

Sandwell Metropolitan Borough Council

14 January 2020

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| Subject: | Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018-2019 |
| Director: | Stuart Lackenby, Interim Director Adult Social Care |
| Contribution towards Vision 2030: |  |
| Contact Officer(s): | Deb Ward - Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Manager. 0121569 5477 |

DECISION RECOMMENDATIONS

That Cabinet:

1. Receive and approve the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018-2019 and the Easy Read as set out in Appendix 1 & 2.

1 **PURPOSE OF THE REPORT**

- 1.1 To present the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board's Annual Report 2018 - 2019 for approval.

2 **IMPLICATION FOR VISION 2030**

- 2.1 The work of the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board supports the Vision 2030, with clear and direct contributions to the following ambitions:

Ambition 2

Sandwell is a place where we live healthy lives and live them for longer, and where those of us who are vulnerable feel respected and cared for.

Ambition 5

Our communities are built on mutual respect and taking care of each other, supported by all the agencies that ensure we feel safe and protected in our homes and local neighbourhoods.

Ambition 10

Sandwell now has a national reputation for getting things done, where all local partners are focused on what really matters in people's lives and communities.

3 BACKGROUND AND MAIN CONSIDERATIONS

- 3.1 The local Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board has a responsibility to ensure that all agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare and wellbeing of adults with support needs. It co-ordinates and quality assure the activities of member agencies. The Safeguarding Adults Board requires representatives from the Local Authority, the NHS and the police. The Board is responsible for developing shared plans for safeguarding and working with local people to enable adults with support needs/adults at risk, whether they are known to local services, to work in partnership to stay safe.
- 3.2 The Care Act 2014 requires that Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board produces an Annual Report. This is a summary and representation of the work of all partners within the Borough covering the period April 2018 – March 2019.
- 3.3 We have looked at our data considering the previous year's data, regional data and national data for 2017-18. This year the number of concerns reported to SMBC, as the lead agency for safeguarding adults, has increased to 903 from 691 the previous reporting year and the conversion rate from concern to enquiry has decreased from 21% to 15%. Not all concerns raised become a safeguarding enquiry.
- 3.4 We can see from our data who raises concerns, for example a family member, police, housing, hospital and other sources and we can see which of these concerns becomes a safeguarding enquiry. Friends, family and neighbours accounted for 5% of all the safeguarding concerns reported and of that 5%, 28% of concerns became full safeguarding enquiries (Other responses may have included signposting or a proportionate response that ensured an individual was safe). This demonstrates that the key messages delivered through social media and campaigns on how to report a safeguarding concern and what is safeguarding are being understood and acted upon. We can also see from the data the areas we need to continue to focus on.

- 3.5 Most of abuse in Sandwell takes place in an individual's own home (173 cases out of 409), this is in line with the regional and national average. Identifying abuse where it happens in an individual's own home is challenging. Individuals may not in the first instance think they are being abused and we need to consider the impact of isolation and loneliness as these factors may make it harder for individuals to report abuse.
- 3.6 Neglect and acts of omission continues to be the highest reported type of abuse and this reflects the national picture.
- 3.7 The numbers of concluded cases by age, gender and ethnicity is reflective of Sandwell's population. It is of note that there is a higher number of concluded cases for men between the ages of 18 – 74 and that from 74 upwards we see an increase in concluded cases for women.
- 3.8 Sandwell has consistently been able to demonstrate that all citizens involved in a safeguarding investigation were asked what they wanted to happen as an outcome of involvement from professionals. Of the number of people who expressed an outcome 93% felt their outcome at the end of the safeguarding process was fully or partly met.
- 3.9 Again, this year we have received data from SMBC from individuals and/or their representatives on if they feel they are safer because of the help they received from people responding to the safeguarding concern. 91% of people reported that they felt safer because of the care and support services they received, this is good news. We continue to monitor as part of safeguarding practice whether because of intervention the risk posed to the individual was reduced or removed. Risk enablement is a fundamental approach to making safeguarding personal.

4 THE CURRENT POSITION

- 4.1 The priorities below will inform the work of the Board, Sub Groups and any specific project groups. Examples of work undertaken to date include a review of board membership ensuring Board members are appropriately senior and can make decisions on behalf of their organisations. The appointment of a development worker within the Board Business team with a focus on effective engagement. A commitment to proactively work with the third sector with a view to developing an early help partnership for adults. Supporting safeguarding in its broadest sense being the business of everyone, contributing to communities and neighbourhoods in Sandwell being a place where people feel respected cared for and safe.
- 4.2 For 2019-2020 SSAB has five key priorities, agreed in consultation with partners these are:-

- Listen to the voices of people who use services and frontline staff
- Develop more inclusive and meaningful data sets that contribute to effective assurance
- Work with all partners to look at Sandwell's "Front Door" Including pathway, referrals and thresholds
- Agree specific projects with all statutory Boards with a focus on prevention
- Focus on the Board Governance

5 CONSULTATION (CUSTOMERS AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- 5.1 The Annual Report was co-produced with Board members and partners to ensure that all safeguarding activity was captured across the partnership. The final report was ratified at SSAB on 24th October 2019.

6 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 6.1 The production of an Annual Report by the Safeguarding Adults Board is a requirement of The Care Act 2014.

7 STRATEGIC RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report.

8 LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE CONSIDERATIONS

- 8.1 The Care Act 2014 included a requirement for each Local Authority to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). One of the requirements of the Board is that it produces an Annual Report.

9 EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 9.1 The SSAB Annual Report is the responsibility of the SSAB and is a summary and assessment of the work of all partners in meeting the safeguarding agenda. This Board undertakes Equality Impact Assessments as required.

- 9.2 The Corporate Risk Management Strategy (CRMS) has been complied with – to identify and assess the significant risks associated with this decision/project. This includes (but is not limited to) political, legislation, financial, environmental and reputation risks. No significant risks were identified that require reporting.

10 DATA PROTECTION IMPACT ASSESSMENT

10.1 There are no data protection issues arising from this report.

11 CRIME AND DISORDER AND RISK ASSESSMENT

11.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

12 SUSTAINABILITY OF PROPOSALS

12.1 There are no sustainability issues arising from this report.

13 HEALTH AND WELLBEING IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOCIAL VALUE)

13.1 This report provides information on the activity of the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board during 2018-2019 and therefore does not raise any direct health and wellbeing implications.

14 IMPACT ON ANY COUNCIL MANAGED PROPERTY OR LAND

14.1 There are no implications on any council managed property or land.

15 CONCLUSIONS AND SUMMARY OF REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

15.1 The Care Act 2014 requires that Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board produces an Annual Report. This report provides a summary and representation of the work of all partners within the Borough covering the period April 2018 – March 2019. Cabinet are asked to receive and approve the Annual Report and Early Read presented in Appendix 1 and 2.

16 BACKGROUND PAPERS

16.1 None

17 APPENDICES:

1. Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018 – 2019

2. Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Easy Read 2018 - 2019

Stuart Lackenby

Interim Director Adult Social Care, Health and Wellbeing