

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PROGRAMME BOARD 2013-14

Relevant Board Member(s)	Cllr Philip Corthorne
Organisation	London Borough of Hillingdon
Report author	Lynda Crellin: Independent Chairman
Papers with report	Annual Report

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	This paper presents the annual report 2013-14 of the Safer Adults Partnership Board (SAPB). It summarises the work done during the year and identifies areas priorities for action in 2014-15.
Contribution to plans and strategies	None
Financial Cost	None
Ward(s) affected	All

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

- 1. receives and notes this report, and actions identified that are being taken by the SAPB and its constituent agencies to improve the safeguarding of vulnerable adults in Hillingdon;**
- 2. notes the implications of the statutory requirements of the Care Act 2014; and**
- 3. agrees to receive an update following the completion of the review currently underway in order to be notified of any relevant recommendations from the review.**

3. INFORMATION

3.1. Local Authorities, statutory partners and the voluntary sector have a responsibility to follow the Department of Health guidance. The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) has been established in line with the Department of Health guidance "No Secrets" (2000). 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.

3.2. The Care Act 2014 will require all Councils to establish with partners a Safeguarding Adults Board from April 2015. The Hillingdon SAPB in keeping with best practice and ahead of the new statutory requirements of the Care Act produces an Annual report, which the Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note.

3.3. 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.

3.4. The Annual report was presented to Cabinet and the Safer Hillingdon Partnership in February 2015. The Care Act 2014 will, from April 2015, set safeguarding 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.

3.5. The report presents a retrospective of safeguarding work over the year 2013/14. 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.

3.6. 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

3.7. 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.

3.8. The Care Act 2014 requires a Safeguarding Adults Board to be set up in each local authority area. The core members of the Board are the Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Groups and consistent membership at the highest level will be an essential requirement. The guidance also lists a number of other potential members including NHS provider trusts, probation and voluntary sector organisations. The Boards must produce a three year strategic plan, an Annual report and convene serious case reviews as required. The Act places a duty to co operate on the core members of the Board to carry out the work of the board and the conduct of safeguarding inquiries. In preparation for implementing the requirements of the Care Act the Council has commissioned external consultants to undertake a review of the current arrangements and to review the SAPB. It is expected to report shortly, which will ensure that we are able to meet the requirements of the Care Act.

3.9. 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 needs 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

3.10 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.
- 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.

3.11. 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 April 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.

4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

To fully brief the board on the operation of the SAPB in 2013/14.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

The Board's annual report has been developed in collaboration with partners and has gone to the Council's Cabinet and to the Safer Hillingdon Partnership.

Policy Overview Committee comments

None at this stage.

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Hillingdon Corporate Finance Comments

The actual cost of the operation of the Board in 2015/16 has still to be quantified and it is noted there may be some implications for the future level of support by partners for the Board's work once the Board is placed on a statutory footing from April 2015.

Hillingdon Council Legal comments

The role and remit of the SAPB is currently under review to ensure that it will meet the requirements of the Care Act. Under current arrangements the SAPB is well placed to be compliant with new regulations and guidance as currently understood.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

NIL.