

Overview

- ◆ Safeguarding Adult Reviews are a statutory requirement for Safeguarding Partnerships as outlined in S44 of the Care Act 2014 and Care and Support Statutory Guidance.
- ◆ A review may be commissioned when an adult with needs for care and support has either died or is still alive and it is known or suspected the death resulted from abuse or neglect and there is reasonable cause for concern about how members of the Partnership worked together to safeguard the adult.
- ◆ The Statutory Safeguarding Partners (SSP) determine if a case meets the criteria for SAR.
- ◆ If decision is made the SAR criteria met, a Review Panel is convened. Purpose of a Review Panel is to gather facts about the case, as far as they can be readily established and determine what steps should be taken next, including to agree SAR criteria has been met.
- ◆ The purpose of a SAR is to seek to determine how relevant agencies and individuals involved could have worked differently, that could have prevented abuse or neglect or death from taking place.

How Safeguarding Adult Reviews work in Darlington

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations in Darlington will co-operate to safeguard adults with needs for care and support in its area. A key function is to undertake Safeguarding Adult Reviews. Any professionals or agency may refer a case to the Statutory Safeguarding Partners if they believe that there are important lessons to be learned.

The statutory process to be followed is explained in full in

[Safeguarding Adults Review \(SAR\) Protocol](#)

Safeguarding Adults Review Referral and Learning Request Form
Strictly Confidential

The Purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) is to determine what the relevant agencies and individuals involved in a case might have done differently that could have prevented harm or death and ensure maximum learning can be achieved.

As set out in the Care Act 2014, a SAR will only be considered by the Statutory Safeguarding Partners if Section 1 and either Section 2 or 3 are met.

For any case where you determine does not meet the criteria for SAR, sections 1 or 2 & 3 are not met yet, you believe there is nothing to be explored such as the potential for a single or multi-agency review or audit or a question mark has been highlighted then tick the box.

In your opinion, please select all that apply.

1	There is reasonable cause for concern about how the Safeguarding Partners, members of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership (DSP) or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult.	<input type="checkbox"/>
2	You wish to proceed if you know or suspect the death resulted from abuse or neglect, whether or not you know about or suspected the abuse or neglect before the adult died.	<input type="checkbox"/>
3	The adult is still alive and you know or suspect the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect.	<input type="checkbox"/>
4	There are no more concerns for SAR but there is learning to be explored (to be referred to the Learning and Development Group).	<input type="checkbox"/>

The information on this form is confidential and will only be shared in accordance with the [Data Protection Act 2018](#) and is in the best interests of the adult's family.

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership needs as much information as possible to enable members to make a proportionate decision as to how to respond to a SAR referral, therefore it is essential that you complete as much information as this form as possible. Please refer to the [SAR Protocol](#) for further guidance.

If you have any questions or wish to discuss the referral, please do not hesitate to contact the DSP. Darlington Link via email: osp@darlington.gov.uk

Darlington Safeguarding Partnership SAR Referral Form revised March 2022 V1.1

Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) referral and decision-making process (following criteria in section 2 and 3 of this protocol)

Individual agency process

Agency staff identify a case to refer for a Safeguarding Adult Review – consulting with Manager or Safeguarding Lead within own organisation

Agency Decision

Agency agreement that it meets the criteria for consideration of a SAR (see section 2 & 3) ensuring all relevant information/rationale is available to support the decision/referral.

Agency agreement that it does not meet the criteria for SAR, however highlights there may be learning to explore.

Refer to Chair of the Learning and Development Group email: DSP@darlington.gov.uk

Safeguarding Adult Review Process

Submit a SAR referral to the Safeguarding Partnership Business unit within **1 working day*** of determining it meets the criteria (*see paragraph 7.5)
Email: DSP@darlington.gov.uk.

1 day

Partnership Business Manager to record submission and details of the referral and inform the Statutory Safeguarding Partners within **1 working day** of receiving.

1 day

The Statutory Safeguarding Partners must consider whether the case meets the criteria for SAR within **5 working days**. The referrer should be notified of the outcome

5 days

If the Statutory Safeguarding Partners agree the case should be considered for a SAR (or other type of review), the Chair of the Learning and Development Group should arrange a review panel meeting and the Business Unit will request chronologies or information from all relevant agencies within **7-10 working days** of the decision.

7-10 days

The review panel will take place within **15 working days** and will involve members of the Darlington Safeguarding Partnership and other relevant agencies to share information and agree the Terms of Reference for the review.

15 days

The review panel will consider all the information and decide whether the case still reaches the criteria for a SAR and will advise the Statutory Safeguarding Partners of the decision and rationale.

The SAR should be completed within **6 months** of the decision to hold a SAR.

6 months

Points to note:

- During this process there is an expectation that all agencies with involvement with the adult provide information to support the review. There will be an agreed timeframe for all of the information to be gathered.
- A Review Panel will be convened within fifteen days to gather information, determine next steps and make recommendation to the Statutory Safeguarding Partners.
- The SAR referral form is available to download on the Darlington [Safeguarding Partnership website](#).

**Darlington
Safeguarding
Partnership**
Protecting Children and Adults