

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****CABINET****DATE: 22 OCTOBER 2013****REPORT OF: MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE****LEAD OFFICER: CHRISTINE MACLEAN, SENIOR MANAGER FOR SAFEGUARDING, ADULT SOCIAL CARE****SUBJECT: SURREY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012 – 2013****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

1. The Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) is a non-statutory, multi-agency Board that is chaired by an independent chairman, Simon Turpitt.
2. To support the transparency of the Board, the Annual Report is presented to Cabinet.
3. Cabinet is asked to consider and note the Annual Report of the Board. (ANNEX 1).

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

4. That Cabinet notes the attached Annual Report, prior to it being published.
5. The SSAB will take the detail of this report and develop a strategy to address the concerns identified in the report. The strategy will come before Cabinet in the New Year.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

6. Accepting the recommendation will provide evidence the council has fulfilled its obligations to co-ordinate the activities of the Safeguarding Adults Board. It will provide information to the public on the performance of the Board in the delivery of its strategic plan.
7. When the Care Bill 2013 becomes enacted, it will be a statutory requirement for Safeguarding Adults Boards to produce and publish an Annual Report and for the report to be shared with the local police, Healthwatch and the Health and Wellbeing Board. The Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board wish to comply with these requirements in advance of the statutory duty. Providing paper copies to Surrey libraries will make the report easy to access for Surrey residents who do not have internet access.

## **DETAILS:**

### **Business Case**

8. The Board is constituted under the Department of Health guidance: 'No Secrets' (March 2000). The Board has an Independent Chairman whose prime duty is to ensure that the main statutory agencies – local councils, the police, Surrey Fire and Rescue and NHS organisations, the independent voluntary sector and service users and carers – work together to safeguard adults at risk of harm.
9. The Board has a broad membership from both the statutory and voluntary sectors including representatives from the Health Services, Local Authorities, Police, Age UK (Surrey), Surrey 50+, Surrey Care Association, Surrey Coalition of Disabled People and Action for Carers. The Board meets three times a year.
10. The Board has a three year Strategic Plan that runs from 2012 to 2015. The Board wishes to ensure it is transparent in its delivery of that Plan by reporting against it and publishing that report. The Annual Report will be shared with key partnerships and cascaded by Board members through their own agencies.
11. There has always been an expectation that Adult Social Care will lead in safeguarding vulnerable adults. This expectation has been fulfilled in Surrey with a Safeguarding Adults Board having been in place since 1999 as a reflection of the importance we place on safeguarding vulnerable adults. When the Care Bill is enacted, it will be a statutory duty for Surrey County Council to ensure the Safeguarding Adults Board is in place and fulfilling its duties. This welcome change is expected to come into effect in early 2015 and will place the safeguarding of vulnerable adults on an equal footing to vulnerable children.

## **CONSULTATION:**

12. The Annual Report has been shared with Sarah Mitchell, Strategic Director for Adult Social Care and signed off by the independent chairman of the Board, Simon Turpitt and by Steve Cosser, Cabinet Associate for Adult Social Care with the lead for adult safeguarding.

## **RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

13. There are no implications for risk management in the recommendation Cabinet is being asked to accept.

### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

14. There is no cost associated with these recommendations other than the minimal cost of providing each of Surrey's libraries with a paper copy of the report.

### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

15. I can confirm that all relevant financial matters have been taken into account

### **Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer**

16. There are no legal implications or legislative requirements associated with this report.

### **Equalities and Diversity**

17. The recommendation 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. Older people are less likely to have internet access therefore the recommendation is for the report to be available in paper copies in each of Surrey's libraries.
18. No Equality Impact Assessment has been carried out as it is not necessary in relation to an Annual Report.

### **Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults implications**

19. Acceptance of this Annual Report will support safeguarding vulnerable adults as it provides information on performance in Surrey.

### **Public Health implications**

20. Acceptance of this Annual Report will support public health because supporting vulnerable adults to live free from fear is essential to public health aims.

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

21. If the recommendation is accepted by Cabinet the Board's Annual Report will be:
- Placed on the SCC website
  - Sent in paper format to each Surrey library
  - Sent electronically to all Board members for them to cascade within their own agencies
  - Sent electronically to the Police Crime Commissioner
  - Sent electronically to Healthwatch
  - Sent electronically to the chairs of the Health and Wellbeing Board

**Contact Officer:**

Liz Butcher

Project Officer, Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board

**Consulted:**

- Steve Cosser, Cabinet Associate for Adult Social Care with the lead for adult safeguarding
- Sarah Mitchell, Strategic Director for Adults Social Care
- Christine Maclean, Senior Manager for Safeguarding, Adult Social Care

**Annexes:**

Annex 1: SSAB Annual Report.

**Sources/background papers:**

- Department of Health 'No Secrets' statutory guidance
  - Law Commission report on the law on Adult Social Care, 11 May 2011
  - Association of Directors of Social Services: Safeguarding Adults Advice Note April 2011
  - Department of Health: Statement of Government policy on adult safeguarding May 2011
  - Association of Directors of Social Services: Safeguarding Adults: Advice and Guidance to Directors of Adult Social Services, March 2013
  - Care Bill 2013.
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