

Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board

Summary Minutes

Meeting held on **Wednesday 23 September 2020**, 1-3.30pm, via Teams

Please note these are not full minutes. They are intended to provide an overview of discussions and decisions. Due to the confidential nature of some of the items discussed, it is not possible to publically share full minutes.

The Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is the multi-agency partnership responsible for ensuring that adults at risk in Newcastle are safeguarded and protected.

Criminal Exploitation and Serious Violence Strategy

The City's Criminal Exploitation and Serious Violence Strategy had been agreed and work was now underway on delivering key action areas. Initial priorities included work around increased awareness and training. A webinar about criminal exploitation is going ahead on 2 October 2020.

Learning and Development Committee

The Learning and Development Committee reported on efforts to move face-to-face training to virtual delivery. There has been increased pressure on e-learning resources and it is hoped that training via Teams (or other platforms) will assist with offsetting this.

Improving Practice Committee

The Committee had considered recently produced guidance around learning disability and learning difficulty and how this impacts upon safeguarding adults. The Committee also approved guidance on how adults at risk should be involved in safeguarding adults enquiries virtually or remotely.

NSAB Annual Report 2019-20

The NSAB's Annual Report for 2019-20 was agreed by members. This will be presented at Health Scrutiny Committee in the coming weeks.

Liberty Protection Safeguards

The Board heard about the new timeline for implementation of the Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS). There was a reminder of how LPS will differ from existing Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) arrangements; new responsibilities in health settings and application to those aged over 16. There was a desire expressed by all Board members to work together in this area.

Recovery and Surge Discussion

A planned discussion around recovery and surge linked to Covid-19 went ahead, whilst also considering the impact of new, additional restrictions announced this week. Board members reflected on things that been done well to date, things that had been difficult and areas of concern that required action. There were discussions about the success of the "Everyone In" initiative to support the homeless and rough sleepers and how this could be sustained without government funding. There was concern about the impact on both physical and mental health with further restrictions likely to be in place for a significant period of time. All agencies reported responding flexibly and creatively to ensure that they maintained contact with people, even if this was not in person. Criminal justice partners reported some delays in court hearings which were likely to impact on vulnerable victims. Criminal court hearings were likely to be impacted for several years. Most partners were positive about virtual meetings between used for safeguarding adults purposes. Whilst virtual training was also seen to be working well, some felt that long-term this did not replace the benefits of face-to-face training (especially for specialist topics and areas). The information shared will be used in the continued response to Covid-19 in Newcastle by the NSAB as well as informing a national survey of issues and good practice.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 11 November 2020

For more information about Safeguarding Adults, and the work of the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board, please visit:

<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/safeguarding-and-abuse/safeguarding-information-professionals/newcastle-safeguarding-adults-board>