

BARNSLEY METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

This matter is not a Key Decision within the Council's definition and has not been included in the relevant Forward Plan

**Report of the Executive Director
(People)
to Cabinet
(18th November 2015)**

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD: 8th ANNUAL REPORT **2014 - 2015**

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1 To inform the Cabinet of the work of the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) the contributions made by multi-agency partners, including Barnsley MBC towards progress, during 2014 -2015, and to note future policy and legislative developments that impact on the Safeguarding Adults agenda.

2. Recommendations

2.1 **Cabinet Members are requested to note:-**

- 1) **The contents of the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014 - 2015 attached Executive Summary.**
- 2) **The future policy and legislative changes and the ways in which these impact on the Safeguarding of Vulnerable Adults.**
- 3) **The progress made in 2014 – 2015 by the Safeguarding Adults Board.**

3. Introduction

- 3.1 In March 2000, the Department of Health document 'No Secrets' required the setting up of an inter-agency framework for Adult Protection to include all partners in order to achieve effective inter-agency working. After a review of 'No Secrets' and following the Law Commission's 3-year report on Adult Social Care (May 2011), the Care Act 2014 entered the statute books to be implemented in April 2015.
- 3.2 The Care Act establishes the first statutory framework for adult safeguarding. It sets out local authorities' responsibilities, and those of local partners, to protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. These responsibilities include a core

membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board to consist of the local authority, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and a Chief Officer of the police. The Board will be required to publish a strategic safeguarding plan and report annually on its progress, to ensure that partner agencies' activities are effectively co-ordinated. The Board will also be required to establish and arrange for a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) to take place where there is reasonable cause for concern about how the Board, its members or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult. Such reviews will focus on learning from experience and improving services.

- 3.3 The annual report provides a discussion of the key drivers and gives some indication of expected future service development. Partner agencies also report on individual progress made this year. The annual report also contains the 2014-2015 Performance Management and Quality Assurance report which gives a simple analysis of the safeguarding adults data collected for each quarter of the year and the end of year data totals.

3.4 **Performance Summary 2014-2015**

This Performance Management and Quality Assurance Statistical Report (included in the Annual Report 2014 – 2015) makes use of the data provided by the Safeguarding Adults Return (SAR) data collection to the Information Centre for Health and Social Care, for the period 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015.

- 3.5 At the year end 31st March 2015, the number of alerts received into the service was 951 and of those, 361 progressed to a safeguarding referral. The highest number of cases on file were categorised as 'neglect' (226) followed by 'physical abuse' (91). and 'financial abuse' (37). Out of the 361 referrals 226 were with respect to female clients and 135 were male. The age group 65+ years with 76% (275 cases) continues to provide the majority of cases to the Safeguarding Adults service.

3.6 **Safeguarding Adults Service and Partner Agencies' Achievements**

- BMBC and the Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS England, the Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT) and the South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) have all delivered extensive staff training this year in issues related to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults demonstrating an all-round commitment to the safeguarding of adults in their care.
- The Mental Capacity Act 2005 continues to provide a legal framework for

acting and making decisions on behalf of an individual who lack the mental capacity to make a particular decision for themselves. From April 2013 the Local Authority has held full responsibility for the administration and implementation of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (MCA/DoLS).

Following a landmark judgment made in the Court of Protection there is now a straightforward 'acid test' to determine whether or not a person is being deprived of their liberty. This has resulted in a seven-fold rise in the number of requests for DoLS Standard Authorisations so that whereas in previous years the local authority received around 100 assessments each year, between April 2014 and March 2015 the service has received over 750 requests. In order to mitigate the risks associated with this increase, the DoLS pilot, whereby we have a dedicated team of Best Interest Assessors working full-time on DoLS assessments, has been extended.

