

TITLE OF REPORT: **Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report (2017/18) and Strategic Plan**

REPORT OF: **Caroline O'Neill, Strategic Director Care, Wellbeing and Learning**

SUMMARY

The purpose of this report is to present the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) statutory Annual Report 2017/18 and the updated 2018 refresh of the Strategic Plan 2016/2019.

Background

1. The Care Act 2014 enshrined in law the principles of Safeguarding Adults and the Safeguarding Adults Board subsequently 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.
 - publish an annual report which details how the Board and its members achieved the objectives as identified within the strategic plan
2. The Gateshead Safeguarding Adults Board is independently chaired by Sir Paul Ennals. It has been a year of change throughout many of the partner organisations that make up the 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.

Annual Report 2017/18

3. The SAB 2017/18 Annual Report highlights progress throughout the 2017/18 financial 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.
4. 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.

Strategic Plan 2016/19 (2018 refresh)

5. The revised Strategic Plan 2016/19 (2018 refresh) 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
6. 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.

Strategic Plan 2019/24 Consultation

7. The Safeguarding Adults Board has commenced a programme of consultation and engagement over the coming months in preparation for the new Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan which will commence in April 2019. The Safeguarding Adults Board have suggested that this strategy will be a five-year strategy, with annual refreshes in accordance with the Care Act statutory guidance.
8. The Safeguarding Adults Board want to hear the views and ideas of the public and partner organisations. A survey is available on the [Safeguarding in Gateshead website](#) and can be accessed [here](#). This has been circulated to key stakeholders, commissioned providers and voluntary and community sector organisations. In addition, consultation sessions have been arranged with residents including representatives from the Gateshead Council Shared Lives scheme, residents of the Shadon House Promoting Independent Centre and a focus group for The Gateshead Housing Company tenants.

Recommendation

9. The committee is asked to consider and comment on the Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2017/18 and Strategic Plan 2016/19 (2018 refresh).