

East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board

Strategic Plan 2015 – 18



Who we are

The East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is a partnership of key agencies in East Sussex. These include:

- Adult social care
- Health
- Emergency services
- Prison and probation services
- Housing
- Education
- Carers
- Residential and home care services
- Trading Standards

A full list of the partners of the East Sussex SAB is included as Appendix 1.




What we do

We work together to ensure that people in East Sussex are safeguarded from harm, and can live their lives independently and free from abuse and neglect.

The work of safeguarding adults boards is now directed by legislation – the Care Act 2014. The Act sets out the core purpose of the board as ensuring that local safeguarding arrangements are effective and take account of the views of the local community.

Our strategic plan

Our strategic plan sets out:

- **Our vision** This sets out the vision of the SAB and the outcomes we want to achieve for the people of East Sussex. 
- **Our strategic plan for 2015 – 18** This outlines our aims and objectives to achieve our vision. The strategic plan provides direction and continuity to our annual work plan. 
- **Our annual work plan** This includes key actions and target timescales to achieve our strategic plan. 

Our vision

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Our vision is for all agencies to work together effectively to enable the citizens of East Sussex to live free from abuse and neglect, and to promote widely the message that safeguarding is everybody's business.

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To achieve this vision, the Board will:

- Actively promote collaboration and commitment between organisations.
- Work together on prevention strategies.
- Listen to the voice of clients and carers to deliver positive outcomes.

The East Sussex SAB is committed to the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal ie. to listen to what the adult or their representative would like to achieve, and by ensuring the most appropriate support is available.

Our three year strategic objectives

1 Accountability and leadership

Strategic objectives

- To oversee and lead effectively on safeguarding activities that contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect.
- To put mechanisms in place to make sure all stakeholders are held to account for their safeguarding practice.
- To make sure clear and transparent annual budget plans are in place for all SAB activities.

Our progress so far

- We are recruiting an Independent Chair for the SAB, to be in place by July 2015. This will enable greater scrutiny of and accountability for all agencies represented on the SAB.
- Senior managers from a range of key agencies interested and involved in adult safeguarding actively contribute to SAB discussions and activities.
- All members of the SAB have signed up to our Terms of Reference. These require members to champion safeguarding practice, and ensure appropriate policies and procedures are in place to protect adults from abuse and neglect.
- We have developed a budget for the SAB for 2015 – 16, with key partners confirming their contributions.

Future plans

- We will update our work plan each year to make sure it is in line with our strategic objectives and reflects progress made.
- We will renew the SAB budget and review its effectiveness at the end of the 2015 – 16 financial year.
- We will gain feedback from Healthwatch and the local community on the accessibility of our plans and annual reports.

2 Policies, procedures and Care Act implementation

Strategic objectives

- To make sure there are clear policies in place for safeguarding adults work that is in line with the Care Act 2014, and that organisations use these policies to work together to respond to abuse and neglect.
- To put mechanisms in place to gain feedback on safeguarding procedures (from both professionals and clients and carers).
- To adopt clear pathways for responding to quality of care concerns alongside individual safeguarding enquiries.

Our progress so far

- The Sussex Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures have been rewritten, and were launched in April 2015.
- Workshops and roadshows have been held across the county to raise awareness of the new procedures, and how safeguarding concerns will be responded to.
- Members of the SAB have been asked to provide feedback on updates to their internal safeguarding policy and procedures to make sure they comply with the Care Act.

Future plans

- The new procedures will be reviewed by East Sussex, Brighton & Hove and West Sussex SABs. The review will take account of feedback given by professionals and clients and carers. The first review is planned for October 2015 and annually thereafter.
- Quality pathways will be agreed by commissioners, providers, and regulators to ensure a consistent approach to concerns about the quality of care is adopted.
- Sharing objectives and priorities across Sussex to ensure a consistent and cohesive approach both strategically and regionally. This includes closer links with the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safer East Sussex Team on responses to issues such as hate crime and domestic abuse.

3 Performance, Quality and Audit

Strategic objectives

- To make sure safeguarding outcome measures effectively capture the adult's views and wishes, and clearly demonstrate the impact of safeguarding interventions.
- To make sure all partner organisations understand the process for sharing safeguarding information to inform operational and strategic practice.
- To make sure learning and action plans from any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) or other case reviews are taken forward and future practice improved.

Our progress so far

- Adult Social Care undertakes interviews with adults and / or their representatives, as well as other key stakeholders, following a safeguarding intervention to gain feedback on how effective this was and to identify any future learning.
- SAB members have signed-up to an information sharing protocol to ensure safeguarding interventions are as joined-up and effective as possible.
- Safeguarding outcome measures have started to take account of outcomes defined by adults themselves, including the extent to which they feel safer, whether they have had access to justice, and whether they have an increased sense of dignity and respect.