- A Local Government Association (LGA) study into the effect of focussing safeguarding adults work on person-centred, outcome-based principles has paved the way for the implementation of the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP). Work has taken place within a number of local authorities, Barnsley included, to implement the principles of MSP. This approach to the safeguarding of vulnerable people has been further endorsed, and has become a statutory requirement through the implementation of the Care Act 2014.
- The South Yorkshire Consortium of local authorities, Barnsley, Rotherham, Sheffield and Doncaster have developed and reviewed the Safeguarding Adults Procedures for South Yorkshire and following consultation in May 2015, are expected to be fully implemented throughout the Safeguarding Partnership in the summer of 2015.
- The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, brings into force the requirement that local authorities must put in place and chair a multi-agency panel of members with the function of developing an appropriate support package to safeguard those at risk of being drawn into terrorism based upon an assessment of their vulnerability.
- The Safeguarding Adults Board has undertaken internal various audits the most recent being the Safer Recruitment Audit which is due to report in Spring 2015. This will enable recommendations to be included in the Safeguarding Adults Board Business plan 2015 -16.
- The SAB MCA/DoLS Mental Capacity Act/Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Training Sub Group has continued to meet bi-monthly to identify, develop

and maintain safeguarding training processes for statutory, independent and voluntary sectors. March 2014 bespoke MCA Compliant Record Keeping training was developed for all providers which incorporates the Principals of the Care Act 2014.

- During the year Berneslai Homes have carried out over 1500 visits to vulnerable individuals affected by the advent of Universal Credit and continued to support those affected by welfare reform. Its Family Intervention Service (FIS) provides intensive family support to families with multiple and complex needs. The FIS has continued to make significant progress in achieving positive outcomes for families under the Troubled Families Programme supporting over 200 families with multiple and complex needs during the last year.
- Following the implementation of the Health and Social Care Act (2012), public health responsibilities and functions returned to local authorities from the NHS. Throughout this transition period Public Health have continued to commission and work with partners on a broad spectrum of programmes which impact on the health, wellbeing and safeguarding of the population across the life course.
- Healthwatch Barnsley is one of 152 local Healthwatch organisations, supported by a national organisation called Healthwatch England. Healthwatch Barnsley has a representative on the Safeguarding Adults Board. It is a member of the Health and Social Care Intelligence Sharing Meetings and is represented on the Regional Quality Surveillance Group for South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw.
- In September 2014 the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) created a senior safeguarding and patient experience Designated Nurse post to enable dedicated strategic oversight of Adult Safeguarding. This new post will enable the CCG to provide strengthened leadership to the Adult Safeguarding Operational Management Sub group in order to support the Board in the delivery of its work streams.
- During 2014-2015 the Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust had 1,210 formal and informal safeguarding alerts. Of this total 351 met the threshold for formal investigation with 262 referrals being made to district teams via the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Office and 89 referrals leading to internal investigations.
- This year the South West Yorkshire Partnership (NHS) Trust (SWYFT) has implemented a variety of training for staff and volunteers including adult abuse awareness, Prevention of radicalisation, and awareness of domestic

abuse. Trust staff and partners have had access to workshops around complex issues such as Human Trafficking, presented by Hope for Justice and the prevention of radicalisation presented by West Yorkshire Police.

- This year South Yorkshire Police has increased its staffing and resourcing of the Barnsley Public Protection Unit (PPU), based at Wombwell Police Station. It has seen additional staff provided in the form of a dedicated Safeguarding Adults Officer and additional staff to support adult safeguarding investigations and domestic violence.
- South Yorkshire Fire & Rescue's (SYFR) total for April 2014 – March 2015 for all Adult Safeguarding Alerts across South Yorkshire was 94. This represents a considerable increase from 54 cases in the same period last year. The majority of the alerts were received as a result of a Home Fire Safety check with some being received from fire incidents. This year SYFR staff received introductory and/or refresher safeguarding training.

