

PART 1 - PUBLIC

Decision Maker: ADULT & COMMUNITY POLICY DEVELOPMENT & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 27th July 2010

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD 2009/10 ANNUAL REPORT

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Chief Officer: Terry Rich, Director - Adult and Community Services

Ward: Boroughwide

1. Reason for report

This report provides members with an overview of the main issues raised from the 2009/10 Annual Report of the Bromley Adult Safeguarding Board (BSAB) (Appendix 1) .This annual report outlines the work of the Board including oversight of the joint action to safeguard adults.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

PDS Committee Members are asked to comment on the contents of the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board 2009/10 Annual Report.

Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Existing policy.
 2. BBB Priority: Excellent Council. Supporting Independence
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: No cost
 2. Ongoing costs: Recurring cost. BSAB funding comes from the partner organisations and is deployed on agreed objectives set by the BSAB. The current available budget stands at £16,300. In addition, the statutory partners have recently agreed to contribute a further £5K, and the Primary Care Trust has agreed £8K towards BSAB budget for 2010/11. Additionally, BSAB services receive support from the Adult Safeguarding Manager (jointly funded by LBB and the PCT) the Adult Safeguarding Coordinator funded by LBB, and admin and performance management support provided from the Strategy and Performance division within ACS. The cost of staffing to LBB to this service totals £133,273 with a further contribution from Bromley PCT of £27,312 per annum.
 3. Budget head/performance centre: Anne Watts Asst Director Strategy & Performance
 4. Total current budget for this head: £105,961
 5. Source of funding: There are no cost implications arising from this report. The cost of BSAB work is contained within current allocated LBB budgets and commitments from partner organisations agreed for 10/11.
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Staff

1. Number of staff (current and additional): 2.5 FTE specifically allocated to strategic support for safeguarding adults in Bromley plus an average of 3 hrs per week performance management support.
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: 93 per week
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory requirement.
 2. Call-in: Call-in is not applicable.
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): 443 safeguarding referrals investigated under the adult safeguarding procedures during 2009/10.
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Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? N/A.
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

Background and Context

- 3.1 The Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) is responsible for ensuring the coordination and development of work to safeguard vulnerable adults with care needs from abuse and neglect. The Department of Health guidance 'No Secrets', published in 2000 required the local authority to act as 'lead agency' whilst emphasising the responsibility of all agencies to work in partnership to plan implement and monitor adult safeguarding work.
- 3.2 The previous government arranged for a review of 'No Secrets' and revised guidance is expected this autumn. It is possible that local safeguarding adults boards will become a legal requirement to mirror current arrangements for safeguarding children. In addition, the Law Commission are undertaking a review of adult social care legislation with a view to rationalising the legal framework, their final report is due in 2012.
- 3.3 The Department of Health issued in February 2010 best practice guidance to local health trusts 'Clinical Governance and Adult Safeguarding', to ensure that there is appropriate integration of clinical governance and adult safeguarding processes, when abuse or neglect occurs in a health setting. The London Association of Adult Social Services Directors is overseeing the development of 'Safeguarding Adults in London' procedures, which are due for implementation in 2010/11 across all London boroughs.
- 3.4 Clear standards for adult safeguarding work across partner organisations were set out by Adult Directors of Social Services in 2005. These standards have informed a national programme of inspections by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) of adult safeguarding arrangements. Services provided by the council with regard to adult safeguarding and choice and control for older people in Bromley were inspected by the CQC last year and found Bromley to be providing adequate outcomes in adult safeguarding.
- 3.5 The Council's action plan in response to the recommendations of the report was made to the PDS Committee 16th February 2010. The CQC inspection concluded that the prospects for improvement were promising and 'with effective improvement planning the service should be able to demonstrate that it is performing well, in a relatively short time.'
- 3.6 An independent review of the safeguarding service is currently taking place. An initial report has confirmed significant progress in adult safeguarding both strategically and operationally; with evidence of increasingly robust quality assurance systems in adult safeguarding case work. In addition, it was noted that there is an increased focus on performance management across the partners. This review has confirmed stronger partner engagement within the Board and improved performance at operational level in terms of police engagement.
- 3.7 BSAB is developing a new adult safeguarding strategy in 2010 and is consulting with service users and partners about their priorities for the Board. The Board will also prepare for local implementation of the Safeguarding Adults in London procedures during 2010. The Board is working with Supporting Independence in Bromley to ensure best practice in addressing managing potential safeguarding risks to users of personal budgets.
- 3.8 Members will wish to know that a useful guide to their role in the scrutiny of adult safeguarding has been produced by I&DeA (Implementation and Development Agency). This was distributed at the recent members' induction and the link to the website that contains this document is <http://www.idea.gov.uk/idk/core/page.do?pagelId=19170957>

