

Statement from the Independent Chair regarding RD (Colin) Safeguarding Adults Review – 15th December 2021.

Firstly, on behalf of the Merton Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB), our condolences are offered to the family and friends of Colin (RD).

Following the death of Colin (RD), the MSAB commissioned an independently-led review into the circumstances leading up to his death, the care he was receiving and how different agencies worked together to support him.

The purpose of a Safeguarding Adults Review is to learn from what has happened and to ensure that there is change.

A number of changes and improvements have begun.

These include improvements to Mental Capacity Act training and the reviewing of guidance on triggers for cases where repeated unwise decisions have been made.

This review has also recommended further changes in some of these areas, including, a review of –

- How Adult Social Care and Mental Health Services assess risks with regards self-neglect and non-engagement
- The Board's self-neglect policy to incorporate the learning from this review, including,
 - what constitutes self-neglect
 - risk assessment and risk panel and thresholds
 - case coordination
 - importance of relationship building
 - legal guidance and measures to protect others
 - advocacy

The Merton Safeguarding Adults Board will continue to work with the agencies involved to monitor the actions arising from this review and ensure that practices change as a result.

Aileen Buckton MBE, Chair of Merton Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB)

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