



HEALTH, WELLBEING AND ADULT SOCIAL CARE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

17 December 2024

SECOND DESPATCH

Please find enclosed the following items:

Item 4 Islington Safeguarding Adults Board - Annual Report

1 - 24

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Islington Safeguarding Adults Board (ISAB) Chairs Foreword

This year we have adapted how we present our annual review, condensing this into a highlight report so anyone can see at a glance how partners actively contribute towards the important work of the ISAB. It is never easy to do justice to all the work undertaken at every level of our partnership to help keep adults with care needs safer in Islington, but changing the format means we need to acknowledge and commend this in different ways. Throughout the report you will find links to areas where you can explore in more depth what has been done to achieve our strategic objectives and statutory duties. Please do take time to do so, reflect too on how your own understanding of risk and practice may have changed over this time.

As chair of the partnership, I am fortunate to witness first-hand how hard people work to safeguard adults in Islington. Our partnership is fortunate to benefit from real expertise across our statutory, voluntary and community organisations. We are also extremely grateful to our resident ‘experts by experience’ who generously donate their time to enable our work to be shaped by the views of people who live and work in Islington. I want to thank everyone, including family and carers who have engaged with our work, often at times of personal distress, demonstrating a real commitment to fundamental principles of fairness and care for each other.

Whilst there is much to commend this year, local data also highlights there is still much to be done to remove and reduce risks faced by adults with care needs in Islington. I am confident that our partners remain committed to our shared values and to the strength of this partnership so continue to look forward, focused on clear, achievable goals that will have real impact for people in Islington.

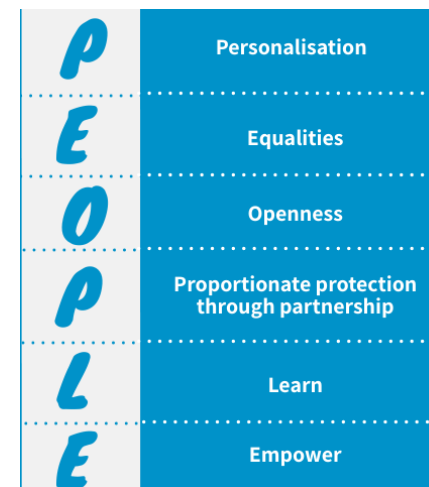
Fiona Bateman, Independent Chair, ISAB

ISAB Strategy

Our strategy places ‘PEOPLE’ as our core values. You can read more about the strategy [here](#). In November 2023 partners reviewed progress made halfway through our ambitious three-year strategy. Partners reported confidence that agencies were engaged in our shared workplan and identified new areas of focus.

Although Islington Council leads on safeguarding adults in Islington, all partners contribute to the strategy. You can find out more about who our partners are and read more about their key achievements over the last year (appendix A). You can also find more about partners attendance to meetings in appendix B.

The Islington Health and Wellbeing Board has oversight of this report, but we also report to North Central London Integrated Care Board, Healthwatch and North Central Business Command Unit. Each year Islington Council’s Health, Wellbeing and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee also review the report.



Key ISAB Achievements in 2023-2024

Dignity in Care: Following focus group discussions with our service user and carer group, we have re-designed how ISAB receives assurance that commissioned care services are robustly monitored and concerns addressed, including where necessary through regulatory action. ISAB receives a comprehensive overview report every quarter, detailing actions taken by commissioners to ensure safe, dignified care.

Adult Social Care Peer Review: Islington council commissioned a Peer Review which took place in October 2023. The Peer Review highlighted the work of the ISAB as an “**outstanding board with clear shaped purpose and vision**”. It also acknowledged the ISAB’s service user and carer subgroup involvement in driving the board’s strategic direction which was positive and evidenced service user voice being heard. Other strengths identified included good attendance at ISAB subgroups with good outcomes delivered and the involvement of people with lived experience when developing ISAB strategies.

Right Care Right Person: The **Right Care Right Person** model was implemented in November 2023. This is an operational model which changed the way emergency services respond to concerns involving mental health. This has had an implication on partners across the SAB. Much work has been done around the local implementation of RCRP and a task and finish group has also been set up to understand how the new practice is being put into practice. This will help identify any challenges so partners can work strategically to address any emerging issue and mitigate risks for residents.

Disclosure and Barring Service: Ensuring a safe workforce was in place across all the ISAB partners is key. An Independent [Review](#) of the Disclosure and Barring Regime concluded in May 2023. The ISAB shared the recommendations from this review with board partners and received assurance around partner organisations local **Persons in Positions of Trust (PiPoT)** policies to ensure relevant local policies were in place and up to date to ensure safer recruitment decisions in respect of employees and/or volunteers.

Homelessness and safeguarding: There has been a significant increase in homelessness in London. ISAB recognizes that homelessness is not just a housing issue but impacts of health and wellbeing. Adults experiencing homelessness also experience heightened safeguarding risks. A new **Radical approach to working to prevent homelessness** was discussed with board partners and the ISAB continues to work around the complexities around safeguarding people with health and care support needs who do not have a home. Islington has long been at the fore in recognising that support is necessary to prevent the most vulnerable residents from experiencing destitution and safeguard them from the risk of abuse and neglect associated with life on the streets.

Other achievements include:

- Strengthening our presence across our health, social care and justice systems. We continue to play an active role at national and regional safeguarding networks and locally within the Safer Islington Partnership, Islington Borough Partnership and the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) strategic group.
- Our Creative Solutions panel reviewed over 12 people at risk of harm to support frontline staff problem solve and ensure safe care.
- Working with local and national partners, we progressed actions arising from recommendations made within ‘Liam’ SAR.
- Continue to build the ISAB website with relevant materials for public and practitioners.

