



Bracknell Forest
SAFEGUARDING BOARD

Learning from Case Reviews

Emerging Themes

Jonathan Picken

- The impact of **past trauma** on individuals capacity and decision making
- The impact of **unconscious bias** (including gender, race, religion and culture) on professional judgement / engagement
- The importance of **professional curiosity** and countering the rule of optimism
- The necessity for good **communication** between professionals, joint working, information /intelligence sharing and recording
- The co-ordination of support for vulnerable **individuals moving between areas of** the country
- The increased risk of serious physical injury in cases of **neglect**
- The significance of **leadership and challenge** within the multi-agency decision making processes to be robust

Lessons from a local learning review (Adult C)

- **C died at age of 56 as a result of a severe infection**
- **While little was known about C or her past medical care, they had a recent history of mental health problems, self-neglect, hoarding, self-harm, suicidal ideation and alcohol misuse**
- **C's most recent discharge from hospital was delayed due to their poor home environment and relied on neighbours providing accommodation and support (including heating)**
- **Assessments were impacted by covid, Christmas holidays and staffing issues, they focussed on C's mental health they did not fully:**
 - **explore the impact of her environment/physical risks**
 - **consider the likelihood of past behaviours being repeated**
 - **appreciate/support the significant role played by friends**
- **Although C was reluctant to engage, denied drinking and minimised others concerns, professionals did not instigate the Board's:**
 - **Multi-agency Risk Framework; or apply its**
 - **Hoarding Protocol**

