

Plymouth Safeguarding Adults Board

Friday 3 October 2014

PRESENT:

Geoff Baines, Chair (Interim).

Lorna Collingwood-Burke, Martin Cordy, Jane Elliott Toncic, Karen Grimshaw, Julian Mouland, Kelechi Nnoaham, Charlie Pitman (for D/Supt Paul Northcott), Councillor Ian Tuffin and Tony Staunton.

Apologies for absence: Carole Burgoyne, Mandy Cox, Paul Francombe, Mike French, Dan Monck, D/Supt Paul Northcott, Stuart Palmer, Mandy Sharp, Dave Simpkins and Phil Smale.

Also in attendance: Cate Simmons and Morris Watts – Plymouth Community Healthcare, Roslynn Azzam – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Officer, Kat Buckley – Commissioning Officer and Amelia Boulter – Democratic Support Officer.

The meeting started at 1.00 pm and finished at 3.40 pm.

Note: At a future meeting, the Board will consider the accuracy of these draft minutes, so they may be subject to change. Please check the minutes of that meeting to confirm whether these minutes have been amended.

16. **MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING**

Agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 4 July 2014 be confirmed subject to the following amendment –

Minute 12 – Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS). DoLS had not been extended to supported living arrangements and applications relating to this should not be forwarded to the local authority. If a person is deprived of their liberty in a supported living arrangement, the commissioner of the support would need to take legal advice and approach the court of protection for authorisation.

Matters Arising

- Minute 6 - PSAB Budget. A small working group would be looking at the different options for the budget. Research had been undertaken on the regional contributions made by other SAB and from the 5 returns received covered similar areas to what Plymouth were proposing. They were refining the budget details with financial colleagues and had in principle an agreement from the police and the NEW Devon Clinical Commissioning Group. The Assistant Director would be advised of the findings and the Board would receive an update at the next meeting.

- Minute 7 - Care Act Update. We are waiting for the latest government guidance, currently to be released on 16 October 2014. It was suggested that the Policy and Procedure Sub Group could pick up this piece of work.
- Minute 9 – Safeguarding Manager’s Report. Review of the Terms of Reference and membership was also highlighted in the Devon Audit Partnership audit report. Further work on this would take place once the new PSAB Chair was in place. A meeting would also be taking place with Simon White, Safeguarding Children’s Board Manager.
- Minute 11 – PSAB Performance Indicators Workstream. This item would be looked at today.
- Minute 12 – DoLS. A group had not been convened but virtual discussions were taking place. This was an on-going matter. The next MCA meeting date was in October. Karen Grimshaw is part of the Plymouth MCA group but was not involved in Devon’s MCA group. Martin Cordy highlighted that in respect to the Cheshire West Supreme Court judgement, Devon and Cornwall County Councils are undertaking a piece of work to look at applications on a priority basis and how they escalate the urgent cases for immediate attention. Martin was leading on this on behalf of Devon and Kernow Clinical Commissioning Groups and would feedback into this Board.

17. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

In accordance with the code of conduct the following declarations were made –

Name	Reason	Interest
Martin Cordy	Member of Devon Safeguarding Board	Personal
Lorna Collingwood-Burke	Member of Devon Safeguarding Board	Personal
Geoff Baines	Vice-Chair of Plymouth Safeguarding Children Board	Personal

18. **CHAIR'S URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no items of Chair’s Urgent Business.

19. **SAB SELF ASSESSMENT PI UPDATE**

Geoff Baines and Julian Moulard provided the Board with an update on the SAB Self-Assessment. They had extended the deadline to 17 October 2014 for the remaining submissions, were in the process of producing a report on the findings, and would complete the report prior to the next Board meeting in January 2015. They had used a nationally developed tool which fed into the yearly performance assessment prior to the business plan cycle.

The following comments were made -

- (a) Karen Grimshaw reported that Cornwall had undertaken a self-assessment for many years and used different tools. Karen made the proposal that all SABs use the same tool. It was further highlighted that this issue has been discussed in the SW ADASS Group, and it was evident that boards and local authorities were recording things in different ways;
- (b) Martin Cordy agreed that we should adopt one model across the piece to improve consistency across the peninsula;
- (c) Geoff Baines reported that PCH had completed their own self-assessment which gave them clarity on how they fitted within the city and to identify the common themes for agency collaboration. It was important to collaborate wherever possible and the pending peer review would help this Board achieve a clear understanding of any gaps;
- (d) Karen Grimshaw also added that Cornwall undertake their self-assessment in January which then allows them to programme the work for the SAB for the following year. Would Plymouth undertake something similar?

Agreed that –

- 1. as part of the PSAB Self-Assessment Performance Indicator Update to include the comments made by the Board specifically around aligning the self-assessment to take place in January followed by PSAB work planning for the year.
- 2. the incoming Chair to be briefed on the process to move forward
- 3. contact is made with Pete Murphy, ADASS lead in Gloucester on the SW assessment.

