

We understand that this might be a difficult and upsetting time for you and we will try to support you as much as possible if you decide to contribute.

Who will see the report and what will happen next?

The report and recommendations will be presented to SAB members for sign off and will also be shared with any family members, friends and carers who have contributed to the review.

If possible, the report will be published on the Board's website but sometimes a decision is made to not publish depending on the circumstances of the case. Published reports can be anonymised, or if it is the family's wish, can include the person's name.

The SAB will write an action plan based on the findings of the review to make sure any recommended improvements are made to services. The SAR subgroup is responsible for making sure that agencies report on their progress and provide evidence for how practice has changed and improved.

More information

At any point in the SAR process, please feel free to contact the Board Support Team in your area.

Brighton & Hove SAB

SafeguardingReviews@brighton-hove.gov.uk

East Sussex SAB

SafeguardingReviews@eastsussex.gov.uk

West Sussex SAB

safeguardingadultsboard@westsussex.gov.uk

Adult safeguarding



Safeguarding Adults Reviews

A guide for adults, families, friends, and carers

With content reproduced with permission from Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board



What is the Safeguarding Adults Board?

The Brighton and Hove, East Sussex and West Sussex Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs) work with organisations across Sussex to ensure that they have safeguarding policies and procedures in place and work together in the best way possible to protect adults with care and support needs.

What is a Safeguarding Adults Review?

Safeguarding Adults Boards have a duty to carry out a SAR when an adult dies as a result of abuse or neglect. This is whether abuse or neglect is known or suspected, and there is information to suggest that partner agencies could learn lessons and improve the way they work together to support adults at risk in the future.

A SAR may also take place when an adult has not died but it is known or suspected that they have suffered serious abuse, harm, or neglect. The full criteria of a SAR is set out in the Care Act 2014.

The purpose of a SAR is not to apportion blame. It is to identify recommendations to promote effective learning and improvement. This is in order to minimise the risk of future deaths or serious harm occurring again.

Each of the Sussex SABs has a SAR subgroup which meets monthly to discuss and make decisions regarding new referrals, oversees current reviews and ensures learning from reviews is used to make improvements to services. The groups also monitor reviews from other Safeguarding Adults Boards to ensure any relevant learning is considered.

Our aim is for the review process to be completed in around nine months, unless there are good reasons for a longer period being required.

The review will be supported by agencies who have worked with the person, and the SAB will appoint an Independent Reviewer with the appropriate skills and experience to lead on the review. The Independent Reviewer will make contact with the key family members, carers, professionals and organisations who were involved with the person to invite them to contribute to the review.

How will I be involved?

It is very important to the Sussex SABs that our reviews include family members or important people in the person's life. We will ask you to share your memories, views and experiences so that we can gain an understanding of them as a person, understand fully what happened, identify what lessons should be learned, and what has worked well. Your contributions are key in this process and will contribute to developing recommendations.

The relevant SAB will make contact with you early in the process to discuss the review and agree how much you wish to be involved. If you decide you would like to contribute to the review, you will be asked to share your understanding of what happened and why.

You can give your thoughts and views in different ways. Some examples include having a face-to-face meeting with the Independent Reviewer, a telephone conversation, or providing feedback in writing. It is your decision as to how much involvement you would like to have in the review. As there is a legal duty to undertake a SAR, the review will still go ahead if you decide not to contribute.