

SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

REPORT OF THE SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1. It is a Care Act requirement for the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board to give an annual account of the work of the Board.
- 1.2. The annual report, attached for members' information, highlights the current work of Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) during the year 2020-21.

2. Background

- 2.1. The workings of the Board and its current sub-committees, and importantly what they have achieved, are shown within the body of the report and also the links the Board has with other strategic partnerships within the City.
- 2.2. The work of SSAB in 2020-21 focused on four strategic priorities, as identified in its Strategic Delivery Plan 2019-24:
 - Prevention
 - Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)/ User Engagement
 - Partnership (including regional collaboration)
 - Key local areas of risk (self-neglect, mental capacity and exploitation)

These priorities informed the Board's local actions to safeguard adults in Sunderland and were underpinned by the Care Act's six key principles of adult safeguarding.

- 2.3 The report highlights significant progress against its strategic priorities through the work of the SSAB & its Sub Committees, and through the training offer the SSAB commissions. It also features the Key Achievements; Good Practice, Partnership Working and Making Safeguarding Personal activity undertaken by the SSAB's statutory partners, and a 'Year in Figures' Performance Summary giving the headline activity figures for 2020-21 in relation to the Safeguarding Adults operational process. It highlights how partners worked differently during the COVID-19 pandemic to enable safeguarding adults activity to still be maintained and progressed. It sets out the future direction of travel for the Board with regard to work on focusing on recovery following COVID-19, and implementation of the lessons learned, to ensure good practice and innovation are not lost going forward. In addition, a range of work to strengthen the Safeguarding Adults resources available; the launch and embedding of the Complex Adults Risk Management (CARM) process for managing the most complex safeguarding adults cases; participation in National Safeguarding Week in November 2021.

- 2.4 The report also sets out the new priorities that SSAB has agreed for 2021, following an exercise to review and follow the data, and refresh performance and assurance frameworks, and notes that SSAB will work jointly with the Sunderland Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) on some of these areas. The new priorities are:
- Prevention
 - Local Areas of Risk (Self-Neglect; Mental Capacity; Homelessness; Complex Adults Risk Management (CARM) – at Risk / Vulnerable / Complex Cases (including Substance Misuse); Domestic Abuse; Suicide Prevention (particularly in light of the effects of COVID-19)).
 - Transitions; Exploitation; Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and Local Safeguarding Children Practice Reviews (LSCPRs).

3. Recommendation

- 3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note and comment on the content of the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020-21.