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Title of meeting:	Health, Wellbeing & Social Care Portfolio meeting
Subject:	Annual Safeguarding Report, Strategic Plan & peer review
Date of meeting:	31 January 2023
Report by:	Alison Lawrence, presented by Andy Biddle
Wards affected:	All

1. Requested by

Councillor Matthew Winnington, Cabinet Member, Health, Wellbeing & Social Care.

2. Purpose

To provide an update on the recent work of the Portsmouth Safeguarding Adults Board (PSAB) and an outline of the key messages of a peer review of adult safeguarding in Portsmouth which was carried out by the South East Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) in November 2022.

3. Information Requested

The PSAB Annual Report 2021-22, PSAB Strategic Plan 2022-23, and the key messages of the peer review of adult safeguarding.

4. Legislative and Policy Context

Section 43 of the Care Act 2014 requires local authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) for its area. SABs are multi-agency strategic partnerships that oversee and lead adult safeguarding in their area. The Cabinet Member for Health, Wellbeing & Social Care is an *ex officio* member of the PSAB.

The Care Act Schedule 2 sets out the responsibilities of SABs, which include the publication of a Strategic Plan and Annual Report.

The Care Act Statutory Guidance sets out that the main objective of a SAB is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in its area who are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect. As part of PSAB's work to

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seek assurance about the effectiveness of adult safeguarding arrangements in Portsmouth, and the operation of the Board itself, a peer review was commissioned from South East ADASS. The scope of the peer review also included the safeguarding duties of the Local Authority, which will assist with preparations for the new Adult Social Care assurance/inspection framework which is due to be introduced in April 2023.

5. Safeguarding Annual Report 2021-22

The annual report sets out the work of the PSAB in 2021-22 (see Appendix A). Key highlights include:

- The development of a new [4LSAB Fire Safety Framework](#) to help professionals manage fire risks within the home or residential care setting.
- Delivering online training on **Safeguarding Concerns, Female Genital Mutilation, and Safeguarding Vulnerable Dependent Drinkers: Using legal frameworks to protect high risk, chronic dependent drinkers.**
- Establishing a new **Engagement subgroup** to lead on developing and maintaining strong links with the community to ensure effective safeguarding.
- Carrying out **audits** of Multi Agency Risk Management and the quality of safeguarding concerns raised to the Adult Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub.
- The publication of two Safeguarding Adults Reviews, 'Pamela Ratsey' and 'YL', and the development of multi-agency action plans to address the recommendations.

The annual report will also be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board at its February 2023 meeting.

6. PSAB Strategic Plan 2022-23

The PSAB Strategic Plan (see Appendix B) was developed during 2021-22 through a process which included looking at the available data and consulting with a range of stakeholders. Due to the context of the covid-19 pandemic at that time, the decision was taken to approve a one-year plan which would then be refreshed, rather than a longer-term plan as had previously been the approach.

The plan identified the following priority groups, which included some adults at risk who had not necessarily been the focus of safeguarding activity in the past:

- Homeless adults
- Substance misusing adults
- Young adults who are transitioning from children's services
- Learning disabled adults
- Adults living in residential/nursing home care or who need extra care or supported living or domiciliary care
- Adults who are socially isolated through mental health problems

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The 12-month action plan focussed activity on the following priority areas of work:

- 1: Community Engagement
- 2A: Interprofessional practice
- 2B: Relationship based practice
- 3: Safeguarding practice

The PSAB monitors progress against the plan on a quarterly basis. Key achievements to date include:

- Developing the newly established Engagement subgroup and widening its membership to include frontline staff from different organisations who work directly with the priority groups set out above. The subgroup's workplan includes developing accessible information about safeguarding with the input of service users, and developing a network of 'community champions' for safeguarding adults. The subgroup is also looking at how to involve people with lived experience more directly in the work of the Board.
- Holding a multi-agency workforce development meeting to consider a safeguarding adults training needs analysis, and delivering a multi-agency training programme to address the priority areas identified.
- Holding a face to face multi-agency safeguarding conference attended by over 100 people, which supported interprofessional dialogue and provided an opportunity for the Board to hear from frontline practitioners and people with lived experience.

Work has begun on refreshing the strategic plan, with a planning workshop held in October 2022 to review data, learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews, and the output from the conference.

7. Peer Review

The peer review took place between 22 and 25 November 2022 with a team of five reviewers from South East ADASS, Local Government Association, other Local Authorities, and an independent carers' lead for an Integrated Care System with lived experience as an informal carer. The peer reviews are intended as a basis for improving services by providing an external critique, acting as a critical friend. They are not an inspection, or a detailed, scored assessment.

The scope of the review was:

In relation to the Portsmouth Safeguarding Adult Board:

- Governance and structure of the PSAB, including how well partners hold each other to account.
- Participation in the Board the culture of working together
- Impact
- Resource provision

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In relation to Portsmouth City Council Adult Social Care:

- The compliance of the local authority decision-making on safeguarding referrals with the Care Act requirements
- The quality of safeguarding enquiry reports
- The integration of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' principles into safeguarding practice

The methodology included a staff survey (which received 77 responses from a range of organisations and staff roles); case file audit of 17 files; review of documentation including minutes, strategy and policy documents, data; interviews and focus groups with a wide range of stakeholders including Board members and frontline staff.

The peer reviewers presented their findings to the PSAB on 7 December 2022, highlighting themes, areas of good practice and areas to consider for improvements. The full report will be presented to the Health & Wellbeing Board in February 2023.

Some of the key messages included:

- Passion about Portsmouth and determination to work together to make people safe
- Well led and 'good analytical chairing of the board'
- Almost all survey respondents were confident that they knew how to raise a safeguarding concern, that they could access safeguarding policies and procedures and that they had undertaken adequate safeguarding training for their role

There was also good practice highlighted in relation to PCC's safeguarding functions:

- The triage process was robust
- Safeguarding professionals were regarded as skilled, helpful and professional in their approach
- Safeguarding Enquiries were largely person centred and inclusive of the person's wishes, views and outcomes

The suggested actions included:

PSAB:

- Review PSAB current representation, roles, responsibilities and how PSAB issues and actions are fed back into their home organisations
- Widen the membership of the PSAB to include representatives from people with lived experience, unpaid carer organisation(s), communities of interest, Voluntary and Community Sector umbrella organisation, business community.
- Track Safeguarding Adults Review and other recommendations over time and share with practitioners to ensure changes are embedded into practice

PCC - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

- Review organisation and capacity
- Training and education:

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- Consider undertaking a review of Mental Capacity Act training and a plan to then audit whether Mental Capacity Act has become part of practice
- Consider how to ensure that the children’s safeguarding process is understood by Adult Social Care practitioners/Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
- Consider establishing a framework for safeguarding meetings which involve the person as much as they wish to be involved

8. Next steps

The PSAB and PCC are currently working on preparing full responses to the peer review findings and will also be developing accompanying action plans. As part of the peer review process, there is an understanding that we will share the learning and areas for improvement with partners in the South East. The learning from the peer review will also help shape the updated PSAB strategic plan.

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Signed by (Director)

Appendices:

- Appendix A: PSAB Annual Report 2021-22
- Appendix B: PSAB Strategic Plan 2022-23

Background list of documents: Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972

The following documents disclose facts or matters, which have been relied upon to a material extent by the author in preparing this report:

Title of document	Location