

Report of Director of Adult Social Services

Report to Executive Board

Date: 16th November 2016

Subject: Safeguarding Adults Board, Annual Report 2015/16 and Strategic Plan

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Summary of main issues

1. This report introduces members of the Executive Board to the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2015/16 and its Strategic Plan for the next three years.
2. In April 2015, the Safeguarding Adults Board became a statutory body. During 2015/16 the Board has seized this as an opportunity to undertake a significant review of its membership, structures, sub-groups and future priorities. This provides the foundations for the Board to take forwards its ambitions in future years.
3. The Annual Report is available to access at www.leedsafeguardingadults.gov.uk.

Recommendations

4. Members of the Board are requested to note the contents of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board 2015/16 Annual Report and the Board's Strategic Plan going forward.

1. Purpose of this report

- 1.1 This report introduces the Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report 2015/16 at Appendix 1 with an 'easy read version' at Appendix 1a, and Strategic Plan at Appendix 2. Together these documents summarise the Board's achievements over the last 12 months and set out its ambitions for the coming year.

2. Background information

- 2.1. The Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board became a statutory body in April 2015, in accordance with the requirements of the Care Act 2014. Richard Jones CBE is the Independent Chair, appointed by Tom Riordan, Chief Executive in October 2015.
- 2.2. The Board includes representation from a broad range of key organisations within the city, including local authority, police and clinical commissioning groups who are all statutory members of the Board. The full list of member organisations on the Board is included within the Annual Report.
- 2.3. The Safeguarding Adults Board has for a number of years produced an Annual Report setting out its achievements each year and an Annual Plan setting out its objectives. This year, under Schedule 2 of the Care Act this has become a legal duty, with an additional requirement that a copy of the report should be sent to "the chief executive and the leader of the local authority which established the SAB".

3. Main issues

- 3.1. Annual Report 2015/16
- 3.2. The Leeds Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2015/16 details the achievements of the Board over the last 12 months.
- 3.3. This year, as in recent years, the Annual Report is accompanied by an Easy Read Version that is intended to make the information accessible to a wider range of people, including those with learning disabilities.
- 3.4. In April 2015 the Board became a statutory body with specific duties and requirements under the Care Act. The report notes that the Board has welcomed this as an opportunity to review and develop how it works to support citizens in Leeds.
- 3.5. This has provided an opportunity to restructure the Board with a revised membership, a new constitution, and to develop its work programmes and sub-groups going forward. This is alongside a review of the Board's support unit, which is currently being restructured and refocused to provide the impetus to take forward the Board's work programme.
- 3.6. The Board has a new Executive Group to support the Board and to coordinate the work of its four sub-groups; Citizen Engagement, Quality Assurance and Performance, Safeguarding Adults Reviews and Learning and Improvement. Together these work streams provide the focus for supporting the Board to achieve its ambitions.

- 3.7. Over the last 12 months, the Board has invested in setting its foundations, and identifying clear ambitions going forward.
- 3.8. Key areas of development and success however have been in relation to developing multi-agency responses and approaches to abuse and neglect. This has involved developing new multi-agency safeguarding adults' policy and procedures, to be compliant with the expectations of the Care Act and the Care and Support Statutory Guidance.
- 3.9. Our multi-agency safeguarding adults' policy and procedures are now shared with West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and York. This collaborative approach provides for the sharing of knowledge and expertise across the region. The changes within the multi-agency procedures support the Board to take forward its ambitions.
- 3.10. Central to the new approach is a greater focus on a personalised approach to safeguarding through:
- Listening to and working towards the person's desired outcome
 - Ensuring people have the support they need to take part in the safeguarding process
 - More flexible and individually tailored responses
 - Proportional and timely responses.
- 3.11. Similarly, the Board has worked to support the development of multi-agency responses to domestic abuse and violence, through the support of its member agencies to the Front Door Safeguarding Hub. The Front Door Safeguarding Hub brings together relevant agencies so as to respond to concerns as a partnership, with a shared understanding of risk and opportunities to provide support.
- 3.12. The Board has also been developing its approach to continuous learning and improvements, thus providing the foundation for ensuring the workforce continually learns from citizens experiences. Over the last 12 months, this has included learning from national events, such as the tragic death of Connor Sparrowhawk in Oxford and lessons from the Savile enquiries.
- 3.13. The Board has been developing its approaches to quality assurance and having developed a range of audit tools. It is in the process of developing multi-agency reflective practice session approaches that will enable us to evaluate our practice across agencies.
- 3.14. Strategic Plan

The Board's vision is for Leeds to be a 'Safe Place for Everyone'.

