

# Safeguarding Adults Review of “Ian” NYSAB Report – September 2020

## Introduction

* 1. The purpose of this report is to present to the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board, an update on the actions in relation to the Safeguarding Adults Review of ‘Ian’.

## Background

* 1. Ian was a 47-year-old gentleman who had a diagnosis of Schizophrenia (Unspecified) and a history of involvement with mental health services dating back to 1995. In June 2014, Ian became homeless and deterioration in his mental health, with an associated risk of suicidal thoughts, led to an admission into hospital. He was receiving care and support under the ‘Care Programme Approach’ (CPA) and went on to live in supported accommodation under the provisions of Section 117 aftercare. On 12th April 2017, ‘Ian’ was found dead at his flat in Harrogate after taking his own life.

## Overview

* 1. In January 2020, the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NYSAB) published a Safeguarding Adults Review which looks at the actions of the agencies involved in supporting ‘Ian’. The review looked specifically at the multi-agency response to Ian’s needs in the period prior to his death. We

thank Ian’s family for their help with this review during this difficult time for them.

* 1. The report made seven recommendations to the individual agencies involved and the SAB as a whole, all of which are accepted by the SAB in full. Since the report was published, the individual agencies involved in this review have been undertaking the work required as a result of the recommendations to ensure that lessons are learned from the sad death of Ian and that practice and process is improved across all agencies to ensure that those experiencing a mental health crisis in North Yorkshire are provided with the support that they need. Progress on these actions has been monitored throughout by NYSAB.
  2. Nine months after publication, this position statement sets out where agencies currently are with each of the recommendations, together with any further work that is required and timescales for any work not completed.

## Current Position on each recommendation Recommendation 1:

**The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board to seek assurances that all agencies recognise that deterioration in an individual’s mental health does not always manifest itself with a crisis episode.**

The learning from this SAR has been captured in a 7-minute briefing which will be distributed to all staff teams across partner agencies, and published on the SAB website, as well as being included in the NYCC Safeguarding Newsletter for wider distribution.

## Recommendation 2:

**The statutory safeguarding partners within North Yorkshire to consider the feasibility of a joined-up IT system to ensure accurate and timely exchange of information which will protect vulnerable people and is readily available to all front line practitioners who require access.**

Work is currently ongoing to enable NYCC Mental Health to have access to Tees Esk and Wear Valley Trust and Bradford Trust recording systems and vice versa to enable shared access, which will allow for a quicker exchange of information when required. NYCC now have access to Paris and work is being finalised to ensure that TEWV have access to the NYCC system. The importance of information sharing is also included in the 7-minute briefing. Other options for information sharing have been considered throughout partner agencies.

## Recommendation 3:

**The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board to ensure measures are in place for those organisations with responsibility for Care Programme Approach (CPA) planning, to have systems for dip sampling of case files and caseloads by team managers. This to include a ‘deep dive’ of content when necessary and in particular to scrutinise the review processes for identification and management of risk. Operational responsibility will remain with the relevant organisation, but the NYSAB to arrange periodic multi-agency audits be carried out.**

There was a full CPA audit report produced BY TEWV in August 2018 following an in-depth audit of all specialisms and localities. There is another CPA audit that is currently ongoing, and it is using the same sample (minus those that have been discharged or died) for direct comparison purposes. This will allow

for a better measure of progress across the Trust than another random sample. From the last audit report there has been significant progress made in ensuring that care plans produced as part of the CPA framework are in line with policy, but perhaps more importantly, they are seen as effective and useful to everyone involved in producing them. This work is being embedded into the new clinical electronic recording system that is being developed (CITO) and there will be an updated CPA policy developed in line with these changes.

## Recommendation 4:

**The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board to review its multi- agency Information Sharing Protocol for exchange of information between agencies relating to vulnerable people living in its area.**

As set out at recommendation 2, systems are currently being developed to enable a quicker sharing of information between mental health and social care. Work is still required to enable such a system between all SAB partners. The Information Sharing Agreement (ISA) has been reviewed by SAB partners and circulated for signatures.

After seeking advice from NYCC Data Governance Team, a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA), will be carried out retrospectively and could delay the implementation of the Information Sharing Agreement by a period of 3-6 months.

## Recommendation 5:

**The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board to arrange multi-agency training for front line staff to enhance confidence in the concept of**

**‘professional challenge.’ This to include an appreciation of the validity of professional challenge and escalation as key tools in protecting vulnerable people. The training will also incorporate a mutual**

**understanding of the breadth and remit of other professional’s roles within the arena of protecting and supporting vulnerable people.**

There now has to now be a registered professional involved in all cases for STR workers to feed up to. Health and Adult Services, TEWV and Bradford mental health trust are currently considering joined up training, across the whole of care and support. In addition, the TEWV Safeguarding Adults procedure was updated, and has been in use since March 2020, which includes a section on Professional Challenge. The safeguarding training packages are currently under review, to ensure adherence to the intercollegiate documents for Safeguarding Adults & Children. These will also emphasise the importance of professional challenge within them. Professional challenge, within the context of Safeguarding Children, is already embedded into Trust policies/procedures and is transferrable skills across all specialties.

## Recommendation 6:

**North Yorkshire County Council to ensure a comprehensive support plan is completed for all vulnerable people who may take up residence at premises owned or managed by the Council.**

All people open to Mental Health services has assessment and support plan in place. Only one premises is still owned and managed by the Council and this is in the process of being closed. All of those currently resident within that placement have a support plan and risk assessment in place.

## Recommendation 7:

**The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board explores the role of Clinical Commissioning Groups (fulfilling their responsibility as a commissioner of services) in scrutinising both patient choice and the suitability of proposed accommodation for adults at risk.**

Assurances have been given that this is operational and in line with the section 117 after-care pathway.

## Recommendation

* 1. It is recommended that the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board notes the position in relation to addressing the recommendations of the Safeguarding Adults Review of ‘Ian’.

## Louise Wallace

**Chair of the Learning and Review Group September 2020**

**Glossary of Terms**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Acronym** | **In Full** |
| **CPA** | Care Programme Approach |
| **ISA** | Information Sharing Agreement |
| **NYCC** | North Yorkshire County Council |
| **NYSAB** | North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board |
| **SAB** | Safeguarding Adults Board |
| **SAR** | Safeguarding Adults Review |
| **TEWV** | Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys (NHS Foundation Trust) |