4.0 Priorities 2015 – 2016

4.1 Key priorities for the Safeguarding Adults Board for the coming year 2015 – 2016 are:-

- The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) to maintain a clear vision of the outcomes it wants to achieve during 2015 – 2016 through its Safeguarding Adults Strategic Plan.
- To continue effective joint working between the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB), the Safeguarding Children Board (SCB) and local strategic partners.
- To ensure partner agencies understand their leadership roles, responsibilities and their contributions towards the Safeguarding Adults Board's Strategic plan.
- To ensure full implementation of the requirements of the Care Act 2014 in relation to Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP).
- Ensure the new Safeguarding Adults Procedures for South Yorkshire are implemented across all partner agencies in order to ensure the safety and protection of vulnerable adults.
- To ensure that systems are in place, including a clear strategy that incorporates service user and carer involvement in the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

- To highlight areas of concern through sub group analysis and produce learning outcomes for additional training sessions as required.
- Continue to participate fully in the PREVENT agenda for those who are vulnerable to messages of violent extremism. and that all front-line workers are trained to recognise when a person might be susceptible to the messages of violent extremism and radicalisation and how to report this.
- Encourage multi-agency participation in Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).
- To ensure the Safeguarding Adults Board uses the experiences of those using safeguarding services to drive improvements in services and to provide for quality assurance through the use of regular audits of safeguarding activity and the quality of the work undertaken.
- To ensure the Safeguarding Adults Board drives quality assurance forward through its Performance Management and Quality Assurance Sub-group and ensure there is appropriate evidence that this leads to service improvement.
- Ensure the Safeguarding Adults Board has effective arrangements to identify and secure financial resources to deliver its vision and strategy.
- To maintain liaison with regional partners to maintain networks in order to share and disseminate good practice across South Yorkshire.

5.0 Consideration of Alternative Approaches

5.1 Not applicable to this report.

6.0 Proposal and Justification

6.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board, including the contribution of the Council as a partner, together with the National developments impacting on the Safeguarding Adults agenda.

6.2 It is proposed that Cabinet note the Annual Safeguarding Board Report Executive Summary and the progress and achievements made in the protection of vulnerable adults in Barnsley through a proactive Safeguarding Adults service.

7.0 Implications for local people / service users

- 7.1 The operation of the Safeguarding Adults service impacts upon the wellbeing of all citizens and in particular the protection of vulnerable adults.

8.0 Financial Implications

- 8.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. South Yorkshire Police and the Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) have provided a financial contribution to the Safeguarding Adults Board and its processes. Funding from the CCG and police has been secured for the coming financial year. Funding beyond the coming financial year is under discussion with partner agencies.

9.0 Employee Implications

- 9.1 There are no employee implications.

10.0 Consultations

The Council's Senior Management Team has been consulted on this report.

11.0 Risk Management Issues

- 11.1 At present the Safeguarding Adults Board is not placed on a statutory footing. Whilst this is due to change with the introduction of the Care Act 2014, the current financial climate affecting all member organisations and changes in organisational structures pose a potential risk to the commitment of agencies to the SAB. This is mitigated by the sign up of all partners to the Safeguarding Adults Board Memorandum of Understanding and the South Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Procedures.
- 11.2 The Safeguarding Adults Board maintains a risk register which is regularly reviewed, updated and monitored by the Safeguarding Adults Board.

12.0 Compatibility with the European Convention on Human Rights

- 12.1 The contents of this report do not contravene the European Convention on Human Rights.

13.0 Promoting Equality & Diversity and Social Inclusion

- 13.1 The Safeguarding Adults service promotes the social inclusion of vulnerable adults. The service seeks to ensure that no person or persons are discriminated against due to their race, religion, culture, sexuality, disability, or age.

14.0 Reduction of Crime & Disorder

- 14.1 In investigating the options set out in this report, the Council's duties under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act have been considered.

15.0 List of Appendices

- 15.1 Appendix 1: Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014 – 2015 Executive Summary.
Appendix 2: Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/15 (full version)

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Financial Implications /
Consultation
(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer
where no financial implications)