Wigan Safeguarding Adult's Board Newsletter January 2024

Spotlight on a professional

Introduction from Teresa Dias

I am Teresa Dias, the new Safeguarding Lead for Greater Manchester Mental Health, Wigan Division. I have been in this position for just over four months now. As the Safeguarding Lead, my main focus is ensuring the safety and well-being of our most vulnerable service users. I am dedicated to upholding the highest standards of professional practice and committed to addressing issues of abuse, neglect, and exploitation. I became a qualified social worker in 2018 and have gained experience in various safeguarding roles both within statutory and voluntary settings, with a strong background in social work and a thorough understanding of safeguarding practices and legislation. I collaborate with multidisciplinary teams, local authorities, and partner agencies to provide the best possible outcomes for the individuals under our care. My passion lies in making a positive impact in the lives of those at risk, advocating for their rights and dignity in all aspects of my work.

Safeguarding What'sUp Champion Launch Event 📣

The Safeguarding What'sUp Champions are people that use services, but they also support other service users to have a voice regarding any safeguarding issues. The Champions help people gain the confidence to talk about any worries/concerns they may have about their safety, or about something that may be upsetting them. The aim is to have open conversations around safeguarding that focus on "Guarding people to keep them safe".

Julie Maloney, Anne-Marie Clossick and Sophie Hull led on piloting the project on behalf of Wigan Safeguarding Adult's Board (WSAB). They visited many services to get them onboard with the pilot and held Workshops with the Champions over the last 12 months. Services that were involved included Thrive, More than Words, Embrace, a number of Care Homes, Supported Living, Day Services and Mental Health Services. Throughout these workshops, the Champions were able to share their experiences, form friendships and learn new information about the meaning of safeguarding.

WSAB hosted a Launch event in October 2023 to share and promote this project with Sue Smith, Independent Chair of WSAB, Directors, Senior Managers and professionals across the partnership.

The event was co-produced with the Champions, and they had the opportunity to share their stories and personal experiences. It was a fabulous event and was great to see so many different professionals in attendance.

The feedback we have received has been excellent and we are now planning next steps ……. Watch this space!

Spotlight on a Service

With You

With You in Wigan and Leigh support adults and young people with drug and alcohol misuse issues. Our expert staff offer a number of services, including alcohol and drug group support, clinical prescribing, 1-1 psycho-social interventions, blood borne virus testing and needle exchange.

If you're supporting someone who may need our services, please tell them about our **new drop-in service.** There's no need to phone ahead or make an appointment. Our trained experts can complete an assessment there and then for anyone who is over the age of 18 and is worried about their own drinking or drug use, or someone else's.

If they live in Wigan, they can drop in and see us at Coops Business Centre, Dorning Street, Wigan, WN1 1HR on:

Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays: 9.30am - 3:00pm

Fridays: 9.30am - 12:30pm

If they live in Leigh, they can drop in and see us at Kennedy House, Brunswick Street, Leigh, WN7 2PJ on:

Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 9.30am - 3:00pm

Fridays: 9.30am - 12:30pm

For more information, please see our website or call 01942 827979.

Hoarding/Clutter Toolkit

The Hoarding/Clutter Toolkit has been **recently updated.** The toolkit is designed to support all staff in the Wigan Borough to facilitate effective multi- agency working with adults who

exhibit hoarding behaviours. The aim of this toolkit is to work with individuals who hoard and who have mental capacity.

Building a positive relationship with individuals who hoard is critical to achieving change for them and in ensuring their safety and protection. Trauma Informed practice goes hand in hand with supporting people who hoard/clutter and helps create space for change.

Introduction by Belongings Peer Support Group Members

There are lots of real-life examples in this document, top tips etc which we are pleased to share with you. We want to highlight that accepting support with clutter or hoarding is really scary. Just letting staff into our homes is a big deal and if you can help us to take small steps so that we can gain confidence slowly by being calm and supportive, that is really helpful to us. Thank you.

The toolkit is available on the WSAB website which you can access using the link below.

Hoarding Toolkit

There is also a lunch and learn session available on the updated toolkit. Book using the link below.

Thursday 29th February 2024: Book Your place here

Information Sharing 💬

Where there are safeguarding concerns, all professionals have a duty to share information. It is important to remember that in most Safeguarding Adult Reviews, lack of information sharing can be a significant contributor when things go wrong. Information should be shared with consent wherever possible. A person's right to confidentiality is not absolute and may be overridden where there is evidence that sharing information is necessary to support an investigation or where there is a risk to others e.g., in the interests of public safety, police investigation, implications for regulated service.

Where an adult has refused to consent to information being disclosed for these purposes, then practitioners must consider whether there is an overriding public interest that would justify information sharing. Examples of this may include:

- If the person lacks capacity to make the decision

- For the prevention and investigation of the crime
- To prevent serious harm, distress, or threat to life
- If there is a risk to others
- If there is a risk to children
- If the person is under duress, coercion, or undue influence
- If staff are implicated
- Domestic Abuse which meets the MARAC threshold (or professional judgement)
- If there is a court order or other legal authority in place instructing you to do so
- Where the alleged source of risk has care and support needs and may be at risk.

