



Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter

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Welcome

Welcome to all of our new subscribers who have recently signed up to receive the TSAB newsletter, and thank you for your interest in being part of our Teeswide safeguarding community. We always welcome any suggestions for improvement, requests for future content or any contributions you would like to make. Our contact details can be found on the last page of this newsletter.

News from TSAB

Since our last newsletter, TSAB has met face to face for the annual development session and virtually on 13th March and 17th April for scheduled Board meetings. Minutes are published on the [TSAB Website](#) retrospectively following sign-off at the next meeting.

Agenda highlights included:

- Reviewing the TSAB Strategic Plan for 2022-25 and developing the Business Plan actions for 2024-25.
- Overview from the Board's Performance and Quality Sub-Group on the Quarter 3 Performance Report 2023/24
- An update on the Adult Exploitation Strategy Work
- Update from the Board's Sub-Groups

New TSAB Independent Chair

We would like to introduce Adrian Green as the new TSAB Independent Chair.

Adrian brings a wealth of experience as a former Durham Police Commander for both Safeguarding and Neighbourhood Policing and, also, in various regional, national and partnership roles.

Adrian takes over the role from Darren Best who leaves us after over 3 years as TSAB Chair. Darren has made a significant and valuable contribution to leading and strengthening TSAB, at a local, regional and national level.

Darren's genuine drive and passion for working with, and for the people of Tees has been exceptional. We would like to wish Darren the best of luck on his future endeavours.



TSAB Decision Support Guidance

The [TSAB Decision Support Guidance](#) has been reviewed. The purpose of the guidance is to assist practitioners in assessing the seriousness and level of risk associated with a safeguarding adults concern.

It is primarily for use by Safeguarding Adults Managers, in the Local Authority (LA), to assist with their decision-making at the point of receiving a safeguarding adults concern; however others may find it helpful to refer to this guidance when responding to a concern of abuse or neglect.

The new updated guidance reminds practitioners that regular low level concerns (including different types of abuse occurring at the same time) can amount to a far higher level of concern which then requires more in-depth investigation or assessment in line with safeguarding adults procedures. The sharing of low level concerns helps the LA to understand any emerging patterns or trends that may need to be taken into consideration when deciding whether safeguarding adults procedures need to continue.

The guidance is not intended to replace professional judgement and when care providers are using this guidance, it is important to note that all safeguarding concerns must be notified to the Local Authority.

| Factors | | | | Guidance and considerations |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------|---|-----------------------------|---|
| 1. Vulnerability of the adult at risk | Less vulnerable | More vulnerable | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Does the adult have needs for care and support? Can the adult protect themselves? Does the adult have the communication skills to raise a concern? Does the adult lack mental capacity in relation to keeping themselves safe? Is the adult dependent on the alleged perpetrator? Has the alleged victim been threatened or coerced into making decisions? |
| The abusive act | Less serious | More serious | | Points 2-9 relate to the abusive act/ act of omission, and/or the alleged perpetrator. Less serious concerns are likely to be dealt with at initial enquiry stage only, whilst the more serious concerns will progress to further stages in the safeguarding adults' process. |
| 2. Seriousness of Abuse | Less serious | More serious | | Refer to the table overleaf. Look at the relevant categories of abuse and use your knowledge of the case and your professional judgement to gauge the seriousness of concern. |
| 3. Patterns of abuse | Isolated incident | Recent abuse in an ongoing/prior relationship | Repeated abuse | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most local areas have an escalation policy in place e.g. where safeguarding adults procedures will continue if there have been a repeated number of concerns in a specific time period. Please refer to local guidance. |
| 4. Impact of abuse on victims | No impact | Some impact but not long-lasting | Serious long-lasting impact | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impact of abuse does not necessarily correspond to the extent of the abuse – different people will be affected in different ways. Views of the adult at risk will be important in determining the impact of the abuse. |
| 5. Impact on others | No one else affected | Others indirectly affected | Others directly affected | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other people may be affected by the abuse of another adult. Are relatives, children or other adults distressed or affected by the abuse? Are other people intimidated and/or their environment affected? |
| 6. Intent of alleged perpetrator | Unintended/ill-informed | Opportunistic | Deliberate/Targeted | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the act/omission a violent/serious unprofessional response to difficulties in providing care? Is the act/omission planned and deliberately malicious? Is the act a breach of a professional code of conduct? <p>*The act/omission doesn't have to be intentional to meet safeguarding criteria</p> |
| 7. Illegality of actions | Bad practice - not illegal | Criminal act | Serious criminal act | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Seek advice from the Police if you are unsure if a crime has been committed. Is the act/omission poor or bad practice (but not illegal) or is it clearly a crime? |
| 8. Risk of repeated | | | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Is the abuse less likely to recur with significant changes e.g. training |

