

## PART 1 - PUBLIC

**Briefing for Care Services  
Policy Development and Scrutiny Committee  
3<sup>rd</sup> September 2013**

**BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD  
ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13**

Contact Officer: Aileen Stamate, Quality Assurance Manager  
Tel: 020 8313 4753 E-mail: [Aileen.Stamate@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Aileen.Stamate@bromley.gov.uk)

Chief Officer: Terry Parkin Director (ECS Division)  
Tel: 020 8313 4618 E-mail: [Terry.Parkin@bromley.gov.uk](mailto:Terry.Parkin@bromley.gov.uk)

## 1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides Members with an overview of the main issues raised from the Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report (**Appendix 1**), which outlines the Board's work to drive improvement in multi-agency action to safeguard vulnerable adults.

## 2. BRIEFING

- 2.1 The Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) has been responsible since 2008 for the coordination and development of work to safeguard vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect in accordance with the Government guidance, *No Secrets (Department of Health 2000)*. This requires the local authority to act as 'lead agency', holding partner agencies accountable, whilst emphasising the responsibility of all agencies to work in partnership to plan, implement and monitor adult safeguarding work.
- 2.2 The provisions of the draft *Care and Support Bill (Department of Health 2012)* set out Government plans for new legislation to provide greater clarity on the responsibilities of public services to collaborate and work together to safeguard vulnerable adults. Core membership of Boards is specified and this would be the local authority, the NHS and the police. The local authority is required to set up the Board and, in consultation with its members, appoint as the Chair a person considered to have the required skills and expertise to ensure the activities of local agencies are effectively co-ordinated. Guidance will be issued on the obligations of Boards and will include the development of its own strategic plan with the local community and publication of an annual report on its progress against that plan. These duties are already embedded in the work of the BASB and so the Board is well placed to meet these requirements.
- 2.3 Councillor Robert Evans, Care Services Portfolio Holder, is a member of the Board. Dr Nada Lemic, Public Health Director has led as Chair since September 2011 and from September 2013 the newly appointed Independent chair will oversee of the *BSAB Adult Safeguarding Prevention Strategy 2011-14*. The work of the Board is reported annually to both the care services and public protection policy and scrutiny committees.

- 2.4 The BSAB annual report (Appendix 1) provides a full update of progress with the Boards prevention strategy 2011-14 and the achievements last year including:
- 2.4.1 Improved access to justice for vulnerable people, police officers made significant contributions in a number of other safeguarding investigations including, neglect of a person lacking mental capacity (Section 44 of Mental Capacity Act) 2005; an unexplained death of resident leading to a Nursing Midwifery Council referral. Within a psychiatric hospital a number of allegations of serious sexual assaults/violent assaults by both staff and patients against service user. The SAR team have assisted with the Sapphire and CAG lead.
  - 2.4.2 Trading Standards has provided advice and guidance to over 1500 older consumers through 44 educational talks to groups in the Bromley area, and 30 training sessions to 570 carers or other professionals in the adult safeguarding field.
  - 2.4.3 The London Fire Brigade Bromley Team internal governance arrangements for the safeguarding adults at risk programme Home Fire Safety Visits (HFSV) is targeting vulnerable residents as identified by their internal risk matrix. In addition, a joint initiative with environmental services delivered workshops in home fire safety and working with hoarders to adult social care teams, district nurses, domiciliary care providers and supported living providers.
  - 2.4.4 Public Protection offered internal training focusing on legislation relating to individuals who hoard, and premises where hoarding is present. This training opportunity will continue in 2013-14. A presentation given, by the London Fire Brigade and Bromley Council Public Protection Division highlighted the issues arising from these cases. Following referral a large number of cases have now been resolved, with properties having been cleaned and, where applicable, additional support implemented.
  - 2.4.5 In September 2012 a computer based e-learning system was commissioned in collaboration with neighbouring local authorities and in conjunction with the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board. It offers unlimited access to free e-learning modules on safeguarding adults and children, over 700 courses have been completed since the launch in mid-September.
  - 2.4.6 The Bromley Annual Safeguarding Adults Conference was held on 09/10/2012, with 150 people attending.
- 2.5 A report was submitted to the BSAB Executive Meeting of 23rd January 2013 detailing the actions taken in response to the South Gloucestershire Serious Case Review (SCR) undertaken in relation to Winterbourne View Hospital. The SCR provided Bromley Learning Disability Service with the opportunity to review practices and consider whether there are any lessons which can be learnt to improve care management and to increase assurance that Bromley service users are safeguarded against abuse in hospital settings.
- 2.6 The Board also considered the Francis Report recommendations to improve NHS services and prevent a repeat of the appalling lack of care. All NHS Hospitals will be required to set out how they intend to respond to the Inquiry's conclusions by the end of 2013. The BCCG has asked all providers to describe how they are implementing the Francis Inquiry report locally, and specifically how they are engaging with front line staff. This is being monitored through the Clinical Quality Review Groups.

BSAB has reviewed information that confirms Bromley is broadly in line with other similar local authorities in terms of the distribution and outcome of safeguarding referrals: (*Abuse of Vulnerable Adults 2012-13 Comparator Report for Bromley, NHS Information Centre, March 2013*). In 2012/13, 272 cases were concluded of which 55 were repeat referrals.

- 2.7 In 2012-13 fewer alerts have turned into referrals. This reflects the efforts that have been made to ensure that alerts are properly assessed against local criteria (as set out in 'Protecting adults at risk: London multi-agency policy and procedures' to safeguard adults from abuse). This assessment of each alert or concern helps to make sure that issues are treated in a consistent, effective, and proportionate way.
- 2.8 In Bromley a higher number of cases in 2012-13 resulted in no further action. The Board has supported efforts to ensure that alerts are measured against agreed thresholds. This work will continue, to ensure that only appropriate cases are considered for adult safeguarding action.
- 2.9 Bromley Care Services continue to work with both Kings College London and Kingston University on two projects which aim to improve our understanding of the outcomes for adults at risk. Feedback is sought from the adult at risk and carers about their experience of the adult safeguarding process after case conferences
- 2.10 The BSAB strategic work plan for 2013/14 is detailed in the annual report.

### **3. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

- 3.1 **Appendix 1** Bromley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2012/13.
- 3.2 Supporting documents listed below can be downloaded from the Bromley Council adult safeguarding web page:

[www.bromley.gov.uk/bsab](http://www.bromley.gov.uk/bsab)

*Draft Care and Support Bill 2012*

*AVA 2012-13 Comparator report for Bromley*

*BSAB Prevention Strategy 2011-14*

*Protecting Adults at Risk: London multi-agency procedures 2011*

*Guide to scrutiny of adult safeguarding for councillors*