

CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 23

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Safeguarding Adults 2008/2009		
Date of Meeting:	19 October 2009		
Report of:	<i>Director, Adult Social Care and Housing</i>		
Contact Officer:	Name:	<i>Karin Divall</i>	Tel: 29-4478
	E-mail:	Karin.divall@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	No		
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 Brighton & Hove City Council Adult Social Care are the statutory lead authority for protection of vulnerable adults from abuse. Abuse can take a number of forms including physical, sexual, psychological, financial abuse and neglect against vulnerable, older and disabled people. Abuse can be spontaneous or premeditated and can be a single incident or repeated and abusers could be a family member, a friend, staff, a professional and volunteer.
- 1.2 Adult Social Care (ASC) are the lead investigating authority for safeguarding alerts which are raised when someone has a concern about the way a vulnerable person has been treated. ASC collect statistical information on the number of safeguarding alerts received and the investigations that they carry out. This report sets out the activity during 2008/9 and compares this with activity during the preceding year.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Cabinet Member notes the trends over the last two years for safeguarding adults work in Brighton and Hove, and requires that reports are received in future on a quarterly basis in order to monitor safeguarding performance.
- 2.2 That the Cabinet Member requests that the Annual Report, which is produced for the Annual Conference, is presented to the Cabinet Members Meeting in December 2009.
- 2.3 That the Cabinet Member notes that the Safeguarding Adults Annual Conference will take place on December 3rd 2009

3.0 RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 3.1 The data for safeguarding adults is set out in Appendix 1 for Adult Social Care, and Appendix 2 for section 75 services. Historically as practice and expertise has developed the number of safeguarding alerts and investigations has increased. However with the exception of Older People's services where there has been a fall in activity, 2008/9 showed a levelling of activity.
- 3.2 The trends show a 22% decrease in activity in the older People's Community Assessment Team. The reasons for this are being looked into and may be due to the impact of the Access Point Team, who are able to resolve low level concerns immediately before the risk to the person increases. Incidents of financial abuse continue to increase in many services, for example a 52% increase for people with physical disabilities. The feedback from staff is that these are mainly due to concerns about money management by friends/family when informal arrangements have been agreed, with allegations being made by service users themselves. This will be useful information in informing safeguards for Self Directed Support arrangements such as personal budgets and direct payments. There has been an increase in recorded alerts from Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust by 72% for people of a working

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 None

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

5.1 Financial Implications:

There are no direct financial implications arising from the recommendations made in this report. Any changes in the volume of activity will need to be managed as part of the budget strategy.

Finance Officer Consulted: Mike Bentley

Date: 2nd October 2009

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Local Authority has a duty to all vulnerable adults in the City to ensure their safety and well-being. Ongoing adherence to robust Safeguarding practice and procedure and monitoring of the same is essential to meeting such duty. The Local Authority as a public body is required to ensure compliance with the Human Rights Act 1998 to include positive steps to ensure individual's Rights are not breached. Proper Safeguarding and monitoring of the procedures and outcomes are an essential part of these positive steps.

Lawyer Consulted: Sandra O'Brien

Date: 07 October 2009

Equalities Implications:
5.3 Older people, people with disabilities and mental illness can be vulnerable to abuse.

Sustainability Implications:
5.4 There are no sustainability implications.

Crime & Disorder Implications:
5.5 Vulnerable people can be subject to financial abuse and physical and sexual violence which are forms of adult abuse that are reported to Adult Social Care.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:
5.6 Safeguarding Adults is a key role for Adult Social care in ensuring that the most vulnerable people are able to live safely. Failure to manage this responsibility well puts individuals at risk as well as exposing the local authority to risk and challenge.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:
5.7 Safeguarding work is carried out across the City

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

6.1 Safeguarding is a core statutory responsibility and it is important that there is good monitoring and oversight of performance

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

7.1 To ensure that the Cabinet Member has an overview of Safeguarding Performance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

