

NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR NHS FOUNDATION TRUST
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Meeting Date: 24 February 2016

Title and Author of Paper: Safeguarding Adult Boards Annual Reports 2014/2015
Jan Grey Head of Safeguarding and Public Protection

Paper for Debate, Decision or Information: Information

Key Points to Note:

The attached paper provides a brief overview of the Safeguarding Annual reports for 2014 – 2015 with a link to the full reports. Gateshead did not produce an annual report this year.

Outcome required:

Board to note the content of the report

Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board Annual report 2014/2015

The Annual report highlights the commitment shown by partners throughout the transition the Board has made in respect of the statutory duties under the Care Act 2014. The Board's main objective under the legislation was to seek assurance that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in Northumberland. During the last year the NSAB have increasingly built on their track record of support, scrutiny and challenge to ensure that the Board deliver on responsibilities.

Once again this has taken place in the context of rising demand. The number of Adult Concern Notifications was 32% higher during 2014-15 compared to 2013-14 and Safeguarding Referrals were 13% higher. These increases are a challenge, but they also evidence positive progress in partnership safeguarding practice. The increase in the number of notifications reflects on-going work to raise awareness of adult safeguarding, encouraging agencies to report concerns at an early stage. The increase in referrals shows good quality work in responding to concerns and the application of appropriate thresholds for action.

Key achievements for 2014/2015 include:-

- Strengthening of joint working across Northumberland and North Tyneside on matters pertaining to risk, safety and vulnerability;
- Early intervention and action following identification of cases of concern;
- Improving governance in relation to case review processes, particularly pertaining to accountability to the Board and timeframes for case review processes;
- Benchmarking multi-agency practice in Northumberland

In summary, key priorities for the Safeguarding Adults Board in the coming year are

- Continue to develop and strengthen multi-agency safeguarding practice across Northumberland
- Strengthen the governance and quality assurance frameworks for the Safeguarding Adults Board holding partners to account for their safeguarding activity
- Use the lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews whether in Northumberland or elsewhere in the country to promote and develop best practice in Northumberland
- Ensure that the Safeguarding Adults Board is compliant with the statutory requirements of the Care Act 2014
- Consider the impact of welfare reform and poverty on safeguarding adults
- Consolidate our Making Safeguarding Personal work, and ensure that person centred safeguarding practices are embedded throughout Northumberland.
- Continue with joint working with North of Tyne colleagues on shared initiatives and policies.
- Continue to work with children's and community safety colleagues in tackling the risks of sexual exploitation

[Annual Reports\NorthSAB Annual Report 2014-15.pdf](#)

North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2014/15

During 2014/15 the Board invited a national peer review team to visit North Tyneside and assess how well those people who are at risk of abuse and harm in the Borough are protected. Following a rigorous review, the visiting team concluded that effective measures are in place to protect those least able to protect themselves. Despite significant organisational change within partner agencies, the safeguarding agenda has consistently been given strong and continuing priority. Our work in 2015/16 is quite simple: - to move from compliance with the Care Act towards excellence.

Vision

To protect an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect

Annual Plan 2015/16

- Improved outcomes for those experiencing abuse
- Making safeguarding personal
- Learning from individuals experiences
- Increased awareness about Safeguarding Adults
- For the SAB to be an effective body with active involvement from partner agencies
- To meet the legal requirements of The Care Act 2014

[Annual Reports\North Tyneside Safeguarding Annual Report 2014-15.pdf](#)

Newcastle Safeguarding Adult Board Annual report 2014/15

Although this year has brought with it a continued high degree of organisational change in partner agencies and associated financial austerity, the safeguarding adult's agenda has, without exception, remained at the top of each of the partner agencies' priorities. Board members have maintained their ongoing enthusiasm, to improve and further develop safeguarding mechanisms across the whole system, in order that citizens of Newcastle are safe from abuse and neglect. Being safe is one of the many things adults want for themselves and for agencies working with them there can be real challenges in balancing individual safety and freedom in a way which protects and fulfils human rights. Agencies have modified their ways of working to establish what being safe means to each individual and how that safety can be best achieved. The Board has already begun to respond to the emerging challenges of sexual exploitation, self and institutional neglect, and domestic abuse. The main challenge for the NSAB in delivering its strategic annual plan is the reducing resources in many of the public sector organisations who are key to this work. This continues to be monitored as a risk by the NSAB.

