

	<h2 style="text-align: center;">Adults and Safeguarding Committee</h2> <h3 style="text-align: center;">19th September 2016</h3>
<p style="text-align: center;">Title</p>	<p>Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015-16</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Report of</p>	<p>Chris Miller, Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board Dawn Wakeling, Director of Adult Social Services (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: Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015-16</p>
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<h2>Summary</h2>
<p>The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) is a statutory multi-agency group that meets four times a year and reports annually on its work. The Board was established in 2002 to ensure there is a multi-agency approach to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse within Barnet. Following the passing of the Care Act 2014¹, the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board became a statutory body with a number of legally enforceable duties from April 2015.</p> <p>The Board’s vision is for all adults at risk in Barnet to be safeguarded from abuse and neglect in a way that supports them to make choices and have control about how they want to live.</p> <p>The BSAB Business Plan 2016-18 was presented to the Safeguarding and Adults</p>

¹ The Care Act 2014 – www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents

Committee 16th June.

The Care Act 2014 ² prescribes that 'For each financial year, the Safeguarding Adults Board must publish a strategic plan in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Care Act 2014. As soon as is feasible after the end of each financial year, an SAB must publish a report on—

- (a) what it has done during that year to achieve its objective,
- (b) what it has done during that year to implement its strategy,
- (c) what each member has done during that year to implement the strategy,
- (d) the findings of the reviews arranged by it under section 44 (safeguarding adults reviews) which have concluded in that year (whether or not they began in that year),
- (e) the reviews arranged by it under that section which are ongoing at the end of that year (whether or not they began in that year),
- (f) what it has done during that year to implement the findings of reviews arranged by it under that section, and
- (g) where it decides during that year not to implement a finding of a review arranged by it under that section, the reasons for its decision.'

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, the Board's Annual Report is noted by the Health and Wellbeing Board as well as each partners executive Board. The report documents the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board in 2015-16. It outlines membership of the Board, work of the Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum and partner agencies, work plan progress and analysis of safeguarding alerts received 2015-16.

Recommendations

1. That the Adults and Safeguarding Committee comment on the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015-16
2. That the Committee note that following the Adults and Safeguarding Committee meeting on 19th September, the Annual Report will be published on the Council website

² The Care Act 2014 – Schedule 2 - www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/schedule/2

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

Background

- 1.1 The Care Act 2014 (the Act)³ places on a statutory footing some of the safeguarding obligations that were previously located in guidance. The Act requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) for their area pursuant to Section 43(1). The Barnet Safeguarding Board was established in 2002 and from 1 April 2015 it adopted the following terms of reference.
- 1.2 The statutory objective of the SAB, prescribed in Section 43(2) of the Act is to help and protect adults in its area (whether or not ordinarily resident there) who:
 - (a) Have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs),
 - (b) Are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and
 - (c) As a result of those needs are unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.
- 1.3 The SAB must achieve this statutory objective by co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does.
- 1.4 The SAB may do anything which appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving this statutory objective.
- 1.5 The Act prescribes membership of the Board and includes a range of key partners including the Local Authority that establishes the Board, the Clinical Commissioning Group, the Chief Officer of Police, any such persons prescribed in regulations and such other person which the Local Authority considers appropriate having consulted Board members.
- 1.6 For each financial year, the SAB must publish a strategic plan in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Act, BSAB refer to the strategic plan as the business plan.
- 1.7 The SAB has to report on its work, via its annual report, 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 business plan to their agency executive Board.

SAB Annual Report

- 1.8 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report provides details about Safeguarding work carried out by the Board and partners from 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016. The report outlines membership of the Board, analysis of safeguarding alerts received 2015-16, work of the Safeguarding Adults

³ The Care Act 2014 – www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents

Service User Forum and partner agencies and work plan progress. There were no Safeguarding Adults Reviews conducted or concluded during this reporting year.

