

Islington Safeguarding Adults Board

Summary Annual Review 2021 - 22

Our Achievements



Our Quality Audit and Assurance subgroup monitored local trends focusing on the impact of the Covid pandemic on self-neglect cases, provider concerns, hijacked housing and domestic violence.



We have agreed to implement a risk escalation pathway for the most complex, challenging cases of abuse and neglect. A Creative Solutions panel will be trialled in the year ahead.



After a public consultation, we adopted a new 3-year strategy for the Board. The strategy sets out our 6 guiding principles and key aims for the years ahead 2022 -25.



Our Prevention & Learning subgroup developed guidance for partner organisations on reducing restrictive practices such as restraint and seclusion.



We reflected on the recommendations arising from the 'Gertrude' Safeguarding Adults Review and have implemented an action plan to ensure that learning from this sad case is fully embedded.



Our service user & carer subgroup is directly involved in the London Safeguarding Voices group, raising local viewpoints and lived experience at a wider London level and shaping regional policy.



Board partners, service users and carers provided important feedback through government consultation on the proposed changes to the Human Rights Act and Liberty Protection Safeguards.

Key Statistics



Concerns about possible adult abuse or neglect decreased slightly from 3,353 last year to 2,844 this year.



In nearly 9 out of 10 cases, people were worried about an adult but when we looked into it, we decided a formal safeguarding enquiry was not needed



More than half of all cases of abuse and neglect took place in the adult's own home



New Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) referrals decreased 25%. This was due to Covid pandemic-related factors.



399 enquiries were carried out into suspected adult abuse (a slight increase on the previous year)



In nearly 90% of cases we either removed or reduced the risks through safeguarding action



Neglect cases have reduced from 26% last year to 18% this year.



The most common types of abuse found in safeguarding enquires in Islington are (1) financial, (2) neglect, (3) psychological and (4) physical

Key Developments



Health and care sectors were severely impacted by the covid pandemic with many care providers now less financially stable. We will continue seek assurances about the quality and continuity of care provision locally.



WHO and CQC have called for action against inappropriate use of force, restraint and seclusion, particularly for people with mental health needs. We will continue to promote restraint reduction guidance to our partners.



We continue to be one of the few places in the country with no backlogs on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards applications and authorisations and are well-placed to transition smoothly into Liberty Protection Safeguards in 2023.



The tragic murder of Sarah Everard by a police officer and the inappropriate behaviour of a few police colleagues prompted us to seek assurance from partners on their organisational cultures and recruitment practices.

We will continue to work on these developments over the next year.