

## HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### Decision Report

<b>Decision Maker:</b>	Executive Member for Adult Social Care
<b>Date:</b>	29 October 2010
<b>Title:</b>	Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2009/10
<b>Reference:</b>	2031
<b>Report From:</b>	Director of Adult Services

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#### 1. Executive Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this paper is to present the Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) Annual Report 2009/10 to the Executive Member for Adult Social Care. This can be found in the 'Preventing Abuse' section at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/adult-services/as-publications/general-publications.htm>
- 1.2 Hampshire County Council Adult Services have the leadership role for safeguarding adults across all agencies and the Executive Member for Adult Services and elected Members provide scrutiny of this role.
- 1.3 The report describes all the activity of the HSAB for 2009/10 and highlights reports from key partner agencies who are members of the Board and priorities for 2010/11.
- 1.4 The report highlights an increase in the number of reported allegations of adult abuse during 2009/10. The reasons for this are:
- Changes in demography, through increased life expectancy, have led to increasing numbers of older people and adults with complex needs, who are most vulnerable to abuse, living in the community
  - Hampshire County Council and partners have worked hard to raise public and professional awareness of safeguarding. This work has included the production of public awareness literature, developed alongside service users through the Safeguarding Users Committee and Forum, for dissemination in public places
  - There have been increased levels of training for professionals, both provided by individual organisations and in partnership with one another, which has led to increased referrals

- Data collection processes are continually being refined in order to make better links between the information and other systems across partner organisations.

## **2. Contextual information**

- 2.1 The Annual Report is published on behalf of the HSAB and contains contributions from the broad range of agencies who are members of that Board. These contributions for 2009/10 reflect a strong joint commitment and the continuing and positive development of a robust multi agency response to Safeguarding Adults in Hampshire.
- 2.2 There has been significant progress against the priorities set out in the previous 2008/09 annual report particularly around: promotion of awareness of adult safeguarding to the public and professionals; developments in collection of data; governance of the HSAB and the prevention agenda.
- 2.3 In particular, there has been a strong focus on work with service users to find out what sorts of outcomes they would wish to achieve when confronted with abuse, the processes by which they would want to achieve those outcomes and the development of a set of measurable outcomes for audit by the HSAB. With the help of a drama group, service users explored how safeguarding processes are currently experienced in practice and the drama acted as a catalyst for ideas and views being expressed.
- 2.4 As a result, service users have developed an audit tool for use by the HSAB and member agencies, to audit their practice in Safeguarding Adults work. In addition, a booklet has been developed which sets out a charter for service users involved in safeguarding and a DVD has been produced highlighting what is important to them. Both the booklet and the DVD will be used in training to help organisations, professionals, service users and their families better understand these outcomes.
- 2.5 This project was designed to assist HSAB members to look at their own practice in the light of service users' preferences and wishes. Board Members will continue to work with the Service Users Forum in order to monitor, sustain and update this work during 2010/11.
- 2.6 In January 2010, the previous Government announced that following the review of 'No Secrets' guidance (Department of Health 2000), Safeguarding Adults Boards would be reviewed in order to strengthen arrangements. Whilst there has been no formal announcement by the new Government on this issue, indications are that adult safeguarding remains under review and changes will be announced during 2011.

### **3. Legal**

Local Authority Adult Services Departments have the lead coordinating role for Safeguarding / Adult Protection<sup>1</sup>. In this role, the Adult Services Department provides co-ordination to ensure that all those who provide services for our citizens, work together to address the safeguarding agenda in Hampshire.

### **4. Financial**

4.1 Safeguarding clients is a high priority for the Adult Services Department; during 2009/10 Adult Services made a significant additional investment in safeguarding of £652,000 to increase support provided to frontline staff dealing with this workload. This ongoing investment has enabled staff to keep pace with the increasing referral rates during 2009/10 and is evidence of the Department's clear commitment to the core business of adult safeguarding.

4.2 Partners in both the NHS and the Police have also provided some funding to support the work carried out with service users during the year.

### **5. Performance**

5.1 Safeguarding referrals, across all agencies, come through the Adult Services Department. In 2009/10, there has been a significant increase in situations of abuse which are reported and it is anticipated that this trend will continue.

5.2 It is important to note that when dealing with safeguarding issues, the needs and wishes of the victims are put first within the process. Hampshire County Council are keen that the service user finds an outcome to the safeguarding process that is right for them and this may, or may not, include pursuing direct actions against perpetrators of abuse such as prosecution.