ISAB Structure- whilst we meet quarterly as the full board, our members are active within the executive group and our subgroups. These are the engine behind the ISAB. During 2023-2024 subgroups worked on the following:

Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) subgroup

- Published 'Liam' SAR and oversaw the action plan
- Helped shape a pan London SAR guidance and adopted this locally to ensure consistency of practice for partner agencies working across London
- Reviewed five new SAR cases. Four referrals did not meet the criteria for a SAR and were processed via other channels, including a Domestic Homicide Review which the SAR subgroup actively engaged with.
- One referral progressed to a SAR thematic review involving four individuals who exhibited multiple disadvantage. An independent reviewer was recruited, and the review is currently being conducted
- Continues to oversee the creative solutions panel and is well sighted on any complex cases being reviewed at the panel.

Quality, Audit and Assurance (QAA) subgroup

- The data dashboard has been developed so partners are better able to identify trends or emerging concerns in our area. The development of the Safeguarding Accountability and Assurance Framework (SAAF) within health will further enhance this
- Reviewed specific areas of interest, audit and self-assessment including domestic abuse, local issues relevant to Baroness Casey's review and explored safeguarding and disrepair- including damp and mould following the tragic death of Awaab Ishak

Prevention and Learning (P&L) subgroup

- Dissemination of learning particularly relating to fire safety, pressure ulcers and safe discharge following the outcome of SARs
- Initiation of a review of the impact and efficacy of training in partner organisations
- Consideration of multi-agency decision-support tools relating to pathways for s42 safeguarding Enquiries
- Initiated work with seldom heard communities to ensure that learning reaches them
- Seeking assurance around out of area placements
- Promoting the modern slavery e-learning training.

Service user and carer subgroup

The group expressed concerns about the police's Right Care Right Person approach to callouts to people in mental health crisis. Safe, compassionate and proportionate responses to people in mental health crisis are important to our group. In response, the police and mental health services attended two of the service user and carer meetings to provide assurance around the new systems that were now in place to help overcome this concern. The subgroup found this reassuring. Other topics discussed included Persons in positions of trust (PiPoT), dignity in home care, advocacy and ISAB development day planning.



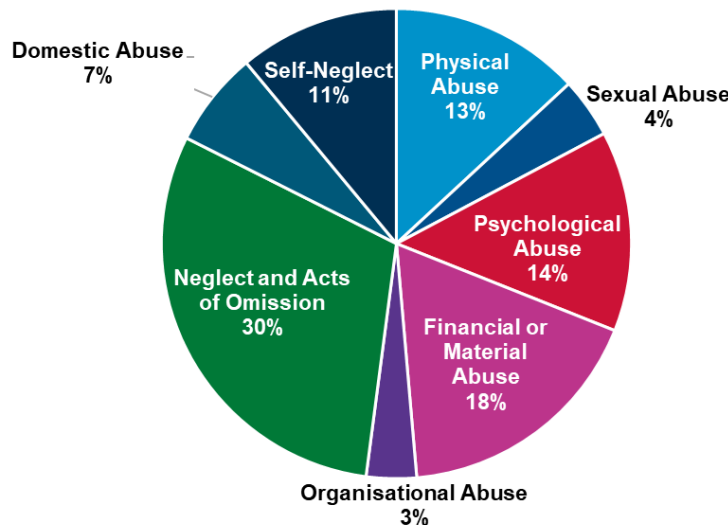
Statistics

Safeguarding Enquiries

Safeguarding concerns reported	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022
	2396	2179	2844

Safeguarding concerns have fluctuated over the past couple of years. This may be due to several actions that have been taken including better awareness amongst our partner organisations about when to raise a safeguarding concern and when to make another type of referral and changes in internal processes. In comparison with other areas, Islington has always had a high number of concerns referred but a lower conversion rate.

Enquiries by type of abuse, section 42 and other 2023-2024

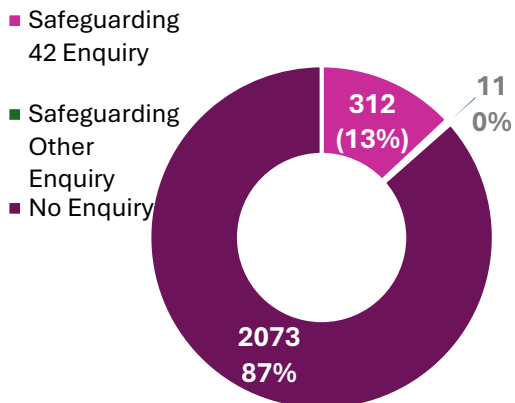


The three most common types of abuse we made enquiries into were **neglect, financial** and **material** abuse and **psychological** abuse. Cases involving neglect and financial abuse have had a 5% increase in comparison to the last year and cases involving psychological abuse have increased by 2% this year.

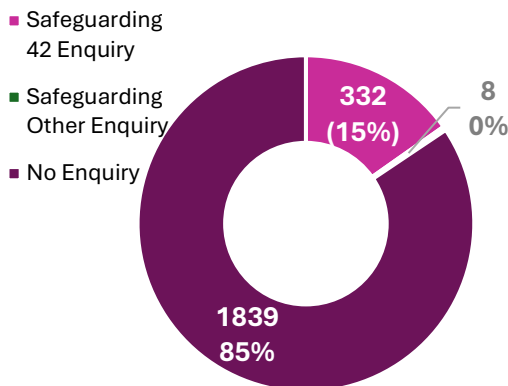
Page 4

Safeguarding concerns to enquiries 'conversion rate'

This year (2023-24)