In support of this vision, the Board has developed a three year strategic plan, identifying four key ambitions that will be the focus of all its work going forward.

Ambition one:

Seek out the voice of the adult at risk

This reflects our ambition to help ensure we provide people with opportunities to disclose abuse and that wherever possible our response is focused on achieving the person's desired outcomes

What we want to achieve for people is:



“I am asked if I feel safe and what help I want,
and this informs what happens”

Ambition Two:

Improve awareness of safeguarding across all our communities

This reflects the desire to ensure that everyone knows how to report abuse and has the confidence to do so. In particular the Board wants to focus on reaching out across the diverse communities of the city.

What we want to achieve for people is:



“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse
is and how I can get help”

Ambition Three:

Improve responses to domestic abuse and violence

This ambition recognises that there have been 19 Domestic Homicide Reviews in Leeds since April 2012, and together with our partner strategic Boards we need to focus on ensuring we provide the best possible responses to domestic abuse and violence.

What we want to achieve for people is:



“I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me”

Ambition Four:

Learn from experience to improve how we work

This ambition recognises the need to take every opportunity to learn from our experiences to improve how we work to safeguard people in the city.

What we want to achieve for people is:



“I am confident that my feedback and experience will help others”

- 3.15. The Board Strategic Plan includes an Annual Plan with more specific objectives for each year.
- 3.16. For the first time this year the Strategic Plan includes an addendum document. This sets out Board Member Organisation commitments to safeguarding adults, at Appendix 3. It identifies what each agency will do within its organisation and networks to help promote each of these ambitions.

4. Corporate Considerations

4.1. Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1. The Board has consulted on its ambitions in the development of its strategic plan. This included:
 - Health and Wellbeing Board
 - Domestic Violence Programme Board
 - Safer Leeds Executive

- Leeds Safeguarding Children Board

In addition the Alliance of Service User Experts were consulted and views through the following networks, as well by publication on the Board's website:

- Healthwatch – newsletter, Take 10 Network and social media
- Adult Social Care – full circle newsletter and social media
- Leeds Forum Network
- Voluntary Action Leeds Network

4.2. Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1. The Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board ambitions recognise the need to promote awareness across Leeds diverse communities. The Board is currently exploring approaches and networks that will help us to achieve this going forward.

4.3. Council Policies and Best Council Plan

- 4.3.1. The Safeguarding Adults Board works together with the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and the Safer Leeds Executive to support people in Leeds to be safe from abuse and neglect. As such this work contributes to the Best Council Plan priority of 'Keeping people safe from harm' and Breakthrough Project: Tackling Domestic Violence and Abuse. It also links through, from a Leeds City Council perspective to the Best Council Plan ambition for a 'Strong Economy, Compassionate City' which then leads through to the relevant outcome for Leeds citizens to 'be safe and feel safe'.

4.4. Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1. The Board is funded jointly by Leeds Adult Social Care, Leeds Clinical Commissioning Group and, from this year, West Yorkshire Police. With this change to funding arrangements the Board has engaged in discussions about how financial decisions will be reached, will be captured in a new 'memorandum of understanding' later in the year.

4.5. Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 None.

4.6. Risk Management

- 4.6.1. This report is part of the risk management and assurance arrangements for Leeds City Council. As such there is a link through to the corporate risk on 'Safeguarding Adults' "Failure of (a) staff in any Council directorate to recognise and report a risk of abuse or neglect facing an adult with care and support needs in Leeds; (b) staff in Adult Social Care to respond appropriately, in line with national legislation and Safeguarding Adults procedures"

5. Conclusions

- 5.1. The Annual Report provides evidence that the Board has undertaken a significant review of its structures and work programmes so as to be compliant with the Care Act and provide the foundations for driving forward the work programme.
- 5.2. Work throughout 2015/16 has enabled us to develop and adopt new multi-agency safeguarding adults policy and procedures, that we now share with our partner Boards in West Yorkshire, North Yorkshire and York. This provides the foundation for more flexible and individually tailored responses, in line with Care Act 2014 and making Safeguarding Personal principles.
- 5.3. The Strategic Plan sets out a clear focus for the Board's work going forward, and the Member Organisation Commitments help to illustrate how partners have committed to a continuing programme of work designed help us all achieve the Board's ambitions for people in Leeds.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Members of the Board are requested to note the contents of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board 2015/16 Annual Report and the Board's Strategic Plan going forward.

7. Background documents¹

- 7.1 None.

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.