

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

April 2021 to March 2022

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Foreword by Deborah Stuart-Angus East Sussex SAB Independent Chair

I joined the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board in September last year, and it gave me great pleasure to be selected as the new Chair.

I applied for the role, for a very clear reason, which was to pick up from the good work and where our former Chair, Graham Bartlett, left off, and to be able to move things to the next natural point of development.

A strong foundation was and is, in place here, supported by a committed partnership with a firm desire to enhance a vibrant, local focus, symbiotic with a smart, pan-Sussex approach, and moreover, evident leadership, that warrants respect.

I have been given a very warm, true welcome and am proud to lead this Board, to continue to learn about what works well, and to discuss and develop what we can mutually build on, together. Already I am enormously proud of our industrious and diligent Safeguarding Adults Review Group; the real, fruitful outcomes from our Quality and Performance Group and the ease of working with our joint Policy and Procedures Group. Our work is set out in the [Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024](#), which we have already added to, by introducing a quality assurance framework for our SARs; initiating the development of a protocol to share with our Coroner; jointly working with the Boards of West Sussex and Brighton and Hove, to improve the lives of vulnerable people and guests in this country, with accommodation and resettling issues; developing our policies and procedures to ensure independence in our review processes; and working to learn from our partners, how improvement is actually embedded into our safeguarding practices - to name but a few key areas of our focus.

I hope that going through this Report you learn more about the sheer scope and importance of our activity and thank you for taking the time to do so. I think you will find, it is readable, comprehensive, and thorough, clearly reflecting the huge amount of work that takes place every day, by many people across our County, who safeguard others who have care and support needs.

I thank this partnership and I praise the teams who contribute, with their dedication, their resilience and moreover, their compassion.

I look forward to the year ahead, to continuing to take our Board forward, and to supporting our membership in the challenges they face when enabling others to live lives, free from abuse and neglect.

Deborah Stuart-Angus

Independent Chair, East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board

Our Role and Purpose

The East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is a multi-agency statutory partnership which provides leadership and strategic oversight of adult safeguarding work across East Sussex. The Board brings together partner agencies who have a responsibility for adult safeguarding and comprises of a core membership of statutory partners from East Sussex County Council (ESCC), NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and Sussex Police. Additional members from a range of organisations, including community and voluntary agencies and lay members, are represented on the Board to reflect that safeguarding activity and interventions can only be effective where there is collaboration and shared commitment. A full list of the partners of the East Sussex SAB is given at Appendix 1.

The work of the SAB is underpinned by the Care Act 2014, which sets out that we are required to:

- Develop and publish a **Strategic Plan** setting out how we will meet our objectives and how our partner agencies will contribute to this.
- Publish an annual report detailing how effective our work has been.
- Arrange for Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) to be undertaken when the criteria under section 44 of the Care Act are considered to have been met.

The East Sussex SAB is led by our Independent Chair, Deborah Stuart-Angus, and supported by a SAB Development Manager, a shared Quality Assurance and Learning Development Officer post, a Safeguarding Coordinator and a part-time Administrator. The Board meets four times a year and is supported by a range of subgroups which are crucial in ensuring that the priorities set out in the Strategic Plan are delivered. Each subgroup has a work plan which details the areas of focus for the financial year and is regularly updated with specific actions and timescales. These subgroups ensure that the work of the Board really makes a difference to local safeguarding practice, and to the outcomes adults and their carers wish to achieve. A diagram outlining our Board structure can be found at Appendix 2.



Our Vision is for all agencies to work together and effectively build resilience and empower communities in responding to abuse, neglect and exploitation, and to widely promote the message that safeguarding is everybody's business in that:

- Abuse is not tolerated.
- People know what to do if abuse happens.
- People and organisations are proactive in working together to respond effectively to abuse.

Our Purpose



It is important to note that the SAB is not involved in operational practice. Our overarching purpose is to ensure that agencies work in partnership to deliver joined-up services that safeguard adults with care and support needs from abuse, neglect and exploitation. We do this by:

- Gaining assurance that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act and its statutory guidance.
- Working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect, where possible.
- Ensuring partner agencies are effective when abuse and neglect has occurred and give timely and proportionate responses.
- Gaining assurance that the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) are central to safeguarding, and practice is person-centred and outcome focused.
- Striving for continuous improvement in safeguarding practice and supporting partner agencies to embed learning from local and national SARs, other learning reviews and multi-agency audits.

Partnership Working

The SAB has formal links with a number of other strategic partnerships in East Sussex, including the East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership, Safer Communities Partnership, Children and Young People's Trust, the East Sussex Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse Management Oversight Group and the Health and Wellbeing Board. In addition, the Board maintains links with Sussex-wide and national networks and forums including:

- National Network for Chairs of SABs.
- National SAB Managers Network.
- South-East Regional SAB Network.
- Sussex Anti-Slavery Network.

The Board works closely with the neighbouring Brighton & Hove and West Sussex SABs, and many of our policies and procedures are adopted on a pan-Sussex basis.

Our Strategic Priorities 2021-2024

Accountability and Leadership

Ensure the SAB provides strategic leadership to embed the principles of safeguarding, and contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect

Performance, Quality and Audit, and Organisational Learning

To ensure learning from reviews is effectively embedded into practice and to facilitate organisational change across agencies.

Policies and Procedures

Have assurance that multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures are regularly reviewed and reflect up to date legal frameworks, policy and guidance, and that these are easily accessible and used effectively by frontline staff.

Prevention, Engagement and Making Safeguarding Personal

To ensure adults, carers and the local community as well as professionals shape the work of the SAB and safeguarding responses.

Integration, and Training and workforce development

To ensure the workforce is equipped to support adults appropriately where abuse and neglect are suspected.

SAB Budget



Our statutory partners contribute annually to the SAB budget and running of the Board, for example by offering to chair meetings and co-deliver training.

Income for 2021 - 2022

East Sussex County Council	£69,300
NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group	£30,000
Sussex Police	£12,000
East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust	£10,000
East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service	£5,500
20/21 Carry forward	£8,593
BHCC contributions	£14,546
WSCC contributions	£83
Total	£150,022

Expenditure for 2021 - 2022

SAB Independent Chair	£22,382
SAB Development Manager	£63,548
QA LD Officer and Admin Staff costs	£33,119
Mobile and Staff Training costs	£192
SAB Website Licence and Training	£1,236
Multi-Agency Training	£744
SARs/Multi-Agency Reviews	£8809
Total	£130,030

Safeguarding Adults during the COVID-19 Pandemic



The **Social Care Institute for Excellence** (SCIE) reported in February 2022 that COVID-19 will continue to be part of our lives for the foreseeable future and as infection rates remain high, disruption to people's lives will continue.

Adults who need care and support may be targeted at this time because of a number of factors. Generally speaking they may need assistance with some tasks, be less up to speed with technology, more welcoming of new contacts, more trusting and – for many older people – wealthier. There is evidence that social isolation increases the likelihood of abuse. Many older and disabled people spend long periods at home alone under normal circumstances and will continue to do so even as the restrictions lift. People who are more vulnerable to COVID-19 may not feel safe or ready to mix more freely.

Many people with care and support needs will be supported either in the family home or by residential and nursing care services. It could be argued that these people will be better shielded from abuse but national statistics show high incidence of abuse where the abuser is a family member or the paid care provider. Those living alone in the community, who continue to be isolated, may be a particular target for scammers and fraudsters.

The coronavirus pandemic led to unprecedented challenges and put adult safeguarding in a position of greater importance than ever before. Over the past year the SAB has continued to seek assurance from our partner agencies about responses to COVID-19, and undertaken work to ensure services have been, and continue to be, supported to respond to emerging safeguarding themes.

Over the past year, all SAB meetings and multi-agency training have been held remotely and we have seen an increase in engagement given the efficiencies that virtual meetings create.

East Sussex Adult Social Care and Health have and continue to provide **COVID-19 updates** for adult social care providers – these have included:

- Information on testing, test and trace, vaccinations, personal protective equipment (PPE) and infection control.
- Advice for personal assistants on COVID-19 and how to look after their clients safely.
- Resources to assist providers in supporting social care clients and carers affected by COVID-19.
- COVID-19 information specific to care homes.

- Training related to COVID-19 and national guidance.
- COVID-19 guidance for home care workers and providers.
- Recruitment and wellbeing resources for providers.
- COVID 19 adult social care provider email bulletin.

In May 2021, the SAB produced a Multi-Agency COVID-19 Safeguarding Assurance Interim Report which included a survey on the Impact of COVID-19 upon safeguarding practice with partner agencies.

Good practice was identified and shared through the SAB Performance and Quality Assurance subgroup. Some examples are listed below:

SPFT produced and widely circulated safeguarding briefing documents relevant to COVID-19 to staff and introduced domestic abuse training as mandatory for all clinical staff which supported the anticipated increase in levels of domestic abuse.

The ASCH Market Support Team worked closely with the CQC to identify and support care providers with prevention work. The aim of Market Support is to promote the efficient and effective operation of the local care and support market ensuring there is a sufficient supply of sustainable, good quality care and support services and resources.

Sussex CCG staff provided emergency cover to a care home severely affected by COVID-19, preventing closure and used their position in the Mass Vaccination Cell to highlight the needs of people rough sleeping, and those with learning disabilities and supported GPs in the consideration of how to prioritise these groups.

A number of local authority staff were re-deployed into various roles during the Pandemic for example: moving into direct caring roles within the Joint Community Rehabilitation Team which provided home support for adults who had been discharged early from Hospital, supporting the coordination of food box delivery to those who were clinically vulnerable or coordinating the distribution of PPE clothing.

Key Achievements 2021 – 22



Accountability and leadership:

- The SAB has continued to support the Modern Slavery agenda. Multi-Agency Modern Slavery guidance was published in January 2022 which raised awareness of modern slavery and human trafficking amongst partner agencies of the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and helped agencies to recognise modern slavery and have the confidence to report suspected cases.

The SAB contributed to the East Sussex County Council Modern Slavery statement, outlining details of victim support and protection available locally. This annual statement outlines the steps an organisation has taken to address modern slavery in their operations and supply chains.

- A revised self-assessment tool was devised which was more proportionate and enabled partners to provide more qualitative responses to support rigorous peer challenge. The information collated will be used to inform the forthcoming ESSAB Learning Event in 2022.
- The **Multi-Agency Risk Management Protocol** (MARM) was launched in January 2021 and is designed to provide guidance for practitioners on working adults with multiple complex needs and managing cases in which there is a high level of risk, but where the circumstances may sit outside the statutory safeguarding framework. The MARM group includes representation from East Sussex SAB partners and the voluntary and statutory sector. The group has the authority to use resources and make decisions to proactively support adults with multiple disadvantages and mitigate risks.
- To facilitate joint working across the partnerships a **Partnership Protocol** was developed and intended to support effective joint working between the following strategic partnership boards ('the partnerships') in East Sussex:

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board

East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership

East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership Board

East Sussex Children and Young Peoples Trust

These partnerships are committed to ensuring that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and to working together at every level to keep people in East Sussex safe from harm and abuse, and to improve health and wellbeing.

- The East Sussex SAB developed the **Financial Abuse Multi-Agency guidance** and accompanying documents to support practitioners in achieving co-ordinated multi-agency responses to financial abuse and to improve engagement and achieve positive outcomes for adults who experience financial abuse.
- Learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews: a multi-agency approach - a free interactive online conference chaired by Graham Bartlett took place on 26th May 2021. This was followed by interactive expert-led workshops on Trauma Informed Practice, Mental Capacity Act and Inherent Jurisdiction and Professional Curiosity. The event was attended by 250 professionals across both B&H and East Sussex.
- A bi-annual subgroup chairs' meeting now takes place with the aim of strengthening links and communication across the SAB's subgroups, and opportunities for peer support and reciprocal challenge.



Policies and procedures:

- The three Sussex SABs produced the **Sussex Safeguarding Adults Thresholds Guidance** to assist practitioners and providers across all agencies in considering risk relating to potential safeguarding concerns involving adults with care and support needs. The new guidance enables safeguarding concerns to be reported when it is appropriate to do so and in a consistent way. It provides a framework for multi-agency partners to manage risk and to assist in identifying whether abuse and or neglect is taking place, and if a safeguarding concern needs to be referred to the local authority or whether alternative actions should be considered.
- In 2021-22 the Policies and Procedures review group agreed that some areas of the policy and procedures needed review and revision following the last substantive update provided in 2019, when the self-neglect procedures were launched. It was agreed that different Local Authority areas would lead on completing certain updates and these would be added to the online procedures. This work will continue in 2022/23.



Performance, quality and audit, and organisational learning:

- Further to an audit undertaken in 2019 in relation to young people at risk of exploitation, a working group was established in 2021 to review transitions between children's and adults' services. The project identified gaps in information sharing, provision and services for those young adults who may not have specific care and support needs, but who experience continuing risks and needs regarding child criminal and sexual exploitation.



The ESSAB worked on a proposal to strengthen pathways across services and this was shared with ASCH Operational Teams in 2021. This work will be progressed in 2022/23 in conjunction with the East Sussex Safeguarding Children's Partnership.

- Following the recommendations outlined in the **Adult C SAR** published in December 2020 the action plan contained 16 recommendations with a number of associated actions. Actions completed in 2021 included:
 - The launch of the Multi-Agency Risk Management **Protocol** (MARM) and associated guidance on Assessing and Supporting People with Multiple Complex Needs in December - for practitioners working adults with multiple complex needs and managing cases in which there is a high level of risk.
 - Housing needs managers from each District and Borough Council provided assurance that their current processes have been updated to reflect their responsibilities in regard to the implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act (HRA) in July 2021.
 - Reassurance was provided to the SAB in January 2021 in relation to trauma-informed support within refuge and supported accommodation services and updates on arrangements for women's accommodation across Sussex from the National Probation Service. The short sentence function design for women will result in staff placed both in prisons and the community working collaboratively with commissioned and voluntary services to offer wrap around accommodation support which can give women the best opportunities for successful resettlement from prison.
 - Multi-agency domestic abuse guidance was developed and published in December 2021. The guidance specifically covered a number of areas including responsibilities of reporting which may breach client confidentiality, effective information sharing, case coordination including the role of the lead professional and supporting agencies to effectively and routinely capture and record information that can support evidence-led prosecutions.
- An audit of cases to establish the extent to which a multi-agency approach is effective in supporting women with multiple complex needs who experience domestic violence and abuse will take place this summer and findings will be reported to the SAB in October. This will conclude the recommendations set out in the Adult C action plan.