Documents:

Refreshed:

[Incidents Between Residents—Advice for Local Authority Professionals](#)

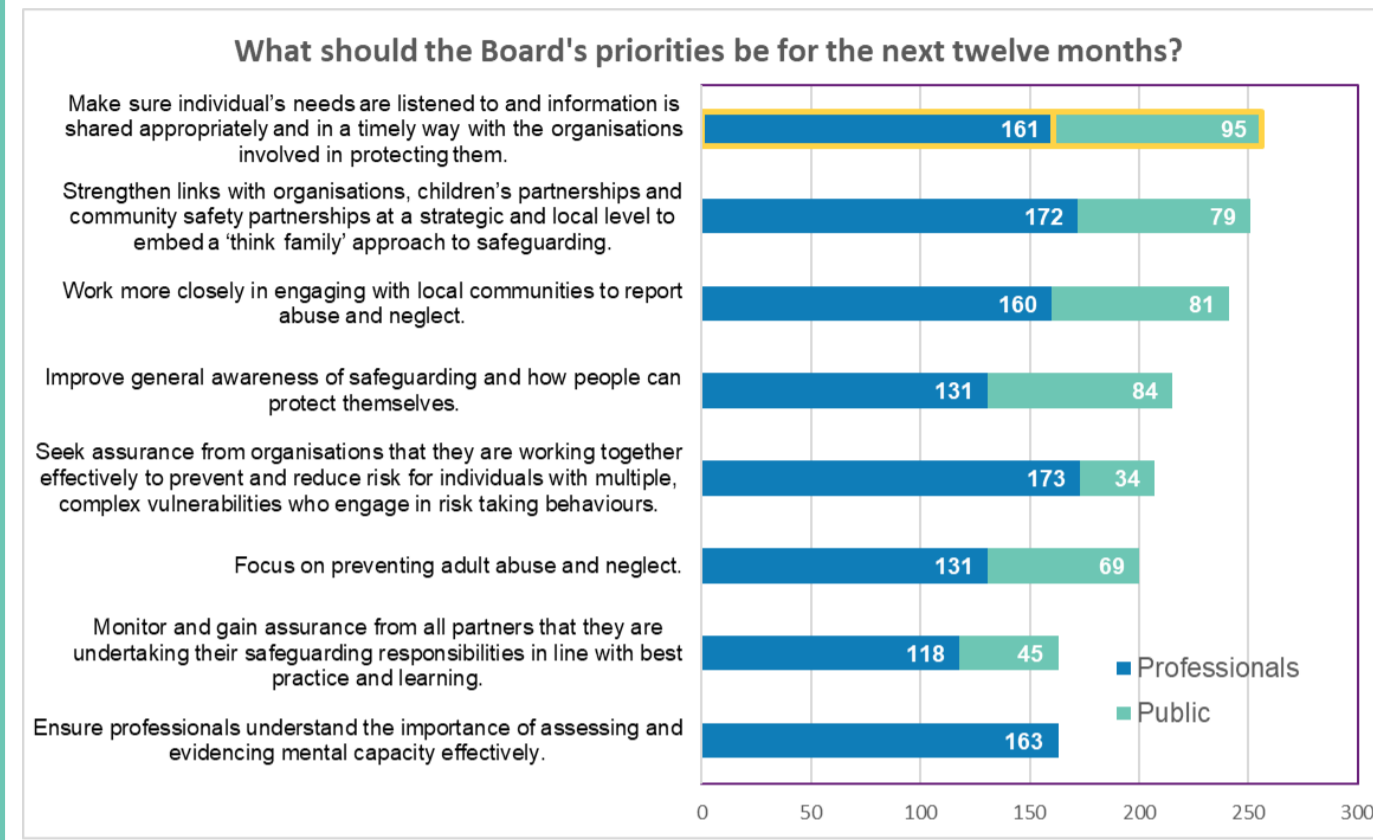
For Awareness:

[Discharging people at risk of homelessness](#)

[Child to Parent Violence and Abuse - Tees Safeguarding Children Partnerships' Procedures](#)

Annual Survey Results 2023-24

The Board's Annual Survey 2023-24 was completed by **530** members of the general public and professionals. Thank you to those who completed it. The feedback from each survey has been collated to provide an overall view, illustrated below. The results will help the Board to develop the TSAB Business Plan for 2024-25. Further detailed analysis will be published as part of the Annual Communication and Engagement Report in June.