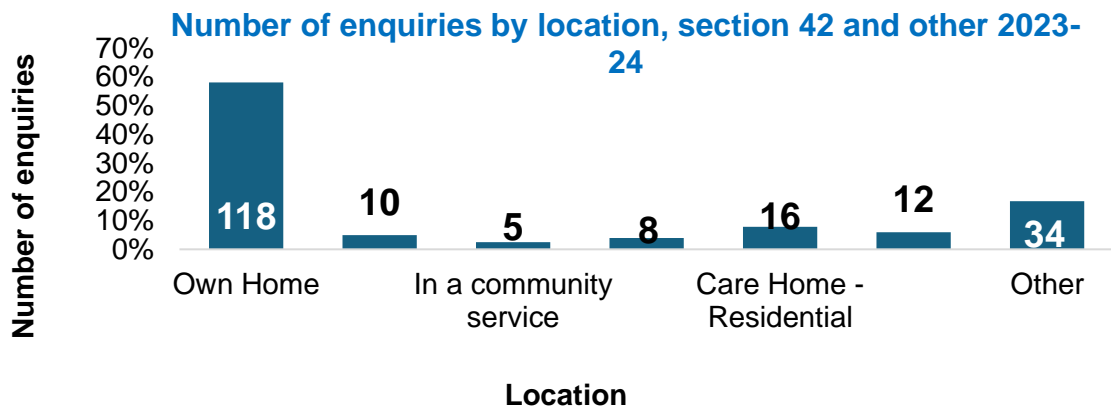


Last year (2022-23)



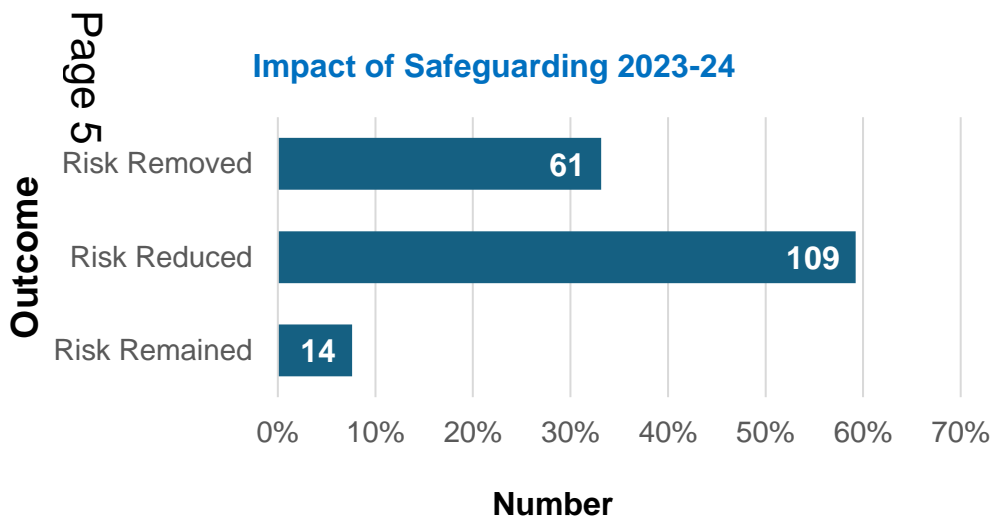
Practitioners use the framework created by ADASS in partnership with the Local Government Association (LGA) to support their decision making about whether a reported safeguarding adults concern requires a statutory enquiry under the section 42 duty of the Care Act 2014 or a non-statutory response by either the local authority or other partners. As closely as local authorities follow the framework guidance, there is inevitably a degree of variation locally about how it is applied.

Our conversion rates in recent years have ranged between 10-15%. Audits around this have shown that practitioners are carrying out the relevant safeguarding actions around a case but not recording this in the correct forms resulting in low conversion rates. This has been addressed via the relevant practitioner forums, team huddles and a review of safeguarding forms.

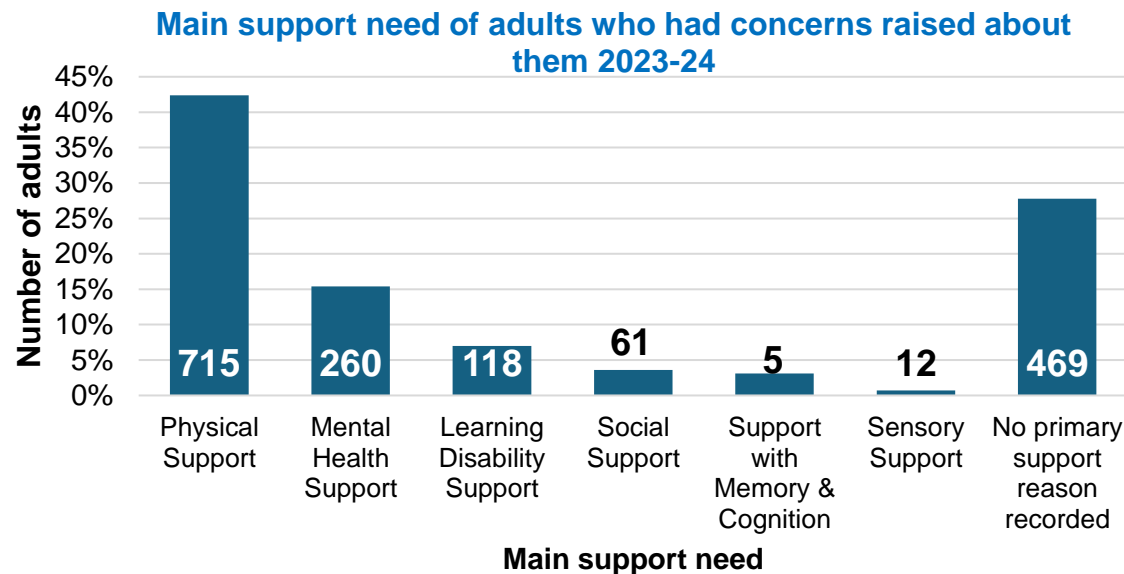


Increased awareness within care and hospital staff often results in concerns referred by those settings. Our ‘provider concerns’ quality assurance framework uses safeguarding data to inform their monitoring activity. Over the last few years we have seen, nationally and in Islington, a steep rise in safeguarding concerns and enquiries arising from risks in the person’s own home. In August 2023, ISAB contributed into a deep dive review of [financial abuse](#) which directly contributed to the national [Safe Care at Home Review](#). We will use those findings to continue to improve recognition of safeguarding risks and improved responses so that our most vulnerable residents can feel safe in their own homes.