None

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

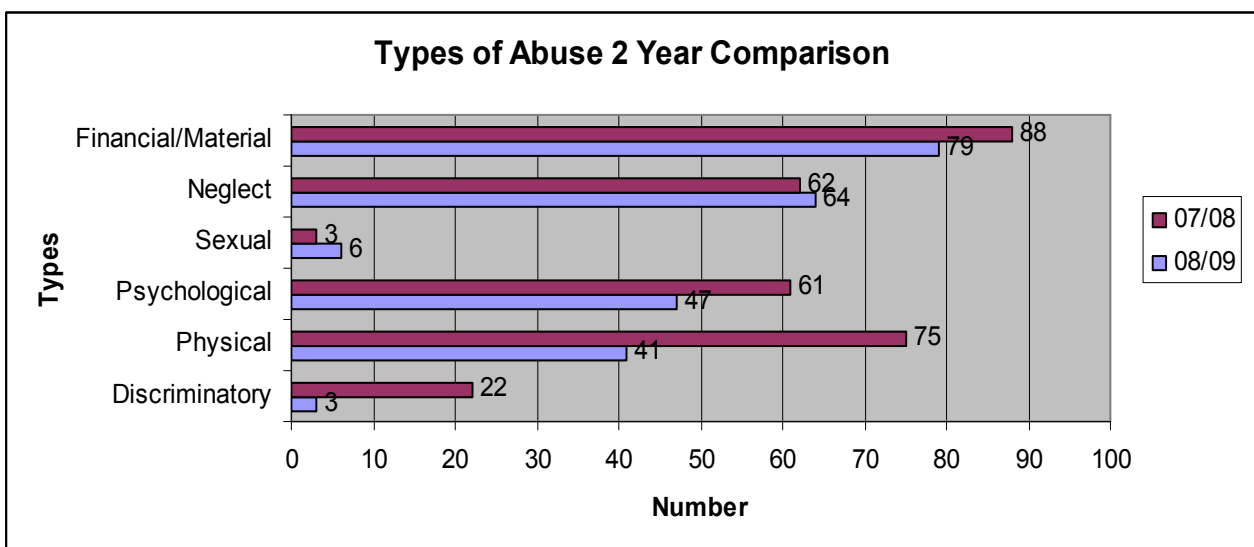
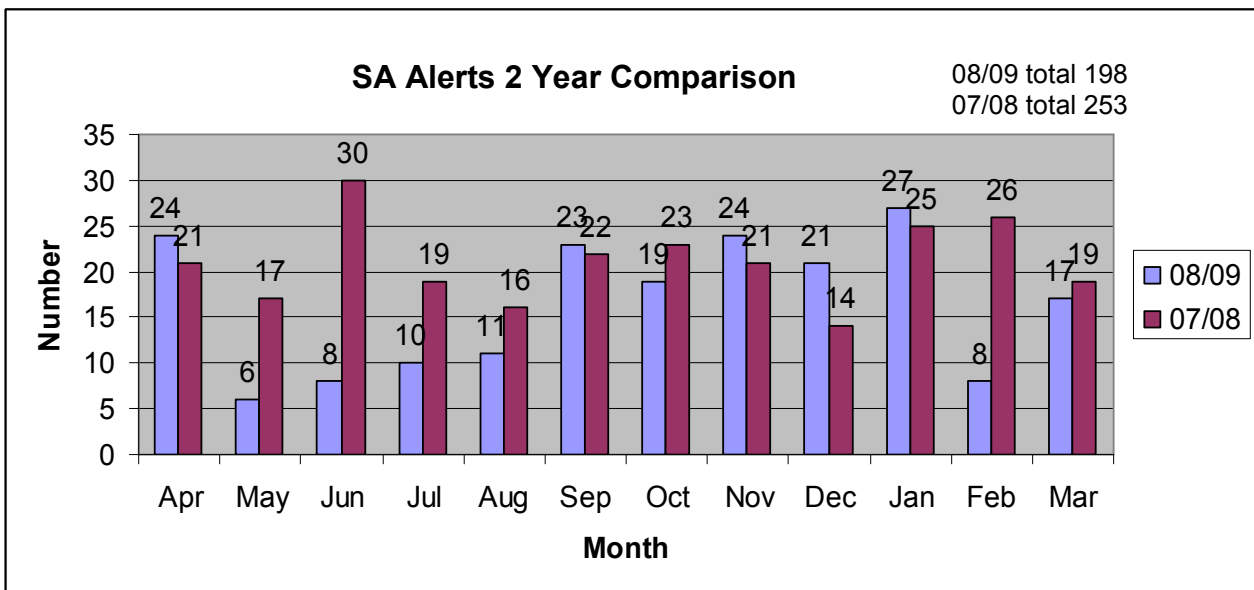
Background Documents

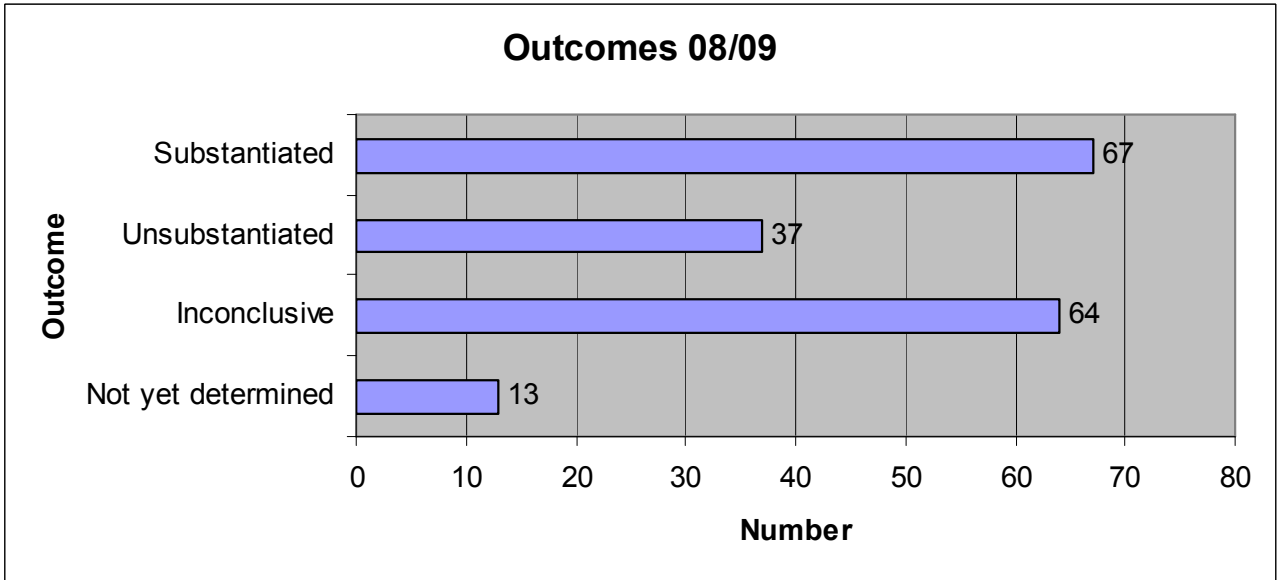
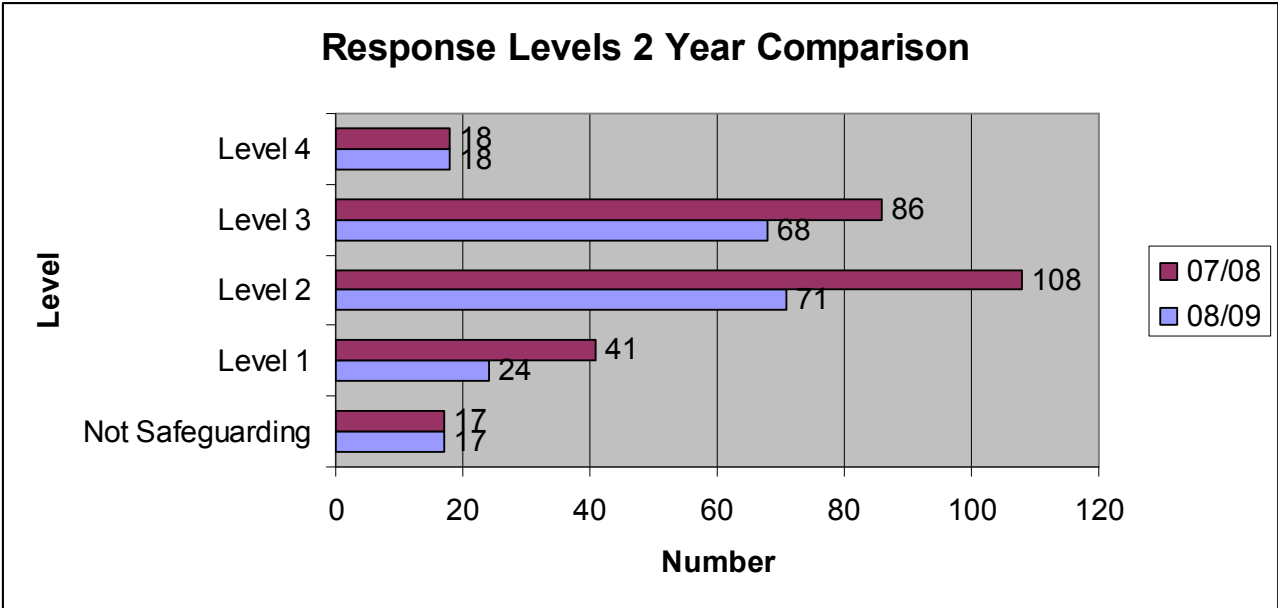
None

