

## Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 7 December 2023

## Report of the Director of Adult Services

### Part I

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

**Corporate Priorities:**  
Caring for the vulnerable;

## Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2022/23

(Appendix 'A' refers)

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### Brief Summary

The Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2022/23 provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Adults Board in Lancashire over the last year.

### Recommendation

The Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Consider and comment upon the contents of the report.
- (ii) Consider the implications of the report for the conduct of council business and highlight any areas of priority for the council.

### Detail

The Care Act 2014 requires that in every Local Authority administrative area, there must be a Safeguarding Adults Board. Key local agencies are represented on the Board at a senior level, but the Board has an Independent Chair.



The Safeguarding Adults Boards are required to produce and publish an Annual Report which reflects on safeguarding practice and issues in the area. The Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board agreed to sign off and publish the report in August 2023. Due to an error, the Annual Report was published on the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board website in August 2023, prior to being considered by Cabinet. Plans in place for the 2023/24 Annual Report will ensure that the report is presented to Cabinet, prior to publication.

The Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2022/23, set out at Appendix 'A', provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Adults Board in Lancashire over the last year. The report introduces Stephen Chapman as the new Independent Chair for Lancashire, which reflects a period of change for the Board. The report reflects challenges faced across the partnership in 2022/23, post-Covid, and at a time when demand increased and agencies continued to do their very best for the residents of Lancashire.

Within the report is evidence of Lancashire's commitment to keeping people safe, and free from abuse and neglect across the County. Key partners including the local authority, Lancashire Constabulary and Integrated Care Board (health) have all provided information on activity in organisations and their key priorities.

Key achievements identified from partners in the report included a redesigned safeguarding adult service; supporting the workforce with their own health and wellbeing; introduction of Right Care, Right Person for reporting concerns for welfare to the Police; closer working between mental health services and the Police through Street Triage; Campaigns for Think Victim, and safeguarding Awareness week; data alignment in health areas to support response to challenges; learning and development sessions in response to safeguarding themes; increased partner collaboration through revised membership and focused strategy, and improved connectivity between networks such as the Violence Reduction Network.

During this reporting year, the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board membership, along with the roles and responsibilities of the supporting sub-groups, have undergone a review and a new three-year strategy is now in place, supporting priorities and identified outcomes for the partnership.

Information regarding safeguarding activity in the local authority and an overview of the seven Safeguarding Adult Reviews is also included within the report. Key themes from the learning of the reviews feature on self-neglect; mental capacity assessments; domestic abuse; mental health and resident harm and care needs. The recommendations from these reviews have been progressed through action planning groups and sub-group activity.

Sub-Group activity has included progression of awareness on domestic abuse through training and shared best practice; development of self-neglect processes addressing Safeguarding Adult Review recommendations; shared best practice on making safeguarding personal and development of a commission to hear voices from vulnerable residents who have been through the safeguarding process; delivery of guidance and awareness on the Mental Capacity Act, and development of a survey to frontline staff to support further training and support.



Going into 2023/24, there is a commitment to ensuring that learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews quickly translates into improved service delivery, and a demanding workplan for the year ahead is in place which will translate into tangible outcomes in line with the Care Act 2014. Areas for the strategy and business plan have also been included.

Resources to support the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board are being restructured, with a new structure to be established from January 2024. This restructure ensures support is focused in each local authority place based area (Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire), and finance available to support activity in safeguarding adults is clearly defined and managed through the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board.

## **Consultations**

All Board Partner Agencies have been consulted during the preparation of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2022/23. The report reflects comments made and includes information directly provided by the Agencies. The Annual Report was published in August 2023, following sign off by the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board.

## **Implications:**

The report sets out the development of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Strategy for 2023-25, which is to be reviewed annually and reported through future annual reports. The Strategy will cover the safeguarding priorities for residents in Lancashire, including (but not exclusive to):

- Focused learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Compliance with Statutory Duties
- User and carer engagement
- Raising awareness in communities
- Board operation
- Prevention
- To identify good practice and areas for improvement
- Transitions - children to adults

## **Risk management**

This report reflects the activity of the Lancashire Adult Safeguarding Board for 2022/23. Areas of improvement have been identified for the activity in 2023/24. Future annual reports will be focused on providing evidence and progress on strategic aims by all partner organisations and the Safeguarding Adults Board. The risks are set out in the report and monitored by the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board.



