



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 02157
Date 4 March 2015

Safeguarding and care

Request:

During 2014, what was the number of safeguarding issues for providers of care for people with learning disabilities?

There were 70 Safeguarding Alerts received relating to providers of care for adults with a learning disability.

For the issues identified in question 1, how are these divided by provider of care for people with learning disabilities?

These are divided into providers delivering outreach, day care, domiciliary care, residential and nursing care

What was the nature of each reported safeguarding issue?

These vary and relate to different concerns ranging from missed medication resulting in no harm to the service user, one off incidents when a resident has assaulted another service user, allegation of rough handling by member of staff and allegation of physical assault by a staff member, allegation of inappropriate sexual behaviour between service users, and inappropriate staffing ratios and poor quality of care concerns.

What was the category of risk of each reported safeguarding issue?

The allegations include allegations of physical abuse, institutional abuse, neglect, sexual abuse, financial abuse and psychological abuse. Many of the alerts did not reach the threshold for a safeguarding investigation so were closed at the alert stage due to the low level of risk, other interventions may have occurred outside of the safeguarding remit e.g. placement review, care management.

What is your Local Authority's policy and procedure following abuse of a learning disability patient?

The Safeguarding Policy and Procedure is attached as Report 60, this is for all service users, there is not a separate policy for adults with a learning disability although leaflets are available in easy to read versions.