



LONDON BOROUGH OF
HARROW

Report for: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date of Meeting: Thursday 7th November 2024

Subject: Harrow Safeguarding Adult Board (HSAB) Annual Report 2023/24 and Strategic Plan 2024/27

Responsible Officer: Lesley Hutchinson, Independent Chair HSAB

Alex Dewsnap, Managing Director

Public: Yes

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Attachment 1 HSAB Annual Report 2023/24
Attachment 2 HSAB Strategic Plan 2024/27

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

1.1 Harrow Safeguarding Adult Board (HSAB) has a statutory duty from the Care Act 2014 to publish an Annual Report and a Strategic Plan. It is a requirement to share the Annual Report with the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and is good practice to present this. It provides the opportunity to raise awareness; help identify areas of potential joint working and to demonstrate the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements. Safeguarding adults is everyone's business.

1.2 Recommendations:

The Board is requested to:

- Note the Annual Report and the changes brought about by the governance review which took place during October 2023 and March 2024
- Note the Strategic Plan 2024/27 which sets out HSAB's four strategic priority areas and the actions we will focus on to achieve these. HSAB would like to understand any areas the Health and Wellbeing Board would like additional consideration given to.

Section 2 – Report

2.1 Background

2.1.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to consider the Annual Report 2023/24 and the Strategic Plan 2024/27 both of which are statutory requirements under the Care Act 2014.

2.1.2 The Care Act 2014 and related statutory guidance sets out the requirements and processes to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect (including self-neglect). It is HSAB responsibility to ensure partners work effectively together to deliver these. The work of the Board is both preventative as well as ensuring lessons are learnt when abuse and neglect occurs. There are various mechanisms for doing this including undertaking Safeguarding Adult Reviews (also a statutory requirement). Much of the work HSAB does has a direct link with the priorities set out in the Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2022-30 and the commitment to 'support better care and healthier lives.' HSAB has worked more closely during 2023/24 with Safer Harrow which also supports the Health and Wellbeing Boards priority for Healthy Place.

2.2 HSAB Annual Report 2023/24

2.2.1 The Report sets out the following:

- The core duties and how we deliver these.
- Governance changes which have taken place during the year which have enabled us to strengthen the oversight of safeguarding adults.

Our revised structure came into effect from January 2024. In the report we set out the areas of focus for quarter four and our work into 2024/25.

- Safeguarding activity data, for example the number of safeguarding concerns raised with Harrow Council; the location and type of concern; the number which require an investigation (known as an enquiry) and the outcome of those enquiries undertaken. In 89% of enquiries where risk was identified in 2023/24, the outcome was that the risk was either reduced or removed.
- Our oversight in relation to ensuring Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is implemented. Making Safeguarding Personal is critical to our work it is a person-centred and outcome focused approach to safeguarding adults requiring agencies to ensure the person is always at the centre and that their wishes and views are sought at the earliest opportunity. In 80% of the enquiries people were asked their desired outcome and in 97% of these cases these were either fully or partially met which is positive. We are in discussion about how we can increase the 80% position.
- Final year progress on the actions identified in the current Strategic Plan agreeing what is being transferred over for completion in the new Plan.
- Our position in relation to Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs); whilst non were completed in 2023/24 a concerted effort was made to review and progress existing SAR action plans and to finalise SAR C which will be reported in our 2024/25 Annual Report.
- Several appendices including the Budget, agency attendance, example case studies demonstrating our approach to Making Safeguarding Personal and partner agencies submissions on the work individual organisations have focussed on in year.

2.2.2 As a Board we are closely linked into the National Independent Chairs Network and the London Independent Chairs Network; this helps us ensure we have the widest lens on issues affecting adults at risk.

2.3 HSAB Strategic Plan 2024/27

2.3.1 In December 2023 we held a successful HSAB Development Day at London Fire Brigades Pinner Road branch. We reviewed progress against our current Strategic Plan and considered the issues we were most concerned about for our residents. Partners presented their evidence and rationale for their concern and from this we devised the new Strategic Plan.

2.3.2 The new Plan has four Strategic Priorities:

- Prevention and Early Intervention
- Assurance
- Engagement and Communication

- Working in Partnership.

The Plan sets out what each of these mean and the key areas we are focussing on for the next three years. Supporting this is a more granular action plan which sets out the steps we will take to achieve them and by what date. Many of these areas will support the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board to improve the Health of People, Practice and Place.

2.4 Adult Abuse Week 2024

2.4.1 In November every year all Safeguarding Adult Boards and other organisations campaign to raise awareness of the importance of safeguarding adults; this year Adult Abuse Week is the 18-22nd November. We are providing a number of sessions and would welcome all Health and Wellbeing Board members to also raise awareness by whatever communication methods they have to ensure the widest reach.

3. Financial Implications/Comments

3.1 There are no financial implications for the Health and Wellbeing Board. The HSAB budget is discussed routinely at the Board and with executive leads from the ICB, the Metropolitan Police and Harrow Council. The budget is set out in the appendices.

4. Legal Implications/Comments

Schedule 2 paragraph (3) of the Care Act imposes the duty on the Safeguarding Adults Board to publish for each financial year a strategic plan that sets out how it will meet its main objective and what each SAB member will do to achieve that objective

Paragraph (4) requires an annual report to be published to account for implementation against the strategic plan described in paragraph 3 and progress on the findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews.

Sub-paragraph (1) requires the report to describe what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and its strategy, and how each member of the SAB has helped to implement the strategy. The findings of Safeguarding Adults Reviews concluded that year (whether or not they were started in that year) and actions taken that year in response to Safeguarding Adult Reviews must also be recorded in the annual report.

The terms of reference for the Health and Wellbeing Board includes
To provide a forum for public accountability of NHS, public health, social care and other health and wellbeing services

5. Risk Management Implications

5.1 The HSAB has a Risk Register which is currently under review. This can be shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board if requested.

6. Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

6.1 Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

6.2 HSAB reviews its data quarterly and has undertaken deep dives as required. The percentage of concerns and enquiries undertaken by ethnicity has been reviewed. We recognise that we will need to work more closely with local communities to raise awareness. In the new Strategic Plan – actions 1.6, 2.9 and 3.9 are specifically related to equalities and diversity.

7. Council Priorities

The work of HSAB compliments and contributes to the Council priorities

1. **A council that puts residents first**
2. **A borough that is clean and safe**
3. **A place where those in need are supported**

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance (Council and Joint Reports)

Statutory Officer: Belvin Corriette

Signed on *behalf of/by the Chief Financial Officer

Date: 21/10/2024

Statutory Officer: Sharon Clarke

Signed on *behalf of/by the Monitoring Officer

Date: 21/10/2024

Chief Officer: Carole Furlong

Signed by the Director of Public Health

Date: 23/10/2024

Mandatory Checks

Ward Councillors notified: No, as it impacts on all Wards

Note Cllr Lammiman is a member of the HSAB and Cllr Osborn a member of the Executive Group meeting.

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Lesley Hutchinson HSAB Independent Chair (interim)
Lesley.Hutchinson@Harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: None

If appropriate, does the report include the following considerations?

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| 1. Consultation | NO |
| 2. Priorities | YES |