



Minute Briefing



What is a SAR?

A Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) is a multi-agency review that aims to determine what agencies involved could have **done differently** that could have prevented harm or a death from taking place.

It is the responsibility of the Brent Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) to agree and carry out a SAR.

The aim is not to apportion blame it is to promote effective learning and improvement to prevent future deaths or harm occurring and improve how agencies work together towards positive outcomes for adults and their families



When should a SAR be considered?

Cases should be referred to the Brent Safeguarding Adult Board (BSAB) for consideration if:

An **adult Brent resident with care and support needs has died or been seriously harmed** and **abuse or neglect is known or suspected** and **there are concerns about how agencies involved may or may not have worked together.**

If you are aware of a case that may meet the criteria for a SAR, you should request the BSAB SAR Consideration form via email to brent.safeguardingpartnerships@brent.gov.uk



Questions to consider and discuss

Are you aware of the criteria that means a case might meet SAR criteria?

Do you know what action to take if you have a case that might meet SAR criteria?

Further information on Brent SARs, including published reviews, can be found at:

www.brentsafeguardingpartnerships.uk



What is a Safeguarding Adults Review? (SAR)



Decision making for a SAR

The case detail is reviewed by the BSAB Case Review Group (CRG) against the SAR criteria and a recommendation is made to the Independent Chair as to whether a SAR should take place.

The Independent Chair makes the final decision on commissioning a SAR and the referrer will be updated of the outcome.



What happens if the case does not meet SAR criteria?

If a referral does not meet SAR criteria, another course of action may be agreed to ensure learning is not lost; such as:

- a case file audit (where this is reasonable and proportionate)
- a learning event/briefing
- a discretionary SAR



What difference do SARs make to safeguarding?

SAR recommendations are used to agree an action plan for making changes or improvements to services to reduce the risk of future harm.

Action plans are agreed and monitored to make improvements.

Learning from the review is shared with partners on the Brent Safeguarding Partnerships website and through learning events/briefings



How are SARs carried out?

The SAR will be

- led by an external independent reviewer with specialist skills and knowledge.
- Terms of Reference for the SAR are recommended by the SAB CRG and agreed by the BSAB Independent Chair.
- all agencies involved are invited to provide details of their involvement and take part in a series of multi-agency meetings
- the views and experiences of practitioners, the individual and their family (where appropriate) are sought.
- the SAR is produced by the reviewer and signed off by BSAB.