

Report of the Director of Adult Social Services

Report to Executive Board

Date: 18th July 2012

Subject: Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership Annual Report 2011/12

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 Partnership Board Annual Report 2011/12, and the work plan for 2012/13.
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 2011/12 annual report and endorse the work programme of the Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board for 2012/13.

1 Purpose of this report

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

2 Background information

- 2.1 Each year Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership 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 Although Safeguarding Adults Boards do not yet 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. It is anticipated that Safeguarding Adults Boards will be put on a statutory basis, although the exact timing is still not confirmed.

3 Main issues

- 3.1 The Leeds Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board Fifth Annual Report 2011/12 details the achievements of the Board over the last 12 months. The Board is a voluntary arrangement of statutory and non-statutory agencies with the sole purpose of achieving continual improvements in practice that safeguards vulnerable citizens in Leeds.
- 3.2 Achievements during 2011/12 include:
- Review and revision of the multi-agency safeguarding adult policy and procedures, and the development of a range of complementary practice guidance.
 - The launch of the Leeds Safeguarding Adults Charter
 - Our first community engagement event, involving a wide range of stakeholders, enabling the Board to learn from those individuals and organisations who have had experience of the safeguarding adult procedures.
 - Development of a quality assurance framework for all stages of the safeguarding adults process.
 - Closer working with other partnerships including joint development work with the Safeguarding Children Board.
- 3.3 The period 2011/12 has seen continued significant increases in the numbers of safeguarding adult referrals, reflecting increasing awareness of safeguarding adult issues and the understanding of the public and professionals in accessing support through the Safeguarding Adults Partnership multi-agency procedures.

- 3.4 An analysis of safeguarding referrals and investigations over the last 12 months reveal the following findings:
- Referrals increased from 2774 (2010/11) to 3449 (2011/12), a 24.3% increase in referrals.
 - 36% (1222) of referrals were responded to as requiring a safeguarding investigation.
 - Physical disability/frailty (excluding sensory impairment) and learning disability are the most highly represented client groups amongst referrals leading to an investigation.
 - Of the safeguarding investigations undertaken, the most frequent were Type 1 investigations (53%), followed by Type 2 (26%), Type 3 (17%) and Type 4 (4%).
 - In 58% of completed investigations the allegation was either substantiated or partly substantiated “on the balance of probabilities”.
 - Use of the Independent Mental Capacity Advocacy (IMCA) service increased from 2010/11 to 2011/12 by 39%.
 - Application for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) increased from 55 during 2010/11 to 97 in 2011/12, an increase of 76%.
- 3.5 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 2012/13, which are outlined in Section 6 of the Annual Report and detailed within the attached Board Business Plan 2012/13.
- 3.6 The Annual Report sets out that there has, for the fourth year running, been a continued increase in the number of referrals made into the Leeds Safeguarding Adult Partnership during 2011/12. This reflects an increased awareness of vulnerable adult issues and understanding of the need to safeguard adults through the revised multi-agency procedures.
- 3.7 All the information contained in the report and the activity that has taken place in 2011/12 have been reported back to the Care Quality Commission and the governance structures of the safeguarding partners.
- 3.8 Performance monitoring and quality assurance of safeguarding adults work is undertaken locally within each local authority area. 2011/12 has seen the second national collection of activity data for Safeguarding Adults. This data forms the basis of the activity reported in section 4 of the annual report. The Leeds Safeguarding Adults Board and its partners also use a balanced scorecard approach to take forward the monitoring of performance and quality assurance.
- 3.9 As recent national publicity on safeguarding vulnerable adults has shown, there is no room for complacency: there is always work to be done in this area.

4 Corporate Considerations

4.1 Consultation and Engagement

- 4.1.1 In November 2011, the Board held its first community engagement event called "Have your Say about Safeguarding Adults". This event, was attended by 100 people who have experienced the safeguarding process. Those that attended included adults at risk of harm, family carers, private and voluntary sector care home and home care service providers and advocacy services.
- 4.1.2 This event enabled the Board to learn a tremendous amount about what people value and what works well to help them manage the risks they face. The Board has revised the multi-agency procedures based on what people have told us, and training has also been adapted to emphasise this learning.

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.

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. 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.

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 new 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 likely to be 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 developed a quality assurance framework in 2011/12 and is developing its approach to auditing practice against the standards in this framework. 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.

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 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.

6 Recommendations

- 6.1 Members of the Executive Board are requested to note the content of the attached 2011/12 annual report and endorse the work programme of the Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board for 2012/13.

7 Background documents¹

Leeds Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board – Annual Report 2010/11

¹ The background documents listed in this section are available for inspection on request for a period of four years following the date of the relevant meeting. Accordingly this list does not include documents containing exempt or confidential information, or any published works. Requests to inspect any background documents should be submitted to the report author.