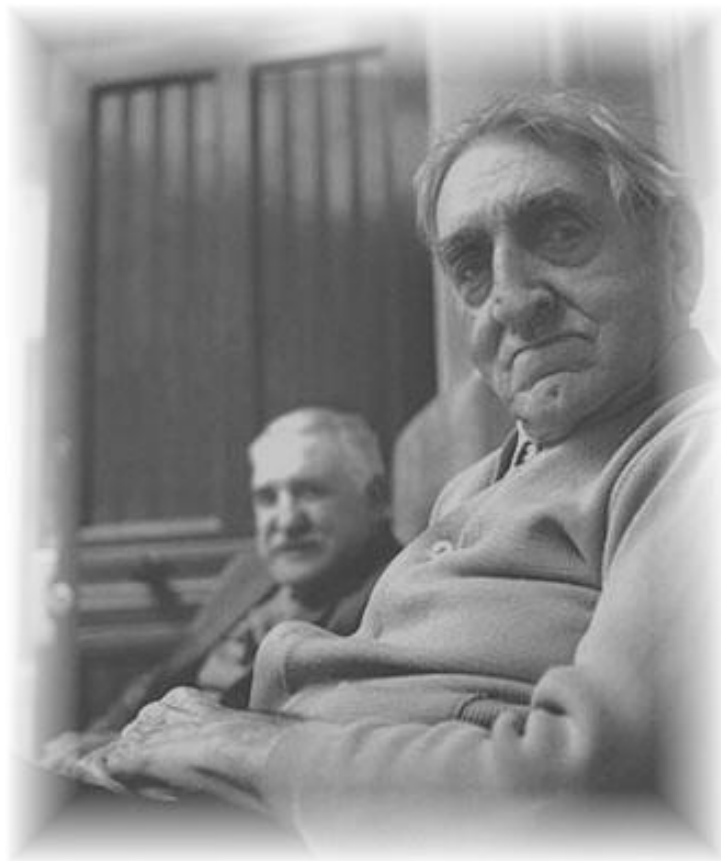




Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board

ANNUAL REPORT 2014-2015



Executive Summary

Introduction

1. The Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report outlines the progress made in the year 2014-2015 to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults in Barnsley. The report identifies developments that have taken place over the last year and communicates key targets for the forthcoming year 2015 – 2016.
2. The Barnsley Safeguarding Adults partnership¹ has continued to work without a statutory framework. However, the Care Bill received Royal Assent in May 2014 and the Care Act, due to be implemented in April 2015 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.
3. This Executive Summary provides an overview of the achievements of the Safeguarding Adults Board and its partner agencies. It outlines developments, both nationally and locally and describes what the Board has done in response to those developments.
4. The Safeguarding Adults Board has seen the appointment of Rachel Dickinson as The Executive Director, People and the Board is also looking forward to the appointment of Bob Dyson, an Independent Chair for the Safeguarding Adults Board in 2015.

National and Regional Developments

5. The single most far-reaching development in the protection of vulnerable adults has been the introduction of the Care Act 2014 which comes into force in April 2015 establishing a firm statutory framework for adult safeguarding. It makes the Local Authority the lead organisation and together with the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the Police, forms the core membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board onto which a number of other organisations are invited to become members. It also places in statute the need for a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) to be held where an adult was subject to abuse or neglect and subsequently died. (Prior to the Care Act these were referred to as Serious Case Reviews – but they were not statutorily required). The Care Act also requires that safeguarding processes are person-centred,

¹ Local and regional partners include: Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC), Berneslai Homes, NHS Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT), Healthwatch Barnsley, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT), NHS England, South Yorkshire Police and their Public Protection Unit (PPU), Yorkshire Ambulance Service NHS Trust (YAS), South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR), Barnsley College, Northern College

concentrating on an outcomes approach and at all times involving the person in decision-making and helping the person to manage risk. This is known as 'Making Safeguarding Personal' (MSP).

