



**Open Report on behalf of Glen Garrod,  
Executive Director - Adult Care and Community Wellbeing**

Report to:	<b>Adults and Community Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>01 December 2021</b>
Subject:	<b>Lincolnshire Adults Safeguarding Board - Update Report</b>

**Summary:**

To provide members with an overview of the role and work of the Lincolnshire Adults Safeguarding Board including an update in relation to the Team Around the Adult project.

**Actions Required:**

The Committee are invited to:

- 1) To note the contents of the report;
- 2) To promote the work of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board

## **1. Background**

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) is a statutory partnership that has 3 core functions as defined in the Care Act (2014) section 14.136.

- a. It must publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objective and what the members will do to achieve this.
- b. It must publish an annual report detailing what the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) has done during the year to achieve its main 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 adult's reviews and subsequent action.
- c. It must conduct any safeguarding adults review in accordance with Section 44 of the Act.

The Act requires that the SABs should ensure that adult safeguarding arrangements across its locality are coordinated and that the arrangements are effective across partner agencies.

It requires the LSAB to develop and actively promote a culture with its members, partners and the local community that recognises the values and principles contained in 'Making Safeguarding Personal' (MSP). It should also concern itself with a range of issues which can contribute to the wellbeing of its community and to the prevention of abuse and neglect, such as:

- Safety of people who use services in local health settings, including mental health.
- Safety of adults with care and support needs living in the community, in social housing and in care homes.
- Effective interventions with adults who self-neglect, for whatever reason.
- Quality of local care and support services.
- Effectiveness of prisons in safeguarding offenders.
- Making connections between adult safeguarding and domestic abuse.

LSAB is a partnership body and has over 20 partner agencies as members. The Board sets direction and priorities, develops partnership working and holds partner agencies to account for the effective delivery of safeguarding arrangements.

The core partners are Lincolnshire County Council, the Clinical Commissioning Group in Lincolnshire and Lincolnshire Police.

The LSAB structure includes:

- An Executive Group whose membership is primarily the three core partner - the lead Council member, three main NHS providers and a district council representative.
- A Partnership Board made up of a wider group of agencies including the voluntary sector, prisons, Lincoln University, Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) plus others.
- A number of sub-groups to reflect the Board's strategic priorities of Prevention and Early Intervention, Quality and Assurance, User Engagement and Review and Learning.

### Cross Board Collaboration

LSAB has a key role in collaborating with other Lincolnshire strategic boards and has worked closely with the Safer Lincolnshire Partnership, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership and the new Domestic Advisory Board to form a collaboration in relation to a number of work streams and the development of a strategic needs assessment.

Collaborative work with the Board's resources has so far focused upon developing a shared approach to multi-agency training, audit work and communications. Further work is being progressed around the possibility of bringing together the review processes in

relation to serious case reviews, adult safeguarding reviews and domestic homicide reviews.

The strategic assessment across the four boards has provided an excellent evidence base for future priorities that can be delivered by a more joined up approach and recommendations from the assessment focus upon developing a shared prevention strategy, an analytical capability and greater information and data sharing.

### Assurance role

Assuring the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements across partner agencies is a key role for the Board. Over recent years the Board has developed an assurance framework which is similar to the Children's Section 11 audit and is required to be completed by partner agencies every three years.

To supplement this process LSAB have also introduced an annual assurance event at both Executive and Partnership levels which has taken place this autumn.

The focus of the assurance events predominantly related to the partners' experiences, challenges and learning during the main Covid-19 response. There were clear similarities between organisations with a focus upon complexity and volume of cases experienced, concerns around quality of care in relation to self-neglect and recognition of the general strain on the system and staff. New legislation relating to Liberty Protection Safeguards which will replace the existing Deprivation of Liberties processes, along with a review of the Mental Health Act and a change for Health and Social Care into a new Integrated Care System also featured in the discussion for future considerations by the Board in relation to their impact upon safeguarding.

### Learning

A key aspect of the commissioning of Safeguarding Adults Reviews is to ensure that any recommendations made are translated into action and a tangible difference made in respect of how individuals experience the service partners provide.

Following a national review of Safeguarding Adults Reviews, LSAB compared its own learning and findings against the national picture. As a result of which, the Board delivered the first of a series of short virtual conferences for front-line practitioners in October. The key themes explored being professionally curious, information sharing and complex cases. The Board were assisted in its delivery by the Team Around the Adult Co-ordinators who provided excellent examples of complex case management and innovative solutions.

Recent guidance developed and in the process of being published on the LSAB website has also included "Professional Curiosity", "Making Safeguarding Personal" and "Self-Neglect".

## Team Around the Adult

Team Around the Adult (TAA) is a pilot initiative born out of a Serious Adult Review (SAR) called TH19. The SAR considered the abuse and neglect relating to a number of adults with complex needs including mental illness, homelessness and/ or drug and alcohol addiction. Whilst some of these people were known to agencies there was a theme of non-engagement and or falling through gaps in services.

The TAA initiative builds upon the Vulnerable Adult Panels (VAPs) operated by District Councils and offers the opportunity for VAPs to ask for support from the TAA Co-ordinators to convene strategy meetings to help move on complex cases that have got stuck. The strategy meetings help to identify someone who is best placed to gain the trust and engagement of the person at risk and if necessary bring organisations together to help ensure there are no blockages to accessing or delivering support.

The Team Around the Adult initiative is a key part of the Lincolnshire's Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB) Prevention Strategy and is available to people who do not meet the criteria for an Adult Safeguarding Section 42 enquiry.

The initiative has had significant success in helping support people who were previously difficult to engage with. Many of those who are assisted by the project have multiple and complex needs and some innovative approaches have been developed between the co-ordinators and front-line practitioners.

The team also run a variety of Practice Forums which explore a number of topics of interest for staff from the multi-agency partnerships, and in particular staff working in the District Councils, who work with vulnerable adults that have multiple disadvantages.

A survey is also underway to establish best practice and “what works” in terms of engagement in complex cases and also to map out service provision and accessibility.

The initiative is to be evaluated before the end of the financial year and it is hoped that with the successful impact of this project, it could be extended further to include more individuals.

## **2. Conclusion**

The paper outlines the role and function of the Safeguarding Adults Board and updates members on its recent activities. The Board continues to develop its assurance role, supporting partner agencies to deliver effective safeguarding and aims to adopt a preventative approach in relation to early intervention in respect of Team around the Adult.

## **3. Consultation**

### **a) Risks and Impact Analysis**

None

#### 4. Background Papers

The following background papers as defined in the Local Government Act 1972 were relied upon in the writing of this report.

Document title	Where the document can be viewed
Care Act 2014	<a href="http://www.gov.uk">www.gov.uk</a>

This report was written by Heather Roach, who can be contacted on 07815741065 or [heather.roach@lincolnshire.gov.uk](mailto:heather.roach@lincolnshire.gov.uk).

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