5.3 Through the collection of data, partners are able to monitor the effectiveness of arrangements for safeguarding vulnerable adults and use this information to continually improve our collective response. In 2009/10, there has been an anticipated increase in the allegations of abuse from 804 in 2008/09 to 1437. This equates to 1319 people, as one individual may be the subject of more than one report.

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<sup>1</sup> No Secrets: Guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable adults from abuse, Department of Health 2000

5.4 The outcomes for these 1319 people have been drawn from the Adult Services Department client record systems and are represented at a moment in time, as some cases are ongoing. This data shows:

- 40.5% allegations were unsubstantiated or no further action was taken or issues dealt with in a different way
- 0.3% refused support
- 15.2% the abuser or abused were removed from the situation
- 39.6% management action was taken or support provided to enable the person to manage the situation
- 1.4% referred for further action to other agencies
- 3.0% criminal investigation pending.

In addition, the Police report that there were 17 police outcomes in 2009/10 which resulted in caution or prosecution in respect of adult safeguarding cases.

5.5 Hampshire County Council submitted a voluntary Abuse of Vulnerable Adults (AVA) national return during 2009/10, which comprised data for the 6 months from 01 October 2009 – 31 March 2010. This has enabled informal benchmarking with six other local authorities and showed that levels of safeguarding activity and patterns of abuse for the six month period were in line with Essex, Hampshire's closest comparator among the participants. This return is mandatory from 2010/11 for all Councils and it will provide evidence of the effectiveness of partners' contributions in identifying, reporting, investigating allegations of abuse, and finding solutions to safeguard vulnerable adults.

## **6. Recommendation**

6.1 The Executive Member notes the welcome contributions from the statutory and voluntary sector and service users to this important area of work and endorses the Annual Report 2009/10 of the Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

## **7. Appendices**

Appendix A	Corporate and Legal Information
Appendix B	Impact Assessment
Appendix C	Members of the Safeguarding Adults Board
Appendix D	Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2009/10

**CORPORATE OR LEGAL INFORMATION:****Links to the Corporate Strategy**

<b>Hampshire safer and more secure for all:</b>	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Maximising well-being:</b>	yes
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	
<b>Enhancing our quality of place:</b>	no
Corporate Business plan link number (if appropriate):	

**Other Significant Links**

<b>Links to previous Member decisions:</b>		
<u>Title</u>	<u>Reference</u>	<u>Date</u>
<b>Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives</b>		
<u>Title</u>		<u>Date</u>
No Secrets Guidance – Department of Health		<b>2000</b>
Local Authority and Social Services Act		<b>1970</b>

**Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents**

The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)

<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

## **IMPACT ASSESSMENTS:**

### **1. Equalities Impact Assessment:**

- 1.1 The Department has completed and published on Hantsnet an Equality Impact Assessment at <http://www3.hants.gov.uk/safeguarding-ia.doc> . This document is currently being reviewed in the light of the Equality Act 2010.

### **2. Impact on Crime and Disorder:**

- 2.1. The County Council has a legal obligation under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 to consider the impact of all decisions it makes on the prevention of crime.
- 2.2. Effective safeguarding impacts on both the community safety and the domestic abuse agendas. The Police and a member of Victim Support sit on the Safeguarding Adults multi-agency Board and other emergency services are represented on a sub-group of the Board. Joint work is underway with those leading on domestic abuse to ensure that the safeguarding agenda is run in parallel.

### **3. Climate Change:**

- a) How does what is being proposed impact on our carbon footprint / energy consumption?

At present, there is no impact on HCC carbon footprint or energy consumption.

- b) How does what is being proposed consider the need to adapt to climate change, and be resilient to its longer term impacts?

There is no impact on the need to adapt to climate change.

LIST OF MEMBERS OF THE HAMPSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS  
BOARD

- Hampshire County Council Adult Services
- Hampshire Police
- Hampshire Probation Service
- Hampshire Community Health Care
- NHS Hampshire
- Hampshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Surrey and Borders Foundation Trust
- Acute Health Trusts (through the NHS Health Consortium Subgroup of the HSAB)
- Community Action, Hampshire (voluntary sector)
- Hampshire Care Association
- Hampshire Domiciliary Care Association
- Supporting People
- Strategic Housing Officers Group Representation
- Victim/Witness Support
- Service User representation
- Crown Prosecution Service
- (Department of Work and Pensions)
- (South Central Ambulance Service)
- (Hampshire Fire Service)
- (Domestic Abuse Partners)
- (Shared Lives)

For those organisations listed in ( ) there is currently not a representative attending the Board on a regular basis but they have strong links with the Board through membership of sub-groups and receive the minutes.