

1

BACKGROUND

In September 2017 a Serious Adult Review was commissioned locally for Adult G following his death at home. G lived an independent life until the age of 30 when injuries following an attempt to take his own life, left him with a significant cognitive disability.



**SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS
BRADFORD**

'G' Safeguarding Adult Review

2

WHY IT MATTERS

G's disability resulted in him living with his mother who was his sole carer until he died. She took care of him for 35 years. G's impairment resulted in poor memory, communication difficulties, ability to express himself was slow and time was needed to understand G. This left him open to additional vulnerabilities / risks within his life

7

THINGS TO CONSIDER

Professional curiosity needs to be present when working with families especially when one person has a major caring role for another. Can the carer still manage to deliver safe and effective care when they too are aging, deteriorating in their own health. This can be an uncomfortable and difficult thought process for professionals considering that a carer could be unable to keep the person they care for safe, or that they maybe neglectful / abusive.



3

INFORMATION

Many professionals were involved with G and his mother throughout their time living together including health, adult social care and police. Due to G's inability to communicate easily, professionals discussed his needs and care through his mother, she was seen as his advocate and there was an assumption that G lacked capacity to make decisions.

6

INFORMATION

The need to work together to protect adults at risk is vital to understand the full life of the adult. No one agency could have known everything about G and his lived experience. There were examples of good practice where professionals worked together shared their understanding and raised safeguarding concern when they were suspecting, his care was safe.

5

KEY LEARNING

The need to embed 'Making Safeguarding Personal' when working with adults at risk. G struggled to make some time to express himself as they assumed that he lacked capacity; his voice was lost from his care. Advocacy needs to be considered for adults especially to understand capacity.

4

INFORMATION

During the time that his mother was caring for him, she too was aging and her ability to continue to care for G safely was questioned at times. The review identified many examples of professionals talking and listening to his mother and accepting her decisions around his care. G's mother became the focal point, not G.