Appendix 1

Older People's Community Assessment Team Safeguarding Adults 2008/09

Total number of Alerts: 198
 Number not safeguarding: 17
 Average Alerts per Month: 16.5
 Total Number of Investigations: 181
 Average Investigations per Month: 15
 Case Conferences Held: 55

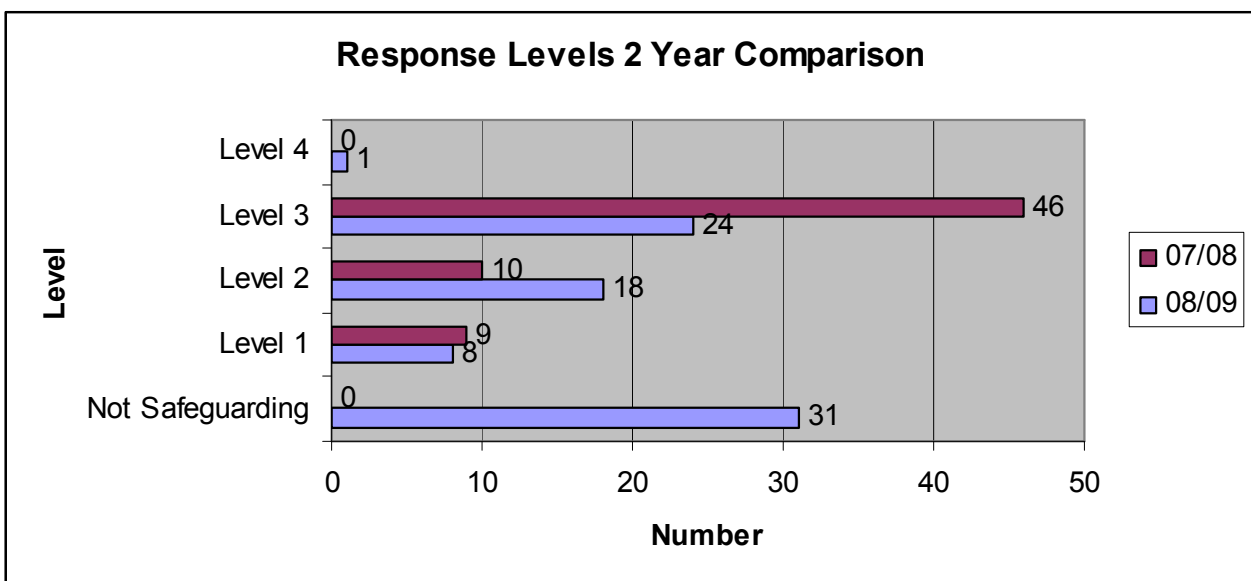
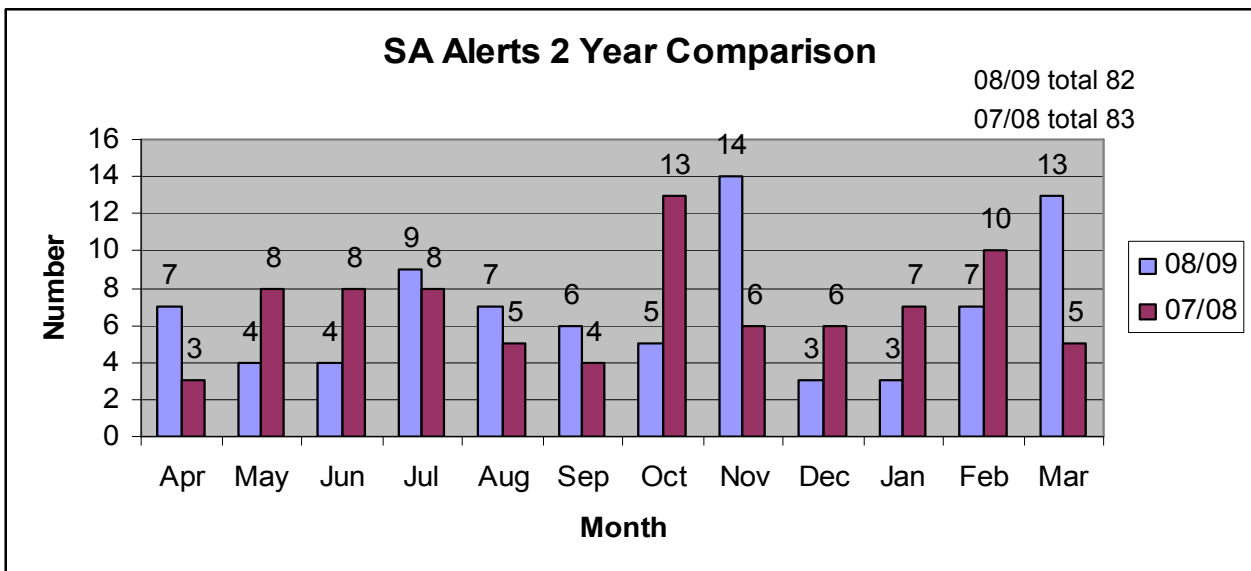


