



City of Westminster

# Cabinet Report

<b>Meeting or Decision</b>	<b>Cabinet</b>
<b>Date:</b>	<b>15<sup>th</sup> December 2014</b>
<b>Classification:</b>	<b>General Release</b>
<b>Title:</b>	<b>Safeguarding Adults Executive Board Annual Report 2013-14</b>
<b>Wards Affected:</b>	<b>All</b>
<b>Better City, Better Lives Summary</b>	<b>A safer, healthier City: helping every person living with injuries, disabilities and long term conditions to achieve a better quality of life and to stay independent for longer.</b>  <b>A more connected City: making it easier for people to contact us and find out important information.</b>
<b>Key Decision:</b>	<b>That Cabinet endorse the approach the SAEB is taking to fulfilling its purpose and lend support to its priorities for 2014/15 (page 28).</b>
<b>Financial Summary:</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Report of:</b>	<b>Liz Bruce, Executive Director of Adult Social Care</b>

## 1. Executive Summary

This is the inaugural Annual Report 2013-14 of the multi-agency, independently-chaired, Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SAEB), that serves the three boroughs.

The purpose of the SAEB is to ensure that agencies working with adults at risk of harm, and represented on the SAEB, work together to;

- prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults with care and support needs;
- safeguard individuals in a way that supports them in making choices and having control in how they choose to live their lives;
- promote an outcomes approach in safeguarding that works for people resulting in the best experience possible;
- raise public awareness so that professionals, other staff and communities as a whole play their part in preventing, identifying and responding to abuse and neglect. <sup>1</sup>

At present the SAEB is non-statutory body but this will change on 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 when the Care Act 2014 is implemented.

The report shows the progress has been made in consolidating the governance of adult safeguarding that were agreed by all three Cabinets in March 2013, in readiness for the implementation of the Care Act, and what it has achieved in its first year.

## **2. Recommendation**

That Cabinet endorse the approach the SAEB is taking to fulfilling its purpose outlined above, and lend support to its priorities for 2014/15 (page 28).

## **3. Reasons for Decision**

The risk to individuals; to communities; and to the reputations of organisations; of adult safeguarding not being properly lead and managed, as evidenced in recent national enquiries, is such, that the work of the SAEB needs to be scrutinised, understood, supported, and challenged. This will ensure that arrangements remain sound and that real and potential risks, particularly to those people with care and support needs, are identified and mitigated.

## **4. Background, including Policy Context**

The SAEB is working on its business plan for 2015/16 which will be signed off at the April meeting of the Board. In the interim, having put in place arrangements to ensure that the leadership of adult safeguarding is robust and compliant with

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<sup>1</sup> Care Act 2014 Guidance S 14 Safeguarding

[https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/315993/Care-Act-Guidance.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/315993/Care-Act-Guidance.pdf)

the requirements of the Care Act 2014, the SAEB is seeking Cabinet support for its work in the following areas which have been identified from work done to date, and to be the most pressing for 2014/15:

### **Making Safeguarding Personal**

The findings from the user survey conducted by the Board last year are that people want to be more in control of what happens to them when they have experienced harm. Making Safeguarding Personal is a Local Government Association (LGA) initiative linked to the Adult Social Care Outcomes Framework (ASCOF). It is designed to ensure that people who have experienced harm are asked 'what would you like to happen next?' as the enquiry progresses. A pilot is taking place between November 2014 and February 2015 and will be evaluated by Gill Manthorpe at Kings College prior to being rolled out to all Adult Social Care teams in 2015/16.

### **Improving People's Experience of Care**

National enquiries such as those into Winterbourne View and Mid-Staffordshire have caused the SAEB to prioritise the joint work that is being done between the Clinical Commissioning Groups; Adult Social Care; Healthwatch, and the Care Quality Commission in the Safeguarding Information Panel (page 11). The panel shares intelligence of issues that may be early indicators of concern<sup>2</sup>, and then tasks members to engage with providers to plan remedial action that will raise standards of care. The approach is designed not only to ensure the happiness and well-being of people living in care and nursing homes, and their families, but also to maintain and strengthen the range of opportunities available to people locally, and to prevent market failure, in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014

### **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS): impact of the Supreme Court judgement in March 2014**

Additional safeguards are provided to people who do not have capacity to make decisions about their care and treatment, by the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. As predicted, the Supreme Court judgement has led to a significant increase in the number of applications for DOLS authorisations. The response from Adult Social Care has been robust, despite an additional and unplanned burden being placed upon it. In the three boroughs, the same standard of assessment and vigorous scrutiny of each case has been maintained as prior to March 2014, and there continue to be some very good outcomes for people,

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<sup>2</sup> These could be complaints; patterns in safeguarding incidents; high turn-over of staff, including registered managers; poor CQC reports; neglect of physical environments; increase in falls, pressure ulcers, and hospital admissions

where restrictions placed on the person have been safely reduced. A priority system is being used to manage the increased volumes of application and progress is being closely monitored by the adult leadership team and the SAEB.

### **Learning from case and serious case review**

Board members are very aware that the learning from case and serious case reviews repeatedly refer to the dangers of poor interagency communication and silo working. To this end the SAEB is prioritising closer working with the Local Children's Safeguarding Board; the Community Safety Partnership, including the Violence Against Women and Children's Board; and the Health and Wellbeing Board. The SAEB are identifying opportunities to work together on shared issues of concern, such as Safer Recruitment; children in transition; domestic abuse; and learning from serious case reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews; fatal fires reviews; Safeguarding Adults Reviews; using the learning to change systems and improve practice.

### **5. Financial Implications**

There are no direct financial implications as a consequence of this report. However, the costs of safeguarding and the Deprivation of Liberty work are regularly monitored.

### **6. Legal Implications**

None

### **7. Staffing Implications**

None

### **8. Consultation**

None required

**If you have any queries about this Report or wish to inspect any of the Background Papers please contact:**

Helen Banham, Strategic Lead Professional Standards and Safeguarding  
020 7641 4196 [hbanham@westminster.gov.uk](mailto:hbanham@westminster.gov.uk)

**BACKGROUND PAPERS:**

**Cabinet Report 25<sup>th</sup> February 2013: Consideration of the Findings and Recommendations of the Consultation, and Agreement on the Governance Arrangements for Adult Safeguarding across Tri-borough**