

Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB) and Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) Joint Business Plan for April 2023 to March 2025

We have identified three priority areas for us to focus our collective efforts over the next two years, following the principle that we should concentrate our capacity on a small number of topics, in order to have significant impact, and focus our resources. Based on our analysis of the situation across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) we have identified the following priority areas:

- 1. Self-Neglect**
- 2. Mental Capacity Act**
- 3. Domestic Abuse**

For each of these areas, we have set out our rationale for prioritising the topic, and presented the key deliverables, leads, activities, impact measures, and timescales. This will enable us to monitor progress and secure assurance that our actions are making a positive difference to the lived experience of our residents.

1. Self-Neglect

Rationale:

- Safeguarding Adults Reviews have been or are being undertaken by Leicester SAB and Leicestershire and Rutland SAB as well as nationally, which have highlighted key learning in relation to self-neglect.
- There is a cross-over between our Mental Capacity Act priority and self-neglect.

Key Deliverable	Lead	Activity	Impact Measure	Timescale
Receive assurance that local safeguarding partners are working together to effectively safeguard adults who self-neglect	Performance Subgroup	Ensure that self-neglect is a focus in performance and assurance activity by: monitoring within the core data set and providing SABs with metric that speaks to this priority. Responding to requests for assurance arising from other business plan activity – for example, from the multi-agency audit	N/A as is itself assurance activity	N/A

Multi-agency audit	Audit Subgroup	Undertake a multi-agency audit in relation to self-neglect	N/A as is itself assurance activity	Audit to be planned for April 2024
Making local and national learning around self-neglect accessible to practitioners	Training Subgroup	Develop a 7-minute briefing in relation to self-neglect in Safeguarding Adults Reviews	Staff survey	January 2024
Improved staff awareness and understanding locally of the routes to supporting adults who self-neglect	Training Subgroup	Promote the re-launch of the self-neglect and VARM guidance	Staff survey and/or pre and post event questionnaire	February 2024
Improved resources and guidance for supporting individuals who self-neglect	Policy & Procedures Subgroup	Conclude the review of the VARM guidance	1. Staff survey 2. Number of times the relevant resources have been accessed 3. Multi-agency audit	December 2023
Increase awareness in the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) of self-neglect including ways to support individuals who self-neglect	VCS Safeguarding Forum	Ensure that self-neglect is a focus at one of the forums during 2023/24	Pre and post forum evaluations	March 2024

2. Mental Capacity Act

Rationale:

- Local Safeguarding Adults Reviews and audits over last few years have identified MCA learning including around:
 - Best Interests
 - Advocacy
 - Recording of decisions and that assessments have been carried out
 - Complexity of co-existing conditions
 - Fluctuating capacity
 - Role of parents and carers / listening to them / sharing information with them (with permission)
 - Lack of understanding of the process by frontline workers and whose responsibility it is to carry out assessments
- Need for more suitable resources to support frontline practitioners in their daily practice in recognising the situations where a person's mental capacity is in question

- Demystifying the process

Key Deliverable	Lead	Activity	Impact Measure	Timescale
Receive assurance that local safeguarding partners are using the Mental Capacity Act to effectively safeguard adults where appropriate	Performance Subgroup	Ensure that MCA is a focus in performance and assurance activity by: monitoring within the core data set and providing SABs with metric that speaks to this priority. Responding to requests for assurance arising from other business plan activity – for example, from the multi-agency audit	N/A as is itself assurance activity	N/A
Multi-agency audit	Audit Subgroup	Undertake a multi-agency audit in relation to MCA	N/A as is itself assurance activity	Audit completion due October 2023
Improved awareness and use of the Mental Capacity Act across the partnerships	Training Subgroup	Undertake a thematic analysis of MCA learning from local and national reviews.	Staff survey	March 2024
Improved awareness and use of the Mental Capacity Act across the partnerships	Training Subgroup	Establish an MCA Community of practice which will bring staff together for MCA learning and development	N/A	March 2024
Improved staff awareness and understanding locally of the use of MCA	Training Subgroup	Commission multi-agency MCA training for access across the partnerships Target some training at managers to build confidence in leaders in MCA in the system	Training evaluations	March 2024
Improved understanding of the lived experience of local people	Engagement & Comms Subgroup	Develop a targeted engagement activity aimed at informal carers who have had experience of being involved in MCA assessments / decisions for the cared for person that has an agreed purpose, target audience, and	N/A	July 2024

		feedback route or governance to hear the experiences of people		
Improved resources and guidance for use of the MCA	Policy & Procedures Subgroup	The LLR MCA procedure was reviewed and updated in February 2023. The role of the policy and procedures group will therefore be to respond to learning identified from other business plan activity – for example, should the multi-agency audit identify any required changes to the procedure	N/A	April 2024
Increase awareness in the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS) of MCA	VCS Safeguarding Forum	Ensure that MCA is a focus at one of the forums during 2023/24	Pre and post forum evaluations	March 2024

3. Domestic Abuse

Rationale:

- Safeguarding Adults Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews and audits have been undertaken by Leicester SAB and Leicestershire and Rutland SAB, which have identified case specific learning in relation to safeguarding adults and domestic abuse in older people. A research project is being undertaken to better understand systems issues and our local response to older people experiencing domestic abuse who also come under safeguarding adults.

Key Deliverable	Lead	Activity	Impact Measure	Timescale
Receive assurance that local safeguarding partners are working together to effectively safeguard adults who self-neglect	Performance Subgroup	Ensure that Domestic Abuse is a focus in performance and assurance activity by: monitoring within the core data set and providing SABs with metric that speaks to this priority. Responding to requests for assurance arising from other business plan activity – for example, from the multi-agency audit	N/A as is itself assurance activity	N/A
Understand local response to	LSAB and LRSAB in conjunction	Completion of research project	N/A	Autumn 2023

domestic abuse in older people and safeguarding adults	with Durham University			
Once findings of research project have been delivered, set up a work group to address issues identified and improve domestic abuse and safeguarding adults for older people locally.	LSAB and LRSAB Board Office to set up working group.	Respond to learning from the research project	N/A	Winter 2023

Accessing this report

If you have problems accessing or viewing the business plan please email the Safeguarding Board Office LSAB@leicester.gov.uk where one of our team members will assist you.