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)

SABs have a statutory duty under the Care Act 2014 to undertake Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs). This is when:

- An adult dies as a result of abuse or neglect (including death by suicide), whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.
- An adult is still alive but has experienced serious abuse or neglect, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.

SABs can undertake reviews in any other circumstance where an adult has care and support needs.

The purpose of a SAR is set out in the [Sussex SAR Protocol](#), namely to look at the ways professionals and agencies work together to determine what might have been done differently that could have prevented harm or death. It is not an enquiry into how a person died, nor is it to apportion blame; but to learn from such situations, and to ensure that any learning is applied to future cases to reduce the likelihood of similar harm occurring again.

- During 2021 – 22, the East Sussex SAB received six new referrals for SARs. Of these three have progressed to full SARs and are expected to be concluded by the end of 2022.
- SAR Anna was published in May 2022 and SAR Ben and the Thematic SAR are due to be published in the summer . All three Reviews have action plans which will be progressed over the forthcoming year.

Learning themes from these SARs include:



Absence of formal planning meetings involving front line staff and the need for the role of multi-disciplinary planning meetings to be promoted especially in complex and challenging cases



An understanding of how legal interventions can be used to better protect vulnerable adults and the need to raise awareness of the role of the Court of Protection.



The effectiveness of how each member agency has achieved organisational change and understanding from SARs, as well as implementing their recommendations.



Seeking assurance from agencies of the provision of training provided for staff and the need for multi-agency training.



Assurance that transitional safeguarding processes are meeting the needs of people who have had adverse childhood experiences but are struggling to engage with services, are met after they reach the age of 18 years old.

- The SAR Subgroup continued with its arrangements to share learning across review processes with its meetings receiving updates on Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and from the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review Programme and more recently an update on the Drug and Alcohol Related Deaths enquiry in 2022.
- There are some parallels and themes in terms of learning and in 2022/23 the DHR and SAR action plans will be analysed to identify opportunities to combine joint learning and reduce the potential of duplicating activity.

SAR Anna

- **SAR Anna** was published in May 2021. This review examined the circumstances leading up to the death of an 85-year-old woman who died in hospital of natural causes, but her condition on admission had raised concerns because it was noted that Anna had multiple bruises and skin tears over several parts of her body. Previously, safeguarding referrals were raised between 2016 and 2019, when she had been in residential care, but had later returned to live with her daughter – five months before Anna's death.

A Review was commissioned to understand if lessons could be learnt by organisations who supported Anna, particularly in how the way agencies worked together: to evaluate and understand coercion and control and protect potential victims of domestic abuse. It was felt that the circumstances relating to Anna's death had some similarities with a previous SAR, (Adult B) published by the SAB in February 2020, and that this Review should also explore the extent to which previous learning had been embedded into practice. The SAB has accepted the findings in relation to SAR Anna, produced a formal response to the review and developed an action plan to address the learning and support improvements to services.



Integration, and training and workforce development:

- With the outbreak of the coronavirus pandemic in March 2020 until 2022, all SAB multi-agency face-to-face training was put on hold. However, the Training and Workforce Development Subgroup has used creative ways to engage with the workforce to deliver training and reflective workshops, and over the past year set up several working groups to review the options for delivering our multi-agency training programme remotely via webinars or MS Teams.
- As practitioners are dealing with increasingly complex and challenging safeguarding cases, the benefits of multi-agency training are significant, and create opportunities for increased collaboration and partnership, along with improved understanding of different roles and responsibilities.

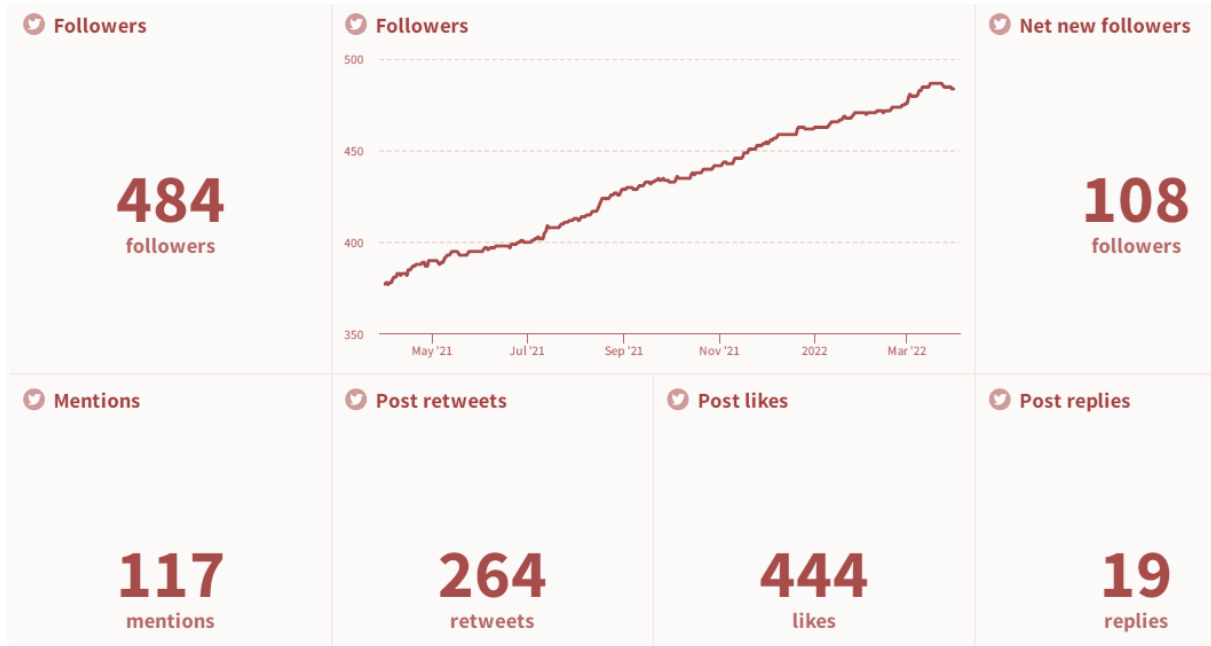
The SAB training programme is linked to our priorities, and over this last year has included the following workshops:

- Modern slavery and human trafficking.
 - Adopting a Whole Family Approach to Domestic Abuse and Promoting Safety
 - Mental Capacity Act 2005: A multi-agency approach to complex cases.
 - Self-neglect.
 - Coercion and control.
- Adult Social Care and Health (ASCH) runs additional safeguarding training, including e-learning and virtual awareness and refresher courses. All our courses can be booked via the [East Sussex Learning Portal](#) and are available to SAB partner agencies and provider services in East Sussex.
 - The TWD Subgroup has produced an action plan to map progress against priorities in the Learning and Development Strategy, which will inform work to develop the new three-year strategy for 2022 - 2025.
 - An action plan was completed to ensure the findings and learning from the University of Sussex project report 'Organisational Learning from Research and SARs in Self-Neglect' inform developments in practice.
 - The TWD Subgroup have kept informed on developments with Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) and will ensure training programmes are developed ahead of future implementation which is due to take place in 2023.



Prevention, engagement and Making Safeguarding Personal

- The SAB has continued to use social media to communicate to both professionals and the public, sharing posts, supporting partner and national campaigns and offering general guidance. We have significantly increased our Twitter followers over the past year and will strive to grow our followers in 22/23.



- Our East Sussex SAB website received 17,375 visits between March 2021 and April 2022. The most popular page visited within the website was '[What is Safeguarding / How to raise a concern](#)' receiving 1,880 views closely followed by 1,335 visits to the ESSAB SAR publications and 1,195 visits to the guidance and resource section. The average time a user spent on a page within the ESSAB website was 01:47 minutes and a total of 1,524 documents were downloaded from the website.
- The SAB produced quarterly [e-newsletters](#) during 2021 – 22 to share news about the work of the Board, learning from SARs and audits, and adult safeguarding information. In 2022 we developed and now publish a SAB Monthly Digest which ensures information, consultations and events are promoted in a timelier manner to SAB members and their respective workforce.
- The SAB has continued work towards increasing feedback from adults and carers on their experience of safeguarding interventions. The Safeguarding Development Team has updated questionnaire templates and is offering different options for adults to share their views to ensure the process is accessible to everyone.



A phased feedback proposal was developed during 2021 – 22 to explore the role that Healthwatch and other partner agencies can play in supporting mechanisms to increase feedback rates and offer creative ways for people to engage in this process.



Learning from complaints

The total number of new complaints received by Adult Social Care & Health (ASCH) in 2021 - 2022 was 342.

Of these, 15 directly related to safeguarding, this is 4.5% of the total complaints received and compares to 12 (5%) complaints received in relation to safeguarding in 2020 – 2021.

The outcome of the 15 complaints directly relating to safeguarding can be broken down as follows:

- Not upheld = 9
- Partially Upheld = 3
- No outcome recorded = 3

Learning and actions from the 15 complaints directly relating to safeguarding are:

- The provider continues to discuss policy with staff and has implemented further manual handling training.
- Apology given for staff member being late for an appointment.
- Apology given that it was not explained that some concerns were more appropriately dealt with through the care management process, rather than safeguarding.
- Support to be provided around the redaction of safeguarding reports and that the report has been redacted is explained to the recipient of the report.

A complex complaint that was directly related to safeguarding that was initially received in August 2020, went to the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman (LGSCO) in June 2021. Following their investigation the LGSCO found fault with ASCH handling of the safeguarding enquiry, and this resulted in the following learning and actions:

- Provide an apology for the faults identified, the distress these have caused, and the time and trouble that had to be spent to pursue these matters subsequently with the Council.
- Pay £500.
- Discuss the lessons learned with those involved in investigating safeguarding concerns.
- To review its safeguarding procedures so as to ensure that the Council will always consider and record whether those involved in investigating a safeguarding issue will be independent enough.

Priorities 2022 – 23

In April 2021, the East Sussex SAB published its [Strategic Plan for 2021 – 24](#).

The key priority areas identified for the SAB in 2021 – 22 continue to be priority areas of development and require further embedding within safeguarding practice for 2022/23. Recommendations from recent reviews: SAR Ben, SAR Anna and the Thematic SAR identified the same priority areas for further learning and assurance activity. They are:



Embedding the Mental Capacity Act in practice



Safeguarding transitions for young people at risk



Supporting adults who face multiple disadvantage

Some of our specific objectives for 2022/2023 include:

- Developing one SAR Action plan which contains common themes, shared learning and opportunities to collaborate with other similar processes for example Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs) and Drug and Alcohol Related Death (DARD) enquiries to avoid duplication of learning and improve cross communication between the different review processes.
- Develop and hold an ESSAB Learning Event with the purpose of:
 1. Embedding and promoting a safeguarding culture throughout the organisation in line with the Care Act 2014 and Sussex Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.
 2. Understanding how learning from SARs, other SAB reviews and multi-agency audits drive improvements internally and across the partnership.
 3. Identifying what processes are used to ensure that learning from SAB activities is embedded across the workforce to improve practice and outcomes for adults.

- Work will be undertaken to evaluate whether policies, procedures and pathways for convening multi-agency risk management meetings are adequate and multi-agency meetings are used and are effective in coordinating responses in complex and challenging case when undertaking safeguarding work with vulnerable adults. SAR Ben and SAR Anna both identified this as an area for development.
- The Thematic Review identified the need to ensure transitional safeguarding processes are meeting the needs of people who have had adverse childhood experiences but are struggling to engage with services, are met after they reach the age of 18 years old. This work will be progressed in 2022/23 in conjunction with the East Sussex Safeguarding Children's Partnership.
- Explore how a strategic assessment of safeguarding activity and use of partnership data can inform future safeguarding priorities, learning and practice and compliment the learning identified within SAR reviews. A strategic assessment will support the development of a new Strategic Plan for 2024-2027.
- A review of the MARM process. The review will consider the themes from referrals, emerging issues and the chairing arrangements. Statutory agencies will be requested to seek feedback from individuals with lived experience of their support. This will help to identify outcomes as part of the review of the pilot.
- Developing more accessible and engaging learning materials such as podcasts/webinars for practitioners who may have reduced capacity to attend learning events. By developing alternative options for sharing information and learning means we are able to reach a large number of people at the same time, are cost effective and learners can take in the information at a more convenient time for themselves.

Our Data



The Care Act 2014 sets out our statutory duties and responsibilities for safeguarding adults including the requirement to undertake enquiries under section 42 of the Act. Below is a summary of key safeguarding activity during 2021 – 22 for both concerns raised and enquiries undertaken by Adult Social Care and Health (ASCH) in East Sussex County Council.

Summary of Data findings

The shift in patterns of social behaviour due to Covid Pandemic restrictions changing has had a significant impact on services and data recording. For example in line with further restrictions being removed data has reflected a decrease in the location of abuse within the home and an increase in community settings.

East Sussex has a population of 26.1% aged 65¹. This means that there is a higher percentage of the population locally, compared to the national figure who will have, or will develop, care and support needs.

In 2021-2022 Safeguarding activity increased for some agencies:

- Adult Social Care and Health (ASCH) experienced a 15.6% increase in safeguarding contacts received which builds on the trend from last year when there was a 13.5% increase.
- Operation Signature had an increase in fraud related crimes reported. Reports show a total loss of £23.05 million to vulnerable victims of fraud in 2021-2022, with the average loss where recorded being £15,000 per victim. This is an increase on the previous year which totalled £6.87 million with an average loss per victim of £15,048 per victim.
- Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT) has had an increase of 40% in the total number of Safeguarding concerns raised when compared to last year. Neglect as a category of concern continues to increase with a 24% increase from last year.
- East Sussex Healthcare Trust (ESHT) has an increase of 47.1% in Safeguarding Concerns raised by in comparison to last year.

