

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Committee

21 November 2024

Nottingham City Safeguarding Adults Board

Report of the Statutory Scrutiny Officer

1 Purpose

- 1.1 To scrutinise the Nottingham City Safeguarding Adults Board's (SAB's) latest Annual Report and the key activity being undertaken to protect vulnerable adults, and to review the outcomes of the SAB's engagement with the Committee on its previous Annual Report.

2 Action required

- 2.1 The Committee is asked:

- 1) to make any comments or recommendations in response to the SAB's 2023/24 Annual Report, the outcomes of the SAB's engagement with the Committee on its previous Annual Report and the key activity being undertaken to protect vulnerable adults; and
- 2) to consider whether any further scrutiny of the issue is required (and, if so, to identify the focus and timescales).

3 Background information

- 3.1 There is a statutory requirement for the Council to establish a SAB, whose objective is to assure itself that the local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in Nottingham who have needs for care and support (whether the Council is meeting any of those needs or not); are experiencing or are at risk of harm, abuse or neglect; or, as a result of those with care and support needs, are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect. The SAB has an independent Chair and senior representatives from:
- Nottingham City Council (Adult Social Care, Communities, Housing and Public Health)
 - The NHS Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Integrated Care Board
 - Nottinghamshire Police
 - The Carers Federation
 - The Department for Work and Pensions
 - The East Midlands Ambulance Service
 - His Majesty's Prison Nottingham
 - The National Probation Service
 - The Nottingham CityCare Partnership
 - The Nottinghamshire Fire and Rescue Service
 - The Nottinghamshire Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

- The Nottingham University Hospitals NHS Trust
- The Nottingham Community and Voluntary Service
- Healthwatch Nottingham and Nottinghamshire
- POhWER Advocacy

3.2 The SAB has three core duties:

- to publish a Strategic Plan for each financial year to set how it will meet its primary objective and what the members will do to achieve this;
- to publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its primary objective and implement its Strategic Plan, and what each member has done to implement the strategy – as well as detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adults Reviews and subsequent action; and
- to conduct any Safeguarding Adults Reviews in accordance with Section 44 of the Care Act.

3.3 The SAB's current Strategic Plan for 2022-25 has three key strategic priorities (Prevention, Assurance and Engagement) with three operational priorities sitting underneath, and the current progress towards delivering these priorities is set out in the 2023/24 Annual Report. There were seven referrals considered by the SAB's multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Review Sub-Group during this period and, of these, four met the criteria as set out under Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 for full safeguarding reviews to be commissioned.

3.4 The SAB previously attended the Committee's meeting on 16 November 2023. During discussions, the Committee considered that it was positive that the SAB was creating new resources for partners to support them in raising safeguarding concerns, and that it was developing its oversight of 'People in Positions of Trust' reporting. The Committee encouraged the SAB to grow its engagement with under-represented communities to use their feedback on services to help drive and inform ongoing improvement, and to demonstrate the impact that strengthening the involvement of service users in safeguarding arrangements was having.

3.5 The Committee recommend that close partnership working across the system was vital so that victims of domestic abuse did not fall between services, with service pathways for support being fully clear to the people who need them and all partners able to signpost people to the right service pathway from wherever in the system they first made contact. The Committee also recommend that partners across the system should be as consistent and as clear as possible in the ways in which they defined categories of vulnerability and abuse, so that communities were supported in identifying potential victims and vulnerable people at risk effectively.

3.6 The SAB is a wide-ranging partnership body with an Independent Chair, though the Council is a key member and so this item is relevant to the delivery of the 'Living Well in Our Communities', 'Safer Nottingham' and 'Serving People Well' outcomes of the Strategic Council Plan.

4 List of attached information

4.1 Report: SAB 2023/24 Annual Report

4.2 Appendix 1: SAB Annual Report – April 2023 to March 2024

5 Background papers, other than published works or those disclosing exempt or confidential information

5.1 None

6 Published documents referred to in compiling this report

6.1 Report to, and Minutes of, the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny meeting held on [16 November 2023](#)

6.2 [SAB Strategic Plan 2022-25 and Previous Annual Reports](#)

7 Wards affected

7.1 All

8 Contact information

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