6. This year the local authority has received over 750 requests for Standard 'Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards' Authorisations. This represents an eight-fold rise over the previous year. The rise in requests is a product of the 'Cheshire West' ruling made by the Court of Protection in March 2014 which effectively broadened the category of those deemed to be deprived of their liberty. A dedicated team of Best Interest Assessors has been employed to alleviate the pressure created by the need to address the rise in requests.
7. In December 2014 the Chief Coroner confirmed that it was necessary to inform the coroner of any death that had occurred whilst a person was subject to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). It was the Chief Coroner's view that any person subject to a Deprivation of Liberty Authorisation was 'in state detention' for the purposes of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and the coroner should commence an investigation under section 1 of the 2009 Act.
8. The Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) continues to meet twice monthly. The Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board is represented on MARAC by the Safeguarding Adults Service Manager. The group make decisions regarding cases involving domestic violence. Partnership working is applied to work aimed at reducing domestic violence in Barnsley. Applied to domestic violence, effective partnership working increases safety and minimises risk. In Barnsley the Strategic Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Partnership oversees a multi-agency approach to reducing domestic violence in Barnsley.
9. This year has seen the first full reporting of the Safeguarding Adults Return (SAR) data. The SAR is the new safeguarding adults data collection implemented by the Health and Social Care Information Centre (hscic). The SAR data collection for this year (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015) is reported in the annual Performance Management and Quality Assurance Report at Chapter 4 of the annual report.
10. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015, received Royal Assent on 12 February 2015 and introduced the requirement that local authorities must put in place 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 Act also required that the local authority chair the multi-agency panel which will consist

of representatives of the local authority, a chief officer of police and other statutory partners.

11. Safeguarding Adults Leads of the regional Safeguarding Adults Consortium consisting of Barnsley, Doncaster, Rotherham and Sheffield, have continued to meet regularly to finalise the implementation of the new Safeguarding Adults Procedures for South Yorkshire. The new Procedures are expected to be launched in August 2015.

Local Developments and Achievements

12. The Safeguarding Adults Board, consisting of representatives from partner agencies receives quarterly reports from its Sub-groups:- the Operational Management Sub-group, the Safeguarding and MCA/DoLS (Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) Training Sub-group, the Performance and Quality Assurance Sub-group and the Practice Learning Sub-group. Reports outlining the achievements and developments within local and regional partners are provided in the annual report.
13. Key developments this year are as follows:
 - Berneslai Homes has carried out around 5000 support visits to Council properties to identify any support or people where issues of vulnerability exist. Over 1000 of these visits resulted in supportive interventions. During the year over 1500 visits to vulnerable individuals affected by the advent of Universal Credit and continued to support those affected by welfare reform have been carried out.
 - Public Health responsibilities and functions have this year been returned to Local Authorities from the NHS. Throughout the 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 and to the prevention of people becoming susceptible to vulnerability.
 - The Physical Activity Care Pathways (PACP) delivers an array of physical activity sessions across Barnsley for people with long term conditions such as diabetes, cancer, arthritis and many more. More than 1000 sessions have taken place since the launch of the programme in April 2014, with 330 referrals from a range of health professionals such as nurses, GPs, physiotherapists and dieticians. Service users over 65 years of age are also referred to postural stability classes which contribute to protecting against falls.

Raising participation in physical activity across the Borough is one part of the wide and varied portfolio of work which falls under the Public Health scope of responsibilities and demonstrates that safeguarding requires a multi-faceted approach helps to build self-esteem and personal resilience.

- Healthwatch Barnsley has gathered over 4000 comments about peoples' experiences of health and social care services in Barnsley. Healthwatch Barnsley is supported in its outreach and engagement activity by a team of volunteers called Healthwatch Champions. When undertaking outreach and Healthwatch Champions collect and collate comments from members of the public which help towards the identification of cases where concerns or issues need to be escalated to the service provider, commissioners, safeguarding, regulatory bodies, or the police.
- The Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has continued to develop its role in Safeguarding Adults within Barnsley. The Chief Nurse at the CCG continues to take the lead for Safeguarding Adults for the CCG, providing statutory representation at the Safeguarding Adult Board. The Chief Nurse also sits on the CCG Governing Body; ensuring safeguarding is represented at the executive level of the CCG.

