



Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board Manager's Blog

March 2016

The key event for March has been the publication of the **revised** statutory guidance by the Department of Health, see [Care and support statutory guidance - Guidance - GOV.UK](#). This guidance supports local authorities implement the Care Act (2014).

There have been important changes to Chapter 14 which covers adult safeguarding responsibilities for the local authority, partner organisations and agencies.

So to help I have given a quick overview of the changes here with detailed comment will follow. ***Please make sure you read and familiarise yourself with the changes as this is key document for us on safeguarding adults.***

In particular there are new sections on **Allegations against people in positions of trust**, **Practice Leadership** (includes two *new* local roles and responsibilities – practice leadership and strategic leadership within the senior management team).

In the coming few months NSAB will need to consider these changes and what actions will be necessary ensure all sectors are familiar with the new guidance. There may be specific pieces of work to be done? For example, thinking about the additional guidance at **14.134** which is about gathering intelligence on safeguarding from all providers of health and social care in the locality, not just commissioned or contracted services, work is about to start to develop a self-audit tool.

The key changes are (the numbers refer to relevant sections in Chapter 14):

- ❖ **Definitions of self-neglect** (14.17) and **domestic abuse** (14.20). The latter definition incorporates guidance around the new offence of *coercive and controlling behaviour*, introduced in the Serious Crime Act 2015.
- ❖ **Expansion of financial abuse** definition (14.28) now includes online or postal scams and doorstep crime.
- ❖ **Reporting and responding to abuse and neglect** (14.41) – new guidance in cases of uncertainty about next steps when encountering abuse is that the police should be contacted for advice.
- ❖ Regarding **safeguarding enquiries**, the guidance has been expanded to include cases where there is no section 42 enquiry duty, if the local authority believes it is proportionate and appropriate to do so.

- ❖ Under the **Multi-agency safeguarding role**, a new section on preventing abuse and neglect has been added (14.62) to deal with the identification and management of risk.
- ❖ Following section 14.92, **Diagrams 1A and 1B** (parts 1 and 2) have been revised.
- ❖ Under **Safeguarding plans**, section 14.109 recommends reading guidance in *Mental Capacity Act: making decisions* for further information
- ❖ Under **Person alleged to be responsible for abuse or neglect**, section 14.113 recommends reading government policy documents about helping victims of crime.
- ❖ **New guidance** has been added on **Allegations against people in positions of trust** (14.120-132)
- ❖ Under **Safeguarding Adults Boards**, 14.134 includes **additional guidance on gathering intelligence on safeguarding from all providers of health and social care in the locality, not just commissioned or contracted services**. 14.139 now requires SABs to carry out safeguarding adult reviews ‘*and determining any publication arrangements*’.
- ❖ Under **SAB reports**, 14.155 requires **reports to be prominently displayed on core members’ websites and made available to other agencies**. 14.158 has been amended to incorporate the latest information on a national measure on safeguarding outcomes.
- ❖ **Findings from SARS** has additional guidance on publishing SARS to promote transparency and disseminate learning (14.179).
- ❖ Referring to **Confidentiality**, 14.187 recommends reading *Confidentiality: NHS Code of Practice* for guidance on public interest disclosure. 14.197 includes two new local roles and responsibilities – practice leadership and strategic leadership within the senior management team.
- ❖ **Line managers’ supervision** contains new guidance (14.204) regarding the Court of Protection.
- ❖ There is a **new section** on **Practice Leadership** see (14.205-213).
- ❖ **Recruitment and training for staff and volunteers** contains additional clarification (14.225, 14.228).

Happy reading.

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