

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
7 SEPTEMBER 2020

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20, STRATEGIC PLAN 2020-2025 AND
BUSINESS PLAN 2020/21

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND
RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the views of the Committee on the draft Annual Report of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB) for 2019/20, the Strategic Plan of the LRSAB and Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) for 2020-2025, and the Business Plan of the LRSAB for 2020/21.
2. The final Annual Report is the report of the Independent Chair who must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding adults in the local area. This is a statutory requirement under the Care Act 2014.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

3. The LRSAB is a statutory body established as a result of the Care Act 2014. The main purpose of the LRSAB is to ensure effective, co-ordinated multi-agency arrangements for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.
4. The Business Plan of the SAB for the period that this annual report relates to was considered by the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 March 2019.

Background

5. Safeguarding Adult Boards have three core duties. They must:
 - Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute;
 - Publish an annual report detailing how effective their work has been
 - Commission safeguarding adults' reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.
6. The Strategic Plan relates to the first of these duties, and the Annual Report to the second of these duties.

Annual report for 2019/20

7. The Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance on the local approach to safeguarding adults in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014.

8. The key purpose of the Annual Report is to assess the impact of the work undertaken in 2019/20 on service quality and on safeguarding outcomes for adults with care and support needs in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically it evaluates performance against the priorities that were set out in the LRSAB Business Plan 2019/20.
9. The Draft Annual Report 2019/20 can be found at Appendix A to this report.
10. The key messages from the LRSAB, specifically in relation to Leicestershire are:
 - a. There is a positive cultural change in the approach to safeguarding adults across the partnership
 - b. Understanding and application of the Mental Capacity Act in relation to Safeguarding is improving but requires a sustained focus.
 - c. There is a broader need across multi-agency working to look beyond presenting issues to focus on the individual and gain a holistic view of their needs.
 - d. A broader understanding of additional needs and risks relating to Autistic Spectrum Disorder is required across the workforce to effectively support and safeguard individuals
 - e. The Board requires further assurance that people within the Transforming Care cohort of adults at risk are being adequately safeguarded.
 - f. The Board will continue to work together and develop links across partnerships to foster a reliable, trusting culture in organisations and across our area and challenge and drive improvement in multi-agency safeguarding of adults.

Strategic Plan 2020-2025

11. Previous development plans of the SAB has focussed on actions and priorities for a single year. For 2020 onwards, the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB has developed an overarching five-year Strategic Plan with Leicester SAB. This will be supplemented by individual business plans outlining more detailed action and outcome to be achieved in that year.
12. The plan recognises the current context regarding Covid-19 and the significant impact this has on the very personal work of safeguarding adults.
13. The future improvement priorities identified in the Annual Report 2019/20 have been built into the Strategic Plan. In addition to reflecting issues arising from the Annual Report the new Business Plan priorities have been identified against a range of national and local drivers including:
 - a. national safeguarding policy initiatives and drivers
 - b. recommendations from regulatory inspections across partner agencies
 - c. the outcomes of serious case reviews, serious incident learning processes, domestic homicide reviews and other review processes both national and local.
 - d. evaluation of the business plans for 2019/20 including analysis of impact afforded by the quality assurance and performance management framework.
 - e. best practice reports issued at both national and local levels.

14. The Strategic Plan was formulated through a joint development session of the LRSAB and LSAB held on 13 March 2020.
15. The Strategic Plan is attached at Appendix B and the strategic priorities are outlined in the table below.

