

Our Ref: Q1 17 64

20 July 2017

- a) *Does your Trust have a strategy for the implementation of routine enquiry (RE)?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust does not currently have a specific strategy in place although the risk screening section of the Trust's electronic patient records does ask a question about domestic abuse and certain services such as health visitors have routine questions as part of their initial assessment process. Staff across the Trust utilise the Trust's Safeguarding Service for advice and guidance in relation to actions required and support provided to victims on an individual basis.

- b) *Is there an accountable officer at Trust Board level responsible for the implementation of RE?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust's accountable officer at Trust Board level is Mrs Sue Balcombe, Director of Nursing and Patient Safety and Executive Lead for Safeguarding.

- c) *Does your Trust have a training target for the implementation of RE? What proportion of mental health staff have been trained in RE?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust does not currently have specific RE training but this is covered in safeguarding training provided to all staff. There is also comprehensive advice and guidance for staff on the Trust's Safeguarding intranet pages.

- d) *Does your Trust train staff in the use of an assessment tool that elicits the severity of the trauma a service user might have been experienced? eg. the Trauma Screening Questionnaire? If so, what tool does your Trust use?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust uses the SAFELIFES DASH risk assessment to measure current level of risk. The use of this across all services within the Trust is supported by the Trust's Safeguarding Service and is promoted in Safeguarding training provided as well as through the safeguarding intranet pages.

- e) *Does your Trust provide information to NHS Digital, under the CPA data collection arrangements, on the number of service users who have been subject to RE?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust does not currently provide information to NHS Digital on the number of service users who have been subject to RE.



- f) *DH Policy at present only insists on RE being used with service users on the CPA, does your Trust ask for RE to take place with other groups of service users? If so, which groups?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust does not identify specific groups of patients for which RE applies. If staff identify concerns they will contact the Trust's Safeguarding Service on a needs led basis.

- g) *If through the process of RE taking place, a service user is found to have a history of sexual abuse/violence, is there a pathway in place to ensure that the service users receives expert care/treatment? If so, please attach a copy.*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust uses the SARSAS (Somerset & Avon Rape and Sexual Abuse Support Service) and SWISH (Somerset Wide Integrated Sexual Health Service) referral pathways. The Trust's safeguarding team supports staff across the Trust with these cases.

Copies of the referral pathways for both of the above are available via the internet at the following links:

<http://www.sarsas.org.uk/referrals/>

<http://swishservices.co.uk/>

I am therefore applying an exemption under Section 21 (information already reasonably accessible) of the Freedom of Information Act 2000.

- h) *Does your Trust audit the implementation of RE in clinical settings?*

Somerset Partnership NHS Foundation Trust does not currently audit the implementation of RE in clinical settings.