

**Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB) Meeting**  
**Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021, 9.30 am**  
**Teleconference via Microsoft Teams**

**MINUTES**

**Present:**

Paul Yeatman (Chair) (PY)	Independent Chair, GSAB
Sarah Scott (SSC)	Executive Director Adult Social Care and Public Health, GCC
Matt Lennard (ML)	Chief Officer, Gloucestershire VCS Alliance & Chair of the Comms & Engagement GSAB Sub Group
Sarah Jasper (SJ)	Head of Safeguarding Adults, Gloucestershire County Council
Carolyn Bell (CB)	GSAB Business Manager, GCC
Paul Gray (PG)	Team Manager, Safeguarding Adults, GCC
Annette Blackstock (AB)	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children & Safeguarding Adults Manager, NHS Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (representing Marion Andrews-Evans)
Lara Gillman	Outcome Manager, GCC Commissioning (representing Holly Beaman)
Clare Lucas (CL)	Healthwatch
Donna Potts (DPo)	Prevention Manager, Gloucestershire Fire and Rescue Service
Karen Smith (KS)	Head of Regulatory Services and Consumer Protection, Trading Standards Services, GCC
Angela Willis (AW)	Workforce Strategy Manager, GCC
Hannah Williams (HW)	Deputy Director of Nursing and Quality, Gloucestershire Health and Care NHS Foundation Trust (GHC)
Riki Moody (RM)	Operations Director, Gloucestershire Care Providers Association (GCPA)
Matt Holdaway	Deputy Chief Nurse, Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Hamish Robertson (HR)	Advanced Customer Support Senior Leader, DWP
Lynn Bignell	DWP
Melanie Munday	NHS England (representing Rosie Luce)
Michele Winter	Independent Reviewer, 'Peter' SAR
Sophie Jarrett (SJa)	Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Co-ordinator, Gloucestershire Constabulary
Anne Bateman (Minutes)	Administrator, Safeguarding Adults GCC

**Apologies:**

Clr Kathy Williams (KW)	Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care Delivery, GCC
Dawn Porter (DP)	Director Adult Social Care Operations, GCC
Marion Andrews-Evans (MAE)	Executive Nurse & Quality Lead, NHS GCGC
Paula Massey (PM)	Enabling Manager, Resident Services Group, Forest of Dean and Cotswold District Councils –
Mandy Fathers (MF)	Business Manager Operational Services, Forest of Dean District Council
Mike Hammond (MH)	Strategic Safeguarding Lead, Stroud District Council
Dr Katy McIntosh	Safeguarding Lead GP, CCG
Holly Beaman (HB)	Lead Commissioner - Learning Disabilities & Physical Disabilities, GCC/GCGC

		Owner
1.	<b>Declarations of Interest:</b> No declarations of interest were made.	
2.	<b>Minutes of the Last Meeting – 19/05/2021</b> The minutes of the meeting held on 19/05/2021 were agreed as a true and accurate record.	
3.	<b>Matters Arising from 19/05/2021</b> <b>Item 4, page 2:</b> <b>Action: CB to distribute the Insight Project Report on publication</b> <a href="https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/covid-19-adult-safeguarding-insight-project-second-report-july-2021">https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/covid-19-adult-safeguarding-insight-project-second-report-july-2021</a> Action complete.	
4.	<b>Items from the Chair</b> PY advised that work continues on the GSAB Strategic Plan. The new Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has produced his draft Police and Crime Plan and it is now out for consultation. PY is due to meet with the Deputy PCC later this month. The Draft Plan does not contain much reference to safeguarding adults.   <b>DRAFT P&amp;CPlan 2021.25.pdf</b>  PY will also meet with Cllr Allaway-Martin, Chair of the Gloucestershire Health and Wellbeing Board, to develop better links and gain a clearer understanding of the governance required when the new Integrated Care System is in place, to ensure that safeguarding is prominent.  Nationally the Safeguarding Adults Board Chairs' meetings have continued virtually, which has significantly improved attendance. A learning and development item will be included in these meetings in future.  Inspectors of Constabulary and of Fire and Rescue have previously focused little on adult safeguarding within their inspection regimes, improvement is hoped for.  The SAR Quality Markers consultation is due to take place next week, with feedback due by 06/10/2021 and publication on 13/10/2021. Once published they will be circulated to Board members and the SAR sub group will have some work to do re policy updates etc.  Stage 3 of the Insight Project will extend data capture to the end of June 2021. Gloucestershire participated in Stages 1 and 2, but were unable to provide data for Stage 3, due to the change over of IT system to Liquid Logic.	

