

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PARTNERSHIP BOARD

Relevant Board Member(s)	Councillor Phillip Corthorne
Organisation	Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB)
Report author	Stephen Ashley
Papers with report	(SAPB) annual report

1. HEADLINE INFORMATION

Summary	The annual report of the SAPB is a statutory requirement from April 2015. This annual report covers the year 2014/15 for which the production of an annual report was discretionary. The annual report describes the work of the partners engaged in Adult Safeguarding in the Borough, for the year ending 31 March 2015. It will be published and available to view on the Council's website.
Contribution to plans and strategies	N/A
Financial Cost	No financial cost
Ward(s) affected	N/A

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. notes the content of the report; and
2. passes comment on the timing and content of future annual reports.

3. INFORMATION

Supporting Information

Review of Safeguarding Adults

In January 2015 the SAPB commissioned a review to assess its effectiveness as a Board. The review followed the Local Government association peer review/challenge methodology.

Key recommendations for the Board to be Care Act compliant are:

- The Board should establish a revised structure with senior members from each agency to demonstrate commitment and importance of the board and enhance its ability to operate effectively.
- Resourcing of the work of the Board and infrastructure that effectively ensures delivery of core functions and the work programme should be agreed between the statutory partners and reviewed annually. This would include the setting up of the integrated safeguarding hub.

Effectiveness Of Local Safeguarding Arrangements.

A number of workshops have been held to clarify and promote a better understanding about safeguarding thresholds in order to achieve a more consistent and proportionate response.

The council has developed a range of reports to facilitate effective performance monitoring. These are:

1. Dashboard, a report to improve performance and quality information available to the SAPB.
2. Monthly reports to enable service Managers and Team Managers to keep abreast of performance in their area.
3. Provider performance reports to facilitate operational and strategic oversight of safeguarding practice.

Serious case reviews

One serious case review was carried out in 2014-15. All actions from the review have now been completed. The key learning points are:

1. The need for clear communication between agencies at critical points: for example, when a patient is brought to A&E by ambulance there must be a clear handover to hospital staff.
2. Non attendance at health appointments should be followed up more rigorously.
3. Agencies should remain vigilant for indicators that a carer might be in need of a carers assessment.

Discharge should not be the default position when contact cannot be made with a vulnerable patient

Financial Implications

No financial implications

4. EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

Policy Overview Committee comments

The Committee welcomed the report which highlighted that services across Hillingdon were supporting residents and safeguarding vulnerable adults.

The Committee noted that the establishment of the Care and Governance Board and the Vulnerable People Panel had created positive bodies which should enhance multi -agency communication and information sharing.

Partnership working was also strong. However, the Committee raised concerns in a number of areas. In particular, it was noted that staff were not confident about using the Mental Capacity Act and that further improvements were required in relation to information sharing regarding high risk transition points such as admission and discharge from hospital. The Committee noted that there had been a significant rise in the number of authorisation requests for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards compared to the previous year. In addition, the Committee raised concerns about commissioning processes and the separation of responsibilities across the Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS England and noted that NHS England had yet to be represented on the Board.

Given the number of vulnerable adults in the Borough is increasing; the Committee welcomed the approach to develop Teams focussed around the family and a more holistic approach to safeguarding. The Committee also agreed that the implementation of Making Safeguarding Personal across all agencies, as well as raising public awareness of Safeguarding were important aspirations which would contribute in a positive way to the service currently provided.

5. CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Hillingdon Council 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 since the Board has been 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.