

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 18 OCTOBER 2016****REPORT OF: MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE, WELLBEING AND INDENDENCE****LEAD OFFICER: HELEN ATKINSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH****SUBJECT: SURREY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2015-2016****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board is a statutory Board. Its responsibilities are set out in the Care Act and is headed by an Independent Chairman.

Safeguarding Adults Boards nationally have a statutory duty to publish an annual report, the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2015/16 is contained in Annex 1.

This report is presented to the Cabinet by the Independent Chairman and complies with the statutory requirements under the Care Act 2014.

The recommendation within this report supports the Council's strategic 'Wellbeing' priority.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

It is recommended that the Cabinet Considers and notes the attached Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report prior to it being published.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

This annual report highlights the achievements of the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board during the year and provides the Cabinet with an opportunity to understand the issues within the Adult Social Care directorate in respect of safeguarding over the past year.

DETAILS:

1. Surrey County Council (SCC) has had a Safeguarding Adults Board in place for over a decade. The Board was originally set up under the Department of Health guidance: 'No Secrets' (March 2000). It has had an independent chair whose primary duty is to ensure that the main statutory agencies work together to improve practices which protect and promote the safety of adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Surrey.
2. Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) has presented its Annual Report to Cabinet for the last six years. It is a statutory requirement under the Care Act for the Annual Report to be sent to the Chief Executive and Leader of the

Local Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable, Healthwatch and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

3. The Board would like to support Elected Members to have a good understanding of the range of abuse and neglect issues that can affect adults and of the importance of balancing safeguarding with empowerment, as required by the Care Act (Section 14.193 of the statutory guidance). It is anticipated the Annual Report will increase that understanding.

Safeguarding children and adults

4. Surrey has had a statutory Safeguarding Children's Board in place since 2004. The legislative framework for safeguarding children is different from that of safeguarding adults. However, one of the aims of the Safeguarding Adults Board is to ensure Elected Members and the public are as well informed on safeguarding adults as safeguarding children. This will increase confidence that people living in Surrey are safeguarded irrespective of their age.

Care Act 2014

5. The Care Act states each Local Authority must establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (a 'SAB') for its area. The objective of a SAB is to help and protect adults in its area in cases of the kind described in section 42(1) of the legislation (this is set out in paragraph 14 below). The way in which a SAB must seek to achieve its objective is by co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does. A SAB may do anything which appears to it to be necessary or desirable for the purpose of achieving its objective.
6. Section 42(1) of the Care Act describes the adults that must be protected by safeguarding as: an adult in the Local Authority area (whether or not ordinarily resident there who has needs for care and support (whether or not the authority is meeting any of those needs) and is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect, and as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.

CONSULTATION:

7. The Annual Report is a description of the Board's activities and challenges faced during the year. It will be shared with all partner members of the Board and made available to the public.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

8. There are no implications within this report.

Financial and Value for Money Implications

9. The cost of running the Board is budgeted at £290,000 per year which covers the costs of the Independent Chair, support staff, Safeguarding Adults Reviews (previously called Serious Case Reviews), training, conferences etc.
10. This is a pooled budget with financial contributions from Police, health services, district and borough councils. SCC's share of the costs amounts to £117,450 (40.5%).

Section 151 Officer Commentary

11. No significant financial issues arise from this report.

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

12. The production and publication of the Annual Report is a statutory duty under the Care Act 2014.

Equalities and Diversity

13. The recommendations will have a positive impact on residents with different protected characteristics by making the activities of the Board more transparent. This is particularly important as safeguarding affects many people with protected characteristics.

14. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this Report.

Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adult's implications

15. The Annual Report will support the safeguarding of vulnerable adults as it provides information on the performance of this activity in Surrey.

WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:

16. The Board's Annual Report will be:

- presented to the Social Care Services Board;
- placed on the Surrey County Council website;
- signposted in the Surrey Safeguarding Adults newsletter;
- sent electronically to all Board members for them to cascade within their own agencies;
- sent electronically to the Police and Crime Commissioner;
- sent electronically to the Chief Constable;
- sent electronically to Healthwatch; and
- presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Contact Officer:

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Consulted:

This is the Annual Report from the Independent Chair of the Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board, therefore other parties are not consulted on its content.

Annexes:

Annex 1: Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015 - 2016.

Sources/background papers:

- Care Act 2014
- Care and Support Statutory Guidance Issued under the Care Act 2014 by the Department of Health
- Association of Directors of Social Services: Safeguarding Adults: Advice and Guidance to Directors of Adult Social Services, March 2013
- Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic and Annual Plan

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