

# Brain injury and a lack of safeguarding: a systematic review into the fatal consequences

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## Rationale

Following Holloway & Norman (2022) who identified 4 themes and 8 subthemes from 6 SARs in England. This review intends to use the largest sample size possible in order to fully review what goes wrong for those with a brain injury.

## Data Extraction

Of 577 English SARs identified, 41 had a brain injury.

Of 22 Welsh SARs, 1 had a brain injury. Those whose brain injury was close to, or the cause of their death had their cases excluded, leaving 22 cases from England to be analysed.

## Discussion

Few themes related to brain injury. Only one SAR made any acknowledgement to bad practice, and only three acknowledged any good practice.

23 recommendations across 12 SARs related to multi-agency cooperation, suggesting little multi-agency working.

## Results

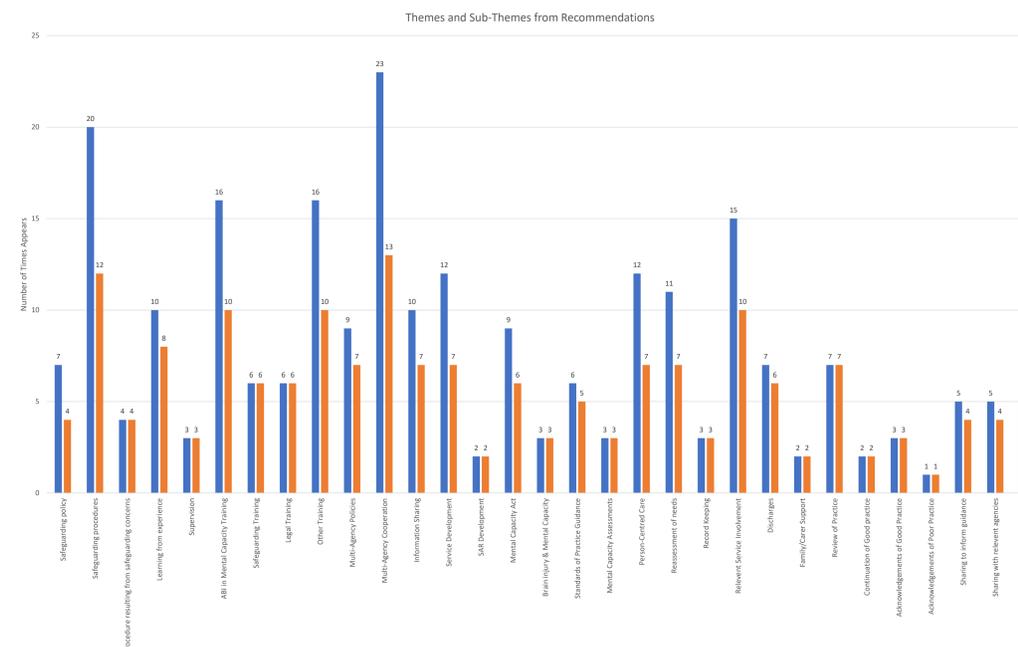
9 themes and 31 sub-themes emerged from the recommendations made in each of the 22 SARs that were analysed.

## Background

350,000 admissions to hospital for brain injury in UK in 2019-2020 (Headway, 2023).

TBI can lead to executive functioning difficulties which can have an impact on everyday lives making social work practices imperative to supporting those with a TBI (Goia et al., 2008).

Previous studies have found that social workers lack formal training and knowledge on TBIs (Conrick et al., 2022).



## Recommendations

There should be one website where all SARs across England and Wales are published. Councils should not be removing reports 12 months after publication.

Ensure all SARs are formatted the same. Recommendations should be more concise and easier to read.

During cases, brain injury needs to be more seriously considered across all agencies.