

MUNICIPAL YEAR 2018/19 REPORT NO.

MEETING TITLE AND DATE:

Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- 12th July 2018

REPORT OF:

Director of Health and Adult Social
Care

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Agenda - Part:	Item:
	Subject: Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2018 - 2023
	Wards: All

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Care Act has placed Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing from April 1, 2015. One of the Board's three core duties is to publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objective and what Safeguarding Adult Board members will do to achieve this.

The draft Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2018- 23 has an emphasis on prevention and awareness of abuse. The priorities were developed by a project lead by service users and carers and our Quality Checkers, and include feedback from Safeguarding Adults board members, Adult Social Care professionals, Service users and carers.

We are currently consulting on the draft strategy.

The aims of the Board are compliant with the Care Act and focus on:

- Preventing Abuse
- Protect adults at Risk
- Learn from experience
- Improve Services

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- To note the draft Safeguarding Adults Strategy 2018-23 development and consultation
- To consider the priorities in the draft strategy and provide feedback

3. BACKGROUND

The draft strategy aims to be free from jargon and in plain English. This is in line with Care Act requirements. The document has been constructed in a way which will enable it to support the consultation and also help to raise awareness about Safeguarding Adults.

The priority actions identified so far are:

Prevent Abuse

- Engage with our community, to promote a culture where abuse and neglect are not tolerated
- Use technology and social media to engage with our community, professionals, providers and voluntary organisations
- Work to reduce isolation
- Work with people alleged to have caused harm to prevent further abuse

Protect Adults at Risk

- Make sure our community knows how to recognise and report abuse
- Make sure professionals are appropriately trained, with a focus on Making Safeguarding Personal
- Develop ways to help people protect themselves from abuse and harm
- Develop online tool to make sure everyone knows how to access or make referrals to different services

Learn from Experience

- Check that the way we are managing adult safeguarding is working properly
- Learn from the advice of our Service Users, Carers and Patients
- If things go wrong, review what happened and learn lessons
- Learn from the experiences of other local authority areas

Improve Services

- Ensure we have effective arrangements in place to intervene when provider quality drops below expected standards (Provider concerns/improvement)
- Ensure partners share information and intelligence about poor quality services
- Online space for providers
- Consistent policies with neighbouring boroughs

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

The Care Act places a duty on Safeguarding Adults Boards to publish its strategic plan each financial year. Guidance states this plan should address both short and longer-term actions and it must set out how it will help adults in its areas and what actions each member of the SAB will take to deliver the strategic plan and protect better.

This plan has historically been for a 3-year period; however, the Enfield Safeguarding Adults Board have agreed for a 5-year plan; to enable more ambitious consultation and projects to be developed.

5. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

With the commencement of the 3-month consultation, the feedback of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on draft priorities can inform the development of the focus of the final strategy, and therefore work of the Safeguarding Adults Board for the next 5 years.

6. COMMENTS OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR RESOURCES AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS

6.1 Financial Implications

There will be no additional finance costs as a result of this strategy.

6.2 Legal Implications

6.2.1 Section 43 (1) Care Act 2014 (“the Care Act”) requires each local authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (“SAB”) for its area. A SAB may do anything which appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving its objective. The objectives are set out in Section 1 and 3 of this report.

6.2.2 Paragraph 3, Schedule 2 of the Care Act places duty on a SAB to have a strategic plan for achieving its objectives. In preparing a strategic plan it must involve the community and consult the Local Healthwatch organisation in its area.

6.2.3 The draft 2018-2023 strategy and consultation is necessary for the SAB to meet its legal duties.

7. KEY RISKS

A failure to have a Safeguarding Adults Strategy would lead to non-compliance with a Care Act duty (section 43). The Strategy will also mitigate the reputational risk that Enfield Residents may feel we are not being open and transparent about how the Safeguarding Adults Board will address issues of Adult Abuse in Enfield.

8. IMPACT ON COUNCIL PRIORITIES

8.1 Fairness for All

Safeguarding Adults Board is committed to tackling inequalities and ensuring those disadvantaged and at risk of abuse are provided support and opportunities to protect themselves from harm and improve their well-being.

The Board now regularly considers demographic data of concerns received in Enfield to understand most vulnerable groups, and groups where additional awareness raising work may be needed.

8.2 Growth and Sustainability

The numbers of concerns reported are increasing every year. For 2017/8 we received 1616 concerns, a significant jump from the 1144 from the year preceding.

Our community engagement work is likely to lead to increased contact and concerns being reported. To help manage this we are pleased to see that current draft strategy includes priorities to reduce social isolation which can lead to increased vulnerability and abuse, better use of technology, developing ways to help people protect themselves and a priority to work with people alleged to have caused harm.

8.3 Strong Communities

Safeguarding Adults Board has strong leadership from an independent chair. In addition, partners on the Board are of appropriate seniority to promote the vision that 'safeguarding is everyone's business.' The work of the Board must be responsive to the needs of local people and those who use services; this is achieved through a range of activities and quality assurance mechanisms.

The Board has also agreed the development of a Community Engagement sub-group, which will be looking to proactive work with different community groups across Enfield.

9. EQUALITIES IMPACT IMPLICATIONS

An Equalities impact assessment will be completed once the consultation has been completed and the priorities agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board.

10. PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS

Once the priorities have been agreed, progress made towards achieving them will be regularly monitored

13. PUBLIC HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

Safeguarding of adults at risk is recognised as a significant public health issue; preventing abuse and promoting of choice will increase wellbeing within these populations.

The priorities in the draft we will work with local people and partners to promote an approach that concentrates on improving the quality of life for the adults concerned; being safe is only one of the things people want for themselves and there is a wider emphasis on wellbeing. The strategy emphasizes prevention of abuse and work within services that provide care to evidence engagement with those who use services.

Background Papers

Please see draft document