

Briefing Note

SAR Dorothy

Liverpool Safeguarding Adults Board are today (04.06.2026) publishing a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR).

Dorothy is an older female, diagnosed with dementia, placed in a care home. In 2022, Dorothy was the victim of an alleged rape by another resident at the care home (Kenneth). Both Dorothy and Kenneth lacked capacity to consent. Dorothy was able to return to the care home following the incident.

The SAR Criteria was met as set out in s44; Care Act 2014:

An SAB must arrange for there to be a review of a case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether the local authority has been meeting any of those needs) if—

- (a) there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, members of it or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult, and
- (b) condition 2 is met:
 - a) the adult is still alive, and
 - (b) the SAB knows or suspects that the adult has experienced serious abuse or neglect.

The SAR panel identified focused learning themes for analysis:

- Hospital discharge process, full disclosure of known information about Kenneth
- Risk minimisation
- Male only care environment availability
- Exploring if the placement of Dorothy was appropriate
- How well trained are partner agency staff in being able to talk to people with care and support needs about their sexuality
- Mental Capacity

A key focus of the review was to identify areas for improved practice including any obstacles or barriers to achieving it, and to highlight areas of good practice.

The Board wishes to record their best wishes to the family of Dorothy and Kenneth and thank them for their contribution to the Safeguarding Adults Review.

The Liverpool Safeguarding Adults Board and its partners fully accept the report, and its learning and questions directed to the Board as an outcome from the SAR review. The Board will develop a multi-agency improvement plan to address the recommendations within the SAR report. The purpose of the multi-agency improvement plan is to strengthen practice, particularly with regards to Hospital discharge planning, appropriate placements and risk assessments.

The Board will be convening a post Safeguarding Adults Review learning event will take place with professionals in Liverpool to explore the key learning from this Review in July 2026.

Duncan Robinson

Independent Chair
Liverpool Safeguarding Adults Board

Please note a pseudonym name has been selected to help to protect the identity of both the individuals and their families.