

Appendix C

Lincolnshire CQC Assurance Pilot - Proposed Actions Template– Jan 2024

Lead Officer: Justin Hackney, Assistant Director Adult Care and Wellbeing

1.1 CQC Feedback - Communication with partner organisations about Adult Safeguarding

“Whilst the local authority are meeting their Care Act duties with regard to the management of safeguarding concerns there were still times when partner organisations did not understand the criteria for a s42 enquiry or what action was being taken if a formal investigation did not take place. The local authority needs to continue with the ongoing communication they have with partner organisations about safeguarding.”

1.2 Work already in progress:

The Lincolnshire Adult Safeguarding Board (LSAB) agreed a Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) Action Plan prior to the CQC Assurance Pilot. This seeks to ensure that all LSAB partners are aware of their statutory responsibilities in relation to safeguarding adults and have arrangements in place to ensure their employees practice an MSP approach.

LCC continues to receive a high number of Adult Safeguarding concerns that do not meet the nationally set criteria for a s42 Adult Safeguarding enquiry. Recent analysis confirms that, compared to the same period in 2022, the number of safeguarding concerns received between April and October 2023 increased by 49% (over 1,400 additional concerns). The proportion that meets the criteria for an enquiry remains low, at about 14%. This is putting considerable pressure on the Adult Safeguarding Team’s capacity.

1.3 Proposed further actions:

The Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Community Wellbeing will write to the Chief Executive Officer of each of the LSAB Partners reminding them of their organisations’ statutory responsibilities in relation to safeguarding adults. The letter will also confirm details of the LSAB Adult Safeguarding procedures that their organisation has signed up to. These procedures confirm details of when safeguarding concerns should be raised, the criteria for a s42 enquiry and what the person raising the concern should expect in terms of a response. The letter will also reconfirm the work being led by the LSAB Independent Chair to reduce the volume of concerns that do not meet the criteria for a s42 enquiry via the MSP Action plan.

Further work will be done with partners to help understand why so many inappropriate referrals are being made and to identify relevant remedial training that might be required.

1.4 What does success look like:

The LSAB has increased assurance that LSAB partners have a good understanding of the LSAB policies and procedures and their wider statutory MSP responsibilities. Each LSAB partner should also demonstrate compliance with safeguarding training. The number of concerns received that do not progress to an enquiry should decrease.

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