

	<p align="center">Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <p align="center">10 November 2016</p>
Title	Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) Annual Reports
Report of	Independent Chair of BSCB and SAB
Wards	All
Status	Public
Urgent	No
Key	No
Enclosures	Appendix 1 – Barnet Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015/16 Appendix 2 – Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015/16
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Summary

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note and comment on the annual reports of the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board and of the Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Barnet. National guidance states that the annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles.

The report provides a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. It identifies areas of weakness, the causes of those weaknesses and the action being taken to address them as well as other proposals for action (HMG Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015). The BSCB annual report was formally accepted by the BSCB at the meeting on 20th October 2016.

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.

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.

The BSAB Annual Report was formally accepted by the BSAB at the meeting on 21st July 2016 and was also presented to the Adults and Safeguarding Committee on 19th September.

The Care Act 2014² 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.

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 Health and Wellbeing Board notes and comments on the Annual Reports of the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) attached at Appendix 1 and 2.**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

1.1 Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report

- 1.2 The annual report of the BSCB and bringing it to this Board fulfils the statutory requirement under the Children Act 2004 to:

- Report on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children;
- Provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services;
- Identify areas of weakness, causes of those weaknesses and action plans for improvement.

- 1.3 Safeguarding activity is a core element of the Council's responsibilities. Section 19 of the Children Act 2004 states that the Lead Member of Children's Services (LMCS) has political responsibility for the leadership, strategy and effectiveness of Local Authority children's services. The LMCS is responsible

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

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

for ensuring that the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers, are addressed. Safeguarding plays a key role here. This Committee is responsible for ensuring that safeguarding responsibilities are properly taken into account by the Council.

- 1.4 There are three statutory roles: the LMCS, the Director for Children's Services (DCS) and the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The Chair of the LSCB is an independent appointment charged with holding all agencies to account. The LMCS has political responsibility for the leadership, strategy and effectiveness of local authority children's services. The Director for Children's Services (DCS) post has the professional responsibility for children's services. Together they are responsible for ensuring that the needs of all children and young people, including the most disadvantaged and vulnerable, and their families and carers, are addressed, and ensuring that there are clear and effective arrangements to protect children and young people from harm.
- 1.5 The Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report must also be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 1.6 **Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report**
- 1.7 The Care Act 2014 (the Act) 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.
- 1.8 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.
- 1.9 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. The Annual Report was presented to the Safeguarding and Adults Committee 19th September
- 1.10 The Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report was formally accepted at the BSAB 21st July 2016; it 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 Service User Forum and partner agencies and work plan progress. There were no Safeguarding Adults Reviews conducted or concluded during this reporting year.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The report provides the Board with the opportunity of considering the safeguarding of children and adults at risk in Barnet and the work of the Children's Board and Adults Board.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 Not applicable.

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 The annual reports provide details of each Boards priorities and challenges which will be progressed through the business arrangements during 2016/17. The report will be circulated to the Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the LBB Chief Executive.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is a place of opportunity, that people are helped to help themselves and where services are delivered effectively. The table below demonstrates how activity taking place within safeguarding contributes to these corporate priorities.

Corporate priority	
<p>Transforming Services</p> <p>As we focus on how to transform services, we will take the opportunity to make them as efficient as possible to drive out savings.</p>	<p>Effectively safeguarding children and young people and intervening at as early a stage as possible helps to reduce the need for higher tier, more expensive services.</p>
<p>Managing demand for services</p> <p>Step change in the council's approach to early intervention and prevention, working across the public sector and with residents to prevent problems rather than just treating the symptoms.</p>	<p>This report details preventative activity taking place across Family Service, which helps to ensure that children are safeguarded from harm.</p>
<p>More resilient communities</p> <p>Invest in the infrastructure of the Borough to ensure Barnet continues to be a great place to live and work</p>	<p>Safeguarding plays a key role in ensuring that children and young people in Barnet are able to enjoy a safe childhood and reach their potential</p>

5.1.2 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.

5.1.3 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.

