

Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report 2015/16

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REASON FOR ITEM

The Hillingdon Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board has a statutory duty to publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable Adults in the Borough. Once agreed by the Board the report is submitted each year to the Chief Executive, the Leader of the Council and the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

SUGGESTED COMMITTEE ACTIVITY

It is recommended that the Committee note the report and comment as appropriate on the suggested priorities for the current year.

INFORMATION

The Care Act 2014 has been a significant factor in the way adult safeguarding is regarded amongst both agencies and the public. It seems that at last, safeguarding vulnerable adults is being considered in the same light as the way children are safeguarded. This has resulted in significant challenges for agencies and predominantly the Local Authority and Health services. With an ageing population there are enormous demands on mental health services. Just providing protection in these two areas and ensuring that people have meaningful and fulfilling lives is an enormous challenge.

The Board has been restructured to provide an Executive Board with the most senior leaders providing strategic direction and an Operational Group where managers agree the work of the Board and drive it forward. There is also in place a business unit that is developing performance and audit processes and ensuring that training packages are available to all agencies, as well as providing project management support.

The priorities of the Board have been discussed long and hard this year and the focus will be on mental health issues and the neglect of the elderly. These are huge areas of work and we will continue to refine our approach to ensure that each agency is clear about the work expected of them. To ensure that we are successful we need to concentrate efforts on Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) which is a national programme aimed at front line staff and encouraging them to understand the role they play in keeping people safe.

The Chairman of Hillingdon's Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will attend the meeting to answer Members' questions.