

Simon Jones – Portfolio Holder Adult Social Care

SAFEGUARDING

Achievements

- Safeguarding was identified as one of the core activities that the Council would focus on in its first year.
- Safeguarding processes within Adult Social Care services have been developed and strengthened during this past year.
- The Joint Safeguarding Board was formed with Telford & Wrekin Council this ensures shared good practice and shared information across the County area
- Safeguarding referrals have increased which indicates that more people are alert to the issue and know how to report problems.
- Safeguarding referrals are being dealt with more quickly and the number of people who say that at the end of the process they feel safer has increased.
- I have encouraged and assisted elected member in prioritising the adult safeguarding training and the majority of elected members have completed it.
- I provided all member of the Council with a copy of the IDeA publication on key questions for members to ask to reassure themselves that people are being properly safeguarded.
- I have challenged various bodies on which I represent the Council, such as the Local NHS organisations and voluntary bodies, to ensure their safeguarding processes and practice are working and given priority.
- The Adult Social Care Services was subject to an inspection by the Care Quality Commission during the period October to December 2009. The inspectors awarded a rating of performing well to our safeguarding service, the only authority, to date, in the West Midlands to achieve this level.

Key Issues

- Ensuring that additional training session are arranged for the members who have still to undertake the safeguarding training.
- Continuing to raise the profile and importance of safeguarding within Shropshire Council and partner organisations.
- Implement the improvement action plan following the CQC inspection of Adult Safeguarding.
- Maintain performance in key areas such as the speed in which referrals are dealt with.
- Ensure that the personalisation programme takes into account peoples wish to live independently but with risks kept to a minimum.