

	<h2>Adults and Safeguarding Committee</h2> <h3>16th September 2015</h3>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/15</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Chris Miller, Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board Dawn Wakeling, Adults and Health Commissioning Director</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Key</p>	<p>Non Key</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix A – Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014-15 Appendix B – Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2014-16</p>
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Summary

The Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi-agency group that meets four times a year and reports annually on its work. The Board was established to ensure there is a multi-agency approach to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse within Barnet.

The Board's governance arrangements ensure that the Board reports on its work to the Council through the Adults and Safeguarding Committee and due to the important multi-agency arrangements and the role of health, it is noted by the Health and Well-being Board as well as each partners executive Board. Following the passing of the Care Act in April 2014 the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board has become a statutory body with a number of legally enforceable duties from April 2015.

The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Report has been written in an accessible format for members of the public. The report documents the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board in 2014-15. It outlines membership of the Board, work of the Safeguarding Adults User

Forum, work plan progress and analysis of safeguarding alerts received during 2014-15 and priorities for 2014-16.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Committee note and make comments on the information contained within the Draft Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014-15 which the Multi- Agency Safeguarding Adults Board were asked to approve on 10th September 2015.**
- 2. That the Committee note the current Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan for 2014-16 to ensure that there is a continued robust multi-agency approach to safeguarding residents in Barnet, with involvement from the Council, NHS Barnet Health Trusts, the Police and the Voluntary Sector.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1** The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report provides details about Safeguarding work carried out within the Council from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015. The report outlines membership of the Board, work of the Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum, work plan progress and analysis of safeguarding alerts received during 2014-15. The Board is chaired by an independent person, Chris Miller.
- 1.2** Since 2000 and the publication of “No Secrets” the local authority has been required to take a lead coordinating role with all relevant organisations on safeguarding adults in its area. The Care Act 2014 places this in primary legislation for the first time. Whilst the Care Act 2014 came into effect from April 2015 and therefore does not cover this reporting period, preparations have been put in place to ensure that the Board is compliant with the statutory legislation.
- 1.3** The Safeguarding Adults Board has to report on its work to elected members via the Adults and Safeguarding Committee and then to partners and members at the Health and Wellbeing Board. Additionally, each agency represented on the Board will present the report to their agency executive Board.
- 1.4** The work of the Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum continues to ensure that the voice of service users remains central to our safeguarding work. The Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum meets quarterly. This model of engagement was identified as a good practice model during a Safeguarding Adults Peer Review carried out in March 2013.
- 1.5** The Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Board has worked to support family carers across the partnership including working with the Barnet Carers Centre to support carers and raise awareness of safeguarding processes. The Carers Forum actively worked to raise awareness of carers as reporters of abuse, potential victims and also potential perpetrators. Additionally, there has been training for staff about how we can better support carers as a result of the new legislation.

- 1.6 Local health services have continued throughout 2014-15 to improve the quality and safety of local services. Each of the Council's health partners have staff dedicated to Safeguarding and an established internal Safeguarding Group. This ensures that patients receiving health services are treated with dignity and respect, that the most vulnerable patients receive the care they need and that if things are not done correctly they are taken seriously and investigated thoroughly to ensure they do not occur again. All partners have Safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act training in place for their staff.
- 1.7 The Board requires each health partner to report on their plans and the progress that they have made on a scheduled basis. In addition each health partner has been required to attend a "present and challenge" session with the Safeguarding Adults User Forum to ensure they are safeguarding the patients in their care.
- 1.8 Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust have carried out an internal audit to ensure the London Safeguarding Adults Procedures have been followed appropriately. They have also introduced a safeguarding surgery which is attended by clinicians from across the organisation. The forum promotes a patient centred approach, collaborative working with partners and implementation of the new legislation.
- 1.9 The Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust has strengthened their safeguarding team by appointing more staff, including a lead nurse of safeguarding based at Barnet and Chase Farm Hospitals. They have worked with the Board to ensure practice in relation to the Mental Capacity Act and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards has improved across the organisation.
- 1.10 Central London Community Healthcare NHS Trust have worked to protect patients vulnerable to pressure ulcers by ensuring staff are trained in prevention and skilled in the assessment of these if they develop. They have also increased awareness of staff about abuse and where to report it. This can be evidenced in the increase in safeguarding alerts by this agency.
- 1.11 The Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is responsible for ensuring that all Health organisations have effective arrangements in place to safeguard adults at risk of abuse. The CCG have worked on a quality initiative with the community health care provider to identify risks, prevent pressure ulcers and manage the care of patients who develop them. They have also organised patient and carer events focusing on lasting power of attorneys and advanced decisions. They have taken part in the Domestic Homicide Review and have worked with NHS England to implement recommendations for Primary Care Services.
- 1.12 The Safeguarding Adults Training Programme for 2014-15 was delivered to 515 staff across the health and social care workforce. The core training included awareness sessions, policy and procedure training and Safeguarding Adults Investigations. An additional significant number of staff were trained by