The 7 Golden Rules

Sharing of information between practitioners and organisations is essential for effective identification, assessment, risk management and service provision. Early sharing of information is the key to providing effective early help where there are emerging problems.

For further information on information sharing and safeguarding please visit: SCIE

1	Remember that the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), Data Protection Act 2018 and human rights law are **not barriers** to justified information sharing but provide a framework to ensure that personal information about living individuals is shared appropriately.
2	**Be open and honest** with the individual (and/or their family where appropriate) from the outset about why, what, how and with whom information will, or could be shared, and seek their agreement, unless it is unsafe or inappropriate to do so.
3	**Seek advice** from other practitioners, or your information governance lead, if you are in any doubt about sharing the information concerned, without disclosing the identity of the individual where possible.
4	Where possible, **share information with consent**, and where possible, **respect the wishes** of those who do not consent to having their information shared. Under the GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 you may share information **without consent** if, in your judgement, there is a lawful basis to do so, such as where safety may be a risk. **You will need to base your judgement on the facts of the case**. When you are sharing or requesting personal information from someone, **be clear** of the basis upon which you are doing so. Where you do not have consent, be mindful that an individual might not expect information to be shared.
5	**Consider safety and well-being:** base your information sharing decisions on considerations of the safety and well-being of the individual and others who may be affected by their actions.
6	**Necessary, proportionate, relevant, adequate, accurate, timely and secure**: ensure that the information you share is necessary for the purpose for which you are sharing it, is shared only with those individuals who need to have it, is accurate and up to date, is shared in a timely fashion, and is shared securely (see principles).
7	**Keep a record of your decision and the reasons for it** – whether it is to share information or not. If you decide to share, then record what you have shared, with whom and for what purpose.

Learning and Development Brochure

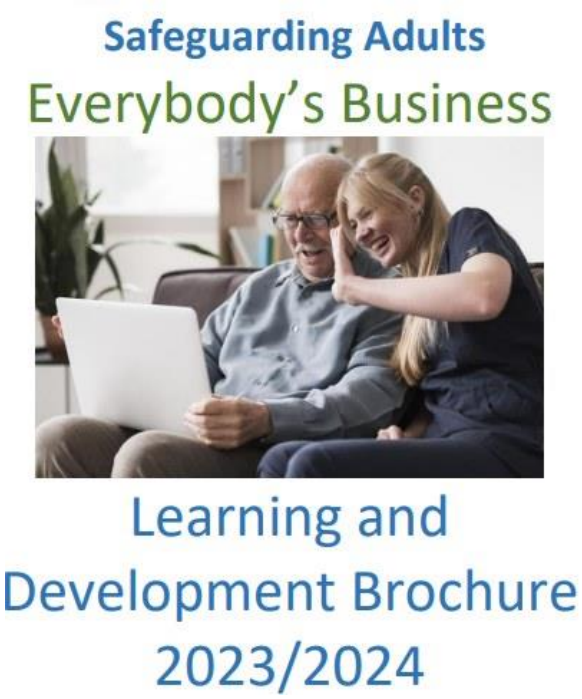
Did you know that the Wigan Safeguarding Adult's Board have a Learning and Development Brochure?

Our learning and development brochure has been produced to support organisations to access online and virtual training to safeguard adults. All the courses on offer are based on the latest legislation, national guidance, local policies, procedures and lessons learned.

Courses are open to organisations within Wigan and Leigh and we encourage professionals to make use of the variety of learning opportunities available.

You can access the brochure via our website using the below link.

WSAB Learning and Development Brochure



WSAB and WSCB Joint Conference 💬

In 2024, Wigan Safeguarding Children's Board (WSCB) and Wigan Safeguarding Adult's Board (WSAB) are teaming up to host a safeguarding conference for partner services and organisations in Wigan who help support our children, vulnerable adults and families through safeguarding.

This will be an opportunity for us all to come together and to celebrate our successes as partnerships, but also give us the opportunity to reflect on our practice and explore the development of our skills and knowledge to better support our service users.

Therefore, to ensure you get the best out of the conference we would like to take this opportunity to get your input. What would you find useful? What would you like to know? Are there certain practice themes you want to develop your confidence in?

Please complete the questions below, this should only take a couple of minutes. This feedback will help the team shape the conference to meet the needs of our workforce".

The link is below but I have also attached the QR code if this is useful 😊

Please could you complete the below by Friday 12th January 2024 if possible.

https://forms.office.com/e/VwKDL1zX1F

Goodbye and Thank you! 💙

We want to take this opportunity to say goodbye and thank you to Pat Darbyshire (Service Manager, Safeguarding and Operations). Pat will be retiring from Wigan Council at the end of this month. We want to thank you for all your hard work and dedication over the years. We wish you all the best with your retirement and with your future plans... very exciting! You will be missed!