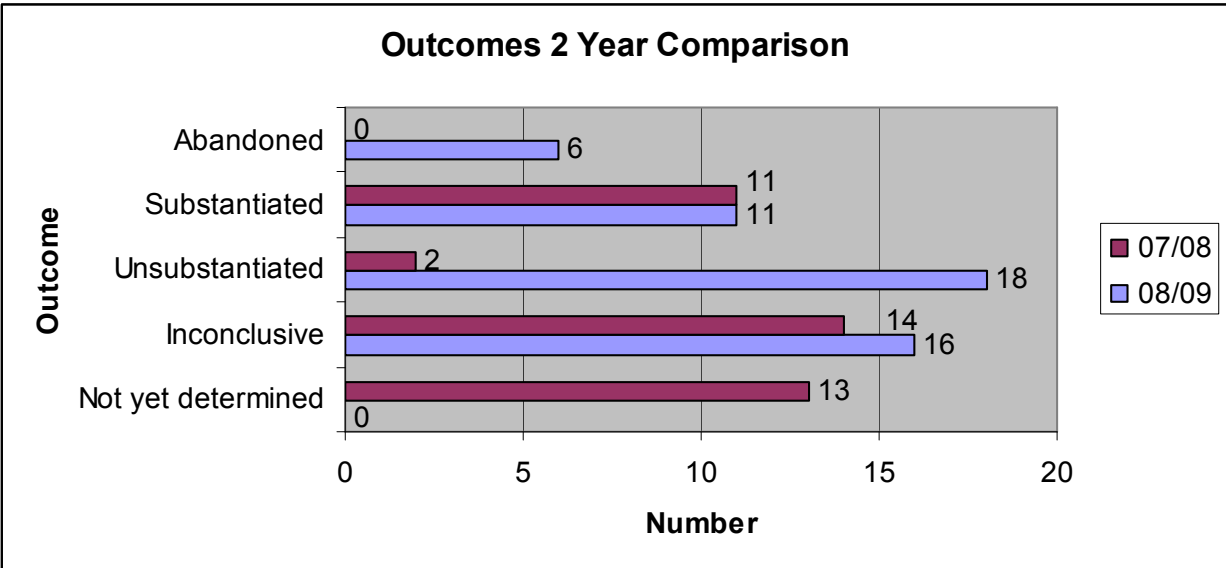
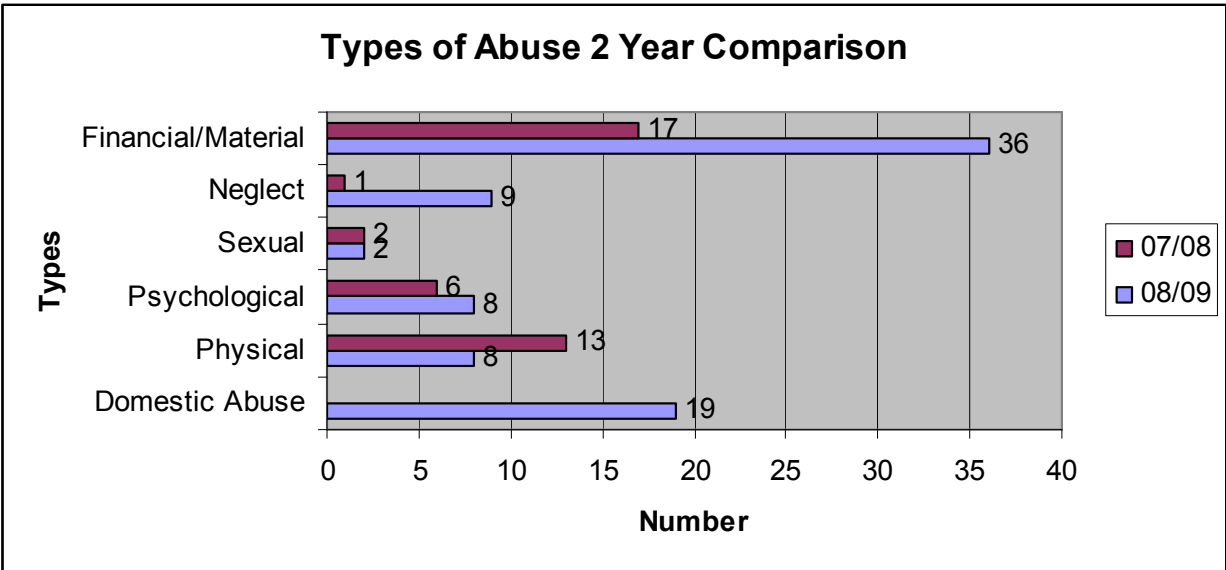


Physical Disability Assessment Team and Sensory Services Safeguarding Adults Report 2008/09

All statistics are for the financial year of 2008/09.

