

**ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE**  
**6 SEPTEMBER 2021**

**LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD**  
**ANNUAL REPORT 2020/21**

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND**  
**RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS 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 Adults Board (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 LRSAB for the period that this annual report relates to was considered by the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7 September 2020. The Strategic Plan of the LRSAB for 2020 – 2025 was also considered at the same meeting.

**Background**

5. Safeguarding Adults 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 Annual Report relates to the second of these duties.

**Annual report for 2020/21**

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 2020/21 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 2020/21.
9. The Draft Annual Report 2020/21 is appended to this report. This is the content of the report which will go to design to be finished into the document that will be published.
10. The key messages from the LRSAB, specifically in relation to Leicestershire are:
  - a. Partnership working to safeguard adults with care and support needs has strengthened during the difficult circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic.
  - b. Individuals and their needs can become hidden in plain sight within organisational and inter-organisational processes. This is a particular concern for those with learning disabilities.
  - c. Understanding and application of the Mental Capacity Act in relation to Safeguarding is improving but requires a sustained focus.
  - d. The Board requires ongoing assurance that people within the Transforming Care cohort of adults at risk are being adequately safeguarded.
  - e. 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.

### **Proposals/Options**

11. The Committee is asked to consider the Annual Report for the LRSAB and to make any comments or proposed additions or amendments. Any comments will be considered and addressed prior to the final report being published.

### **Consultation**

12. The Annual Report includes a summary of the consultation and engagement work which the LRSAB has carried out with the public, adults with care and support needs and with practitioners. The circumstances of the Covid-19 pandemic have meant this was significantly limited to engagement with specific individuals as part of work on Safeguarding Adults Reviews. The LRSAB is developing a sustainable approach for engaging with adults with care and support needs and with carers going forward, building upon the existing engagement work that each Board partner already carries out.
13. The broad membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board has been involved in developing the priorities in the Business Plan, this includes Healthwatch who has provided input based on its work within the community.
14. All members of the Safeguarding Adults Board have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Annual Report.
15. The Annual Report will be presented to the Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board in November 2021.

16. This report to the Committee is part of the consultation on the Annual Report.

### **Resource Implications**

17. There are no resource implications arising from this report. The LRSAB operates with a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
18. 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.
19. As part of this agreement Leicestershire County Council contributes £102,496 to the SAB and SCP in 2021/22. This is 31% of the total funding for the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB and SCP (£325,779). This compares with £112,633 in the previous year which was 31% of the total budget for the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB, SCP and SAB of £358,500 in 2020/21.
20. Leicestershire County Council also hosts the Safeguarding Partnerships' Business Office that supports the SAB and the SCP.
21. The Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Law and Governance have been consulted on the content of this report.

### **Timetable for Decisions**

22. The Annual Report will be presented to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 September 2021 and the Cabinet on 17 September 2021. The Annual Report will be published by the end of September 2021.

### **Background Papers**

Report to the Adult and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee 7 September 2020 – LRSAB Annual Report 2019/20, Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025 and Business Plan 2020/21: <http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=1040&MId=6170&Ver=4>

### **Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure**

None.

### **Officers to Contact:**

Fran Pearson, Independent Chair, Leicestershire and Rutland SAB  
 Telephone: 0116 305 7130  
 Email: [lrsdbo@leics.gov.uk](mailto:lrsdbo@leics.gov.uk)

Jon Wilson, Director of Adults and Communities  
 Telephone: 0116 305 7454  
 Email: [jon.wilson@leics.gov.uk](mailto:jon.wilson@leics.gov.uk)

Tracy Ward, Assistant Director - West  
Telephone: 0116 305 7563  
Email: [Tracy.Ward@leics.gov.uk](mailto:Tracy.Ward@leics.gov.uk)

## **List of Appendices**

Appendix - Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Draft Annual Report 2020/21

### **Relevant Impact Assessments:**

#### **Equality and Human Rights Implications**

23. 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.

#### **Crime and Disorder Implications**

24. The LRSAB 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 Safeguarding Partnerships Business Office also supports community safety partnerships in carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews and acting on their recommendations.

#### **Environmental Implications**

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

#### **Partnership Working and associated issues**

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