

North Somerset Council

Report to the Adult Services & Housing Policy & Scrutiny Panel

Date of Meeting: 2 November 2023

Subject of Report: North Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board

Member Presenting: Teresa Bell

Key Decision: No

Reason: Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

Recommendations: Note and comment on the Annual Report

1. Summary of Report

Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) are a Statutory duty under the Care Act 2014. The overarching purpose of an SAB is to help and safeguard adults who draw on care and support needs. The SAB is required to:

- assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place
- assure itself that safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focused
- work collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect
- assure itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area.

The SAB leads adult safeguarding arrangements across its locality and requires assurance on the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of the partner agencies. This will require the SAB to develop and actively promote making safeguarding personal within the local community. The SAB requires assurance that partners are working together to prevent abuse and neglect, such as:

- the safety of adults with care and support needs
- effective interventions with adults who self-neglect
- the quality of local care and support services

Highlights from the Annual Report

Funding

- North Somerset Council: £34,260
- Avon and Somerset Constabulary: £7,128
- Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire CCG: £25,150

SARs Published and available [here](#):

- Thematic Review (3 cases of self-neglect)
- Abi and Kim
- Colin

Safeguarding within social care and NSC

- Meeting strategic intention to Transitional Safeguarding and Trauma Informed practice:
 - Trauma informed needs assessments lead to a young adult being placed in a more appropriate facility to meet their specific needs
- CQC Rating of NSC contracted services improved from Inadequate to Requires Improvement:
 - Outstanding 1%
 - Good 88%
 - Requires Improvement 10%
 - Inadequate 1%
- Wellness Service
 - Offered as free to residents of North Somerset, over the age of 18
 - Reduces social isolation
 - Signposts people to wider community resources where appropriate
 - Maintain a person's independence in the community
- Long Term Homelessness Solutions
 - Recognising there is not one solution
 - Using a variety of organisations and methods to improve rough sleeping and homelessness across North Somerset

Avon and Somerset Police

- Improved approach to Violence Against Women and Girls delivery plan
- HMICFRS PEEL inspection found constabulary to be adequate in the area of protecting vulnerable people
- Offering more training around safeguarding to officers un understanding and recognising adults at risk
- Further training offered around Domestic Abuse, Modern Slavery
- Dementia Safeguarding Scheme reached 8 years

BNSSG ICB

- Continuing to develop and provide training for Primary Care colleagues
- Current recruitment of three Deputy Designated roles in strengthening the capacity of the Designated Nurse role
- Further joint working across the SAB and take learning from the recent LGA review, improving methods of enabling increased representation and attendance by health service staff at North Somerset adult safeguarding meetings

Changes and Recruitment

Over the last year the NSSAB leadership has changed through successful recruited to a well-equipped permanent Business Manager and a highly experienced Independent Chair who:

- Evaluated the attendance of the Board, subgroups, its efficiency and effectiveness
- Brought a fresh enthusiasm and commitment to the Board to proactively engage the Partnership and drive the objectives within the Strategic Plan
- Introduced new subgroup chairs and refreshed many of their memberships, to ensure a best fit approach

Subgroups

Chairs

- Having been refreshed, this subgroup forms a meeting space for all subgroups Chairs to provide centralised updates, voice concerns, generate ideas and build relationships across subgroups

SAR Committee

- The Business Manager has been very involved with the SAR process, implementing written procedures and processes
- The Chair has recently moved roles and has been replaced with an interim from the BNSSG ICB, Vanessa Colman

Learning and Development

- Principal Social Worker has taken over as Chair, who has direct involvement with Learning and Development within Adult Social Services
- At present, this subgroup aims to meet more frequently in order to better their momentum, after seeing a membership refreshment

Adult Exploitation

- Chief Inspector for North Somerset, Jonathan Murray, has newly assumed his role and is now Chair for this subgroup
- Both Chair and co-Chair are working towards solidifying the aims of this subgroup, with guidance from the Board Manager and Chairs subgroup

Policy and Procedures

- Well established subgroup with firm membership, knowledge and action in place

Quality and Performance

- Well established subgroup with firm membership, knowledge and action in place

Communications and Community Engagement

- Newly formed group currently seeking a permanent Chair
- Core attendees have been established and the subgroup aims to meet more frequently at present to gain momentum



Opportunities to interact:

Now that the Board has appropriate commitment and achieved firmer groundwork, there is greater opportunity to engage with the Children's Board, including work around tackling exploitation and children coming to transitional age. There is also potential to combine Communications and Community Engagement subgroups into one, as well as a more joined approach to training.

2. Policy: Safeguarding Adult Policy and Procedures

3. Details: None

4. Consultation: None

5. Financial Implications: None

Costs contained within the document

Funding

6. Legal Powers and Implications: None

7. Climate Change and Environmental Implications: None

8. Risk Management: None

9. Equality Implications: None

10. Corporate Implications: None

11. Options Considered: None

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Appendices: None

**Background Papers: Safeguarding Adults Annual Report
Safeguarding Adults Strategic Plan**