

Healthier Communities Select Committee			
Title:	Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2014-15		
Contributors:	Executive Director for Community Services	Item:	5
Class:	Part 1 (Open)	02 March 2016	

1. Purpose

- 1.1 This report and accompanying papers provide the Healthier Communities Select Committee with detail of the work of the Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB).
- 1.2 The Annual Report for 2014-15 summarises the key messages from the Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB). The report also highlights the activity that has taken place during 2014-15 to ensure that all organisations in Lewisham work in partnership to promote safeguarding adults and the prevention of abuse.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 It is recommended that the Healthier Communities Select Committee:
 - Note and comment on the achievements outlined in the annual safeguarding report 2014-15.
 - Note and comment on the goals that were set for 2015-16.
 - Note the plan for bringing forward publication of the 2015-16 LSAB Annual Report.
 - Note the significant increased demand relating to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLs).

3. Background

- 3.1 The Care Act 2014 was the most comprehensive overhaul of the social care system since 1948, consolidating the law on adult care in England into a single statute. It set out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the health and care system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. The act established Adult Safeguarding Boards as a statutory requirement of equivalent status to Children's Safeguarding Boards.
- 3.2 Statutory Guidance was published in October 2014, with most areas of the Act being implemented from April 2016. Implementation of the cap on care costs was subsequently deferred, by the government, to 2020.
- 3.3 The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) provide additional protection for the most vulnerable people living in residential homes, nursing homes, hospital environments and supported housing through the use of a rigorous, standardised assessment and authorisation process. They aim to protect those who lack capacity to consent to arrangements made in relation to their care and/or treatment, but who

need to be deprived of their liberty in their own best interest to protect them from harm. They also offer the person concerned the rights:

- To challenge the decision to deprive them of their liberty;
- For a representative to act for them and protect their interests; and
- The right to have their status reviewed and monitored on a regular basis.

4. Policy Context

- 4.1 The Care Act 2014 introduced new safeguarding duties for local authorities including: leading a multi-agency local adult safeguarding system; making or causing enquiries to be made where there is a safeguarding concern; hosting safeguarding adults boards; carrying out safeguarding adults reviews; and arranging for the provision of independent advocates.
- 4.2 People and organisations must work together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect. They must promote the adult's wellbeing and have regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs when deciding on any action. Professionals should work with the adult to establish what being safe means to them and how that can be best achieved.
- 4.3 The Local Authority is the lead agency for adult safeguarding and other statutory agencies have a 'duty to co-operate' with the Board. Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
- 4.4 Safeguarding duties apply to an adult who:
- has needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
 - is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
 - as a result of those care and support needs is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.
- 4.5 Local Policy context: Pan-London Multi-agency policy and procedures
- 4.5.1 Publication of the Pan-London multi-agency policy and procedures, updated to take account of the changes introduced by the Care Act, was initially expected in April 2015, but was not launched until 08 February 2016. The Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) has requested that boards adopt from April 2016, a very short timescale.
- 4.5.2 LSAB members will be asked to report to the March Board meeting on their progress towards updating their operating protocols in line with the new Pan-London arrangements.
- 4.6 Local Policy context: The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)
- 4.6.1 This report last year informed the committee of the impacts which the Supreme Court judgment ("P v Cheshire West and Chester Council and another" and "P and Q v Surrey County Council") which lowered the threshold for a deprivation and

significantly widened the scope of the Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards.

4.6.2 Lewisham saw a ten-fold increase in applications received rising from 36 in 2013 – 14 to 353 in 2014-15. In 2013 - 2014 only 36% of applications made led to an authorisation, compared with 72% in 2014 – 2015

5. The Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board Key Achievements 2014-15

5.1 The activity and next steps of this Board were reported to the Committee in the previous financial year. The outcome of work undertaken in 2014/15 is described below.

5.2 The overarching purpose of the board is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs by:

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

5.3 The Board meets four times a year and has an independent Chair, Chris Doorly, who is also the Chair of the Lewisham Safeguarding Children's Board.

5.4 The main focus for the Board in 2014-15 was preparation for compliance with the Care Act 2014 following implementation in April 2015. With statutory guidance only published in October 2014 there was little lead-in time. However significant progress was achieved, by the Chair, the Interim Business Manager and Board Member organisations.

5.5 The Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Quality Assurance framework was agreed and further work undertaken to develop a clear picture of the specific assurances and evidence the Board will need to be confident that adults at risk in Lewisham are safeguarded.

5.6 An audit utilising the NHS England Safeguarding Adults at Risk Self-Assessment tool was undertaken followed by two challenge and support (learning) events where all member organisations could consider the self-assessments produced and produce improvement plans.

5.7 Safeguarding Board members worked to ensure their policies and processes comply with the Care Act & statutory guidance. A series of presentations to each LSAB meetings to demonstrate the required measures of compliance commenced in December 2014 with the South London & Maudsley NHS Trust.

5.8 Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust introduced a pressure ulcer panel to review all pressure ulcer incidents. The panel offers a consistent approach to the review and

management of pressure ulcers and, by only using the single Root Cause Analysis investigation tool, releases time for the staff to effectively manage their clinical duties. This panel was recognised as the 'safeguarding strategy meeting', where incidents are escalated as safeguarding concerns, to prevent any time delays in the reporting process. Analysis has shown that the implementation of the panels has enabled and engaged the staff effectively in the identification of, and the management of pressure ulcers. There was a reduction in the total number of grade 3 and 4 pressure ulcers reported as serious incidents in 2014 - 2015.

