

**Protocol between the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board and the
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board**

1. AIM

The aim of this Protocol is to define how the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board (LHWB) and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) will work together in the pursuit of safeguarding and to promote the welfare of vulnerable adults in Lincolnshire at risk of abuse and neglect.

2. PURPOSE OF THE BOARDS

2.1 Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB)

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi-agency partnership responsible for the protection of adults at risk from abuse and neglect.

The Care Act 2014 defines Safeguarding as;

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while at the same time making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted including, where appropriate, having regard to their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

The Care Act 2014 also sets out the legal requirement for a Safeguarding Adults Board and states:

"Each local authority **must** set up a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB). The main objective of a SAB is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults who are experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect."

2.2 Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board (LHWB)

Health and Wellbeing Boards were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to act as a forum in which key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and to promote integrated services. The LHWB became a formal committee of the County Council in April 2013. The main functions of the Board are set out in Sections 195 and 196 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

This means the Board has a:

- duty to encourage integrated health and social working arrangements and to provide advice and guidance to support such arrangements;

- duty to oversee the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which provides a comprehensive picture of the health and wellbeing needs of Lincolnshire;
- duty to produce a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) covering social care, health care and public health;
- duty to develop the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment;
- right to be consulted by each Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on their commissioning plan and to give an opinion whether each CCG's commissioning plan takes proper account of the JHWS.

3. PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS TO ENSURE CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE BOARDS

All bodies have a responsibility to ensure vulnerable adults are properly safeguarded so that safeguarding is not the sole responsibility of any single agency or partnership. As such, all key strategic plans, whether they are formulated by individual agencies or by partnership forums, should include safeguarding as a cross-cutting theme. This is to ensure that existing strategies and service delivery, as well as emerging plans for change and improvement, include effective safeguarding arrangements that ensure that vulnerable adults in Lincolnshire are safe from neglect and abuse, and their wellbeing is protected.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out the commissioning direction and five year priorities to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Lincolnshire. The LHWB will hold partners to account to ensure commissioning and decommissioning decisions align to the JHWS and deliver the shared outcomes. It is critical that in drawing up, delivering and evaluating the strategy, there is effective interchange between the LHWB and LSAB. Therefore each Board undertakes to:

- identify a named individual/post to act as a contact point to ensure co-ordination of relevant activities;
- ensure messages and information about keeping vulnerable adults safe from abuse and harm are disseminated within partner organisations, including collaborating on stakeholder events;
- ensure action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another;
- where appropriate ensure that there is cross-board representation to facilitate co-ordination and prevent duplication of activity.

In order to foster a closer working relationship and ensure effective safeguarding arrangements are in place the following commitments will apply:

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adult's Board will:

- formally share its Strategy with LHWB during the formulation stage to enable co-ordination and coherence where there are business overlaps;

- provide assurance to the LHWB that satisfactory arrangements are in place for safeguarding vulnerable adults. Where appropriate arrangements are not in place the LSAB will highlight concerns to the LHWB;
- ensure comprehensive safeguarding data analysis is fed into the JSNA to inform strategic planning and priority setting;
- provide support, scrutiny and challenge to the commissioning and quality assurance arrangements across health and social care to ensure that they adequately reflect Safeguarding;
- formally present its Annual Report to the LHWB.

The Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board will:

- regularly share its work programme and Forward Plan to enable co-ordination and coherence where there are business overlaps;
- as required, provide information in respect of the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to the LSAB;
- provide a formal response to LSCB's Annual Report;
- provide LSAB with a copy of the LHWB's Annual Report (*first report due Autumn 2014*).

4. OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The LSAB is not directly accountable to the LHWB, so their role in relation to it would be one of equal partners underpinned by this protocol. This would facilitate the LSAB's responsibility to scrutinise and highlight any safeguarding concerns they may have relating to the work of the LHWB or its member organisations.

This Protocol will be reviewed a year after its agreement and bi-annually thereafter or when national guidance affecting one of the Boards is revised or introduced.

5. RESOLUTION PROCESS

Where there is concern that this protocol is not succeeding in ensuring strong partnership working to keep vulnerable adults safe from abuse and harm, resolution should be sought through communication between the Chairs of the Boards, the Lead Members and the Directors of Adult Care and Public Health.

6. SIGNATURES:

..... Date
Chairman, Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board

..... Date
Independent Chairman, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board