

Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2021-2022

Committee name	Children, Families and Education Select Committee
Officer reporting	Alex Coman, Chair of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board Bukky Junaid - Interim Head of Service Safeguarding Adults,
Papers with report	Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2021-2022
Ward	All

HEADLINES

- The Safeguarding Annual Report summarises the work undertaken by Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership to support and safeguard Hillingdon's residents: adults with support and care needs and vulnerable children and their families.
- The report provides assurance that the actions taken across the local partnership to prevent abuse, neglect and self-neglect have been effective in the year 2021-2022 and that we have discharged our statutory duties to ensure that we learn from serious incidents and provide strategic leadership for safeguarding.
- The joint approach to safeguarding children and adults has been reinforced by the implementation of shared Charing arrangements across the three strategic Boards. The Executive Leadership Group has been led by the Borough Commander of the Metropolitan Police Service, the Children's Partnership by the Director of Safeguarding, Partnership and Quality Assurance for the Local Authority, and the Adult's Board by the Chief Nurse of North West London CCG. This highlights our meaningful commitment to shared and equal responsibility for safeguarding adults and children.
- The Partnership has responded effectively to safeguard residents during a challenging year that began with public health restrictions still in place due to the pandemic.
- The pandemic impacted on all Hillingdon's residents' resilience and in many cases on their economic independence. This has led to an increased dependence on the services available, including the availability of skilled workforce from both the social care and health perspective meaning there have been significant challenges in maintaining the quality of care available.
- Our Partnership focused through the year on fostering a culture of empowerment, independence, and early intervention for residents of Hillingdon, encouraging children, families, adults and their carers to address difficulties before they become entrenched, and to do so in a way that promotes independence, resilience, choice and control that minimises dependency.
- The Partnership has maintained effective working arrangements and relationships that facilitate a nuanced, and dynamic response to changing local, national, and international contexts. This has included the need to support and safeguard increasing numbers of asylum-seeking children, adults, and families and those seeking refuge from conflict in Ukraine.
- The report evidences a continued focus on the importance of learning and development work for frontline professionals, with the successful implementation of a scaffolded approach to professional development. This includes the publication of briefings, newsletters, and the

implementation of webinars to inform, support and develop practice.

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1. Notes the report and is assured that the partnership continues to provide leadership and scrutiny of the safeguarding arrangements for Hillingdon residents.**
- 2. is updated regarding the way in which the partnership has responded to the challenges posed by changing local, national and international contexts.**
- 3. is informed of the strategic priorities for safeguarding for 2022-23.**

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

1. 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, the NHS Hillingdon Clinical Commissioning Group and Metropolitan Police, to safeguard children and young people.
2. The Care Act 2014 placed a statutory duty on each Safeguarding Adults 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 Boards' strategy and detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews and subsequent required actions.
3. 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).

PERFORMANCE DATA

The Safeguarding Adults Board monitors several KPIs provided by the participating agencies. Some examples of the items monitored and analysed are: number of contacts received by Social Care, Section 42 enquiries and their outcomes, source of contact, MERLINS received from Police and the types of abuse referred, advocacy activity, etc. this data set provides the board on regular basis with a picture of safeguarding activity in the borough and highlights any trends and areas of focus.

RESIDENT BENEFIT

Hillingdon adults with care and support needs, vulnerable children and their families and carers remain safe and the safeguarding partnership continues to respond effectively and efficiently to the needs of residents.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this stage.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

None at this stage.

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>

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>

APPENDICES

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