

<b>Report to:</b>	People Committee	<b>Date:</b>	10 October 2019
<b>Report title:</b>	The Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19		
<b>Report from:</b>	Nick Ireland, Strategic Director of People Directorate		
<b>Ward/Areas affected:</b>	Borough Wide		
<b>Chair of Committee/Lead Member:</b>	Councillor Marian James		
<b>Author(s)/Contact Number(s):</b>	Luke Addams, Interim Assistant Director Adult Social Care, People Directorate - 020 8770 4033		
<b>Corporate Plan Priorities:</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Living Well Independently</li> <li>● Keeping People Safe</li> </ul>		
<b>Open/Exempt:</b>	Open		
<b>Signed:</b>		<b>Date:</b>	25 September 2019

## 1. Summary

- 1.1 This report highlights the annual progress made by the Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) and its members. Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults is a key priority across Sutton and board objectives align with the Ambitious for Sutton Plan. This prioritises multi-agency partnership working in Keeping People Safe at home and in the community, giving individuals the ability to continue Living Well Independently and access to resources and services thereby Keeping People Safe.
- 1.2 The Annual Report describes the Board's function, membership, strategic objectives and achievements between April 2018 to March 2019. The Annual Report also includes the priorities to action during 2019-20.

## 2. Recommendations

- 2.1 To note the achievements of the Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board in 2018/19.
- 2.2 To endorse the priorities of the Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board for 2019/20.

### 3. Background

- 3.1 Safeguarding boards have been made statutory by the Care Act 2014 (safeguarding section S42-47 and 68). This came into effect on 1 April 2015. The Sutton Safeguarding Board has had an independent chair since the summer of 2013, which builds on Sutton's commitment to taking safeguarding seriously.
- 3.2 One of the core duties of Safeguarding Boards is to produce an annual report. Given the continued strong partnership and firm commitment established in Sutton, we are well placed to respond to the formal implementation of the legislation. The SSAB annual report was approved by the SSAB Executive on 3 September 2019.
- 3.3 This report describes the achievements set out in the SSAB Annual Report from April 2018 to March 2019 (appendix A). This report informs on the work of the SSAB whilst also emphasising its successful partnership with its members in fulfilling the work of the SSAB. The SSAB fulfills a statutory requirement of the Care Act (2014) and is a multi-agency partnership of organisations in Sutton working together to safeguard adults at risk of abuse. The annual report is a requirement set out in the Care Act (2014).
- 3.4 Safeguarding is a core priority for the Council and its partners with the safeguarding agenda in Sutton governed by the multi-agency SSAB, which has an independent chair. The SSAB ensures that the relevant statutory, private and voluntary agencies have the appropriate safeguarding policies, procedures, and standards of practice in place for the delivery of safe services and that these are monitored and that lessons learned lead to improvements and delivery.
- 3.5 The People Committee is asked to consider the achievements of the Board noted in the Annual Report 2018/19.
- 3.6 Key achievements by the SSAB in 2018/19 include:
  - 3.6.1 Sutton commissioned a Peer Review of the SSAB and adult social services safeguarding practices. This step is in accordance with our aim of transparency in local practice and service, and assisting the path for continuous improvement. The review took place between 20-22 February and the feedback (appendix C) was very positive highlighting:-
    - Senior leadership commitment to adult safeguarding resulting in safeguarding being treated as critical and everyone's business.
    - The integration of health and social services was described as impactful by supporting frontline activity and reinforcing 'Making informed choices' in line with the 'Ambitious for Sutton' 2018-2023 Corporate Plan. The reviewers acknowledged that Sutton is ambitious in supporting residents to keep active and safe in their environments.
    - The SSAB was commended for engaging carers and people who access services in its activities and work, and therefore committed to partnership working.
    - There was evidence of the application of the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal as individuals who accessed services were treated with dignity and respect.

