

JJ was a 23-year-old, White British transgender male. JJ was raised by his mother, although his father was absent throughout his life, JJ made numerous attempts to build a relationship with his father. JJ had six siblings; he was the second eldest. JJ loved arts and drawing. JJ was well known to numerous services. JJ was diagnosed with Childhood Autism, Complex Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorder (EUPD) (also known as Borderline Personality Disorder). JJ had physical health conditions: hereditary deficiency of blood clotting factors (Fibrinogen, factor I deficiency) and coeliac disease. JJ was known to use illicit substances and was at risk of death due to misadventure as a result of self-harm. JJ passed away in December 2022.

Multi-Agency Working

Strong and structured Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) working is of paramount importance in order to manage serious risk to individual. Agencies and individual members of different organisations can bring a wealth of knowledge around the individual and their circumstances, which can be used to mutual benefit of the agency providing support and the recipient of service.

Stop and think- Who should be invited to your MDT? Be clear what is the purpose of your meeting and what are you wanting to achieve? Be **SMART** when you are setting your actions.

'Less is more'- MDTs should reflect the **'quality'** and not the **'quantity'**. Sometimes we can be tempted to invite 'as many' professionals as we can think of, however this can lead to messages being lost and actions not being completed. In large groups it is more difficult to work productively, and the time can be an obstacle to address key areas, so next when you arranging your MDT be sure you know exactly who should 'sit at the table'.

Do you know your law?

Knowing law is crucial when risk is involved. Don't rely on your knowledge only, be curious and ask for support if you do not know what to do. Legislation is often 'interlinked' meaning one law may refer to another piece of legislation, therefore it is important to know your 'ABCs' of the Acts.

The Care Act 2014 - Section 9 places a duty on the Local Authority to assess, if criteria are met, for care and support- 'Care Needs Assessment'. In case of refusal of an assessment by an adult with capacity who is at significant risk consider **Section 11(2,b)** of the Care Act. Remember that Safeguarding is 'everyone's business' so if you are worried about an adult consider raising a [Safeguarding Concern](#). **Section 42** of the Care Act puts a duty on the Local Authority to make necessary enquiries and **Section 68** places a duty to provide Advocacy when a safeguarding enquiry is ongoing and when criteria are met. Remember to refer to the [Care and Support Statutory Guidance](#)! Fact: The Care Act makes reference to the Mental Health Act, Section 75, check it out!

The Mental Health Act 1983 (as amended) provides a legal framework of care and treatment for people with a mental health disorder(s). The commonly applied sections are: 136, 5(2), 5(4), 2, and 3. After being treated under **Section 3** (and other applicable Sections), **Section 117 aftercare** gives certain entitlements, which are free of charge to the individual. Remember to make reference to the [Code of Practice](#)!

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 provides provisions for people who lack capacity to make specific decisions at the specific time and allow to plan in advance for the future when the capacity is lost. Professionals of different backgrounds can assess individual's capacity, if required by applying a two-stage test (formal assessment). Remember about the concept of the **'executive'** capacity and to record your assessment within the relevant section of an electronic system.

The Autism Act 2009 - It does really exist! and therefore must be followed. The Act makes provision about the needs of adults with ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) and Asperger syndrome.

I am lost and worried...

If you have explored available options and the risk remains think what support is around you. This can be chat with your Line Manager or a formal forum like the [High Risk Adults Panel](#) (HRAP). Share the risk and seek support, there is always someone who will help you.

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We are all equal

Age, disability or gender reassignment are one of the **protected characteristics** (there are nine in total), which are cover by the [Equality Act 2010](#). It provides protection against **discrimination** and requires public bodies, such as hospitals to make a **reasonable adjustments**. Example: If a person with Autism receives psychiatric inpatient care the hospital would have to make adjustments and provide information in a format which can be understood by that patient.

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Should I, or should I not?

Application of professional curiosity should be part of our professional life; asking questions can bring answers. If something is not right and cannot be resolved do not be afraid to raise a professional challenge, this can result in much better outcomes for an individual you support.

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If only someone loved me...'

Not every child has a happy childhood. **Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**, such as sexual abuse, or physical abuse can lead to physical and mental health difficulties in a later life, so next time you will be undertaking an assessment ask that all important question: How was your childhood? Consider **Trauma Informed Care** (TIC) training to be trauma informed practitioner.

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See [TSAB's website](#) for policies, procedures and guidance on...

- Multi-Disciplinary Team Guidance
- Executive Capacity—Learning Briefing
- High Risk Adults Panel (HRAP), formerly Team Around the Individual (TATI)
- Professional Challenge Procedure
- Professional Challenge and Curiosity Learning Briefing
- Trauma Informed Practice Fact Sheet
- Self-Neglect & Hoarding Policy and Guidance
- Mental Capacity Act Guidance

Take a look at TSAB's free training and resources available:

- [E-learning](#)
- [Training Resources](#)
- [Training Courses and Events](#)