Safeguarding activity reduced overall for some agencies in 2021-22 compared to 2020-21:

There was a small .4% (47 less) reduction in the total number of Vulnerable Adult at Risk (VAAR) referrals raised by Sussex Police in comparison to the same data for the previous year.

¹ Data extracted from East Sussex in Figures, June 2020

The number of Home Safety Visit referrals received from Adult Social Care to East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service declined by 37% compared to the previous year.

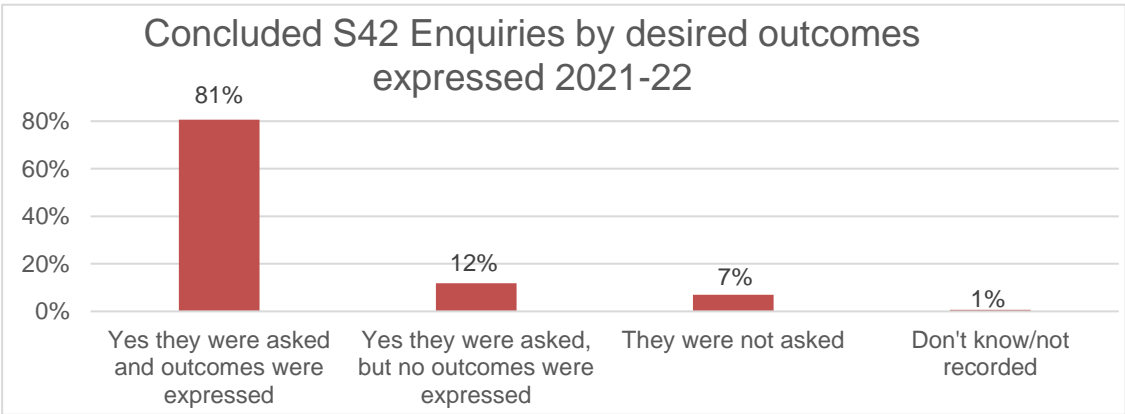
Within ASCH data

- There has been an increase of enquiries with the Primary Category of Domestic Abuse which increases each year and this year is 18% higher than the previous financial year. This trend is noticeable significant as it is higher than the National Average which is 9%.
- Physical Abuse enquiries are lower this year by 4% than the previous year and lower than the National Average which is 27%.
- There is a marked increase of 4% in the reported risk source being Social Care staff.
- Within East Sussex 1.7% of the population identify as Asian/Asian British. This ethnic group has the highest number of cases open for over 91 days (29%) and data also shows that this ethnic group has the lowest number of requests for Outcomes asked.
- 0.6% of the population within East Sussex identify as Black or Black British. This ethnic group is recorded as having the lowest percent (0%) of risk removed.

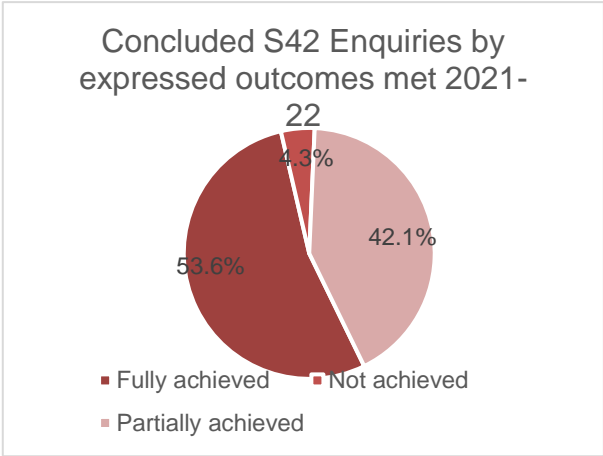
Analysing safeguarding data - Please note that as data sets are refreshed and cleansed on a regular basis through the year, noting for example when an enquiry is closed, then there will be minor variations in the figures depending upon the data a report is created.

Outcomes achieved through safeguarding

- **Expressed and achieved desired outcomes** -This past year saw an increase from last year of 87% to 93% of the proportion of adults who were asked for their desired outcomes. From this 81% of cases expressed an outcome which is a 5% increase from last year.



Outcomes identified by the adult concerned were either 'Fully' or 'Partially Achieved' in 95.7% of cases; this is an increase from 2020-21 (95.5%). Adults whose outcomes were 'Fully Achieved' has increased slightly from 52.4% in 2020-21 to 53.6%.

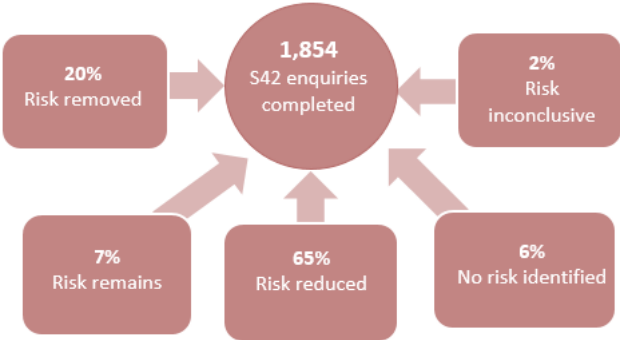


There will be cases where outcomes will not have been achieved - where desired outcomes are beyond the remit and control of the enquiry, or where the situation has changed from the initial desired outcomes that were recorded.

Impact on risk

Effectiveness of S42 enquiries in reducing risk

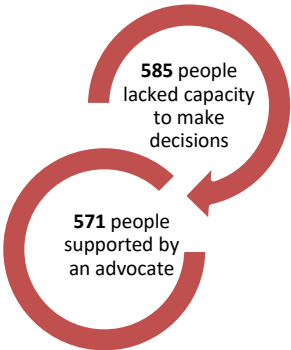
88% of S42 enquiries identified a risk to the adult and action was taken. In 94% of these cases, the risk was either reduced or removed completely, this is an increase from last year (92%). There has been a decrease from 8% to 7% in the proportion of cases where risk was identified and remained.



Support for adults at risk who lack capacity to make informed decisions

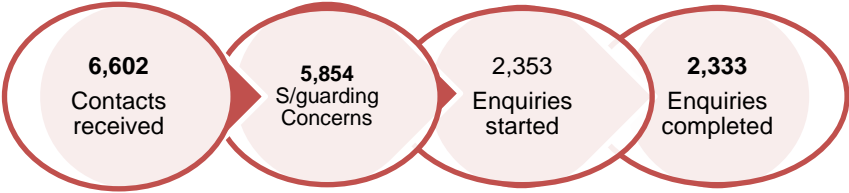
One of the key objectives for the SAB is to Make Safeguarding Personal. Adults should be able to inform wherever possible how safeguarding support can improve their outcomes. Appropriate support is needed therefore for those who may lack capacity to make safeguarding decisions for themselves.

In 2020-21, **97.6%** of all adults who lacked capacity received support, either by family or friends or via a referral to POHWER for advocacy support. This is an increase from 96.8% in 2020-21 and is higher than the national average of 80.6% as reported in the NHS digital for 2020-21.

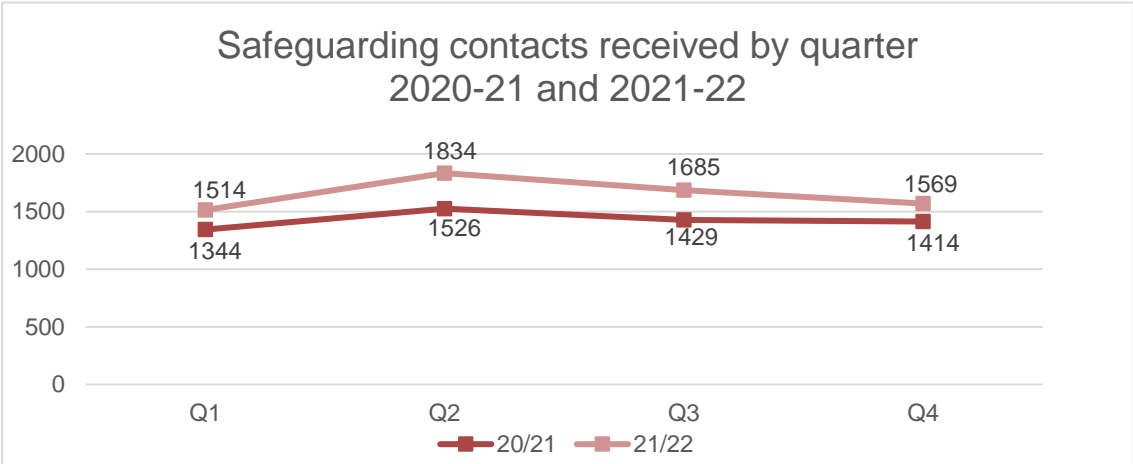


Safeguarding Contacts

During 2021-20 ASCH received 6,602 safeguarding contacts, a 15.6% increase from 5,713 in 2020 – 21. Both years follow very similar trends with increases in Q2.



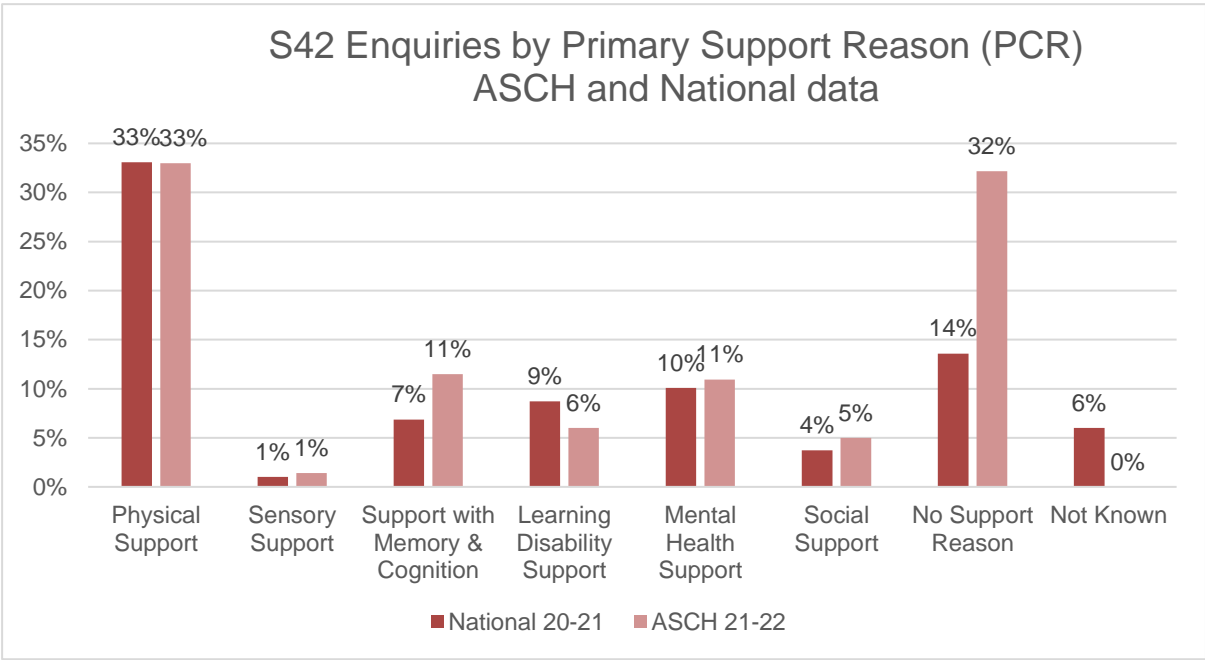
Of the total contacts received in 2021 – 22, 5,854 (89%) were considered safeguarding concerns which is an increase of 3% from last year.



- 40% of Safeguarding Concerns are converted to Enquiries. This is higher than the national average of 34%² and the same as 2020-21. Initial analysis of the rate of conversion from safeguarding concerns to enquiries indicates that some safeguarding concerns are being dealt with but are not triggering a S42 process or the opening of a safeguarding episode; also some safeguarding enquiries are being undertaken but are being recorded in a different way.
- Some improvements in recording took place in 2019-20 but further analysis is being undertaken by the Safeguarding Development Team which may lead to additional work to improve the recording of safeguarding activity to ensure all enquiries are captured.

