

REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY WORK PROGRAMME ITEM



	Title of Work Programme Item	Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults
2	Responsible Director (s)	Carole Burgoyne, Director For Community Services
3	Responsible Officer Tel No. 307344	Pam Marsden, Assistant Director for Adult Health and Social Care
4	Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Councillor Grant Monahan, Adult Health and Social Care
5	Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To consider guidance and procedures and to be assured that care services are protecting vulnerable adults in a range of care settings. 2. To understand the triggers for raising an alert 3. To examine multi-agency alerting procedures for reporting alleged cases. 4. To ascertain the follow up procedures once an alert has been raised. 5. To ascertain how vulnerable adults are treated once an alert has been raised. 6. To ascertain what support is available to the alerter, particularly employees in a range of care settings. 7. To review the impact of recent Care Quality Commission policy changes. 8. To review what role commissioning and contract monitoring of services has in safeguarding adults. 9. To raise awareness of safeguarding processes for a range of stakeholders.

		<p>10. To review and assess the adequacy of policies relating to the protection of whistleblowers.</p> <p>11. To review and assess the adequacy of the current unannounced inspections.</p>		
6	Who will benefit?	<p>The review will raise awareness across the community of the process and triggers for reporting alleged cases of abuse and give assurances to the public that processes are being followed.</p> <p>Patients, carers, staff and the general public. Plymouth City Council and partners.</p>		
7	Criteria for Choosing Topics (see table at end of document)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public interest issue 2. Issue consistently identified by Members as key through Ward activity 		
8	What will happen if we don't do this review?	<p>The council could be seen to be failing in its duty to provide an appropriate mechanism for safeguarding issues to be raised.</p> <p>There would be insufficient awareness of safeguarding issues and procedures amongst key stakeholders.</p> <p>Practitioners, councillors, commissioners, carers, service users and the general public would not be aware of the mechanisms and support structures available to them.</p>		
9	What are we going to do?	<p>A task and finish group will meet to review policies and procedures currently in place, will raise awareness and use a robust evidence base and evidence from witnesses to make recommendations to Cabinet and to partner organisations through the Plymouth 2020 partnership.</p>		
10	How are we going to do it? (Witnesses, site visits, background information etc.)	<p>Desktop review of policies and procedures</p> <p>Hear evidence from witnesses (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Provide a report and recommendations to Cabinet via the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board.</p>		
11	What we won't do.	<p>The review will be restricted to areas which have a direct impact on issues of safeguarding for vulnerable adults.</p>		
12	Timetable & Key Dates	Known milestones for achieving the final report	Target Date	Responsible Officer

		Ratification of work programme item request by the Health and Adult Social Care Overview Scrutiny Panel	14 September 2011	Panel
		Confirmation of Membership and Chair	14 September 2011	Panel
		Recommendation for Task and Finish group to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	21 September 2011	Chair
		Desktop review	26 October 2011	Chair / Group Lead Officer / Chair
		Evidence from witnesses	26 October 2011	Chair / Group Lead Officer / Chair
		Final report to Overview and Scrutiny Management Board	30 November 2011	Chair / Group Lead Officer
13	Links to other projects or initiatives / plans	<p>Safeguarding Adults – Multi agency policy and procedures for safeguarding adults a complete working guide. (and associated appendices)</p> <p>Keeping Safe publications</p> <p>No secrets guidance</p> <p>Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report</p> <p>Results of Safeguarding Adults Audit</p>		
14	Relevant Overview and Scrutiny Panel	Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Panel		
15	Where will the report go? Who will make the final decision	<p>Any recommendations relating to Plymouth City Council Services will be forwarded to the Overview and Scrutiny Management Board for further recommendation to Cabinet.</p> <p>Any recommendations for NHS services will be forwarded directly to the NHS Cluster Board (Devon).</p>		

16	Resources (staffing, research, experts, sites visits and so on)	Staff time Other expenses to be met within existing budgets.
17	Is this part of a statutory responsibility on the panel?	Yes
18	Should any other panel be involved in this review? If so who and why?	No
19	Will the task and finish group benefit from co-opting any person(s) onto the panel.	No
20	How does this link to corporate priorities?	Value for Communities.

Criteria for review

(Items would be expected to meet at least two of the following criteria)

- Corporate priority area
- Poor performing service (evidence from PIs, benchmarking or where high levels of dissatisfaction from customers are recorded)
- High budgetary commitment
- Pattern of not reaching budget targets
- Issue raised by external audit, management letter, inspection report
- New government guidance or legislation
- Issue consistently identified by Members as key through constituency activity
- Public interest issue covered in local media