<b>5. 'Peter' PH SAR</b> MW, the Independent SAR author, presented her findings.  Peter died in November 2019 of drug dependency related reasons whilst street homeless; the SAR commenced in November 2020.  MW outlined the methodology used, the structure of the review and the key learning identified.  Peter experienced traumatic events throughout his life, which was compounded by poor mental and physical health, had a persistent impact on his ability to sustain an independent life, free from substance dependency and unstable accommodation. Peter was well known to a number of agencies and there were persistent attempts from professionals to improve his circumstances.  The learning points highlighted a need for agencies to share information; work in a trauma informed way; persist with professional curiosity; regularly assess capacity and provide supervision to professionals working on complex cases. Many professionals consistently went above and beyond their commissioned remit and Peter was at times receptive to support.  Learning included accessing the Emergency Duty Team for out of hours support; acknowledging that Peter was a victim as well as a perpetrator; avoiding unconscious bias; challenging decisions and using the GSAB Escalation Policy, whilst understanding relevant law and practice. Skills and knowledge must reach and be used by frontline professionals.  Various tools exist, developed by professional associations and other local authorities, which MW commended GSAB to consider. Improving the profile and correct use of the High Risk Behaviours Policy (HRB) was recommended, a gap between safeguarding and high risk behaviours often exists in practice which is difficult to bridge. PY confirmed that the GSAB Policy & Procedure sub group is currently reviewing the HRB Policy. Individual agency processes and systems remain an issue in complex cases and omissions, delays, blocks and barriers did occur.  The SAR sub group is proceeding with an action plan in response to the recommendations made.  PY and SJ have attended an event in the last week focusing on attempts to end rough sleeping and homelessness.  MW was thanked for her thorough and comprehensive report.		
<b>6. Alcohol Related Deaths</b> SJ and AB presented their report. The individuals involved were aged between 49 and 67; the majority were in their 50s. The themes explored overlap with recent SARs and also with a further review that is being progressed, jointly with Children's Safeguarding.		

	<p>Recurrent themes were alcohol and drugs being used as a coping mechanisms, masking adverse life experiences. Some struggled owing to no face to face support during Covid restrictions, but the key causes were of a longer term origin. Professional tenacity is required to support individuals who may not meet the typical Care Act, care and support criteria, owing to their complexity.</p> <p>Including additional key professionals would have made a difference to some multi agency conversations, had their input been known. Identifying and providing the right support is key, but difficult in practice, along with identifying a lead professional.</p> <p>ML reminded of the need to include the VCS; information was included from P3 and CGL (Change, Grow, Live), as their involvement was identified. SJ agreed that the VCS often work successfully with complex individuals, who can be more wary of statutory organisations.</p>	
<b>7. Domestic Abuse Strategy</b>	<p>SJa presented her overview of the new Domestic Abuse Strategy, arising from the Domestic Abuse Act 2021, which received Royal Assent in April 2021. A statutory definition of domestic abuse now exists, along with a clearer explanation of the relationship between the involved parties and what constitutes abusive behaviour. A new concept of economic abuse is included covering denying access to resources such as utilities and transport.</p> <p>Improved processes and requirements include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gathering domestic homicide data;</li> <li>• Changing the rehabilitation of perpetrators via positive behaviour requirements which a wider range of organisations, not just police, can apply for;</li> <li>• In Court perpetrators will not cross examine victims;</li> <li>• A recognition that coercive control may continue beyond the end of a relationship.</li> </ul> <p>A local Domestic Abuse Partnership Board will be created; local authorities at Tier 1 will have a statutory duty around safe accommodation for victims. Partner organisations will contribute via strategic, governance and operational links including Safer Gloucestershire and the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>Rates of domestic abuse continue to rise and the impact on children and families, as well as adults, is becoming more evident. Provision of safe refuges is limited in the county.</p> <p>The LGBT community and black, Asian and minority ethnic communities need more support and the confidence to report. Data relating to honour based violence and forced marriage is minimal. Stalking is also a growing problem.</p> <p>All agencies and the general public need to be aware of what they can do if they suspect domestic abuse. The Strategy aims to improve multi agency responses</p>	