² NHS Digital, sourced from the Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) report,

Safeguarding enquiries by primary support reason



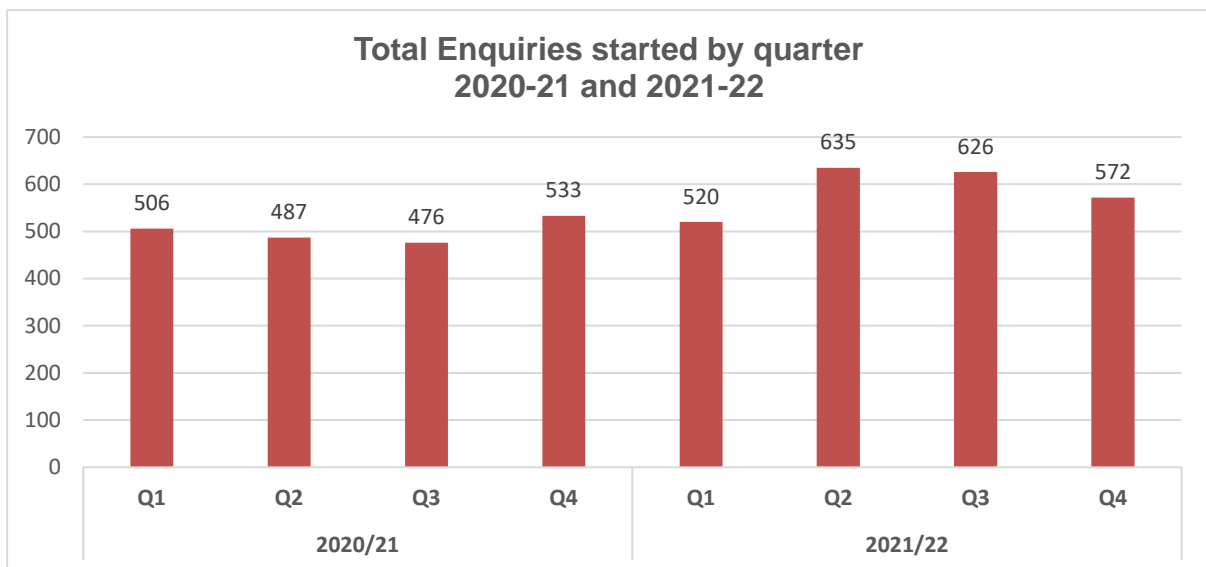
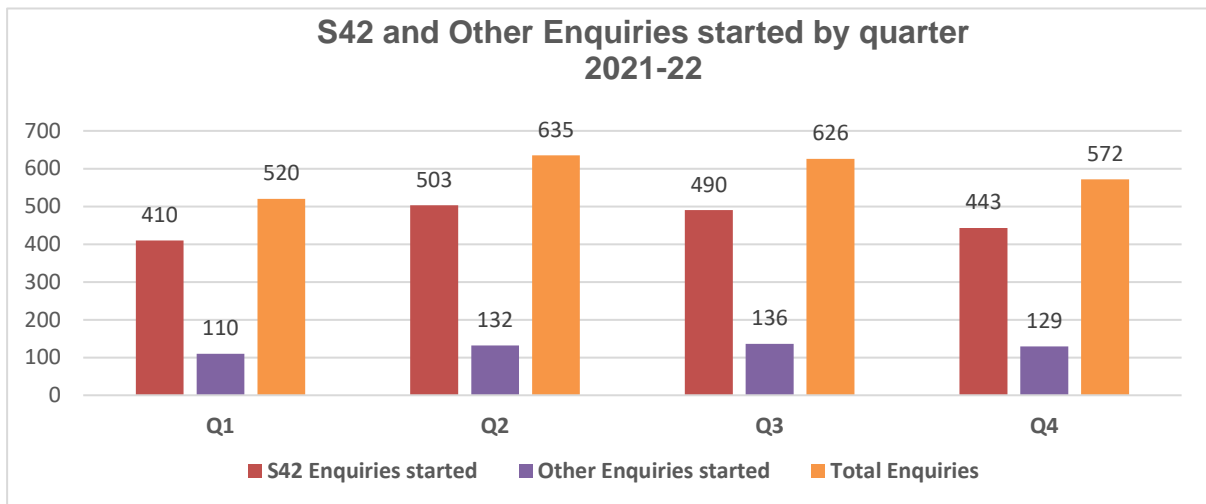
The above chart shows a breakdown of S42 safeguarding enquiries by Primary Support Reason (PSR) for 2021-22, with a comparison with the national data for 2020-21.

- The percentage of enquiries recording no PSR remains high in comparison with the national data. Guidance issued in relation to the 2018 Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) return clarified that authorities are expected to determine PSRs through a social care assessment or review and record this on the relevant local system.
- It is not expected that authorities will assess PSRs as part of the safeguarding process. Therefore, safeguarding enquiries relating to adults who are not already recorded on the East Sussex Adult Social Care & Health system may not have a PSR recorded. As part of the end of year collation for the SAC return, previously determined PSRs are used for any cases with no current PSR.

Safeguarding Enquiries Opened

The next chart shows the number of safeguarding enquiries, including S42 and other enquiries, opened in each quarter, in 2021-22. There was a significant increase in the number of opened S42 and other enquiries in Q2 and Q3 with a slight dip in Q4. This reflects the 15.6% increase in safeguarding contacts received by ASCH.

The table below shows lower activity for enquiries started in 2020/21 compared to 2021/22.

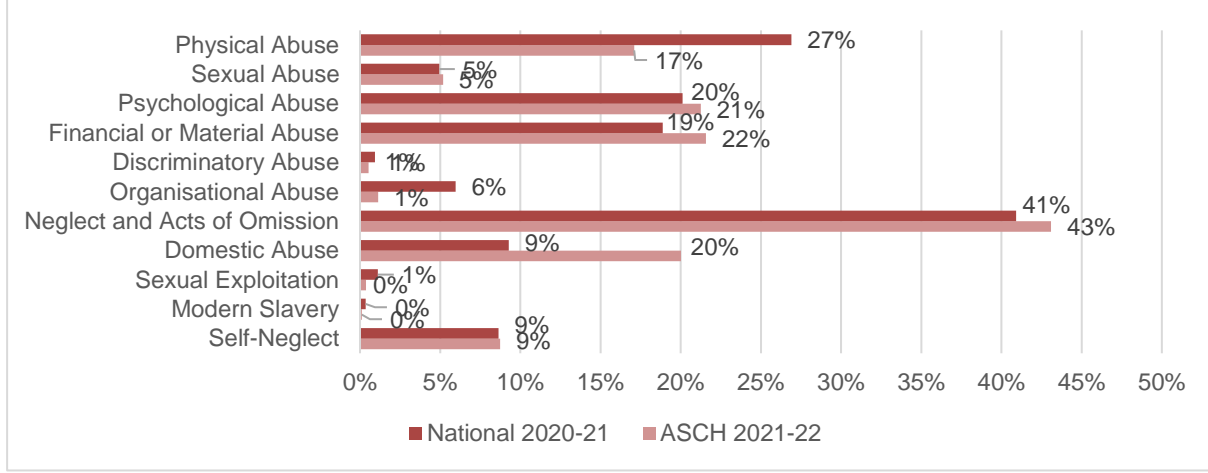


Types of abuse

Concluded Section 42 enquiries by type of abuse

The following table below shows a breakdown of concluded S42 enquiries in the period 1st April 2021 – 31st March 2022, by type of abuse, including a comparison with the national data in the NHS Digital SAC report for 2020-21.

Concluded S42 Enquiries by abuse types - ASCH and National Data

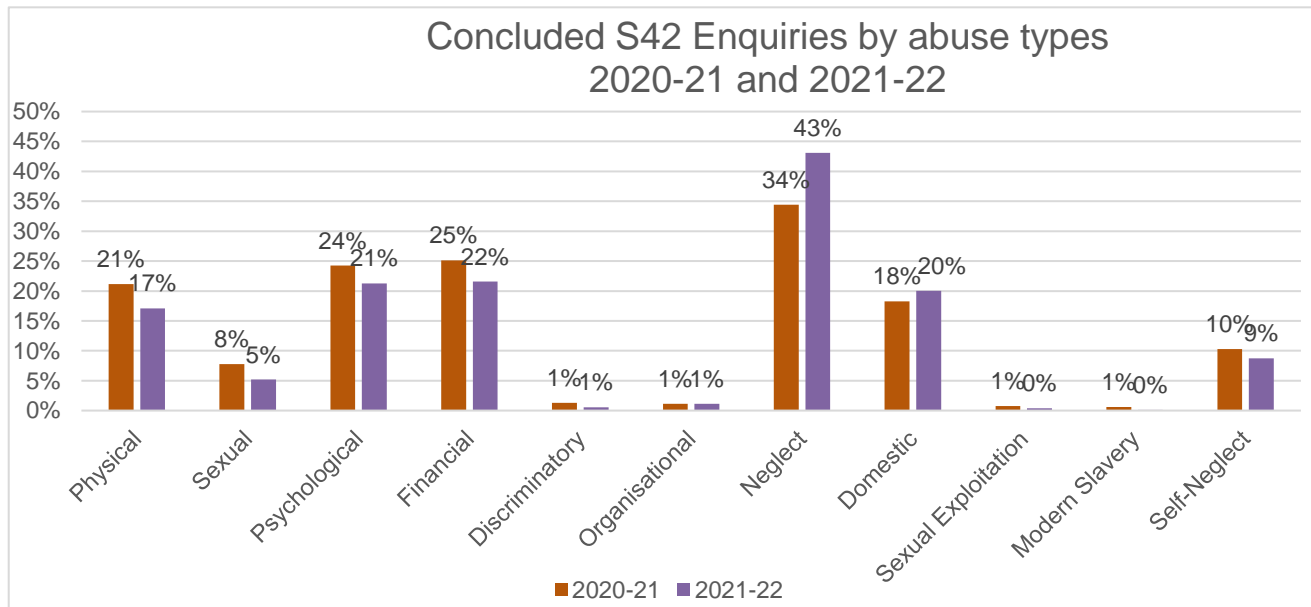


Source: NHS Digital: Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) England 2020-21 and ASCH.

Please note that the comparison with national data is the most recently available data which covers the 2020-21 period. National data for 2021-22 will be published later this year following the SAC submission in June 22.

This data represents a percentage and not a count; the figure is affected by the prevalence of other abuse types; an increase in the percentage does not necessarily mean an increase in occurrence.

Concluded S42 Enquiries by abuse types 2020-21 and 2021-22



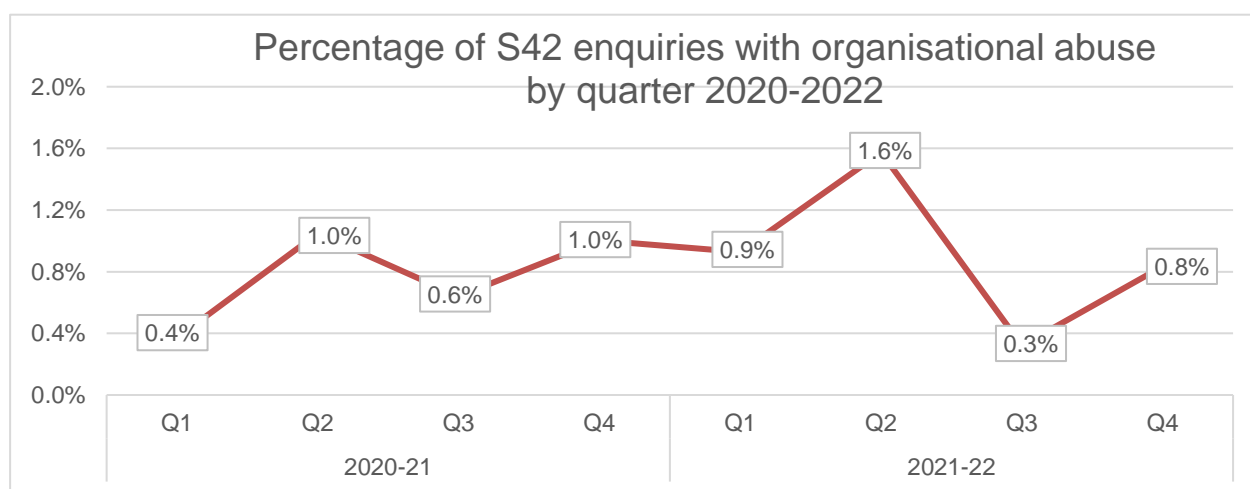
- In 2021-22, 43.3% of all S42 enquiries undertaken included neglect. This is 8.9% higher than the previous year.
- Financial Abuse is still the second most common form of abuse reported; however, this has decreased slightly from 2020-21 (25% to 22%). Psychological Abuse is the second most common form reported but this has decreased from 24% to 21%.

- Domestic Abuse has increased from 18% in 2020-21 to 20% in 2021-22 and is significantly higher than the national average of 9%.
- There is a decrease of 4% of Physical Abuse type which is lower than the 2021-21 national average of 27%.

The total types of abuse will exceed the total completed enquiries as some enquiries involve multiple types of abuse. Percentages are rounded to the nearest whole number. The proportion of total enquiries relating to Organisational Abuse is an issue that has been highlighted in previous reports and it was agreed that the Performance Quality Assurance (PQA) subgroup would keep this under review.

The chart below shows the variation in the percentage of Organisational Abuse enquiries over the last two years. The proportion of enquiries locally relating to Organisational Abuse is again relatively low in comparison with national data, which is 6%. The data for the percentage of total S42 enquiries classified as Organisational Abuse varies significantly across different local authorities and an average does not indicate a normal rate that can be set as a target rate.

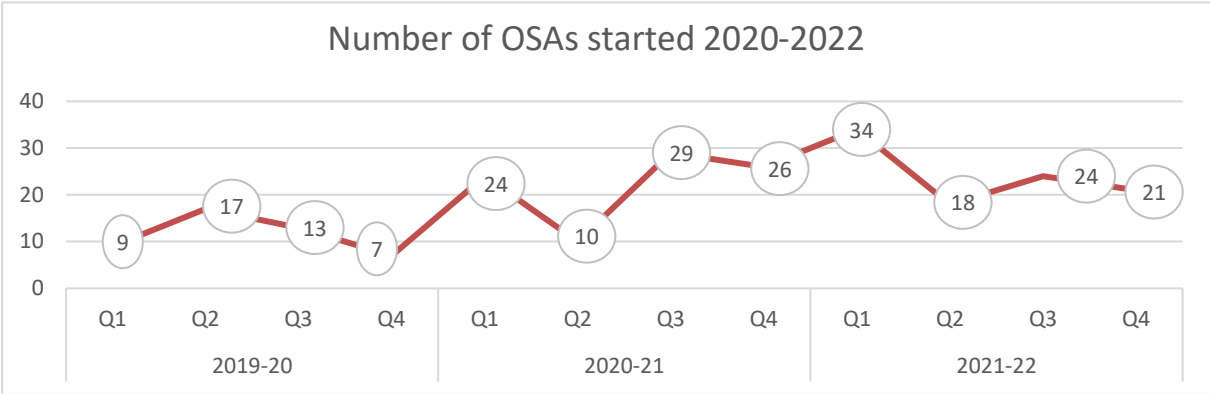
Please note that the table below depicts the number of S42 enquiries that relate to Organisational Abuse which is a different data set to the number of organisations that are subject to an Organisational Safeguarding Adults (OSA) enquiry.



