

Healthier Communities Select Committee			
Report Title	The Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2012-13		
Contributors	Executive Director for Community Services	Item No.	4
Class	Part 1	Date:	5 th February 2014

1. Summary

- 1.1 The attached Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2012-13 summarises the key messages from the Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB). The report also highlights the activity that has taken place during 2012/13 to ensure that all organisations in Lewisham work in partnership to protect those adults at risk in our community. The report seeks to inform Committee members of the improvements made since the previous annual report.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 Members of the Healthier Communities Select Committee are recommended to:
- Note and comment on the achievements to date in the annual safeguarding report 2012/13.
 - Note and comment on the goals that were set for 2013/14.

3. Policy Context

3.1 National Policy

Safeguarding Adult Boards were developed following DH guidance issued in 2000 entitled 'No Secrets'. Although there were no legislative requirements, the guidance set out the Government's expectations for areas to establish multi agency safeguarding adult boards. The guidance advised that key statutory and voluntary sector agencies, led by the local authorities, met regularly to oversee and promote a range of activities to protect vulnerable adults. It also advised on the production of an annual report on activity undertaken and plans for the forthcoming year.

Since the initial issue of 'No Secrets', there have been two further Government position statements on Safeguarding Adults; a review of No Secrets and proposed legislation in the Draft Care and Support Bill (now the Care Bill). The Bill proposes that the boards become statutory bodies, places new legal duties on local authorities, defines financial abuse, and stipulates that safeguarding boards must hold formal case reviews in certain circumstances.

Both the Winterbourne Hospital scandal and the Francis report have shaped service changes and affected the role of the LSAB; adding a greater responsibility to oversee and ensure the quality of services provided and commissioned and to work collaboratively with partner agencies, in particular the Care Quality Commission (CQC), to ensure people's protection from abuse in institutional settings.

3.2 Local Policy

In 2011, a London wide multi agency policy and procedure was launched for safeguarding adults which Lewisham adopted the same year. This has been further embedded into practice during 2012/13 and has driven changes to local agency policy and procedures.

The work of the LSAB contributes to the 'Safer' priority within the Lewisham Sustainable Community Strategy supporting people to live free from abuse.

4. Background

4.1 Safeguarding Boards are required to produce an annual report which describes how they have strategically coordinated, planned and supported partner agencies' arrangements to deliver safeguarding services to protect adults at risk of harm or abuse across Lewisham. This role includes overseeing the effectiveness of these arrangements and holding agencies to account for the quality of practice of services provided and those commissioned on their behalf.

4.2 The LSAB is currently a non statutory body. Its membership consists of voluntary and statutory agencies such as Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust (formerly the Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust), the Metropolitan Police, Voluntary Action Lewisham, Healthwatch, Lewisham Homes, London Ambulance Service, Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group and London & Quadrant Housing Association. All organisations support the activity of the Board through involvement in the work of task orientated sub groups.

4.3 The activity and next steps of this Board were reported to the Committee in the previous financial year. The outcome of work undertaken in 2012/13 is described below.

5. The Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board Key Achievements 2012/13

5.1 Partnership Working

A Multi Agency Safeguarding Case Conference (MASCC) process was established to coordinate all safeguarding casework and to consider the outcomes.

5.2 Data Collection and Analysis

A mapping exercise was completed to identify all the performance data collected by each agency. This was part of the process of establishing the performance reporting and quality assurance framework for the LSAB in 2013/14.

5.3 Making People Safe –Targeted Work

The Lewisham Multi-Agency Hoarding Protocol and Panel were launched in June 2012. This initiative brought concerned organisations such as housing providers, the London Fire Service, social care and health agencies together to share information and best practice about the approaches to make safe those people who hoard.

5.4 Safeguarding Support, Training and Advice for the Workforce

The Council and the LSAB adopted the National Capability Framework for Safeguarding Adults as a common set of standards for workers. During 2012/13 a programme of training based on this approach was carried out training approximately 400 staff so far.

5.5 Safeguarding Policies and Procedures

The London Ambulance Service, the Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust and Lewisham Homes reviewed and revised their safeguarding adult policies and procedures to reflect changes in practice, local and national learning, and to improve reporting and compliance. Feedback from staff indicated greater confidence in raising alerts and has resulted in increased numbers in certain service areas.

6. Goals set for 2013/14

In reviewing the outcomes of the activity undertaken in 2012/13, the Board set the following goals for 2013/14:

- To strengthen the governance and accountability of the LSAB through agreement by all partners to a compact describing expectations of each organisation as a member of the Board.
- To finalise a multiagency quality assurance framework and performance reporting framework to guide Board activities.
- To agree a multi agency audit process to enable the Board to assess its own performance and effectiveness as a partnership,

7. Financial implications

7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8. Legal implications

8.1 There are no additional legal implications arising from this report.

9. Crime and Disorder Implications

9.1 There are no specific crime and disorder implications arising from this report however the LSAB works in close collaboration with Safer Lewisham Partnership members to ensure joint approaches to overlapping issues such as domestic violence and hate crimes.

10. Equalities Implications

10.1 The LSAB has a leading role to ensure that all people in Lewisham are aware of adult abuse, have information on how to recognise it and where to report their concerns. In particular it ensures that those most at risk such as older adults, those people with learning disabilities and those people with mental health needs are advised and supported to recognise abusive behaviour and how to alert services.

10.2 In analysing the activity data collected, the LSAB is able to both provide information and identify trends in relation to the types of people being abused and the alleged perpetrators. This is invaluable in directing the Board to target activity and interventions towards those individuals, groups or sections of the community most at risk. This further enables the Board to understand the data in terms of those protected characteristics outlined in the Equality Act 2010.

11. Environmental Implications

11.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

12. Conclusion

12.1 This report highlights the progress the LSAB partnership has made during 2012/13 and work still to be done in preparation for the impending statutory status and responsibilities. Nevertheless the foundations were laid in 2012/13 and the work that is underway this financial year is anticipated to deliver the set goals.

Background Documents

No Secrets DH 2000 [No Secrets: guidance on protecting vulnerable adults in care - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

Protecting adults at risk: London Multi Agency Policy and Procedure to safeguard adults from abuse

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/reports/report39.pdf>

If there are any queries on this report please contact Cheryl Spencer, Safeguarding Strategy Development officer, 020 8314 6139.