

## NEWSLETTER

Summer 2020



### A welcome to you all from Cherry Dale

**Cherry is the independent Chair  
for the Birmingham Adult  
Safeguarding Board.**

**Hello and welcome to the Summer edition of our  
Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board Newsletter.**

The last few months have been unprecedented; I would like to start by thanking you and your teams for the vital work you are doing to keep our communities safe. There has been a great deal of fantastic collaborative work that is being done to support the most vulnerable citizens of Birmingham.

In the last few months the Birmingham Safeguarding Adults Board have continued to meet to ensure that we meet our statutory duties. We have met on a more frequent basis making use of modern technology to hold virtual meetings. We have also been working more closely with the Community Safety Partnership, Domestic Abuse Shadow Board, City Board and the Homeless Partnership Board.

In this newsletter we hope you will find lots of useful information.

Thanks again for all your efforts and hard work.

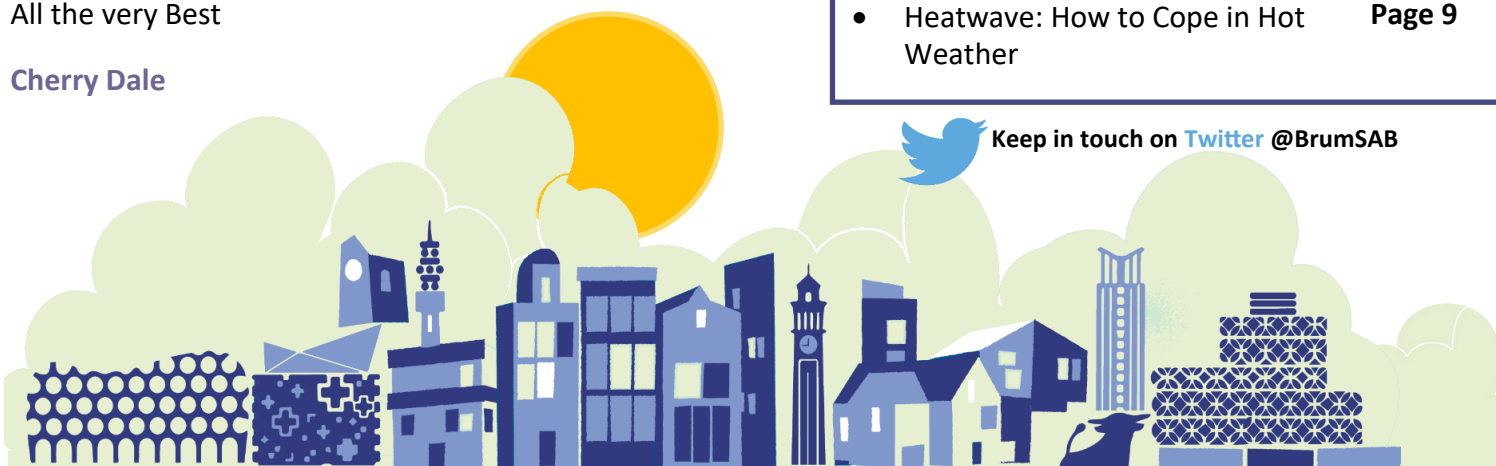
Stay safe

All the very Best

**Cherry Dale**

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Keep in touch on [Twitter @BrumSAB](https://twitter.com/BrumSAB)



**POhWER provides advocacy services to the citizens of Birmingham. So that Citizens can access independent advocacy support where needed; some examples are:**

#### **INDEPENDENT MENTAL CAPACITY ADVOCACY (IMCA)**

An advocate who has been specially trained to support people who lack mental capacity, are not able to make certain decisions for themselves and do not have family or friends who are able to speak for them (including where there are safeguarding concerns). IMCAs do not make decisions - they are independent of the people who do make the decisions.

#### **INDEPENDENT MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCACY (IMHA)**

An independent advocate trained to work within the framework of the Mental Health Act 1983 to support people to understand their rights under the Act and participate in decisions about their care and treatment. Our advocates are not employed by the NHS or any private healthcare provider, and they provide free, independent and confidential support.



#### **CARE ACT ADVOCACY**

The Care Act says that local councils must involve people in decisions about their care and support needs. If it would be difficult for someone to be involved without support, the council must make sure they get the help they need. If the person doesn't have someone who can help them, they have the right to have an independent Care Act Advocate.

