

ADULT SOCIAL CARE & HEALTH CABINET MEMBER MEETING

Agenda Item 43

Brighton & Hove City Council

Subject:	Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults		
Date of Meeting:	10.01.11		
Report of:	Director of Adult Social Services and Lead Commissioner People		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Denise D'Souza	Tel: 29-5048
	E-mail:	denise.d'souza@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.
- 1.3 An inspection team from the Care Quality Commission visited Brighton and Hove in May 2010 to find out how well Brighton and Hove was safeguarding adults whose circumstances made them vulnerable. In August 2010, following this inspection, they conclude that Brighton and Hove was performing well in safeguarding adults. They made some recommendations for improving outcomes and an improvement plan was agreed. These agreed actions were incorporated into the Business Plan for the Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 1.4 This report shows the Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan, updated since August 2010, in order to show the progress made in improvement planning for safeguarding vulnerable adults.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- (1) That the Cabinet Member notes the updated Business Plan for safeguarding vulnerable adults.

(2) That the Cabinet Member requests that this information will be included, with a further update, in the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Annual Report for April 2010/11

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 'No Secrets' was published in March 2000 by the Department of Health and the Home Office for use by all health and social care organisations and the police, giving guidance on developing and implementing multi-agency policies and procedures to protect vulnerable people from abuse. It noted that some groups of adults experience a higher prevalence of abuse and neglect than the general population and that they are also not so easily able to access services to enable them to lead safer lives.
- 3.2 'No Secrets' stated that the development of local multi-agency codes of practice for safeguarding vulnerable adults should be co-ordinated locally by each local authority social services department, requiring partnership working to create a framework of inter-agency arrangements. The lead agency within the overall framework should be the local authority, but all agencies should designate a lead officer at senior level. This would create a multi-agency management committee for safeguarding vulnerable adults.
- 3.3 The Safeguarding Adults Board in Brighton and Hove fulfils this role, and is a multi-agency partnership leading the work to safeguard vulnerable adults in Brighton and Hove. Its members include Sussex Police, Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust, Sussex Community Trust, Brighton and Sussex University Hospital Trust, South East Coast Ambulance Service, Brighton and Hove NHS, Practitioners Alliance Against the Abuse of Vulnerable Adults (PAVA), the Domestic Violence Forum, The LINK, Community Safety, and leads for City Council assessment, provider, contracts, and housing teams.
- 3.4 The Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan (Appendix 1 for 2009/11 plan) is the work plan agreed by the Safeguarding Adults Board setting out objectives and priorities for preventing adult abuse, and ensuring all safeguarding work is of the highest quality.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 None

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no direct implications arising from the recommendations of this report. Any costs associated with the delivery of the business plan forms part of the budget strategy of the different partner agencies involved.

Finance Officer Consulted: Name Anne Silley

Date: 13/12/10

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 It is incumbent on the Local Authority as safeguarding lead to implement the recommendations made by the statutory inspection body, CQC, to ensure ongoing robust and effective safeguarding practice in the city. By definition proper safeguarding planning and practice ensures individuals' Human Rights [as enshrined in the Human Rights Act 1998] are taken into account.

Lawyer Consulted:

Name Sandra O'Brien

Date: 20/12/10

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 abuse 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 the Cabinet Member has an overview of safeguarding performance.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Adults Business Plan 2009/11

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. Inspection Report Care quality Commission 19th August 2010