

Report of the Director of Adult Social Services

Report to Executive Board

Date: 17th July 2013

Subject: Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2012/13

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 2012/13, and the work plan for 2013/14.
2. The Annual Report will be available to access at www.leedsafeguardingadults.gov.uk following the Executive Board meeting.

Recommendations

3. Members of the Executive Board are requested to note the content of the attached 2012/13 annual report and endorse the work programme of the Safeguarding Adults Board for 2013/14.

1 Purpose of this report

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce the sixth annual report of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board and to update the Executive Board on the work of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board.

2 Background information

- 2.1 Each year Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board produces an annual report of its business for the previous year and a work programme for the following year. The work programme is informed by the priorities of the Board and its partner agencies.
- 2.2 The Queen's speech this Spring included the intention to put Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing as part of the Care Bill. The Care Bill signals parity for Safeguarding Adults Boards in that regard with Safeguarding Children Boards, and a formal recognition of the work of Adult Boards as a national priority for central government. It is anticipated that Safeguarding Adults Boards will be put on a statutory basis during 2014.
- 2.3 The recent attention to promoting safety and better care services has been greatly influenced at a national level by both the Winterbourne View case, involving adults with learning disabilities who lived in a private hospital, and the Francis Enquiry into the failings at Mid Staffordshire Hospitals NHS Trust. Together, these two cases have resulted in some increased requirements to ensure good quality care and to provide assurance to patients and citizens about what can be expected in public care settings.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The Leeds Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board Sixth Annual Report 2012/13 details the achievements of the Board over the last 12 months. The Board involves statutory and non-statutory agencies as members with the sole purpose of achieving continual improvements in practice that safeguards adults at risk of harm from abuse or neglect in Leeds.
- 3.2 Achievements during 2012/13 include:
- The Board in Leeds has worked other West Yorkshire Safeguarding Adult Board to develop West Yorkshire Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adult Policy and Procedures that were implemented on the 1st April 2013. This achievement marks a new relationship of working in partnership with other West Yorkshire Safeguarding Adult Boards.
 - There were 3438 safeguarding referrals during 2012/13, which is a marginal decrease of 11 from the previous year. This may indicate, following consistent year on year increases, that awareness of safeguarding adults has become increasingly embedded within services that support adults at risk.

- The Board has started publishing a quarterly Bulletin that provides updates on developments in safeguarding, both locally and nationally.
- The Board has introduced quarterly Learning From Practice events to share learning from practice with practitioners, and to support the development of best practice.
- New questionnaires have been piloted to capture and learn from the experiences of adults at risk within the safeguarding process.
- Safeguarding adult training by Adult Social Care and NHS organisations alone has been provided to 14,307 people across Level 1 and Level 2 of our Training and Workforce Development Framework. In addition, 416 training opportunities were provided by Safeguarding Adult Partnership Support Unit at Level 3 and Level 4.
- Methods for monitoring practice against the Board's Quality Assurance Framework were finalised and implemented for safeguarding adults, enabling Health and Social Care member organisations to sample safeguarding practice against these standards, supporting the development of targeted improvements.
- A Serious Case Review and a further four 'Learning the Lesson Reviews' have been completed during 2012/13.
- According to national data published in February 2013, during 2011/12 Leeds has the highest use of Independent Mental Capacity Advocates (IMCAs) in the country. Nevertheless the use of IMCA services during 2012/13 increased further by 15%.
- A Transfer of Supervisory Body (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) Event was held on the 4th March 2013 to support the transfer of supervisory bodies responsibilities from NHS to Adult Social Care. Referrals for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) have increased in Leeds from 98 to 122 (an increase of 25%) during 2012/13.
- The Board has also developed a Strategic Plan for its work streams going forward. A summary of the Strategic Aims and Objectives is included in the Annual Report. The full document is published on the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership website: www.leedssafeguardingadults.org.uk.

3.3 An analysis of safeguarding referrals and investigations over the last 12 months reveals the following findings:

- 36% (1213) of referrals were responded to as requiring a safeguarding investigation. This is in line with the previous year. 1183 investigations were recorded as commencing in the year. This is a significant improvement on the previous year, following some focussed data quality and assurance work during 2012/13.

- Physical disability/frailty (excluding sensory impairment) and learning disability are the most highly represented client groups amongst referrals leading to an investigation (together accounting for 57%). This is in line with the previous year. In the previous year these groups represented a bigger proportion overall (68%). This year these have reduced as a proportion of the total, so that the proportion of investigations relating to people with dementia (21%) is now almost as big a proportion as investigations relating to people with learning disabilities (22%), and the group that has grown the most as a proportion is investigations relating to people with mental health problems (16% in 2012/13 compared to only 5% in 2011/12). This growth is because for the first year, the Safeguarding Adults Board has been able to capture the safeguarding activity undertaken by the Leeds and York Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (LYPFT), who undertake much of the mental health work in Leeds).
- Of the safeguarding investigations undertaken, the most frequent were Type 1 investigations (57%, an increase compared to the previous year's 53%), followed by Type 2 (25%, a slight decrease from the previous year's 26%), Type 3 (14%, a decrease compared to the previous year's 17%) and Type 4 (4%, no change in percentage from the previous year's 4%).
- In 59% of completed investigations the allegation was either substantiated or partly substantiated "on the balance of probabilities". This was a slight increase of 1% compared to the previous year's 58%.
- Use of the Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) service increased from 2011/12 to 2012/13 by 15%, with a significant increase of 53% increase in the use of the service in Care Reviews. Whilst this is a smaller percentage increase overall than the previous year, it indicates a better understanding of when an IMCA can be involved.
- Applications for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) increased from 98 during 2011/12 to 122 in 2012/13, an increase of 25%. This is a smaller percentage increase than the previous year when the increase was 76% on the previous year's figures.

