



WSAB Annual Report 2014/15

Message from our Chair

I was delighted to take over the role of Independent Chair Message from our in October 2014. This has been a busy year for the Board in preparing for the implementation of the Care Act (2014).

For the first time, as of 1st April 2015, Safeguarding Adult Boards became a legal requirement with a range of Board Members statutory duties that are aimed at ensuring key partners Our Priorities work together effectively to improve safeguarding, wellbeing and independence.



During 2014/15, WSAB has carried out a full review of the Board including, new membership from April 2014 and developing a new constitution. These measures have been taken to ensure the Board is able to fulfil its new statutory duties. The Care Act (2014) requires the Board to move away from the operational focus of the past and to develop a more strategic approach, challenging partners and seeking assurance that

safeguarding processes are effective and, most of all, are more personalised. To achieve this, we have reviewed our Board structure and put in place new governance arrangements to enable us to better seek that assurance.

Work has also started in the latter part of the year on developing a new strategic plan for 2015 onwards with priorities to be determined on the findings of a public consultation. Protecting and safeguarding people at risk of abuse or neglect is an important job and we have taken steps to further develop and strengthen partnership working. This approach will continue into next year as a key priority. In particular, we will need to work more closely with people who have used safeguarding processes and learn from their experience.

During my short time as Chair, I have been impressed with the commitment and hard work of all the partner agencies and I have no doubt that the Board will continue to build on its current strengths to meet the challenges ahead.

Board Structure

The WSAB is made up of representatives from 14 key agencies and sectors who are involved in safe-guarding adults in the county. They help to shape the Board and are responsible for the delivery of the Boards objectives . To do this they work within Sub Groups, each one with a clear focus on its remit.

Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Members

Case Review Sub Group

Policy and Practice Sub Group

Learning & Development Sub Group

Worcestershire County Council
West Mercia Police
NHS Redditch and Bromsgrove Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS South Worcestershire Clinical Commissioning Group
NHS Wyre Forest Clinical Commissioning Group
Worcestershire Health and Care NHS Trust
Worcestershire Acute Hospitals NHS Trust
HealthWatch Worcestershire
NHS England
National Probation Service
Worcestershire Voices
Representative from Care Homes Association
Representative from Carer reference group
Councillor Sheila Blagg, lead Councillor for Adult Social Care

Performance and Quality Assurance

Community Awareness & Prevention Sub Group



Our Priorities	Our Achievements	Our Outcomes
<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. To seek assurance that safeguarding adults is clearly identified within the core business of member organisations and their partners2. To develop and maintain effective working relationships between members, their partners and other community partnerships3. To ensure that service users, carers and the public are enabled to contribute to the work of the Board4. To promote, maintain and seek assurance of the implementation of high quality multi-agency Safeguarding adult procedures across Worcestershire5. To raise public, professional and political awareness of safeguarding adults across Worcestershire6. To commission Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and to promote and seek assurance that learning from them and similar reviews nationally are embedded in local practice7. To promote and seek assurance of the development of an effectively trained workforce in adult safeguarding and that the practice of the workforce is continuously improving8. To promote, maintain and seek assurance of the high quality implementation of MCA/DoLS legislation across Worcestershire9. To contribute regionally and nationally to the development of the safeguarding adults agenda	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reviewed partnership arrangements• Developed a new constitution that is Care Act (2014) compliant• Ensured Carer representation is at Board and sub-group level• Consulted more widely with Carers on the strategic plan for the next 3 years• Survey of service users about their experience of the safeguarding adult's process was carried out in July 2014 and the outcomes were presented to the Board• The Board transitioned onto a statutory footing• Information Sharing guidance developed as an appendix to the Information Sharing Protocol to simplify the way professionals share information for the protection of the adult at risk• Received 7 referrals received in 2014/15; commissioned 3 reviews; 1 multi-agency case file audit; 1 case - completed; remaining 2 cases under consideration• Redesigned SCR Group to meet requirements of the Care Act (2014)• Developed an improved process for disseminating learning from SCRs• Drafted a new Safeguarding Adults Review Protocol is required in line with the Care Act (2014)• Developed a Safeguarding Competency Framework which is to be used by partner organisations• Assured that MCA and DoLS responsibilities are understood, implemented and embedded	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3,662 cases alerted• 2,762 people protected by planning• 601 cases investigated• 28% cases substantiated• 14% partially substantiated• Preventative action taken for cases where abuse was found for the reduction in any further risk

Our Journey Forward 2015/2016

Each of our Sub Groups is working towards achieving the 5 Strategic Goals as shown below. By working together, with other service providers, service users and local communities we aim to achieve each of these objectives making Worcestershire a safer county for all of its adults at risk.

1. To provide and seek assurance of effective leadership, partnership working and governance, holding partners and agencies to account
2. To listen to people who have been subject to abuse or neglect and seek assurance that people are able to be supported in the way that they want, are involved in decisions and can achieve the best outcomes
3. To be assured that safeguarding is embedded in communities, raising awareness, promoting well-being and preventing abuse and neglect from happening in the first place
4. To seek assurance that effective policies, procedures and practices are in place that ensure the safety and wellbeing of anyone who has been subject to abuse or neglect, are proportionate and that action is taken against those responsible
5. To learn lessons and make changes that prevent similar abuse or neglect happening to other people



More information about WSAB and safeguarding can be found at:

www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wsab

