



REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting: 23rd November 2021

Subject: Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) Annual Report 2020 - 2021

Responsible Officer: Paul Hewitt
Corporate Director, People Services

Public: Yes

Wards affected: All

Enclosures: Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020 - 2021

Section 1 – Summary and Recommendations

The attached report provides the Health and Wellbeing Board with an overview of safeguarding adults activity undertaken in 2020 - 2021 by the Council and its key partners through the work of the Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB).

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

2.1 The Care Act 2014

Under the Care Act 2014 the HSAB has core duties. It must:

- i. publish a strategic plan for each financial year
 - the HSAB has a 3 year strategic plan which is updated each year after production of the annual report
- ii. publish an annual report
 - the 2020 - 2021 annual report has been written in magazine style, (in line with the approach taken by the Children’s Board HSCB) which has been well received
 - 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, this report has also been produced in an “easy to read” format and is available to a wider audience through the Council and partner agencies websites
- iii. conduct any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)
 - the HSAB has an agreed protocol for carrying out Safeguarding Adults Reviews and last year the HSAB completed SAR “A” and started work on SAR “B”
- 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 HSAB includes the required statutory partners

2.2 Statistics

The attached report covers the full range of statistical analysis.

In many respects the data shows the same picture as it has in previous years. The person most likely to be abused is older, female and living in her own home.

It is unsurprising that numbers reported for care homes fell in the COVID period, as registered managers were primarily focused on dealing with COVID related issues and less visitors were accessing the residents. At the time of writing this report, safeguarding concerns are routinely being reported again from both home care agencies and residential/nursing providers.

Impact of COVID 19 - the full year data now supports the anecdotal experience of the safeguarding teams that incidents of domestic abuse had increased (up by 284% from the previous year).

Ethnicity and referrals - historically the HSAB has received generalised data about which sections of the Harrow community were reporting abuse and over recent years saw improvements to the point where in percentage terms the number being received from BAME communities was in line with the adult population. However, the Council's Business Intelligence Unit data (now being presented routinely at HSAB meetings) is more detailed and suggests that of the concerns received about black/black British people, only 18% are progressed to enquiries compared to 26% for white people. The new strategic plan for the HSAB covering the period 2021 – 2024 includes an action point to look further into this issue.

In relation to Making Safeguarding Personal, a high percentage (93%) of people by the time of case closure had been asked for their required outcome. Risks had also been reduced in 81% of cases.

2.3 HSAB priorities for 2021 - 2022

The annual HSAB Development Day was held on the 29th September 2021 when the Board's existing priorities were reviewed to see whether they remained the right ones, or other areas of priority work could be identified. The full set including the joint priorities with the HSCB are at page 31 of the attached report.

Progress on the priorities will be monitored at quarterly HSAB meetings and an end of year review will be summarised in the HSAB Annual Report 2021/2022.

Ward Councillors' comments

N/A – this report affects all Wards

Financial Implications/Comments

The work of the board is supported by 2 full time equivalent staff (including the Service Manager for Safeguarding Adults and DOLS and the Safeguarding Adults Co-ordinator) and is funded by the Council.

These annual costs are in the region of £150k (including the costs of the independent chair), although in practice only a small proportion of the officer time specifically supports the board. The work supporting the HSAB is separate to the social work service provided by the Council and CNWL Mental Health NHS Trust as part of their Care Act responsibilities.

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; independent interviews with users; 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 £21,000 p.a. from three of the four local NHS partner agencies (Harrow Clinical Commissioning Group; London North West Hospitals NHS Trust; and the Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital Trust); 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 member organisations.

Central and North West London Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust (CNWL)

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). The statistics for the CNWL Safeguarding Adults Service are included in the statistical section of the annual report.

There are no direct financial implications arising from this report and the expectation is that the HSAB priorities are delivered within the annual financial envelope, however this continues to prove challenging where the pressures are demand led and of a statutory nature.

Legal Implications/Comments

The Care Act 2014 puts safeguarding on to a statutory footing and requires inter alia that the Safeguarding Adults Board publish an annual report.

The terms of reference for the Health and Well Being Board include that the purpose of the Board is to improve health and wellbeing for the residents of Harrow and reduce inequalities in outcomes. The Board will hold partner agencies to account for delivering improvements to the provision of health, adult and children's services social care and housing services.

Risk Management Implications

Failure to manage safeguarding adults work competently leads to a risk of significant harm to vulnerable Harrow residents.

Equalities implications / Public Sector Equality Duty

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 Board's existing Strategic Plan 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 statistics demonstrate that concerns continue to come from all sections of the Harrow community. However further analysis will be undertaken in two specific areas in 2021/2022:

- to explore the numbers being received from the Asian population adjusting for relative population sizes
- and explore why there are proportionately less enquiries progressed for Black people adjusting for relative population sizes

Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

This report primarily relates to the Corporate priority of:

Supporting Those Most in Need (empower residents to maintain their well-being and independence)

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

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| <p>Name: Donna Edwards</p> <p>Date: 26th October 2021</p> | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> on behalf of the* Chief Financial Officer</p> |
| <p>Name: Sharon Clarke</p> <p>Date: 18th October 2021</p> | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> on behalf of the* Monitoring Officer</p> |
| <p>Name: Paul Hewitt</p> <p>Date: 18th October 2021</p> | <p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Corporate Director</p> |

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| <p>Ward Councillors notified: MANDATORY</p> | <p>NO – this report affects all Wards</p> |
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Section 4 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: – Paul Hewitt (Corporate Director, People Services)

Background Papers:

Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020 - 2021