

HEALTH AND WELLBEING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 3 October 2017

Safeguarding Adults Annual Report – 2016/17

Report of the Executive Director of Wellbeing and Community Health Services

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

Purpose of report

To provide an overview of the work carried out under the multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding adults in 2016/17

Recommendations

This report is for the Committee's information

Link to Corporate Plan

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

Key issues

1. The attached report describes the work during 2016/17 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.
2. There have been no cases referred for consideration for Serious Case Review in 2016/17 but the two appreciative enquiries started in the previous year were completed and reported to the Safeguarding Adults Review Committee.
3. The number of Adult Concern Notifications was 1% higher in 2016/17 (4819) compared to 2015/16 (4782)
4. There were 768 Safeguarding Referrals during 2016/17, 15% lower than the previous year. These figures reflect a change in the way safeguarding concerns are now being recorded in Northumberland with a decision about whether to follow procedures being made PRIOR to being inputted..
5. The council has been approached to authorise 1808 cases under the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards in 2015/16 compared to 2070 cases in 2015/16.

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 2016-17 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 ARISING OUT OF THE REPORT

Policy	Safeguarding arrangements in Northumberland are in line with Care Act 2015, and national policy statement on safeguarding adults issued in March 2015.
Finance and value for money	No direct implications
Human Resources	Safeguarding investigations can in some circumstances lead to disciplinary action against staff. Safeguarding training is mandatory for all staff working in adult services
Property	No direct implications
Equalities (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
Risk Assessment	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.
Crime & Disorder	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.
Customer Considerations	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.

Carbon reduction	No direct implications
Consultation	The Executive Member for Adult Care and Wellbeing has been consulted about this report.
Wards	All

Report sign off.

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

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