

7 Minute Brief – SARs Arlo & Paddy

Reason for SAR and background:

Gloucester Safeguarding Adult Board (GSAB) commissioned a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) to explore themes of rough sleeping, mental health & multiple disadvantage for Arlo & Paddy.

Arlo was known to Swindon services, he was described as a resourceful & honest individual, known for his kindness to others. Arlo experienced trauma in childhood, mental health, addiction & homelessness.

Paddy was known to Gloucester, known for his kindness, resilience & strong will. Overcoming heroin addiction, he experienced alcohol dependency & mental health needs.

Lead Agency & Information Sharing

"There were challenges in sharing comprehensive background information on Arlo and Paddy across different agencies and geographical areas. This led to gaps in understanding their full histories and needs. While multi-agency working was recognised as essential, there was no clear lead agency to coordinate multi-agency efforts, making it difficult to call and organise multi-agency meetings and ensure consistent follow-up, which hindered effective collaboration." Any agency can call a multi-agency meeting; this does not mean they will automatically be best placed to take on the lead agency role.

SSP [Multi-agency policy and guidance on responding to self-neglect](#), highlights the importance of identifying a lead agency.

Learning Resources:

[7 Golden Rules of Information Sharing](#)

[Process for the Resolution of Professional Disagreement](#)

[Museum of Homelessness](#)

[Professional Curiosity](#)

[Rough Sleeping](#)

[7 Minute Brief Video](#)



Risk management & Alcohol Dependency

Both Arlo & Paddy experienced challenges with alcohol dependency. This led to falling between thresholds due to dependency, resulting in not receiving the support they needed. Understanding Multiple Disadvantage is key to the [Making Every Adult Matter \(MEAM\)](#) approach. It is important to seek flexibility in how we respond to support individuals facing multiple disadvantage.

You can learn more about alcohol dependency by watching [this webinar](#) and utilising the [Welfare & Safety Plan](#) (appendix 1A & 1B) to support risk management.

Community Networks & Trauma Informed

Recognising that friends and family play a key role in support systems & engagement is vital when working with individuals who can be challenging for professionals to support & build relationships with. Both Arlo & Paddy had support systems that were not fully utilised. This meant that interventions were not always trauma informed.

Watch this [Stigma Kills](#) video for more information on the impact of stigma.

Accommodation for complex needs

The housing options available were not suitable to meet the needs of both Arlo & Paddy with their social care, alcohol dependency and mental health needs. This left them without appropriate support and their needs going unmet.

This is a national challenge & commissioning of housing options for those with complexity needs to be revisited.

You can find more information on homelessness [HERE](#). Or read the [Dying Homeless Report 2024](#) to understand more.

Continuity of Care

Professional tenacity & having backup interventions and plans can ensure windows of opportunity are not missed. Consider contingency planning as essential.