



Gloucestershire
Safeguarding Adults
Board

Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report 2017/18

Executive Summary

Foreword: Introduction from Chair

I am pleased to introduce the Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (GSAB) 2017/18 Annual Report, which contains details of how adult safeguarding has been promoted and developed in the past 12 months.

The report provides an open and transparent comprehensive insight into the work of the Board over the past year which is the last year of our 3-year Strategic Plan 2015-18.

The past 12 months have been particularly challenging as we have seen an increase in referrals in respect of individuals who are engaging in risky behaviour who are deemed not to have care and support needs. Many of these individuals are known to have suffered adverse childhood experiences and pose a real challenge for agencies to engage with. It is imperative that we prioritise this group of individuals and develop a multi-agency response that is able to help and manage these individuals who are high risk to themselves.

Last year we took part in a thematic review of Safeguarding Adult Reviews across the South West region, in order to benchmark ourselves and establish best practice. We are using the findings from this review to ensure that we learn from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and other learning events.

This year has seen a number of key developments and improvements being put in place in order to enhance safeguarding or minimise the risk of harm to adults with care and support needs.

The role of the newly formed Service User Co-Production Sub Group is a key development. It will play a vital role for the board and its sub groups and is essential to ensure that the voice of individuals with care and support needs is heard, thereby directly contributing to continuous improvements in adult safeguarding in Gloucestershire.

We are about to finalise our new draft 3-year Strategic Plan 2018-21 on which we have been consulting widely for a number of months. Prevention is a major theme that the Board wishes to prioritise during the tenure of our new strategy in order to minimise the risk of individuals with care and support needs becoming a victim of abuse or neglect. Making Safeguarding Personal, in order to ensure that the wishes and views of service users is respected and are central to their experience of safeguarding, remains a further priority.

Paul Yeatman

Independent Chair
Gloucestershire Safeguarding Adults Board

Board Achievements

- ❖ Holding six 'Finding the Balance' Roadshows, in four locations across Gloucestershire
- ❖ A Board Development Event for Board members covering the learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews and the new draft Strategic Plan 2018-21
- ❖ Completion of a partner agency Safeguarding Adults at Risk Self Assessment Audit
- ❖ Production of a new quarterly report, to improve performance data reporting
- ❖ Publication of a Positions of Trust Framework and Elected Members' Induction Pack
- ❖ Launch of new Communication and Engagement sub group
- ❖ Launch of new Co-Production and Service User Engagement Group
- ❖ 'Four Questions' produced by the Fire Safety Development sub group
- ❖ Completion and publication of the 'Danny' Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)
- ❖ 18,500 Gloucestershire staff and volunteers completed GSAB approved safeguarding training
- ❖ Establishing stronger links with community groups in Gloucestershire

Key Issues and Challenges

- ❖ Service User Engagement
- ❖ Learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and other Learning Events
- ❖ High Risk Individuals

Strategic Plan 2015-18

High-level priorities set out in the Board's Strategic Plan are reflected across five areas:

Priority - Empowerment

We will give individuals relevant and clear information about recognising abuse, how to report it and the choices available.

Priority - Protection and Prevention

We will support people to report signs of abuse and we will respond and take actions to reduce risk and prevent further abuse occurring.

Priority - Proportionality

We will make sure professionals work in the best interests of adults at risk and only get involved as much as needed.

Priority - Partnership

We will have effective multi agency partnership arrangements and information sharing agreements.

Priorities - Leadership, Accountability & Governance

We will ensure that the Board and all partners know what is expected of them and that lines of accountability are clear.

GSAB Sub Groups

Safeguarding Adults Reviews – Learning from practice

Policy and Procedures – Guidance for staff

Workforce Development – Training

Communication and Engagement – Telling people about safeguarding

Fire Safety Development – Identifying fire risk

Quality Assurance – Checking standards

Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs)

For the preceding year (2016/17) SAR themes were solely linked to that of self-neglect; the learning from each of those cases ('KH', 'Ted' and 'AT') advised that agencies consider unwise decision making within the complexity of deemed mental capacity, and how mental health, physical illness and learning disability may impact on delivery of health or social care services.

Significant action outcomes for 2017/18 include:

- Holding Public Health and Commissioning Leads to account; specifically in relation to the commissioner-care provider continuum, and linking the GSAB with the national work of the Health Select Committee regarding suicide prevention.
- Direct influences to adapt and enhance Adult Safeguarding (Level 3) training and Mental Capacity Act training to include supporting a person-centred approach regarding 'unwise' decision making.
- Advising the work of multi agency and single agency auditing – e.g. Lead Professional in Sec 42 Enquiry.
- Self-neglect guidance; a full review and update, linked with a GSAB communication plan for training and dissemination.

Safeguarding Activity

Calls to the Safeguarding Adults Team Advice Line, where professionals can call to discuss a case and receive advice on whether or not to raise a safeguarding concern remain high, with **3398** calls. The number of Safeguarding concerns raised on behalf of adults at risk was **1673**, when this is added to the number of advice line calls it makes a total of **5071** contacts with the team.

Of the **1673** concerns, **684** went on to become section 42 enquiries and **175** became 'Other' enquiries, making a total of **859**. 'Other' relates to enquiries which have not met the criteria for a statutory enquiry, however some form of safeguarding enquiry is deemed to be required, for example, the person is at risk of abuse and has support needs, but not care needs.

162 of the safeguarding concerns reported to the Adult Social Care help desk were made by Gloucestershire Police, an increase from **124** last year. Of these **60** led to enquiries. The Police provided information for **475** enquires and **32** were recorded as a criminal matter.

Partnership Achievements

There have been a number of achievements both individually by partners and collectively over the last year which have led to a reduction in the risk of harm.

2gether NHS Foundation Trust (2getherNHSFT)

- Continued improvement intake up of training, including increasing the availability of level 3 multi agency training run jointly with GCC
- Shared learning from SARs and audits and ensured all GSAB communication is disseminated to all staff
- Continued active participation in GSAB sub group activity

Gloucestershire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (GHNHSFT)

- Further improvements to safeguarding pathway to strengthen participation in Making Safeguarding Personal
- Recruitment of a new Safeguarding Adults Advisory Sister in April 2018
- Actions to support GSAB Fire Safety annual plan implemented

Gloucestershire Constabulary

- Staff have received training on vulnerability, domestic abuse and modern slavery/human trafficking
- Vulnerability Identification Screening Tool (VIST) now embedded and has led to an increase in notifications to Adult Social Care
- Assistant Chief Constable has commissioned a strategic profile of adults at risk, designed to map vulnerability within communities and assist with demand management.

Gloucestershire Care Services NHS Trust (GCSNHST)

- Recommendations resulting from SARs during 2017/18 implemented to the satisfaction of the GSAB
- Themes identified in the thematic review of SARs across the South West highlighted throughout all training delivered
- Training currently under development in Positive Behavioural Management to assist colleagues in achieving least restrictive options in best interests decision making

Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group (GCCG)

- Named GP as an expert advisor, giving practical and strategic support to Primary Care in relation to IMR provision, assuring active contribution and high quality standards.
- Adult Safeguarding Forum is now established 3 times per year with up to 50 county GPs attending each session
- CCG Safeguarding Team has successfully facilitated locality based Primary Care focused, Adult Safeguarding Training - Level 2. Over 300 staff trained.