

Report to: Adult Social Care and Community Safety Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17 September 2015

By: Director of Adult Social Care and Health

Title: Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report April 2014 - 2015 and Strategic Plan 2015-18

Purpose: To present the Annual report and Strategic Plan to the Scrutiny Committee

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee is requested to consider and comment on the content of the report

1 Background

1.1 The Annual Report 2014 - 2015 included in Appendix 1 outlines the safeguarding activity and performance in East Sussex between April 2014 and March 2015, as well as some of the main developments in place to prevent abuse from occurring.

1.2 The Care Act, implemented in April 2015, specifies that the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) must publish a strategic plan outlining its future priorities. This is included as Appendix 2.

1.3 In developing the Strategic Plan, there has been consultation with Healthwatch and the Client and Carer Safeguarding Advisory Network (CCSAN).

2 Supporting information

2.1 *Annual report* 2014 – 2015:

The Annual Report is structured against the five key priorities of the SAB for 2014-15, outlining progress made from all partner agencies, and highlighting future plans.

2.2 Highlights contained in the report are as follows:

Priority 1: Effectiveness of the SAB

- A peer review of the SAB was undertaken in May 2014, leading to recommendations for an independent chair, a review of the chairing arrangements of the subgroups and ensuring all partners of the SAB take an active role and contribute resources.
- As a result of these recommendations, Healthwatch now chairs the CCSAN; Sussex Police is to chair the Performance, Quality and Audit (PQA) subgroup; and an SAB budget for 2015-16 has been agreed. Recruitment of an independent chair has taken place.

Priority 2: Develop a cross system understanding of service quality and avoid service failure

- A multi-agency safeguarding audit was undertaken by representatives of the SAB; effective partnership working was demonstrated in all cases and no major concerns were noted. However, development areas included, the need for Mental Capacity assessments to be completed more thoroughly, and a greater understanding of the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) when referring cases.
- Future plans include, developing local protocols on how to respond to safeguarding enquiries where there are concerns about the quality of care, and multi-agency reflective learning sessions from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

Priority 3: Ensure people are aware of safeguarding and know what to do if they have a concern

- A safeguarding awareness campaign was held with Homecare staff in the form of drop in sessions across different localities in the county. This was following the low safeguarding referral rate from this group over the last few years. There has subsequently been an increase in safeguarding alerts raised from Homecare staff, up by 31% from the same period last year.
- Key safeguarding activity data includes a 10% reduction in the number of alerts received by ASC compared with last year; much of the reduction is attributed to a change in policy for the reporting of Pressure Ulcers. Neglect, financial and physical abuse remain the highest types of abuse with little change in the proportion of these.
- Further training and awareness within primary care is planned for 2015-16.

Priority 4: Focus on personalising safeguarding outcomes and developing performance measures that focus on quality and outcomes

- Quality assurance activity has shown a personalised, Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) approach as being increasingly evident in safeguarding activity.
- In 93% of cases where there was action under safeguarding arrangements, risk was reduced or removed.
- The proportion of people receiving support from an advocate, family member or friend where they lacked capacity in this period was 86%. The national average for 2013-14 was 49%.

Priority 5: Ensure all people involved in safeguarding have appropriate skills and knowledge

- Three multi-agency MSP workshops were held with good representation from all key partners of the SAB, to ensure that this personalised approach in safeguarding can be implemented across all service areas.
- Key training figures from partner agencies are included in the annual report. There has been a particular focus on domestic abuse training for Sussex Police, which will be a key priority for the SAB in 2015-16 given that it has been included as a category of abuse in its own right since April 2015.
- Safeguarding competencies for staff will be updated in 2015-16 for use in a multi-agency context, as well as development of a SAB training strategy.

2.3 Safeguarding Strategic Plan

- This sets out the aims and objectives of the SAB for 2015-18, and provides direction and continuity to the annual work plan which is refreshed each year. It sets out five key areas of focus, relating to the priorities agreed for the year ahead. The five areas as follows:
 - Accountability and Leadership;
 - Policies, Procedures and Care Act implementation;
 - Performance, Quality and Audit;
 - Prevention and Engagement;
 - Integration/Training and Workforce Development.

3. Conclusion and reasons for recommendations

3.1 The annual report shows significant progress in adult safeguarding activity from all organisations and has demonstrated the MSP principles are starting to embed into practice to put adults and their representatives at the centre of decisions and interventions made.

3.2 The Care Act, implemented in April 2015, has brought many changes to safeguarding practice, including making enquiries statutory (under section 42 of the Act), and introducing new duties in relation to advocacy; the strategic plan addresses these areas. The plan reflects the commitment of active collaboration between organisations, working together on prevention strategies, and listening to voice of those who use care and support services to deliver positive outcomes.

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LOCAL MEMBERS

All

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

None