Total number of Alerts: 82
 Number not safeguarding: 31
 Average Alerts per Month: 7
 Total Number of Investigations: 51
 Average Investigations Per Month: 3
 Case Conferences Held: 19

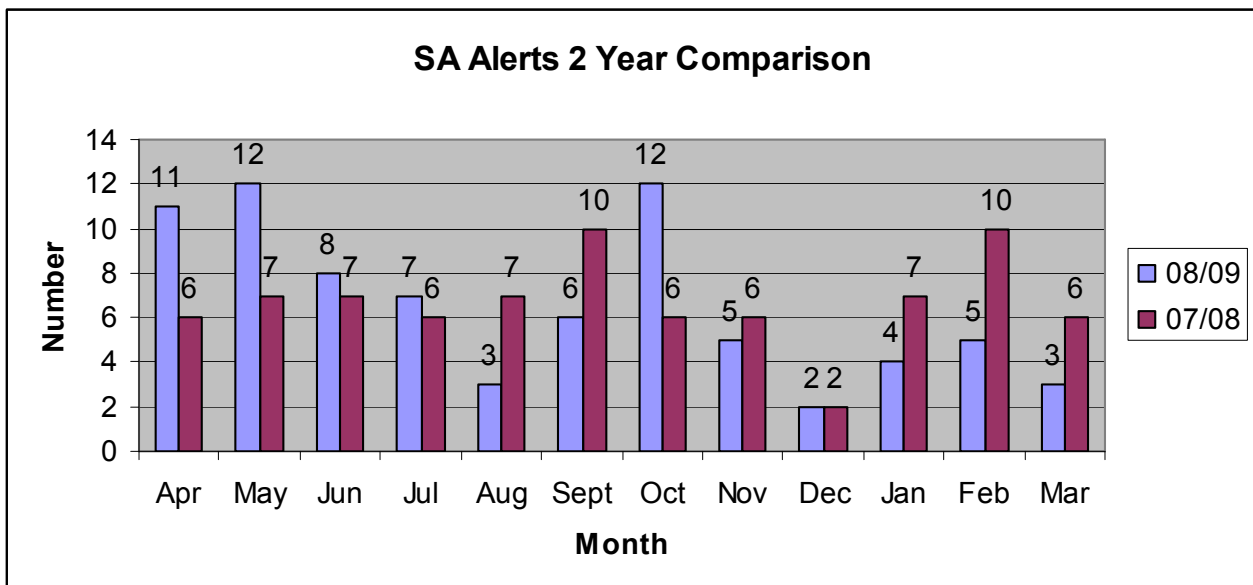


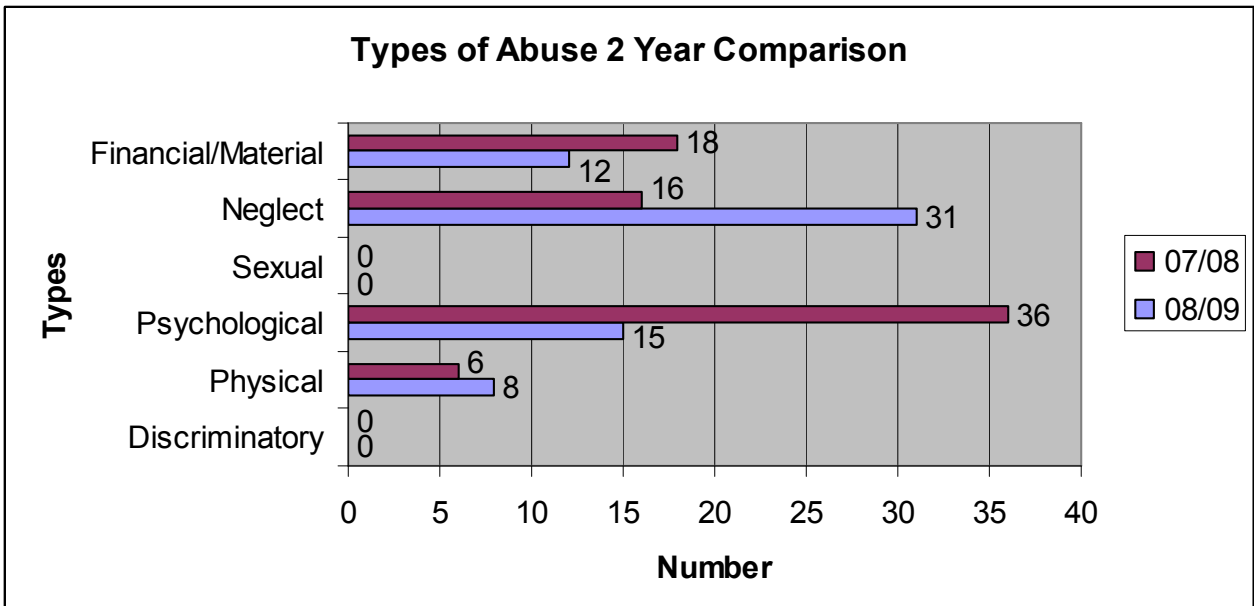
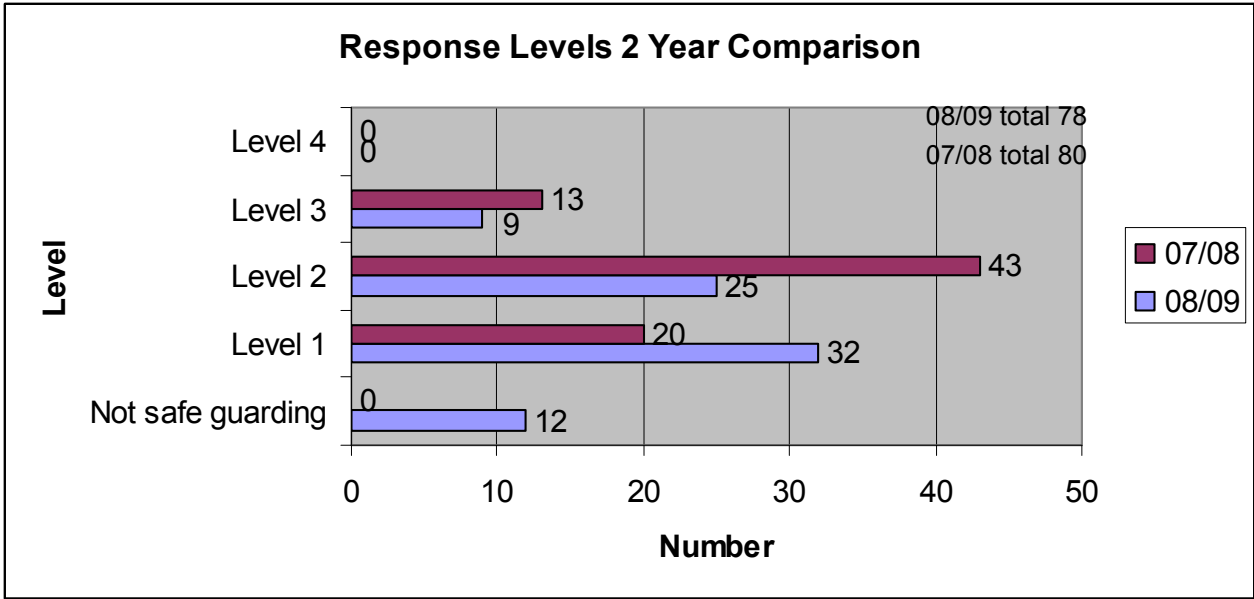


