



---

## Report of the Director of Adult Social Services

### Executive Board

**Date:** 22 June 2010

**Subject:** Leeds Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board report 2009/10.

<b>Electoral Wards Affected:</b>  <input type="checkbox"/> Ward Members consulted (referred to in report)	<b>Specific Implications For:</b>  Equality and Diversity <input type="checkbox"/> Community Cohesion <input type="checkbox"/> Narrowing the Gap <input type="checkbox"/>
Eligible for Call In <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Not Eligible for Call In (Details contained in the report) <input type="checkbox"/>

---

### Executive Summary

This report introduces Members of the Executive Board to the annual report for 2009/10 of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. The Annual report provides information on how all agencies with responsibilities in relation to safeguarding adults, under the leadership of the Director of Adult Social Services, have built on the proposals contained in the first and second annual reports of the partnership (last presented to the Executive Board in July 2009). The report is included at Appendix 1 with Board Members' copies of the agenda only, however copies can be obtained from the clerk named on the front of the agenda sheet. The Annual Report will be available to access at [www.leedsafeguardingadults.gov.uk](http://www.leedsafeguardingadults.gov.uk) following this Board meeting.

The report is able to evidence greater effectiveness arising out of the revised governance arrangements of the Board. The report is able to demonstrate the attendance and commitment of senior officers from all partnership organizations, the active involvement of citizen representation and the progress achieved by the sub-groups which support the work of the board.

Also highlighted is the successful development of the infrastructure support to both the Board and the wider partnership. This development is evidenced by the greater proportion of appropriate outcomes in safeguarding enquiries facilitated by better access to specialist training across the partnership and access to the expertise of the Safeguarding Partnership Unit. The report details the significant achievements of the previous year including the conclusion of two serious case reviews, the incorporation of learning from those reviews into both procedures and workforce development right across the partnership.

Finally, the report contains more detailed information on the direct work undertaken in 2009/10 by officers within the wider partnership and adult social care with significantly greater numbers of people who were referred because of their need to be safeguarded or otherwise protected from harm. The information presented is better recorded and as a consequence, more accurately represents the amount of safeguarding work generated.

The report concludes by setting out the detailed work programme for the Board in 2010/11.

## **1.0 Purpose of Report.**

1.1 This report introduces the third annual report of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, as in previous years, the report seeks the agreement of the Board to adopt the content of the annual report and to approve the workplan of the Board for the 2010/11 performance year. Although the Board does not have the same statutory framework as that designated for Safeguarding Children Boards, the formal recognition of the work of Adult Boards is a national priority for central government and the Health and Social Care regulator, the Care Quality Commission.

## **2. Background**

2.1 Members of the Executive Board were presented with the second annual report of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board in July 2009. That report set out activity which had taken place in the previous year to establish steps that would need to be taken to reinforce the safeguarding partnership, augment the infrastructure supporting it and to drive up standards of safeguarding practice in front line services within all partner organisations.

2.2 The outcome of the Independence Wellbeing and Choice inspection of adult social care services was reported to the Executive Board in December 2008. That report drew attention to areas of deficiency in both the strategic oversight of safeguarding and the quality of practice identified within the casework which had been under inspection. The previous annual report underlined progress that had been made towards improving safeguarding standards in the City and paving the way for further improvements in the 2009/10 performance year.

2.3 As set out in the priorities for action in the 2009/10 report regular accountability meetings have taken place between the Board Chair and the Director of Adult Social Services, the Executive Lead Member, the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board and, significantly, within the governance structures of the statutory partners.

## **3. Main Issues**

3.1.1 The attached Annual report sets out that there has, for the second year running, been a significant increase in the number of referrals made into the Leeds Safeguarding Adult Partnership during 2009/10. This reflects a significantly increased awareness of vulnerable adult issues and understanding of the need to safeguard adults through the revised multi-agency procedures.

3.1.2 This trend is associated with the range of measures introduced during 2009/10 that include training and workforce development programmes, investment and deployment of specialist practitioner posts, communication initiatives alongside commitment across the whole partnership to increased ownership of Safeguarding responsibilities.

3.1.3 The annual report which is also presented today sets out this activity for the 2009/10 year, the report also sets out the prospective activity planned for 2010/11 (for both the Board and its sub-groups) The increasing number of referrals and the changing profile of the outcomes for those referrals now reflect significantly more appropriate responses to safeguarding concerns by all agencies.