Future plans

- Further analysis of the outcomes that adults wish to achieve through a safeguarding intervention will be undertaken.
- Reflective practice forums for staff across agencies will be developed to share learning from case reviews or SARs.
- Agencies will share safeguarding outcome data to identify patterns or areas that require particular focus and intervention.

4 Prevention and engagement

Strategic objectives

- To produce information and reports for the local community that are easily accessible.
- To put mechanisms and resources in place to raise awareness of safeguarding among the general public.
- To develop safeguarding policy and practice based on the views of adults who have experienced, or are at risk of, abuse and neglect.
- To make sure all stakeholders within adult safeguarding have the opportunity to influence safeguarding policy and practice development.

Our progress so far

- The local Healthwatch chair a sub-group of the Board, the Clients and Carers Safeguarding Advisory Network (CCSAN). The aim of this Network is to strengthen the voice of clients and carers in safeguarding practice.
- A roadshow is being planned to raise awareness for the public.

Future plans

- Lay members will be recruited to the SAB through Healthwatch, to assist in building stronger links with the community and enabling the voice of local people to be heard.
- The CCSAN will be further developed to include wider representation from carers and clients. The Network will provide regular feedback on safeguarding policy and practice in East Sussex.
- A communication strategy to be developed through Healthwatch and CCSAN.

5 Integration/Training and workforce development

Strategic objectives

- To develop a training strategy in partnership with key stakeholders. The strategy will be suitable for the needs of all stakeholders in safeguarding practice, and will incorporate local and national policy and learning.
- To ensure clients and carers receive the most appropriate support and interventions where abuse and neglect is suspected by putting in place safeguarding competencies for staff which are used effectively by all agencies.

Our progress so far

- A wide range of safeguarding training courses is available to staff working for the agencies and organisations represented on the SAB. This is evidenced through an annual audit.
- Safeguarding competencies for Adult Social Care and Health staff are being used through supervision and appraisal processes.

Future plans

- Partner organisations will develop a training strategy. This will incorporate existing training and include training on the new categories of abuse in the Care Act – modern slavery, domestic abuse, and self-neglect. The strategy will also create more opportunity for multi-agency learning.
- Partner organisations will review and update the safeguarding competencies, and make sure they can be used across all relevant organisations.

Our annual work plan 2015-2016

Strategic Aim 1 – Accountability and leadership

SAB Priority 1.1 Ensure the effectiveness and transparency of the SAB to oversee and lead adult safeguarding and the prevention of abuse

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress as of August 2015
Oversee and lead on adult safeguarding activities that contribute to prevention of abuse, by inviting relevant local representatives as required.	SAB	Ongoing	Homecare represented from April 2015. Further Education now represented in line with Care Act recommendations.
Ensure that each member is a champion for safeguarding within their own organisation, as evidenced by signing up to the updated Terms of Reference (TOR) of the SAB.	SAB	July 2015	New members signed up to the TOR of the SAB.
Recruitment of Independent Chair in line with Care Act recommendations.	SAB	July 2015	Recruitment process completed.
Agree budget plan with partner contributions and report on budget spend annually.	SAB	July 2015	Core SAB partners have agreed to contribute to SAB budget
Annual report, strategic plan and relevant documents to be available on SAB web page.	SAB	July 2015	Updating of ESCC web pages has started to incorporate this facility.
Sub-groups have been reviewed for wider partner involvement, and progress of each to be regularly fed back to SAB.	PQA / CCSAN	October 2015	PQA chaired by Police.

Develop strategic learning across agencies, boards and borders, learning from national best practice and Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR).	Ops / PQA	Ongoing	SAB papers circulated between Sussex Boards and regional learning shared via the Safeguarding Network meeting. Topic based multi-agency workshops agreed via the Operational Practice Sub-group. Learning briefings to be held following any SAR.
All partners to undertake annual self-assessment of strategic and organisational arrangements to safeguard and promote well-being of adults.	PQA	Ongoing	Self-assessment tool to be updated for use by October 2015.

Strategic Aim 2 – Policies, procedures and Care Act implementation

SAB Priority 2.1 Ensure Section 42 safeguarding arrangements are in place under the Care Act, with appropriate feedback and review arrangements

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Ensure SAB members are aware of their responsibilities and implications of the Care Act, as demonstrated through annual multi-agency audit process, and updated internal procedures.	Ops / PQA	November 2015	Launch event April 16 th for SAB Partners. Roadshows taken place. SCIE Care Act compliance checklist completed.
Sussex Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures have been reviewed to reflect Care Act.	SAB	April 2015	Hard copies made available as well as web page.
Annual review of procedures to provide opportunity for changes needed and create audit trail.	Ops / Sussex-wide forum	March 2016	Sussex wide group consisting of statutory SAB members.
Advocacy and support arrangements in place, to be regularly monitored via Ops sub-group.	Ops	October 2015	Commissioning and provider arrangements in place. Referral rates and capacity being monitored.

