

Committee(s): Community and Children’s Services Committee City of London Health and Wellbeing Board City of London Safer City Partnership City of London Members Safeguarding Sub-Committee	Date(s): 08/11/2021 17/09/2021 27/09/2021 11/10/2021
Subject: City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2019/20	Public
Report of: Dr Adi Cooper, Independent Chair of the City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board	For Information
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1. SUMMARY

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 2020/21. It focuses on the response to Covid-19, key achievements, data for 2020/21 and future priorities for the Board.

2. RECOMMENDATION(S)

For information only

3. BACKGROUND

1.1 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 an

appraisal of safeguarding adults' activity across the City of London and Hackney in 2020/21.

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Key achievements

3.1 In line with its strategy, some of the key achievements for the Board in 2020/21 include:

- 1) The Board managed to ensure that all its statutory obligations were delivered during Covid-19. This included the delivery of the Board's work plan and the publication of two Safeguarding Adults Reviews.
- 2) The Board undertook the following activities in response to Covid-19:
 - i. Met on a monthly basis to review and respond to safeguarding issues that were identified by agencies during the course of the pandemic
 - ii. The group sought assurances from partners by auditing their safeguarding response to adults with care and support needs at risk of abuse and neglect. The results were analysed and used to inform what information should be included in the key safeguarding messages for residents' poster/leaflet
 - iii. The group identified safeguarding issues that have affected residents during the lockdown period and incorporated them into the Board's strategic plan for 2021/22.
- 3) The Board published two Safeguarding Adults Reviews: MS, which examined the death of a man experiencing multiple exclusion homelessness and Mr EF, which reviewed the death of a man in a house fire. The Board has initiated a SAR action plan task and finish group designed to ensure that action plans are embedded into practice and to identify how well learning from SARs has been embedded into practice. Both SARs can be found:
<https://hackney.gov.uk/chsab-sars>
- 4) The Board has continued to work with the Community Safety Partnerships in City and Hackney and Children's Safeguarding Partnership to deliver the action plan in respect of the Transitional Safeguarding Task and Finish group. The group aims to identify how to better support 16 - 25 year olds with their safeguarding needs. The group has moved onto the next phase of work which is the delivery of a second action plan designed to help practitioners develop their safeguarding response to young people.
- 5) A total of 420 people attended the Board training in 2020/2021. This included new training around safeguarding, mental health and social isolation and advocacy training as well as the SAR learning events.
- 6) The Board held a Safeguarding Adults Week in line with the National Safeguarding Adults Week which took place between 16 – 22nd November 2020. During this week, 189 practitioners attended bitesize training put on by the Board, there were two events for residents and a poster published on how to get involved with the work of the Board.
- 7) The Board undertook a scoping exercise to understand the challenges that professionals faced when working with individuals who may lack executive

mental capacity. Using this information, the Board has committed to undertaking a number of actions to help support staff. These actions include updating the Board's self-neglect and hoarding policy and are included in the Board's strategic plan for 2021/22.

- 8) The Board published four newsletters for the public updating residents on the Board's work and safeguarding issues that residents should be aware of. A poster was also published on how people could keep safe during the lockdown period and the Board's safeguarding champions were provided with refresher training.

Areas for further development

3.2 The Board was unable to meet its goals in relation to the following, and will continue to work on these into 2020/21:

- 1) The Board was unable to recruit Lay Members or Peer-to-Peer Supporters to the Board. However, in the forthcoming year the Board is working with London ADASS to identify three residents with lived experience of safeguarding to represent the City and Hackney at the London Safeguarding Voices Group
- 2) The Board had to postpone plans to hold events for residents due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Whilst there has been a small number of virtual events for residents, the lack of face-to-face meetings has limited the opportunity to continue to build relationships with residents. In the forthcoming year the Board will look to engage with existing service user networks and also to resume face-to-face events when it is safe to do so.
- 3) The Board had to cancel plans to deliver a multi-agency case file audit into the safeguarding response to self-neglect due to the cyberattack. The audit is currently in the process of being initiated.

Data sets for 2020/21

The key information was identified from the City of London data set:

- There were 57 safeguarding concerns raised, of which 38 concerns led to a section 42 enquiry. This is an increase on the previous year where there were 48 concerns and 22 section 42 enquiries.
- The most common forms of abuse were: neglect and acts of omission, self-neglect, domestic abuse and physical abuse
- In line with national trends, abuse was most likely to happen in the person's own home by someone known to them
- Of the 43 concluded cases, 24 expressed their desired outcome. There were 23 people who had their desired outcomes fully achieved or partially achieved.

Priorities for 2020/21

3.3 The Board has set itself the following strategic priorities for 2021/22:

- 1) To review the Strategy to ensure that the objectives included in it are still appropriate and to identify any additional objectives that needed to be included into the strategy
- 2) To ensure that core safeguarding is embedded throughout Adult Social Care and key partners in the City and Hackney
- 3) To identify and respond to any safeguarding issues that arise as a result of the recovery from Covid-19
- 4) To engage with the voluntary sector through bi-monthly learning sessions and monthly safeguarding bulletins
- 5) The Board will identify three people with lived experience of safeguarding to join the London ADASS Safeguarding Voices Group, which brings together service users to help influence regional change in relation to safeguarding
- 6) To review and address the issue of digital safety and financial scams, which were identified as an issue when reviewing data
- 7) The Board will be contributing to research being undertaken by King's College London and the Policy Research Unit in the Health and Social Care Workforce. The focus of the project is on adult safeguarding responses to homelessness and self-neglect. This takes forward the Board's commitment to responding to safeguarding issues affecting people who are experiencing homelessness
- 8) Preparing for the introduction of the Liberty Protection Safeguards, which has been postponed nationally until April 2022: and continue to check with partners that they are prepared for the launch
- 9) The Board will look at how well learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews is embedded into practice and how the Board can improve engagement with learning.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020 – 21

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