- 3.6.2 The SSAB Independent Chair in consultation with the Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) subgroup requested for a SAR to be commissioned as the result of three fire-related deaths. The SSAB commissioned Professor Michael Preston-Shoot as the independent reviewer to investigate these incidents and then to submit a detailed report including recommendations including multi-agency learning. This is an approach we actively welcome and encourage amongst all partners to participate and share learning.
- 3.6.3 The creation of a service user reference group thereby giving people who use services a voice on the SSAB. Representatives of the reference group are also participating and active members in subgroups therefore endorsing participation and partnership working.
- 3.6.4 Community Action Sutton was awarded funding to create a safeguarding toolkit to assist small groups including faith and BME groups to develop their knowledge of and role in adult safeguarding. It is anticipated that this work will be completed by December 2019. This will enhance the knowledge within the small groups and also encourage greater partnership working.
- 3.7 In order to build on its achievements in 2018/19 and to respond to new developments, the SSAB has agreed priorities for 2019/20 and the People Committee is asked to endorse these.
- 3.8 The priorities for the SSAB in 2019/20 were based on the recommendations and discussions with Peer Reviewers and the wider partnership. These include:
- 3.8.1 Ensure learning and development incorporates the experience of people who access services.
- 3.8.2 The recommendations from the SAR have been disseminated to partners. The SSAB will be hosting workshops and learning events to facilitate multi-agency learning.
- 3.8.3 Increase the awareness of safeguarding across agencies in Sutton working with vulnerable adults. This will involve hosting conferences and listening events.
- 3.8.4 Increase the influence of people who access services on the SSAB's priorities and actions. Identify opportunities to involve people who access services in the work of the SSAB.
- 3.8.5 Increase awareness of the financial abuse of vulnerable adults in their own homes and look at targeting interventions.
- 3.8.6 Increase the community's awareness of safeguarding and their shared responsibility to report concerns. Target interventions to fill gaps in knowledge in adult safeguarding to include developing the website and exploring themes across the community.
- 3.8.7 Use of a quality dashboard to provide assurance to the SSAB of multi-agency safeguarding standards.



3.8.8 Evaluate the effectiveness of subgroups and introduce time-defined task and finish groups in achieving the board's objectives and delivering the new SSAB strategy.

3.9 These priorities have been incorporated into the SSAB's business work plan and the attainment of these objectives will -

3.9.1 Work towards disseminating good learning and practice amongst partners

3.9.2 Encourage multi-agency partnership working

3.9.3 Have greater service user and carer engagement in the safeguarding process

#### **4. Issues**

4.1 None

#### **5. Options Considered**

5.1 Not applicable

#### **6. Impacts and Implications**

##### Financial

6.1 Expenditure relating to safeguarding adults was contained within existing estimates in 2018-19. Adult safeguarding remains paramount as a core business of the London Borough of Sutton and of partner organisations. The SSAB receives financial contributions from its members to fund projects and Safeguarding Adult Reviews.

##### Legal

6.2 The Care Act 2014 (sections S42-47 and 68) has made Safeguarding Adults Boards and Adult Safeguarding statutory. Chapter 14 of the Care Act statutory guidance provides guidance on the implementation of sections 42–47 and 68 of the Care Act 2014.

##### Equality Impact Assessment

6.3 All partners on the Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board are committed to protecting all adults at risk in Sutton and respond to any concerns of harm, neglect and abuse. There are no negative effects envisaged for any specific group as a result of safeguarding adults since it promotes equality and diversity of all vulnerable citizens.

##### Risk

- 6.4 The accurate evidence-based assessment of risk is paramount in successful adult safeguarding. Both over-reaction and under-reaction to initial concerns can lead to poor outcomes. Consequently, safeguarding responses that are proportionate to the risks involved are essential. Improved screening of safeguarding alerts has resulted in a reduction in the number of referrals that proceed through the safeguarding process.
- 6.5 This is reinforced by the recent successful transformation of adult social services where both the safeguarding structure and process was revised. This approach has enabled cases to be identified and risk assessed efficiently and the service to react appropriately to need. This approach has been effective in ensuring that referrals are channelled down the most appropriate route thereby decreasing waiting times in processing referrals and also decreasing the volume of referrals recorded as safeguarding concerns.

#### Consultation

- 6.6 The SSAB annual report, and the priorities within it, was developed in consultation with partner organisations, several of whom represent service user and carer groups. The report includes contributions from partners, taken from their annual reports to the SSAB.

### 7. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix letter	Title
A	Sutton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19
B	List of SSAB Board Members
C	Feedback Presentation - Sutton Safeguarding Peer Review

Background documents
None

Audit Trail		
Version	Final	Date: 25 September 2019
Consultation with other officers		
Finance	Alfred Ansong	12 August 2019
Legal	Matthew Blackwell	15 August 2019
Equality Impact Assessment Required?	No	N/A