The ASCH local reporting system has been updated to improve the mechanism to cross reference records to identify if an organisation involved in one safeguarding enquiry are, or have been, involved in other safeguarding enquiries relating to different adults and/or teams. This should increase identification, or instances, when there should be consideration of an OSA.

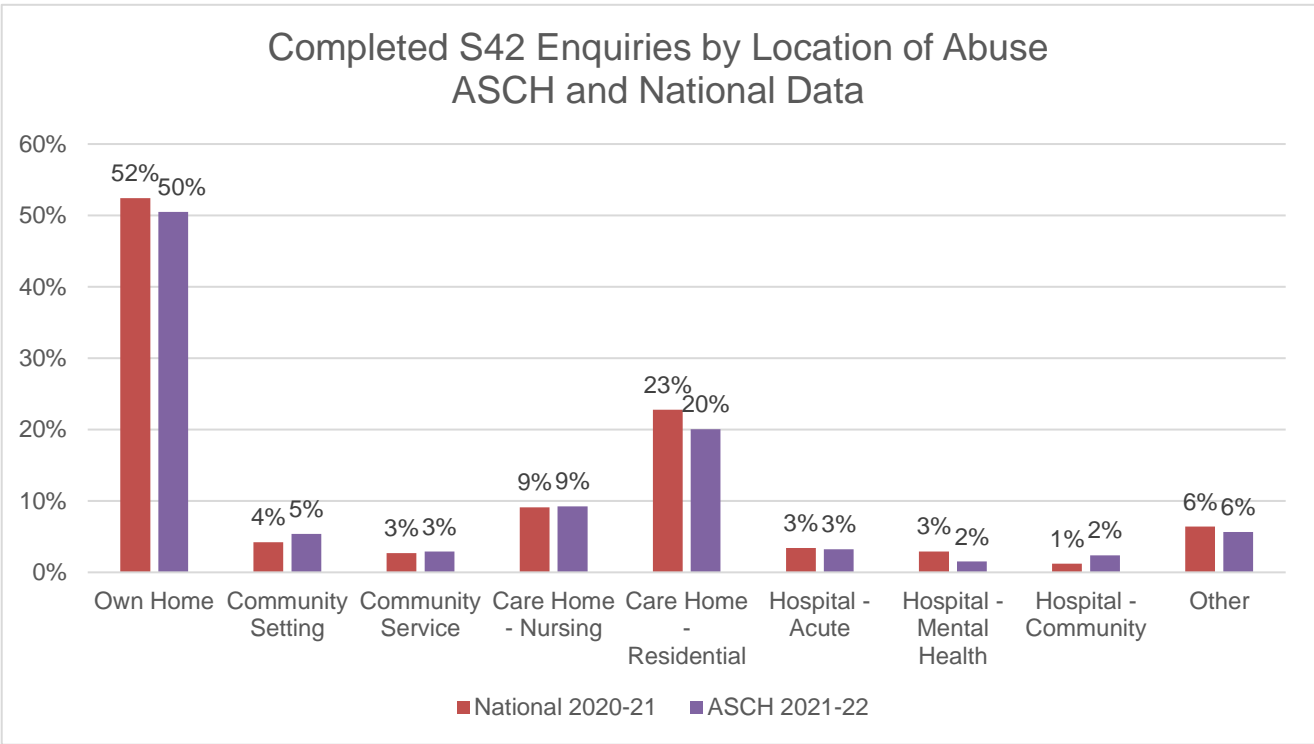
The table below shows the number of OSAs by quarter as a count. This shows that there has been a significant increase in the number of OSAs following the COVID outbreak which has begun to reduce slightly in the later quarters of 2021-22. While an increase in the number of OSAs could indicate that organisational issues are

being better identified, a reduction could mean effective and preventative market support.



Locations of abuse

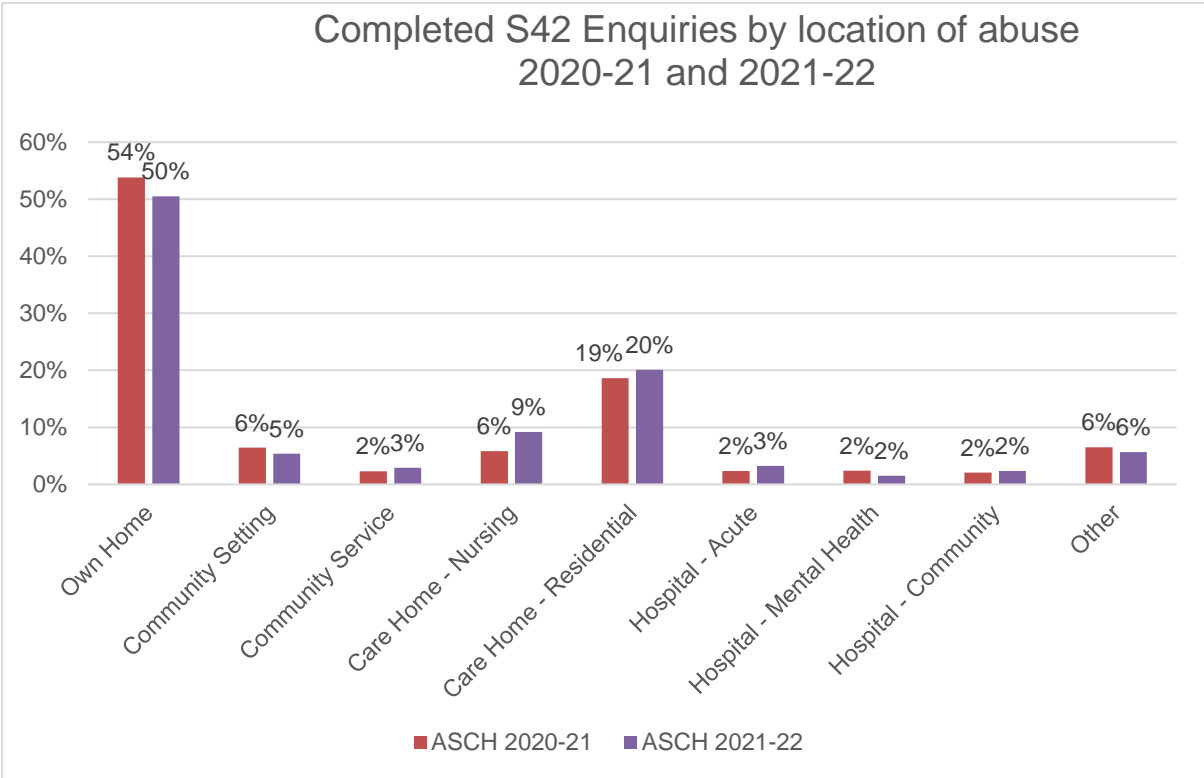
Concluded Section 42 enquiries by location of abuse / risk



The table above shows the percentages of completed S42 enquiries by Location of Abuse of Risk for 2021-22 with comparison to the national data for 2020-21.

- Locally, as in previous years, the most common reported location of abuse is in the adult at risk’s own home, this year reported as 50% is a decrease of 2% from the previous year.
- The second most common location continues to be Care Homes. This has increase by 4% for this financial year. the figure was **29%** (including both residential and nursing).

This data suggests higher levels of identification of abuse as visiting was re-instated in care homes. Nursing care homes have increased BY 3% whilst Residential Care Homes have seen a slight decrease of 4% less.

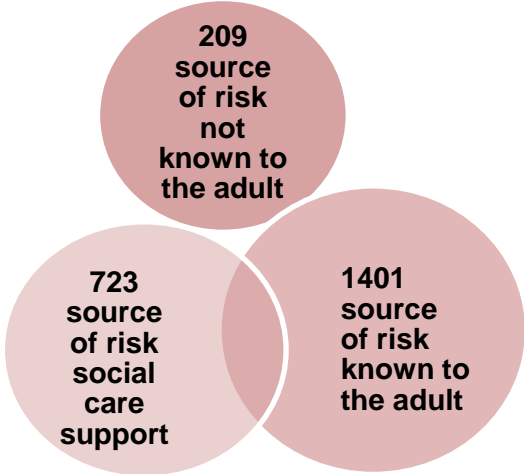


Source of risk

Concluded enquiries by source of risk

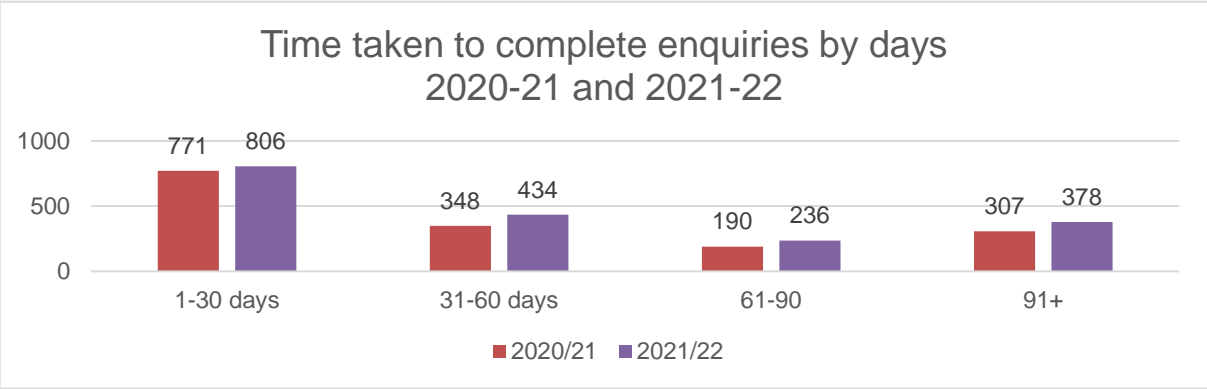
60% of the 2333 enquiries completed in 2021-22 the source of risk was known to the adult which is a 3% decrease from the previous year. In 61% of these cases the source of the risk was either the adult’s partner or another family member. 9% of cases the source of risk was not known to the adult which remains the same as the previous year. 31% of cases the source of risk was social care staff, an increase from 27% in the previous year.

This change is likely to have been influenced by the resuming in both face-to-face visits by professionals to adults with care and support needs and by professionals more broadly to social care settings and fits in with the decrease in 2021-22, compared to 2020-21, in S42 Enquiries where reported location of abuse is in the adult at risk’s own home.



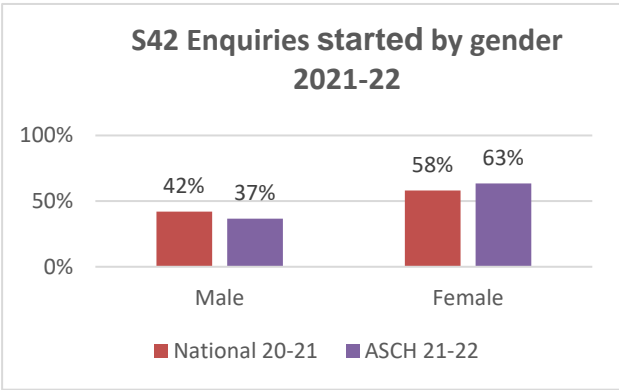
Adult Social Care Timescales and Demographics

Time taken to complete enquiries.



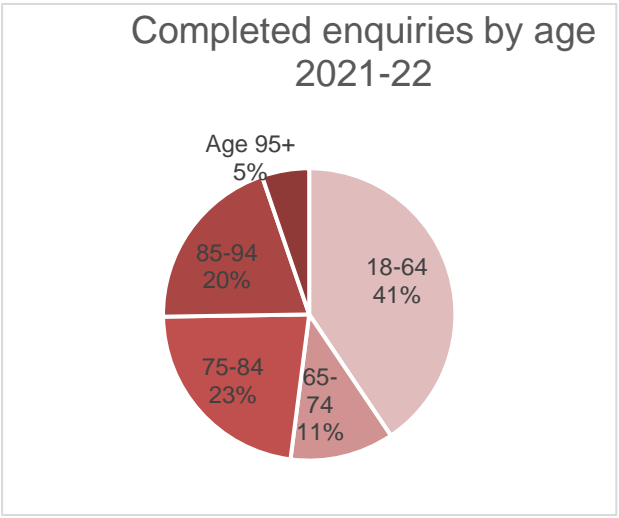
The chart shows the time taken (including weekends) to complete Section 42 enquiries in East Sussex in the periods 2020-21 & 2021-22. 20% of Section 42 enquiries took longer than 91 days to complete in 2021-22 which is a slight increase from 19% in 2020-21.

Safeguarding enquiries by gender



This chart shows the breakdown of completed S42 enquiries in East Sussex for 2021-22 by gender compared to the 2019-20 national data. The proportion of safeguarding enquiries relating to female adults continues to be a little higher in comparison with the national data, and lower for males.

Safeguarding enquiries by age

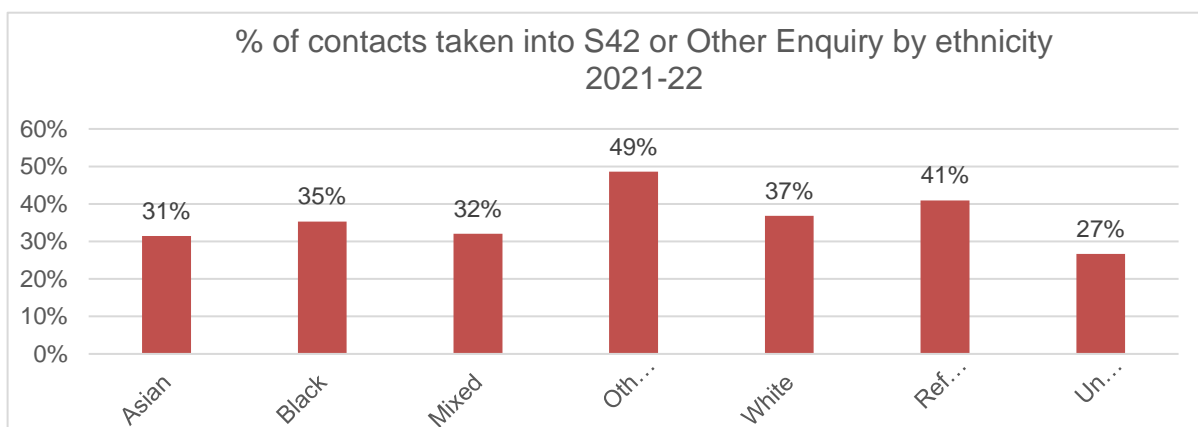


This chart shows the distribution of completed enquiries by age group for 2021-22. In East Sussex 41% of all safeguarding enquiries started involved adults over 65; this data is comparable with the national picture and the previous financial year. S42 enquiries are more likely to involve older people

Safeguarding enquiries by ethnicity.