3.1.4 It is of note that referrals from Housing providers have seen the most significant referral rate indicating an increased and active engagement within the revised partnership arrangements. The referrals received from NHS staff continues to increase proportionally year on year and similar trends apply to both the Police and social care staff in provided services..

3.1.5 For the first time, the report is able to set out the work of the sub-groups of the Board. The groups, having been established early in 2009, are now established, chaired by professionals

from across the partnership and reporting their work to each meeting of the Board, have established themselves as the focus of developing policy, practice, assuring performance and developing the workforce.

- 3.1.6 Finally, the report deals with the success against the targets contained in the second annual report of the Board and outlines the various national safeguarding developments occurring during 2009/10. The report concludes by setting out the priorities for the Board for the 2010/11 performance year.
- 3.7 Since June 2008, the Board has been chaired by the Deputy Director (Strategic Commissioning) within a separate accountability agreement to the Director of Adult Social Services. All the Board initiatives set out in the attached report continue to have been put into place under this arrangement. The intention was made plain in the previous report to appoint an independent Chair for the commencement of the 2010/11 performance year. A recruitment process conducted in the latter part of 2009 failed to identify a suitable candidate and is currently being repeated.
- 3.8 All the information contained in the report and the activity that has taken place in 2009/10 have been reported back to the Commission for Social Care Inspection, the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board and the governance structures of the safeguarding partners. Against the criteria used by the Care Quality Commission Adult Social Services have advised CQC that they now regard performance as being 'good' and therefore having demonstrated improvement over the judgment for 2008/09. The CQC will provide their formal definitive response to this self assessment in November.

#### **4.0 Policy and Governance Implications**

- 4.1 The Board has agreed to keep all the governance arrangements set out in the 'Memorandum of Understanding' under review during the current performance year, adjustments to the constitution will be made in order to address any anomalies or deficiencies. This is particularly important in the light of the likelihood of further guidance emerging for Local safeguarding Partnerships as a consequence of the outcome of the previous Government review of the 2000 'No Secrets' framework, responding quickly to address any new requirements will be important.

#### **5. Legal & Resource Implications**

- 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, the implementation of specific guidance in relation to Adult Safeguarding, Dignity in Care.
- 5.2 For the coming performance year, the Board has agreed that the local arrangements to implement all the requirements of the 2004 Mental Capacity Act and the associated Deprivation of Liberty requirements are to be brought under the governance structures of the Safeguarding Partnership Board, this reflects both national best practice and policy guidance.
- 5.3 The resource implications of the new arrangements are set out in the annual report, however, in summary, Adult Social Care, as part of the 2009/10 budget setting process, identified a total investment package of £878K to support and augment front-line practitioners. An element of this investment has been used to ensure that the overall partnership has an effective infrastructure which is able to support safeguarding activity across the wider partnership.
- 5.4 Elements of this investment are being offset by contributions from partners, where appropriate as income (in the case of NHS Leeds for example) or in terms of time devoted by officers to supporting the work of the partnership (in the case of the West Yorkshire Police, for example).
- 5.5 The elements of contribution will remain under review and will continue to be reported through the annual report.

## **6. Conclusions**

- 6.1 Safeguarding Adults, especially vulnerable adults in Leeds is now more firmly established as being everybody's business. In the publication of the third annual report of the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, Members of the Executive Board continue to be provided with evidence that the both the system, practice and outcomes for people in need of Safeguarding is kept under close and regular review.
- 6.2 Members will wish to be assured that the practical as well as strategic requirements of this approach are well understood and implemented by key staff from across the safeguarding partnership and, increasingly, by the wider public. Further, this report seeks to provide assurance that that all the partners have committed to a programme designed to achieve excellence in Safeguarding practice in Leeds. The annual report and workplan for 2009/10 set out the practical steps to be taken in helping to achieve that goal in the coming year.
- 6.3 In support of the crucial role played by the Local Authority in ensuring the safety of it's citizens, Members of the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board have continued to retain a close interest in the development of these arrangements, their support and interest has been both important and welcome. In continuance of this overview, the Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board has requested six-monthly reports in relation to the performance of safeguarding in the City in the coming year.

## **7.0 Recommendation**

- 7.1 Members of the Executive Board are requested to note the content of the attached 2009/10 annual report and endorse the work programme of the Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board for 2010/11.

## **Background Documents referred to in this Report**

Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board – Annual Report 2009/10