

5**ADULTS AND CULTURAL SERVICES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY
COMMITTEE****7 SEPTEMBER 2026****DRAFT LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2025-26****MINUTE EXTRACT**

The Committee considered a report of the Independent Chair of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB) for 2025/26. A copy of the report marked 'Agenda Item 8' is filed with these minutes.

Arising from discussion, the following points were made:

- i. Members discussed the Board's work on equality, diversity and inclusion. Officers explained that safeguarding data indicated disproportionately low levels of alerts and enquiries from some demographic groups. Further work would seek to establish whether all communities were being reached and felt able to raise safeguarding concerns. The Board also considered lessons learnt concerning people with learning disabilities and other groups experiencing poorer outcomes.
- ii. The Committee noted the increase in safeguarding alerts. Officers advised that 4,337 alerts had been received during 2025/26 and that the increase reflected outreach, training and improved awareness among partner agencies. The proportion progressing to section 42 enquiries had remained broadly stable and consistent with the national position.
- iii. In response to concern about the resources required to manage increased activity, officers confirmed that the Council had increased operational safeguarding capacity through investment associated with the Care Quality Commission improvement programme. Processes had also been revised, including improvements to the provider portal and feedback to referrers.
- iv. It was clarified that reserves were being used to support the Safeguarding Adults Board business office rather than the Council's operational safeguarding activity. Contributions from partners had remained unchanged for several years and discussions were taking place about increasing them. The remaining reserves were expected to support the Board for at least a further two years.
- v. The Healthwatch representative asked about increases in neglect, self-neglect and domestic abuse. Officers referred to revised self-neglect guidance,

associated training and audit work, and advised that all recommendations arising from work on domestic abuse in older adults had been addressed. Increased identification of concerns involving people living in their own homes was considered positive because those individuals could have fewer people able to recognise risk.

- vi. Members requested a fuller breakdown of people affected by safeguarding concerns, including disability and primary need. Officers confirmed that relevant information was held within the care management system and undertook to circulate available data after the meeting.
- vii. Members emphasised the need for reports to explain clearly what had changed for individuals. Officers reported that desired outcomes had been met in 95.8% of enquiries and that risk had been removed or reduced in over 90% of cases. Of 4,337 alerts, 1,531 had met the statutory threshold for a safeguarding enquiry.
- viii. Officers undertook to examine whether information could be provided on repeat alerts and on alerts which had not progressed to a section 42 enquiry. It was explained that non-qualifying contacts could relate to care quality, complaints or circumstances falling outside the statutory safeguarding criteria. An easy-read version of the annual report had also been drafted for publication.

RESOLVED:

That:

- a) The draft annual report and the comments made by the Committee be noted.
- b) The Director of Adults and Cultural Services be requested to circulate available data providing a fuller breakdown of the people affected by safeguarding concerns.
- c) The Director of Adults and Cultural Services be requested to consider whether information could be provided on repeat safeguarding alerts and alerts which did not progress to a section 42 enquiry.