- As with the previous annual data set report, for 2021-22, adults of white origin continue to be the largest group involved in S42 enquiries, accounting for 87.7% of individuals, which is consistent with East Sussex population data and in line with the previous year.
- The second largest recording (8.7%) is that of 'Unknown' ethnicity which represents 202 cases recorded as having no ethnicity.

Contacts into S42 or Other Enquiry:



The chart above indicates that contacts relating to people who are recorded as of an Other Ethnic Group (49%) have the highest conversion rate to S42 or Other Enquiry which is the same as 2020-21. This could indicate higher quality safeguarding concerns raised or that concerns are only raised when a situation, is more severe than on average for people with a different ethnicity.

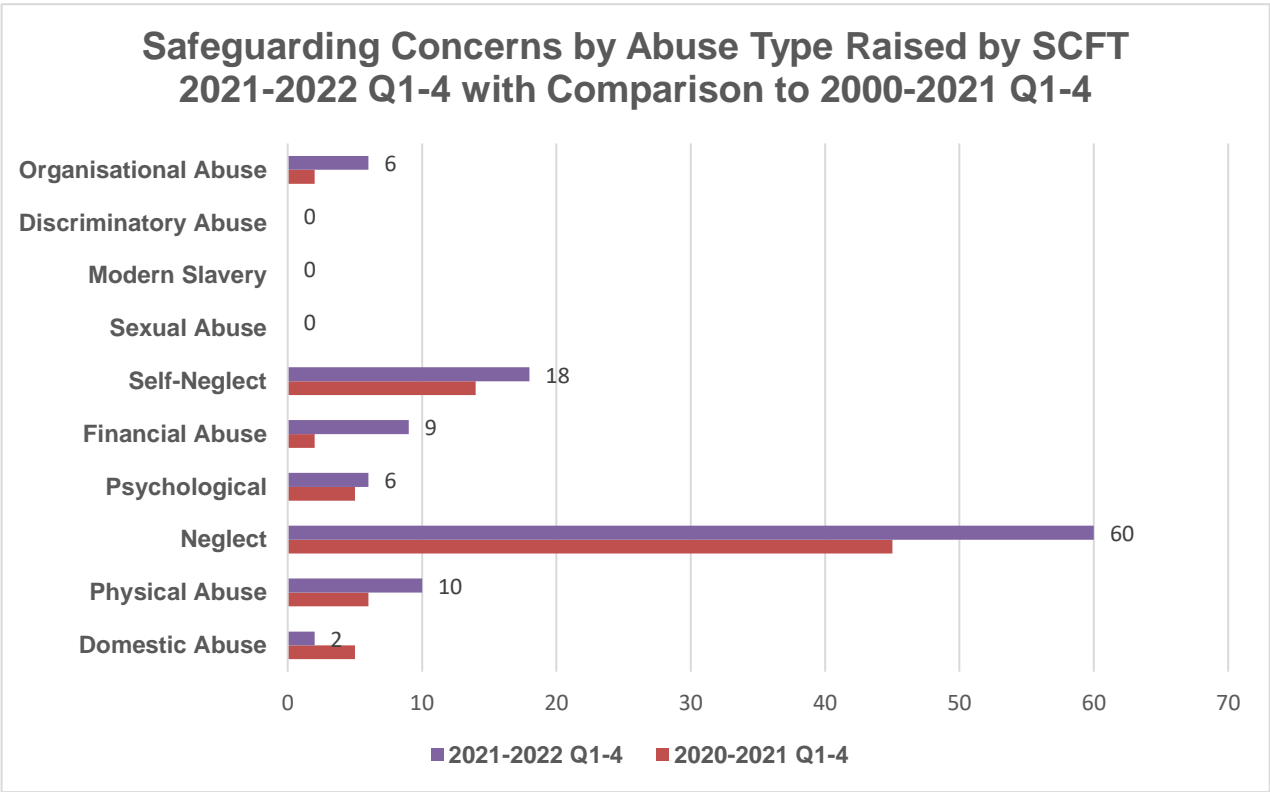
The two ethnic categories with the lowest conversion rate are Mixed and where ethnicity is not known. It is difficult to extract a reason for this with the data available, but it could be where there the adult is not so well known, and information provided in the concern raised tended to be less detailed.

	2020/21			2021/22		
	Contacts received	S42/Other Enquiry started	%	Contacts received	S42/Other Enquiry started	%
Asian	19	42	45%	17	54	31%
Black	15	36	42%	12	34	35%
Mixed	25	68	37%	17	53	32%
Other Ethnic Group	11	19	58%	17	35	49%
White	1754	4797	37%	2064	5603	37%
Refused	12	42	29%	18	44	41%
Undeclared/not known	166	677	25%	208	779	27%

Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT)

The table below shows the number of Safeguarding Concerns by Abuse Type Raised by SCFT during 2021-2022 with a comparison to the previous year. In total there was a 40% increase in the total number of Safeguarding Concerns raised by SCFT this year in comparison to last year.

- The table shows a 25% increase in Neglect concerns raised in 2021-2022. This key theme of neglect/acts of omission is as expected given the wide range of health and social care delivery that can be captured with the Neglect domain. Qualitative SCFT advice line data indicates that this category of abuse captures discussions on issues that included wound care, pressure area care, and visiting regimes, and it is of note that the concerns raised may be in relation to SCFT care delivery, care delivery from another health or social care provider, or unpaid carers (including family and friends).
- The table also shows an increase in Organisational Abuse by 200% and Financial Abuse increased by 350%.
- The data shows us that Physical Abuse has increased from last year by 66.6% and Domestic Abuse has a decrease in concerns raised by 60%.



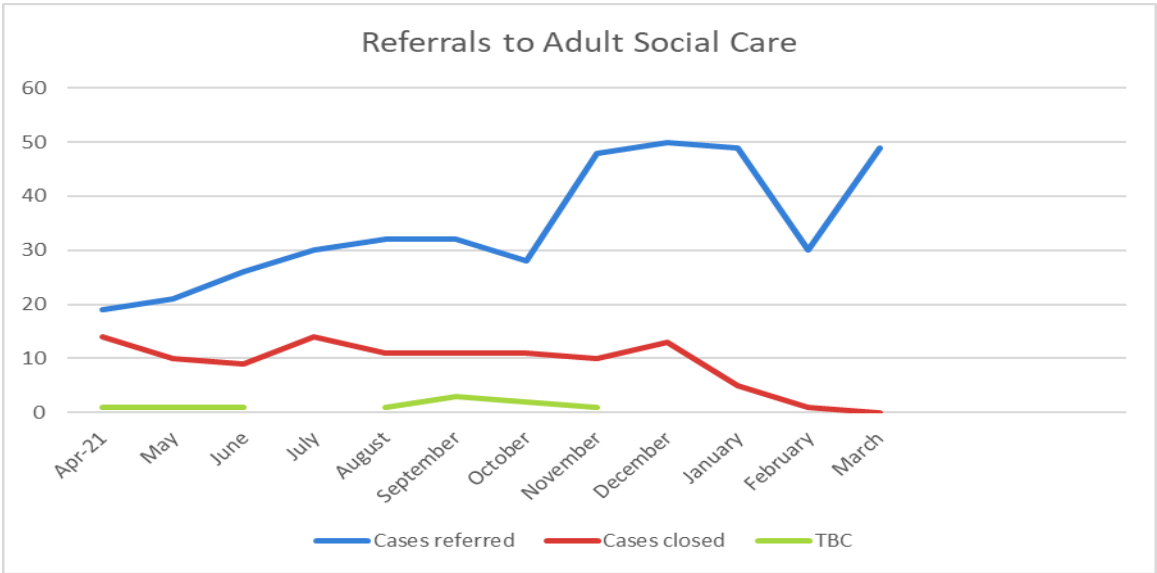
The data relates to the domains captured within within the safeguarding concerns raised, and as a safeguarding concern may capture more than one domain the total amount of adult safeguarding concerns may be lower.

Given the fluidity of numbers of adult concerns raised at any given time, it is not possible to provide a baseline of adult safeguarding concerns that may be raised at any given time. The reduction in face-to-face visits completed during the COVID-19 pandemic, and government led restrictions, is likely to be a contributing factor for a potential reduction in safeguarding concerns raised to Local Authority, especially for those types of abuse which are more easily identifiable through a face-to-face visit.

East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT)

- Raised 365 safeguarding concerns in 2021-2022. This is an increase of 47.1% on referrals last year.
- ESHT staff raise concerns with ESCC ASCH directly and are also encouraged to discuss concerns with the ESHT safeguarding team if they have any queries or require support.

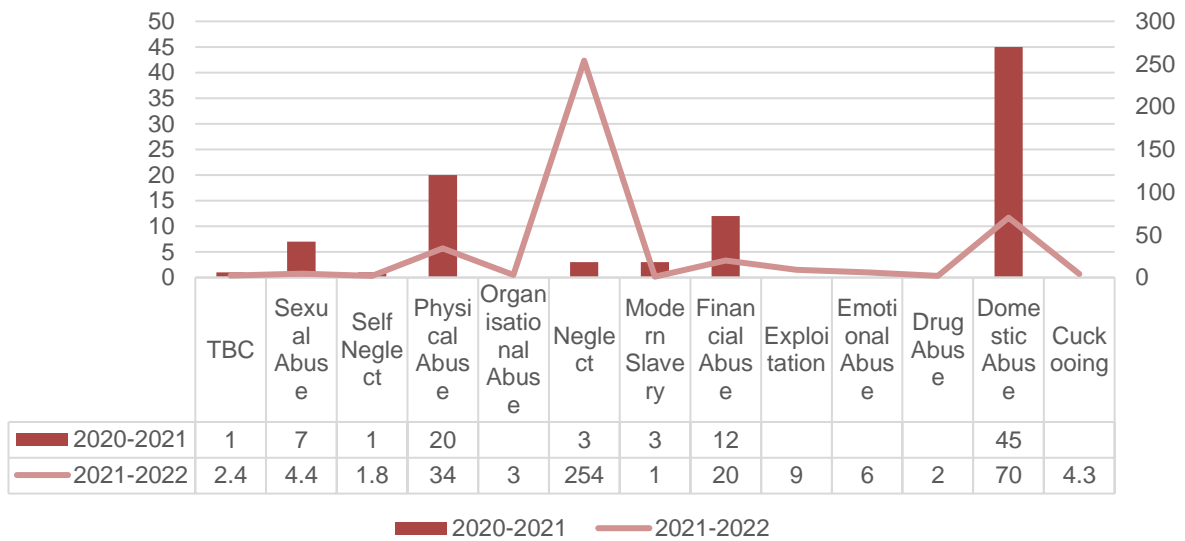
The table below shows Referrals to Adult Social Care during 2021-2022 Q1-4.



- Throughout 2021-2022 the ESHT Safeguarding team have facilitated a ‘Think Family’ programme of safeguarding training as a combined e-learning and virtual offer, this is mandatory for trained staff Band 5 and over.
- ESHT Safeguarding team have noted a gap in ESHT staff’s knowledge of the process of raising a concern to the Local Authority and have produced a Webinar and flow chart resources on the referral process, we are awaiting IT support to finalise this and enable it to be available for all ESHT staff.

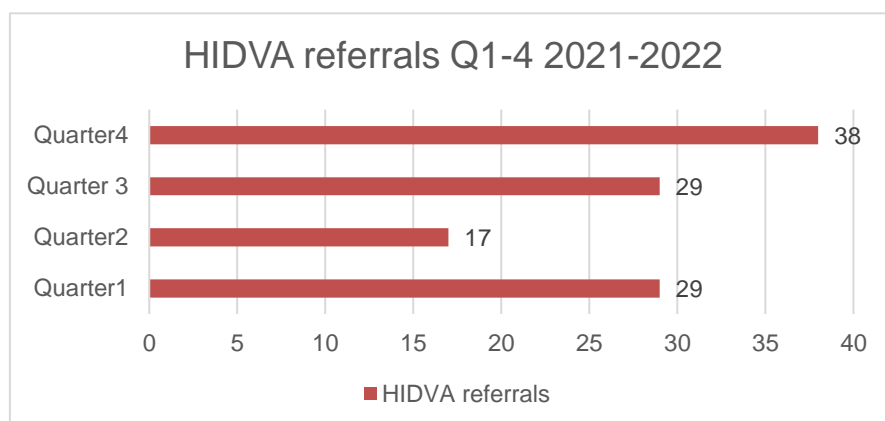
The table below shows the category of concerns raised by ESHT by Abuse Type during 2021-2022 with a comparison line to that of the previous year 2000-202.

Concerns by Abuse Type during 2021-2022 with Comparison to Previous Year.



- Neglect remains the most commonly reported abuse type, followed by Domestic Abuse and Self-Neglect. Complex cases are also reported which cover more than one type of abuse.
- The Multi Agency Risk Management (MARM) protocol and Threshold tools have been widely disseminated within the trust to inform colleagues and support work going forward. Concerns regarding Domestic Abuse may be reported to the Health Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (HIDVA) with possible need for a safeguarding referral to ASCH required alongside HIDVA input. A rapid assessment tool has been developed and uploaded to some of the trust recording systems to support staff to routinely enquire about Domestic Abuse

The table below shows the number of referrals made to the Health Independent Domestic Violence Advocate (HIDVA). The Safeguarding team have worked alongside the HIDVA to train a group of staff from all areas of the trust to be Domestic Abuse Champions. ESHT safeguarding continue to work on a robust database to accurately capture the picture of safeguarding within the trust.



