

TITLE OF REPORT: Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2016/19 and Annual Business Plan 2016/17

Purpose of the Report

1. To provide the Health & Wellbeing Board with information with respect to the Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2016 – 2019 and Annual Business Plan 2016/17.

Background

2. The Care Act 2014 enshrined in law the principles of Safeguarding Adults, which will not only ensure that the most vulnerable members of society are afforded appropriate support and protection, but will also help them to live as independently as possible, for as long as possible.
3. Chapter 14 of the Care and Support Statutory Guidance issued under the Care Act replaces the No Secrets document as the statutory basis for all safeguarding activity. This was updated in March 2016 by the Department for Health.
4. The Care Act places a duty upon Local Authorities to establish Safeguarding Adults Boards and stipulates that Safeguarding Adult Boards must produce a Strategic Plan and Annual Report. The Statutory Guidance encourages the Safeguarding Adults Board to link with other partnerships in the locality and share relevant information and work plans. Specifically, the guidance states that strategies for the prevention of abuse and neglect should tie in with the stated approach and practice of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The guidance also notes that the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report should be sent to the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015/16 will be considered at the Safeguarding Adults Board in July 2016 and subsequently sent to the Health and Wellbeing Board as requested.

Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2016/2019 and Annual Business Plan 2016/17

5. This is the first Strategic Plan for the now statutory Safeguarding Adults Board (Appendix 1). The Safeguarding Adults Board is committed to making Safeguarding in Gateshead person-led and outcome focused by adopting and implementing a preventing model.
6. The Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board has established five strategic priorities for 2016/19:
 - Quality Assurance
 - Prevention
 - Community Engagement and Communication
 - Improved Operational Practice
 - Implementing Mental Capacity Act / Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

7. These strategic priorities will be underpinned by the six Principles of Safeguarding identified within the Care Act:
- **Empowerment** – people being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent
 - **Prevention** – it is better to take action before harm occurs
 - **Proportionality** – the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
 - **Protection** – support and representation to those in greatest need
 - **Partnership** – local solutions through services working with their communities
 - **Accountability** – accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice
8. The three year Strategic Plan is supported by an Annual Business Plan to enable the Board to prioritise and focus activity over the three year period (Appendix 2). To enable the Safeguarding Adults Board to fulfil its statutory obligations and the key principles of partnership and accountability, and additional priority of 'Strategic Governance' has been added.

Proposal

9. It is proposed that the Health and Wellbeing Board receive the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report at a future meeting.

Recommendations

10. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider the content of the Strategy and how the Board can contribute towards the strategic priorities.

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