

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**ADULT CARE & HEALTH CABINET PANEL
WEDNESDAY 18 OCTOBER 2017 10:30 AM**

Agenda Item No.

4

HERTFORDSHIRE'S SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (HSAB) ANNUAL REPORT

Report of the (Chief Officer)

Author:- Liz Hanlon, Independent Chair of HSAB, Caroline Aitken, Safeguarding Boards Manager and Loraine Waterworth HSAB Business Manager (Tel: 01992 556988)

Executive Member:- Colette Wyatt-Lowe, Adult Care & Health

1. Purpose of report

1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the members of the Cabinet Panel with an update on the work of the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) during the period of April 2016 to March 2017.

2. Summary

2.1 The HSAB Annual Report details the work completed by the HSAB and its subgroups during the financial year of 2016-17. The Annual Report also details safeguarding activities and trends across the partnership and achievements of individual partner organisations.

3. Background

3.1 The overarching purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Board is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs. It does this by:

- assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act 2014 and statutory guidance;
- assuring itself that safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focused;
- working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible;
- ensuring agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses when abuse or neglect have occurred;
- assuring itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area.

3.2 The Safeguarding Adult Board must lead adult safeguarding arrangements across its locality and oversee and coordinate the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies. This will require the Safeguarding Adult Board to develop and actively promote a culture with its members, partners and the local community that recognises the values and principles contained in 'Making Safeguarding Personal'. It should also concern itself with a range of issues which can contribute to the wellbeing of its community and the prevention of abuse and neglect, such as:

- the safety of people who use services in local health settings, including mental health;
- the safety of adults with care and support needs living in social housing;
- effective interventions with adults who self-neglect, for whatever reason;
- the quality of local care and support services;
- the effectiveness of prisons in safeguarding offenders;
- making connections between adult safeguarding and domestic abuse.

3.3 Safeguarding Adults Boards have three core duties. They must:

1. Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute.
2. Publish an annual report detailing how effective their work has been.
3. Commission safeguarding adults reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.

4. Recommendation/s

- 4.1 That the Cabinet Panel discuss and note the HSAB Annual Report, and take it into account in future discussions on safeguarding adults in Hertfordshire.
- 4.2 The HSAB welcome any feedback that could inform business planning or the content of next year's Annual Report.

5. Financial Implications

- 5.1 There are no direct financial implications associated with this report.

6. Equality Implications

- 6.1 When considering proposals placed before Members it is important that they are fully aware of, and have themselves rigorously considered the equalities implications of the decision that they are taking.
- 6.2 Rigorous consideration will ensure that proper appreciation of any potential impact of that decision on the County Council's statutory obligations under the Public Sector Equality Duty. As a minimum this requires decision makers to read and carefully consider the content of any Equalities Impact Assessment (EqIA) produced by officers.

- 6.3 The Equality Act 2010 requires the Council when exercising its functions to have due regard to the need to (a) eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and other conduct prohibited under the Act; (b) advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it and (c) foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it. The protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 are age; disability; gender reassignment; marriage and civil partnership; pregnancy and maternity; race; religion and belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 6.4 The Annual Report will be made available in alternative formats on request (such as in large print, Braille, audio formats) and in languages other than English – to ensure that it is fully accessible.
- 6.5 Comments on the content or format of the Report are welcome to inform the development of future reports, and to ensure the reports are relevant, informative and accessible.
- 6.6 The Annual Report provides an overview of work carried out by the multi-agency Hertfordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB), its sub groups, task and finish groups and partners to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs, many of whom will have “protected characteristics” under the Equality Act 2010. Equality implications will be rigorously considered throughout and embedded within the work of HSAB, and individual Equality Impact Assessments will be carried out (where relevant) on HSAB projects and workstreams.

Background Documents:

Making Safeguarding Personal:

<https://www.local.gov.uk/topics/social-care-health-and-integration/adult-social-care/making-safeguarding-personal>

Appendix 1 – HSAB Annual Report 2016/17 is attached as a separate document.