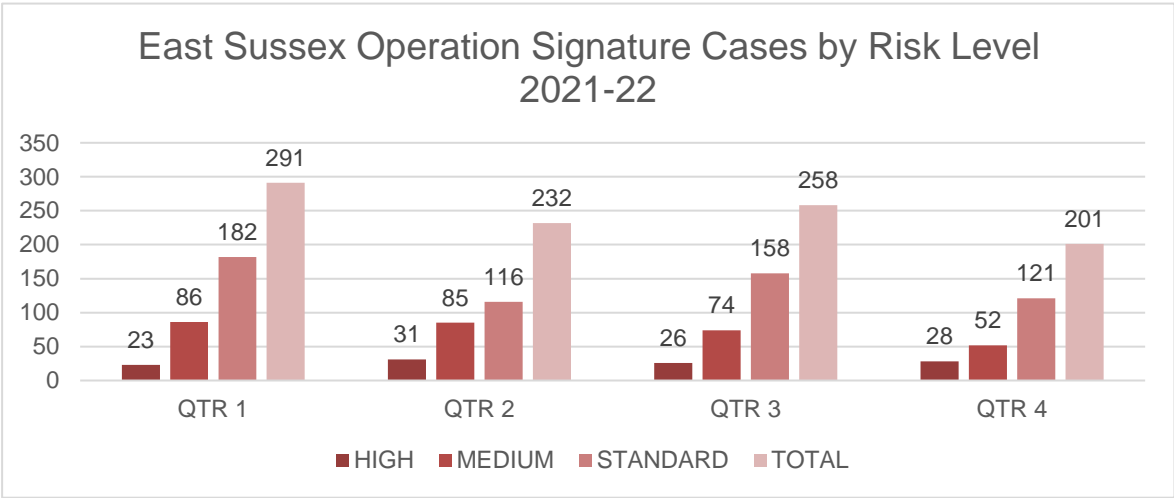
Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT)

The level of safeguarding activity across the Sussex Partnership remains relatively constant although there has been an increase as pandemic lockdowns have ended. The likely reason for this increase is greater hospital ward activity. During the pandemic fewer people were admitted to hospital which meant that the potential for safeguarding situations was also less.

- Hospital admission levels have now increased and with this has come an increase in other work associated with busier wards and more people in contained environments. Incidents of patient-on-patient altercations have increased, reflecting this change in ward activity levels. During 2021 / 2022 there were at any one time between 4 to 8 open section 42 enquiries linked to the Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and East Sussex County Council.
- Like most NHS organisations, the Sussex Partnership Trust does not have the level of nursing staff with which it would like to operate. This has triggered some safeguarding concerns, a significant one being an organisational abuse enquiry at an inpatient unit in East Sussex. This safeguarding enquiry has closed but highlighted the issue of staffing level challenges and their impact on service delivery. The Trust mitigates the risks associated of operating below optimal staffing levels and acknowledges that it remains extremely challenging to recruit the required mix of professional staff to operate as it would wish.
- Recruitment challenges and increasing bed occupancy levels is also impacting on the ability to admit patients. This has led to safeguarding concerns being raised by East Sussex County Council when admission delays are considered to have placed patients at risk of harm, especially in relation to assessments under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act that led to psychiatric hospital admission. The issue is being discussed by both organisations and again reflects the pressures on the health and social care sector as a whole. For example, pressures on hospital admission are also affected by delays in discharge due to challenges securing other nursing and social care support in the community.
- During the pandemic, the safeguarding team within the Trust expanded and is now fully recruited. This is allowing better support to its frontline services to understand safeguarding, comply with Care Act requirements and protect adults at risk. The Trust's safeguarding service now also includes a Prevent Practitioner that attends the East Sussex Channel Panel and supports Prevent work across the Trust. The Director of Safeguarding represents the Trust on the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board and is the Vice Chair of the Board's Safeguarding Adults Review subgroup.

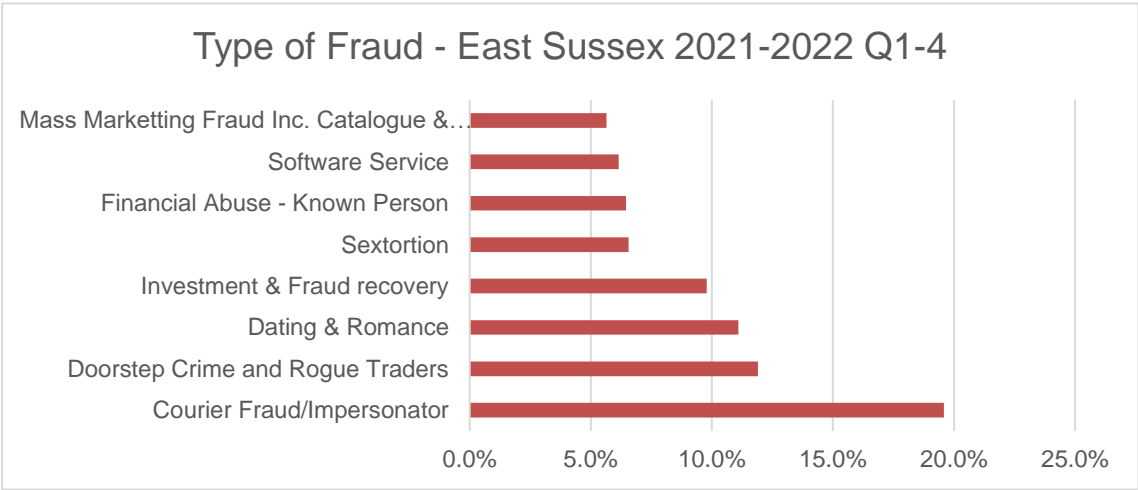
Sussex Police

- Operation Signature Fraud reporting continues to increase year on year, with recent data indication that fraud now accounts for 39% of all reported crime with much of it still going unreported.
- Last year a disproportionate rise in Romance Fraud, false investment opportunities and doorstep criminals was attributed to the COVID-19 Pandemic and these trends have continued.
- Courier fraud has since emerged as one of the most prevalent fraud types affecting the vulnerable in Sussex.



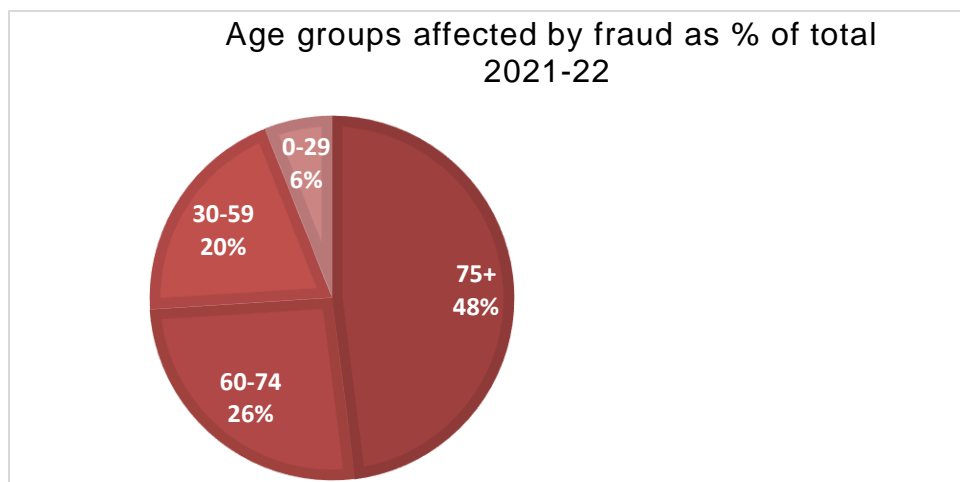
- Two specialist Operation Signature case workers have supported 1,165 victims of fraud in Sussex during 2021-2022. Whilst some support has been provided by over the telephone, face to face visits have now resumed where possible. The total loss to vulnerable victims of fraud in 2021-2022 is £23.05 million, with the average loss where recorded being £15,000 per victim which is an increase on the previous year.

The table below separates the type of fraud taking place in East Sussex during 2021-2022.



- Over the past 12 months Courier fraud, doorstep crime, dating and romance and investment fraud are the top four most common types of fraud affecting the vulnerable in East Sussex with people most commonly being contacted initially by telephone or in person on the doorstep.

The table below shows the total amount of people impacted by fraud separated into age group by percentage of total.

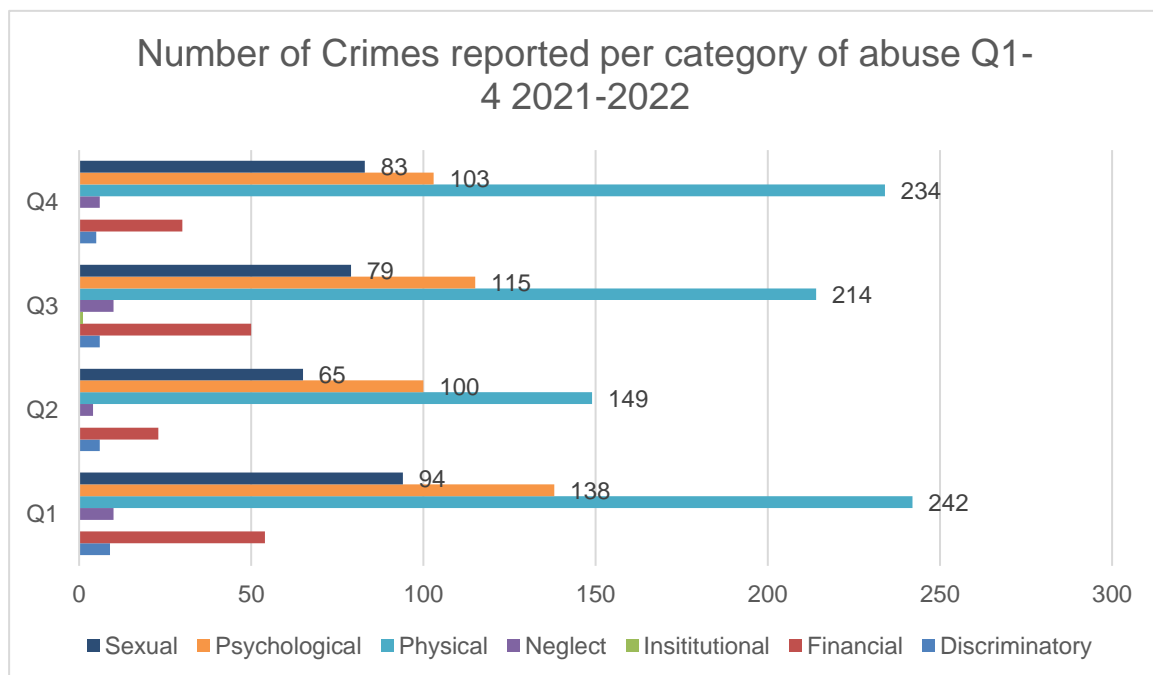


- In East Sussex 74% of cases were people over the age of 60.
- The number of victims over 75 years old has dropped by 7% compared to the previous year, and the number of victims in the below 60 categories increased by 6%. This can in part be attributed to the rise in Romance fraud which affects a broader age range, due to the vulnerability of the victims and the impact of the crime.
- There has continued to be a wide range of scams exploiting the COVID-19 situation in 2021 – 22. The loneliness and isolation of victims, the financial worry, confusion and fear people have felt over the past year has been exploited. Vulnerable people have been targeted with fraudulent emails and text messages relating to NHS test and trace, with vaccine and testing related frauds prevalent at certain periods. Fraudsters targeted victims by impersonating the government to offer fake Covid-19 grants, setting up fake NHS websites to steal card details, and posing as delivery companies to target online shoppers stuck at home during national lockdowns and periods of self-isolation.

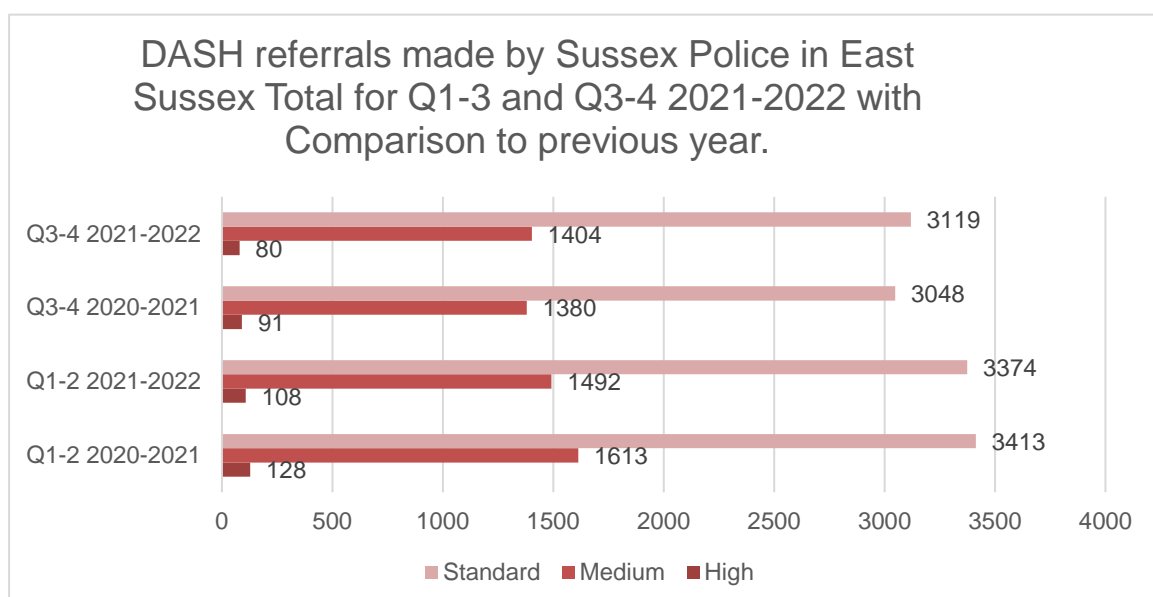
Crimes by Category of Abuse

The following table shows the number of reported crimes per category of abuse, but each quarter for the year 2021-2022. The data relates to recorded crimes, act which may result in harm or loss which is defined by parliamentary act as illegal.

