

BRIEFING REPORT

Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 13 September 2017

Report Title: Adult Safeguarding Peer Review: Update on the Improvement Plan

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Janet Clowes

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1. Introduction and Policy Context

- 1.1. The Adult Safeguarding Improvement Plan was produced following the Peer Review in May 2017. The Improvement Plan was approved by DMT in October 2017 and shared with Overview and Scrutiny in December 2017. As part of the on-going recommendations and governance arrangements it was agreed that progress reports would be shared with DMT, the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Health and Adult Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
- 1.2. The Improvement Plan was reviewed in February 2018 and again in August 2018 and has been submitted and should be read separately to this report. Each action point has been RAG rated with some narrative to evidence progress so far. It should be noted that most of the actions are now rated as Green. This provides evidence of how partnerships and practice have developed over the last 12 months, and demonstrates the strong commitment to Adult Safeguarding at all levels. However, it is acknowledged that there are always new and complex challenges facing Adult Safeguarding Practitioners and therefore we are always developing new ways to respond and equip staff with knowledge and skill.

2. Background

- 2.1. The Peer Review Team concentrated on 3 areas during their visit:

- To review whether Cheshire East through its adult safeguarding policies, procedures and practice are helping to protect and deliver positive outcomes for service users and families.
 - To review whether Cheshire East is effectively fulfilling its statutory responsibilities in relation to Adult Safeguarding and DOLS.
 - To review whether Adult Safeguarding Partnership arrangements in Cheshire East maximise positive outcomes for service users and offer an appropriate strategic direction for Adult Safeguarding.
- 2.2. Sefton Council produced and shared the final report with Cheshire East Council in 2017 and the Improvement Plan was written based on their observations and recommendations

3. Briefing Information

- 3.1. The recommendations and actions within the Improvement Plan have been linked to the six principles of Adult Safeguarding, namely Empowerment, Prevention, Proportionality, Protection, Partnerships and Accountability. They are also founded on the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal, ensuring a strengths based, outcomes focussed approach to Adult Safeguarding. Key highlights and progress include:
- PARTNERSHIPS:
 - Geoffrey Appleton has successfully chaired the Safeguarding Adults Board for 12 months. The Board reviewed its Priorities in August 2018 and produced its Annual Report and Business Plan. Each Board meeting is well attended, focussing on a Theme. Practitioners attend Board meetings to share real cases which helps Senior Managers understand how Making Safeguarding Personal is being implemented.
 - The Board is now separated into 2 parts. The first part focusses on Quality issues and concerns about Care Providers. Attendance is restricted to statutory partners.
 - A Safeguarding and Dignity Award Ceremony is to be held in November 2018 in recognition of outstanding Safeguarding Practice, and a Safeguarding Conference focussing on Neglect is to be held in March 2019.
 - The Board has successfully secured 12 months funding to employ a Full Time Trainer who will work with Care Providers and Third Sector organisations.

- PREVENTION:
- An Electronic First Account (referral) form is now available on the LIVE WELL and Safeguarding Adults Board websites.
- The voices and experiences of our Service Users have been included in a book published by Dr Adi Cooper in September 2017. Moreover the SPOKEN WORD UTUBE clip, produced by our Service Users, continues to be used locally and nationally, for example at the World Social Work Conference in March 2018.
- The Safeguarding Adults Board have produced a Calendar of Events to raise awareness about Adult Abuse. A successful event was held in October 2017 to celebrate the 10 year anniversary of the Mental Capacity Act – which empowers people without mental capacity to make decisions.
- PROTECTION:
- The Adult Social Care Supervision Policy has been revised by the Principal Social Worker and RIPFA. New tools will be available to staff in the Autumn of 2018.
- Monthly Legal Gateway meetings have been established and are being successfully utilised by staff.
- Cheshire East are now adopting PAN Cheshire Adult Safeguarding Policies. For example the North West Adult Safeguarding Policy and the Person in Position of Trust Policy. This enables a consistent approach across the geographical patch.
- Officers from Cheshire East Council attended Safeguarding Adult Review Training in June 2018.
- Children and Adult Safeguarding Training is now available for Elected Members.
- EMPOWERMENT:
- Service User outcomes are measured via quarterly Making Safeguarding Personal Audits. The auditing pool has increased to 32 staff.
- Adult Social Care completed a Self Assessment in January 2018 in line with Domestic Abuse Standards, produced an action plan and shared this with Survivors of Domestic Abuse in May 2018.

- Safeguarding Board Partners completed a Making Safeguarding Personal Audit in December 2017, to measure progress of each Agency. This will be repeated in November/December 2018.
- ACCOUNTABILITY:
- The Head of Adult Safeguarding was appointed in September 2017. She ensures that the “golden thread” of safeguarding is embedded via monthly Safeguarding Governance meetings, Bi-monthly meetings with Practice Managers, Quarterly Safeguarding Champion Forums and links to the Service User Forum.
- Annual returns are completed and submitted to the DoH for Adult Safeguarding and DOLS activity. Useful feedback is received via the annual Adult Social Care Survey which captures how safe our service users feel.
- Two bespoke workshops were held for Care Providers in Crewe and Macclesfield in October 2017. These were co-presented by the Police, CQC and Adult Social Care to help Providers understand the importance of preserving evidence for criminal investigations.
- A Care Concern Pilot started in February 2018. The purpose of the pilot was to reintroduce Safeguarding Thresholds, enabling Care Providers to distinguish between a low level quality concern and a Section 42 Safeguarding referral.
- The Quality Assurance Team are producing regular Dashboard reports to DMT.

4. Implications

- 4.1. This report has captured some of the key actions that have been implemented in Cheshire East since September 2017 to date. Additional and more detailed activity is contained with the Improvement Plan itself. It is hoped that by adopting a rigorous approach to Adult Safeguarding, people are enabled to live well and for longer, are supported in decision making, and that we recognise that Safeguarding remains Everybody's Business.
- 4.2. The Head of Adult Safeguarding will continue to work with Health and Adult Social Care Directors to improve and develop services, including recruiting to a new Safeguarding Team. Moreover, she will continue to work with the

Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Board to ensure our Safeguarding strategies are aligned and robust.

5. Version Control

<This table below must be completed to show the journey that the report has taken; and should included details on the officers consulted on each version of the report. It is expected that Finance, Legal, line manager and Executive Director are consulted on every version.

Each Directorate is to have a document library to store its reports and it is the responsibility of the author to ensure that all versions are retained and stored correctly.

Draft versions are to be categorised by meeting type.

- Directorate management team; version to begin at 1.0
- CLT; version to begin at 2.0
- Informal Cabinet; version to begin at 3.0

This section can be deleted when the report is at its final state and is being submitted to Cabinet, Council, PH decision or Committee. Remember to also delete the version control box on the front sheet of the report on the top left hand corner.

The version number should also be referenced on the front cover of the report

Remember to delete the guidance wording when report is complete.>

Date	Version	Author	Meeting report presented to	Consultees		Summary of amendments made
				Name of officers consulted	Date consulted	
17/8/18	1.0	Sandra Murphy	SMT	SMT Officers	22/8/18	No changes to the Improvement Plan

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