

TITLE OF REPORT: Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) progress update

Purpose of the Report

1. To seek the views of the Health & Wellbeing Board on the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017/18 and the 2016/19 Strategic Plan (2018 update).

Background

2. The Safeguarding Adults Board continues to provide leadership, accountability and vision for safeguarding adults in Gateshead. The Board has a strong commitment to working together, holding each other to account and seeking to learn and improve together.
3. 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.
4. 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 2017/18

5. The SAB 2017/18 Annual Report highlights progress throughout the year. The report also articulates how partner governance arrangements ensure members are accountable for Safeguarding Adults. 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. This includes the establishment of an Executive Group whose role is to monitor the effectiveness of the Board and its sub groups and to report directly to the Board on any emerging themes, risks areas of good practice and learning.
6. Key areas of work in 2017/18 include the development of a performance dashboard, the development of practice guidance for adult sexual exploitation, the implementation of a community and engagement strategy, improved links with the voluntary and community sector, maintaining compliance with Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and a revised approach for responding to statutory Safeguarding Adult Reviews. During 2017/18 the Safeguarding Adults Board continued to explore opportunities for working collaboratively at a regional level.

Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2016/19 (2018 refresh)

7. 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
8. The Strategic Plan includes key challenges to be addressed over the three year period. 2018/19 is the final year of the three year Strategic Plan and is supported by a Business Plan for 2018/19, which helps to reprioritise the work of the Board to ensure that the Strategic Priorities are addressed.
9. The Safeguarding Adults Board will be implementing a programme of consultation and engagement over the coming months in preparation for the new three year strategy which will commence in April 2019.

Proposal

10. It is proposed that the Health and Wellbeing Board consider the content of the Annual Report and Strategic Plan and comment on how the Board can contribute towards the Safeguarding agenda.

Recommendations

11. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to continue to receive updates from the Safeguarding Adults Board.

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