SAFEGUARDING ADULTS POLICY CHANGE

The 'Safeguarding Adults: multi-agency policy and procedures for the West Midlands' will be implemented in April 2013.

For the attention of all staff working with adults at risk of abuse

BULLETIN TWO: FEBRUARY 2013

Sent on behalf of the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board

KEY MESSAGE

All local authorities in the West Midlands are adopting the 'Safeguarding adults: multi-agency policy and procedures for the West Midlands. In Birmingham, this will be accompanied by local guidance designed to support you in implementing these new arrangements.

You should have received Bulletin One back in December, which was just to give you early notice that changes are being made to existing safeguarding policy and procedures. Bulletin Two is to keep you informed of progress and tell you about the briefing sessions organised in March, which you can book onto today using APPENDIX 2 (below).

What you need to know:

- This new policy and procedures will replace the current 'Birmingham Safeguarding Adults: Policy, Procedure and Good Practice Guide'.
- The new changes are planned to take affect from Tuesday 23rd April
- Everything you need to know about these changes is contained in the briefing pack, which will be sent to you in early March.
- The Questions & Answers document (which will grow as more questions come in over the next few months) is attached as APPENDIX 1 below.

What you need to do:

- Forward this email to all your staff that work with adults at risk
- Please send any further questions (which may also be added to the Q&A doc) to Julie_simcox@birmingham.gov.uk

• The briefing sessions in March 2013

We appreciate that whilst most of you will find the briefing packs are sufficient - some of you may also want the opportunity to see a demonstration of how to use the online resource for accessing the policy and procedures. Therefore, a series of 1hour briefings have been organised (see APPENDIX 2 below for booking instructions) for March in order to provide some further clarity on the reasons for the changes and to demonstrate the online resource.

APPENDIX 1:

QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

Question 1	Why are the safeguarding policy and procedures changing?		
Answer	To improve interagency working across the region. To contribute to better understanding of safeguarding adults. To lead towards consistency in practice To promote the use of common definitions and timescales		
Question 2	How can I access the new West Midlands safeguarding adults policy and procedures with the local guidance?		
Answer	You can access the documents formally through www.bsab.org in due course. Full instructions will be provided with your briefing pack in early March. However, if you wish to view the 'Safeguarding Adults: multi-agency policy and procedures for the West Midlands' only, without the local guidance, then you can do so now via this link http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/reports/report60/		
Question 3	Do I need internet access to view the new documentation?		
Answer	The new policy and procedures is best used as an online resource, therefore you will need internet access in order to view the documentation. However, for those of you unable to access the internet, we will be making the documentation available as a PDF on request. Whilst every measure has been taken to accommodate those people not able to access the internet, it is important to point out that it is the manager's responsibility to ensure their staff are able to access the documents and have a full understanding of safeguarding adults policy and procedures.		
Question 4	Will it be available as a paper document?		
Answer	The new policy and procedures is not going to be produced as a paper document. The main reason, aside from the environmental benefits, is that the documentation will be kept up-to-date through a regional and local editorial structure; therefore any paper copies will soon be out of date. Having the information online will provide essential version control.		
Question 5	What information about this new policy and procedures is available to me and my staff?		
Answer	All the information you need will be available in the briefing pack. Then you just need to brief your staff and send them the pack when you receive it.		
Question 6	What should I do with the old Birmingham Safeguarding Adults: Policy, Procedure and Good Practice Guide?		
Answer	You will need to discard it at the time the new one is launched. This new policy and procedures supersedes the old documentation.		

Question 7	Are any of the old posters, leaflets or publications still relevant?		
Answer	The website www.bsab.org will always host the latest versions of materials which can be used.		
Question 8	How do I know which changes are going to affect me?		
Answer	Please read the 'Key Changes' document in the briefing pack. This will explain the main changes in the new policy and procedures.		
Question 9	Has the process for raising safeguarding concerns changed?		
Answer	No. The process has not changed.		
Question 10	How will the new policy and procedures be updated and reviewed?		
Answer	A regional working group, including members of the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB), will review these periodically and amend in line with any national or local developments. Any changes or amendments will be informed through the BSAB website (www.bsab.org)		
Question 11	Why is there a West Midlands policy and procedure and also local Birmingham guidance?		
Answer	The Safeguarding adults: multi-agency policy and procedures for the West Midlands is the framework that all 12 local authorities are adhering to. The local practice guidance for Birmingham has been developed to support you in implementing the policy and procedures. They need to be used together and not as two separate documents.		

Please send any further questions to Julie_simcox@birmingham.gov.uk We will add more questions as they become apparent and the Questions & Answers document will be sent out again with the briefing pack in March.

APPENDIX 2:

Safeguarding Adults Multi-Agency Policy and Procedures BRIEFING SESSION BOOKING INFORMATION

Aim

To provide up to date information about the introduction of the Safeguarding adults: multi-agency policy and procedures for the West Midlands, to demonstrate how to access and use the new policy, procedure and local practice guidance and to provide an opportunity for questions/queries

Target Audience

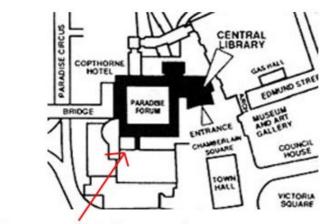
Anyone who may be providing a service/care to adults who may be at risk of abuse and wants to see a demonstration of how to access the new policy, procedure and local practice guidance

Briefing Session Details						
Venue	Date	Session 1	Session 2	Session 3		
Birmingham Library Theatre (Paradise Place, Birmingham, B3 3HQ. Location map below)	14th March	9.30am	11.30am	2.00pm		
Birmingham Library Theatre	20th March	9.30am	11.30am	2.00pm		
Birmingham Library Theatre	21st March	9.30am	11.30am	2.00pm		

If you wish to attend one of the briefing sessions please reply by email to Safeguarding.Adults.Briefing.Session@birmingham.gov.uk

Please ensure you include your:
Preferred date
Preferred session (i.e. 1,2 or 3)
Name
Job Role
Place of work
Service/Organisation or Sector
Email address

You will receive confirmation of booking by automated email. Thank you.



Entrance to Library Theatre