#### **COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

People who are vulnerable due to a disability, illness or their age may find it difficult to put their views across or feel they aren't being listened to. The advocates can support people to deal with issues they are facing. POhWER's community advocacy service is free and confidential; our advocates are independent and only take actions they have agreed with the person they are working with.

[Click here](#) to view the services POhWER offer and to find out how to make a referral

## **Safeguarding Adults Reviews**

Here are a selection of Safeguarding Adult Reviews that have been published by various Safeguarding Adults Boards nationally.



#### **TYRONE GOODYEAR - Published 12 June 2020**

This review examines the circumstances and issues leading up to Tyrone's death, including homelessness, mental ill-health and suicide prevention; all linked to Autism Spectrum Condition and learning difficulties.

[Click here](#) to view the 7 minute briefing / [Click here](#) to view the full report



#### **ROBYN - Published 9 June 2020**

Robyn (an 85 year old woman) died in December 2018. She sustained a traumatic head injury in a fall at home in December 2015.

[Click here](#) for learning brief and report



#### **Adult A - Published 29 May 2020**

Adult A was an 87 year old gentleman who suffered from Alzheimer's disease.

[Click here](#) to read the report and statements from Adult A's family and Moira Wilson, Independent Chair (NLSAB)

## For the Love of Scrubs

During the Covid-19 lockdown, our Business Support Officer, Dawn Foster-Denham has not only been working hard for the Board but has also aided in the cause of producing PPE equipment for key workers.



In late March, 'For the Love of Scrubs' (an organisation born out of the crisis) called out for volunteers across the UK with sewing machines and skills to come together and help with the PPE shortage. They didn't disappoint and volunteered in droves to raid their fabric stashes.

Help also came from the unlikelyst of sources such as DFS turning over their cutting machines and expert know-how to laser cut fabric pieces on an industrial scale, and the DJ Chris Evans and his son Noah donated thousands of metres of fabric.

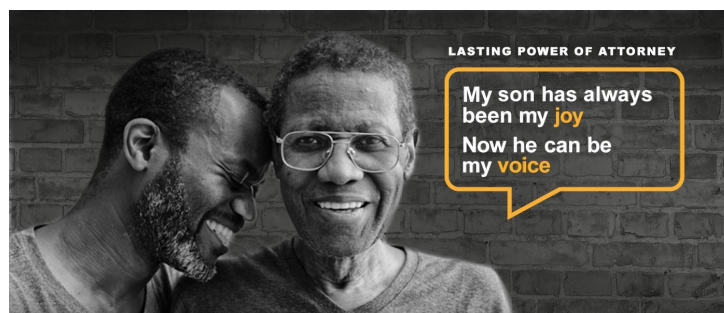
Dawn has so far produced over 100 individual PPE items such as scrubs for hospitals, care homes and GPs; aprons for teachers; facemasks for high risk individuals, uniform laundry bags and tote bags for foodbanks.

Dawn said, "it really illustrates that with a little ingenuity and hard work, ordinary folk can make a massive difference to support already stretched services – the bulldog spirit is still alive and well. I've made some good friends along the way too."



## Lasting Power of Attorney Campaign

The Office of the Public Guardian has launched a campaign to promote the importance and benefits of making a Lasting Power of Attorney and to clear up some myths around LPAs.



If someone loses the ability to make certain decisions for themselves, a lasting LPA allows trusted people to quickly, easily and legally step in and help.

Some may believe that Lasting Power of Attorneys (LPAs) are only for people with wealth and assets, but did you know an LPA can protect for future health decisions too?

Life may feel uncertain for some, but there are options available to help people plan for their futures. They can apply for a lasting power of attorney now, but if someone's needs to make a decision soon, there are other options available.

This campaign shares stories of real people who have taken out LPAs and in addition, includes information on how to begin applying for an LPA.

There is also information available on short-term options for health, welfare and financial decisions that may be useful for those waiting to make an LPA, or if that person is self-isolating and needs someone to carry out bank transactions for them - LPAs take around 8-weeks to register and includes a 4-week waiting period required by law.

For more information, helpful links are provided below:



Office of the  
Public Guardian

[Click here](#) to access individual's stories  
[Click here](#) to access the short-term LPA options  
[Click here](#) for more LPA information

## Domestic Abuse Can Happen to Anyone!

**Data is showing that domestic abuse is increasing during Covid-19 and men, women AND children can be victims.**

In Birmingham, the main service provider for women is [Women's Aid](#) who can be contacted on **0808 800 0028**.

