

Safeguarding Activity

The total number of alerts received this year was 1350, a marked increase from last year which totalled 1173.

It is unclear why there has been such an increase in the number of alerts, although there has been an increase every year for the last three years. It may be attributed to the increased public awareness through media coverage and locally through safeguarding awareness raising sessions delivered by the Safeguarding Team and partner organisations.

Alerts and Referrals

	2011/ 12	2012/ 13	2013/ 14
Alerts	989	1173	1305
Referrals	586	495	519
Referrals as a % of Alerts	59%	42%	40%

This year a new question has been included to capture the expected outcomes of the adult at risk of harm, and whether the expected outcomes have been achieved. The results show that, where deemed applicable, the expectations of the client are fully achieved in 86% of safeguarding investigations and at least partly achieved in a further 7% of cases.

	Number	%
Yes, expectations were achieved	233	86%
Expectations were partly achieved	18	7%
No, expectations were not achieved	20	7%
Not applicable	213	-
Overall Total	495	

An example of the positive impact that Safeguarding can have on a person's life :

Case Study

A safeguarding referral was raised in respect of a young woman with a profound learning disability who lived at home with her sister and her sister's family.

The allegation was that the sister roughly handled her using excessive and inappropriate restraint, that she was not properly clothed and that the food she was provided was second rate. It was also suggested that she was excluded from family life and was made to feel that she was not a full and valuable member of the family.

The sister was a person who did not want to engage with agencies and presented many obstacles and challenges.

Intensive multi-agency work was undertaken within the safeguarding process. The patience and skill of the social worker, combined with the full commitment and dedication of the care agency and the input of occupational therapy and community nursing have ensured that there is a detailed and comprehensive Protection Plan and Health Plan and that the young woman is safeguarded and closely monitored. She has been able to remain in her family environment which was felt by all, including an independent advocate, to be in her best interests.

WHO CAN I TELL MY CONCERNS TO?
To make a Safeguarding Alert ring Adults Social Care Services on 01902 551199.

If you would like any advice before contacting the number above, please ring 01902 553218.

In an emergency, ring 999.

Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2013-14

Executive Summary



Introduction

This executive summary highlights some of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Adults Board during 2013/14. The Board ensures all partner organisations work together to prevent abuse and to protect people if they are harmed or exploited.

Alan Coe is the independent Chair of both the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board and the Children Board. A joint Chair helps improve ways of preventative working as many issues are common to both adults and children such as domestic violence, and we have seen a greater emphasis on developing joint approaches to recognising and tackling abuse. 15 agencies are represented on the Board and there are four meetings a year.

Developments and Achievements

There have been many developments and achievements in the last year and details can be found in the full Annual Report. For a copy please contact 01902 553218 or

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/article/2959/Safeguarding-Adults-Board-SAB>

Risk Register

In September 2013 the Board developed its first Risk Register; the Register identifies potential risks to the effective functioning of the Board and possible mitigating actions. This is reviewed at each Board meeting and updated.

Board Priorities 2013-16

We have made some good progress against the Priorities in Year 1

Priority One: Better Outcomes –

Service User experience and involvement in safeguarding enquiries directs improved practice

Our highest priority is to get better information from people who have been at risk and who can tell us whether our intervention has made them feel safer, whether they feel they have been given choice and control and whether people have confidence that they are listened to.

Priority Two: Quality Assurance –

Ensure there are effective Multi-Agency Quality Assurance and Performance Management processes in place

We are about to introduce a set of performance measures and will collate information for all partners on the board rather than just the Council.

Priority Three: Information Sharing-

Improvements are made to how agencies can share personal information legally and ethically to enable adults to be protected from harm or unwarranted risk

Draft Safeguarding Adults Information Sharing Protocol developed to be presented at September 2014 Board.



Priority Four: Prevention-

There is a coherent inclusive approach by both Safeguarding Boards to community initiatives which protect disadvantaged groups

An audit across partners is being undertaken to identify current prevention and early intervention provision across the city. Information from the annual assurance statement is being used to inform this picture.

Priority Five: Communication and Engagement-

There is a consistent and co-ordinated approach to how the safeguarding message for adults, young people and children is disseminated to all groups and communities.

Delivered "Safeguarding in Faith" sessions, listening to faith groups and learning how we can all keep vulnerable people safe.

Priority Six: Workforce Development-

The workforce of all partner agencies have undergone safe and robust recruitment processes and understand safeguarding issues as they relate to their role.

Safeguarding Awareness training delivered to employees and volunteers and opportunities are available to develop enhanced skills for those with specific role/responsibilities.