

Safeguarding Adults In Hillingdon – Annual Report 2013-14

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REASON FOR ITEM

The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) has been established in line with the Department of Health guidance "No Secrets" (2000). The Care Act 2014 will require all Councils to establish with partners a Safeguarding Adults Board from April 2015. The Hillingdon Board SAPB in keeping with best practice and ahead of the new statutory requirements of the Care Act produces an Annual report.

Currently "No Secrets" guidance identifies Local Authorities to be the lead agency in coordinating the multi-agency approach to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse in their area. Given this, the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) leads on strategy, monitoring and reviewing the safeguarding arrangements in Hillingdon. It is a multi agency partnership where statutory independent and voluntary organisations are represented. The Annual Report, details what the partnership has achieved over the year, local and national developments and it presents new priorities.

The annual report will be presented to Cabinet and the Community Safety Partnership in February, and the Health and Wellbeing Board in March. The Care Act will, from April 2015, set safeguarding adults at risk on a statutory footing, placing a duty on Local Authorities to carry out enquiries into any allegations of abuse or exploitation. Having a SAPB will become a statutory requirement requiring the co-operation of agencies to work together to protect adults at risk.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

1. To note and comment on the Safeguarding Annual Report 2013-14, prior to presentation at Cabinet in February 2015
2. To ask for further information to be included within the Annual Report format.

INFORMATION

1. The Hillingdon Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is a multi-agency group responsible for the strategy and performance of the partnership in the prevention of, and response to, the abuse of adults at risk in Hillingdon. The Board follows best practice and has an independent chair who also chairs the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). The terminology 'Safeguarding Adults at Risk' has been widely adopted nationally and locally but this area of work is still sometimes known as: Adult Protection, Protection of Vulnerable Adults (POVA), Protecting Vulnerable Adults and in some cases just 'vulnerable adults'. All relevant agencies have

contributed to the annual report, and completed a self audit in early 2014. This enabled the board to form priorities for the coming year.

2. The report presents a retrospective of safeguarding work over the year. The year has seen good progress in the development of the board and the wider multi agency safeguarding arrangements in the Borough. Key local developments and service changes in 2013-14 have been:
 - The establishment of a vulnerable person's panel that acts as a forum for professionals to discuss cases that are a cause for concern, such as hoarding or self neglect and formulate effective management plans.
 - The creation of a Care Governance Board made up of senior managers within Adult services to oversee the quality of local provision and coordinate action to improve services that fall below the quality threshold.
 - The implementation of the Winterbourne View plan, by reviewing current commissioning arrangements and intensive case management to ensure those people in inpatient NHS settings move to appropriate local provision.
 - Reorganisation of adult social care to ensure that adult safeguarding is embedded across the whole operational service, rather than a single team.
 - Convened the serious case review subcommittee to conduct a review and complete a multi agency action plan.
 - Increase in the conversion rate of notifications to referrals indicating increased awareness of adult safeguarding
 - Increase of 21% in those accepting their protection arrangements
3. The SAPB priorities for development for 2014 onwards have been built around the eight Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) standards of:
 - Outcomes
 - Leadership
 - Strategy
 - Commissioning
 - People's Experiences of safeguarding
 - Service delivery and effective practice
 - Performance and resource management
 - Local safeguarding Board
4. In preparation for the implementation of the Care Act requirement to establish a statutory Adults Safeguarding Board, the SAPB is held on a different day from the Children's Board, thus allowing more time for the challenging agenda. There is a joint sub group that discusses issues that are of relevance to both Boards. The Council and partners have also commissioned an independent review into the functioning of the SAPB and its cross over with LSCB, in order to ensure that we are completely prepared for Care Act implementation.

5. The Board has identified the following priorities:
 - To improve its response to abuse where the social care market is becoming more diverse and fragmented, and also to ensure that people are safeguarded at key transition points, such as hospital discharge
 - The Board also need to ensure that the positive commitment to personalisation and choice happens, with good risk enablement practices that keep people safe but extend their choice and control over services. There is good evidence to support positive outcomes for service users from personalisation.
 - The need to increase performance and quality control mechanisms across the partnership
 - To implement the local Winterbourne View Action plan
 - To work across agencies to improve and embed the Mental Capacity Act into practice
 - Implement the Making Safeguarding Personal initiative in Hillingdon to , increase user satisfaction and achieve improved outcomes

6. The evidence indicates that Hillingdon responds appropriately across agencies to concerns about adults at risk. However, there are some important challenges:
 - Local demographic data suggests the number of vulnerable adults in the Borough will rise.
 - The Making Safeguarding Personal agenda is the thread running through the Care Act implementation and this will present a challenge to all staff to ensure that it is fully embedded in work with vulnerable adults.
 - A recent court judgment has greatly increased the workload and consequential costs in respect of deprivation of liberty assessments, and although a review of this is planned, that will not report until 2017.
 - The actions arising from the Winterbourne Review are still ongoing and the challenge remains of ensuring the safeguarding people with learning disabilities in long term care, whilst planning their move into community settings.

7. It should be noted that the role, expectation and workload of the Adult Safeguarding Board has increased hugely over the last year, and this will continue when the Care Act is implemented in 2015. Increased resourcing of the Board by all statutory partners will be required. The Care Act guidance is not prescriptive in terms of expected contributions from partner agencies but does recognize the need for statutory partners to ensure that statutory boards are adequately resourced to undertake their responsibilities. Some business management and administrative time will be essential to ensure that the Board can be the effective monitoring and quality assurance body that is expected in the Care Act regulations and guidance.

Lynda Crellin
Chairman
December 2014

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Hillingdon Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report 2013-14 and appendix.