A review audit was undertaken in accordance with the Public Sector Internal Audit Standards and completed in respect of the CCG's adult safeguarding systems and processes. The findings highlighted no concerns and a workshop was held to drive forward areas for development such as the CCG's role in ensuring safeguarding is an integral part of the commissioning cycle.

The CCG have been instrumental in writing a strategy to support the implementation of the Deprivation of Liberty Authorisation work and has provided training to staff on the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

- The Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT) has appointed a Safeguarding Adults Professional Lead to lead on the development of the Safeguarding Adults service including the *Prevent* initiative, the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards scheme. BHNFT has embraced the Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) initiative. The Trust has also realigned the Trust Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Steering Groups into one integrated Safeguarding Steering Group under the direct leadership of the Director of Nursing and Quality and the Deputy Director of Nursing.

- The safeguarding of adults at risk from abuse or neglect remains a priority throughout South West Yorkshire Partnership (NHS) Trust. All staff attend the Safeguarding of Adults at Risk from Harm training on induction to the Trust and it is mandatory for staff to access the right level of training for their post with all staff attending refresher training on a three yearly basis.

Trust policies have been refreshed in light of the Care Act and lessons learnt via adult case reviews and domestic homicide reviews. The Trust expects staff to complete an internal risk assessment each time a member of staff identifies and reports abuse. This year 276 safeguarding alerts were made Trust wide.

- NHS England provides assurance that the local health system, including Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and designated professionals, are working effectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk. This role includes ensuring that CCGs are working with their directly commissioned providers to improve services as a result of learning from safeguarding incidents.

NHS England has the responsibility for sharing learning from safeguarding serious incidents across Yorkshire and the Humber and not just within the services where the incident occurred. The NHS England South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Safeguarding Forum have met on a bi-monthly basis throughout 2014-15 to facilitate this. Learning has also been shared across GP practices via the Clinical Commissioning Groups. A thematic report of lessons learned is provided on a quarterly basis to the Quality Surveillance Group.

- South Yorkshire police actively contributes to the governance of Barnsley's Adult Safeguarding partnership. The overall strategic lead is provided by the Chief Superintendent who is a member of the Adult Safeguarding Board. The operational groups are supported by other police managers and practitioners where appropriate.

South Yorkshire Police continue to support the Adult Safeguarding Partnership and play a key role in Domestic Homicide Reviews when necessary. This work also builds on the work carried out around the Domestic Violence, MARAC and MAPPA processes.

- BMBC partners, the Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS England, the Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust, the South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT) and the police have all

delivered extensive staff training in issues related to the safeguarding of vulnerable adults demonstrating an all-round commitment to the safeguarding of adults in their care.

- South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue (SYFR) have carried out over 21,500 Home Safety Checks across South Yorkshire. More than 17,000 were for those considered to be most vulnerable - households where the occupants are very young or elderly, are disabled or have mobility problems. Over 4,000 referrals were made by SYFR partners and SYFR's Vulnerable Persons Advocate continues to deliver Fire Safety talks and presentations to professionals and service user groups.

Priorities 2015 – 2016

14. 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).
- To ensure full implementation of the requirements of the Care Act 2014 in relation to the production of an Annual Report and a Strategic Plan for each financial year.
- Ensuring the Communication Strategy and the Safeguarding Adults Board Action plan are reviewed and updated in light of the Care Act 2014.
- Ensuring Safeguarding Adults Procedures for South Yorkshire are being implemented across all partner agencies in order to ensure the safety and protection of vulnerable adults.
- To maintain liaison with regional partners to maintain networks in order to share and disseminate good practice across South Yorkshire.

- 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. The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015 requires that all front-line workers are trained to recognise when a person might be susceptible to the messages of violent extremism and radicalisation.
- Encourage multi-agency participation in Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), now known as Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and to provide appropriate levels of training to the multi-agency workforce that become involved with DHRs and 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.
- The Safeguarding Adults Board continues to ensure that a training strategy is in place to include all levels of safeguarding training from basic awareness to the chairing of complex safeguarding adults cases.

Rachel Dickinson
Executive Director, People Business Unit
August 2015

Yvonne Butler
Safeguarding Adults Service Manager
August 2015