NHS Health Trusts across the different sites in line with local targets, and we hosted another successful Safeguarding month in November in conjunction with the Safeguarding Children's Board.

- 1.13 In 2013/14 there were 55 applications for the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). However in March 2014 there was a change in law following a judgement of the Supreme Court. This broadened the number of people affected to include anyone who lacks capacity to make decisions about their care and treatment in a care home or hospital and who is under continuous supervision and control and not free to leave. This judgement has led to an unprecedented increase of 640 applications for authorisation of the DoLS.
- 1.14 The Board has continued its work throughout 2014-15 to increase public awareness of what abuse is and how it can be reported. Raising Awareness amongst members of the public was a high priority for the Boards work in 2014-15. The Board planned a number of events to raise awareness throughout the year including World Elder Abuse Awareness week held June 2014, and Safeguarding Month in November 2014. Events focused on topics such as the Mental Capacity Act, domestic violence, support for family carers and a conference for care home staff on preventing harm. Safeguarding information has been contained in a number of publications available to the public such as the Barnet First magazine and the Local Account of adult social care.
- 1.15 The London Fire Brigade carried out 2490 free home fire safety visits to Barnet residents in 2014-15.
- 1.16 The Community Safety Partnership has been working to reduce the risk of residents becoming victims of burglary, by providing crime prevention guidance and working to reduce the risk of individuals becoming repeat victims of burglary. This has been achieved through home visits which assess the safety of their home and provide them with free locks and security measures. There was a further 2.5% reduction in Burglary in the borough compared to last year.
- 1.17 The Police have improved their response to adults at risk by introducing 'vulnerability assessments' These are carried out by Police officers and then sent to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), where concerns around the quality of life of the adults at risk is reviewed and assessed to protect the adult. The Police have improved their response to domestic abuse through the introduction of Domestic Violence Protection Orders, where a perpetrator can be banned from having contact with the victim for up to 28 days.
- 1.18 The London Borough of Barnet has one of the largest numbers of care homes in Greater London. There are 101 care homes registered by the Care Quality Commission and these homes provide approx. 2600 beds for a range of older people and younger people with disabilities. The Adults and Communities, Integrated Quality in Care Homes Team continue to work closely with care homes to provide them with advice and support in developing practice, as part

of our commitment to improve the quality of services. Throughout 2014-15 the Integrated Quality in Care Home Team has worked with care homes to develop and implement individual improvement plans. Best practice continues to be shared through quarterly practice forums, workshops and training sessions.

