

## PLYMOUTH CITY COUNCIL

**Subject:** Report from Independent Chair, Plymouth Safeguarding Adults Board (PSAB)

**Committee:** Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

**Date:** 23 January 2019

**Cabinet Member:** Councillor Tuffin (Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care)

**CMT Member:** Carole Burgoyne (Strategic Director for People)

**Author:** Jane Elliott Tončić (PCC Strategic Safeguarding Lead & PSAB Manager)

**Contact details** Tel: 01752 308829  
email: jane.elliott.tonicic@plymouth.gov.uk

**Ref:**

**Key Decision:** No

**Part:** I

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**Purpose of the report:** This report is to provide the committee with an overview of the work of the PSAB and its intentions going forward.

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**Corporate Plan:** The purpose of the PSAB links most directly with the priorities of a Caring Council, in particular to keep children, young people and adults protected, and for people to feel safe in Plymouth. The PSAB's statement: "Committed to ensuring improvements in the safeguarding of adults at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation by Assurance, Challenge, Support and Learning."

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**Implications for Medium Term Financial Plan and Resource Implications:  
Including finance, human, IT and land**  
N/A

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**Other Implications: e.g. Child Poverty, Community Safety, Health and Safety and Risk Management:**  
N/A

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### Equality and Diversity

Has an Equality Impact Assessment been undertaken? No

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**Recommendations and Reasons for recommended action: N/A**

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**Alternative options considered and rejected:** N/A

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**Published work / information:** PSAB Annual report 2017-18:  
[http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/psab\\_annual\\_report\\_2017-18.pdf](http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/psab_annual_report_2017-18.pdf)

**Background papers:** N/A

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**Sign off:** N/A

Has the Cabinet Member agreed the contents of the report? No, but Cllr. Tuffin is aware of its submission.

## **Introduction:**

In terms of adult safeguarding, the Care Act 2014 requires that each local authority must, among other things, set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). 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 meet certain criteria. The SAB has a strategic role, oversees and leads adult safeguarding across the locality, and is interested in a range of matters that contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect.

A SAB has three core duties:

- it must publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objectives and what the members will do to achieve this.
- it must publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and implement its strategic plan, and what each member has done to implement the strategy.
- it must conduct any Safeguarding Adults Review in accordance with the legislation.

As the lead agency with responsibility for coordinating adult safeguarding arrangements, the local authority, along with their relevant partners must collaborate and work together as set out in the co-operation duties in the Care Act and, in doing so, must, where appropriate, also consider the wishes and feelings of the adult on whose behalf they are working. The following organisations must be represented on the Board:

- the local authority which set it up;
- the Clinical Commissioning Group(s) in the local authority's area; and
- the relevant police constabulary

In addition, SABs assure themselves that they have the involvement of all partners necessary to effectively carry out its duties. Accordingly, local partners include University Hospitals Plymouth NHS Trust, Livewell Southwest which delivers community health and social care services, housing providers, CQC, and probation services.

## **Priorities:**

Under its Strategic Plan 2016-19, PSAB agreed its priorities as:

- Risk Management & Self Neglect; we have established a policy and practice guidance for all frontline staff, and continued to develop and evaluate the Creative Solutions Forum for the City. This flagship approach continues to receive high levels of interest regionally and nationally, recognition that Plymouth has taken an alternative and innovative view of how to manage complex risk fluidly, and supports workers and agencies to achieve positive change in an individual's circumstances.
- Mental Health; we have sought assurance from commissioners and providers that safeguarding principles are embedded and actively promoted throughout the mental health system, and that learning from Serious Case Reviews & Safeguarding Adult Reviews are embedded in operational practice
- Engagement & Participation; we have commissioned Healthwatch to undertake an engagement project with groups across the City, and mechanisms to channel opinion and suggestions into the priorities and work of the Board are in progress.
- Quality assurance: we have established a multi-agency Quality Assurance and Performance sub group to analyse information from the local and national data sets, and evaluate trends and patterns for which the SAB seeks assurance and/or action plans from relevant agencies.
- Learning & Development Strategy: we have agreed a competency framework for Board partners and related agencies and organisations
- SAB management arrangements:
  - we have developed a joint communication strategy with PSCB, and will be revising our web pages and looking at opportunities to use social media

- we have undertaken a review of function, format and funding, and are revising board meeting structures and member engagement.

### **Safeguarding Adults Reviews:**

The full reports of the published reviews to date are available via the hyperlinks:

Serious Case Review (SCR) 'V' published June 2017:

[http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/serious\\_case\\_review\\_v\\_2017.pdf](http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/serious_case_review_v_2017.pdf)

This review was commissioned prior to the Care Act implementation in 2015 and accordingly remained an SCR. The progress of recommendations is monitored by the SAR sub-group, and those particularly for housing providers are being progressed via a task & finish group led by our housing Board partner. Further work is currently being undertaken to assure the Board, and a board partner is overseeing progress against the recommendations.

Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) 'Ruth Mitchell' published November 2017:

[http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/safeguarding\\_adult\\_review\\_ruth\\_mitchell.pdf](http://web.plymouth.gov.uk/safeguarding_adult_review_ruth_mitchell.pdf)

Again a board member is providing oversight of the work of the multi-agency concerned with the action plan to meet the recommendations set out in the report. Of particular focus is work to improving awareness, systems and actions related to risk management and self-neglect. Our community health and social care provider has included this area in mandatory training to ensure all staff have the appropriate information to recognise the risk of self-neglect and how to raise concerns.

Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) 'DP':

This review is underway into the circumstances surrounding an individual who had been convicted of a murder which occurred at New Year 2015. It is unusual in that the subject is the perpetrator of a serious crime, but the learning is expected to be valuable at a number of levels across agencies.

### **Future priorities and plans:**

Following the review of PSAB we are in the process of implementing its recommendations, including

- development of the Board's assurance role in regard to the Making Safeguarding Personal agenda
- adoption of a Constitution and aligned Memorandum of Understanding
- revision of the Strategic Plan into a higher level public-facing strategy, supported by a business plan with priorities of Partnership, Engagement, Learning and Assurance.
- development of a peer review process to provide more in depth learning outcomes, identified by a particular theme or element from Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- development of the joint PSAB and PSCB's protocol to consolidate links with other partnership boards i.e. Health and Wellbeing, Safer Plymouth.
- reviewing membership of and contributions to the Board and its sub groups

In addition the Board will continue to focus on ensuring rigour in the SAR process and the reviews undertaken, while seeking assurance regarding the subsequent embedding of related learning across its network. Further work is planned for the engagement and participation of City residents, particularly those who have experienced the safeguarding process, with the intention that their views will inform practice, policy and service provision.