5.9 No Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) were required in Lewisham in 2014 – 15, but the LSAB received reports of Domestic Homicide reviews undertaken in Lewisham along with the learning and recommendations which have been shared within the safeguarding partnership.

6. Goals set for 2014-15

6.1 Delays in recruiting staff to the Safeguarding Adults Board Team significantly impacted on the achievement of goals set out in the annual report. Recruitment took place in the summer of 2015 with all three members of the team commencing by the second week in December 2015.

6.2 Goals delayed

6.2.1 The delay from April 2015 to February 2016 delayed the goals of:

- I. *Review of existing LSAB policies, protocols and procedures to ensure they are Care Act compliant; and events to share learning from current guidance, local and national cases and practice from Safeguarding Adults activity.* This work has commenced and will continue into 2016 – 17.
- II. *Produce an information pack on safeguarding adults for GPs and Primary Care services - work was being led by the LCCG, due to a change of personnel in the lead role for safeguarding it has been delayed until early 2016.*
- III. *Consider the demographic data of Lewisham and correlate with Safeguarding Adults information.* This work was awaiting the arrival of capacity within the LSAB support team. Early work on this will be reported to the Board in March. Attempts to try to identify those adults at most serious risk (risk stratification), and those who will not engage with services so that early intervention and prevention work can be targeted will now take place in 2016 – 17.
- IV. *Redesign the Safeguarding Adults web page (on the LBL website) to provide information about the LSAB.* While the Safeguarding Adults web page has been updated to ensure compliance with the Care Act including a small amount of information about LSAB, work on the development of an LSAB page or independent website is now planned for 2016 – 17.
- V. *Roll out Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) phase 2 projects – in accordance with the Care Act requirements, Lewisham Adult Social Care completed the phase 1 MSP project. The LGA published their evaluation of the Making Safeguarding Personal initiative in November 2015. This*

evaluation will be used to work with partners in 2016 – 17 (phase 2 projects) to embed the approach which ensures:

- A personalised approach that enables safeguarding to be done with, not to, people;
- Practice that focuses on achieving meaningful improvement to people's circumstances rather than just on 'investigation' and 'conclusion'; and
- An approach that utilises social work skills rather than just 'putting people through a process'.

7. Future LSAB annual reports

7.1 This LSAB annual report relates to the 2014 – 15 business year, almost 12 months ago. This delay has previously been caused by waiting for validated data from the Health & Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) to whom data for the Safeguarding Adults Collection (formerly known as Safeguarding Adults Return) is submitted. Data has to be submitted in by the end of the first week in June following the end of the data year. Data is normally validated by the beginning of November.

7.2 HSCIC has strict rules about the use of unvalidated data. While the LSAB would be able to publish its own data prior to the publication of national data, it would have to note that the data is provisional subject to later validation by HSCIC. LSAB could only compare with its own information from previous years; no national comparison data would be available for analysis. There is also the risk that prior to validation, there could be an error in data submitted then published.

7.3 LSAB discussed this at its December 2015 meeting and decided that the LSAB Team would strive to get the 2015 – 16 Annual Report published by July 2016, making it more contemporaneous. As part of this process the Chair has requested that board member organisations submit Safeguarding reports to their own governance structures, and then submit these to the LSAB Team to extract content for inclusion in the LSAB annual report. The report itself will reduce in size and complexity, making it more succinct and reader-friendly.

8. Financial implications

8.1 The Lewisham Safeguarding Adults Board (09 December 2014) referred the framework and future funding of the Board to the board's Executive Core Group meeting (23/02/15). This meeting agreed that the Adults Board should be funded, through the partnership agreement, using the same funding arrangements as the Children's Safeguarding Board.

9. Legal implications

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

10. Crime and disorder implications

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

11. Equalities implications

- 11.1 The LSAB has the lead role in promoting the fact that every adult in Lewisham has the right to live safely and free from abuse; and that Safeguarding is 'everybody's business'. The LSAB Team is working with a variety of statutory and local third sector organisations to publicise and promote that the Board is there to: make sure that local safeguarding arrangements are in place; help to prevent abuse and neglect taking place; and, ensure agencies respond appropriately when concerns are raised.
- 11.2 Analysis of safeguarding activity provides information relating to Equality Act 2010 protected characteristics. It also provides data (over time) on trends in types of people being abused, type and location of risk and the alleged perpetrators etc. This will assist the Board in identifying potential targeted activity and interventions aimed at those most at risk.

12. Environmental implications

- 12.1 There are no specific environmental implications arising from this report or its recommendations.

If there are any queries on this report please contact Phil Byron, LSAB Business Manager, on 020 8314 7672.

Background documents

The Care Act 2014: [Care Act 2014 Part 1: factsheets - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2014: [Care Act 2014: statutory guidance for implementation - Publications - GOV.UK](#)

Protecting adults at risk: [Pan-London 2016 Multi-agency Policy and Procedure to safeguard adults from abuse](#)

The Mental Capacity Act 2005: [Mental Capacity Act 2005 Code of Practice](#)

Making Safeguarding Personal: [Making Safeguarding Personal Evaluation Report](#)