

READING HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting	15 March 2024
Title	SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (SAB) ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23
Purpose of the report	To note the report for information
Report author	Lynne Mason
Job title	Business Manager
Organisation	West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board
Recommendations	1. That the report be noted.

1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) must lead adult safeguarding arrangements across its authority and oversee and coordinate the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies.
- 1.2 The overarching purpose of a SAB is to safeguard adults with health and social care needs. It does this by: Assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place, as defined by the Care Act 2014, and statutory guidance; requiring that Local Authorities demonstrate that:
 - Safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focused;
 - They are working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible;
 - Agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses when abuse or neglect have occurred;
 - Safeguarding practice is continuously improving;
 - The quality of life of adults in its area is enhanced.
- 1.3 The Annual Report 2022-23 presents what the SAB aimed to achieve on behalf of the residents of Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham during 2022-23. This is both as a partnership, and through the work of its participating partners. It provides a picture of who is safeguarded across the area, in what circumstance and why. It outlines the role and values of the SAB, its ongoing work and future priorities.
- 1.4 The report has been published on the SAB Website ([Priorities, Plans and Reports | West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board \(sabberkshirewest.co.uk\)](https://www.sabberkshirewest.co.uk)) and shared with all Health and Wellbeing Boards across the West of Berkshire.
- 1.5 One of the areas identified in the report for improvement is for the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Partnership to improve its links with Health and Wellbeing Boards, Community Safety Partnerships and Children's Safeguarding Boards. The SAB will be looking at how best to do this.

2. Policy Context

- 2.1. The SAB has a duty to develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how it will meet its objectives and how the partnership will contribute. The annual report (attached) details how effectively these have been met.
- 2.2. The priorities for 2022/23 were that the SAB will focus on priorities that have been identified through its reflective learning practice:
 - Priority 1: To expand on learning in regard to self-neglect; to offer the partnership with resources to support them to achieve effective outcomes for individuals that self-neglect.
 - Priority 2: To seek assurance that quality of health and social care services delivered in the West of Berkshire or those commissioned out of area for West of Berkshire residents is monitored effectively and there is a proportionate response to concerns.
 - Priority 3: The SAB to review its Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) process, in order to ensure that it is timely and good value for money.
 - Priority 4: The SAB will continue to carry out the following business as usual tasks in order to comply with its statutory obligations.
- 2.3. The priorities for 2023/24 are:
 - Priority 1: To seek assurance that quality of health and social care services delivered in the West of Berkshire or those commissioned out of area for West Berkshire residents is monitored effectively and there is a proportionate response to concerns.
 - Priority 2: Embedding a good understanding of Mental Capacity Act within the practice of our statutory partners.
 - Priority 3: Serious Violence and Exploitation, understanding the gaps from an adult safeguarding perspective.
 - Priority 4: Review and relaunch of the SAB Quality Assurance Framework.

3. The Proposal

- 3.1. Not applicable.

4. Contribution to Reading's Health and Wellbeing Strategic Aims

- 4.1. The SAB is a statutory function and has set priorities for 23/24 as details in section 2.3 of this report.

5. Environmental and Climate Implications

- 5.1. There is no impact noted as a result of this report.

6. Community Engagement

- 6.1. The SAB have a dedicated subgroup with representation from the voluntary care sector and HealthWatch across Reading, West Berkshire and Wokingham.
- 6.2. An area for improvement noted by the SAB in the annual report is to: Improve mechanisms to ensure that the views of people who are in situations that place them at risk of abuse and carers inform the work of the SAB.

7. Equality Implications

7.1. Not applicable

8. Other Relevant Considerations

8.1. Not applicable.

9. Legal Implications

9.1. The SAB is set up under the [Care Act 2014 \(legislation.gov.uk\)](https://www.legislation.gov.uk)

10. Financial Implications

10.1. Not applicable.

11. Timetable for Implementation

11.1. Not applicable.

12. Background Papers

12.1. None

Appendices

1. [West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2022/23](#)
2. Reading Safeguarding Adults Report 22-23 full report DRAFT – awaiting endorsement from ACE on the 20th March 2023, once endorsed it will be appended to the SAB Annual Report.