



CABINET – 18TH SEPTEMBER 2020

**LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS 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 ADULTS BOARD**

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to bring to Cabinet's attention the Annual Report 2019/20 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB), 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 for consultation and comment.
2. Any comments or proposed amendments made by the Cabinet will be addressed in the final report before it is published later in September 2020.
3. 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.

Recommendations

4. It is recommended that the Cabinet notes and comments on the LRSAB Annual Report for 2019/20, Strategic Plan for 2020-2025 and Business Plan for 2020/21, particularly in relation to the business of the County Council.

Reasons for Recommendations

5. The LRSAB is a statutory body and local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Board is enabled to operate effectively.
6. It is a requirement of the Care Act 2014 that the LRSAB Annual Report be reported to the Leader of the Council together with the Chief Executive of the local authority, the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and local Healthwatch.
7. In Leicestershire and Rutland the Annual Report and Business Plans have traditionally also been presented to the Cabinet and the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

8. Presenting the Annual Report enables the Cabinet to comment on the content of the Annual Report and consider whether the report identifies matters that it wishes to address in relation to the effectiveness of safeguarding within the work of the Authority.
9. Presenting the Strategic Plan and Business Plan enables the Cabinet to have oversight of the work of the SAB and the requirement on the Local Authority for contribution to these partnership plans.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

10. The LRSAB Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Business Plan was considered by the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 September and its comments are summarised in paragraph 35 of this report.
11. Drafts of the Annual Report and Strategic Plan were considered and supported by the Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board at its meeting on 9 July 2020.
12. Any proposed additions or amendments to the Annual Report, Strategic Plan or Business Plan made by the Cabinet will be considered by the Independent Chair for incorporation into the final report, before it is published by the end of September 2020.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

13. 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.
14. As outlined above it is a statutory requirement for the Chair of the SAB to publish an annual report into the effectiveness of safeguarding adults arrangements in the local area. This report must be reported to the Leader of the Council together with the Chief Executive of the local authority, the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner, and local Healthwatch.
15. The Business Plan of the LRSAB for the period that this Annual Report relates to was considered by Cabinet on 29 March 2019.

Resource Implications

16. There are no resource implications arising from this report, as this is a retrospective report. The LRSAB operates within a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
17. 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.

18. 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.
19. 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 £14,000 higher than in 2019/20 (£344,588), whilst the contribution from the Council is £25,000 lower than in 2019/20 (£137,897).
20. Leicestershire County Council also hosts the Safeguarding Partnerships' Business Office that supports the SAB and the SCP.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

21. None.

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PART B

Background

Annual Report 2019/20

22. 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 in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically, it evaluates performance against the priorities that were set out in the LRSAB Business Plan 2019/20.
23. The Annual Report 2019/20 can be found in full at Appendix A to this report.
24. 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) Practitioners 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

25. 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.
26. The plan recognises the current context regarding Covid-19 and the significant impact this has on the very personal work of safeguarding adults.
27. 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.

28. The Strategic Plan, which is attached as Appendix B to this report, was formulated through a joint development session of the LRSAB and LSAB held on 13 March 2020.

29. Its 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

30. The LRSAB Business Plan for 2020/21 has been developed based upon key areas of the Strategic Plan which are to be progressed 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.

Consultation

31. The annual report includes a summary of the consultation and engagement work the SAB has carried out with the public, adults with care and support needs and with practitioners during 19/20.
32. The broad membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board has been involved in developing the priorities in the Strategic Plan, including Healthwatch which has provided input based on its work within the community.
33. All members of the Board have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Annual Report and the Business Plan.
34. The Health and Wellbeing Board welcomed the Annual Report and Plans at its meeting on the 9 July and supported the efforts to explore how the work and governance processes of the two Safeguarding Boards could be further aligned.
35. The Report and Plans were also considered by the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee at its meeting on the 7 September. The Committee welcomed the Annual Report and Strategic and Business Plans.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

36. 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

37. The SAB works closely with community safety partnerships in Leicestershire to scrutinise and challenge performance in community safety issues that affect the safeguarding and well-being 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

38. The published LRSAB Annual Report, Strategic Plan and Business Plan will primarily be made available on-line in electronic form, rather than paper. There are no other environmental implications of this report.

Partnership Working and associated issues

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

Background Papers

Report to the Cabinet on 29 March 2019 "Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plan 2019/20" - <https://bit.ly/32ehd0d>

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

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