	<p>and to support a vision of communities living free from domestic abuse.</p> <p>There are currently six Domestic Homicide Reviews, all suicides where domestic abuse was identified as the key factor. The key themes are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Complex needs</li> <li>• Training and risk assessments</li> <li>• Trauma informed approach (and getting it right first time)</li> <li>• Awareness raising</li> <li>• Effective support</li> <li>• Information sharing</li> <li>• Professional curiosity</li> </ul> <p>AB highlighted the link in themes with the Five Women SAR.</p> <p>AW advised that she would be happy to discuss setting up countywide training with SJA, as she has experience of doing this with both safeguarding and dementia.</p>	
8.	<p><b>Strategic Plan and Risk Register</b></p> <p><b>GSAB Strategic Plan 2021-24:</b></p> <p>PY shared the new draft GSAB Strategic Plan with the Board for feedback. The Plan identifies three priorities: To increase awareness of Safeguarding, Prevention and Responding to Abuse and Neglect, Learning and Continuous improvement. In total there are 16 goals and 30 initiatives.</p> <p>The themes of trauma informed practice; homelessness; hoarding; adult exploitation; substance misuse; health inequalities and SAR outcomes will remain key points. PY advised that Prevent and possibly the threat from Incel will be added into item 1.1.</p> <p>LG asked if education and training for LD and hard to reach groups could be included.</p> <p>Resuming stronger links with the Safeguarding Children's Partnership is a key aim, to support improved transition arrangements for young people. Two SARs are due to be published later this year, JK and Five Women, both including the themes of Adverse Childhood Experiences and Transition.</p> <p>ML advised that the Strategic Plan would be taken to the next GSAB Communications and Engagement sub group for discussion. RM asked if a member of the Gloucestershire Care Providers Association (GCPA) was represented at that group, it was agreed that this would be beneficial.</p> <p>AB agreed to take the Strategic Plan to the next Adults Safeguarding Strategic Health Meeting, for discussion.</p> <p>SJ said further assurance is needed that learning from SARs is reaching the frontline. Using the GSAB Audit sub group was suggested as a means of checking, along with the GSAB Self Assessment Audit Tool, which partner</p>	

	<p>agencies complete. AW advised that practice change is always difficult to evidence and ideally should be included as part of the annual appraisal process.</p> <p>Healthwatch have been approached to help with public consultation.</p> <p><b>Action: Provide feedback on the new GSAB Strategic Plan to CB by 30/09/21</b></p> <p><b>GSAB Risk Register:</b>        Item 3.2: Safeguarding adult data to date is inadequate following the transfer from ERIC to Liquid Logic. The issue has been added to the Risk Register. This is being addressed by the GCC Data and Performance Team.</p> <p>The GSAB Risk Register will be updated once the new GSAB Strategic Plan has been finalised.</p>	<b>ALL</b>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>Cross Cutting Issues for follow up with GSCE</b>        AB suggested PY meeting with MAE and herself to discuss transitions arrangements.</p>	
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Issues to be raised with NHS (South) QSG</b>        None</p>	
<b>11.</b>	<p><b>Any Other Business</b>        PY thanked HR for his contribution to the Board over the past couple of years and anticipated a similar level of commitment from his successor LB.</p>	
	<p><b>Date of next meeting: Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b></p>	