Note: Hospital admissions have been grouped together due to small numbers & potentially disclosive



This graph is based on the number of closed section 42 enquiries in 2023-2024 and not the overall number of enquiries. This is because some enquiries take longer than others to investigate. We have excluded any enquiries which were still being investigated at the time of submission of the year end data to NHS Digital.



There continue to be more safeguarding concerns raised about adults with physical support needs than any other group of people. This is similar across the country. The chart shows that few concerns raised for people whose main need was that they care for someone else. It suggests we need to continue raising awareness amongst carers and organisations that support carers. We continue to encourage practitioners to record the primary support reason of the person so that our data sets are more complete.

Equality and diversity matter to us. We want to make sure that everyone who needs to be safeguarded is. Keeping a watch on who needs safeguarding in Islington also helps us target our services at the right groups.

Age



Most concerns about people aged 65 years of age or over.

During 2023-2024					
Number of adults we safeguarded by age group	18-64	65-74	75-84	85-94	95+
		136	53	60	52

Gender



Page 6

Number of adults who had safeguarding concerns raised about them	Male	Female	Transgender
	45%	55%	0

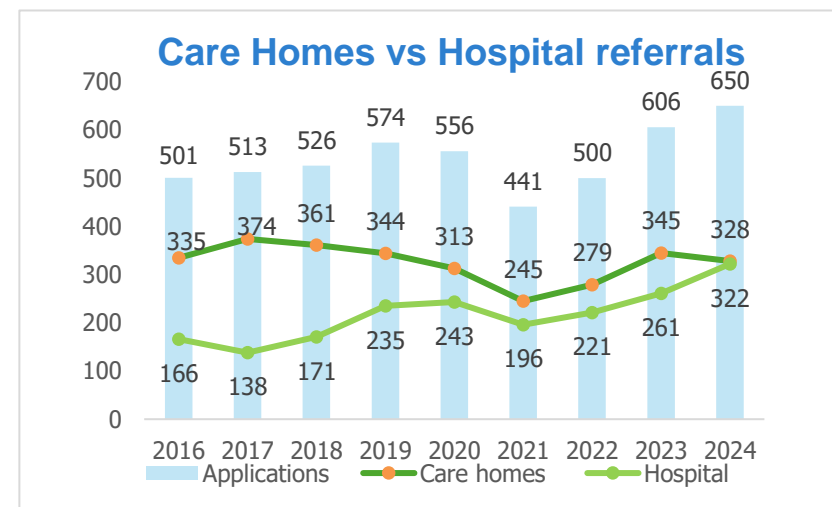
Ethnicity



Ethnicity of adults who had safeguarding concerns raised about them	
White	898
Other Ethnic group	361
Black/African/Caribbean/ Black British	235
Asian/ Asian British	74
Mixed/ Multiple	3
Undeclared/ Not known	52
Refused	13

Some ethnicities are less likely to have safeguarding concerns reported about them in proportion to their population size within Islington. It may be that there are language barriers and that our awareness raising materials are not reaching some communities, or it may be that some communities are less likely to trust services to respond sensitively to their concerns. We will be exploring this further in the next year.

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)



The number of DoLS referrals for April 2023-March 2024 is slightly higher than the previous year. This year there were 650 DoLS referrals as opposed to 606 the previous year. New referrals and where a DoLS authorisation have been in place previously and is about to expire, have returned to levels broadly in line with pre-covid pandemic levels. As in previous years, we do not hold a waiting list in relation to DoLS assessments. This means that the DoLS process in Islington provides a strong set of safeguards to our residents.

Making Safeguarding Personal

This year 96% of service users who have been supported with safeguarding and who are able to comment report that their desired outcomes were partially achieved or fully achieved.

Case Study

Ben's case was escalated to one of the panels within the council. There were concerns that Ben was being financially exploited by a friend in exchange for drugs. A panel date was arranged with all relevant professionals working with Ben including the manager of the accommodation he had been moved to. Ben requested support from substance misuse services but often missed appointments with them. The panel arranged for the service to explore environmental barriers and requested for Ben to be visited at home (which was not part of their usual practice). Ben's care coordinator was able to build a good rapport with him and found that Ben was lonely and thus did not want to lose contact with his only friend who was exploiting him. Ben's support worker was successful in encouraging him to start attending local support groups. This helped increase Ben's independence and gave him the confidence to build new friendships to overcome the loneliness hence reducing the risk of further financial exploitation.



Feedback from training sessions

Page 7

"The trainer was knowledgeable of the subject matter and answered questions well"

Safeguarding Adults Managers 2-day course

"Overall, the training was well delivered, and the training clearly highlighted the role of the Safeguarding Adults Manager"

Safeguarding Adults Managers 2-day course

"It had a good presentation style with lots of opportunities to ask questions and talk about real life case examples. This made it enjoyable and informative"

Safeguarding Adults Managers 2-day course

"That was an absolutely excellent training session on self-neglect and hoarding today and I have enjoyed it very much as well as finding it very, very useful"

Self-Neglect and Hoarding course

Next Steps

Risk management and escalation- The ISAB have already made progress in addressing the most complex and high-risk safeguarding cases by setting up a Creative Solutions Panel. We will continue to keep this under review and ensure that escalation pathways are well understood and used by practitioners.

In Islington there are already several multi-agency issue-specific panels, such as hoarding panel, cuckooing panel and daily safeguarding meetings to name just a couple. We will consider whether there are any gaps for cases that do not neatly fit into these existing categories and how these cases get escalated where the risks remain high and unresolved.

Right Care Right Person- The ISAB has developed a Task and Finish group around RCRP to support partners with local implementation of this model and ensure there was consistency in practice locally. This work continues and partners were able to share case studies for the purpose of learning to enable multi-agency risk management for residents needing support across different services to stay safe from abuse or harm.

