

**SUNDERLAND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD**

**20 November 2015**

**SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (SSAB) ANNUAL REPORT**

**Report of the Independent Chair of SSAB**

**1.0 Purpose of the Report**

**1.1** The purpose of the report is to present the Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) Annual Report 2014-15 to members of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**2.0 Background**

**2.1** SSAB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults living in Sunderland who are at risk of abuse and neglect. The Board has a written Memorandum of Understanding that outlines governance arrangements, role of Board members, structure including , its Sub Committees. Further information can be found at [www.alertabuse.org.uk](http://www.alertabuse.org.uk)

**2.2** The SSAB has worked with other local boards and partnerships in 2014/15 to ensure that issues of safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect are appropriately considered and afforded appropriate priority by the partners, and to ensure that work is co-ordinated and efficient.

**2.3** These partners include the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safeguarding Children Board, Safer Sunderland Partnership and the Domestic Violence Partnership. The SSAB's Strategic Plan sets out the 2015-16 high-level priorities for safeguarding adults, and the SSAB Delivery Plan sets out the strategy and actions to achieve these. The SSAB Performance Report is used to monitor the actions taken to address the priorities and the outcomes for adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Sunderland, and hold partners to account for their various contributions to these processes.

**2.4** The Care Act 2014 Guidance<sup>1</sup> states that the Safeguarding Adults Board must publish an Annual Report that must clearly state what both the SAB and its members have done to carry out and deliver the objectives and other content of its strategic plan; and that this annual report should be submitted to the Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chief Constable, the local Healthwatch and the Chair of the Health and Well-Being Board. Whilst the 2014-15 Annual Report does not reference the strategic plan as the Annual Report year covers a time period which pre-dates the requirement for this; it does cover what activity the SSAB has been involved

---

1

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/366104/43380\\_23902777\\_Care\\_Act\\_Book.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/366104/43380_23902777_Care_Act_Book.pdf)

in during 2014-15 to safeguard adults at risk of abuse and neglect, and is being shared with the relevant individuals and partnerships listed above as good practice. Future Annual Reports will follow the full format required by the Care Act.

### **3.0 Body of report**

- 3.1** Sunderland is a large city in the North-East of England with a population of 276,110. Sunderland is the 41<sup>st</sup> most deprived Local Authority area in England.<sup>2</sup>
- 3.2** The Annual Report details that the SSAB has undertaken a number of actions within its Delivery Plan in 2014/15 including the development of multi-agency audit tools and a multi-agency approach to review and update relevant safeguarding adults procedures and developed a Quality Assurance and Performance Framework and a Learning & Improvement in Practice Framework, and revised the Safeguarding Adult Review Protocol (formerly the Serious Case Review Protocol).
- 3.3** The SSAB Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub Committee initiated one Serious Case Review (now called Safeguarding Adult Reviews as per the Care Act requirements) during the time period and will report on the learning from this case in due course. In addition, a number of other reviews have been undertaken: management review, root cause analysis process.
- 3.4** The overall budget position for the SSAB for 2014/15 is a balanced budget. The climate of working towards efficiency savings in agencies continues to have an impact on the safeguarding infrastructure.
- 3.5** A Local Government Association Peer Challenge took place in March 2014 which had a themed focus on Safeguarding Adults activity. It made a number of recommendations under 3 headings; Safeguarding Adults Board, Safeguarding: Delivery & Effective Practice, and Case File Audit: People's Experiences of Safeguarding, which were taken forward.

### **4.0 Recommendations**

- 4.1** The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to note the contents of the SSAB Annual Report 2014/15.

---

<b>Contact Person for Report</b>	
<b>Name</b>	Colin Morris
<b>Designation</b>	SSAB Chair
<b>Agency/Organisation</b>	SSAB
<b>Telephone Number</b>	C/O 0191 561 8989 or 561 8984
<b>Email</b>	c/o <a href="mailto:strategic.safeguarding@sunderland.gov.uk">strategic.safeguarding@sunderland.gov.uk</a>

---

<sup>2</sup> Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010