

**NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL**

Health and Wellbeing Board

**REPORT TITLE**

**Local Safeguarding Adults Board -  
Annual Report for the year 2023 - 2024**

**1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT**

- 1.1 To note the publication of the Local Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) Annual Report outlining the work of the board and its members to carry out and deliver the objectives of the strategic plan. The report includes how partners have contributed to the work of the board to promote effective adult safeguarding during the last year.
- 1.2 The contents of the report should be considered in relation to planning, commissioning and budget setting.
- 1.3 The report demonstrates that the LSAB:
- Listens and responds to the voices of people with care and support needs, and people with a lived experience.
  - Is effective in providing help and protection to adults with care and support needs.
  - Effectively meets statutory duties.
  - Benefits from strong and consistent leadership.
  - Has made good progress on delivering the strategic objectives laid out within the strategic plan.

**2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION**

- 2.1 In North Lincolnshire people remain at the heart of everything we do. The council is committed to everyone in North Lincolnshire achieving better outcomes so that they can be safe, well, prosperous and connected.
- 2.2 The Care Act 2014 places the council's duties in respect of safeguarding adults with care needs who are at risk of abuse or neglect on a statutory basis.
- 2.3 The LSAB has a statutory requirement to publish an annual report, which offers assurance that local safeguarding arrangements and partnerships help and protect adults with care and support needs in its area. The annual report details the work of the LSAB during the year to achieve its main objectives, and deliver the strategic plan, as well as detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) that may have been undertaken.
- 2.4 The annual report has been agreed by SAB Executive Leads and board partners. The annual report will be presented to Cabinet on 27 January 2025 and the Health and Wellbeing Board on 13 January 2025 and published on the NLSAB website.
- 2.5 The annual report is required to be distributed through relevant governance routes across safeguarding partner organisations. The contents of the report should be considered in relation to planning, commissioning and budget setting. Organisations should fully consider the contents of the annual report how they can improve their contributions to both safeguarding throughout their own organisation, and to the joint work of the board.
- 2.6 The Care Act 2014 also requires the report to be submitted to the Local Police and Crime Commissioner, Chief Constable, and Healthwatch via LSAB board members.
- 2.7 The annual report provides details of progress in relation to the board's strategic plan, and the six strategic priorities, which are – prevention, proportionality, partnership, empowerment, protection and accountability.
- 2.8 Some of the key achievements, and the positive impacts for adults with care and support needs and their families highlighted within the report are:
  - There is a strong focus on engaging with and listening to adults, and their families to understand their views and experiences. Several policies and key documents have been co-produced with people who have a lived experience of safeguarding.
  - Adults and their families are empowered to keep themselves and others safe - several easy read documents in relation to recognising the signs of abuse have been co-produced and are now available on the website.
  - There is a demonstrated clear commitment to safeguard adults across the area, through representation and attendance by senior managers of all partner agencies at Executive level and board meetings.
  - There are strong relationships with the other key partnerships such as the Children's Multi-agency and Resilience Safeguarding, Experts Together Partnership, and the Community Safety Partnership.

- In partnership with people who have a lived experience, communications on the board's website have been enhanced as a means of sharing information and publicising key documents, tools, and resources.
- 'My safeguarding journey' feedback forms were developed and implemented, enabling people who have experience of safeguarding intervention to share their experiences. The forms are available in a variety of different formats, such as electronically on the SAB website, paper form or the link can be text or emailed to mobile devices.
- Significant work has been undertaken to enhance and strengthen the partnership and support offered to people who rough sleep - including providing bespoke training and making sure that learning from reviews is embedded into practice.
- The safeguarding data is regularly scrutinised by the board and shows the voices of the adult, and their families are being listened to.
- The board have been actively working to engage with local community groups and voluntary sector to raise awareness and understanding of safeguarding adults and deliver joint training and education, with a focus on diverse, isolated and under-represented communities.
- Monthly communications are shared and disseminated to a large safeguarding network which provides information and tools, such as – updates to national policy and legislation, key safeguarding themes, resources aimed at practitioners and training opportunities.

### **Future priorities**

As evidenced within the Annual Report, the board have made considerable progress this year in relation to delivering the priorities and strategic objectives outlined within the Strategic Plan.

We recognise the importance of ensuring that our focus remains on the issues which are going to make the greatest difference to safeguarding people in North Lincolnshire. The following key themes have been identified by board partners as areas of future focus -

- Seeking to further strengthen the voice of carers within the safeguarding partnership.
- Continuing to understand the real-life experiences of people who have been through the safeguarding journey to better understand the difference it has made, and how we can develop our future practice.
- Partners working together to enhance and strengthen mechanisms, ensuring information sharing is not a barrier.
- Continuing to analyse all available data and intelligence to help recognise emerging safeguarding themes and trends, including considering hidden harm and harm categories where there are low reports of concerns, and ensure action is taken when needed.
- Continuing to build on the success of the interactive data dashboard, enhancing data around people's voice and experiences – including strengthening links with homeless data.

- Continuing to promote a positive learning culture where partners continually reflect on practice and learn from local, regional and national reviews and identify ways to prevent and reduce harm.
- Continuing to ensure that policies, procedures and guidance are effective, flexible and adapt in response to learning.
- Working with other partnership boards to avoid duplication and ensure a collaborative and effective approach is taken to safeguarding adults.
- Building on the already established relationships and enhancing engagement with local community groups, and the voluntary sector to raise awareness and understanding of safeguarding adults, with a focus on diverse, isolated and underrepresented communities.

### **3. OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

- 3.1 To note the publication of the LSAB annual report.
- 3.2 The contents of the report should be considered in relation to planning, commissioning and budget setting.

### **4. ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

- 4.1 None, for information only

### **5. FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (e.g. LEGAL, HR, PROPERTY, IT, COMMUNICATIONS etc.)**

- 5.1 None, for information only

### **6. OTHER RELEVANT IMPLICATIONS (e.g. CRIME AND DISORDER, EQUALITIES, COUNCIL PLAN, ENVIRONMENTAL, RISK etc.)**

- 6.1 None, for information only

### **7. OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

- 7.1 None, for information only

### **8. OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

- 8.1 There has been wide ranging consultation with people who have care and support needs, people with lived experience, as well as safeguarding partners and relevant agencies in the work of the NLSAB, and implementation of the

strategic plan. There will be further engagement opportunities as we continue to listen, learn, adapt, and review.

## 9. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 9.1 To receive and note the publication of the LSAB Annual Report 2023 - 2024 and consider this where relevant in relation to planning, commissioning and budgets setting processes.

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### **Background Papers used in the preparation of this report –**

Care Act 2014

LSAB Annual Report 2023 – 2024

LSAB Strategic Plan 2023 - 2025