

## Report to the Cabinet

Meeting to be held on Thursday, 14 January 2021

### Report of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board

**Part I**

Electoral Division affected:  
(All Divisions);

### Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board - Annual Report 2019/20

(Appendix 'A' refers)

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#### Executive Summary

This report is being presented to the Cabinet, prior to publication of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2019/20. The draft Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2019/20 is set out at Appendix 'A'.

#### Recommendation

Cabinet is asked to:

- (i) Note the contents of the report.
- (ii) Comment on any key issues in the annual report and consider the implications of these in the conduct of council business.

#### Background and Advice

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 draft Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2019/20, which covers the period from April 2019 to the end of March 2020, is set out at Appendix 'A'. The Annual Report provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Adults Board in Lancashire over the last year.

This year, the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the way in which many agencies who are part of the Safeguarding Adults Board have worked. The Department of Health and Social Care acknowledged this and, to alleviate additional pressures associated with producing the report, permitted the Safeguarding Adults Boards to produce condensed reports during this reporting period. Although an Annual Report did not have to be produced, Lancashire Partners felt it was important to have one and acknowledge the work that had been undertaken.

The report begins with contextual information drawn from Public Health data. The data highlights the complexity of the population in Lancashire, with higher incidence of poor health and well-being indicators being seen in the areas of highest deprivation. The report then seeks to set out what we know about the vulnerability of the people in terms of safeguarding, what we know about the quality of safeguarding activity in local services, and how the Board has sought to make a positive impact on services.

Agencies that are responsible for safeguarding and protecting our most vulnerable adults have been able to maintain their services, and our thoughts and thanks must also be with those professionals who have worked on the front line.

Adult Services in Lancashire, supported by the council, have done everything they can to protect and support people. A huge amount of work was undertaken to put contingency plans in place, where there was a risk of care home failure and, despite the national issues, everything that could be done was in place in Lancashire, to ensure care homes remained as safe as possible. Working with the Lancashire Resilience Forum Agencies ensured that there was an efficient system of maintaining contact with elderly and 'shielded' residents, and an efficient system to ensure food deliveries were made to those that needed them.

All statutory work of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board continued during the pandemic, with Board meetings held virtually and Safeguarding Adult Reviews continuing to be undertaken. The business unit continued to operate during the pandemic, to ensure the functions of the Board had been fulfilled.

A new Executive Board has been created, chaired by Mr Stephen Ashley, and includes the three Safeguarding Adults Boards across Lancashire, Blackpool and Blackburn with Darwen.

## **Consultations**

All Board partner agencies have been consulted during the preparation of the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2019/20. The report reflects comments made and includes information directly provided by the agencies.

## **Implications:**

While there is evidence of good practice, significant challenges remain in ensuring services that provide safeguards for vulnerable adults are sufficiently resourced to meet demand on a timely basis.

## **Risk management**

The risks are as set out in the report.

## **Legal**

Failure to meet the statutory requirements in the provision of services could increase the risk of harm. It would also impact on the reputation of the council and partner agencies.

## **Equality and Cohesion**

Any deficits in service are likely to impact more significantly on those living in areas of high deprivation.

## **Financial**

In 2019/20 the support to the Lancashire Safeguarding Adults Board was provided within the funding envelope.

## **List of Background Papers**

Paper	Date	Contact/Tel
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None

Reason for inclusion in Part II, if appropriate

N/A