

**TITLE OF REPORT:** Safeguarding Adult Board update

**REPORT OF:** Strategic Director, Care, Wellbeing and Learning

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## Summary

The purpose of this report is to present the Annual Report 2016/17 and updated Strategic Plan 2016/2019 for the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB).

This report will be going to Cabinet on 19 September 2017.

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## Background

1. The Safeguarding Adults Board continues to provide leadership, accountability and vision for the safeguarding adult's agenda in Gateshead. The Board has been strengthened via the appointment in November 2016 of a highly regarded and experienced Independent Chair Sir Paul Ennals who is responsible for Chairing both the SAB and the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. Both Boards have a strong commitment to working together, holding each other to account and seeking to learn and improve together.
2. It has been a year of change throughout many of the partner organisations that make up SAB and a number of changes to Board representatives. Despite this, along with ongoing public sector austerity measures, the Annual Report illustrates that considerable progress has been made. The Board was not subject to external inspection during 2016/17 and there were no new Safeguarding Adult Reviews commissioned. Nevertheless a number of emerging local and national issues meant that the Board was extremely busy.
3. The Care Act 2014 enshrined in law the principles of Safeguarding Adults and the Safeguarding Adults Board became a statutory body in April 2015. The Care Act states that a Safeguarding Adults Board must:
  - publish a strategic plan for each financial year. This plan could cover 3 – 5 years in order to enable the Board to plan ahead as long as it is reviewed and updated annually
  - publish an annual report which details how the Board and its members achieved the objectives as identified within the strategic plan

## **Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016/17 and updated Strategic Plan 2016/19**

4. The SAB 2016/17 Annual Report highlights progress throughout the year. Key areas of work include the development of bespoke safeguarding adult training courses, the establishment of a Serious Provider Concern process to enable

management of Safeguarding Concerns more appropriately and effectively, the adoption of a Quality Assurance Framework (QAF) and the establishment of a new Safeguarding Adults Review Group which has delegated responsibility for the co-ordination of statutory Safeguarding Adult Reviews. The report also articulates how partner governance arrangements ensure members are accountable for Safeguarding Adults and includes what members have done in order to deliver the objectives highlighted within its strategic plan. The SAB has streamlined the way in which it operates, to seek to get the most out of the contributions of senior partners from all agencies.

5. The revised Strategic Plan 2016/19 sets out how the Safeguarding Adults Board will achieve its five Strategic Priorities which are:
  - Quality Assurance
  - Prevention
  - Community Engagement and Communication
  - Improved Operational Practice
  - Implementing Mental Capacity Act / Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

The Strategic Plan includes key challenges to be addressed over the three year period. 2017/18 is year two of the three year Strategic Plan and the revision, supported by a Business Plan for 2017/18, which helps to reprioritise the work of the Board to ensure that the Strategic Priorities are addressed.

### **Recommendation**

6. The committee is asked to consider and comment on the effectiveness of the Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2016/17 and Strategic Plan 2016/19.