

Protocol outlining Barking and Dagenham's safeguarding partnership arrangements

Between the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Local Safeguarding Children Board, and the Safeguarding Adults Board.

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Version	Date	Agreed
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V3	7/10/2014	

- 1.1 This document sets out the expectations of the relationship and working arrangements, between Barking and Dagenham's Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB), Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Children Board (BDSCB) and the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). It covers their respective roles and functions, arrangements for challenge, oversight and scrutiny and performance management.
- 1.2 The Independent Chair of the BDSCB and SAB, together with the Chair of the HWBB, have formally agreed to the arrangements set out in this document, which will be subject to review -annually.

2. The Health & Wellbeing Board (HWBB)

- 2.1 HWBBs were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and became statutory in April 2013. The Health and Wellbeing Board is an Executive Committee of the Council, with the same powers as Cabinet for matters relating to health and social care. The Council's Constitution outlines the responsibilities of the Board.
- 2.2 The Board is a forum where key leaders from the Barking and Dagenham health and social care system work to improve the health and wellbeing of local residents and reduce health inequalities. The members of the Board work together to understand the needs of the local community and have strategic influence over the commissioning decisions across health and social care. The Board undertakes a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and develops a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to develop and demonstrate how needs can best be addressed in a coordinated, planned and measurable way.
- 2.3 The HWBB brings together representatives from the Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), major health service providers, Healthwatch, the Metropolitan Police and NHS England to develop this shared understanding of the health and wellbeing needs of the borough.
- 2.3 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy identifies four key themes across a life course approach:
 1. Care and Support
 2. Protection and Safeguarding
 3. Improvement and integration of services
 4. Prevention

Of particular importance for this protocol is the 'protection and safeguarding' theme which consists of a number of key priority areas including:

- Fewer children experience bullying, hate crime or domestic violence.

- More people from minority groups feel confident to report abuse and harassment.

3. Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Children Board (BDSCB)

3.1 The BDSCB is a statutory partnership with responsibility for agreeing how relevant local organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The BDSCB's role is to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard all children.

3.2 The BDSCB contributes to the wider goal of improving the wellbeing of all children; however it has a narrower focus on safeguarding and promoting welfare. In order to ensure that its separate identity and independent voice is not compromised, the BDSCB must not be subordinate to or subsumed within other board structures.

3.3 The BDSCB's key responsibilities are to:

- Engage in activities that safeguard all children and aim to identify and prevent maltreatment, or impairment of health or development, and to ensure that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with safe and effective care
- Lead and coordinate proactive work that aims to target particular groups; and
- Lead and co-ordinate arrangements for responsive work to protect children who are suffering, or likely to suffer, significant harm,

4. Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

4.1 The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) will become a statutory partnership under the Care Act 2014 and gives the SAB a clear basis in the law for the first time. The SAB has responsibility for agreeing how relevant local organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults. The SAB's role is to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard all vulnerable adults.

4.2 The SAB's responsibilities are to:

- bring together the local authority, the NHS and the police, who should meet regularly to discuss and act upon local safeguarding issues;
- develop shared plans for safeguarding, working with local people to decide how best to protect adults in vulnerable situations;
- publish this safeguarding plan and report to the public annually on its progress, so that different organisations can make sure they are working together in the best way.

5 The relationships between the HWBB, BDSCB and SAB

- 5.1 The roles and responsibilities of the respective bodies are different but complementary. They have a common purpose – to promote joint working and co-operation between partners to improve the wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults in Barking and Dagenham, support and develop areas of mutual interest through integrated multi-agency practice in prevention and early intervention.
- 5.2 Through its safeguarding work, the BDSCB must be able to form a view of the quality of local activity, to challenge organisations as necessary, and to speak with an independent voice. For that reason, the BDSCB and HWBB must be chaired by different people.
- 5.3 In Barking and Dagenham, the BDSCB and SAB are chaired by the same Independent Chair with the HWBB is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health.
- 5.4 All of the key agencies, the Council, the Police the NHS Trusts and the CCG have a role on each of the Boards described, although the representatives on each of the Boards are not always the same individuals. However, a number of key members of Senior Staff from organisations attend both. For example:
- The Corporate Director of Children's Services is a member of both the BDSCB and the HWBB;
 - The Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services is a member of both the SAB and the HWBB;
 - The Executive Director for Integrated Care from NELFT is a member of both the HWBB and the BDSCB.

This is an illustrative and not an exhaustive list.

6. Arrangements to secure co-ordination between the Boards.

- 6.1 In order to secure working coordination and to preserve the independence of the chair of both Safeguarding Boards. it is proposed that the following arrangements are scheduled:
- The respective Board Annual Reports are presented to the HWBB Board each year;
 - The HWBB will consult the BDSCB and the SAB on future iterations of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy along with the latest version of the JSNA;
 - The Chair of the Safeguarding Boards will receive agendas and minutes of the HWBB and have a standing invite to attend the Board

meetings. They will speak with the permission of the chair when they consider significant items are being presented at Board meetings that may have safeguarding implications;

- The Chair of the Safeguarding Boards will be invited to attend the HWBB Development Days and other development activity;
- The Chair of the Safeguarding Boards will hold regular meetings with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

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