



Adult Social Care Select Committee  
26 June 2014

**Responses to recommendations made at the meeting of the  
Adults Select Committee on 16th January 2014  
and  
the findings of the Safeguarding Adults Sector Led  
Improvement Peer Review**

**Key Points**

1. A Safeguarding Adults update was brought to the Adult Social Care Select Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> January 2014. Four recommendations were made all of which have been completed. Full details are contained in Appendix 1.
2. A Sector Led Improvement Peer Review of Safeguarding Adults was undertaken on 31<sup>st</sup> March, 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> April 2014. The focus of the Review included the following areas within the work of safeguarding adults:
  - Leadership
  - Delivery and effective practice
  - Performance and resource management
  - Decision making
  - Workforce

(See Appendix 3 for the terms of reference of the review)
3. The feedback from the review was extremely positive. Four key messages were given at the verbal feedback session:
  - The Review Team were really impressed by the commitment, enthusiasm and calibre of the staff they met “your staff are a real credit to you”.
  - The Team were impressed by the political leadership for the safeguarding agenda, both by the Cabinet and Health and Wellbeing Board. The leadership by senior managers and their commitment to the continual improvement of safeguarding practice was felt to be very good
  - Partnership working was considered to be good, some partners felt they could offer more and would like more engagement

- There were no significant areas of concern, rather areas were identified that we could or in some cases are already focusing upon and further developing as part of our continual improvement ethos.

4. A written report was presented several weeks later.

<b>Key Messages within the written Peer Review report (Appendix 2 provides more detail)</b>
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### **Leadership – Key Strengths**

5. Political leadership for the safeguarding agenda by both the Cabinet and Health and Wellbeing Board was viewed as being strong with effective Governance in place.
6. Active leadership across all aspects of safeguarding which was reported as a ‘golden thread’ throughout Surrey County Council – “ A lot of very committed staff doing a lot of good work”.

### **Delivery and Effective Practice – Key Strengths**

7. Positive experience expressed by service users and carers in relation to the safeguarding investigation, information that was available and their involvement within the safeguarding meetings, there was recognition of the excellent practice of practitioners.
8. The depth and breadth of the internal safeguarding procedures was acknowledged providing clear useable guidance that was used and embedded in practice with staff showing a good understanding of the different thresholds of intervention in place.

### **Performance and Resource Manager – Key Strengths**

9. Good links between Surrey County Council Operational teams and Commissioners.
10. The high level enthusiasm and understanding by Commissioners of the service areas they commission

### **Decision making – Key Strengths**

11. The Review Team found that the decision making reviewed was proportionate and that staff had a clear understanding of making decisions in line with the Threshold of Intervention guidance. The Team found no evidence that decision making was incorrect.

### **Workforce – Key Strengths**

12. The development of the Safeguarding Adults role has been seen as a success, supporting practice development and acting as the Area focal point for safeguarding.

13. The review also made a number of recommendations to help continued improvement. These, along with our responses are detailed in Appendix 2.

### **Recommendations**

14. It is recommended that the Adult Social Care Select Committee:

- Note the actions taken following the recommendations made by the Committee on 16 January 2014
- Note the key areas from the Peer Review Report and support the Service's response in relation to the recommendations.

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