SAB Priority 2.2 Develop clear mechanisms for responding to and monitoring quality concerns

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Virtual Quality Hub being developed to share intelligence and agree quality pathways.	Ops	November 2015	Following meeting with commissioners, workshop planned November 2015 to agree pathways and thresholds.
Address gaps regarding information sharing by agencies, in line with Care Act requirements.	PQA	July 2015	Progressed through PQA sub-group to enable effective and consistent information sharing arrangements.
Monitor the use of information and its strategic application through audits, client feedback and national returns.	PQA	Ongoing	Continued discussions held via PQA sub group.

Strategic Aim 3 – Performance, Quality and Audit

SAB Priority 3.1 Focus on personalising, defining and measuring safeguarding outcomes that bring safety and people’s wishes together

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Embed outcomes focused engagement with clients through the Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) roll-out. To be demonstrated by case audits, and client feedback.	Ops / PQA	Ongoing	Workshops and training emphasise MSP approach.
Develop safeguarding responses that incorporate client’s views through collated outcome data.	CCSAN / Ops	October 2015	Network meetings have been developed as part of safeguarding response. This will be evaluated in October 2015. Data on client outcomes has started to be collated for analysis.

Strategic Aim 4 – Prevention and engagement

SAB Priority 4.1 Allow the voice of clients, carers, and the local community to be heard in safeguarding policy and practice

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Healthwatch representative chairing CCSAN.	CCSAN	Ongoing	This is now in place.
Client feedback to be obtained and presented to SAB.	CCSAN / PQA	October 2015	Survey being developed through CCSAN to capture client and carer views on safeguarding policy and practice.
Feedback from CCSAN to be incorporated into SAB annual report and strategic plan to be published.	CCSAN	July 2015	Regular feedback sought.
SAB to recruit lay member through Healthwatch, as another mechanism for consultation with local community.	SAB	October 2015	Role description developed with Healthwatch.

SAB Priority 4.2 Ensure that people are aware of safeguarding and know what to do if they have a concern

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Develop and deliver a targeted awareness raising campaign with primary care.	TFG	January 2016	To be discussed at October SAB meeting.
ASC safeguarding information leaflets have been updated to reflect Care Act changes.	SAB	April 2015	Easy read guides to be developed and shared.
Revise SAB web content for clear information for the public.	SAB	October 2015	Revised web content now live, relevant documents to be uploaded when available. Consider independent SAB website for greater accessibility for all partners and the public.

Healthwatch roadshow planned for September 2015 to involve Safeguarding Development Team to raise public awareness.	CCSAN	September 2015	Scoping has started.
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Strategic Aim 5 – Integration/Training and workforce development

SAB Priority 5.1 Ensure that all people involved in safeguarding have the appropriate skills, knowledge and competencies

Action / Measure	Lead	Timescale	Progress
Safeguarding competencies to be revised and updated for multi-agency use	TFG	October 2015	Task and Finish Group agreed at April meeting, to be convened by July 2015.
Sussex-wide training forum to be developed with the three safeguarding leads and other agencies as appropriate.	STF	March 2016	Sussex wide group consisting of statutory partners to include training as part of review of policy and procedures.
SAB multi-agency training strategy to be developed to include new categories in Care Act, link with LSCB training where appropriate, and address training needs identified in annual multi-agency audit.	TFG	October 2015	Task and Finish group commenced. Domestic abuse training group includes reps from both adult training and LSCB.

Key

SAB	Safeguarding Adults Board
STF	Sussex Training Forum
TFG	Task & Finish Group
PQA	Performance, Quality & Audit Sub-group
Ops	Operational Practice Sub-group
CCSAN	Client & Carer Safeguarding Advisory Network

Appendix 1 – Partners of the East Sussex SAB

Partners of the East Sussex Safeguarding Adults Board are:

- East Sussex Adult Social Care
- Sussex Police
- Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- Trading Standards
- East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
- South East Coast Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust
- Eastbourne, Hailsham & Seaford Clinical Commissioning Group
- Hastings & Rother Clinical Commissioning Group
- High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Group
- Residential Care Association
- Lewes Prison
- National Probation Service
- Kent, Surrey, Sussex Community Rehabilitation Service
- Homecare representatives
- Lewes District Council Housing
- Sussex Downs College
- Local Safeguarding Children's Board
- Care for the Carers
- Healthwatch
- NHS England