



# Northumberland County Council

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## HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

Date: 15 November 2018

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### **Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2017-2018**

**Report of:** Paula Mead, Independent Chair of The Northumberland Safeguarding Board

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Veronica Jones, Adult Care and Public Health

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#### **Purpose of report**

This report provides an overview of the work carried out under the multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding adults in 2017/18.

#### **Recommendations**

It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board:

1. Consider the report and provide comment.

#### **Link to Corporate Plan**

This report is relevant to the Health and Well Being priority in the Corporate Plan.

#### **Key issues**

- The attached report describes the work during 2017/18 of the North Tyneside and Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB), and provides information about operational safeguarding activity during the year. The report describes a range of improvements in safeguarding arrangements during the year.
- There has been one Safeguarding Adults Review initiated in 2017/18 by the Safeguarding Adults Board into the events leading up to a death, which will be concluded in 2018/19. Two Learning Reviews were also concluded during this reporting year, examining the lessons to be learned from a death which was not the result of abuse or neglect.
- The number of Adult Concern Notifications during 2017/18 was 45% lower than 2016/17 (2669 compared to 4819).
- There were 468 Safeguarding Referrals during 2017/18. This was 39% lower than in 2016/17 (768 referrals). These figures reflect the work undertaken to separate general requests for adult social care from situations that should provoke safeguarding enquiries.
- In 2017/18 both North Tyneside and Northumberland have developed Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) as part of their front door services. These arrangements allows for improved information sharing in a timely and effective manner, and more robust decision-making around risk.

- The HMICFRS – State of Policing Report 2017, presented to Parliament and the Home Secretary, referenced the good practice in Northumberland as an exemplar to be adopted nationally.

## Safeguarding Adults Report 2016/17

### Background

The County Council has strategic responsibility for overseeing multi-agency arrangements in its area for safeguarding adults at risk. This includes both arrangements for investigating and where necessary acting on referrals alleging that vulnerable adults are being abused or neglected, and wider arrangements for ensuring that the safety, independence and dignity of vulnerable adults are protected.

The attached Annual Report describes the strategic activity undertaken by the North Tyneside and Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board, and the most significant specific issues dealt with during 2017-18 under the safeguarding adults policy and procedures. It also provides statistical information about operational safeguarding activity

### Background Papers

There are no background documents for this report within the meaning of the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985.

### Implications

<b>Policy</b>	Safeguarding arrangements in Northumberland are in line with Care Act 2014, and national policy statement on safeguarding adults issued in March 2015
<b>Finance and value for money</b>	No direct implications
<b>Human Resources</b>	Safeguarding investigations can in some circumstances lead to disciplinary action against staff. Safeguarding training is mandatory for all staff working in adult services
<b>Property</b>	No direct implications
<b>Equalities</b> (Impact Assessment attached) Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A <input type="checkbox"/>	This is an information report so does not require an EIA. Referrals statistics suggest that the gender and ethnic balance of safeguarding referrals broadly match those of the care management caseload
<b>Risk Assessment</b>	Management of risks in individual cases is a core element of safeguarding. Management of risks in commissioned services is a core role of contracting work.
<b>Crime &amp; Disorder</b>	Northumbria Police are members of the Safeguarding Adults Board, and there is close joint working to ensure that prompt and appropriate action is taken where it is thought that a crime may have been committed.
<b>Customer Considerations</b>	There is a continuing need to keep under review the balance between maximising the control 'adults at risk' have over their support arrangements and ensuring that

	they are adequately protected from the risk of abuse or exploitation – although greater individual control can often also in itself be a means of reducing people’s vulnerability.
<b>Carbon reduction</b>	No direct implications
<b>Consultation</b>	The Executive Member for Adult Care and Wellbeing has been consulted about this report.
<b>Wards</b>	All

**Report sign off.**

*Authors must ensure that relevant officers and members have agreed the content of the report.*

	Initials
Finance Officer	JB
Monitoring Officer/Legal	PT
Human Resources	PG
Procurement	TP
I.T.	NA
Executive Director	VB
Portfolio Holder(s)	VJ

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