Sussex Police receive information about incidents not all of which will be recordable crimes, All incidents are reviewed for possible crime and intelligence and those that meet the National Crime Recording Standard are recorded as crimes too.

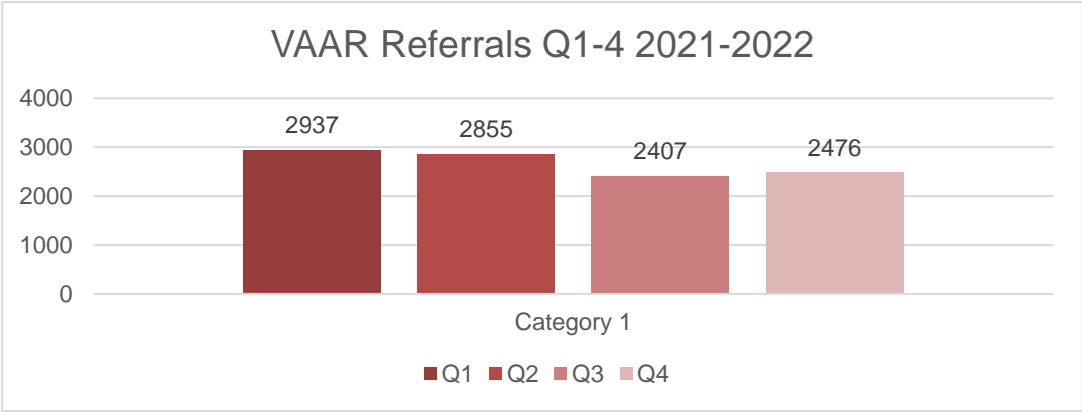


The table below shows the amount of Domestic Abuse, Stalking and Harassment (DASH) referrals-Incidents of Domestic Abuse are subject to a risk assessment using a DASH checklist. An officer, with the victim, assesses the level of risk using this checklist and will take initial steps to manage the risk identified.



The data shows that there are a total of 9577 DASH referrals made during 2021-2022 with 67% of these being classed as Standard Risk. This is similar to last year with a total of 9,673 referrals when there was 66.8% being classed as Standard Risk.

Vulnerable Adult at Risk (VAAR) referrals are made by Sussex Police to the Local Authority when safeguarding issues or concerns are identified. The table below shows the number of VAAR referrals made to East Sussex in 2021-2022.



The data shows us that there has been a total of 47 less referrals for 2021-2022 with 10,675 in comparison to 10,722 last year. Referrals are assessed and allocated as considered appropriate with East Sussex Adult Social Care. Not all VAAR referrals will involve recorded crimes.

NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)

Sussex CCGs (including both NHS Brighton and Hove Clinical Commissioning Group and NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group) have undertaken a range of actions in relation to adult safeguarding during 2021/22.

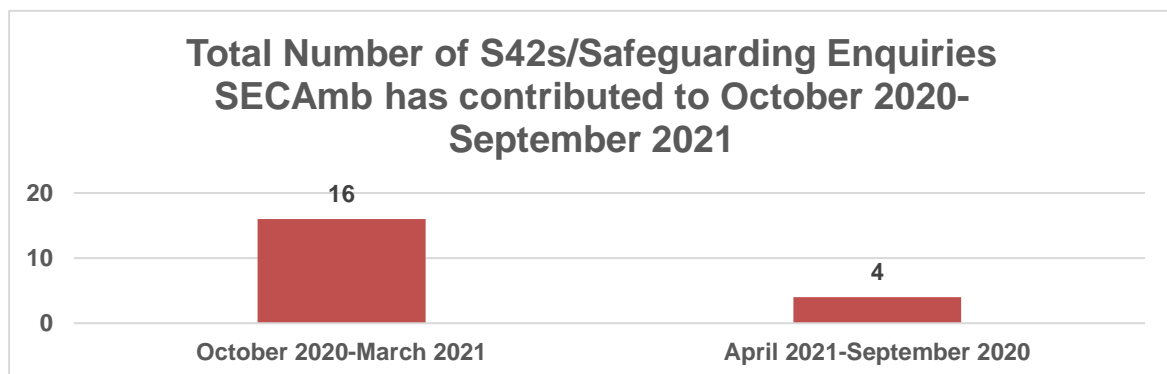
- This has included the ongoing development of an adult safeguarding data dashboard and a statutory review tracker that enables enhanced oversight of health action plans in relation to Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's). This extends beyond the CCG itself and incorporates health providers in progressing identified actions from reviews undertaken. The available data shows a high number of open statutory case reviews across the system that include health actions and responsibilities, with 24 current reviews across SARs and DHRs in total.
- Across East Sussex in particular, there remains a high number of DHRs. Despite delays in reviews being published, assurance can be provided that key learning is continuing to be identified and shared with the health partnership.
- The CCG Safeguarding Team have been running Domestic Abuse half day training sessions for CCG and primary care staff which incorporate the lessons for health identified in the reviews, including awareness of the Homicide

Timeline, MARAC process, coding and flagging of primary care records, health indicators of domestic abuse and the need for routine screening. Each DHR has an overarching action plan and the CCG team maintain overall oversight and responsibility for all health actions

- During 2021/22, the CCGs have committed substantive funding to the MASH health team, which increases the health resource in both Brighton and Hove and East Sussex MASHs. From April 1st, 2022, this service will be provided by the CCG safeguarding team.
- A key part of this development has been the implementation of a pathway to increase awareness within primary care of both children and adults referred to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC), particularly in relation to situations where domestic abuse is occurring. This supports the 'Think Family' approach to safeguarding that has been adopted by the CCGs and will support risk management and safety planning.
- From a staffing point of view all statutory safeguarding roles have been recruited to within the CCGs. Two further Specialist Safeguarding Nurse roles have been agreed for recruitment in April 2022, to help support partnership working functions of the team as the transition into an Integrated Care Board, under new statutory arrangements effecting all CCGs. These roles will play a crucial part in promoting the team's values of Think Family safeguarding and increased collaboration with provider health organisations in Sussex.

Southeast Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb)

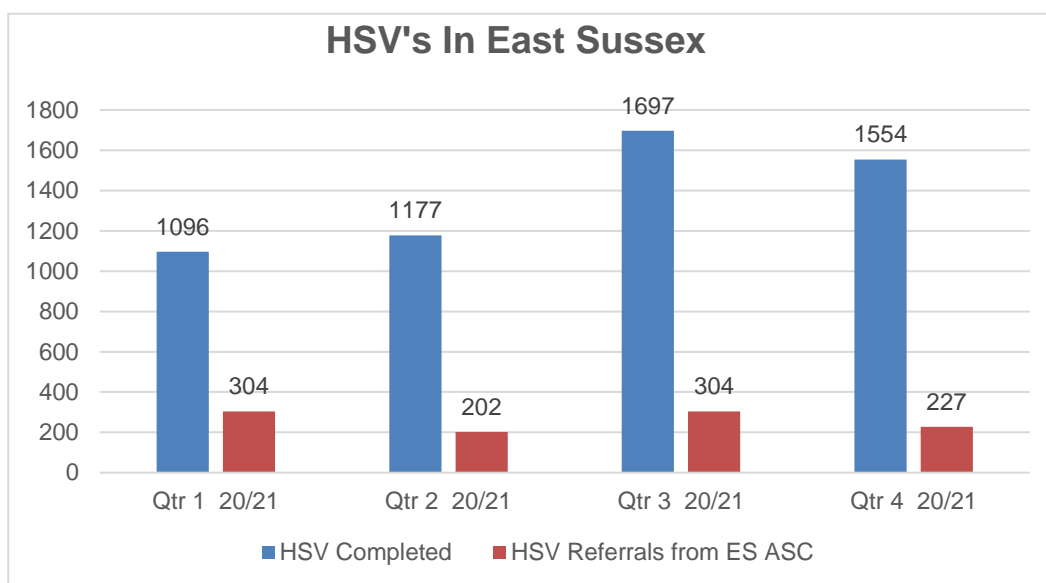
- Data for Q3 and Q4 was not available at time of report issue. The table below shows the number of Safeguarding Enquiries SECamb has contributed to from October 2020-September 2021.
- SECamb are continuing to improve their safeguarding data and the next report issues will be able to contain a more accurate measure of current safeguarding arrangements.



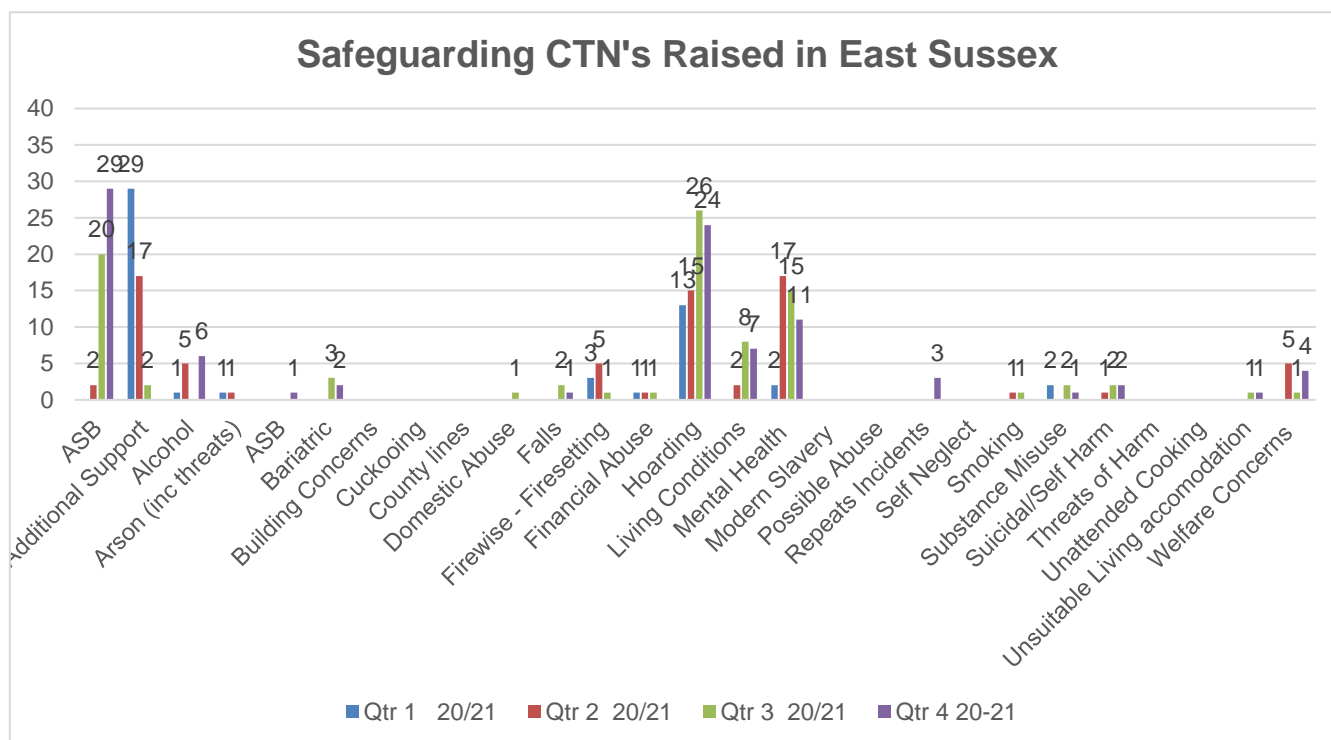
East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (ESFRS).

The table below shows the number of Home Safety Visits (HSV) conducted by ESFRS in the last 4 Quarters, including the HSV referrals received from East Sussex Adult Social Care (ASC).

Referrals for HSVs from a wide range of sources significantly dropped during the Covid-19 pandemic. As the restrictions eased the number of referrals to ESFRS and completed HSVs increased. Home safety visits are one element of the ESFRS targeted prevention work providing support to the most vulnerable members of the community who may be more at risk of having a fire in their home.



The table below shows ESFRS safeguarding reports and highlights hoarding, mental health, anti-social behaviour and additional support as the key areas.



Raising a safeguarding concern

No one should have to live with abuse or neglect – it is always wrong, whatever the circumstances.

Anybody can raise a safeguarding concern for themselves or another person. Do not assume that someone else is doing something about the situation.

You can report a concern in the following ways:

Phone: 0345 60 80 191 (8am to 8pm 7 days a week, including bank holidays)

Email: [Health and Social Care Connect](#)

Online: Via the form on the [East Sussex County Council website](#)

Contact the police on 101 or in an emergency 999

Find out more in our [safeguarding leaflet](#) and [easy read version safeguarding leaflet](#).

Appendix 1 – Board membership

Partners of the East Sussex SAB are:

- East Sussex Adult Social Care & Health (ASCH)
- NHS East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Sussex Police
- Care for the Carers
- Care Quality Commission (CQC)
- Change, Grow, Live (CGL)
- District and borough council representation
- East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (ESFRS)
- East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT)
- East Sussex Safeguarding Children Partnership (ESSCP)
- Healthwatch
- HMP Lewes
- Homecare representatives
- Kent, Surrey, Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company (KSS CRC)
- Lay members
- National Probation Service (NPS)
- NHS England
- Registered Care Association (RCA)
- South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (SECamb)
- Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust (SCFT)
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SPFT)
- Trading Standards
- Voluntary and community sector representation

Appendix 2 – Board structure

