

BARNSELY 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 OF ADULTS & COMMUNITIES TO CABINET ON 22 SEPTEMBER 2021

Public

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE LOCAL SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To inform the cabinet of the work undertaken by the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) during 2020/21 and the publication of its latest Annual Report.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **Cabinet is recommended to note the Annual Report, in conjunction with the progress of the Board in meeting its responsibilities to keep adults in Barnsley safe.**

3. INTRODUCTION

- 3.1 Following the introduction of the Care Act in 2015, Adult Safeguarding became a statutory responsibility and requires all Local Authority areas to establish a multi-agency Board with an independent chair. The main responsibilities of the Board are to

- ✓ Provide assurance that single agency and multi-agency responses to prevent and respond to safeguarding are robust
- ✓ Evaluate the need for a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) when an adult dies and there are concerns about the quality of the multi-agency responses
- ✓ Produce an annual strategic plan and report on progress against this in the annual report.

- 3.2 The BSAB annual report was signed off by the Board on the 29 July 2021 and is attached as Appendix 1. The Cabinet's Spokesperson for Adults & Communities attends BSAB meetings as an active member and receives all reports.

3.3 **Summary of BSAB report (2020/2021)**

The report shows that despite the challenges of Covid; 96% of adults, subject to safeguarding, reported that the risks they faced had been removed or reduced. (Same percentage as 2019/20). (page 7)

- 3.4 On page 8, Barnsley adults report that services make them feel safe and secure and that the support of adult social care keeps them safe; our data shows that we continue to be above both regional and national comparators.
- 3.5 Our partnership working to safeguard adults continues to be strengthened and this is illustrated in the two case studies shown on pages on page 9. The Board receives case examples in the quarterly dashboard and by receiving “cases from the frontline” at Board meetings.
- 3.6 The increase in referrals to support adults who are self-neglecting and/or hoarding reflects the changes in practice resulting from local and national Safeguarding Adults Reviews and Lessons Learnt and demonstrates the increased confidence of staff to engage with this work. (page 5)
- 3.7 The number of safeguarding concerns received about adults in their own homes increased significantly in 2020/2021 (from 40% (2019/20) to 51%). This brings Barnsley into line with regional and national comparators and is due to a reduction of the number of adults in care settings, increased early identification of adults who are hoarding and self-neglecting and closer contact with family members who have raised more concerns this year.(see page 5)
- 3.8 The key achievements of the Board and its Sub Groups are listed on page 11. A risk that the Board had struggled to address for a while was capacity to deliver training and we have now secured the resource and appointed a part time Multi Agency Trainer which enables the Board to deliver, free, high quality training and development opportunities mapped against an agreed training strategy.
- A development event was held for BSAB in 2020, supporting the creation of a new three-year strategic plan underpinned by work plans that will provide additional assurance to the Board of its ambition to keep adults safe.
- 3.9 The Board acknowledges the challenges faced by Safeguarding Adults Forum by Experience (SAFE) customer group members, many of whom were required to “Shield” during the year because of their own vulnerabilities or the people they care for. Despite the lack of face to face meetings the group was actively involved in the design and delivery of new publicity materials and policies.
- 3.10 The Board’s commitment to cascade the learning from SAR’s and other learning reviews is demonstrated by the training events highlighted on page 15. The Board has committed to complete audits into completed SAR action plans not later than six months after they have been completed to test the impact on practice.
- 3.11 We are delighted to welcome five new members to SAFE and we are working with the group to support their return to face to face conversations. We also will be involving them in a review of the Safeguarding Adults Website and contributing to SAW 2021 in the coming months.

4. PROPOSAL AND JUSTIFICATION

- 4.1 That Cabinet note the Annual Report, in conjunction with the progress of the Board in meeting its responsibilities to keep adults in Barnsley safe.

5. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES

- 5.1 This has not been necessary as the purpose of the report has been to highlight the work of the BSAB and illustrate its compliance with the Care Act and Making Safeguarding Personal responsibilities.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR LOCAL PEOPLE/SERVICE USERS

- 6.1 Keeping people safe is one of the Council's highest priorities, it is essential that local people have confidence in safeguarding services and know what to do when they are concerned about their own or someone else's safety. The creation of the SAFE group will embed this knowledge more robustly within Barnsley communities.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 The Service Director – Finance and his representative have been consulted in drafting this report.
- 7.2 The total cost of discharging the responsibilities of the BSAB in 2020/21 is £107,849 and mainly relates to cost of the independent Chair, Board Manager, Multi-Agency Trainer and associated business support costs. The above is inclusive of additional funds provided by the Clinical Commissioning Group to fund Safeguarding Activities.
- 7.3 The Council is the largest funder, with the remainder of the funds coming from the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC).
- 7.4 Funding of £35k has been earmarked and carried over to 2021/22 (agreed by the BSAB) and is linked to the delay in appointing to the Multi-Agency Trainer post and the end of the financial year contribution by the CCG for Safeguarding Awareness Week 2021.

