

Appendix 1

Executive Response to the report of 'Information Sharing Regarding Vulnerable Adults Scrutiny Review '

Rec #	Recommendation	Recommendation accepted (Yes/No/In Principle)	If not accepted; reasons why not	If accepted; action taken or likely date of action	Contact Officer responsible to implement agreed action
1	Adult Social Care and Mental Health services are using separate non – interoperable databases, creating difficulties in responding quickly to individual cases. Easier and quicker access across these separate databases is required and ways of doing this must be considered. For example in each team could be given access to both databases and act as a central point of			<p>Agreement has been reached between Adult Social Care (ASC) and Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust to increase the numbers of people in ASC who can access ECPA, the mental health database and this has now been implemented</p> <p>The issues of continuing to improve working relations will be</p>	Brian Doughty

	<p>reference. In the longer term, better ways of working should be considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board, which will have a statutory duty to foster improved co – working across health and social care.</p>			<p>considered in the future by the Health and Wellbeing Board</p>	
2	<p>A Multi – Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) should be set up to discuss lower – risk cases. Meeting regularly, this group would share information on cases that are presenting as potentially at risk to more than one agency, but which have not yet triggered the threshold for crisis</p>	YES		<p>The safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Board has recommended:</p> <p>1. That there should be a review of systems and processes that are in place to safeguard vulnerable adults e.g. Safeguarding procedures, DV MARAC, ASB-MARAC etc. Map processes and how</p>	Michelle Jenkins

	services			they link. 2. That the response agencies consider <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How they can develop a flat system to attach to a specific name, and to an address and• That they work together to review any information protocols that may be affected by this action in order to promote sharing of flagged information about individuals and specific addresses. 3. An information exchange checklist to be devised and included as part of	
--	-----------------	--	--	---	--

				<p>safeguarding investigation documentation, to act as a prompt and guide to appropriate sharing of information.</p> <p>Adult social care has also signed up to be part of the ECINS programme being by Community Safety as a means of more effective communication and dialogue in relation to vulnerable people.</p>	
3	<p>The initial risk assessment carried out by Adult Social Care should include noting any indicators that the individual may be particularly vulnerable to risk of fire. With the</p>	Yes		<p>A prompt in relation to identifying potential fire risks is incorporated into Assessment documentation</p>	Brian Doughty

	<p>individual's consent, that information should be shared with East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (ESFRS). Protocols should be put in place to ensure the fire and rescue service are routinely informed when there is a potential risk to enable them to put preventative measures in place</p>				
4	<p>Although there are issues over the definition of 'vulnerability', consideration must be given to creating a system that allows Mears staff to flag up when a person is particularly vulnerable. A system should be set up to ensure feedback from</p>	Yes		<p>Agreed. Work is already taking place to review an improve processes with our repairs partners Mears. The Repairs Desk has introduced additional questions around how they can support a resident with a repair and they now pass this</p>	Nick Hibberd

	Mears is consistent. (p27)			information to operatives. This may be things such as waiting for additional time after ringing the doorbell phoning first or knocking loudly. Mears have identified how they will record this information within their IT system. We are also in the progress of improving referral between Mears operatives and Housing Officers and ensuring that this also results in feedback to Mears. This will be complete in May 2012	
5	Following an emergency housing incident, there are standard debrief meetings to discuss	Yes		Agreed. We will continue to carry out briefings after any major incident and use this to	Nick Hibberd

	what worked well and what needed improvement. It is important that this continues and there is cross agency involvement as appropriate			review what happened and improve processes.	
6	The use of faxes between organisation in reporting vulnerable adults must be replaced immediately by a more secure and unambiguous system. Given that agencies working with adults at risk are all part of the government's secure email system, it seems ludicrous that referrals are not sent by email. The Panel recommends that whatever obstacles currently exist to	Yes		Progress has been made with faxes now being replaced by secure email	Brian Doughty

	prevent the use of email are removed as a priority.				
7	Adult Social Care and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service should consider supporting a further secondment of a member of ESFRS into Adult Social Care. Seconding members of staff from partner organisations is always a useful way of learning across organisations. Rotational secondments across key partners should be considered when looking at future ways of working	Yes		Discussion have commenced between ASC and ESFRS to enable a further secondment to take place	Brian Doughty
8	The Patchwork programme allows one organisation to see which other	Yes		It has been agreed to look at the possibilities of extending the	Brian Doughty

	organisations hold information on a particular individual. This appears to be an excellent initiative and the Panel would welcome feedback from the early trials. We recommend that this initiative is rolled out to Adult Social Care as soon as possible			Patchwork Programme to ASC looking towards a possible implementation date of late autumn 2012	
--	---	--	--	---	--

