

Bristol Safeguarding Adult Board Response

Response to the Serious Case Review into the Death of Simon Reynolds

Bristol Safeguarding Adults Board is publishing the serious case review into the death of Simon Reynolds. The Board would like to express our condolences to the family of Simon. We would like to thank them for their contributions to this report and working with us at this difficult time. All the organisations which make up Bristol Safeguarding Adult Board including Avon and Somerset Constabulary, Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group and Bristol City Council regret the death of Simon.

The key purpose for undertaking a SCR is to enable lessons to be learned, to facilitate future learning and development. Bristol Safeguarding Adults Board accepted the findings and recommendations of the Serious Case Review into the death of Simon at an extraordinary Board meeting held on the 11 August 2016. The Board welcomes the findings of this serious case review which provides important learning for all agencies on how we can improve our support to people in mental health crisis. We are committed to ensuring that the recommendations in this report will improve the way agencies work with people in Bristol who find themselves in similar circumstances and ensure that agencies continue to work together to minimise the likelihood of events such as these happening in the future.

The Board has asked one of its sub groups, the Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) sub group, to monitor the multi-agency actions taken to implement the recommendations of the review. The SAR subgroup will provide a quarterly progress report to the Safeguarding Adults Board, enabling the Board to challenge and support agencies in enacting the recommendations.

Recommendations for the Board.

- 1 A thorough review is undertaken of the multi-agency 'Crisis Care Concordat' across all signatories to include more specific detail in relation to its application in practice. The 'Crisis Care Concordat' provides a solid framework for actions to be monitored and evaluated as necessary. The 'Crisis Care Concordat Group incorporating Section 135 and 136 Strategic Monitoring Group' to monitor and evaluate the use of the 'Crisis Care Concordat', ensuring agencies respond as described in the multi-agency protocols and

that designated senior managers are able to demonstrate that local issues are resolved in practice

Signatories to the 'Crisis Care Concordat' including Avon and Somerset Constabulary, Bristol City Council and Avon and Wiltshire Partnership MHS Mental Health Trust have been asked to provide assurance to the Board that the protocol is effectively embedded in practice in order to safeguard those it is designed to support. Where changes are required to improve the effectiveness of the concordat that progress regarding these improvements will be shared with the Board.

- 2 Agencies signed up to the 'Crisis Care Concordat' can demonstrate that it has been implemented effectively within their own agencies, and can demonstrate collaborative working with others. Ensure that front line staff are supported should escalation be necessary.

The Board will request that Agencies undertake individual audits to identify whether the 'Crisis Care Concordat' is effective in practice and outline any improvements that can be implemented. The Board will want to see evidence of audits and their outcomes.

- 3 Agencies to ensure that 'Parity of Esteem' is evident when dealing with people who are experiencing a mental health crisis.

The Board will seek assurance that all agencies that work with anyone in mental health crisis ensure that they are provided with parity of esteem when in a state of mental health crisis.

- 4 The Mental Health Act assessment pathway is reviewed and analysed to identify and understand the causes of delays and to make the necessary improvements to prevent unnecessary delays

The Board will seek to better understand how the Mental Health Act assessment pathway can be made more effective in meeting the needs of people in mental health crisis in a Place of Safety. Bristol City Council is responsible for undertaking Mental Health Act assessments and the board is seeking assurance from the Council as to the current situation regarding Mental Health Act assessments.

The police are in the process of reviewing the pathway in use regarding people detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act.

Other recommendations outlined in this review apply to specific agencies who will be required to report to the SAR sub group as to the progress in respect of the recommendations made in this review.