

ASSEMBLY

20 November 2019

Title: Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2018/19	
Report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Social Care Integration	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: No
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Accountable Strategic Director: Elaine Allegretti, Strategic Director for People and Resilience	
Summary: <p>Under Schedule 2 of the Care Act 2014, Safeguarding Adult Boards (SABs) are required to publish an Annual Report, detailing their work over the preceding year. The attached Annual Report (Appendix 1) describes the work and priorities of the Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) from April 2018 to March 2019. It sets out how the Board has worked to improve the protection of vulnerable adults across Barking and Dagenham along with its achievements in 2018/19 and key priorities for the future.</p> <p>The annual reports contain contributions from a range of organisations who are involved in safeguarding vulnerable adults in Barking and Dagenham. Joint working has been effective over the past year, and the membership of the Board has strengthened. The statutory partners have provided financial resources to support the SAB a to fulfil their functions.</p> <p>The Annual Report was agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board at its meeting on 10 July 2019 and was presented and discussed at the Health & Wellbeing Board on 10 September 2019.</p> <p>The Assembly is invited to note the report and draw out any issues that Members would like the Safeguarding Adults Board to consider as part of its routine business or the Strategic Plan.</p>	
Recommendation The Assembly is recommended to:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">(i) Note the contents of Annual Report of the Safeguarding Adults Board for 2018/19;(ii) Add further comments to shape the work of the Board and the priorities of the SAB through its Strategic Plan.	

Reason(s)

Safeguarding vulnerable adults from abuse is one of the most important statutory duties that falls upon the Council. Collaborating with partners in the health sector and the Police is mandated by the Care Act, and together with other important partners, the Safeguarding Adults Board is the mechanism for discharging that duty. It is important that all Members of the Council are aware of the work of the Council in improving the systems to safeguard adults and have the opportunity to shape that work.

1. Introduction to the Safeguarding Adults Board

1.1 It is a requirement set out in the Care Act 2014 that organisations work together to promote the safeguarding of vulnerable adults within their communities. For Barking & Dagenham, the Safeguarding Adults Board has established a vision that:

Every adult living in the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham has the right to live in safety, free from fear of abuse or neglect. The Safeguarding Adults Board exists to make sure that organisations, people and local communities work together to prevent and stop the risk of abuse or neglect.

1.2 The Care Act 2014 identifies six key principles that should underpin all safeguarding work. These are accountability, empowerment, protection, prevention, proportionality and partnership.

1.3 The prime focus of the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board is to ensure that safeguarding is consistently understood by anyone engaging with adults who may be at risk of or experiencing abuse or neglect, and that there is a common commitment to improving outcomes for them. This means ensuring the community has an understanding of how to support, protect and empower people at risk of harm. We want to develop and facilitate practice which puts individuals in control and generates a more person-centred approach and outcomes.

1.4 The Safeguarding Adults Board is made up of three statutory partners who are the Local Authority, the Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). The Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board also includes representation from other key local partner organisations and these are Barking Havering Redbridge University Trust (BHRUT), North East London Foundation Trust (NELFT), the London Fire Brigade, the Probation Service, the chairs of the SAB's Committees and other officer advisors.

1.5 The Cabinet Member for Social Care & Health Integration attends meetings of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

1.6 The objectives of the SAB are to:

- Ensure that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act 2014;
- Embed good safeguarding practices, that puts people at the centre of its duties;
- Work in partnership with other agencies to prevent abuse and neglect where possible;

- Ensure that services and individuals respond quickly and responsibly when abuse or neglect has occurred;
- Continually improve safeguarding practices and enhance the quality of life of adults in the local area.

1.7 All Safeguarding Adult Boards are required to produce an Annual Report. The Annual Report attached has been produced with contributions from all partners of the Board. In particular, chapter 6 sets out in detail how partners have supported the work of the Board and implemented developments and improvements across multi agency safeguarding practice.

2. Highlights of the 2018/19 Annual Report

2.1 The Annual Report includes a foreword by the Independent Chair of the Board, information about the Board structure and its committees, safeguarding data, the activity of the Board and of its partner agencies, quality assurance information, a statement from Healthwatch and a chapter around the Board's priorities for the coming year.

2.2 Key achievements of the Board in 2018/19 include the work of the two Committees. The Performance and Assurance Committee, which is chaired by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, has worked to improve the quality and timeliness of data and reporting from all partners, including indications of trends, robustness of assurance and analytical reporting to the Board. The Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Committee, which is chaired by a senior NHS CCG officer, has put in place a new process for reviewing significant cases across the partnership and ensuring opportunities for wider learning from local and national cases. It is worth noting that no SARs have been commissioned in 2018/19 but the Safeguarding Adult Review Committee continues to look at learning from other local, national and regional cases where relevant to Barking and Dagenham.

2.3 The Board completed an all-organisations self-assessment, assurance and Board peer challenge exercise in May/June 2018, with a plan to repeat this before the end of 2019.

2.4 The Board has also embarked on work and plans around improving opportunities for community engagement and listening to the service user voice. Plans will continue into 2019/20 and community engagement features in the SAB's Strategic Plan.

2.5 There has been extensive work around the review of the Board's priorities and the production of a new three-year SAB Strategic Plan.

3. Recommendations

3.1 The Assembly is recommended to note the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report and to provide feedback for the SAB to consider as it develops further its strategic plan for 2019/20 and 2020/21.

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report: None

List of appendices:

Appendix 1: Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19