

HILLINGDON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

Committee name	Health and Social Care Select Committee
Officer reporting	Bukky Junaid – Assistant Director, Access to Support Services Suzi Gladish
Papers with report	Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report Children and Young People’s Annual Report Easy Read Annual Report
Ward	All

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Committee:

- 1. is reassured 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.**

HEADLINES

- The Safeguarding Partnership 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 in the year 2022-2023.
- The report provides an overview of the actions taken across the local partnership to prevent and respond to abuse, neglect, and self-neglect in the year 2022-2023. It sets out how we have discharged our duties to ensure that we learn from serious safeguarding incidents and provide strategic leadership that strives to continuously develop safeguarding practice.
- There is shared and equal responsibility for safeguarding between the three statutory partners, the Local Authority, Metropolitan Police Service and NHS North West London Integrated Care Board. This approach is reinforced by the rotation of chairing responsibility across the three senior strategic Boards, the Executive Leadership Group, Safeguarding Adults Board and Safeguarding Children Partnership Board.
- Safeguarding practice does not take place in a vacuum, it is helpful to understand the wider context for this report. In 2022-2023 services locally, and nationally, continued to face additional pressures with a sustained increase in demand across all agencies to meet the safeguarding needs of residents. This is not a Hillingdon specific issue and is replicated nationally. The health, social and economic ramifications of the pandemic have been further exacerbated by the cost-of-living crisis, with widespread strain on public, voluntary and safeguarding services.
- The Report sets out how the multiagency strategic partnership contributes to safeguarding practice in the Borough, outlining the progress made against the agreed priorities of the Safeguarding Partnership. Each priority has a dedicated subgroup, with an agreed plan of work that, broadly, seeks to develop practice using a framework of prevention, identification, and response.

- Our approach to learning from practice through quality assurance, reflective and statutory review ensures that we focus on practice and system development to reduce the risks of serious harm to adults or children. This includes direct engagement with frontline practitioners across the Partnership.
- Identified learning informs our training provision with a diverse offer of newsletters, practice briefings, webinars, learning events and commissioned training available. In the reporting period the number of sessions of continuous professional development attended increased by over 40%. This is largely due to improved accessibility through focussed and targeted webinars.
- In the last year the Partnership further highlighted the importance of directly consulting with adults and children with lived experience of safeguarding services, ensuring that their voices are sought and amplified. The main Report is supported by the publication of an Easy Read version, and the coproduction of our first Children and Young People's Annual Report.

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, 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