

# HILLINGDON SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT

<b>Committee name</b>	Children, Families and Education Select Committee
<b>Officer reporting</b>	Alex Coman, Director, Safeguarding Partnership, Quality Assurance and Residential Provision Suzi Gladish, Head of Safeguarding Arrangements
<b>Papers with report</b>	Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report Children and Young People's – You Said, We Did. What Next? Easy Read Annual Report
<b>Ward</b>	All

## HEADLINES

The **Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2023-2024** outlines the vision and activities of the Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Safeguarding Adults Board. The report emphasizes the importance of ensuring safety, health, and opportunities for children, young people, and adults in Hillingdon.

Key sections of the report include:

- **Impact Statement:** Highlights the increased complexity of needs due to financial hardship and rising emotional and psychological needs. It also mentions the implementation of business plans for both children and adults' safeguarding.
- **Safeguarding Arrangements:** Describes the structure and function of the Safeguarding Children Partnership Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board, including their oversight and governance roles.
- **Voice of the Person:** Emphasizes the importance of understanding the lived experiences of children, adults, and their families. It includes feedback from children and adults with lived experiences.
- **Safeguarding Priorities:** Outlines the priorities for children, adults, and shared priorities. This includes addressing child sexual abuse, neglect, and exploitation.
- **Learning from Practice:** Discusses the importance of learning from both good practice and areas where improvements are needed. It includes reviews of cases that meet the criteria for statutory reviews.
- **Quality Assurance:** Details the auditing activities undertaken to ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding practices.
- **Multiagency Safeguarding Training:** Highlights the training programs provided to ensure practitioners have up-to-date knowledge and skills.
- **Agency Contributions:** Includes contributions from various agencies such as the NHS, Metropolitan Police Service, and London Fire Brigade.
- **Priorities for 2024-2025:** Lists the focus areas for the coming year, including neglect, exploitation, and transitional safeguarding.

The report provides a comprehensive overview of the safeguarding activities and priorities in Hillingdon, emphasizing collaboration, learning, and continuous improvement to ensure the safety and well-being of residents

## 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 assured that local learning is identified to enhance and strengthen safeguarding practice;**
4. **Is informed of the strategic priorities for safeguarding for 2024-2025;**
5. **To submit any comments to Cabinet, or delegate comments to the Democratic Services Officer in conjunction with the Chair, and in consultation with the Opposition Lead.**

## 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 (updated December 2023). 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 Chief Nurse at the ICB and attended by the senior representatives of the safeguarding partners (Police and Local Authority).
4. In December 2023 the Department for Education published an update to Working Together to Safeguard Children. Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership, in common with all other partnerships nationally, is in the process of implementing changes.

## PERFORMANCE DATA

As set out in the Annual Report

## 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, 2023  
<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>