Homelessness and Rough Sleeping- The ISAB is working closely with relevant teams across the councils and with partners to support actions that will 'End Rough Sleeping for Good' in line with governmental initiatives. Relevant colleagues attended the ISAB meetings as well as the subgroup meetings to support this piece of work.

Learning- We are committed to learning from serious cases. These are always sad and distressing for families, friends and the professionals involved, more so when the situations could have been prevented had agencies worked better together. It is also important that we do not lose sight of learning from previous SARs and Coroner's Prevention of Future Deaths Notices.

Listening- Your views are important to us. The ISAB are committed to listening to what our community has to say. If you want to share your views with us, please get in touch. Our contact details are at the end of this report.

If you suspect abuse of a vulnerable adult, please contact **Adult Social Services Access and Advice Team** on Tel: 020 7527 2299 or complete an online safeguarding **concern form**



For any questions, feedback or further detail, please email safeguardingadults@islington.gov.uk



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Appendix A

Who is in the partnership?

Age UK

Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust

Camden and Islington Probation Service

Care Quality Commission

Crown Prosecution Service Integrated Care Board

Healthwatch Islington

Independent Chair

Integrated Care Board Designated GP

Islington Council

Islington Children Safeguarding Board

London Fire Brigade

Metropolitan Police

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

Notting Hill Pathways

Safer Islington Partnership

Single Homeless Project

Voluntary Action Islington

Whittington Health NHS Trust

Partnership working

Although Islington Council leads on safeguarding adults in Islington, all partners contribute to our strategy. This section sets out how our partners went about achieving the aims and objectives of our ambitious strategic plan.

Below are the key achievements of each of our partners:

London Metropolitan Police

- The Metropolitan Police Commissioner has promised a New Met For London (NMFL). The mission is to deliver more trust, less crime and high standards. The Met has listened to the Baroness Casey Review and reform has included raising standards and expectations of our staff. You'll see the people who fall short of our high standards being dealt with swiftly and robustly. You'll see officers, staff and volunteers that are well trained, equipped and led.

- The NMFL has set out clear objectives on what the Met Police will achieve after having listened to over 10,000 members of the community. Work with communities to fight crime and anti-social behaviour, because Londoners have told us that's a priority.
- Recruit an additional 500 Police Community Support Officers (PCSOs). Put more officers and PCSOs into local neighbourhoods and make sure they're delivering against the priorities of Londoners.
- Use data to better understand the demands we face and deploy officers to where we'll make the biggest difference to communities.
- Strengthen specialist teams, with an extra 565 people who will work closely with local police teams and partners on investigating domestic abuse, sexual offences, and child sexual abuse and exploitation.
- Make it easier to contact us, whether by phone, digitally or face to face – each borough will have at least one 24/7 front counter Continue to improve our 999 service so your calls get answered more quickly Continue to work with our partners to ensure individuals in need of care and non-crime help get supported by the right agency, freeing up officers' time to tackle crime.
- We will create a Victim Focus Desk to provide better support and advice.
- Ensuring that the right people in our community get the right help first time is important and we have achieved this by ensuring that the responder that attends to the 999 call is the person with the skills and expertise to deal with the safeguarding concerns.

Islington Integrated Care Board

The North Central London Integrated Care Board (ICB) was established in July 2022 and 2023 has seen a year of re-organisation and significant changes to meet the new responsibilities across our healthcare system by imbedding integrated care systems, integrated care partnerships, provider collaboratives, primary care networks, and local maternity and neonatal systems, and new legislation which will impact on how we all safeguard people and populations.

The executive responsibility for safeguarding sits with the Chief nurse supported by the Director of Safeguarding. The team includes safeguarding designated nurses and professionals for both adults and children and lead GP's. This meets our statutory responsibilities as an ICB.

The safeguarding team have remained a constant, high-profile team within the ICB and our local Boroughs throughout this time and continue to be Borough focused and work in

partnership with the local safeguarding community to protect and support those in greatest need and contribute to statutory multi agency reviews and share learning across the health system.

As we move forward, our focus continues to be about supporting people locally throughout their lives without barriers or prejudice.

We have introduced our internal safeguarding oversight meeting to ensure that we have a robust system assurance and learning framework in line with the NHS England Safeguarding Assurance Accountability Framework (SAAF). This will ensure improvements are made through the ICB safeguarding commissioning assurance governance processes.

We have supported training and development opportunities for staff to enhance their skills and knowledge, including training health staff to become best interest's assessors.

The ICB hosted its second NCL wide Safeguarding Adults and Children's conference (April 2024) focusing on promoting curiosity. Themes included the launch of our nonfatal strangulation pathway, understanding and using research findings from people who have experienced Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) to improve curiosity in practice, Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Human Rights, the insidious nature of coercive control, gaming and extremism and resilience in supporting people and families.

In July 2023 we facilitated a multi-agency workshop focusing on emerging themes from safeguarding reviews in July 2023 which will provide a focus for future developments.

We are committed to the continued multiagency practices and borough facing focus and system wide safeguarding leadership and learning across the lifespan of our residents.

Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust

- The Safeguarding Adults Committee continued to receive quarterly safeguarding adults activity in the form of an infographic including anonymised lived experience case study's to support learning and raise awareness.
- An audit of safeguarding was completed by an external audit company to provide assurance around internal safeguarding processes.
- Face-to-face Safeguarding Adults Training Level 3 was developed and co delivered by the police.
- Bespoke safeguarding sessions, using a variety of methods were also delivered across the Trust, including Pre-Assessment Clinics and Governors and safeguarding adult content was delivered as part of the care certificate and preceptor training.
- Successful completion of the Best Interest Assessor (BIA) course by the Safeguarding Adults & Mental Capacity Act Practice Development Nurse brought the total number of BIA's in the Trust to two.

