

1. GROUP DIRECTOR'S INTRODUCTION

The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board (the Board) is a statutory board required under s43 of the Care Act 2014. The Board has three statutory functions:

- 1) Develop and publish a strategic plan outlining how the Board will meet its objectives
- 2) Publish an annual report detailing the safeguarding achievements for that financial year
- 3) Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria

This report outlines the Board's annual report for 2021/22. It focuses on the key achievements, data for 2020/21 and future priorities for the Board.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

For information only

3. BACKGROUND

The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi-agency partnership represented by statutory and non-statutory stakeholders. The role of the Board is to assure itself that robust safeguarding procedures are in place across the City and Hackney to protect adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Where abuse and neglect does occur the Board and its partners are committed to tackling this and promoting person-centred care for all adults experiencing abuse or neglect. The annual report sets out a summary of safeguarding adults' activity across the City of London and Hackney in 2021/22.

City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021/22

Key achievements

In line with its strategy, some of the key achievements for the Board in 2021/22 include:

- 1) The Board assessed how well learning from SARs has been embedded into practice and put in place measures to ensure that agencies are disseminating learning to staff. One reflection event was held to review how well learning from the MS SAR. The Independent Reviewer provided positive feedback on the actions Board partners had taken to address the recommendations from the review;

- 2) The Board continued to commission multi-agency training across the partnership, this includes trauma-informed training and the delivery of a Safeguarding Adults Week which was attended by over 200 professionals;
- 3) The Board undertook one multi-agency case file audit, which assessed safeguarding practice in relation to self-neglect. In total 10 cases were reviewed and the learning from the audit is included in the Board's annual strategic plan for 2022/23
- 4) The Board contributed to King's College London's Communities of Practice for research on homelessness and self-neglect
- 5) The Anti-Social Behaviour and Safeguarding group, jointly set up across the Board and Community Safety Partnership, was formed to explore how to better support people both experiencing and perpetrating anti-social behaviour. To date the group has reviewed safeguarding concerns relating to anti-social behaviour and reviewed pathways, panels and protocols around this area of practice;
- 6) The Board continued to deliver workstreams regarding Transitional Safeguarding (jointly for the Children's Safeguarding Partnership and Community Safety Partnership) and digital safety, as well as contributed to a number of wider joint partnership projects such as the development of the Intergenerational Domestic Abuse Protocol;
- 7) London Borough of Hackney staff provided support to partners in relation to the roll out of the Covid-19 testing and vaccination programme, particularly where there may be concerns about a person's capacity to consent to the vaccine or testing;
- 8) North East London CCG complied with delivering NHS Improvement's Safe and Wellbeing Reviews, which assess the well-being of individuals living in long-stay hospital settings. In total there were 20 reviews across NEL CCG and 20 across the provider collaborative. The key findings for City and Hackney related to action to support people's physical health, some individuals experienced delayed discharges due to challenges locating an appropriate community placement and remote or virtual care plan reviews had impacted quality and oversight in some cases;
- 9) Hackney CVS continued to address the issue of race inequality through all its work; this includes challenging agencies and policy makers across Hackney to consider race equality in their work

Areas for further development

The Board was unable to meet its goals in relation to the following, and will continue to work on these in 2022/23:

1. Engagement with residents. Whilst the Board has undertaken outreach work to improve its engagement with residents, it has not been possible to

re-establish the service user network it had prior to the Covid-19 lockdowns. The Board will continue to identify ways it can improve engagement with service users and residents in the City and Hackney;

2. In preparation for inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the Board intended to review audits of safeguarding activity within the City and Hackney's Adult Social Care teams. This did not go forward on the basis that the Board was awaiting the publication of a template for this from the CQC. This action has been rolled forward into the Board's annual strategic plan for 2022/23;
3. At the start of the financial year the Board put on a number of learning sessions for voluntary sector agencies. Unfortunately, these were not well attended, and the Board had to cancel further sessions. To address this the Board is working with its voluntary sector members to help engage with wider voluntary and community sector organisations.

Data sets for 2021/22

Last year it was not possible to obtain a full data set due to the impact of the cyberattack. This year it has been possible to obtain a full set of data, however it should be read with a note of caution whilst an interim system is still in use. The key themes from Hackney were identified:

- There has been a slight increase in the number of safeguarding concerns reported into the Local Authority, however this has not led to an increase in safeguarding enquiries;
- The most common forms of abuse were; self-neglect, neglect and acts of omission and financial abuse
- Abuse was most likely to happen in the individual's own home by someone known to them. This is in line with national data from NHS Digital's Safeguarding Adults Collection, which assesses national trends in adult safeguarding
- In 92% of cases people were asked about their desired outcomes, of these people 90% had their desired outcomes either partially or completely met. Most adults also reported feeling safer and involved in the safeguarding enquiry.

Priorities for 2022/23

The Board has set itself the following strategic priorities for 2022/23:

- 1) To publish three Safeguarding Adults Reviews, one of which is a mandatory Safeguarding Adults Review under Section 44 of the Care Act and two are discretionary reviews;

- 2) Oversee The Advocacy Project in their delivery of a feedback service for people with lived experience of adult safeguarding. If you have received adult safeguarding support in the City or Hackney and would like to provide feedback to this service, please contact: chsab@hackney.gov.uk
- 3) Identify and respond to people who are 'on the edge of care' and may not meet the criteria for statutory safeguarding intervention, (section 42 enquiries) and still have safeguarding needs. This includes supporting the London Borough of Hackney to consider safeguarding issues that arise in the context of Poverty Reduction work
- 4) Work with the City and Hackney Children's Safeguarding Partnership and the Domestic Abuse Intervention Service to create the Think Family Protocol for the City and Hackney.