



FSDG Fire Safety Learning Briefing 2024

The purpose of this briefing is to share with all 4LSAB partner agencies the key learning from the fire deaths and near miss incidents reviewed by the 4LSAB Fire Safety Development Group (FSDG) which were identified over a 12 month period (April 2023 - March 2024).

The role of the FSDG is to co-ordinate fire prevention work across the 4LSAB area. The group aims to ensure fire safety and risk management is embedded into the day to day work of partners. The Group also maintains oversight of fire incidents resulting in fire related serious injuries and deaths involving adults with care and support needs.

Partner agencies are required to review the identified learning, consider their own agency procedures, ensure this learning is fully embedded within their organisations and to develop internal mechanisms to identify, support and effectively manage fire risk for all individuals across the 4LSAB areas.

Learning from 4LSAB Fire Safety Development Group Case Reviews

(cases 56 - 60, 62 - 64, & 66)

Fire Risk Management / Practice considerations

- Professionals need to be professionally curious regarding why families / individuals are reluctant to engage or let professionals into their house. Refer to /contact agencies involved if there are concerns relating to risk.
- Professionals need to consider mental capacity assessments in regard to fire risks and safety measures.
- Professionals need to be professionally curious about chimney safety and discuss with patients / service users the need to regularly have chimneys swept if using fire places.
- Professionals do not need to 'cross the threshold' into an individual's home to identify fire risk and vulnerability – risks regarding the person and their behaviour can be identified without entering an individual's home.
- It would be beneficial for partners to have a mechanism for highlighting "fire risk" as a risk / vulnerability on internal IT / data recording systems.
- Guidance / checklist for mental health practitioners to enable a greater understanding and identification of risks of associated with deliberate fire setting should be explored / developed.
- Guidance for self harm and suicide via fire is needed.
- Professionals need to be prepared for and able to have discussions around smoking cessation, utilising referrals for support.
- Professionals need to be aware of the fire risk associated with the residue from emollient products remaining on fabrics and clothing and ensure their patients / service users are also aware. *Learning regarding emollient products was also identified and shared by the Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board in the publication of the Safeguarding Adults Review for [George](#).*

Multi agency risk management and coordination

- Complex cases with high risks and a variety of agencies involved need to be co-ordinated – either through Section 42 enquiries if the criteria is met or through MARM.
- MARM still needs to be considered by local partners even if one partner is 'out of area' i.e another NHS Trust
- Multi-agency support and response to individuals presenting suicidal intent needs to be maintained – Ambulance and Fire have no means or powers to detain an individual who is assessed as lacking capacity and presenting suicidal intent so Police support will be required.
- Housing are often not aware of an individual's vulnerabilities and risk factors which if known, would enable them to provide better support and improve the management of complex cases to accommodate people appropriately

Referrals to HIWFRS

- HIWFRS should be notified when individual presenting fire risks or who have had previous fire incidents are discharged from hospitals.

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What to do if you are concerned for a person's safety due to fire risks

- Complete a Fire Risk Assessment as outlined within the [4LSAB Multi-Agency Fire Safety Framework](#).
- [Refer to Hampshire and IOW Fire and Rescue Service for Safe and Well interventions](#). Partner agencies can make a direct referral for Safe and Well intervention across the Hampshire, IOW, Portsmouth and Southampton areas through completing the online referral form.
- Consider implementing the [Multi Agency Risk Management Framework](#)
- Follow the guidance and support detailed within the [4LSAB Hoarding Guidance](#)
- Management of Fire Risk training is available for all frontline practitioners and agencies from Hampshire and IOW Fire and Rescue Service. To request this training, agencies should email preventiondevelopment@hantsfire.gov.uk