- 3.4 The Annual Report describes in detail the board's achievements over the last 12 months. Based on the Board's learning and development over the last 12 months, the Board has agreed priorities for 2013/14, which are detailed within the attached Board Business Plan 2013/14.
- 3.5 All the information contained in the report and the activity that has taken place in 2012/13 have been reported to the Care Quality Commission and the governance structures of the safeguarding partners.
- 3.6 Performance monitoring and quality assurance of safeguarding adults work is undertaken locally within each local authority area. 2012/13 has seen the third national collection of activity data for Safeguarding Adults. This data forms the basis of the activity reported in section 4 of the annual report.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 Based on the community engagement event “Have your Say about Safeguarding Adults” during 2011/12, a Customer Satisfaction Questionnaire has been piloted during 2012/13. The pilot has involved small numbers of returns to date, each of which has contributed to our understanding of what works well for adults at risk. The use of the questionnaire continues, with a view to extending its use more widely during 2013/14. Further development work is planned to seek the views of service providers and carers involved in the safeguarding process.
- 4.1.2 2013/14 also saw the consultation on the West Yorkshire Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures. Following that consultation, the policy and procedures were finalised, and went live across West Yorkshire from 1st April 2013.

4.2 Equality and Diversity / Cohesion and Integration

- 4.2.1 There are no specific considerations under this heading.

4.3 Council policies and City Priorities

- 4.3.1 Safeguarding Adults work contributes to the City priority of helping people to stay safe. The Safeguarding Adults Board works together with the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board and the Safer Leeds Executive to progress this priority.

4.4 Resources and value for money

- 4.4.1 The resource implications of the Board are set out in the annual report. The Board’s work is funded equally by the NHS and Adult Social Care. West Yorkshire Police contribute in kind to the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board. In addition to this, Board partners work together to undertake investigations into allegations of abuse and neglect and to support adults at risk of harm to manage the risks they face by developing protection arrangements. Arrangements in Leeds for resourcing the Safeguarding Adults Board are in line with the draft Care Bill, which explicitly refers to NHS, Adult Social Care and Police as the bodies responsible for resourcing the work of Safeguarding Adults Board.

4.5 Legal Implications, Access to Information and Call In

- 4.5.1 The legal implications relate to a significant array of legislation in relation to offences against the person, guidance in relation to Care Standards, Mental Capacity, the implementation of specific guidance in relation to Adult Safeguarding, the Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act and the Protection of Freedoms Act.
- 4.5.2 Local arrangements to manage the requirements of the Mental Capacity Act (2005) and the associated Deprivation of Liberty safeguards are managed within the governance structures of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board, reflecting national best practice and policy guidance.

4.6 Risk Management

- 4.6.1** The nature of Safeguarding Adults work is that there is always risk involved. It is often the case that there is disagreement between parties involved. The Board is determined to ensure that its processes are just and fair to reduce the risk of challenges to partner organisations. Where challenges do arise, legal advice is provided by the Council to the Board, to ensure that risk to the statutory sector partners is informed and well-managed.
- 4.6.2 Whilst it is not possible to remove all risks of harm from abuse or neglect, assessment and management of the risks are major elements of Safeguarding Adults work with individuals. The Safeguarding Adults Board has embraced a multi-agency risk assessment and management process during 2012/13.
- 4.6.3 It is recognised that whilst protection planning is intended to minimise the risk of harm, this must be done in a way that does not compromise the independence of the individual unnecessarily. From April 2013, it will be recorded, following each safeguarding referral, whether risk has been removed or reduced or if it remains. This is now part of a national data collection, and recognises that some people choose to live with an element of risk, and have the mental capacity to choose to do so.

5 Conclusions

- 5.1 The Annual Report provides evidence that systems and practices to safeguard vulnerable adults, continue to be firmly established as being everybody's business in Leeds, and used more widely across all sectors.
- 5.2 Work throughout 2012/13 has ensured that this principle is now embraced across West Yorkshire in the new shared West Yorkshire multi-agency policy and procedures.
- 5.3 The Annual Report provides assurance that that all the partners have committed to a continuing programme of work designed to achieve excellence in safeguarding practice in Leeds.
- 5.4 Work will continue throughout 2013/14 with the other West Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Boards to review the West Yorkshire-wide Policy and Procedures as the Care Bill continues its passage through Parliament and finally Safeguarding Adults Boards and their responsibilities become a statutory requirement.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members of the Executive Board are requested to note the content of the attached 2012/13 annual report and endorse the work programme of the Adult Safeguarding Board for 2013/14.

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.