

## 7. Disclosure of allegations of historical child abuse

Professionals should refer any disclosures of alleged historical child abuse to Somerset County Council's Children's Social Care Service so that they can be considered in context with any other information available and assessed.

## 6. Recording an adult's weight in care homes

- Records should include the weight and unit of measurement, as well as Body Mass Index (BMI).
- If the Measuring mid-Upper Arm Circumference (MUAC) is used the measurement should be recorded.
- Measurements should be provided as well as the BMI/MUAC to GPs.

## 5. Transferring cases between professionals

- Professionals must ensure that they never assume another professional and/or organisation will take-over responsibility for a case where there has been no hand-over.
- As a minimum there should be a discussion between the releasing and accepting professionals/organisations.

## About Luke (pseudonym)

- Luke had been a resident in a care home for about 18 months when he died.
- He had a long history of neglecting his own health and well-being before he moved there.
- He had experienced a number of traumatic events in his life.
- Luke had Diabetes and died from a diabetic foot ulcer



## 4. Diabetes and wound care

- Professionals working with people with diabetes must ensure that the Somerset Diabetes Foot Integrated Pathway be followed at all times.
- Recording practice should be founded on a position that if something hasn't been recorded then it didn't happen, and tested through auditing processes.

## 1. Protecting adults from self-neglect

- Professionals need to be clear that self-neglect is not a "lifestyle choice" and never assume that a move to a different environment will address risks in relation to this
- Assessments should contain any relevant historical information that those new to caring for someone need to know

## 2. The Mental Capacity Act (MCA)

Principle 1 of the MCA should not be used to avoid considering whether someone may need help to make a decision where there is evidence that they may be struggling with their capacity, and professionals should give consideration as to what further exploration is required or if a longitudinal approach is appropriate.

## 3. Multi-disciplinarily working

- Where an adult has complex needs that a care home or professional is struggling to manage they should initiate a multi-disciplinary discussion to allow concerns to be shared, alternative approaches to be considered and specialist referrals made if required.