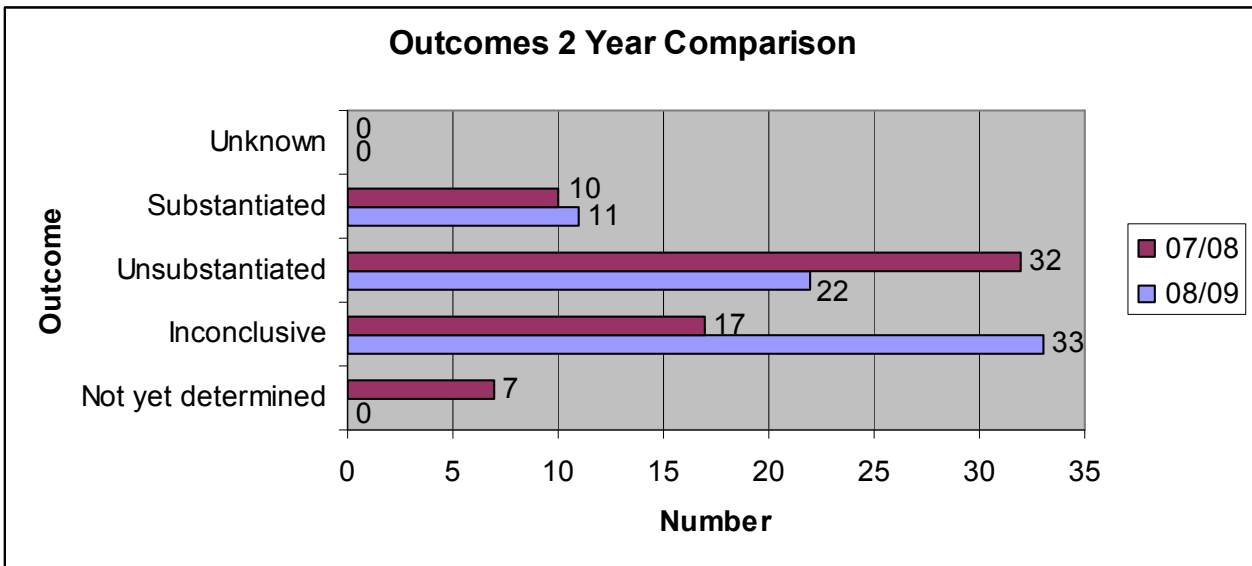
Intermediate Care Services Safeguarding Adults Report 2008/09

All statistics are for the financial year of 2008/09

Total number of Alerts: 78
Number not safeguarding: 12
Average Alerts per Month: 6.5
Total Number of Investigations: 66
Average Investigations Per Month: 5.5
Case Conferences Held: 3