There is also a service commissioned by Birmingham City Council for male victims and is also gender neutral. This service provider is called Cranstoun. If you are a male victim of domestic abuse and want to make a self-referral then please contact them on **0121 633 1750** in confidence. Opening hours are Monday to Friday, 9.00am-5.00pm, email: [birminghamadmin@cranstoun.org.uk](mailto:birminghamadmin@cranstoun.org.uk)

### #NoExcuseForAbuse

**If you are scared at home, there is help**

Support is there for you:  
[www.noexcuseforabuse.info](http://www.noexcuseforabuse.info)  
National helpline: 0808 2000 247  
Call 999 in an emergency

Birmingham & Solihull helpline: 0808 800 0028  
Black Country helpline: 0121 552 6448  
Coventry helpline: 02476 444077  
Wolverhampton helpline: 0808 2000 247



west midlands  
police and crime  
commissioner

If you are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender (LGBT) and would prefer support from an organisation that provides service specifically for the LGBT community then you can contact:

- [GALOP](#) (National LGBT Domestic Abuse Helpline) on **0800 999 5428**; or
- [Birmingham LGBT](#) on **0121 643 0821**.

[Click here](#) for other useful information and organisations

## Mate Crime

**Mate Crime is when someone says they are your friend but they do things that take advantage of you like asking you for money a lot.**

A real friend does not need to be bought, and someone who takes your money, asks you to pay for lots of things, or makes you feel uncomfortable is not a true friend.

Hate crime is any criminal offence which is perceived by the victim or any other person to be motivated by hostility or prejudice towards a person based on their race, religion, sexual orientation, disability, or gender identity.

[Click here](#) for advice on how to report a crime to the police and for more information from the West Midlands police visit their useful web page.



Mencap have found that mate crime and hate crime are prevalent in the lives of people with a learning disability. There is also exploitation, cuckooing and disability hate happening right across the region. Mencap have produced easy read material that can be accessed below.

Here are some useful resources for those supporting adults with learning disabilities including 'easy read' by Mencap:

[Click here](#) for further useful information from Mencap

[Click here](#) to view the #ImWithSam YouTube video

[Click here](#) to view Reece's YouTube video



## Scams: The Power of Persuasive Language

Professor Keith Brown from the National Centre for Post-Qualifying Social Work and Professional Practice (NCPQSW) and Dr Elisabeth Carter, Senior Lecturer in Criminology and Forensic Linguist at the University of Roehampton, have written this new guidance.

The publication shows how criminals use language in subtle and powerful ways to scam people out of money. It highlights how, far from the popular idea of the gullible or vulnerable person 'falling for' a scam, the reality is that scammers are highly skilled manipulators of language that use techniques designed to make people feel at ease and disguise any cause for concern.

This booklet will show some of the ways in which scammers use the reassurance of familiarity, our normal instincts to protect, and isolation from support to draw people in and justify their behaviour. They



exploit all types of situations, including panic, uncertainty and isolation relating to COVID-19. They then manoeuvre individuals into positions where they believe they are making reasonable choices but are in fact being scammed.

The information here is vital for community workers, community nurses and domiciliary care workers, and individuals who have family or friends who are isolating alone, to spot and deal with signs that they are being targeted by a scam. You are key in spotting these issues and identifying them in the community.

[Click here](#) to download your copy of 'Scams: the power of persuasive language'



## Staying Safe - Updated Guidance Covid-19

The Government has issued several updates to guidance for Covid-19 over recent days, as the lockdown is gradually eased including:

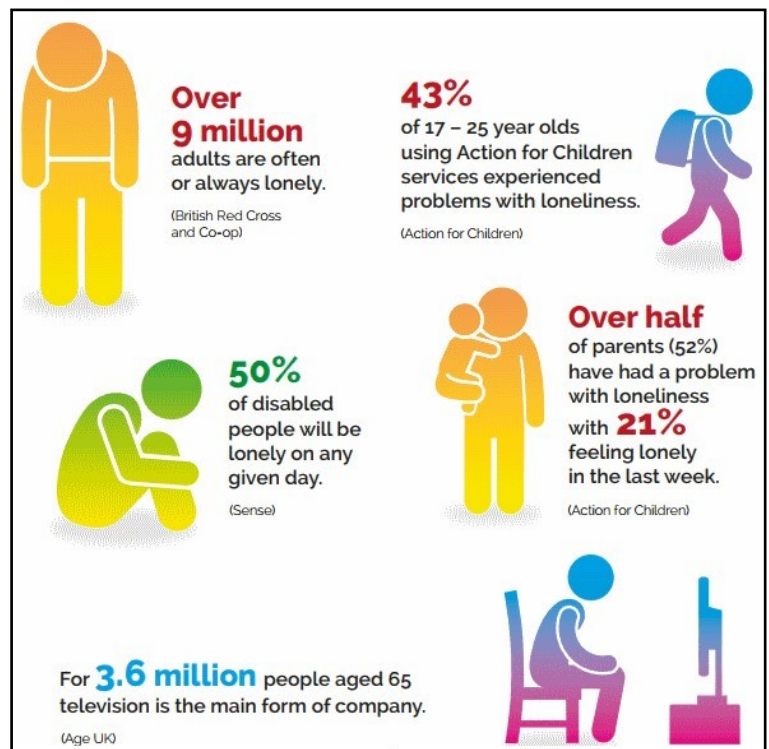
- **Staying safe outside your home:** Updated to reflect new government guidance and the responsibility of everyone to adopt these principles wherever possible ([Click here](#) for full details).
- **Staying alert and safe (social distancing) after 4th July:** Details of the government plan for returning life to as near normal for as many people as possible from the 4th July ([Click here](#) for full details).

Please take time to familiarise yourself with the changes to lockdown restrictions.

[Click here](#) to access the updated easy read guidance for people who are shielding; produced By Mencap

# SPOTLIGHT ON LONELINESS & SOCIAL ISOLATION

Loneliness and Social Isolation was a serious issue even before the start of the coronavirus pandemic. It can have such a negative impact on people's wellbeing and continues to be an issue.



Since the lockdown, we have seen communities reaching out in a variety of ways to ensure that those who may be isolated have access to essentials and this has created brief social distanced interactions which no doubt have made an enormous difference to those who are in the at risk categories and have no usual support network.

As lockdown begins to ease, we need to remain conscious that while some are returning to what is predicted to become 'the new normal' that loneliness and social isolation will continue for many and we need to build upon the positives that have already been seen and continue to identify different ways to enable people to safely connect.

[Click here](#) for the Local Government Association and Director of Public Health's published guidance on Loneliness Social Isolation and COVID 19

What would you like from the shops?

**Phone or text a neighbour before you go to the shop.**

**Help them to stay safe.**

MAKE SOMEONE'S DAY!

A loaf of bread would be great!

[ageingbetterinbirmingham.co.uk/makesomeonesday](http://ageingbetterinbirmingham.co.uk/makesomeonesday)

Birmingham City Council | COMMUNITY FUND | bvsc the centre for voluntary action | AGEING BETTER IN BIRMINGHAM

## Support for Victims of Modern Slavery during the Coronavirus Pandemic

HELP FREE THE UK FROM  
**MODERN  
SLAVERY**

Modern Slavery is a hidden crime and its victims hard to identify in normal circumstances - it's even harder now as they are likely to be more isolated and hidden from view during the coronavirus pandemic.

Adults can access a range of support if they give their consent to enter the National Referral Mechanism which is a framework for identifying and referring potential victims of modern slavery and ensuring they receive the appropriate support.

The online referral system is completed by a First Responder Agency such as Police, Local Authority, UK Visas and Immigration, Border Force, Immigration Enforcement and specified non-governmental organisations.

The Modern Slavery Unit has shared that Service providers have introduced new measures and resources for continuity in the delivery of support to victims of modern slavery during the pandemic including delivering support virtually.

Decision-making on National Referral Mechanism (NRM) cases remains a priority and Asylum Operations continue to make and serve decisions on cases where there is enough information to do so.

The government updated guidance for victims of modern slavery during the coronavirus pandemic in April 2020 which is provided in the links below.

### Support for Victims of Modern Slavery:

[Click here](#) for National Government Guidance

[Click here](#) for West Midlands Police information on Modern Slavery

[Click here](#) for information on spotting the signs of Modern Slavery

[Click here](#) for information about the West Midlands Anti-Slavery network

[Click here](#) or Call **08000 121 700** for the Modern Slavery Helpline

## Justice & Care's 'Unlock the Door' Campaign



Justice & Care are launching a social media campaign to help us play our part in the fight against Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery.

Unlock The Doors is reminding us that as lockdown eases, and we start to experience our freedom again, victims of modern slavery in the UK will remain locked away.

[Click here](#) to find out more about Justice & Care's campaign and how to get involved

## The Herbert Protocol Safe & Found

Nothing is more worrying or distressing than when a loved one goes missing or doesn't return home when expected. For people living with or caring for an adult with care and support needs, this may be quite common.