- Worked collaboratively with the internal communications team to develop a training video to encourage and enhance quality of flagging vulnerable patients' healthcare records.
- Continued to work in partnership with Mencap, Alzheimer's Society, SeeAbility, service users and carers raising awareness of learning disability, dementia and carer issues
- In response to the "Liam" SAR actions taken included:
 - i. Highlighted in Safeguarding Snippets Newsletter: "A Spark of Knowledge" raising awareness of the incident and promotion of the home fire safety checker tool.
 - ii. Safer October 'Quality & Safety Bulletin' created by the safeguarding team raising awareness of the SAR and promoting discussion amongst teams around home fire safety referrals with patients. The bulletin also included a link for staff to complete the Islington council e-learning session ' Fire Safety in the Home' for carers and support workers.
 - iii. Eye Clinic Liaison Officer (ECLO) team held an information session with London Fire Brigade (LFB) to be the key point of contact for advising patients on home fire safety referrals or submission of referrals on patients' behalf as appropriate.
 - iv. The safeguarding team worked with the nursing research lead and contributed to the development of a smoking cessation algorithm with a pathway for advising new and current patients on stopping smoking. This pathway will also highlight the importance of recognising the categories which may put a person at higher risk of fire in the home. Staff will be directed to discuss home fire safety referrals with the patient and to refer patients to ECLO team for assistance with making a referral if support needed.
 - v. Trust wide 'Clinical Lunch and Learn' session was held in December 2023 led by a representative of the London Fire Brigade.

London Fire Brigade (LFB)

LFB continue to provide Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV's), prioritising their attentions on those most vulnerable.

Following a triage process, residents requesting an HFSV either for themselves or through a referral are now categorised into four risk categories:

- very high
- high
- medium
- low

Through this targeted approach, the proportion of visits within Islington focussed on High Risk members of society have increased by 17%.

Due to the perceived severity of risk, 10 residents were visited in under 4-hours of referral. High and medium risk individuals have been offered an HFSV within a designated, convenient time, dependant on both their level of risk and availability.

During these visits, residents receive an in-person HFSV including guidance on fire safety measures and free smoke alarms where required.

The LFB continue to provide support and information to less vulnerable groups through the online [Home Fire Safety Checker](#) over the telephone. Through our Borough Risk Management Plan, the LFB have identified and provided appropriate actions to mitigate foreseen risks within the Borough. Working with community partners, we look to ensure that prevention and protection strategies are in place and meet the needs of the population.

The LFB are working closely with the Metropolitan Police, London Ambulance Service and London NHS, to support the implementation of Right Care Right Person. Centrally incident data is being monitored to identify trends and ensure the effectiveness of both the Right Care Right Person and further care measures in place for individuals within the community. The LFB's SAR Champion continues to provide a consistent approach to learning from SARs. Internal/ external action plans and review meetings are used to plan/monitor progress post SAR.

LFB continues to

- participate in the Community Risk MARAC, Hoarding Panel, Safeguarding Adults Board, Safer Islington Partnership and Multi-agency public protection arrangements (MAPPA)
- review risks within our communities to provide targeted prevention activities to support our communities
- offer fire safety awareness sessions to the care sector personnel visiting vulnerable residents.
- train all staff in Safeguarding practices, both identifying concerns and proactively dealing with the situation.

During 2023-24, Camden and Islington Foundation Trust entered a formal partnership with Barnet, Enfield and Haringey Mental Health Trust, to form the North London Mental Health Partnership (NLMHP), covering the 5 borough North Central London footprint.

In response to Domestic Abuse (DA) cases remaining high and the NHS Sexual Safety in Healthcare Charter, the DA Practitioners from C&I and BEH began delivering a weekly DA and sexual safety drop-in surgery, whereby practitioners from across NLMHP can discuss live cases for advice, support and guidance. The C&I Awareness and response to Domestic Abuse (ARSDA) network and Safeguarding Hub hosted various themed webinar events, inviting specialist speakers to strengthen staff awareness and knowledge on topics relating to DA and harmful practices. This included C&I hosting the Violence against women and girls (VAWG) annual White Ribbon Event, to mark the International Day for the Elimination of Violence against women and girls.

As signatories to the NHS Sexual Safety in Healthcare Charter since November 2023, an action plan has been developed to progress all 10 core principles to commit to a zero-tolerance approach to any unwanted, inappropriate and/or harmful sexual behaviours towards our workforce, ensure we provide a safe space for staff and patients, and a place in which sexual misconduct, violence, harassment or abuse will not be tolerated.

In addition to the DA and sexual safety drop in, the safeguarding team also delivers a weekly safeguarding, mental health law and mental capacity act drop in and a daily (Monday to Friday) advice service for Trust staff.

The safeguarding team continue to undertake their statutory and mandatory duties; attending multi-agency and safeguarding partnership meetings as required. We continue to implement Think Family, Professional Curiosity, Making Safeguarding Personal and appropriate information sharing in all case discussions, supervision and statutory/Mandatory training.

The safeguarding team have worked in collaboration with the operational services in the Trust to implement learning and recommendations from Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews and Child Practice Learning Reviews, including cascading 7-minute briefs, monitoring action plans at the appropriate meetings and including new learning in our participatory level 3 safeguarding training.

NLMHP works collaboratively with all Local Authorities and Safeguarding Partnerships. We have aimed to strengthen the pathway between internal and external high-risk panels for the management of the most complex safeguarding cases. We look forward to our continued collaboration, multi-agency working and strengthening of safeguarding processes for improved outcomes for all service users.

Islington Council continues to lead the borough on safeguarding adults. Specific initiatives and achievements carried out during the year include:

The Safeguarding Adult Unit (SAU) has made significant strides in enhancing safeguarding practices within Adult Social Care over the past year. Collaborating closely with operational teams, the unit has sought to reinforce adherence to recommended safeguarding processes, advocating for stronger line management support for safeguarding cases. A new safeguarding quality assurance framework has been launched to ensure effective safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act (MCA) practices.

