



Committee and Date

Health and Adult Social Care
Scrutiny Committee

20th November 2017

Item

Public

Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Annual Report 2016-17

Responsible Officer

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1. Summary

- 1.1 The Committee are asked to scrutinise this report which provides an overview of the latest Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board (KASiSB) Annual Report and update on progress since the November 2015-16 report.
- 1.2 The Care Act 2014 requires the Board to produce an Annual Report on:
 - a) What it has done to achieve its objective.
 - b) What it has done to implement its strategy and what each member has done to implement the strategy.
 - c) Findings of any Safeguarding Adult Reviews including what has been done or not done to implement the findings of the review.
- 1.3 The performance of each member is also reviewed and how effectively agencies are working together. The Annual Report also reinforces the Boards Strategic Plan 2015-18.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Committee are asked to accept the contents of the following report which outlines the progress made to date since the implementation of the Care Act 2014 as detailed in the Annual Report.
- 2.2 Comments from the Committee will be reported to the KASiSB for future planning and delivery of the Board objective.

REPORT

3.0 Risk Assessment and Opportunities Appraisal

- 3.1 The Annual Report highlights the impact of abuse on people with care and support needs in Shropshire and how partners are working together to prevent abuse taking place. There were 2,382 safeguarding contacts made to the First Point of Contact (FPoC) team between April 2016 and March 2017. These contacts resulted in 872 Safeguarding Concerns about alleged abuse or neglect which is a reduction of 38% from the previous financial year. This reduction is due to how the Safeguarding Team work more effectively with FPoC. Only 37% of those calls related specifically to allegations of abuse or neglect. In total only 8 people went to an additional safeguarding plan. We know this tells us that the majority of people are made safe as a result of the work we do with them through the enquiry process.
- 3.2 Raising awareness for safeguarding adults is having a positive impact. Conversely, it also highlights that many calls could have been dealt with differently had people known the most appropriate service or person to direct their query to. It is hoped that this initial contact figure will decrease over the forthcoming year with collaboration of all agencies and the implementation of a robust performance framework being developed by the Board. This will not only hold partners to account for work they do or don't do but will highlight areas of good practice and show how partners in Shropshire are preventing abuse, reducing demand, and Making Safeguarding Personal.
- 3.3 There are no known Human Rights implications in the decision to accept this report is not at variance with this Act.
- 3.4 The Care Act 2014 provides legislation in relation to how the local authority carries out carers assessments and needs assessments, how local authorities determine who is eligible for support and how local authorities charge for residential and community care. In addition to this, there are some identified obligations in relation to the transition of children in need with support needs (including their parents) and young carers. This is a national change to policy and procedure and aims to improve outcomes for adults with care and support needs and their carers. The KASiSB Annual Report highlights the work of the partners, and in particular the preventive work, via the developing KASiSB website which provides learning resources and news and information to citizens and professionals. In addition to this, 'easy to understand' publicity material is being developed to encourage everyone to act rather than defer to a service and to raise public awareness. By focussing on preventative work, the number of adults with care and support needs requiring formal safeguarding intervention should reduce. There are no changes to policy and procedure and by accepting the contents of the report, there is no requirement to complete an Equality Impact Needs Assessment (EINA).
- 3.5 It is important that adults who use care and support services are involved in any decisions made. This is integral to 'Making Safeguarding Personal' and without this approach, the right intervention may not be offered. This approach needs to be delivered by all partners and it is clear that over the last twelve months that this has been embraced by all. Some examples include West Mercia police using Makaton and symbols to communicate with a victim of abuse in order to establish their wishes and Shropshire Partners in Care have ensured training courses promote the principle that all agencies start with the views of the adult. More detailed examples are contained in the main Annual Report (attached background paper).

3.6 There are no Environmental consequences or consultations to consider.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board and Shropshire Safeguarding Childrens Board will be working in a more aligned way by establishing a new 'Safeguarding Boards Business Unit'. This will combine back office functions and include one Business Manager overseeing two Development Officers and admin support as well as a training officer. This will provide valuable and consistent support to partners. It will also improve outcomes for vulnerable children, young people and adults with care and support needs as emerging problems often affect more than one age range or vulnerability. Financial contributions from partners for the Board are still to be finalised but as a minimum will be made by the three statutory partners who are; Shropshire Council, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group and West Mercia Police.
- 4.2 In addition to this, it is anticipated that the combined work of all partners around prevention will in turn reduce demand on all services thus providing a financial saving and improved outcomes for adults with care and support needs. This priority will be continued into the forthcoming year; there is no evidence to support this currently.

5.0 Background

- 5.1 The KASiSB Annual Report details the Strategic Plan for 2015-18 and how the Board has worked in the last 12 months towards achieving the plan. The plan details how Shropshire will keep people safe. The Board is also responsible for ensuring all policies are reviewed and updated. It also monitors and holds other agencies to account for their contribution towards the strategic plan to ensure everyone works together protect citizens in Shropshire. There are specific examples of how each partner agency has contributed to the priorities in the full Annual Report (attached as a background paper).

6.0 Additional Information

- 6.1 A further responsibility of the Safeguarding Adult Board (KASiSB) is conduct Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) when someone with care and support needs dies as a result of neglect or abuse and there is a concern that the local authority or its partners could have done more to protect them. Shropshire has recently concluded one SAR which has been presented to the Executive Group of the Board with 23 recommendations. These recommendations involved 5 partner agencies and were accepted by the Board; more detail can be found in the Annual Report (attached as a background document).

7.0 Conclusions

- 7.1 Since the last scrutiny report, the KASiSB has continued to embed the changes brought about by the Care Act as well as seeking opportunity to further strengthen the partnership arrangements in Shropshire and ensuring people are in control of their own lives. There has been more focus on performance reporting in order to provide accountability for what we are achieving and how well we are achieving this. The key theme of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' will remain for the next year as will the current priorities. It is recognised there is still more work to be done and work is ongoing but that positive results

are already being produced by all agencies.

List of Background Papers (This MUST be completed for all reports, but does not include items containing exempt or confidential information)

Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board Strategic Plan
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Cabinet Member (Portfolio Holder)
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Cllr Lee Chapman

Local Member

Appendices

Appendix 1: Keeping Adult Safe in Shropshire Board Annual Report April 2016-2017 (To Follow).
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