

BUSINESS ITEM

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 19 April 2016

Wards: All

Subject: Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2014/15

Lead officer: Simon Williams, Director of Community and Housing

Lead member: Councillor Caroline Cooper Marbiah, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Health

Contact officer: Melba Gomes, Safeguarding and DOLS Service Manager

Recommendations:

- A. To note the Merton Safeguarding Adults annual report 2014/15
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1 PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of the report is for the HWBB partners to be sighted on the Merton Safeguarding Adults Annual report 2014/15.

2. DETAILS

2.1 The Safeguarding Adults Annual Report is for 2014/15, under the previous Vulnerable Adults Safeguarding Team (VAST) and it should be noted that since then significant changes have come into place. The Care Act 2014 has now put adult safeguarding on a legal footing, from April 2015 each local authority is required to:

- set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) with core membership from the local authority, the Police and the NHS (specifically the local Clinical Commissioning Group/s) and the power to include other relevant bodies
- make enquiries, or ensure others do so, if it believes an adult is subject to, or at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to stop or prevent abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom
- arrange, where appropriate, for an independent advocate to represent and support an adult who is the subject of a safeguarding enquiry or Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) where the adult has 'substantial difficulty' in being involved in the process and where there is no other appropriate adult to help them
- co-operate with each of its relevant partners in order to protect adults experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect.

2.2 The most recent work in Merton will be more fully reflected in the annual report for 2015/16 when it is brought to the HWBB later this year. This will be a dedicated item for discussion by the Board and if possible link to the annual report of MSCB.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

From April 2015 it is now statutory for all local authorities to have a Safeguarding Adults Board which makes an annual report.

4. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

None for the purpose of this report.

5. TIMETABLE

It is planned that the SAB annual report 2015/16 will be reported to the Health and Wellbeing Board later this year.

6. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

None for the purpose of this report

7. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

It is a statutory requirement for all local authorities to have a Safeguarding Adults Board.

8. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

The Safeguarding Adults annual report is focused on safeguarding those who are vulnerable.

9. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None for the purpose of this report.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None for the purpose of this report.

11. APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

Appendix 1 – Merton Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2014-15

12. BACKGROUND PAPERS

N/A