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

5.2.1 The Annual Report of the Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) has been produced as part of the work of the Board and outlines the resources available to the Board to co-ordinate and manage the Board's business. The current annual budget of the BSCB is £156,000, which includes the contributions made by partner agencies, of which the Local Authority contribution is £98,000. The budget covers staffing requirements including the Independent Chair of BSCB

5.2.2 The current annual budget for the BSAB is £102,261, 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	£61,761
Barnet Clinical Commissioning Group	£20,000
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 Legal and Constitutional References

5.3.1 The Commissioning Director, as the statutory Director of Children's Services, is a member of Board. The Lead Member for Children's Services also attends the Board as a participating observer, in accordance with the statutory guidance for this role. This is in order to ensure that the BSCB can properly hold the Council to account and that the Lead Member can hold the Independent Chair to account for the effective working of the Board.

5.3.2 The Childrens Act 2004 Section 13 requires a Local Authority to establish a local safeguarding children board, including prescribed statutory partner agencies. Section 14A requires that at least once every 12 months, a report is prepared and published about safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The Working Together 2015 guidance provides further detail on the recommended content of this report which was approved by the Safeguarding Children Board on 2 September 2016.

5.3.3 As in the Annex A of the Responsibility for Functions, in the Council's Constitution, the Adults and Safeguarding Committee has responsibility for

ensuring that the Council's safeguarding responsibilities are taking into account.

5.3.4 The Care Act 2014 (the Act)³ places on a statutory footing some of the adult 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).

5.3.5 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.

5.3.6 The responsibilities of the Health and Wellbeing Board are contained within the Council's Constitution - Section 15 Responsibility for Functions (Annex A). Its terms of reference includes the following responsibilities:

- To receive assurance from all relevant commissioners and providers on matters relating to the quality and safety of services for users and patients.
- To directly address health inequalities through its strategies and have a specific responsibility for regeneration and development as they relate to health and care. To champion the commissioning of services and activities across the range of responsibilities of all partners in order to achieve this
- To promote partnership and, as appropriate, integration, across all necessary areas, including the use of joined-up commissioning plans across the NHS, social care and public health. To explore partnership work across North Central London where appropriate.
- Specific responsibilities for overseeing public health and developing further health and social care integration.

5.4 Risk Management

5.4.1 Not receiving this report would present a risk to the Committee in that they would not be providing a mechanism for the Independent Chair to present the annual report to the Council. Without sight of the report, the Committee could not be satisfied that the Council is properly prioritising and effectively safeguarding children within the Borough, whilst at the same time promoting the welfare of children.

5.4.2 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.

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

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.

5.5 Equalities and Diversity

5.5.1 Equalities and Diversity considerations are a key element of safeguarding work.

5.5.2 Barnet's diverse population of children and young people is taken into account in the design and delivery of services to safeguard children. There are more children from all Black and Minority Ethnic groups in the 0– 9 age group, than there are White children in Barnet. Children and young people in the 10 – 19 age groups are predominantly White. The highest proportion of people from BAME groups is found in the 0-4 age group (55.4%). In terms of religious diversity, Jewish and Muslim population make up over a quarter of the total population of Barnet. The Board considers the diverse needs of the Borough's population in carrying out its work. There is faith school representation on the Board in addition to representation of a national faith-based charity which works to support vulnerable children and their families.

5.5.3 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 the 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.

5.4.3 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.

5.5.4 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

5.5.6 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.

5.5.7 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%

5.5.8 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.

5.5.9 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.

5.6 Consultation and Engagement

5.6.1 This paper provides an opportunity for the Committee to be engaged in the direction of the Barnet Children Safeguarding Board. The Board's Business Plan is informed by the views of lay members and the views of children and young people through the work of Youth Shield.

5.6.2 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.

5.6.3 The BSAB reported on its work to elected members via the Adults and Safeguarding Committee 19th September 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.

5.7 Social Value

5.7.1 The BSAB and BSCB support 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.

5.8 Insight

- 5.8.1 Data has been used to inform the understanding in the Annual Report presented in Section 2 'Local Demographic Context', and Section 3 'Safeguarding Context' uses insight from the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Barnet Council's Corporate Plan
- 5.8.2 The BSAB annual report was developed using insight from the Local Authority Safeguarding Adults database and contributions from the SAB partners.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2015:
https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/419595/Working_Together_to_Safeguard_Children.pdf
- 6.2 Annual Report of Barnet Safeguarding Board, Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee, 21 September 2016, item 8:
<https://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=697&MId=8686&Ver=4>
- 6.3 [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](#)
- 6.4 [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](#)