In its commitment to being a learning organisation, LBI has introduced serious incident guidance for practitioners to learn from near misses. Ongoing forums for safeguarding practitioners and leaders have facilitated the sharing of insights from audits. The SAU also partnered with community safety and children's services to host a modern-day slavery workshop involving various agencies, including voluntary services and housing.

Additionally, an Equalities Deep Dive has been conducted, focusing on raising safeguarding awareness among under-represented groups. LBI acknowledges the importance of robust risk management systems and has established multiple support platforms, including daily and monthly meetings, supervision sessions, and specialised training.

The SAU has successfully developed three e-learning modules: Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking, Fire Safety in the Home for Carers and Support Practitioners, and Safeguarding Adults – Basic Awareness. There has been a good uptake for all these training sessions.

In-person sessions were also conducted for Islington residents who participated in the Safeguarding Awareness and Modern-Day Slavery sessions at local day and support centres. Additionally, a session on Raising Safeguarding Awareness and Cuckooing was attended by residents from Adult Community Learning classes. Collaborative efforts with adults with learning disabilities led to co-produced scenarios on Mate Crime and Cuckooing,

Islington Council launched the Integrated Front Door and Rapid Access Service, enhancing referral processes for adult social care and health services. The Domestic Abuse Daily Safeguarding Meeting processed 507 high-risk referrals, including from Adult Social Care and Mental Health Services, revealing significant support needs among survivors.

Notably, there is currently no DoLS waiting list in Adult Social Care in Islington, ensuring timely assessments for individuals in hospitals and care homes requiring safeguarding measures.

In the last year, LBI Provider Service supported timely referrals for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) assessment when needed and followed up on mandatory and advisory conditions. The team collaborated with training leads to regularly review the Training Matrix and ensure the booking of Safeguarding and Mental Capacity Act (MCA) training sessions. Additionally, they have partnered with Islington Learning Disabilities Partnership professionals, families, and social workers to holistically assess the evolving needs of residents, ensuring that services are inclusive of the residents' voices.

The Collaborative Commissioning team completed the co-production of Adult Social Care principles, now embedded in service specifications. Islington continues to participate in the unique "See Me First" initiative, and the commissioning team has led the Integrated Provider Quality Oversight Board to enhance oversight of service providers, launching a new Quality Assurance Framework in care homes.

Single Homeless Project (SHP)

- Led with Solace on the second women's rough sleeping census, with most London boroughs participating, as well as 14 authorities across England including Greater Manchester, Gloucestershire, Herefordshire and Coventry. Recommendations made to central government to adopt the methodology in future counts; for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to fund and lead on the census; and to use the data to fund specialist gender informed provision. London Borough of Islington and London Borough of Camden piloting one of these - verifying that women are rough sleeping according to the census definition and without needing to see the woman bedded down, as well as doing regular gender informed shifts using the census guidance to try and reach more women/approach women they wouldn't have previously
- Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance (DAHA) – accreditation progressing. Appointment of Domestic Abuse Organisational Lead and local champions
- Registered with Ofsted for services provided to 16 – 17-year-old looked after children and care leavers, including in Islington

- Facilitated two days of specialist safeguarding training with external provider for staff with strategic leads – Senior Management Team, Regional Managers and Health Specialists
- Launched new Children and Young People Safeguarding training
- Launched new online training with learning development pathways built into our refresher training.
- The SHP Designated Safeguarding Adults Lead contributed to the London Homelessness Health & Safeguarding Practice Development Group and the London Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults Policy review
- In Islington SHP service managers continue to contribute to the 'Built for Zero' pilot and the 'Creative Solutions' panel

Healthwatch

- Healthwatch is speaking to recipients of home care and next of kin about their experiences. This will be shared with commissioners to help them understand people's experiences.
- Healthwatch also talk to residents about the value of cancer screening and immunisations.

Whittington Health NHS Trust

- Whittington Health have established a drop in session for community staff to discuss Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and safeguarding adults concerns.
- The new Safeguarding Allegations policy has been embedded across the Trust, and this feeds into the Persons in Position of Trusts (PiPoT) framework within Islington.
- There has been an increase in resources/staffing for the Trust safeguarding adults team to reflect the increased activity for safeguarding adults, the MCA and DoLS.
- Face to face training for safeguarding adults level 2 has been maintained. This now includes our new, co-produced learning disability awareness training video, and information about autism.
- New training has been developed for both the preceptorship and Health Care Support Workers training programmes.
- In total, 75 sessions of face-to-face training were provided by the safeguarding adult team, and acute liaison learning disability acute liaison nurse. Sessions covered safeguarding adults, use of the MCA Act generally

and more specifically its relevance in relation to pressure ulcer care, self-neglect and dementia care, and learning disability awareness. Over 2,300 staff received this training.

- Whittington Health have co-produced information videos for our learning disability patients about attending the hospital for outpatient appointments, coming to Accident and Emergency, and finally, going to theatres. and leaflets. Whittington have also co-produced a training video for learning disability and purchased 'Learning Disability care bags' which aim to reduce anxiety and distress experienced by our learning disability patients.
- Whittington Health have created a system in which a daily list of all current inpatients with a safeguarding adult concern for this admission is circulated, to ensure any safeguarding adult concerns form part of discharge planning.
- Whittington Health continues to be an active member of the Safeguarding Adult Board and associated sub-groups.

Voluntary Action Islington

Key messages continue to be promoted to local voluntary organisations via communication channels.

Our partners' annual reports

Health partners of the Safeguarding Adults Board have also published their annual reports for 2023-24:

- [Whittington Health NHS Trust](#)
- [North London Mental Health Partnership](#)
- [Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust](#)
- [North Central London Integrated Care Board](#)

Appendix B

Who attended our board meetings

Engagement from our partners is essential. While much of the work goes on behind the scenes, it is important for our partners to take part in our meetings.

We hold quarterly Board meetings.