Deaf Awareness Week 2024

Deaf Awareness Week took place between 6th-10th May. We are reminding everyone that British Sign Language (BSL) users can now use SignLive to contact Cleveland Police when it's not an emergency. It is used like the 101 non-emergency telephone number, to report crimes or incidents which have happened in the past, or for providing information to the police about issues affecting communities.

SignLive is a free service that will connect callers to a qualified online BSL interpreter. The interpreter will relay the conversation between the caller and Cleveland Police, helping them to report a crime or incident in an accessible way.


The SignLive app can be downloaded via a mobile phone or tablet or via —[Download & Login - SignLive](#)

Please visit the [Cleveland Police Website](#) for more information and to view the video in full.

We have also refreshed our [Deaf Awareness Poster](#).

Cleveland Fire Brigade are also making residents aware of devices such as Sensory Loss Alarms which have a vibrating pad and Wireless Smoke Alarms are available . They also have staff who can use sign language to communicate with residents.

For help and advice contact your local CFB Community Hub:

 Hartlepool - 01429 851258
Redcar - 01642 777651

Middlesbrough - 01642 811650
Stockton - 01642 366199



A Spotlight on Carers Week and Elder Abuse Day

10th–14th June



Carers Week is an annual campaign to raise awareness of caring, highlight the challenges unpaid carers face and recognise the contribution they make to families and communities throughout the UK. It also helps people who don't think of themselves as having caring responsibilities to identify as carers and access much-needed support.

A carer is anyone who looks after a family member or friend who has a disability, mental or physical illness, addiction, or who needs extra help as they grow older. It isn't someone who volunteers or is employed to provide support.

The impact of caring on all aspects of life from relationships and health to finances and work can be significant. Whilst many feel that caring is one of the most important things they do, its challenges should not be underestimated. Caring without the right information and support can be tough. It is vitally important that we recognise the contribution carers make to their families and local communities, workplaces and society, and that they get the support they need.

Carers Assessments

A carer's assessment is a free assessment for carers over 18 years old who provides regular unpaid care to another adult over 18 years old. Any carer who appears to have needs for support can have an assessment which will be carried out by the local adult social care team. This process is not an assessment of a person's capabilities as a carer, it is an opportunity to record the impact of caring and what support or services are required to help make life easier as a carer. Sometimes the support can be as simple as having a chat to understand from the carer how they are feeling and the support they require.

Carers and Safeguarding

Carers have a range of roles regarding safeguarding – they can be the person who raises the concern, be vulnerable to harm and abuse themselves, or they can be abusers.

TSAB have developed two new posters, with the support of carers, to raise awareness of Safeguarding and how carers can access support. To get involved in the campaign, please share and print the posters. They can be found in [Carers Week & Elder Abuse Day Campaign Resources](#).

Visit our recently refreshed [Carers webpage](#) for more information on carers and local carers services.

Online Workshops

Identifying and Supporting Carers

12th June, 1pm - 2pm

[Book your space](#)

Spotting and Stopping Abuse of Older Adults

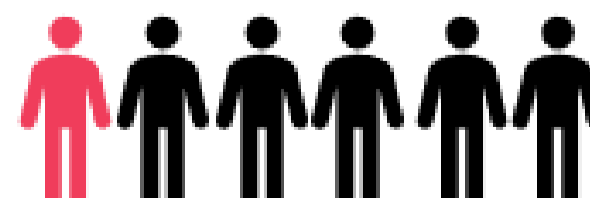
13th June, 2pm - 2:45pm

[Book your space](#)

Elder Abuse Day (15th June 2024)

One in six older people are victims of abuse. Elder abuse doesn't only happen to very frail or sick people, it can happen to any older person in any environment.

