

Health and Wellbeing Board

20 November 2024

Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report

For Review and Consultation

Cabinet Member and Portfolio:
Cllr S Robinson, Adult Social Care

Local Councillor(s):
n/a

Executive Director:
J Price, Executive Director of People - Adults

Report Author: Siân Walker-McAllister
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Report Status: Public

Brief Summary:

The Care Act 2014 states that each local authority must establish a Safeguarding Adults Board. The Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) works closely with the Bournemouth Christchurch & Poole Safeguarding Adults Board (BCPSAB). Both boards share an Independent Chair and a Business Team but remain as two separate place-based boards, working together. This arrangement offers efficiencies for partner organisations while enabling each local authority area to retain the ability for place-based working.

The primary role of a Safeguarding Adults Board is to ensure that all public sector agencies work together to ensure that adults with care and support needs in its area are protected from abuse, harm, and neglect; where because of their care and support needs they are unable to protect themselves. The Care Act 2014 sets out that Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs), should agree a local safeguarding strategic plan and set out in its Annual Report how it has delivered that plan. The Board also, in commissioning a statutory Safeguarding Adults Review, should ensure that partners demonstrate how they work together so that

lessons learned impact the future delivery of services to those with care and support needs.

The achievements of the Boards, subgroups and member organisations are detailed in this annual report alongside details of referrals of safeguarding concerns to Dorset Council.

A summarised version of our Strategic Plan is on page 7. The full version can be accessed here:

[Strategic Plan 2023 to 2026. Dorset and BCP Safeguarding Adults Boards "Making Safeguarding Everyone's Business" - Dorset Council](#)

SAB priorities are distilled into 3 key areas:

- Preventative work in safeguarding
- Seeking assurance on safeguarding practices
- Assurance on delivery of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' (MSP)

With this last priority in mind, we would like to take this opportunity to inform members that an integral part of each Board meeting is a 'safeguarding story' where board member organisations highlight the safeguarding experience of and contact with an individual and how partnership working made a difference to them. MSP is primarily about ensuring that people have the opportunity to determine for themselves any safeguarding actions and outcomes.

Following the Strategic Plan we have highlighted some of the Board's achievements, including an overview of each subgroup.

The Care Act 2014, sections 44(1), (2) and (3), requires that a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) is undertaken where an adult with care and support needs has died or suffered serious harm, and it is suspected or known that the cause was neglect or abuse, including self-neglect, and there is concern that agencies could have worked better to protect the adult from harm. Under section 44(4) a SAR can be undertaken in other cases concerning adults with care and support needs.

On pages 11 & 12 we have summarised the learning from 2 statutory Safeguarding Adults Reviews concluded in Dorset during this reporting year.

The Annual Report then dedicates space to our valuable partner contributions. We appreciate the reflective analysis of partner achievements and challenges and look forward to working together on their future plans to contribute to the SAB Strategic Priorities.

The report concludes with a reminder of the importance of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) in the form of an abridged version of the safeguarding story from our September 2023 Board meeting highlighting some of the excellent practice from practitioners working with local residents.

Recommendation:

Members are asked to note and comment on the Annual Report of the Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board.

Reason for Recommendation:

To offer board members the opportunity to review and discuss the report and ask any questions that arise.

1. **Report**

The Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2023-24 is attached.

2. **Financial Implications**

The budget contributions for the DSAB and BCPSAB are set out on page 5 of the Annual Report. The Boards have a combined budget with partner contributions below for ease of reference.

| | |
|----------------|-----------------|
| Dorset Council | £70,000 |
| BCP Council | £70,000 |
| NHS Dorset | £38,745 |
| Dorset Police | £19,404 |
| Total: | £198,149 |

3. **Natural Environment, Climate & Ecology Implications**

None to note.

4. **Well-being and Health Implications**

The continual support and challenge role of DSAB with partner organisations and others will contribute positively to the health and wellbeing of local residents. The Annual Report is reviewed by Healthwatch prior to publication.

5. **Other Implications**

None to note.

6. **Risk Assessment**

None to note.

7. **Equalities Impact Assessment**

The SAB works with partner organisations to ensure that all residents have the same opportunity of receiving services in relation to safeguarding, without discrimination. The SAB Quality Assurance Subgroup works with data analysts from statutory partners to identify any potential statistical differences in respect of those accessing safeguarding services and any relevant demographic factors.

8. **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2023-24

9. **Background Papers**

None.

10. **Report Sign Off**

This report has been approved by the DBCPSAB Board at their meeting on 26 September 2024.