

Item 4a

Report of the Executive Director Core Services to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) on 13 September 2022

Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2021-22 – Cover Report

1.0 Introduction and Background

- 1.1 Local Safeguarding Adults Boards are a statutory requirement of the Care Act 2014 and require organisations to come together to agree on how they will cooperate with each other to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults. The Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) has been operating since 2000 but was originally known as the Adult Protection Committee. The Care Act gives the Board the power to place a “duty to enquire” on statutory partner agencies (Local Authority, the Police and the Integrated Care System).
- 1.2 The Government recognised that even though local authorities had been responsible for adult safeguarding for a number of years, there had never been any clear laws to support this. Therefore, under the Care Act 2014 there was a statutory responsibility for SABs to be in place from April 2015, enabling local partnership working amongst key organisations to hold each other to account and to ensure safeguarding adults remains high on the agenda across the area. The Care Act 2014 recognises that local authorities alone cannot safeguard individuals, it requires joint-working with other agencies supported by increasing the awareness of adult safeguarding amongst the wider public.
- 1.3 The BSAB is a multi-agency Board comprising statutory, independent, voluntary organisations and service user/carer representation which have a stakeholder interest in safeguarding adults. The Board believes that everyone has a right to feel safe and to live without fear of abuse, neglect or exploitation. The Board’s ambitions are to:-
- Ensure that collectively they work hard to prevent harm and abuse across Barnsley
 - Develop citizen-led approaches to safeguarding
 - Continue to develop safe transitional experiences for young people
 - Learn together and continually improve

2.0 Current Position

- 2.1 The BSAB Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 4b - attached) outlines the work of the Board and its local and regional partners from April 2021 to March 2022. Key achievements include:-
- A high-quality education programme has been established, offering workers and volunteers free education and training. As a result of this, Barnsley is now actively involved in shaping the South Yorkshire education programme
 - The first South Yorkshire-wide safeguarding adults launch event was held at Northern College, focussing on preparing young people for adulthood and supporting adults who are self-neglecting and/or hoarding
 - Radio advertising, leafleting and a strong social media presence were used to promote Safeguarding Awareness Week and raise awareness of safeguarding issues

- A development event, bringing together six boards, took place to support effective working on topics such as domestic abuse; homelessness; modern slavery; and neglect
- A review by the Local Government Association was undertaken to review safeguarding arrangements in Barnsley. Initial feedback says that they are doing well and areas for improvement identified by the LGA correlated with self-assessment
- Guidance and policies are regularly reviewed and updated to support workers and volunteers to keep adults safe, in line with best practice
- Learning, new policies, and strong partnership working has led to an increase in the number of adults supported to resolve the risks linked to their self-neglect and/or hoarding, with customer-led hoarding support groups being positively received
- The Board has agreed to be part of three national research projects which will bring added benefit from the learning and resources produced as a result of the research, thereby improving local practice
- The sub-groups have been evaluated and reviewed to ensure that they are fit for purpose

3.0 Future Plans & Challenges

3.1 For 2022/23, the Board plans to:-

- Develop the ability to work with all boards and partnerships in Barnsley to keep adults safe
- Improve the knowledge and confidence of members of the public to recognise and report safeguarding concerns, to be the 'eyes and ears'
- Use early learning from the research to inform practice
- Gather evidence that training is making a difference in practice
- Use learning from the peer review to inform the development of our 2022/23 work plan
- Deliver a community-based Safeguarding Awareness Week in November 2022
- Be ambitious in our desire to learn from practice, not just when cases meet the criteria for a Safeguarding Adults Review

4.0 Invited Witnesses

4.1 At today's meeting, a number of Board representatives have been invited to answer questions from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding their work over the last annual reporting year (April 2021-March 2022), as well as work being undertaken currently and future plans:-

- Bob Dyson, Independent Chair, BSAB
- Wendy Lowder, Executive Director – Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC
- Julie Chapman, Service Director – Adult Social Care & Health, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC
- Cath Erine, Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Manager, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC
- Cllr Jenny Platts, Cabinet Spokesperson, Place Health & Adult Social Care, BMBC
- Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
- Emma Cox, Assistant Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)
- Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)

- Becky Hoskins, Deputy Director of Nursing & Quality, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)
- Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

5.0 Possible Areas for Investigation

5.1 Members may wish to ask questions around the following areas:

- What area of work/performance is the Board most proud of over the last 12 months and what positive impact has this had on the safeguarding of local residents?
- How do you know that the increase in contacts has been as a result of the communications strategy?
- What specific action is taken to help individuals to protect themselves and make informed decisions about actions when they are suffering or likely to suffer harm?
- How do you ensure that people who need safeguarding services are fully involved in, and in control of, safeguarding processes?
- Can you give examples of how your work to support adults struggling with self-neglect and hoarding has positively impacted their lives?
- When people self-neglect and continually miss appointments, how do health and social care work together to build a picture, ensuring that these individuals do not fall through the cracks?
- How confident are you that staff have the time and skills to be curious and persistent with individuals who may not initially want to engage?
- How do you ensure that staff understand policies, that they are being applied in practice, and how often do you review their effectiveness to ensure they are fit for purpose?
- How are the workplans of the sub-groups progressing? Are the milestones being achieved?
- What more needs to be done to safeguard people with a learning disability, across all services?
- What areas for improvement were highlighted as a result of the LGA review and were any of those previously not known to the board? What is the timescale for implementing the improvements and how will these be monitored?
- What measures are in place to ensure the safety of adults placed outside the borough?
- When do you expect the actions identified as a result of the 'provider case' to be implemented and embedded and how will this be monitored?
- Can you give examples of how you have strengthened partnership working with the Safeguarding Children's Partnership over the last 12 months and what more is to be done?

- What actions could be taken by Members to assist in the work of BSAB?

6.0 Background Papers and Useful Links

- BSAB Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 4b - attached)
- Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Website:-
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/safeguarding-families-in-barnsley/safeguarding-adults-in-barnsley/barnsley-safeguarding-adults-board/>
- BSAB Strategic Plan 2021-24
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/18850/safeguarding-adults-board-strategic-plan-v4-optimised.pdf>
- Making Safeguarding Personal – Local Government Association website
<https://www.local.gov.uk/our-support/our-improvement-offer/care-and-health-improvement/making-safeguarding-personal>
- The Care Act Easy Read Summary:-
<https://inclusionnorth.org/uploads/attachment/600/care-act-easy-read-summary.pdf>

7.0 Glossary

BSAB	Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board
MSP	Making Safeguarding Personal
OSC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
SAR	Safeguarding Adults Review
SWYPFT	South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
SYP	South Yorkshire Police

8.0 Officer Contact

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 05 September 2022