

## REPORT BY WEST OF BERKSHIRE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

TO:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD		
DATE:	30 JANUARY 2015	AGENDA ITEM:	13
TITLE:	PROTOCOL AGREEMENT BETWEEN READING HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AND WEST OF BERKSHIRE ADULTS SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP BOARD (SAPB)		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	COUNCILLOR EDEN	PORTFOLIO:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE
SERVICE:	ADULT CARE	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
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JOB TITLE:	HEAD OF ADULT CARE	E-MAIL:	Suzanne.westhead@reading.gov.uk

### 1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The attached protocol sets out the expectation of the relationship and working arrangements between Reading Health and Wellbeing Board and the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.
- 1.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to endorse the protocol, which has already been agreed by the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.

### 2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Board endorse the attached protocol agreement.

### 3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 A protocol agreement has been developed to ensure that priorities will be discussed and consulted with each board and the annual reports for each board will presented to the other for discussion and challenge where necessary.

### 4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 The shared principles for this working protocol are that the boards:
  - Have an ongoing and direct relationship, communicating regularly.

- Share a commitment to a strategic approach to understanding needs, in a way that includes analysis of data and effective engagement with frontline practitioners and local communities.
  - Are committed to developing a joined up approach to understanding the effectiveness of current services and identifying priorities for change, including where services need to be improved, reshaped or developed.
  - Commit to working together to ensure there are no unhelpful strategic or operational gaps in policies, protocols, services or practice.
  - Will work together to provide constructive challenge to one another and partners.
  - Will work together to ensure action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another.
- 4.2 The protocol lists the key responsibilities of each board, and how each one should interact with the other. The protocol details the key lines of communication between the boards and describes the interconnectedness of senior management representation on each board which ensures key topics for discussion/concern are made aware across the partnerships.
- 4.3 It also describes the route by which concerns highlighted by one board can be raised with one of the other boards.

## **5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS**

- 5.1 This protocol contributes to the following Council strategic aims:
- To promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.
- 5.2 It also contributes to the Local Strategic Partnership delivery themes of Community Safety and Health.
- 5.3 The protocol itself does not refer specifically to these strategic aims and delivery themes, but the strategic plans produced by each board (the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and the SAPB Business Plan) do detail the aims and priorities of the work undertaken by board partners. These strategic aims and delivery themes are clearly embedded within each document.

## **6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION**

- 6.1 Consultation on this protocol has been carried out with the members of the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.
- 6.2 The strategic plans of the Health and Wellbeing Board and the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board are consulted on within the community. A current aim of the SAPB is to ensure we listen and respond to our communities in relation to their safeguarding needs.

## **7. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) is not relevant to the recommendation of this protocol. The protocol itself will not have a differential impact on: racial groups; gender; people with disabilities; people of a particular sexual orientation; people due to their age; people due to their religious belief. However, equality and diversity are key themes for the both boards, ensuring that any changes to practice or service recommended by the boards will not disadvantage any particular group.

## **8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 Although there is no legal requirement to have a protocol in place, the Care Act 2014 requires that partners work effectively together to safeguard and provide appropriate services for adults at risk.

## **9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

9.1 None.

## **10. BACKGROUND PAPERS**

- Reading Health and Wellbeing Board Terms of Reference
- West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Terms of Reference
- West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Business Plan

## **Protocol Agreement between Reading Health and Well-being Board and West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board**

### **Health and Well-being Board**

The Health and Well-being Board aims to improve health and well-being for people in Reading. It is a partnership that brings together the Council, NHS and the local Healthwatch organisation. By working together on the delivery of national and local priorities, the Health and Well-being Board's purpose is to make existing services more effective through influencing future joint commissioning and provision of services.

The Health and Well-being Board will be responsible for overseeing the production of a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for Reading, and for developing a Health and Well-being Strategy and Delivery Plan as the basis for achieving these aims. The focus will be on reducing health inequalities, early intervention and prevention of poor health and promotion of health and well-being.

The Health and Well-being Board is responsible to the Council and will reflect the need to promote health and well-being across health and Council departments, including housing, social care, schools, community services, environment, transport, planning, licensing, culture and leisure.

The Health and Well-being Board will be expected to improve outcomes for residents, carers and the population through closer integration between health services and the Council.

Stronger joint commissioning offers scope for more flexible, preventative and integrated services for children and adults with long-term conditions and those living in vulnerable circumstances.

The Health and Well-being Board will work with the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (SAPB) to ensure that:

- Issues which affect how vulnerable adults are safeguarded and their welfare promoted are consulted upon;
- Recommendations and identified areas for improvement made by the SAPB are noted and that subsequent progress is reported back to the SAPB;
- The Chair of the SAPB is invited to attend the Health and Well-being Board meetings, as needed and at least once a year to present the SAPB Annual Report;
- A senior manager with responsibility for safeguarding adults is a member of the Health and Well-being Board;
- Messages and information provided by the SAPB are appropriately disseminated within Health and Well-being Board member organisations;
- Work undertaken by the SAPB is considered as part of the monitoring arrangements of the Health and Well-being Board.

### **Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board**

The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is one of the key mechanisms for safeguarding vulnerable adults from abuse and neglect across the West of Berkshire.

Safeguarding Adults is everyone's business and all relevant agencies operating within the area work together to ensure they provide the best possible holistic response to service users and their carers. There is a shared responsibility for ensuring that all efforts to keep vulnerable adults safe are effective and well co-ordinated.

Safeguarding Adults work is about preventing abuse and neglect as well as promoting good practice in identifying and responding to concerns on a multi-agency basis.

The SAPB will work with the Health and Well-being Board when appropriate to:

- Monitor actions to improve safeguarding practice, including action plans arising from Serious Case Reviews;
- Ensure the Chair of the SAPB attends the HWB meetings as required;
- Ensure that messages and information are appropriately disseminated within SAPB member organisations;
- Hold the Health and Well-being Board to account on matters of safeguarding adults in all its activities, providing appropriate challenge on performance;
- Undertake audits and feedback results to the Health and Well-being Board, advising on ways to improve and highlighting areas of underperformance;
- Share learning from Serious Case Reviews and ensure that partner agencies are taking appropriate action in response to the findings;
- Highlight gaps in service for the Health and Well-being Board to consider as part of its joint commissioning process.
- Escalate serious matters relating to safeguarding to the Health and Well-being Board for action as appropriate.

**Both organisations will:**

- Have an ongoing and direct relationship, communicating regularly.
- Work together to ensure action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another.
- Commit to working together to ensure there are no unhelpful strategic or operational gaps in policies, protocols, services or practice.

**Signed by:**



**Chair of Health and Well Being Board**

**Chair of West of Berkshire SAPB**

**Date: 30 January 2015**

*Date of Protocol Review November 2015*