

Report to Health & Social Care Scrutiny Board

21st November 2022

Subject:	Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Bi-Annual Report 2020-2022
Director:	Director of Adult Social Care – Rashpal Bishop
Contact Officer:	Deb Ward Sandwell Safeguarding Adult's Board Manager deb_ward@sandwell.gov.uk



1 Recommendations

- 1.1 That the Board considers and comments upon the Safeguarding Adults Board bi-annual report.
- 1.2 That the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Board endorses the Sandwell Safeguarding Adults Board Bi-Annual Report 2020-2022 and refers any comments or observations to the Cabinet for consideration.

2 Reasons for Recommendations

The Care Act 2014 requires each Safeguarding Adults Board to publish an annual report.

3 How does this deliver objectives of the Corporate Plan?

	People live well and age well In ensuring people are safeguarded, individuals with needs for care and support living in Sandwell are better able to live well, live the life they choose and age well.
	Strong resilient communities Effective safeguarding is key in all communities. SSAB is committed to hearing what people are telling us, building on community strengths and acting on what people are telling us making Sandwell a safer place for all.



4 Context and Key Issues

4.1 The purpose of the bi-annual report is to update on the work and commitment of the Safeguarding Adults Board for the periods 2020/21 to 2021/22, create a better understanding of the safeguarding picture in the borough, and inform members as to agreed priorities for the forthcoming year. Producing a report is a statutory function of the Safeguarding Adults Board.

4.2 **Safeguarding Adults with care and support needs and what we know about abuse in the borough:**

During the reporting period 2020-2022, the number of concerns raised that went on to become full safeguarding enquiries was high in year one but has decreased in the second part of the reporting period. This is an impact of COVID. Most of the enquiries were women and older adults. The highest location for abuse remains a person's own home.

4.3 **Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs):**

Undertaking SARs is a statutory function of the Safeguarding Adults Board. Sandwell SAB commissions a SAR when an adult with need for care and support dies or is seriously injured and there is evidence of abuse and neglect and reason to believe that agencies could have worked better together to safeguard the individual. The purpose of SARs is to ensure that clear learning is identified and changes in practice or systems are made as a consequence.

4.4 During this reporting period, SSAB has considered 15 SAR referrals – 8 of those didn't meet the criteria and 7 SARs were commissioned and progressed.

Some of the key learning includes:

- Failure to appropriately identify risk and record it.
- Absence of multi-agency working or understanding about when/how to convene a multi-disciplinary meeting.

4.5 **SSAB Priorities for 2022-2023:**

- Listening to the voices of people who use services and front-line practitioners
- Develop more inclusive Performance Data
- Embedding learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews



- Board Governance

4.6 Consultation carried out:

The SSAB Bi-Annual Report is coproduced with all partners. A shorter film-based report is also available.

5 Implications

Resources:	No financial implications
Legal and Governance:	The report is a statutory function of the Safeguarding Adults Board, in accordance with the Care Act 2014.
Risk:	Understanding the safeguarding picture helps better manage the risk to individuals, families and members of the public as well as organisational reputation.
Equality:	The bi-annual report is co-produced with all partners. SSAB is mindful of the equality impact and its equality duties and this is reflected in all activity.
Health and Wellbeing:	Accepting the report and the priorities identified for SSAB will further safeguard communities and promote system wide health and wellbeing for the people of Sandwell.
Social Value	Supporting the activity of SSAB supports safer lives safer communities, building on strengths and enabling communities and all its members regardless of the complexity of their needs to make positive contributions and lead more fulfilled lives.

6 Appendices

Presentation to Scrutiny Board – 21st November 2022.
Bi-annual Report 2020-2022

7. Background Papers

Bi-annual report 2020-2022.