20. **SAFEGUARDING MANAGER'S REPORT**

- (a) Devon Partnership Audit

Jane Elliott Tonic presented the draft Devon Audit Partnership report, with some minor amendments to be finalised later this month. The audit was completed in July 2014 followed by the development of the action plan. The report reflects that the PSAB was between Chairs and some actions would have to wait for the incoming Chair.

A meeting was planned with the incoming Chair to go through the report and to formulate a plan to address the actions. The overall audit opinion was 'improvement required' and discussions need to take place on the PSAB structure, management and financial support and work priorities.

The following comments were made -

- with regard to the PSCB an enormous amount of work takes place outside of the meeting and is reliant on partner agencies for support which sometimes wasn't forthcoming. As the PSAB starts to mirror the children's board it was important to map out the capacity issues clearly;
- following the audit, discussions had taken place on whether there should be a joint board manager for the PSAB and PSCB or two separate board managers.
- that clear governance links between the different agencies was required and that the PSAB annual work plan would clearly specify the relevant representation and responsibilities.

(b) Making Safeguarding Personal

Jane Elliott Tonic reported that PCC had recently signed up for the LGA and ADASS 'Making Safeguarding Personal' agenda, which was originally launched in 2012. The presentation in the board agenda pack is the recommended pack to cascade to SABs and local authorities. The suggestion is that the core values of MSP are designed for the processes to safeguard adults at risk, although the principles should permeate every area of Health and Social Care intervention, and that every effort should be made to put people and their desired outcomes at the centre of processes. The expectation is that all Local Authorities will be signed up by next year.

Under the agenda, each authority completes an assessment of where they are currently in relation to the principles, and decides on a focus for the year's work. We are developing a working group to identify our focus and how it will be operationalised.

The following comments were made –

- domestic abuse needed to be included in the focus, as it is an area that is key to the work of the SAB;

- the interface between children's and adults was very important and needed a joined-up approach on domestic abuse;
- PCH were developing relationships with other agencies and a joint meeting took place yesterday on how we can help each other on the pathways around mental health and support to families in crisis on domestic abuse. This was a clear area for development;
- domestic abuse was clearly an area of priority for this Board to pick up and to look at the linkages with safeguarding children board. It was felt that the PSAB wanted to look at this area of work before escalating to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

Agreed that –

1. the Safeguarding Adults Manager to update the Board regarding developments in the MSP work.
2. domestic abuse is identified as a piece of work for PSAB to undertake and to establish the linkages with PSCB. The Board to receive a further update in January 2015.

(c) Peer Challenge - proposed agenda

Jane Elliott Tonic shared the Peer Challenge timetable with the Board. It was reported that the incoming Chair making would make every effort to be part of the Peer Challenge, despite it being prior to the commencement of his role. This was the fourth attempt to undertake a peer review, due to previous unavailability of ADASS Challenge teams.

It was highlighted that this Peer Challenge was adult focussed and missing the interface with children, whole life approach and the transition from children's to adult services.

Agreed that –

1. the Safeguarding Adults Manager to check that all relevant officers are invited to attend the Peer Challenge taking place in December.
2. the Safeguarding Adults Manager and Tony Staunton to meet to discuss further the PSAB interface with the PSCB, the whole life approach and transition from children's to adult services.

(d) Vulnerable Adult Risk Management/Serious Self Neglect update

Jane Elliott Tonic reported that the SSN agenda is part of a national focus on people who are unwilling and/or unable to engage with services, and who inevitably had complex and often inter-dependent issues. She had completed a literature review and collated the scarce national guidance, to inform the work of the Policy and Procedures Sub Group, who are developing a set of principles from which agencies could work, although development was at an early stage.

There has been a recent Multi-Agency Partnership Review of a case involving complex issues and self neglect, and a full report would be provided in January 2015. We are looking to develop a lead officer working group and appoint a self-neglect champion/lead and would welcome expressions of interest.

For practice guidance, it needs to be noted that there are no powers of entry under the Care Act, and frontline staff needed to be legally literate around the available frameworks for intervention, whilst being able to balance these with human rights and the right to self-determination of capacitated adults. Risk sharing and risk management are crucial, and the sub group will look at continued development of guidance, to include an escalation protocol.

The following comments were made –

- The joint Chairs of the multi-agency review recommended continued revision of VARM and were looking to undertake a review;
- renaming of the process may be required due to the recent changes in acceptable terminology. The term ‘vulnerable adult’ has widely been replaced by ‘adult at risk’, the rationale for which is to change the focus from the individual to their circumstances with regard to causations of vulnerability;

It was suggested that a sub group could pick this up and bring key people together to look at the recommendations and to link up with work already underway. It was further discussed whether a ‘champion’ role would be of benefit and would provide an avenue of challenge for the Board.

Agreed that –

1. a Self-Neglect Champion to be identified to develop and lead an officers working group.
2. the PSAB receive the multi-agency review report on self-neglect at the next meeting in January 2015.

