

 <p data-bbox="308 383 491 443">Brent</p>	<p data-bbox="703 174 1273 224">Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <p data-bbox="826 275 1150 324">22 January 2015</p> <p data-bbox="660 371 1318 461">Report from Brent Safeguarding Adults Board</p>
<p data-bbox="236 544 451 577">For information</p>	
<p data-bbox="236 640 1331 730">Annual Report from Brent Safeguarding Adults Board 2013-14</p>	

1.0 Summary

- 1.1. The Director Adult Social Care and Independent Chair of the Adults Safeguarding Board will present the Board's Annual Report for 2013-14. This report reviews the work carried out by the partnership in 2013-14, provides analysis of the safeguarding statistics collected for that period and outlines priorities for the Board in 2014-15.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to:
 - 2.1.1. Note the large increase in alerts (from 748 in 2012-13 to 1208 in 2013-14) and referrals (from 314 in 2013-14 to 370 in 2013-14, up by 18%) received and investigated by the Safeguarding team during the period.
 - 2.1.2. Also note and comment on the priorities for SAB identified within the report. Specifically the SAB intends to re-establish sub groups so as to widen membership and secure full participation from statutory agencies to drive continued improvement in relation to safeguarding across the sector.
 - 2.1.3. The SAB intends to be in a position to publish a strategic plan in the first quarter of 2015-16 setting out how it will work to further develop multi-agency safeguarding work for adults in Brent.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1. Please see attached the full report which details what action each partner took to address the priorities of the Board and the impact this had for local residents.
- 3.2. The Safeguarding Adults Board identified six priorities for 2013-14 the first two of which considered types of abuse. The Board aimed to reduce

financial abuse (which decreased over the period by 13%) and also sought to reduce avoidable pressure ulcer incidents. Unfortunately this proved difficult to measure due to inconsistencies regarding definitions and reporting requirements. It is noted however that, neglect or acts of omission continue to be the leading category of types of abuse and a high proportion of these are from incidences occurring in services arranged or commissioned by Adult Social Care. This will remain therefore a key area for the SAB to continue to monitor in 2014-15, but it should also be noted that awareness raising and training will have had a significant impact on the cases reported and investigated by the Safeguarding Team.

- 3.3. The remain priorities were to improve processes and multi-agency working to effect a culture change aimed at improving quality in commissioned care and support services and making Brent safer. The report goes into each of these in detail, setting out what the priority means and highlighting case studies to demonstrate how interventions are effective.
- 3.4. The Board has focused this year on improving processes to ensure greater accountability to the wider community, through our safeguarding conference in February 2014, during which the Board set the priorities for the year. The Board has also worked to implement 'Making Safeguarding personal' achieving recognition from the Local Government Association that the work it has done to date, specifically with user groups to secure feedback, puts us at a 'silver medal' status. This programme is designed to ensure that the processes employed by the partner agencies reflect the outcomes individuals wish to achieve and minimise the risk that safeguarding becomes process driven.
- 3.5. The Board has also overseen a comprehensive training programme and a Brent wide campaign to raise awareness of abuse and what actions to take to report this. This campaign received national attention and has resulted in a rise in alerts, demonstrating its effectiveness. The main impact of this can be measured by the large increase in alerts sent into the team for investigation. This demonstrates that the message, that 'safeguarding is everyone's responsibility' has reached a wider audience than previously. However the conversion rate from alert to referral (i.e. when a matter that has been referred is assessed to within the Safeguarding team's remit for investigation) remains a key performance indicator alongside their feedback rate to those who submit alerts so that awareness campaigns regarding safeguarding work can be targeted more effectively.
- 3.6. However, there are still areas where we need to do more and the report details in the final section the priorities for 2014-15, specifically how it will take forward work on pressure care, further develop transparency and accountability to local residents and look to new areas of need such as safer recruitment.

4.0. Financial Implications

- 4.1. Brent Council has already committed to the continued funding of the SABs work. Discussions continue within the Task and Finish Care Act group regarding wider contributions from relevant partners.

5.0. Legal Implications

- 5.1. Presently there are no statutory requirements to have a Safeguarding Adults Board. From April 2015, following implementation of the Care Act 2014, the Local Authority will be required to establish a SAB, publish a strategic plan and an annual report and undertake Safeguarding Adults Reviews where an adult at risk has died and it appears there are lessons that should be learnt about how agencies work to protect vulnerable adults. The Brent Safeguarding Adults Board currently undertakes all of these functions, so there is a strong base on which to revise the work to ensure it is Care Act compliant from April 2015.
- 5.2. In addition, both the Police and CCG must contribute to the work of the Board, but it is agreed that to be effective the SAB in Brent will draw from a much wider membership. Each partner agency represented on the Board will be required to appoint a Designated Safeguarding Adults Manager and set out how it will contribute towards the work of the Board.
- 5.3. It is widely recognised that the Board fulfils an important function for all agencies involved. Specifically it is able to demonstrate Brent Council and key partner agencies are fulfilling statutory obligations to meet the needs of adults at risk in their area. It also ensures that all agencies responsible for providing protection and support to adults at risk are working effectively together to drive continued improvement.

6.0. Diversity Implications

- 6.1. None

7.0. Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

- 7.1. None

8.0. Background papers

- 8.1. The Brent Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14
- 8.2. The Care Act Guidance: Chapter 14

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