- 1.19 Throughout 2014-15 a total of 764 alerts were received which is a 35% increase on 2013-14. This is the highest number of alerts ever received by the Council. The number of alerts raised by members of the public has increased by 28%. Raising awareness of what is abuse and how to report has been a priority for the Safeguarding Adults Board. This increase in alerts can be seen as a success of that campaign.
- 1.20 The most common alerts concern the alleged neglect of older people, with 54% of alerts relating to older people and of these 38% involved alleged neglect. Neglect along with physical abuse, was also a common concern relating to adults with learning disabilities. For those people with physical disabilities or mental health needs alerts most frequently involved a combination of abuse.
- 1.21 Of the 764 alerts received 487 were referred for further investigation. The number of alerts has increased substantially as has the number investigated, however the percentage of alerts investigated has gone down in comparison to last year. This means that many more people are aware of abuse and where to report it, however the prevalence of abuse has remained similar. 49% of cases investigated were fully or partially substantiated.
- 1.22 The summary achievements of the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board are set out in the attached annual report. The Business Plan for 2014-16 outlines the priorities for the Board in the year ahead and has been developed from consultation with service users, carers and partners; feedback from the service user forum, and consideration of national policy developments.
- 1.23 The key objectives outlined in the Business Plan are:
 - Improve the standards of care to support the dignity and quality of life of vulnerable people in receipt of health and social care, including effective management of pressure sores.
 - Improve access to justice for vulnerable adults (through criminal, civil and restorative justice)
 - Increase understanding of what may constitute as abuse
 - Improve the understanding of service providers of the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
 - Adopt the making safeguarding personal framework and ensure implementation of lessons learned from any serious case reviews or domestic homicide review.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.1 The Adults and Communities Delivery Unit has carried out an analysis of the Safeguarding work carried out from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015 in order to provide assurance to the Safeguarding Adults Board, measure the effectiveness of the work that is carried out and to ensure that lessons are learnt by the organisation.

2.2 The Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2014-16 outlines the priorities which are being addressed by the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board for 2014-16.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.1 No appropriate alternative options available.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report is a public document which can be accessed through the Council website.

4.2 The report includes a lessons learned from a Domestic Homicide Review which are actions aimed at improving the provision of Safeguarding and work that is being carried out. These actions will be implemented and monitored through the work Community Partnership Board in liaison with the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

5.1.1 The Corporate Plan 2015-20 outlines the Council's commitment to safeguarding which underpins everything we do and aims to protect the most vulnerable people, both children and adults, from avoidable harm or abuse.

5.1.2 The Corporate Plan strategic objectives 2015-20 states that; the council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is the place:-

- Of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- Where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that prevention is better than cure...
- Where responsibility is shared, fairly...
- Where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the tax payer.

5.1.3 The Council's aim is to work with partners such as the police, the NHS and with residents to ensure that Barnet remains a place where people want to live and where people feel safe.

5.1.4 Legislation from the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) serve to support the corporate objectives specifically, that Barnet is a place of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life and one of the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Boards Objectives, as outlined in the Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2014-16, is to “improve the understanding of service providers of the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards”.

5.1.5 The Health and Wellbeing Strategy has two overarching aims which are “keeping well” and “keeping independent”. The council’s commitment to ensuring that we safeguard and protect the most vulnerable people within the Borough from avoidable harm or abuse supports this strategy and its success within the London Borough of Barnet.

5.1.6 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014-15 provides the public with an overview of the work that has been carried out by the Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Board throughout 2014-15. This information helps to inform Barnet’s Joint Strategic Needs Assessment which provides an opportunity to explore and understand the needs of users of the health and social care system and to understand and map key health trends locally.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

5.2.1 There are no significant resource implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The activities listed above have been managed within the appropriate organisations existing budgets.

5.2.2 Safeguarding training is currently provided by Adults and Communities and this training is mandatory for all Adults and Communities staff. Safeguarding training is also offered to all Providers commissioned through Adults and Communities and the provision is covered within the Adults and Communities budgets.

5.2.3 The current annual budget for the Safeguarding Adults Board is £91,285, most of which covers specialist safeguarding posts and the post of independent Chair. It also includes training for the health and social care workforce, plus any costs associated with statutory safeguarding adult reviews. Each partner has been asked to provide a contribution towards Board costs; so far contributions have been agreed with the CCG and BEH Mental Health Trust.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board supports the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 by ensuring that robust safeguarding procedures are in place throughout the borough. The council ensures that Providers commissioned to work with adults accessing social care services have the required skills and training to support effective safeguarding throughout the borough and the Board aims to publicise the key issues surrounding safeguarding within the Borough to strengthen the public’s awareness of safeguarding issues.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 Adult Safeguarding is led by the local authority, based on the 'No Secrets' Guidance 2000 issued by the Department of Health under section 7 of the Local Authorities Social Services Act 1970. This is the legislation in place during the timeframe of this report.

