

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS IN HILLINGDON – ANNUAL REPORT 2008-09

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REASON FOR ITEM

The aim of 'Safeguarding Adults' work is to help vulnerable adults to live a life that is free from abuse, neglect and exploitation. This includes - but is not limited to - arrangements for responding to allegations of abuse.

Local authorities have a responsibility to follow the Department of Health guidance outlined in No Secrets (2000) and coordinate a multi-agency approach to safeguarding against abuse and taking appropriate action when somebody is being abused or is at risk of abuse. As part of this, the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board publishes an Annual Report, detailing the work of the partnership over the year, local and national developments and service improvements.

OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE COMMITTEE

1. To note and agree the Safeguarding Annual Report 2008-9
2. To ask for further information to be included within the Annual Report

INFORMATION

1. The Hillingdon Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is a multi-agency group responsible for leading the development of all work relating to the prevention of, and response to, the abuse of vulnerable adults in Hillingdon.
2. The terminology 'Safeguarding Adults' 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'.
3. The report presents a retrospective of safeguarding work over the year. Key local developments and service improvements in 2008/09 have been:
 - The response to the outcome of the CSCI (CQC) inspection in March 2008 and progress on the Improvement Plan for 2008-9 to address the issues raised in the inspection.
 - Improved strategic leadership and accountability through a strengthened SAPB and safeguarding adults' business plan.
 - Implementation of a more robust performance and quality framework, using information systems and audit of casework
 - Dedicated resources to safeguarding adults within LBH and key partners.

- Increased reporting of allegations of abuse.
 - Responding to the national consultation on the revision of the “No Secrets” guidance (DH)
 - Setting priorities for 2009/2010.
4. As part of the Safeguarding Improvement Plan, future Safeguarding Annual Reports are being developed to include further information and reflect the new business planning framework of the refreshed Safeguarding Partnership Board, in line with benchmarks set by excellent Local Authorities.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

1. Hillingdon Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report 2008-9.