The tables here set out the organisations represented at board meetings and subgroup meetings throughout the year

Islington Safeguarding Adults Board Meetings	Board Meeting 25 May 2023	Board Meeting 12 July 2023	Board Meeting 6 November 2023	Board Meeting 21 January 2024
Partner Organisation				
Independent Chair	P	P	P	P
Police	P	P	P	P
Islington Council	P	P	P	P
Islington Integrated Care Board	P	P	P	P
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	P	P	A	P
London Fire Brigade	P	P	A	A
Camden and Islington Mental Health FT	P	P	P	P
Whittington Health	P	P	P	P
Community Rehabilitation Company	A	A	A	A
Probation	A	A	P	P
Safer Islington Partnership	A	A	A	P
Co-Opted Organisation				
Age UK Islington	P	A	A	P
Notting Hill Pathways	P	A	A	P
Healthwatch Islington	A	A	P	A
Single Homeless Project	A	P	A	P

Attendees				
Care Quality Commission	A	A	A	A
NHS England	A	A	A	A
Islington Council - Elected Councillor	A	A	P	P
General Practitioner	P	A	A	A
HMP Pentonville	A	A	A	A
Voluntary Action Islington	C	C	C	C
Department of Work and Pensions	P	A	A	A

Key

P = Present

A = Apologies no substitute

N = No apology/ substitute recorded

C = Does not attend; receives papers only

N/a = not applicable

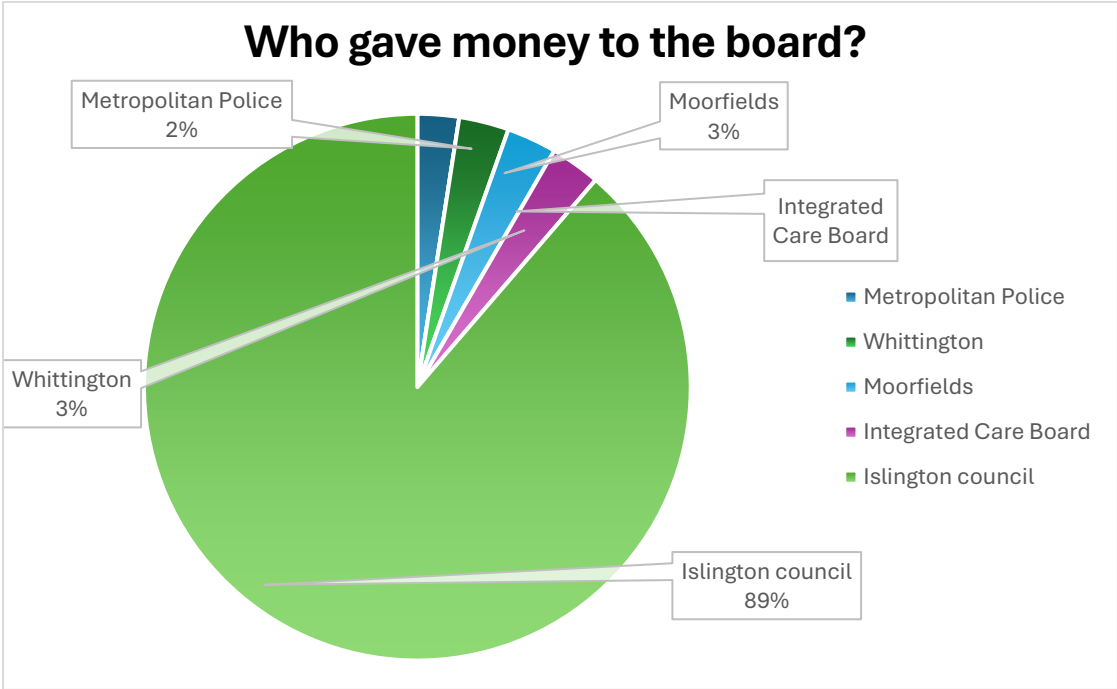
Quality, Audit and Assurance Subgroup	5 April 2023	23 May 2023	17 July 2023	30 October 2023	29 January 2024
Partner Organisation					
Chair (Integrated Care Board)	P	A	P	P	P
Islington Council	P	P	P	P	P
Whittington Health	P	P	P	P	P
Moorfields Eye Hospital NHS Foundation Trust	A	A	A	A	P
Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust	P	A	P	P	P
Notting Hill Housing	A	A	A	A	A
Police	P	P	P	A	P
Healthwatch	P	P	A	A	P

Safeguarding Adults Review Subgroup	15 June 2024	19 June 2023	16 August 2023	6 September 2023	18 October 2023	6 December 2023	31 January 2024	28 February 2024
Partner Organisation								
Chair (Police)	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Islington Council	P	P	P	P	P	P	P	P
Single Homeless Project	P	P	P	P	P	A	P	P
Islington Integrated Care Board	P	A	P	P	P	A	A	A
Camden and Islington NHS Foundation Trust	A	A	P	P	P	P	P	A
Whittington Health	P	A	P	P	P	P	P	P

Prevention and Learning subgroup	6 June 2023	10 July 2023	17 October 2023	16 January 2024	5 March 2024
Partner Organisation					
Chair (Camden and Islington NHS FT)	P	P	P	P	P
Islington Council	P	P	P	P	P
London Fire Brigade	A	A	A	A	A
Islington Integrated Care Board	A	P	P	A	P
Notting Hill Genesis	A	A	A	A	A
Moorfields NHS FT	A	P	P	P	P
Whittington Health	P	P	P	P	P
Age UK	P	A	P	P	A
Met Police	A	P	A	P	A
Department of Work and Pensions	A	A	A	P	A

How is our Board resourced?

Primary responsibility for safeguarding adults rests with Islington Council. But all Board partners are expected to contribute to the resources of the partnership. It cost Islington Council roughly £203,375 to support the work of the ISAB during the year. Last year's expenditure was £204,227. Comparably the expenditure was similar to that in the previous year.



As the above chart shows, Islington council financed nearly 89% of the costs of the Safeguarding Adults Board in Islington. Discussions continue with other Board partners regarding future funding and resources.