

# Serious Case Reviews

## A Guide for Families (including close friends) and Carers

### ***Introduction***

- When concerns arise about the care of an adult who lives in Jersey the Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board may undertake a Serious Case Review
- The review is intended to consider whether there are any lessons which may be learnt about the way organisations have worked with you and your family
- We acknowledge this is likely to be a very difficult time for you but we want to learn all we can for the future
- The Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board believes that you should know about the review and have the opportunity to tell us about the way agencies worked with you
- This leaflet has been designed to explain what happens and what support we can offer

### ***What is a Serious Case Review?***

- The purpose of a Serious Case Review is to establish how organisations, agencies and professionals work together to support families to keep people safe
- This is not a criminal enquiry. It is completely separate from any investigation which may be undertaken by the Police and it concentrates on the work of the professionals, organisations and agencies who have been involved with your family
- A Serious Case Review Panel, made up of senior managers from the organisations involved, meet to have a close look at the work of all the professionals and agencies who have been involved with you and your family
- The members of this panel could include representatives from organisations such as Health, Social Work, GPs, Police etc.
- Other organisations and agencies may be asked to join the panel or give information about their involvement with your family
- Once it is known that a Serious Case Review has been called, each organisation or agency is asked to gather and analyse any professional records relating to you and your family during the period under review

### ***What happens next?***

- Each organisation will produce an independent report containing the full details of when and what services they gave you and your family
- An Independent Overview Author then considers all the reports and produces an Independent Overview Report that analyses whether the expected standards of work have been met; whether

policies and procedures were followed and whether there are any lessons that can be learned about the way organisations work together to keep people safe

- When the Review has been completed, organisations will agree what actions they may need to take to change the way they provide support to individuals and their families. They will agree a timetable for making those changes and will explain how the changes will make a difference

### ***Involving the family***

- You will usually be offered the opportunity to talk to the Independent Overview Author about any involvement with individual agencies and organisations and to give your views about what worked well and what could have been done differently
- Any meeting will be arranged at a time and place suitable to you. If you wish to have someone with you, to offer support in these meetings, that is quite all right
- A copy of the notes made in the meeting will be sent to you to agree them

### ***Who will see the report?***

- The final overview report of the Serious Case Review may be published on the Safeguarding Adults Board website and therefore be a public document. Every effort will be made to ensure that none of the people involved can be identified from the report. In some situations, the full report may not be published, although an executive summary will still be made available. We will make sure that the report is shared with you before it is published

### ***How long will the review take?***

- Serious Case Reviews usually take approximately six months to complete. In exceptional circumstances, for example if there are related criminal proceedings, it may be considerably longer

### **More Information**

If you would like any further information about the serious case review please contact the Board Manager, Safeguarding Children Partnership Board.

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