

Date of Meeting: 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019

Portfolio Holder: Cllr L Miller, Adult Social Care and Health

Local Member(s):

Director: Mathew Kendall, Executive Director of People - Adults

### **Executive Summary:**

The Dorset and Bournemouth and Poole Safeguarding Adult Boards agree an annual business plan and run joint sub groups. However, each prepares its own annual report. The annual report of the Dorset Board outlines the key contributions towards effective adult safeguarding made by the 2 Safeguarding Adult Boards and their constituent organisations.

In 2018-19 the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board, working together with the Bournemouth and Poole Board, has: -

- Strengthened the joint work between safeguarding and community safety partnerships.
- Focussed upon areas for improvement identified in reviews and audits.
- Engaged more widely with providers, service users, carers and the public.
- As well as maintaining important 'business as usual' activities.

There has also been greater outreach to the community via information stalls at the Emergency Services day and other local events.

Dorset responded positively to an independent examination of decision-making in respect of section 42 enquiries and increased their auditing of cases to oversee improvements in practice. As a result of changes introduced, 25% of concerns proceeded to a full enquiry – a figure which is more consistent with Dorset's comparator authorities. Focus has also been given to Making Safeguarding Personal principles which is seeing an improvement in recording of the individuals identified outcomes and whether these have been realised.

The Board continues to consult with providers about the business plan and emerging safeguarding themes. It has also delivered a number of Contracture Awareness workshops across Dorset to increase awareness and prevention.

The Boards have also widened the scope of deaths and serious incidents where they consider if a SAR should be commissioned. In the past year, two deaths of rough sleepers have been evaluated and referrals have been received from the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review programme.

For 2019-2020 the Boards have determined to focus development work on three overarching priorities

- Further alignment of safeguarding and domestic abuse interventions.
- Contributing to effectively tackling exploitation, including county lines and,
- More targeted approaches to preventing neglect and self-neglect

### **Equalities Impact Assessment:**

Women continue to remain almost twice as likely to be the subject of section 42 enquiries in Dorset. There is a significant increase for those over 75 and a further rise for women over the age of 85. However, the Board is also focussed upon risks to other groups within the community, e.g. those with a learning disability and/or individual with care and support needs for whom a significant risk will be domestic abuse.

### **Budget:**

Details of the Board's budget and contributions from partners are shown on page 18.

### **Risk Assessment:**

The Boards maintain a risk register to identify current and potential risks to effective safeguarding and take steps to mitigate them where possible.

Examples of the highest risks in terms of likelihood and impact are as follows:

- Level of change and demand upon senior managers in partner organisations reduces capacity of members to contribute to Board meetings.
- Financial and workforce pressures in the care market continue to create quality and safeguarding concerns.
- Criminal exploitation leads to increased safeguarding risks, particularly among young people during and after transition from Childrens' Services'.

All risks are referenced in the Boards' strategic plan.

### **Climate implications: N/A**

### **Other Implications:**

The report contributes to the setting of Dorset Community Safety Priorities. There is an agreement between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board and a commitment made to actively build closer links between the two partnerships following local government reorganisation.

The Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board and Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Safeguarding Adults Board are currently under review. An Independent reviewer has been commissioned to undertake this work and an options paper will be completed by mid-October 2019 to enable consideration of future arrangements.

**Recommendation:**

This report informs the committee about how the DSAB has carried out its responsibilities to prevent abuse and neglect of adults with care and support needs during 2018-19.

**Reason for Recommendation:**

**Appendices:** Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board 2018-19

**Background Papers:****Officer Contact:**

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