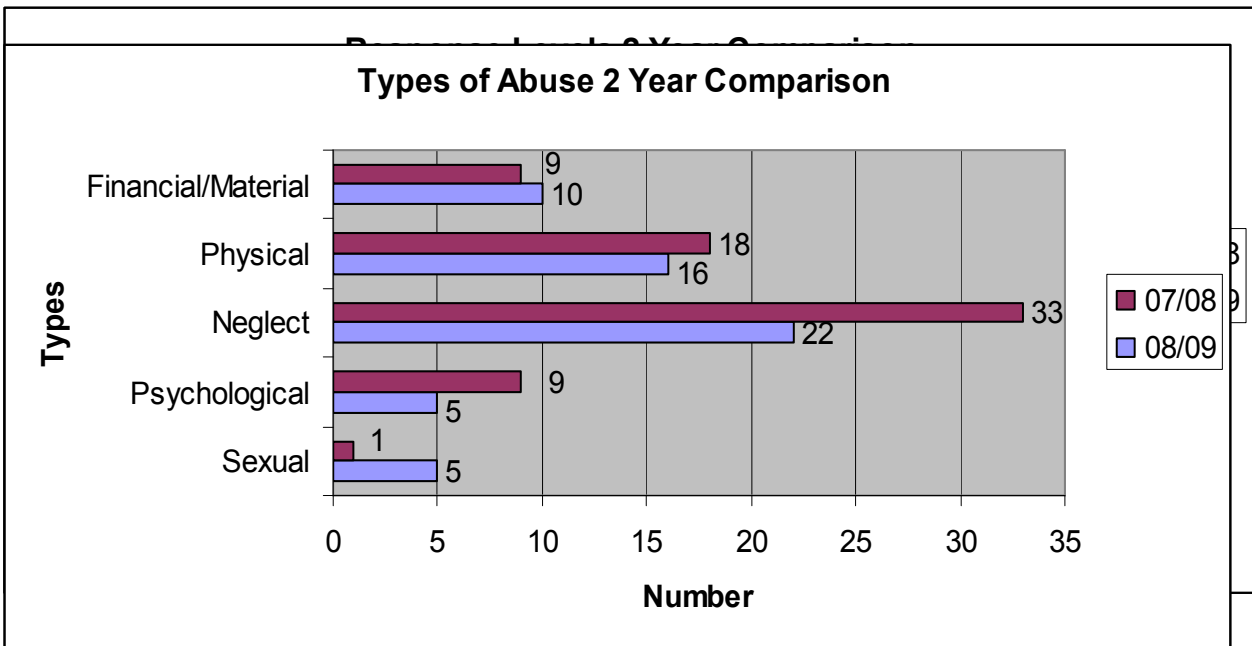
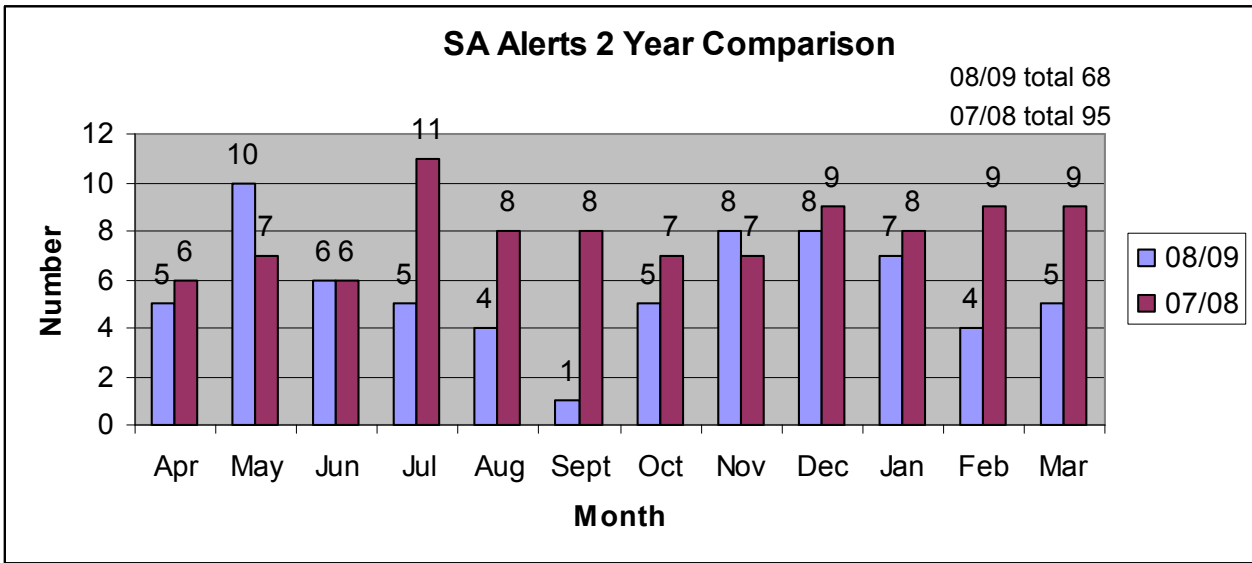