LRSAB Strategic Priorities

Strategic Priority	Summary
1. Ensuring Statutory Compliance	Compliance with the requirements of the Care Act 2014.
2. Enhancing Everyday Business	Gaining assurance regarding the quality of service and enhancing multi-agency training and development.
3. Strengthening User and Carer Engagement	Developing the sustainable approach to learning from the experience of people who use services and their carers, including those who have directly experienced safeguarding issues
4. Raising awareness within our diverse communities	Better understand and address any barriers to engaging well with our diverse communities, in particular (but not exclusively) our Black and Minority Ethnic communities
5. Understanding how well we work together	Exploring effectiveness in specific areas of adult safeguarding
6. Prevention – helping people to stay safe, connected and resilient to reduce the likelihood of harm, abuse or neglect	Finalise prevention principles and identify specific pieces of work based on these as required

Business Plan 2020/21

16. The LRSAB Business Plan for 2020/21 has been drawn up based upon key areas of the Strategic Plan to progress this year. The Business Plan focusses on having oversight and responding to specific areas of concern with regard to safeguarding adults in the current and emerging circumstances, whilst continuing the SABs statutory duties. The Business Plan is attached at Appendix C.

Proposals/Options

17. The Committee is asked to consider the Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Business Plan for the LRSAB and to make any comments or proposed additions or amendments.

Consultation

18. The Annual Report includes a summary of the consultation and engagement work which the SAB has carried out with the public, adults with care and support needs and with practitioners.
19. The broad membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board has been involved in developing the priorities in the Strategic Plan, this includes Healthwatch who has provided input based on its work within the community.
20. All members of the Boards and their Executive have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Annual Report.
21. Drafts of the Annual Report and Strategic Plan were presented to the Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board on 9 July 2020.
22. This report to the Committee is part of the consultation on the Annual Report.

Resource Implications

23. There are no resource implications arising from this report. The LRSAB operates with a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
24. Safeguarding Adults Board statutory partners have, along with Safeguarding Partners for safeguarding children, set a single agreement of principles to share the operating costs of the Safeguarding Children Partnerships (SCPs) and Safeguarding Adults Boards for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland.
25. As part of this agreement Leicestershire County Council contributes £112,633 to the SAB and SCP in 2020/21. This is 16% of the total funding for the SABs and SCPs across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (£717,000) and 31% of the operating budget for Leicestershire and Rutland (£358,500). The budget agreed by the County Council for the SCP and SAB in February 2020 was £137,897. The difference will be held in reserve to support any extraordinary demands upon the Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adults Board. This compares with £137,897 in the previous year which was 40% of the total budget for the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB, SCP and SAB of £344,588 in 2019/20.
26. The agreement across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland has shared funding from partners more equitably across the areas. This has resulted in the overall funding for the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB and SCP in 2020/21 being £4,000 higher than in 2019/20 (£344,588), whilst the contribution from the Council is £25,000 lower than in 2019/20 (£137,897).
27. Leicestershire County Council also hosts the Safeguarding Partnerships' Business Office that supports the SAB and the SCP.
28. The Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Law and Governance have been consulted on the content of this report.

Timetable for Decisions

29. The Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Business Plan will be presented to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 September 2020 and the Cabinet on 18 September 2020. The Annual Report and Strategic plan will be published by the end of September 2020.

Background Papers

Report to the Adult and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 11 March 2019.
<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1040&MId=5687&Ver=4>

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

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List of Appendices

Appendix A - Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Draft Annual Report 2019/20

Appendix B – Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Strategic Plan 2020-2025

Appendix C - Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plan 2020/21

Relevant Impact Assessments:**Equality and Human Rights Implications**

30. The LRSAB seeks to ensure that a fair, effective and equitable service is discharged by the partnership to safeguard vulnerable adults. At the heart of the work is a focus on any individual or group that may be at greater risk of safeguarding vulnerability. The Business Plan includes specific activity to be carried out this year to understand the impact on individuals from different groups and to develop engagement.

Crime and Disorder Implications

31. The SAB works closely with community safety partnerships in Leicestershire to scrutinise and challenge performance in community safety issues that affect the safeguarding and wellbeing of individuals and groups, for example domestic abuse and Prevent. The SAB also supports community safety partnerships in carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews and acting on their recommendations.

Environmental Implications

32. The published LRSAB Annual Report will be made available only on-line in electronic form, rather than paper.

Partnership Working and associated issues

33. Safeguarding is dependent on the effective work of the partnership as set out in national regulation relating to the Care Act 2014.