8. EMPLOYEE IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 No workforce implications arising from consideration of this report

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 No legal issues arising from consideration of this report

10. CUSTOMER AND DIGITAL IMPLICATIONS

- 10.1 The report will be available as a digital resource on the web site and can be printed, if required. Expected publication date 16 August 2021

11. COMMUNICATIONS IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1 The communication team has worked closely with the Adult safeguarding board to offer a more digital and accessible approach for the council and its partners when delivering this plan. An interactive document has been created that can be emailed or printed. This is accompanied by a web page that supports this information. The web page is an ideal vehicle to deliver accessible content for the council and partners. The web link can be sent out, used on partners websites and accesses directly here –

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/safeguarding-families-in-barnsley/safeguarding-adults-in-barnsley/barnsley-safeguarding-adults-board/annual-report-202021/>

Communications worked closely with the board to display this information using video and graphics to explain the narrative and deliver information.

The communications team continues to work closely with the board to achieve our aspirations around informative comms for adult safeguarding.

12. CONSULTATIONS

- 12.1 All Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board partners were consulted and provided the case studies. (see page 18)

13. EQUALITY IMPACT

- 13.1 Not applicable - the report does not contain any information that requires an EIA.

14. THE CORPORATE PLAN AND THE COUNCIL'S PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK

- 14.1 The report and the activity of the Board, throughout the year support the Corporate priority of “People Achieving their Potential” by keeping them safe from harm, The Website is the source of additional materials.

15. TACKLING THE IMPACT OF POVERTY

- 15.1 Agreement between BSAB, BSCB and the Barnsley Safer Partnership resulting in a joint Board Protocol will support joint action to tackle poverty that impacts on our ability to keep adults and children in Barnsley safe

16. TACKLING HEALTH INEQUALITIES

- 16.1 The Annual Report will be considered by the Health and Wellbeing Board and issues included in relevant action plans.

17. REDUCTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER

- 17.1 We have seen over the last twelve months a much stronger relationship developed between Adult Social Care, South Yorkshire Police and Safer Barnsley Team which is absolutely necessary if we are to tackle areas such as neglect, homelessness & safeguarding, cuckooing.

We also have committed to examine the learning from either local SARs or lessons learnt or SARs from other parts of country to identify any actions to reduce the risk of harm to adults in Barnsley. The case study provides an example of BSAB's commitment to reduction of crime and disorder to keep adults safe in partnership.

18. RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES

- 18.1 The Board has a risk register and strategic plan, which it reviews at each meeting. BSAB receives updates from all the Sub Groups against their work plans and will examine any slippage in progress and take appropriate action. Quarterly data is received from all partners to provide assurance that risks are being managed across the partnership. In addition, Adult Social Care progress in managing safeguarding cases is monitored by its Business Unit and escalated to the risk register if applicable.

19. HEALTH, SAFETY AND EMERGENCY RESILIENCE ISSUES

- 19.1 There are no implications emerging through consideration of this report

20. COMPATIBILITY WITH THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

- 20.1 The report does not demonstrate any challenge to our requirement to comply with the Human Rights legislation

21. CONSERVATION OF BIODIVERSITY

- 21.1 There are no implications for the protection of the local environment or the conservation of biodiversity emerging through this report

22. GLOSSARY

None applicable

23. LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1: BSAB Annual Report 2020/021

24. BACKGROUND PAPERS


Background papers used in producing this report are available to view by contacting the BSAB manager – CathErine@barnsley.gov.uk

Officer contact – Julie Chapman Service Director: Adult Social Care and Health)

Email –JulieChapman@barnsley.gov.uk

If you would like to inspect background papers for this report, please email governance@barnsley.gov.uk so that appropriate arrangements can be made

Report author: Cath Erine

Financial Implications/Consultation

Joshua Amahwe (13/08/2021)
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(To be signed by senior Financial Services officer)