5.4.2 The Care Act 2014 came into effect in April 2015. One of the elements of the Act is that Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board has now become a statutory body with a number of legally enforceable duties.

5.4.3 The responsibilities of the Adults and Safeguarding Committee are contained within the Council's Constitution - Section 15 Responsibility for Functions (Annex A). Specific responsibilities of those powers, duties and functions of the Council in relation to Adults and Communities include the following specific function:

- Promoting the best possible Adult Social Care services.

5.4.4 The Adults and Safeguarding Committee is responsible for the following:

- Working with partners on the Health and Well-being Board to ensure that social care interventions are effectively and seamlessly joined up with public health and healthcare, and promote the Health and Well-being Strategy and its associated sub strategies.
- Ensuring that the local authority's safeguarding responsibilities are taken into account.

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 A failure to keep adults at risk of abuse safe from avoidable harm represents not only a significant risk to residents but also to the reputation of the Council. Although safeguarding must be the concern of all agencies working with vulnerable adults, the Local Authority is the lead agency. As such, both members and senior officers carry a level of accountability for safeguarding practice in Barnet. Governance structures are in place to ensure that other lead stakeholders, including the NHS and the police, are represented to ensure that practice across the partnership meets safeguarding requirements.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Equality and diversity issues are a mandatory consideration in decision making in the council pursuant to the Equality Act 2010. This means the Council and all other organisations acting on its behalf must have due regard to the equality duties when exercising a public function. The broad purpose of this duty is to integrate considerations of equality and good relations into day to day business requiring equality considerations to be reflected into the design of policies and the delivery of services and for these to be kept under review.

5.6.2 Section 149 of the Act imposes a duty on 'public authorities' and other bodies when exercising public functions to have due regard to the need to:

- a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the Act
- b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it
- c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

5.6.3 54% of the adults referred were over the age of 65. 60% of these older adults were aged 85 or over. This largely reflects the age profile of Barnet service users receiving a care package. 38% of older people referred have dementia.

Table 1: Primary Client Group Referred

Primary Client Group	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
Older People	63%	56%	54%
Learning Disability	12%	20%	20%
Mental Health	16%	15%	17%
Physical Disability & Sensory	8%	9%	9%

5.6.4 The proportion of alerts involving white residents (74.1%) is very similar to last year and remains representative of the adult social care client base. The number of alerts involving Asian/Asian British adults (64 alerts) has increased by 2% from 2013/14; however, alerts involving this group remain below that which would be expected, based on service user demographics. The number of alerts involving Black/Black British residents has fallen from levels reported in 2013/14 and has returned to those seen in 2012/13. Based on general Adult Social Care figures, the proportion of alerts involving Black/Black British adults is slightly lower than might be expected.

Table 2: Ethnicity adults at risk referred

Ethnic Grouping	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15
White	481	423	565
Asian/ Asian British	38	36	64
Black / Black British	28	51	38
Mixed Ethnic Origin	9	6	8
Any Other Ethnic Group	25	13	16
Not Known	25	33	71

5.6.5 As seen in previous years, there were more referrals concerning women. 456 alerts related to female adults at risk, compared with 296 males. The proportion of alerts concerning female adults at risk, remained at 61%.

5.6.6 The Adults Safeguarding Board Business Plan 2014-16 aims to address the disproportionate impact of the different groups with protected characteristics in regards to safeguarding and one of the ways the plan aims to achieve this is through training.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 The report will assist us in identifying any improvements that need to be made to our Service or, to policy and procedure. This will be done in full consultation with relevant groups before any changes are recommended and implemented.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 No specific insight data has been used to inform the decision required, however the report is based on the analysis of the annual safeguarding data for 2014-15.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 [Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14.](#)