In advance of Elder Abuse Day, on 13th June TSAB will formally launch a new animation "[Hidden Harms](#)" that highlights the unique challenges that older adults face when domestic abuse occurs, to help support practitioners and families start a conversation with an older adult.



TSAB Training

Changes to our e-learning system - Important information for all users

On **1st April 2024** our e-learning provider (Me-Learning) upgraded the system that we use for our e-learning courses. The new system is more secure, more accessible and works more efficiently when accessed on tablets or mobiles.

All users will need to register for an account on the new system by visiting our dedicated [E-Learning](#) Webpage.

The full range of courses is still available and can be viewed within our [Course Directory](#)

Please note your old login details will not work on the new system.



TSAB Training Courses Spring 2024/25

All courses are free to attend.

Booking for training courses later in 2024 will be advertised within our future newsletters.

To request a place or view alternative dates please visit:

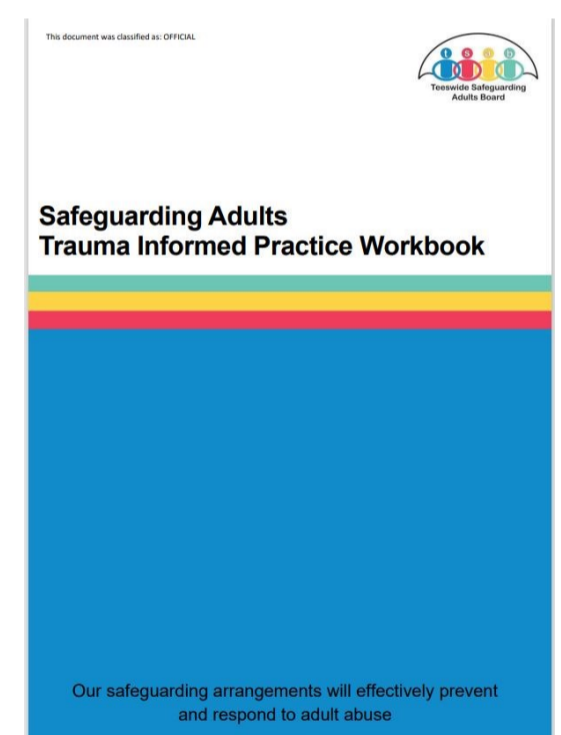
[TSAB Training and Events](#)



Trauma Informed Workbook

A new workbook to support practitioners and organisations to be more Trauma Informed has been developed. The workbook features practical tools that can be adopted in everyday practice to help support the physical and emotional safety of an individual accessing a service.

The workbook can be accessed via TSAB's [Workbooks and Other Resources](#) webpage.



Workbooks



- Safeguarding Adults Awareness • The Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards • Domestic Abuse • Forced Marriage • Female Genital Mutilation • Prevent • Modern Slavery • Self Neglect
- Trauma Informed Practice

For users who are not able to access the online training a set of 9 Workbooks can be downloaded from the website. Once completed they can then be marked by a line manager or team leader. [Guidance for managers](#) to mark workbooks can also be accessed via the website.

Dates for the Diary

- ✓ **Carers Week** –10-16th June 2024
- ✓ **World Elder Abuse Day**—15th June 2024
- ✓ **Learning Disability Week**— 17th-24th June 2024
- ✓ **Day of Memory, Honour Based Abuse** - 14th July 2024
- ✓ **Alcohol Awareness Week 2024** - 15th-21st July 2024



National Safeguarding Adults Week 2024

National Safeguarding Adults Week is taking place from 18th November to 22nd November 2024. This year, the themes will encourage us to consider how we can work together to establish safer cultures within our workplaces and communities.

TSAB have already started planning our activities and events for the week in conjunction with our partners. If you would like to be involved or have any ideas for activity or promotion please get in touch.



Safeguarding Children Partnerships Information

[Hartlepool & Stockton-On-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter](#)
[South Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership Website](#)

Find Support in Your Area

The Board's website also sets out relevant [support services](#) by type of abuse and by each individual Borough across Tees. If you think someone with care & support needs is neglecting themselves you can contact your [Local Authority](#) or for hoarding matters your Environmental Health Office for advice. The list is not intended to be a definitive source of Information for all service providers.



Social Media and Website

We aim to share key messages from official sources via our social media channels as well as other communications.



@TeeswideSAB



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