

ASSEMBLY

25 JANUARY 2023

Title: The Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2021/22	
Report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health Integration	
Open Report	For Information
Wards Affected: All	Key Decision: No
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Summary 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 2021 to March 2022. It sets out the key achievements, work of the partners, information around the priorities and how the SAB has worked to improve the protection of adults across Barking and Dagenham. The SAB Annual Report contains 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 and its Committees have strengthened. The statutory partners have provided financial resources to support the SAB a to fulfil their functions. The SAB Annual Report was agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board at its meeting on the 12th October 2022 and was presented and discussed at the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 18 th January 2023. 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.	
Recommendation The Assembly is recommended to: (i) Note the contents of Annual Report of the Safeguarding Adults Board for 2021/22;	

- (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 and Background

- 1.1 The Care Act 2014 requires that local partners must co-operate around the protection of vulnerable adults at 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 Safeguarding Adults Boards is made up of three statutory partners who are the Local Authority, the Police and the NHS Integrated Care Board. 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 key officer advisors.
- 1.4 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.
- 1.5 All Safeguarding Adult Boards are required to produce an Annual Report. The Barking and Dagenham SAB have produced the Annual Report attached with contributions from all partners of the Board.

2. Proposal and Issues

- 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, and comment on how the Board will review and set its priorities going forward in light of system wide safeguarding issues.
- 2.2. Key achievements of the Board in 2021/22 include the work of the three committees. The Performance and Assurance Committee, which is chaired by the London Borough of Barking and Dagenham, has worked to improve the engagement from all partners and is presenting meaningful data and analysis to the Board on a quarterly basis. The Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Committee, which is chaired by the NHS Integrated Care Board (ICB), published one Safeguarding Adult Review in 2021. Towards the end of 2021/22 two new SARs were commissioned. The Committee has reviewed several cases against the SAR criteria and looked at wider learning from local and national cases.
- 2.3 The Adult Safeguarding Adult Complex Cases Group is chaired by the Council's Principal Social Worker for Adults Social Care and Strategic Lead for Safeguarding Adults and there is representation from all partners across the partnership as well as front line staff who are supporting service users. The group discusses complex cases where there are safeguarding risks that need to be managed across more than one agency. Professionals from any partner agency can refer a case into the meeting.
- 2.4 The Board has continued to have excellent engagement and commitment from all partners.
- 2.5 Brian Parrott, the Independent Chair, took the decision to step down from the role towards the end of 2021. The Board undertook a recruitment process for a new Independent Chair and Anju Ahluwalia was appointed to the role.
- 2.6 The three statutory partners (LBBD, NHS ICB and Police) all made financial contributions to support the work of the Board. The Police contributed £5,000, the NHS ICB £30,000 and the Council covered staffing costs of the Independent Chair, support staff and any other work such as SARs and learning events.

3. Financial Implications

Implications completed by Isaac Mogaji, Finance Business Partner:

- 3.1 This report is largely for information and seeks the Health and Wellbeing Board to consider the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Annual Report 2021/22. As such, there is no obvious financial implications of the report.

However, it is noted that the three statutory partners (LBBD, NHS ICB and Police) all made their respective financial contributions to support the work of the Board in 2021/22.

4. Legal Implications

Implications completed by Daniel Longe, Principal Solicitor for Education, Children and Adults:

- 4.1 Section 43 of the Care Act 2014 imposes a specific duty on local authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board for its area to help and protect adults in its area who has needs for care and support or has experienced or is at risk of abuse or neglect and is unable to protect themselves from such risk or abuse.

Furthermore, Schedule 2, paragraph 4 of the Care Act 2014 also imposes a specific obligation on SABs to publish a report at the end of each financial year and must send that report to among others, the chief executive and the leader of the council.

Accordingly, the said annual report is in line with legislative obligations.

5. Other Implications

5.1 Risk Management

- 5.1.1 The SAB manages risks by having a Three Year Strategic Plan in place that sets out its priorities and how partners will work together to achieve these. This Strategic Plan is reviewed annually.

5.2 Corporate Policy and Equality Impact

- 5.2.1 The SAB is a statutory function under the Care Act 2014 which requires that local partners must co-operate around the protection of vulnerable adults at risk of abuse or neglect.

5.3 Safeguarding Adults

- 5.3.1 The SAB has responsibility for safeguarding across the borough and this includes how the Board has worked together to protect adults who may be at risk of abuse or neglect.

5.4 Health Issues

- 5.4.1 This report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 9th November 2021 for discussion and comment.

Public Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:

Care Act 2014 <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted>

List of Appendices:

Appendix 1: The Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021/22