services from the Department for Work and Pensions (DWP). This guide provides information for victims of domestic violence and abuse about the services and support offered by DWP.



[Help available from the Department for Work and Pensions for people who are victims of domestic violence and abuse - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/help-available-from-the-department-for-work-and-pensions-for-people-who-are-victims-of-domestic-violence-and-abuse)

Sexual Safety in Healthcare – Organisational Charter

On 4 September 2023, NHS England launched its first ever sexual safety charter in collaboration with key partners across the healthcare system. Signatories to this charter commit to taking and enforcing a zero-tolerance approach to any unwanted, inappropriate and/or harmful sexual behaviours within the workplace, and to ten core principles and actions to help achieve this. It is expected that signatories will implement all ten commitments by July 2024. Further details can be found at:



[NHS England » Sexual safety in healthcare – organisational charter](https://www.nhs.uk/sexual-safety-in-healthcare-organisational-charter)

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility
