

## CABINET

13 November 2012

<b>Title:</b> Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2011/12	
<b>Report of the Cabinet Member for Adult Services and HR</b>	
<b>Open Report</b>	<b>For Information</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b> None	<b>Key Decision:</b> No
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<b>Accountable Divisional Director:</b> Glynis Rogers, Divisional Director of Community Safety and Public Protection	
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Anne Bristow, Corporate Director of Adult and Community Services	
<b>Summary:</b>  This report outlines the work that that has been done via the Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board to ensure that the Borough's most vulnerable adults are kept safe. The Board's Annual Report 2011-12 (Appendix 1) sets out the achievements of the Board against its strategic objectives:  <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. To ensure effective leadership and governance of all safeguarding adults processes and practice.</li><li>2. To ensure the co-ordination of protection and prevention.</li><li>3. To ensure a co-ordinated and effective response to identified abuse.</li><li>4. To strengthen joint working and practice across agencies and the wider community.</li><li>5. To identify emerging good practice to ensure continuous improvement.</li></ol> The report provides an overview of performance against these objectives and sets out the priorities moving forward into 2012-2015.	
<b>Recommendation</b>  The Cabinet is recommended to note the Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2011/12.	
<b>Reason(s)</b> Safeguarding Adults is a key area of business for the Partnership. The Annual Report provides an overview of achievements over the last year.	

### 1. Introduction and Background

- 1.1 The Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board brings together a variety of local statutory and voluntary organisations to lead and co-ordinate the local strategy

to safeguard adults at risk from abuse and neglect. At these meetings progress is reviewed and partners work together to raise concerns, discuss Borough-wide issues, and find opportunities to improve services for adults at risk of abuse and neglect. This includes working together to ensure that all services in Barking and Dagenham comply with safeguarding adult policies and procedures and raising awareness of the issue across the Borough.

The Board's members include:

- Barking and Dagenham Mencap
- Barking and Dagenham Metropolitan Police
- Barking Havering and Redbridge University Hospital Trust
- Carers of Barking and Dagenham
- Care Quality Commission
- HUBB Mental Health User Group
- London Ambulance Service
- London Borough of Barking and Dagenham (LBBD) Adult and Community Services
- LBBD Children's Services
- LBBD Housing Services
- LBBD Legal Services
- London Fire Service
- London Probation
- NHS Outer North East London
- North East London Foundation Trust

1.2 In 2011, Government announced its intention to place Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing in its statement of government policy on adult safeguarding. The White Paper and draft Bill reaffirms the intention to legislate in the critical area of adult safeguarding. It is expected that Safeguarding Adults Boards will become statutory in 2013.

1.3 Safeguarding adults is everybody's business, and the production of the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report provides the wider Partnership with a regular update on progress in this critical area. Currently the production of a Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report is optional. However, since it is expected that Safeguarding Adults Boards will become statutory in 2013, Annual Reports are likely to become mandatory.

## **2. Proposals and Issues**

2.1 The Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report 2011-12 sets out its strategic priorities and outlines progress in each area.

2.2 The Board's five priorities for work in 2011-12 were:

- (a) ensuring effective leadership and governance of all safeguarding adult processes and practice;
- (b) ensuring the co-ordinated protection and prevention of possible abuse;
- (c) ensuring a co-ordinated and effective response to abuse that we identify;

- (d) strengthening joint working and practice across agencies and the wider community; and
- (e) identifying emerging good practice - to ensure continuous improvement.

### 2.3 Key achievements in these areas have included:

- (a) the expansion of links with universal services operating in the Borough;
- (b) the continued development of training resources;
- (c) the implementation of the new Pan-London Safeguarding Adults Multi-Agency Policy and Procedure;
- (d) increased partnership work with health and social care commissioners;
- (e) the increase of service user consultation mechanisms; and
- (f) the further implementation of strategic lead model across key agencies.

## 3. Options Appraisal

- 3.1 The Annual Report is before Cabinet for information and for any comments Cabinet may wish to make.

## 4. Consultation

- 4.1 The Annual Report was taken in draft to the Safeguarding Adults Board in July 2012. Attendees of the Safeguarding Adults Board represent a diverse mixture of organisations; these attendees were asked to take the Annual Report back to their agencies for consultation through their own approval procedures by 13<sup>th</sup> August 2012.

## 5. Financial Implications

Implications completed by: Dan Herholdt, Accountant

- 5.1 The Adult Safeguarding Team cost to the council is £342,400 per annum.
- 5.2 The Safeguarding Adults strategy would also include usage of a number of other Council services for example Children's, Housing, and Legal services.
- 5.3 In addition, the Council has a duty of care to all Barking and Dagenham residents. This is delivered through the Adult Social Care budgets, which is NET £45,725,000 for 2012-13.
- 5.4 There are significant financial constraints and pressures on these Adults Social Care budgets and is imperative that the strategy is achieved within budget.

## 6. Legal Implications

Implications completed by: Eirini Exarchou, Lawyer

- 6.1 The Care and Support Bill, published on 11 July 2012, places adult safeguarding within a legal framework and consolidates more than a dozen different pieces of legislation into a single law for adult care and support. As a result, the status of the Adult Safeguarding Board shall be changed, placing it on a statutory footing. Each Board will be required by law to publish a strategic safeguarding plan, with a view to developing shared strategies for safeguarding, and report annually on its progress, to ensure that agencies activities are effectively co-ordinated.

## **7. Other Implications**

- 7.1 **Risk Management** - There is currently no legal obligation upon the Safeguarding Adult Board to publish an Annual Report. However, it is considered best practice and is a means of assuring the wider partnership that progress is being made against the strategic action plan.
- 7.2 **Staffing Issues** - The achievements within the Annual Report were delivered within existing Council and Partnership resources.
- 7.3 **Customer Impact** - Adults at Risk in Barking and Dagenham continue to experience abuse and neglect and so it is a key priority for the Partnership.
- 7.4 **Safeguarding Children** - Perpetrators who pose a risk to vulnerable adults often also pose a risk to children. Therefore the Board works with senior representatives from Children's Services to ensure that services are linking up wherever necessary.
- 7.5 **Health Issues** - Health and safeguarding issues are inextricably linked. By working closely with BHRUT, NELFT, NHS ONEL, and Mencap, the Safeguarding Adults Board has worked to ensure that where there is overlap between health and safeguarding issues, problems are addressed in a joined-up fashion.

Given that those with mental health and learning disability issues are often more likely to require safeguarding, the annual report outlines the steps that have been taken to continue and enhance the existing partnerships for safeguarding those with needs that could make them particularly vulnerable.

- 7.6 **Crime and Disorder Issues** - S17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 requires local authorities to integrate consideration of the impact on crime and disorder of any decision, policy, activity or strategy that it performs. The authority is required to ensure that there is no negative impact on crime and disorder of any such decisions. While an Annual Report is not currently a statutory requirement, it can be considered best practice, as it will increase confidence in the Partnership: there are no negative impacts arising from this document.

### **Background Papers Used in the Preparation of the Report:**

- Barking and Dagenham Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Vision (2009)
- Protecting adults at risk: London multi-agency policy and procedures to safeguard adults from abuse (2011)

### **List of appendices:**

Appendix 1: Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report