

Adult Social Care Committee

Item No:

Report title:	Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017-18
Date of meeting:	5 November 2018
Responsible Chief Officer:	James Bullion, Executive Director of Adult Social Services
Strategic impact <p>The annual report at Appendix A summarises the work of the Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) during 2017-18.</p> <p>It illustrates the delivery by the multi-agency partnership of the statutory requirements for safeguarding adults as set out in the Care Act.</p> <p>The local authority along with the police and health commission form the three statutory partners for safeguarding adults, with the local authority holding lead responsibility.</p> <p>Publication of an annual report is a statutory requirement (14.136 Care Act Guidance 2016).</p>	

Executive summary

The purpose of Norfolk Safeguarding Adults Board is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs. It does this by:

- a) assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act 2014 and statutory guidance
- b) assuring itself that safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focused
- c) working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible
- d) ensuring agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses when abuse or neglect have occurred
- e) assuring itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area

The NSAB leads adult safeguarding arrangements across Norfolk and oversees and coordinates the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies. This requires the NSAB to develop and actively promote a culture with its members, partners and the local community that recognises the values and principles contained in Making Safeguarding Personal. It also concerns itself with a range of issues which can contribute to the wellbeing of its community and the prevention of abuse and neglect, such as:

- a) the safety of people who use services in local health settings, including mental health
- b) the safety of adults with care and support needs living in social housing
- c) effective interventions with adults who self-neglect, for whatever reason
- d) the quality of local care and support services
- e) the effectiveness of prisons in safeguarding offenders
- f) making connections between adult safeguarding and domestic abuse

The Care Act 2014 introduced a legal requirement for Safeguarding Adults Boards to complete an annual report once a year, covering its activities. A copy is required to be sent to the chief executive and leader of the local authority, the police and crime commissioner, the chief constable and the local Healthwatch.

Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Constabulary and the NHS (Clinical Commissioning Groups) are statutory partners on NSAB. NSAB has a wider membership covering a range of agencies active in safeguarding adults in the county. These include health provider organisations from both acute and community settings, Norfolk Fire and Rescue, Healthwatch, probation, representatives of the voluntary and independent sectors, prisons, CQC, district councils and the police and crime commissioner's office.

Key issues to note from the reporting period are:

- a) This report has been reshaped and is considerably shorter than previous reports. This has been a proactive step to make the report more attractive and accessible to the widest possible audience
- b) In the middle of 2017 Adult Social Care implemented its new recording system. This changed how information about safeguarding adults was collected. Information for this report has come from both the old and new systems. This has meant that information for this report is limited because it has involved bringing together data from the old and new systems, and as a result, we cannot compare the reports like for like.
- c) There was a total of 992 completed Section 42 enquiries
- d) The highest number of completed Section 42 enquiries were concerning physical abuse (438), followed by financial (215) and neglect (192)

Key highlights for NSAB during 2017/18 were:

- a) In September 2017 over 230 delegates from 90 organisations attended a very successful multiagency conference focused on financial abuse and scamming during safeguarding adults awareness week
- b) NSAB had a presence at Norwich Pride in July 2017, promoting the safeguarding message to many members of the public
- c) An increase in social media presence: 500 Twitter followers and over 800 new visitors to the website each month
- d) Safeguarding has been embedded in Norfolk County Council's 'In good company' campaign, which is aimed at tackling loneliness in the county.
- e) NSAB launch of a survey on LGBT+ awareness in providers' settings

In the past 12 months a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) using the pseudonym 'Louise' has completed been but not published, as the person concerned lives in the local area. The report contains facts and evidence which may identify the person, so a decision was made by NSAB not to publish.

There have been 15 referrals to the Safeguarding Adults Review group within the past year. Many of these require further investigation, and the review group are awaiting reports and advice from other agencies before deciding whether the referrals meet the criteria for a SAR.

Capacity to deal with all the work required to improve safeguarding for adults in Norfolk remains the most significant problem for NSAB. This will continue be the subject of discussions throughout this coming year.

NSAB has a range of promotional materials and a growing social media presence. Members of the Committee are invited to disseminate this report within their networks to help raise the profile of NSAB's work. If any members would like promotional materials, then please contact please contact Andrea Smith (01603 223085) andrea.smith@norfolk.gov.uk

Recommendations:

The Committee is asked to

- a) agree the content of the report**
- b) proactively share this report with partner organisations with whom they have contact and actively encourage their involvement with NSAB's work**

Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper or want to see copies of any assessments, eg equality impact assessment, please get in touch with:

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