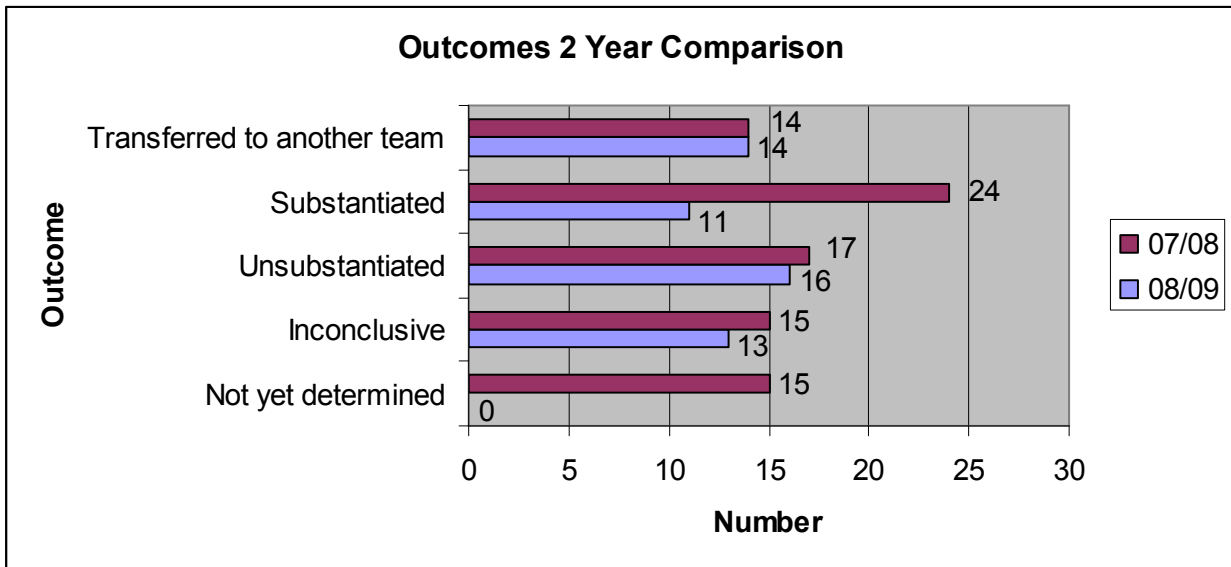


Hospital Assessment Services Safeguarding Adults Report 2008/09

All statistics are for the financial year of 2008/09.

Total number of Alerts:	69
Number not safeguarding:	15
Average Alerts per Month:	6
Total Number of Investigations:	54
Average Investigations Per Month:	4.5
Case Conferences Held:	16





Appendix 2

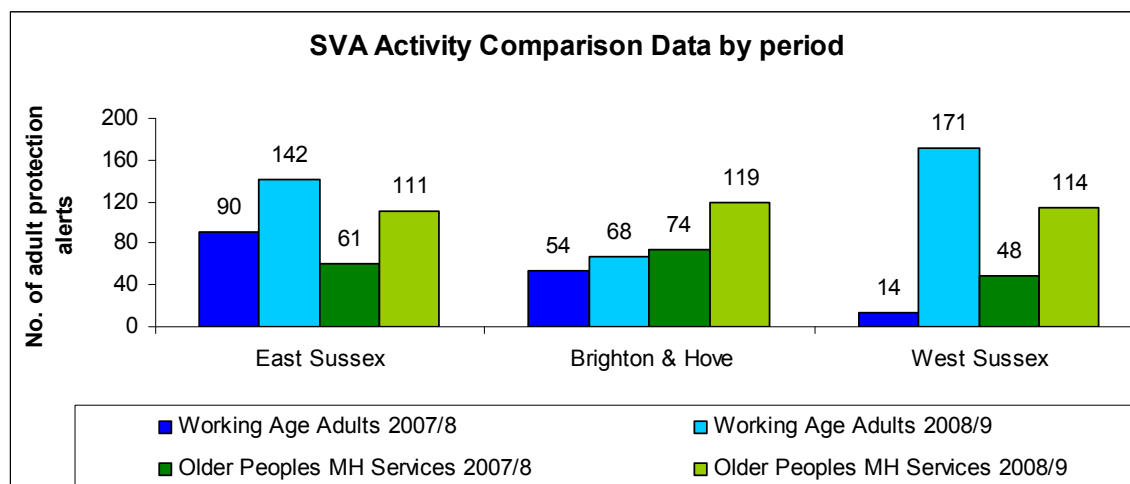
SUSSEX PARTNERSHIP FOUNDATION TRUST
Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Activity Data 2008/09

Adult Protection Alerts by Care Group April 2008 – March 2009

Care Group & Locality	Working Age Adults	Older Peoples	Secure & Forensic	Substance Misuse	Learning Disabilities	Total
East Sussex	142	111	5	3	N/A	261
Brighton & Hove	68	119	0	42	N/A	229
West Sussex	171	114	0	0	8	293

- (*) Including Alerts relating to Private/ Independent Sector Provider. Adult Social Care WSCC & Trust providing professional input to coordinate investigation process

Alerts by Care Group 2007/08 & 2008/09



Assessed levels of investigations/ response

Working Age Adults Services

Levels	East Sussex	Brighton & Hove	West Sussex
Level 1	25	10	33
Level 2	67	6	56
Level 3	24	3	45
Level 4	0	0	2
Not recorded	26	49	35

Older Peoples Services

Levels	East Sussex	Brighton & Hove	West Sussex
Level 1	20	9	85

Level 2	34	42	14
Level 3	27	33	1
Level 4	11	34	0
Not recorded	19	1	14

Key

- ❖ Level 1 = Intervention by service provider - One off isolated incidents that has not adversely affected the physical, psychological or emotional well-being of vulnerable adult.
- ❖ Level 2 = Intervention by investigation team to assess or review the needs of vulnerable adult and/ or the alleged perpetrator within the context of presenting concern(s)
- ❖ Level 3 = Adult Protection enquiry undertaken – Physical, psychological or emotional wellbeing of adult has been adversely affected by the alleged incident, a criminal offence may have been committed or breach of regulations provided by Care Standards Act, 2000. There is actual or potential risk of harm or exploitation to other vulnerable adults
- ❖ Level 4 = Complex adult protection enquiry undertaken with multiple services users/ victims. Presenting information suggests a number of people adversely affected, multiple breaches of regulations issued under Care Standards Act 2000. A number of criminal offences may have been committed, institutional abuse/ practice.