- 1.9 The past year (2015/16) was the first under the statutory obligations established by the Care Act (2014) which made the existence of SABs mandatory for all local areas. As the Board was established in 2002 it was already working within the principles of the legislation through meeting on a quarterly basis, working to an agreed business plan and producing an annual report. As a result of the Board becoming statutory there has been an increase in the contributions from partner agencies with a current budget of £82,261 (contributors are shown in 5.2.3).
- 1.10 This annual report concludes the business plan 2014-16 and reviews progress made by the Board to achieve the objectives as well as the work of the Board partners to improve safeguarding across their own organisations. A new business plan 2016-18 is now in place and was submitted for comment to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee 16th June.
- 1.11 The report documents the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board in 2015-16. It outlines membership of the Board, work of the Safeguarding Adults Service User Forum and includes partner contributions to safeguarding, work plan progress and analysis of safeguarding alerts received 2015-16. Below are key highlights from the annual report:
- 1.12 This year has seen a further considerable increase in the number of safeguarding concerns raised. During 2015/16 we received a total of 1215 concerns, representing a 59% increase on the previous year. As a result of raising public awareness of what abuse is, the number of concerns raised by members of the public continued to increase. This year saw 102 concerns (8%) raised by relatives and friends, in addition to 45 self-referrals (4%). This year saw a greater number of concerns raised by agencies such as the Police, health organisations and housing services.
- 1.13 Of the 1215 concerns received, 481 were referred for further enquiry. Although the number of concerns has increased substantially, the number of enquiries has remained the same to last year. This is likely to mean that many more people are aware of abuse and where to report it, but in most cases these concerns relate to circumstance where a more proportionate response is warranted over a full safeguarding enquiry.
- 1.14 A main focus of the BSAB has been working across health and social care to improve the response to those susceptible to developing pressure sores. This painful and debilitating condition is not just a health matter but is also one that sometimes calls into question the quality and availability of the person's care whether in the community or in a care home or hospital setting. There has been some good progress against this priority but the BSAB will continue to keep it in the new plan as there is still much to do. A safeguarding protocol for identifying indications of neglect when assessing pressure ulcers has been developed by the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board. Healthcare providers

across Barnet have this screening tool to support their assessments of patients.

- 1.15 The review of Hate Crime Reporting in Barnet, by the BSAB, has confirmed that there is widespread under-reporting. The engagement activities revealed that disabled people experience crime and significant levels of Hate Crime incidents that need to be recorded. By doing this, it would provide the opportunities to understand patterns and trends and enable organisations in the borough to tackle Hate Crime more effectively. The response by disabled people included a marked scepticism that reporting would not make any difference and so was not worth it. In the autumn 2015, Robert Buckland, the Attorney General, spoke of the need to improve “the way disability hate crime is reported, investigated and prosecuted”. He went on to say that it is only by understanding the perspectives of disabled people and listening to their needs that there can be meaningful change. The BSAB are determined to improve on this in Barnet but have made less good progress against this priority and will retain it within the new business plan.
- 1.16 The partnership have been keen for their staff to know how to apply what has recently become the law on how to assess and deal with the mental capacity of an adult to make their own decisions. The simple principle to be adhered to is that the best expert in living a life is the individual whose life it is. This requires staff to be both vigilant about a person’s needs and humble in relation to the extent to which they should intervene and assume responsibility for them. This issue has been a focus over the past year. Each partner organisation reviewed their compliance with MCA and DoLS and reported progress to the SAB January 2016. The work of Barnet CCG with Enfield and Haringey CCGs to improve awareness of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 was reviewed by NHS England as excellent and recommended as good practice.
- 1.17 The BSAB have been working on raising awareness to ensure that the public know how to spot incidents of safeguarding and to report them. They have sought ways of getting helpful messages to the community about what to look for and how to get in touch. The rise in reports from the public suggest that this programme has been useful in raising awareness and increasing reports.
- 1.18 The new business plan 2016-18 was agreed by the BSAB 21st April 2016 and presented to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee 16th June 2016. Five priorities have been agreed by partners, in consultation with service users and Healthwatch, to focus on over the two year period:
 1. Personalisation
 2. Implementing an Adult Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
 3. Access to Justice
 4. Pressure Ulcers
 5. Domestic Abuse

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

2.3.1 For each financial year, the SAB must publish an annual report in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Act. The plan will be published on the Council's website.

