

HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMISSION	Agenda Item No. 7
14 JULY 2009	Public Report

Report of the Director of Adult Social Services

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PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING ADULTS – FEBRUARY 2009 TO MAY 2009

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to ask the Scrutiny Commission to consider, challenge and comment on the quarterly report on adult safeguarding.

2. LINKS TO CORPORATE PLAN, SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY AND LOCAL AREA AGREEMENT

- 2.1 Safeguarding vulnerable adults is at the heart of the Sustainable Community Strategy, our ambition includes working to help the people of Peterborough “be protected from abuse, discrimination and harassment”. The Local Area Agreement targets relating to vulnerable people have particular links to this area.

3. PERFORMANCE

- 3.1 The last report to the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel was on 17 February 2009. That report included the number of alerts to the end of January 2009. The meeting in February agreed that future reporting on adult safeguarding should be on a quarterly basis (rather than six monthly). This is the first of the quarterly reports but, as there has been a disruption to the timetable of meetings due to changes in the scrutiny process, Appendix 1 of this report gives the alerts for the period February 2009 to May 2009.
- 3.2 Points of note from the data are:
- The number of alerts for February to May 09 continue to be down on previous years. This is likely to be due to the new safeguarding procedures being implemented within statutory and voluntary agencies in Peterborough with greater clarity of eligibility.
 - Following several care home investigations, the number of alerts has settled back to 2008 levels.
 - The number of alerts in Peterborough from Black and Ethnic Minority groups continues to be lower than the percentage of the population – the three year action plan includes work to investigate this issue further.
 - Work has begun between Peterborough City Council and NHS Peterborough to look at the analytical tool for community safety and understand how a similar tool could be utilised to map safeguarding data.
- 3.3 Since February 2009, 6 cases monthly have been randomly selected from the referrals for safeguarding. These cases have had detailed analysis by the practitioner and manager using pro-forma provided by CQC, as well as oversight by the senior manager, Assistant Director of Operations and Director of Adult Social Services. These audits have highlighted progress with implementing the new procedures and some areas that still require further development including the systematic use of checklists, compliance with timescales, case recording and the understanding of when a safeguarding alert should be completed and further work continued. Additional training on leading safeguarding investigations has been provided recently by external trainers who have fed back that staff who attended were “motivated and on board”.

4. PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

4.1 The Safeguarding Board considered the final draft of the Annual Report 2008-09 at its meeting on 27 February 2009 and, following presentations to the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board and Safer Peterborough Partnership, the report has now been posted on the NHS Peterborough website and distributed to key stakeholders. The report is attached at appendix 2.

4.2 At the same meeting, the Safeguarding Board also signed off a three-year action plan at its February meeting. Critical priorities for 2009/10 are:

- Developing full and effective quality assurance processes.
- Fully embedding the new procedures and ensuring that standards are met and improved performance is sustained.
- Supporting staff to deliver to the required standards.
- Developing a multi-agency training strategy.
- Investigating the lower level of alerts from black and minority ethnic communities.
- Implementing the communication strategy.
- Ensuring that the introduction of individual budgets has safeguarding as a key objective.
- Developing a strategy for service user and carer involvement.

4.3 At a subsequent meeting of the Safeguarding Board on 22 May 2009, it was acknowledged that further work needs to be undertaken on prioritising the action plan based on the resources available and that the establishment of a budget for the board should be considered at the August 2009 meeting in preparation for budget planning for next year. Advice will be sought from the Safer Peterborough Partnership on how it secures and manages funding.

4.4 The Serious Case Review panel has met once. In accordance with the protocols, the Independent Chair has written to all organisations for detailed chronological feedback of intervention and analysis of actions by each organisation.

5 SAFEGUARDING FORUM

The Safeguarding Forum has met twice since the February meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel.

5.1 3 March 2009

5.1.1 The Safeguarding Forum met on 3 March 2009 and focused on the new procedures introduced in January 2009. It was held in a workshop style giving attendees an opportunity to discuss issues raised and work through satisfactory solutions. Several areas of concern were raised by Forum members which were discussed and actions agreed.

5.1.2 A member of the workforce development team presented a report to the meeting on the Safeguarding training for Peterborough. Attendees commented that they felt very supported by the Workforce Development team regarding safeguarding training available.

5.1.3 There was a general discussion around the new national Independent Safeguarding Authority and the national "No Secrets" review consultation.

5.2 2 June 2009

The Safeguarding Forum met on 2nd June 2009 where further discussion was held around the implementation of the new procedures. Key points included:

- Comments were received and suggestions made around the time taken to fully complete Safeguarding investigations.
- The Team Managers' Checklist has been renamed the Safeguarding Checklist and is being completed by practitioners and signed off by Team Managers before forwarding to the Safeguarding Team for closure.

- The Safeguarding Team members continue to support Teams with complex issues.
- The Team Manager, Safeguarding, is working closely with other managers to shorten the time taken from a safeguarding alert being raised to closure.
- In addition to monthly audits, the Team Manager, Safeguarding continues to audit the alerts in order to monitor progress and raise issues with the teams.
- The Team Manager, Safeguarding has asked for members to bring items to agenda for discussions at future meetings.
- The Training Department made a presentation on the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty safeguards to the Forum.

6 RAISING AWARENESS OF SAFEGUARDING IN THE GENERAL PUBLIC

- 6.1 The new Safeguarding leaflets have been distributed widely according to the communication procedure.

7 TRAINING

Training provided 11th February 2009 – 1st June 2009

Course Title	Length	No of Participants
Safeguarding Raising Awareness including induction sessions	Half Day	107
Safeguarding Raising Awareness – Bespoke sessions	Half day	104
Safeguarding Enhanced Awareness	One day	46
Leading Safeguarding Investigations	Two day	9
Mental Capacity Act Awareness	Half day	126
Mental Capacity Act Awareness – bespoke sessions	Half day	37
Mental Capacity Act In Depth	Half day	0
Deprivation of Liberty For Registered Managers, Nurses, Social Workers and other care staff	Half day	81

8. EXPECTED OUTCOMES

- 8.1 The Scrutiny Commission is asked to note and discuss the content of the report.

9. NEXT STEPS

- 9.1 Safeguarding adults reports will be submitted to the Health Scrutiny Commission on a quarterly basis.

10. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

None.

Denise Radley
Director of Adult Social Services

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