Bromley Safeguarding Adults Report Part 1 –Overview

- 3.9 The annual report details the Board's achievements against its 6 strategic objectives highlighting progress in the areas of communication and awareness, partnership working and quality assurance
- 3.10 To promote the awareness of safeguarding adults the Board has:
- Produced a safeguarding newsletter and a communications strategy to raise public awareness.
 - Arranged joint events with Trading Standards to promote the reporting of concerns and the services available to improve the safety of vulnerable people.
 - Ensured the delivery of a programme of 6 levels of training across partner agencies to ensure that staff are competent in adult safeguarding.
- 3.11 To develop partnership working the Board has
- Revised local guidance for practitioners to promote the use of effective multi-agency protection plans and ensure the use of advocacy services.
 - Undertaken work across all agencies to ensure that residents who come within the scope of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 (enacted April 2007) are safeguarded.
 - Developed a protocol between the Police and Adult and Community Services to ensure that there is prompt and effective police advice and action in adult safeguarding cases.
- 3.12 To improve quality assurance across the partnership the Board has:
- Agreed a quality assurance framework across all agencies, including a programme of audits of safeguarding cases to identify any shortcomings in multi-agency work and ensure remedial action is taken.
 - Undertaken an Equalities Impact Assessment of Board procedures a new process to ensure the views of service users in safeguarding cases are obtained

Part 2 Overview

- 3.13 Part 2 of the annual report includes an analysis of information on adult safeguarding cases that shows in 2009/10:
- The total number of adult safeguarding referrals was 443 this was 16% more than the previous year. This confirms an upward trend in recent years. Referrals for adults with a mental health needs, learning disabilities, physical disabilities and sensory impairments have increased significantly as a result of improved reporting by social care and health staff.
 - Social care staff continue to be the main source of referral, emphasising the importance of training staff to recognise and report abuse and to act as whistleblowers on behalf of vulnerable people, who may not be able to report incidents themselves.
 - There has been an increase in reported cases of one service user harming another in care settings, due to greater awareness in provider organisations that these incidents should be reported to ensure that service users are safeguarded.

- Of safeguarding incidents the majority relate to suspected physical abuse. More than half of the alleged abuse reported was in the service user's own home and in about a half of these cases were fully substantiated.
- The focus of the safeguarding intervention should be to ensure the service user is safeguarded and the report gives details of the outcomes in safeguarding cases. The most common outcome is increased monitoring of the service user.
- For the person alleged to have caused the abuse, the most common outcome is their removal from the property or service.

Future Developments

- 3.14 BSAB has an agreed multi-agency work plan for adult safeguarding in 2010/11 and will ensure that the adult safeguarding partnership:
- continues to develop its quality assurance processes to improve the consistency of adult safeguarding work particularly in the area of protection planning which will be audited in August 2010,
 - works with service users and across all partners to revise develop the 3 year safeguarding strategy from 2011 – 2014,
 - develops work to promote adult safeguarding across the Council, ensuring that there is close working with the Community Safety Partnership.
- 3.15 The BSAB Annual Report has been or will be sent to the BSAB Executive; Safer Bromley Partnership; Health, Social Care and Housing Partnership Boards for consideration and comment.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Currently the BSAB has a small budget of £16,300 to directly fund training and publications. In addition, the partner agencies have agreed to contribute a further £31,500 in 2010/11, maintaining the same level of funding as in 2009/10. All funding from the partner organisations is deployed to meet the agreed objectives set by the BSAB.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Policy, Legal, Personnel,
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	No secrets 2000 No secrets consultation on Review 2008 http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4008486