KEEP PEOPLE  
WITH DEMENTIA  
SAFE & FOUND



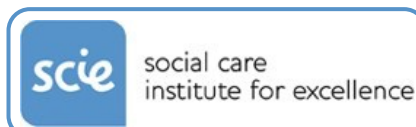
The Herbert Protocol is a national scheme adopted by the West Midlands Police and other police services across the country which encourages carers, families, friends or neighbours to hold information about the person with dementia to help the police find them if they go missing.

George Herbert, who the initiative is named after, was a Second World War veteran who had dementia. Sadly, George died when he went missing, while trying to find his childhood home. This new protocol will reduce the possibility of that happening to someone else's loved one and speed up the search process.

By completing the form in advance, carers will not be under pressure to recall vital information at a stressful time. Sitting with the person who has care and support needs while the form is completed and discussing places that they used to live, and work will help identify places that may be important to them and the police if they were to go missing.

[Click here](#) for further information on The Herbert Protocol and to access the referral form

SCIE is appealing for best practice examples from care homes for older adults specifically around coping with COVID-19 management in care homes for older adults.



They are looking for examples of good care and support for older adults, staff and families.

SCIE want to know what you found that has helped you and could benefit others in a similar situation.

SCIE is funded by the Department of Health and Social Care hub of resources.

Their website has a wide-range of resources to help organisations support adults and children, including:

- Safeguarding during Covid-19
- Domestic Violence and Abuse during Covid-19
- Safeguarding in faith organisations during Covid-19

Also available is a series of webinars to keep adults with care and support needs safe in a variety of settings.

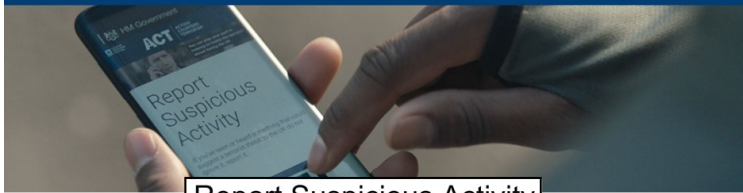
[Click here](#) for additional information or to submit your best practice examples  
[Click here](#) for details of the resources available



**COUNTER  
TERRORISM  
POLICING**

**ACT**

**ACTION  
COUNTERS  
TERRORISM**



Report Suspicious Activity

**If you've seen or heard something that could potentially be related to terrorism, trust your instincts and report it.**

**It only takes a moment to make a report online and your actions could save lives.**

In an emergency, or if you need urgent police assistance, you should always dial **999**.

You can also report suspicious activity by contacting the police in confidence on **0800 789 321**.

Every year thousands of reports from the public help the police keep communities safe from terrorism.

[Click here](#) for further information

## Heatwave: How to Cope in Hot Weather

As we get hot days over the summer there are also risks to health due to the heat. Public Health England have updated their guidance including for the public and care setting on how to "Beat the Heat" and prevent harm.

The main risks posed by a heatwave are dehydration through not having enough water; overheating which can be particularly problematic for people with long-term health conditions; heat exhaustion and heatstroke.

The Meteorological Office has a warning system that issues alerts in the form of:

- **Level 1 alert:** be prepared
- **Level 2 alert:** heatwave is forecast
- **Level 3 alert:** when a heatwave is happening
- **Level 4 alert:** severe heatwave

Knowing how to keep cool and cope during long periods of hot weather can help save lives.

[Click here](#) for further information provided by Public Health England.

**NHS Heatwave Webpage:**

[Click here](#) for Met Office Webpage

[Click Here](#) for Beat the Heat Checklist

[Click Here](#) for Heat Exhaustion & Heatstroke



## Beat the Heat

### Stay connected



Look after yourself, check on others especially the elderly



Listen to the weather forecast and the news



Plan ahead to avoid the heat

### Keep well



Drink plenty of water, avoid alcohol and caffeinated drinks



Dress appropriately for the weather



Slow down and avoid heavy activity

### Find somewhere cool



Know how to keep your home cool



Go indoors or outdoors, whichever feels cooler



Cars get hot, avoid closed spaces

### Watch out



Be on the lookout for signs of heat related illness



If you're too hot, cool your skin with water, slow down and rehydrate



Get help. Call NHS 111 or in an emergency 999

**For more information go to [www.nhs.uk/heatwave](http://www.nhs.uk/heatwave)**

PHE publications gateway number: 2016071