

## STATEMENT

### SSAB Chair, Sue Redmond

Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) has chosen to publish “ANNE’s Report” to support ongoing learning that will impact and support changes. Board members and I would like to express our sincere condolences to Anne’s family and thank them for their contributions to this report and learning materials. Please see extracts from the impact statement provided by Anne’s son:

*“The last few weeks of Anne’s life were miserable and disgusting. She absolutely should not have been living in the state she was in when she passed away. We want to highlight the importance of involving family.”*

It is pointed that Anne’s sister questioned the whole premise of describing Anne as self-neglectful. Her view was that Anne would not have neglected herself, had she had the help she needed.

*“We also question how many reports have been written where the exact same themes are present? The information was there, broadly, across all the agencies, but so many opportunities were missed to share and collate the information.*

*There needs to be one final review where this sticks, and these mistakes stop happening. This is my contribution to the review. Anything that will at least try to make THIS be the one that sticks”*

The SSAB has accepted and agreed to take forward all the recommendations from this review.

We have emphasised the importance of assessing and identifying risk, a clear risk framework and the need to work together. The West Midlands Regional Self Neglect Guidance has been reviewed and reflects learning from this review.

Finally, I would like to thank all professionals and family members who have taken part in this review to help partners continue improving the services and support they provide to adults with needs for care and support and their families, living in Sandwell.