

**REPORT FOR: HEALTH & SOCIAL
CARE SCRUTINY SUB-
COMMITTEE**

Date of Meeting: 3rd July 2017

Subject: Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board
(HSAB) Annual Report 2016/2017

Responsible Officer: Bernie Flaherty, Director, Adult Social
Services

**Scrutiny Lead
Member area:** Policy Lead Member, Councillor Chris
Mote
Performance Lead Member, Councillor
Kairul Kareema Marikar

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board
Annual Report 2016/2017

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

This report provides Scrutiny Committee Members with an overview of the Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) Annual Report for 2016/2017 which summarises safeguarding activity undertaken in that year by the Council and its key partners. It sets out the progress made against objectives, analyses the referrals received and outlines priorities for the current year (2017/2018).

Recommendations:

Scrutiny Committee is requested to note the work that has taken place in 2016/2017 and the action plan for 2017/2018.

Section 2 – Report

Introductory paragraph

This is the tenth Annual Report of the Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) and a copy is attached as an appendix for information and full details.

Background

Under the Care Act 2014 the local Safeguarding Adults Board has 4 core (statutory) duties. It **must**:

- i. publish a strategic plan for each financial year
 - *the Harrow SAB has a 3 year strategic plan for 2017 – 2020 which is updated each year after the production of the Board's annual report*
- ii. publish an annual report
 - *Harrow SAB's 9th Annual Report (for 2015/2016) was presented to the Council's Scrutiny Committee in February 2017. This 10th report covers the financial year 2016/2017*
 - *each partner organisation represented at the HSAB presented the Board's Annual Report for last year at their Executive level meeting or equivalent*
 - *as in previous years, the Board's annual report for 2016/2017 will be produced in "Executive Summary", "key messages for staff" and "easy to read" formats and is available to a wider audience through the Council and partner agencies websites*
- iii. conduct any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)
 - *these will be carried out as required, but there were none commissioned by the HSAB in 2016/17*
- iv. have the following organisations on the Board – the Council; the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the chief officer of Police
 - *the membership of Harrow's SAB (as at 31st March 2017) is shown in Appendix 2 and their attendance record is shown at Appendix 3*

Current situation

The attached report covers the full range of statistical analysis as well as an update on progress against the objectives set in 2015/2016.

Overall the statistics can be summarised as:

- the person most likely to be at risk of harm is an elderly lady living at home;
- the most common person alleged to have caused harm is a family member or partner; and
- for the first time financial abuse is the most prevalent form of harm

Although there are small variations across the country, this picture is similar to the position in other Councils.

The referral numbers stabilised last year having significantly increased in 2015/16 following Care Act 2014 implementation.

Training was provided to a wide range of staff, either through the formal programme or through sessions run by the Safeguarding Adults Service. For the first time, referral numbers from Mental Health Service staff and Primary Care staff exceeded those from Social Care staff, suggesting that training is having a positive impact across more agencies.

Working with the Police also improved further last year with a 3% increase of referrals from Officers and another 26 cases subject to police action/prosecution.

Good progress was made on all the HSAB's priorities last year with notable projects including: the joint conference on domestic abuse with the HSCB; joint file audit work also with the HSCB; visiting victims of door step crime with Trading Standards Officers; and training/support for care homes.

The priorities for the Board in 2017/2018 include:

- a range of methods being used throughout the year to provide information to all sections of the community with a focus on people/groups highlighted in the statistics (e.g. older people living in their own home and about the risks of financial abuse)
The impact and effectiveness will be evaluated and influence changes to future campaigns
- a continued focus on access to justice for those victims that want to pursue it
- relevant campaigns taking place e.g. a focus on scams, door step crime and distraction burglary with formal evaluation influencing future activities
- projects highlighted by users taking place (e.g. working with schools to raise awareness of disability/mental health issues) and formal evaluation influencing future activities
- local care providers being supported with relevant information/training as part of the Board's prevention strategy
- a further analysis of "repeat referrals" to understand why some safeguarding situations are not possible to deal with on the first occasion

- another relevant “mystery shopping” exercise or equivalent, to check that front door services recognise possible abuse and know how to advise/deal with concerns effectively
- to ensure a full range of updated information for practitioners, service providers and people who may need to use safeguarding services is available in a range of accessible formats
- explore running more joint projects (e.g. annual conferences, training events, community outreach, work with schools) with the HSCB - to optimise both resources and outcomes and ensure that staff “think whole family”
- further develop a joint approach to domestic abuse with a focus on areas highlighted by the statistical analysis e.g. increasing reporting from Housing and the voluntary sector
- ensuring that any transferable learning from the Ofsted inspection of the HSCB is utilised by the HSAB

Financial Implications

As at 31st March 2017, the staffing of the dedicated Safeguarding Adults and DoLS Service located in the Council is as follows:-

- 1 Service Manager (Safeguarding Adults and DoLS)
- 1 DoLS Officer
- 1 Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator
- 1 Team Manager
- 2 wte Safeguarding Adults Senior Practitioners
- 7 wte qualified Social Workers
- 2.5 wte Best Interest Assessors (DoLS work only)

Under the formal Section 75 agreement there are also a number of trained Safeguarding Adults Managers with a dedicated lead located in Central and North West London Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL).

In addition to staff, there are ongoing costs for the multi agency training programme; best practice forums; publicity (posters/fliers/wallet cards); awareness/briefing sessions; independent file audit and administrative support to the HSAB etc. The costs of these services are primarily borne by the People Services Department within Harrow Council, with contributions totalling circa £20,500 p.a. from three of the four local NHS partner agencies (Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group; North West London Hospitals Trust; and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Trust). Financial contributions are also made by the London Fire Service and Metropolitan Police.

Costs related to the time spent by partner agencies on HSAB activities e.g. attending meetings, facilitating staff release for training etc, are borne by the individual organisations.

The costs of implementing the HSAB objectives for 2017/2018 will be met within the allocated budgets.

Performance Issues

The attached report is primarily concerned with performance and contains analysis of the Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board statistics, both as they relate to the previous year and (wherever possible) to national data.

Environmental Impact

There is no environmental impact arising from this report.

Risk Management Implications

Risk included on Directorate risk register? Yes

Separate risk register in place? No

Potential risks:

Failure to ensure local safeguarding adults' arrangements are robust could lead to a serious untoward incident e.g. death of a vulnerable person. Failure to implement the statutory DoLS guidance could lead to a legal challenge about unlawful deprivation of a vulnerable person in a care home, hospice, or hospital.

Equalities implications

The HSAB considers local safeguarding adults statistics at each Business Meeting and at its annual review/business planning event, with particular emphasis on ensuring that concerns (referrals) are being received from all sections of the community. The Strategic Plan for 2017 - 2020 was developed such that the HSAB monitors the impact of abuse in all parts of Harrow's community. Safeguarding adults' work is already focused on some of the most vulnerable and marginalised residents and the 2016/2017 statistics demonstrate that concerns are coming from all sections of the Harrow community.

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This report primarily relates to the Corporate priorities of:

- making a difference for the vulnerable
- making a difference for communities

Section 3 - Statutory Officer Clearance

Not required
Ward Councillors notified: No - the report affects all Wards

Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Visva Sathasivam (Assistant Director Adult Social Services). Tel: 02087366012; visva.sathasivam@harrow.gov.uk

Background Papers: Harrow Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2016/2017