

Report of the Chief Executive Office to the meeting of the Health and Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 21 June 2023

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Subject: BRADFORD SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22

Summary statement:

The Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board's annual report for 2021-2022 outlines the activities carried out by the Board and its partner agencies to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect. The report covers a range of areas, including efforts to improve outcomes for at-risk adults, case reviews, safeguarding training, performance quality assurance, and progress against priorities. By providing a transparent assessment of multi-agency safeguarding activity, the report aims to demonstrate the strength of the safeguarding arrangements in the Bradford District. The report is presented on behalf of the three statutory safeguarding partners, the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, and Clinical Commissioning Group, who are jointly responsible for the safeguarding partnership arrangements.

EQUALITY & DIVERSITY:

The Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board's annual report for 2021-2022 demonstrates a strong commitment to promoting equality and diversity in its services. The Board emphasises person-centred care, empowerment, and collaboration, likely positively impacting equality and diversity. The Board's initiatives to improve multi-agency working and training are expected to ensure that adults at risk receive consistent and high-quality support, regardless of the agency providing the service. Although the report does not explicitly state whether the work presented contributes to one of the Council's equality objectives, the Board's focus on social inclusion and addressing discrimination aligns with broader equality objectives.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Health and Social Care

1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 The Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board's annual report for 2021-2022 outlines the activities carried out by the Board and its partner agencies to protect vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect. The report covers a range of areas, including efforts to improve outcomes for at-risk adults, case reviews, safeguarding training, performance quality assurance, and progress against priorities. By providing a transparent assessment of multi-agency safeguarding activity, the report aims to demonstrate the strength of the safeguarding arrangements in the Bradford District. The report is presented on behalf of the three statutory safeguarding partners, the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, and Clinical Commissioning Group, who are jointly responsible for the safeguarding partnership arrangements.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) is legally required to complete an annual report under the Care Act 2014. The Act requires local authorities and their partners to work together to set up Safeguarding Adults Boards to oversee and coordinate safeguarding activities in their areas.
- 2.2 The annual report is an essential component of the Board's statutory responsibilities. It helps ensure that all partner agencies are accountable for their safeguarding activities and that there is transparency in how those activities are carried out. The report provides an opportunity for the Board to evaluate the effectiveness of its safeguarding arrangements and initiatives, identify any gaps in service provision, and set priorities for future action. By sharing this information with the public and stakeholders, the Board can promote transparency, build trust, and demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect. Moreover, completing an annual report enables the Board to demonstrate its accountability to the public and its partners by showing how it has used its resources and fulfilled its obligations over the reporting period.
- 2.3 In summary, completing an annual report is essential for the BSAB to fulfil its legal obligations, promote transparency and accountability, and engage with stakeholders to ensure that safeguarding remains a priority for all partner agencies.

3. REPORT ISSUES

- 3.1 The BSAB annual report 2021/22 provides a comprehensive overview of the Board's strategic vision, outcomes, and priorities. By outlining these key elements, the report helps ensure that all partner agencies are aligned and working towards safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect. Additionally, the report serves as a reminder of the BSAB's responsibilities and the important role that each partner agency plays in achieving its objectives.
- 3.2 In addition to outlining the strategic vision, outcomes, and priorities, the BSAB annual report 2021/22 provides information on the internal structures and governance that hold partner agencies accountable. By providing this information, the report helps to promote transparency and ensure that all partner agencies are working collaboratively towards the same goal of safeguarding adults at risk.

- 3.3 The BSAB annual report 2021/22 also includes information on the achievement of its sub-groups, which are responsible for delivering specific areas of work. This information provides key insights into the BSAB's activities and initiatives and the emerging challenges and risks that partner agencies face. By identifying these challenges and risks, the BSAB can work to address them proactively and ensure that safeguarding remains a priority.
- 3.4 Finally, the BSAB annual report 2021/22 includes information and learning on Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and performance data collected throughout the reporting period. This information provides a comprehensive overview of the Board's activities and initiatives and its performance in achieving its objectives. By sharing this information, the report promotes accountability and transparency, enabling the Board to demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect.
- 3.5 Overall, the BSAB annual report 2021/22 is crucial for ensuring that partner agencies work collaboratively to achieve the BSAB's strategic vision, outcomes, and priorities and for promoting transparency, accountability, and stakeholder engagement.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

- 4.1 The Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board is funded by a range of partner agencies, with financing responsibility lying jointly with the three statutory partners: the Local Authority, West Yorkshire Police, and the Integrated Care Board (formerly the Clinical Commissioning Group). These partners are equally responsible for funding the Board's activities. The budget for the BSAB is reviewed annually and discussed with the partner agencies to ensure sufficient funding is available to support the Board's work in safeguarding adults at risk.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

Nil

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

The Care Act 2014 requires Safeguarding Adults Boards to publish an annual report. This report demonstrates our compliance with this duty. The report is published on the SaferBradford website.

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

7.1 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

Nil

7.2 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

Nil

7.3 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

7.31 The Bradford Community Safety Partnership (CSP) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) are essential collaborators in protecting the community's most vulnerable individuals. The implications for the SAB's 2021/22 annual report show enhanced cooperation and communication between these entities, sharing knowledge, resources, and best practices to mitigate identified risks effectively. BSAB & CSP intend to explore overlapping areas of responsibility. Continued opportunities may exist to refine roles or develop joint strategies for more impactful community safeguarding.

7.32 Furthermore, any changes to policies from either the CSP or the SAB may necessitate a review and adjustment of current practices, ensuring that their united front on safeguarding matters remains robust, dynamic, and responsive to the needs of the Bradford community.

7.4 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

Nil

7.5 TRADE UNION

Nil

7.6 WARD IMPLICATIONS

Nil

7.7 AREA COMMITTEE LOCALITY PLAN IMPLICATIONS (for reports to Area Committees only)

Nil

7.8 IMPLICATIONS FOR CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

N/A.

7.9 ISSUES ARISING FROM PRIVACY IMPACT ASSESMENT

The nature of adult safeguarding work requires partners to manage confidential matters and data under GDPR regulations in accordance with individual agency guidelines. There is no sensitive data included in this report that requires a Privacy Impact Assessment

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

Nil

9. OPTIONS

9.1 No other option considered as it is a statutory duty for BSAB to publish an annual report.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The Committee is requested to note the Annual Report 2021/22

10.2 The Committee to receive another report in 12 months' time.

11. APPENDICES

Appendix A Annual Report

12. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Nil