The six key priorities of the NSAB are also nationally agreed and inform safeguarding adults work at both a strategic and operational level.

Empowerment

Individuals have the right information about how to recognise abuse and what they can do to keep themselves safe.

Protection

Local people understand how safeguarding adults procedures work and how they can get help if they need it.

Prevention

In all aspects of work, the NSAB and partner agencies consider how to make communities safer.

Partnership

Agencies work together to safeguard adults at risk. There is a “one-team” approach that places the welfare of individuals before the needs of the system.

Accountability

Each agency understands their role and responsibility in relation to safeguarding adults.

[Annual Reports\NSAB Annual Report 2014-15.pdf](#)

South Tyneside Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2014/2015

This year has seen the introduction of the Care Act 2014 which has placed Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing with a requirement for its members to co-operate and share key data to protect and support adults at risk in their communities. The Safeguarding Adult Board members have developed knowledge about the wider issues of safeguarding as a result of learning from case reviews locally, regionally and nationally, around issues such as sexual exploitation and self - neglect.

Self-Neglect was the subject of a very successful conference in early May 2015 which the Safeguarding Adults Board sponsored.

We are continuing as a Board to ensure we learn the hard lessons from safeguarding tragedies and work together more effectively to ensure our policies and processes are all influenced and designed to improve the lived experiences of those we seek to support and protect. This is even more imperative as the pressure on all our agencies increase as a result of less financial resources and higher levels of demand for services. We are also looking at working with our Children's Safeguarding Board colleagues at how we can streamline the ambitious work programme of the Boards and join up key areas where opportunities exist to do so

The STSAB Business Plan has identified 4 key priorities for 2015-17.

The 4 key priorities agreed for 2015-2017:-

- The STSAB must be assured of compliance with The Care Act 2014;
- To continue to develop frameworks, knowledge and practice to effectively support adults at risk who may self-neglect;
- To develop the frameworks, knowledge and practice to effectively support adults at risk who are at risk of sexual exploitation;

- To develop and assist alongside partner agencies to manage the changes with the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

[STSAB Annual Report 2014-2015.pdf](#)

Sunderland Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2014/2015

This has been an important year in which adult safeguarding has been drawn into the public eye as safeguarding adults boards assumed statutory status placing adults at risk of harm on an equal footing with children and young people to enable them to live their lives free from abuse, neglect, and discrimination.

Sunderland had already been well placed to embrace this change in status. The Safeguarding Adults Board had already been functioning for a number of years and had focussed much attention in the run up to Care Act implementation to ensure an almost seamless move into its statutory undertaking. This of course does not progress without cost – there are significant funding implications associated with running the statutory board – which need to be shared across a broader partnership of agencies.

It is important that the considerable commitment of all partner organisations represented around the Board table. This comes at a time of increased austerity not only for the general public but across all services charged with safeguarding responsibilities arising in part due to the significantly reduced funding allocations but also due to organisational changes and reconfigurations. Despite this, progress has been made on a number of fronts:

- Important work has been progressed around reforming the Hostels Strategy in order to make sure the hostel 'backstop' is of suitable quality and supply to meet the needs of very vulnerable homeless adults.
- A great deal of effort has been deployed working with private residential home providers to ensure their services are of such standard to enhance and improve life chances rather than the reverse.
- A performance framework is under refinement to enable Board members to understand how effective safeguarding services are operating, where the problem areas are, the levels and frequencies of referrals, and what, if anything, requires remedy.

The SSAB Delivery Plan 2015/2016

- Key Objective 1: Promote the active involvement of service users, their carers, their families and their advocates
- Key Objective 2: Ensure Effective Leadership is in Place
- Key Objective 3: Secure citywide consistency in safeguarding
- Key Objective 4: Promote a learning culture around safeguarding
- Key Objective 5: Performance Management of the SSAB safeguarding adults activity and outcomes
- Key Objective 6: Respond to the Care Act Developments

[Annual Reports\SSAB Annual Report.pdf](#)