

What is the Safeguarding Adults Board doing?

It's a good question. The answer is quite simple, a lot. The Board has one main objective 'to be assured that safeguarding arrangements in Nottingham City are effective'. Our Annual Report describes both the action taken by the Board and also by the agencies leading on safeguarding adults in Nottingham. The report captures:

- what we've done
- what we've learnt
- what we've achieved

Helpfully the report begins by setting the scene with a brief overview of the local demographic context in Nottingham. The next section describes the function of the Safeguarding Board, the membership and the governance structure. The main body of the report captures the progress made against each of the Board's four strategic priorities:

1. Prevention
2. Assurance
3. Making Safeguarding Personal
4. Performance and Capacity

Tell me the highlights...

The Annual Report describes the contributions each agency is making towards the four strategic priorities. This helps people to see and understand the variety of safeguarding work achieved across the partnership. However, if you just want the highlights, here are a few of them:

- **Prevention** - The Board owns a comprehensive risk register detailing the main risks to effective safeguarding in the city. These risks are now regularly reviewed together by all agencies to mitigate the likelihood or impact of these risks.
- **Assurance** – This year the Board has completed three Safeguarding Adult Reviews to identify the lessons learnt from a safeguarding death, injury or abuse. Work has now started to share the learning across the partnership and act on the recommendations for improvement.
- **Making Safeguarding Personal** – The Board has drawn together colleagues from across the City's care and support organisations - including the private, community and voluntary sectors – to provide training on Making Safeguarding Personal and the range of outcome focused approaches to help people improve or resolve their circumstances.
- **Performance and Capacity** - The Board has strengthened its back office functions, including creating a more effective website, and is improving co-ordination with other strategic partnerships.

What have we learnt this year?

- Since the closure of Autumn Grange in 2012, the Safeguarding Adults Review has established that agencies can now evidence that they are making significant improvements both within their individual organisations as well as through their partnership arrangements. This has led to the independent reviewer giving a strong level of assurance to the Board.
- The learning from the Autumn Grange Safeguarding Adults Review indicated the need to seek further assurance on access to information about complaints and advocacy in care homes.
- Further learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews this year has indicated the need for the health and social care workforce to develop an understanding of 'confirmatory bias', working with deception, and strengthening their 'professional curiosity'.
- The Board needs to continue to explore ways to understand the experience of people who have used Safeguarding services and will carry this work forward into 2017/18.

What has the Board achieved this year?

- The Safeguarding Adults Board has taken action on all recommendations from the 'Adult B' Safeguarding Adults Review. The Board has also sought further assurance from partners about the themes within this review, including the Mental Capacity Act and identifying and working with Carers.
- The Quality Assurance subgroup of the Board has identified the potential for early intervention across the partnership, including looking at alternative pathways other than a safeguarding referral.
- In addition to the Making Safeguarding Personal training mentioned above, the Board has also facilitated Modern Slavery training delivered by the police, drawing on learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews.
- The Board has consolidated its business processes including developing and agreeing the communication and engagement strategy and reviewing the Board constitution.
- The Board's Independent Chair provided feedback on the Sustainability and Transformation plan to seek assurance that safeguarding risks are taken into account.
- The Board continued to review how it works with the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board ensuring priorities across City and County borders are aligned.

What's changed?

- The 2016/17 year was one of consolidation for the Safeguarding Adults Board. The Board's office function was reviewed and a new Board Manager post was recruited to, and a fixed term, part time training officer was recruited.
- The training strategy was reviewed during the year. This led to a new Training, Learning and Improvement subgroup drawing on expert contributions from partner agencies.

Should I read the full report?

- The full report contains a wealth of detail; about staff working closely in support of citizens who have needed help with safeguarding, about creative initiatives, and about assisting and ensuring good practice and improvement across our local services.
- For everyone involved in adult safeguarding in Nottingham, the Annual Report provides information and stimulation to continue developing our practice.

Click on [this link](#) to download the full Annual Report.