



Report of: Corporate Director, Housing and Adult Social Services

Health and Wellbeing Board	Date: 19 October 2016	Ward(s): All
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SUBJECT: Islington Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Review

1. Synopsis

- 1.1. This report sets out highlights and progress of the council's leadership of adult safeguarding arrangements in the borough.
- 1.2. The published Annual Safeguarding Review, attached as appendix A, describes this in more detail.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. To note the contents of the Islington Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Review.

3. Background

- 3.1 Under the Care Act 2014, Islington Council has a statutory responsibility to lead the borough in safeguarding adults.

3.2 Key achievements

- The Islington Safeguarding Adults Board (ISAB) has set up a Service User and Carer subgroup of the Board to hear people's views on its work. The subgroup is still finding its feet, but it is already starting to shape and inform the work the Board.
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards continued to increase sharply. Islington Council is one of the few local authorities that are managing to turn around applications mostly within timescales.
- The ISAB has developed a Prevention Strategy. Each of the Board partners has committed to taking action towards preventing abuse and neglect from happening in the first place.
- A month-long series of awareness-raising events has been held at various places in the borough.

- A learning log has been implemented to make sure that all partner organisations share and learn the lessons from serious cases whether they were involved in the review or not.
- A policy checklist for partner organisations has been developed to help them ensure their policies comply with the Care Act 2014.
- Monthly multi-agency RADAR meetings have been set up to regularly monitor care provider quality in Islington.
- Self-neglect and Domestic Abuse are new categories of abuse under the Care Act. The Council has completed a small audit of these cases to get assurance on practice.

The annual report further details progress on delivering the Islington Safeguarding Adults Board's 3-year strategy and annual plan.

3.3 The review compares the statistics from 2015/16 with the previous year 2014/15. There has been a 26% increase in safeguarding adults concerns on the previous year (1464 concerns). Safeguarding enquiries have increased 3% on last year.

3.4 However, the number of cases not taken forward to enquiry (872) has risen 47% since last year (592). This trend will be monitored. It may indicate that a need to ensure feedback to people who report concerns so that in future they are better able to identify what is a safeguarding concern and what is not.

3.5 Physical abuse, financial abuse and neglect have remained the top three categories for several years. The picture is similar across the country.

3.6 The percentage of cases which were substantiated or partially substantiated (that is, the abuse was likely to have taken place) has fallen 14% in the last year.

3.7 The Care Act 2014 has lowered the threshold for reviewing serious cases. The Safeguarding Adults Board has held multi-agency reflective workshops about two cases and a Safeguarding Adults Review is underway for another case.

3.8 **Key National Developments**

- The government has been raising awareness as part of a strategy to tackle modern slavery and human trafficking. There is now bespoke guidance for staff on this and all the other new categories of abuse covered within the Care Act 2014.
- An independent inquiry into Southern Healthcare (known as the Mazar's Inquiry) has been published. A key finding related to poor management oversight of unexpected deaths. The safeguarding adults board is leading on a borough wide assurance process across partners and their own oversight arrangements for unexpected deaths.
- A new legal duty, known as the Prevent Duty, has been introduced. Bespoke awareness raising sessions have been provided for staff and the safeguarding adults training programme now includes awareness on PREVENT. The Head of Safeguarding Adults is now a core member of the Channel Panel ensuring robust links between safeguarding adults and prevention of harm from radicalisation.

Next year, the Board will take forward more work on implementing these national developments locally.

4. Implications

4.1. Financial implications

The Safeguarding Adults Unit 2015/16 gross expenditure outturn was £1,039k. The following contributions were received:

- £91k was funded through the Islington Clinical Commissioning Group (ICCG)
- £5k was received from the London Metropolitan Police towards the Islington Safeguarding Adults Board (with a further £500 from the London Fire Brigade).

The Safeguarding Adults Unit 2016/17 gross expenditure budget is £1,095k. This includes a net increase of £450k which was added to the budget in 2015/16 to fund pressures arising from costs associated with Safeguarding Adults Reviews and the Supreme Court judgment in the 'Cheshire West' case. This landmark case extended the definition of the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), and has meant the number of people eligible for DoLS assessments has increased significantly in recent years.

There are no financial implications arising as a direct result of this report. Any plans or strategies derived or agreed in relation to this report should use existing available resources and therefore not create a budget pressure for the Council.

4.2. Legal Implications

There are no legal implications arising as a direct result of the SAB annual report. The report has been prepared in accordance with the Council's statutory duty under the Care Act, Schedule 2 (Safeguarding Adults Boards) which requires the SAB to as soon as feasible after the end of each financial year publish an annual report on the matters specified at paragraph 4 of the Schedule.

4.3. Environmental Implications

There are no major environmental impacts associated with the Safeguarding Adults Board. Minor impacts such as transport-related emissions and office-based resource usage (energy, paper etc) are managed by staff by actions including not printing documents unless absolutely necessary, using video-conferencing and encouraging walking, cycling and the use of public transport. Some work has the potential to benefit the environment, such as reducing fire risk or referring service users to the SHINE service, which gives advice to residents on saving energy.

4.4 Resident Impact Assessment

The council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, and to advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations, between those who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it (section 149 Equality Act 2010). The council has a duty to have due regard to the need to remove or minimise disadvantages, take steps to meet needs, in particular steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities, and encourage people to participate in public life. The council must have due regard to the need to tackle prejudice and promote understanding.

Appendix B of the full annual review (attached as Appendix A) sets out the impact of our work to safeguard adults.

5. Reasons for the recommendations / decision:

The annual safeguarding review sets out the main achievements in safeguarding vulnerable and disabled adults in Islington and details our aims for achieving our strategy and annual plan.

Final Report Clearance

Signed by



28/9/2016

Sean McLaughlin
Corporate Director of Housing and
Adult Social Services

Background papers: None.

Attachments: Appendix A: Islington Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Review 2015-16
Appendix B: Islington Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Review 2015-16 summary

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