(e) PCC Corporate Safeguarding Improvement Plan

Jane Elliott Tonic provided an update on the planned partnership conference between PCC, PSAB and the University of Plymouth. The preferred date for the conference to take place is currently the 13 April 2015. Agreement to speak has been received from Sir James Munby President of the Family Division and the Court of Protection, Prof. Michael Preston-Shoot the leading academic on Self Neglect, recognised legal author Michael Mandelstam and Geoff Baines Director of Quality Professional Practice, Safety and Quality for PCH. A joint planning team is established and conference would take place in the Roland Levinsky Building. The University will be providing the venue and their events team will organise catering and advertising etc at cost.

(f) PAUSE Update

Jane Elliott Tonic provided the Board with an update from the PAUSE adult user group. It was reported that –

- PAUSE were pleased to have been involved in the interview process for the PSAB Independent Chair and with the appointment;
- Links have been made with PCC commissioning Quality Assurance and Improvement Team to provide support to PAUSE regarding concerns they had raised to PSAB around inconsistencies in care provided by care agencies;
- the PAUSE group have agreed to provide a focus group for the Peer Challenge;
- they highlighted that they wanted to be more involved in city-wide events to rise their profile. We have provided them contact details to relevant organisations and venues;
- they have raised concerns about the number of doorstep loans taken out by vulnerable people from large organisations. It was reported that no checks were undertaken on people taking out a loan up to the value of £1k. They have been asked to provide further information in order to identify next steps.

21. **PCH SAFEGUARDING GOVERNANCE**

Cate Simmons and Morris Watts from Plymouth Community Healthcare (PCH) reported that PCH started as a community interest company 3 years ago. Integration was vital for safeguarding and this approach ensures that childrens and adult safeguarding was integrated into both the governance and operational practice in PCH.

There were two internal meetings held monthly that were critical to the governance of adult safeguarding:

Safety, Quality and Performance Meeting (SQP)

This meeting was established to provide the PCH Board with assurances about safe practice and effective performance as well as looking at the facts and figures and to flesh out what this means, with strong areas being replicated across the organisation.

Integrated Safeguarding Committee (ISC)

This meeting provides detailed assurance to the SQP about children and adult safeguarding. At this meeting they look at the progress of Serious Incidents Requiring investigation (SIRI), and consider all aspects of safeguarding within their organisation along with implications for multi-agency working.

The following comments were made –

- (a) that NEW Devon CCG had an open invitation to the ISC meeting, appreciated and supported the work carried out therein and found sight of the quarterly report invaluable;
- (b) through the meetings and the work that goes into informing them, they recognised and identified issues and the need to bring learning back into the system.
- (c) CCG were looking to set up a Chief Nursing Officer Group, it would not be a compliance group but a forum to look at the 'sticky' issues and to share the learning. This Board had a responsibility to collectively share the learning and information. The Annual SAB Report would help us to understand the patterns.

22. **SCR UPDATE**

Julian Mouland provided the Board with an update on the current serious case review.

23. **DoLS**

Roslyn Azzam reported that the task and finish group had not yet convened and attempts are being made to set a meeting in November. It was also reported that 305 DoLS applications were made to Plymouth City Council since April 2014, the majority of them were regarding people with dementia. An update report was tabled and discussed.

The following comments were made –

- (a) whether the applications are all appropriate and if not, whether training may be required. Roslynn confirmed that because the threshold of deprivation is now so low, the vast majority of applications are resulting in an authorisation. There is no indication that inappropriate applications are being made.
- (b) Derriford Hospital had previously experienced some applications leading to advice that the circumstances did not amount to deprivation; however since the new guidance, this is no longer the case. There are more recently applications being made because it is not safe for the person to leave hospital until appropriate discharge arrangements and onward care are in place.

24. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Jane Elliott Tonic had four items of any other business, it was reported that –

- there had been enquiries for adult safeguarding leaflets/posters for public awareness raising in venues such as GP surgeries and across the wider community. Previous leaflets were out of date and plans had not yet been made to replace them. The Board felt that it was important to have this information and to get this actioned quickly.
- A question was raised as to whether the Board wanted to link the conference in April to an Adult Safeguarding awareness week.
- Links had been established with the voluntary and community sector and a question raised as to whether a nomination to sit on the PSAB would be welcomed.
- Information on an event in Exeter in November, 'Safeguarding the Vulnerable from Financial Exploitation', was circulated to Board members. It was a multi-agency conference, and following on from earlier discussions would forward information to PAUSE.

Agreed that -

1. safeguarding leaflet is produced and circulated to PSAB members for review prior to the next meeting of the Board in January 2015.
2. Invite representative from the voluntary and community sector (VCS) to sit on the PSAB in January 2015.

25. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS AND CONFIRMATION OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Friday 30 January 2015 at 1 pm.

26. **EXEMPT BUSINESS**

There were no items of exempt business.