

Committees: Health and Wellbeing Board – For Information Community and Children’s Services Committee – For Information Safer City Partnership – For Information City of London Members Safeguarding Sub-Committee – For Information	Dated: 16/09/2022 22/09/2022
Subject: City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021/22	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	None
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	Partner Contributions
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Dr Adi Cooper, Independent Chair, City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board	For Information
Report author: Raynor Griffiths, City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Manager	

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:

- a) Develop and publish a strategic plan outlining how the Board will meet its objectives.
- b) Publish an annual report detailing the safeguarding achievements for that financial year.
- c) Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews 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.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

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 a summary of safeguarding adults' activity across the City of London and Hackney in 2021/22.

Current Position

Key achievements

2. In line with its strategy, some of the key achievements for the Board in 2021/22 include:
 - a) The Board assessed how well learning from Safeguarding Adults Review 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 Safeguarding Adults Review. The Independent Reviewer provided positive feedback on the actions Board partners had taken to address the recommendations from the review.
 - b) 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.
 - c) 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.
 - d) The Board contributed to King's College London's Communities of Practice for research on homelessness and self-neglect.
 - e) 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.

- f) City of London Corporation have permanently recruited a social worker based in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Service. This has led to an increase in Care Act assessments and preventative interventions for rough sleepers.
- g) North East London (NEL) Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) complied with delivering NHS Improvement's Safe and Wellbeing Reviews, which assess the wellbeing 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. Also, in some cases, remote or virtual care plan reviews had impacted quality and oversight.
- h) City of London Police secured a mental health triage nurse for 2021/22. The nurse has facilitated a decrease in the need to invoke Section 136 of the Mental Health Act, which gives police emergency powers to take someone from a public place to a place of safety.
- i) Age UK supported clients to join video meetings which enabled the organisation to get better insight into their unspoken circumstances and make appropriate safeguarding referrals where relevant.

Areas for further development

3. The Board was unable to meet its goals in relation to the following, and will continue to work on these areas in 2022/23:
 - a) Engagement with residents. While 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.
 - b) 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.
 - c) 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.

Priorities for 2022/23

4. The Board has set itself the following strategic priorities for 2022/23:
 - a) Publish three Safeguarding Adults Reviews: one mandatory Safeguarding Adults Review under Section 44 of the Care Act; and two discretionary reviews.
 - b) Oversee the Advocacy Project in their delivery of a feedback service for people with lived experience of adult safeguarding.
 - c) 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.
 - d) 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 of London and Hackney.

Key Data

5. The key information was identified from the City of London data set:
 - There were 60 safeguarding concerns raised, of which 33 led to a Section 42 enquiry. While there was an increase in concerns from 2020/21, there was a decrease in Section 42 enquiries.
 - The most common forms of abuse were: self-neglect; neglect and acts of omission; and domestic 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 35 concluded cases, 18 people expressed their desired outcome. There were 17 people who had their desired outcomes fully achieved or partially achieved.

6. Corporate & Strategic Implications

- Strategic implications – None
- Financial implications – None
- Resource implications – None
- Legal implications – None
- Risk implications – None
- Equalities implications – None
- Climate implications – None
- Security implications – None

Conclusion

Adult Safeguarding is a critical area of work and should remain a priority for all organisations. For the Safeguarding Adults Board, it will continue to look into key areas of safeguarding concern and ensure that the safeguarding needs of all residents in the City of London and Hackney are met.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board (CHSAB) Annual Report 2021/22

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