3 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

3.3 The BSAB are required to develop and publish an Annual Plan as a statutory requirement.

4 POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

4.1 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Plan is a public document which can be accessed through the Council's website. The Board's Annual Report will be noted by the Health and Wellbeing Board 10th November 2016 as well as each partners executive Board.

4.2 Corporate Priorities and Performance

4.2.1 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.

4.2.2 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 IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

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 The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2014 (DoLS) serve to support the corporate objectives specifically, that Barnet is a place where people can further their quality of life and one of the BSABs actions, 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 Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (2015 – 2016) has two overarching aims which are “keeping well” and “promoting independence””. 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 within the London Borough of Barnet.

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

5.2.1 There are no additional resource implications arising from the recommendations of this report. The activities listed will be managed within the appropriate organisation’s existing budgets.

5.2.2 Safeguarding training is currently provided by the Council’s Adults and Communities Delivery Unit and this training is mandatory for all Adults and Communities staff. Safeguarding training is also offered to all care 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 BSAB is £82,261, which covers the post of Independent Chair and Safeguarding Adults Business Manager as well as the delivery of the Board priorities including training and communications. Each partner has been asked to provide a contribution towards Board costs; so far the following contributions have been agreed:

Table 1: BSAB Partner Financial Contributions 2016/17

Statutory Partner	Contribution
London Borough of Barnet	£51,761
Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group	£10,000
Barnet Enfield Haringey Mental Health Trust	£5,000
Metropolitan Police	£5,000
Central London Community Health	£5,000
Royal Free Hospital Trust	£5,000
Non-statutory Partner	Contribution
London Fire Brigade	£500

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 The BSAB supports the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 by ensuring that robust safeguarding procedures are in place throughout the borough. The council ensures that care 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 The Care Act 2014 (the Act)⁴ places on a statutory footing some of the safeguarding obligations that were previously located in guidance. The Act requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) for their area pursuant to Section 43(1).

5.4.2 For each financial year, the SAB must publish an annual report in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Act. The plan will be published on the Council's website.

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 adult social care include the following specific function:

- Promoting the best possible Adult Social Care services.
- 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

5.5.3 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

5.6.3 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.

5.6.4 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:

⁴ The Care Act 2014 – www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents

- 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

5.6.5 The annual report provides progress against the business plan 2014 - 2016 which aims to ensure that adults at risk are:

- Safe and able to protect themselves from abuse and neglect;
- Treated fairly and with dignity and respect;
- Protected when they need to be;
- Able easily to get the support, protection and services that they need.

5.6.6 The Care Act Guidance identifies discriminatory abuse as a specific form of abuse which includes harassment because of race, gender, gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation or religion

5.6.7 The tables below show a breakdown of all our safeguarding concerns by reported primary care need and age of the vulnerable adult. As in previous years, most concerns we receive relate the abuse of older people.

5.6.8 The way in which we categorise an adult's care needs has changed and so the following tables have been designed to enable comparison with previous years.

Table 2: Primary Client Group Referred

Primary Care Need	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
Learning Disability	20%	20%	13%
Mental Health (Inc. Support with Memory & Cognition)	15%	16%	22%
Physical Disability & Sensory Support	64%	63%	61%
Social Support	1%	1%	4%
Client Age Group (where known)	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16
18-64	40%	40%	38%
65+	60%	60%	62%

5.6.9 As in previous years, concerns raised about adults over the age of 65 are higher than any other group. This largely reflects the age profile of Barnet service users receiving a care package.

5.6.10 In 2015/16, where known, 55% of adults at risk had dementia; this is a substantial increase of 31% on the previous year; however, in over 2 thirds (71%) of all cases, it was unknown whether the adult at risk did or didn't have

dementia and this may account for the increase, as in 2014/15 this was unknown in only 16% of cases.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

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

5.7.2 The SAB 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 annual report to their agency executive Board.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 The annual report was developed using insight from the Local Authority Safeguarding Adults database and contributions from the SAB partners.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

6.1 [Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2016-18 – Adults and Safeguarding Committee 16th June 2016 – Item 10 Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2016-18](#)

6.2 [Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/15 – Adults and Safeguarding Committee 16th September 2015 – Item 7 Barnet Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/15](#)