

HILLINGDON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Cabinet Member(s)	Cllr Jane Palmer Cllr Susan O'Brien
Cabinet Portfolio(s)	Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Education, Children and Youth Services
Officer Contact(s)	Alex Coman, Claire Solley, Suzi Gladish - Social Care
Papers with report	Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2019-2020

HEADLINES

Summary	<p>The Safeguarding Annual Report updates the Cabinet on the work undertaken by Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership to support and safeguard Hillingdon's residents - children and adults.</p> <p>The report focuses on work done by both the Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Safeguarding Adult Board and provide evidence about the standard to which the agencies responsible for safeguarding children and adults in the London Borough of Hillingdon have performed.</p> <p>The chairmen of the respective boards state that the report provides assurance that the children and adults in Hillingdon are safeguarded and the response they receive from safeguarding partners optimise their safety, wellbeing and quality of life regardless of age.</p> <p>The changes of safeguarding arrangements, in line with legislation, are presented in this report and show how they have strengthened the coordination between the Children and Adult Safeguarding Boards.</p>
Putting our Residents First	This report supports the following London Borough of Hillingdon objective: <i>Our People</i> . The report outlines the strategic safeguarding priorities for 2020-21.
Financial Cost	There are no financial costs arising from this report.
Relevant Policy Overview Committee	Social Care, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee
Relevant Ward(s)	All

RECOMMENDATION

That the Cabinet notes the content of the report.

Reasons for recommendation

To update Cabinet with the achievements of Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership in the year 2019-20 and to be aware of the strategic priorities for 2020-21 to safeguard children and adult residents.

Alternative options considered / risk management

There are no alternative options attached to this report/recommendation.

Policy Overview Committee comments

Members of the Social Care, Housing and Public Health Policy Overview Committee congratulated officers on their in-depth and focused report and were reassured to hear that the Partnership was working so successfully to safeguard all Hillingdon residents – both young and old.

The Committee noted that the report covered the previous financial year therefore did not focus on the Covid-19 period. However, Members were reassured to learn that, during the Covid-19 period, officers had continued to contact residents in need of support. Essential visits had continued and members of the public had still been able to make contact with the local authority in a number of ways.

The Policy Overview Committee noted that, at an operational level, the relevant agencies were committed and engaged and were attending meetings as required. It was confirmed that the attendance of police and health professionals, particularly at strategy meetings, was regularly monitored and reviewed.

The Members noted the criticism of previous safeguarding arrangements in the Serious Case Review regarding child X by Jane Wonnacott published in December 2019. They hope that all of the 16 recommendations in that report have been addressed.

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. The Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2019/20 summarises the activity undertaken across the local partnership to meet the strategic objectives set by the Safeguarding Adult Board and Safeguarding Children Partnership.
2. In September 2019 the Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership arrangements were launched in line with the statutory requirements set out in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018. The Local Authority now shares equal responsibility with our statutory partners, Hillingdon Clinical

Commissioning Group and Metropolitan Police, to safeguard children and young people.

3. The Care Act 2014 placed a statutory duty on each Safeguarding Adult Board to produce an Annual Report, outlining the work undertaken to achieve its strategic objectives, the work of each member to implement the Safeguarding Adults Board's strategy and detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews and subsequent required actions.
4. During 2019-20 Hillingdon Safeguarding Adult Board's structure was aligned with the Safeguarding Children's Arrangements. This enhanced collaborative working and our ability to optimise the safety, wellbeing and quality of life of all residents. Moreover, learning and development is now coordinated across the two Boards reducing duplication and strengthening our approach to practice improvement.
5. In promoting this joint approach, both boards are now scrutinised and held to account through the multiagency Executive Leadership Group. The group is chaired by the Local Authority's Chief Executive and attended by the senior representatives of the safeguarding partners (Police and Clinical Commissioning Group).

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising as a consequence of publishing this report.

RESIDENT BENEFIT & CONSULTATION

The benefit or impact upon Hillingdon residents, service users and communities?

The report summarises progress and highlights strategic priorities for safeguarding within the London Borough of Hillingdon. It will not directly affect residents; however, it demonstrates actions taken across the local partnership to prevent abuse and neglect; and outlines the key priority areas for the next year. These priorities are predicated on analysis of local need and serve to optimise the safety, wellbeing and quality of life for Hillingdon residents.

Consultation carried out or required

The statutory members of the Safeguarding Partnership have contributed to this report, along with other relevant partners. The report has been agreed at the Safeguarding Adults Board and Hillingdon Safeguarding Children Partnership Board.

CORPORATE CONSIDERATIONS

Corporate Finance

Corporate Finance has reviewed the report and concur with the Financial Implications set out above, noting that there are no financial implications arising from the report recommendations.

Legal

The Borough Solicitor confirms that there are no specific legal implications arising from this report. Detailed legal advice is provided whenever necessary on particular cases to ensure that the Council meets its legal obligations.

Comments from other relevant service areas

The attached report includes information from safeguarding partners and refers to the activity of Children's Services and Adults' Social Care.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The Care and Support Statutory Guidance, Department of Health and Social Care, October 2018 <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/care-act-statutory-guidance/care-and-support-statutory-guidance>

The Care Act 2014 - <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/section/43/enacted>

London multiagency adult safeguarding policies and procedures
<https://londonadass.org.uk/safeguarding/review-of-the-pan-london-policy-and-procedures/>

Working together to safeguard children, Department of Education, 2018
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

The Children and Social Work Act 2017
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2017/16/contents/enacted>