



Overview and Scrutiny Committee
8 December 2009

**Report from the Director of Housing
and Community Care**

For Information

Wards Affected:
ALL

Report Title: Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2008/09

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This is the fifth annual report of the Brent Safeguarding Adults Committee and covers the period April 2008 – March 2009. It outlines national developments, the progress made in Brent (including the priorities set in last year's annual report) and also identifies key issues and future plans for growth and improvement. The report also covers the outcome of the Commission for Social Care Inspection on Independence, Wellbeing and Choice and the implementation of the Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

2.0 Recommendation

That members of the committee note and comment on the report.

3.0 In Brent

Brent Safeguarding Adults Board and Sub-groups

The Safeguarding Adults committee formally became the Safeguarding Adults Board and continued to meet on quarterly basis with partner agency membership. The proposed subgroups of the Board were established and membership continued to be consolidated. The subgroups will ensure different elements of the 2008-2011 strategic plan are taken forward. A good level of cooperation has been evident between the agencies involved and represented on the Board.

Meeting

Date : 8th December 2009

Commission for Social Care Inspection - Wellness, Independence and Choice Inspection

Following the Commission for Social Care Inspectorate in 2008 with a focus on Safeguarding a comprehensive action plan was developed and overseen by the Board during the year. Key components included quality assurance and awareness raising.

Referral Activity 2008/09

- 254 referrals were received which was a 20% increase on last year
- The majority of referrals were again for older people, with an 42% increase in referrals relating to Older People.
- The majority of referrals related to alleged abuse in a client's own home.
- The main form of abuse was financial, followed by physical
- 39% of all concluded cases were substantiated
- For substantiated cases relatives, including spouses, were the main perpetrators followed by care professionals.

Quality Assurance Framework

A comprehensive quality assurance framework was implemented following the CSCI inspection and included the following elements;

- Quarterly Case file audits
- Service User Audits
- Monthly service area meetings

Safeguarding Adults Team

The Safeguarding Adults team was expanded in 2008 to include the post of a senior practitioner for safeguarding and will be further strengthened in 2009 with the creation of two posts to ensure Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards are taken forward in a joint arrangement with NHS Brent.

An agreement was made to jointly fund an Independent Chair to the Board (appointment process due to take place in January 2010).

Training and Awareness Raising

Over 1000 places were offered in the past year with a 67% attendance rate. The Learning and Development sub-group will be considering how to ensure an increase in attendance at training over the following year.

Awareness has been strengthened with community groups over the past year with a focus on 'seldom heard groups' with over 8 events

being undertaken. Further progress will be necessary to ensure awareness is appropriately maintained.

4.0 Nationally and London Developments

- The Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding came into force on 1 April 2009 and key actions over the year were undertaken to ensure readiness for that date.
- A consultation on the review of 'No Secrets' was undertaken and the Safeguarding Adults Board may representation on this a response is awaited by from the government.
- National data monitoring requirements are being considered from October 2009.
- Development of Pan London procedures continued.

Contact Officers

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