

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****CABINET****DATE: 17JULY 2018****REPORT OF: MR MEL FEW, CABINET MEMBER FOR ADULTS****LEAD OFFICER: HELEN ATKINSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND PUBLIC HEALTH****SUBJECT: SURREY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2017 - 2018****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) is a statutory Board with responsibilities set out in the Care Act 2014.

The Board is chaired by an independent chair, Simon Turpitt.

Safeguarding Adults Boards have a statutory duty to publish an annual report.

To support the transparency of the work of the Board, the Annual Report (Annex 1) is presented to Cabinet.

The recommendations of this report support the Council's Strategic priority of Wellbeing.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Considers and notes the attached Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report prior to it being published.
2. Agrees the next steps for the publication of the Annual report.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

These recommendations demonstrate that the Council is well placed to fulfil its obligations under the Care Act to have an established Safeguarding Adults Board in its area.

It will support the SSAB to be transparent by providing information to the public on the performance of the Board in the delivery of its strategic plan.

**DETAILS:**

1. Surrey has had a Safeguarding Adults Board in place for over a decade. The Board has been statutory since the implementation of the Care Act in April 2015. It has had an independent chair whose primary duty is to ensure that the main statutory agencies work together to improve practice which protects and promotes the safety of adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Surrey.
2. Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board has presented its Annual Report to Cabinet for the last eight 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 Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. The Board would like to support elected Members as community leaders 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.

**Care Act 2014**

4. 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.
5. 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:**

6. 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. It is not appropriate to consult on the content.

**RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

7. There are no implications within this report.

**Financial and Value for Money Implications**

8. The cost of running the Board is budgeted to be £290,000 per year. This includes costs for the Independent Chair, support staff, Safeguarding Adults Reviews (previously called Serious Case Reviews), training, conferences etc.

9. A pooled budget with financial contributions from Police, health services, District and Borough Councils has now been put in place. Prior to this, Adult Social Care paid all the costs. This new arrangement ensures partner agencies have greater responsibility for the functioning of the Board. This is similar to the way the Surrey Safeguarding Children's Board is financed. Surrey County Council contributes £117,450 (40.5%) towards the Board's overall running costs. This contribution is funded out of the Care Act revenue element of Surrey's Better Care Fund.

#### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

10. No significant financial issues arise from this report.

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

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

#### **Equalities and Diversity**

12. The publication of the report 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.
13. An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not required for this Report.

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

14. 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:**

The Board's Annual Report will be:

- 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
- Sent electronically to Health and Wellbeing Board.

#### **Contact Officer:**

Amy McLeod, Surrey Safeguarding Adults Board Manager  
Tel: 01483 517002

#### **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 2017 – 2018

**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