



**SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS  
EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**Strategic Delivery Plan 2017 - 2020**

## Document Control

<b>Owner</b>	Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board
<b>Version</b>	0.1
<b>Approval Body</b>	Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board
<b>Issue Date</b>	April 2017
<b>Update Frequency</b>	Quarterly
<b>Review Frequency</b>	12 months post adoption 3 years subsequent to first review Following legislation or service changes
<b>Next Review Date</b>	April 2018
<b>Author</b>	Strategic Safeguarding Adults Team, People Services, Sunderland City Council

## FOREWORD FROM THE CHAIR

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to the Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board Strategic Delivery Plan 2017 – 2020.

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SSAB) has a responsibility under the Care Act (2014) to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults with care and support needs in its area. This shared responsibility is reflected in the commitment of SSAB to the Safeguarding Vision for Sunderland that people in Sunderland are able to live safely, free from neglect and abuse.

SSAB recognises that the way agencies work together is vital in preventing abuse and neglect, identifying risky situations and responding appropriately where abuse has occurred. This Strategic Delivery Plan will help us to continue to improve and commits the partnership to continuing to work together with common objectives and commitments.

The Plan builds upon the work previously undertaken and sets out the vision and areas for future work ensuring that safeguarding adults remains a key priority within Sunderland.



Colin Morris  
SSAB Independent Chair  
April 2017

## **Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board Strategic Delivery Plan 2017- 2020**

The Strategic Delivery Plan details the key focus areas and vision of Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SSAB) for the period 2017-2020. It identifies how SSAB will ensure its statutory responsibilities are met in accordance with the Care Act (2014) and embedded in practice across the partnership.

The Plan details the key actions that SSAB will take forward over three years via the work of the Partnership Group and Sub Committees. It will be regularly monitored and reviewed as part of the SSAB governance and quality assurance processes. The Plan will be supported by information gathered from the Safeguarding Adults Performance dataset, which will be collated using a 'Performance Scorecard' approach.

The Plan is underpinned by the SSAB Multi-Agency Agreement & Memorandum of Understanding, which describes the Board's remit and governance arrangements, including Terms of Reference and the reporting structure of the multi-agency Partnership Group and Sub Committees that sit under the SSAB. It also outlines the roles and responsibilities of Board members.

### **Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SSAB) – what is it and what does it do?**

The Care Act (2014) requires local authorities to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board in their area. The Safeguarding Adults Board must:

- Include the local authority, NHS and Police, who should meet regularly to discuss and act upon local safeguarding issues
- Develop a shared plan for safeguarding, working with local people to decide how best to protect adults in vulnerable situations
- Publish this safeguarding plan and report to the public annually on its progress, so that different organisations can make sure they are working together in the best way

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board (SSAB) leads and holds partners to account for safeguarding adults in the city. SSAB also ensures that it has a shared strategic vision that is embedded in the strategies and plans of all partners. SSAB works to ensure its operational and strategic direction is complementary to that of the Safer Sunderland Partnership, Adult Partnership Board and Health and Wellbeing Board. Whilst the Council, NHS Partners, Northumbria Police, voluntary and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sector organisations and others hold ultimate responsibility for safeguarding within their individual organisations, it is SSAB that brings the independent challenge, influence and assurance that maximises the effectiveness of their activity.

**Appendix 2** shows SSAB's Structure and lines of Accountability

## **SSAB Vision for Safeguarding Adults in Sunderland**

In order to improve the effectiveness of SSAB in accordance with its statutory responsibilities, the Board has the following vision:

### ***People in Sunderland are able to live safely, free from neglect and abuse***

The SSAB's Vision for Safeguarding Adults in Sunderland can only be delivered effectively through the support and engagement of a wide range of partner agencies and organisations across the city. This Plan demonstrates the part that all relevant stakeholders will play in achieving this vision, and will assist SSAB to challenge, influence and assure the contribution made by agencies and organisations, both individually and collectively, in order to fulfil their safeguarding commitments to the people of Sunderland.

## **SSAB Ambition**

To have a Board that is effective at the following:

- Identifying areas of good practice and where this is providing positive outcomes for individuals
- Collecting and analysing system intelligence to inform and influence service design, delivery and development
- Identifying areas of poor practice and providing scrutiny and challenge to effect positive change
- Using national and local benchmarking and research evidence to inform and influence improvements in safeguarding adults
- Providing a clear and influential leadership role in relation to safeguarding adults
- Challenging key partners and other Boards where appropriate
- Driving forward an outcomes-focussed safeguarding adults model, embracing the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal

## **Making Safeguarding Personal**

SSAB is committed to embedding the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal across its partner agencies, ensuring that it delivers person-led safeguarding, enhancing the involvement, choice and control of the individual with care and support needs, as well as improving their quality of life, wellbeing and safety. This approach underpins and informs SSAB's Strategic Plan and Delivery Plan, and corresponding governance documents.

SSAB partners are required to be active and able to influence and direct their agency or organisation in ensuring adults are and feel safe, and are supported to challenge and change abusive situations. There is an expectation that partners will also lead and support the development and implementation of safeguarding practices and procedures within their own agency or organisation, take forward agreed action

plans which prevent and minimise abuse and neglect, and deliver a person-centred, outcomes focussed approach.

**Appendix 1** shows the focus areas where the SSAB intends to make a difference to improve safeguarding adults in Sunderland.

### **Key Principles Underpinning Adult Safeguarding**

SSAB fully embraces the six adult safeguarding key principles (Care Act, 2014) which should guide and inform the approach to the delivery of safeguarding responsibilities by all partner agencies across Sunderland. These principles are:

- **Empowerment** – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent  
*“I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens”.*
- **Prevention** – It is better to take action before harm occurs  
*“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help”.*
- **Proportionality** – The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented  
*“I am sure that professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed”.*
- **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need  
*“I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want”.*
- **Partnership** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse  
*“I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me”.*
- **Accountability** – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding  
*“I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they”.*

### **SSAB Key Areas of Focus**

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Executive Board has established three key areas of focus for 2017 – 2020:

- Challenge
- Influence
- Assurance

These will be underpinned by the six key principles of safeguarding within the Care Act (2014), listed above. Each of the key areas of focus will be progressed through:

- Statutory actions as laid out in the Care Act
- Local actions as identified and agreed by SSAB

### **Key Statutory Actions and Local Actions**

The key statutory actions for the SSAB are those set out in the Care Act (2014) for all Safeguarding Adults Boards, SSAB has also identified local actions to progress the work to safeguard adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Sunderland these are detailed below and matched to SSAB's key areas of focus. The practical details of how these actions will be carried out are included in the Work Programmes of SSAB's Quality Assurance and Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub Committees.

This Strategic Delivery Plan covers the period 2017 – 2020 and will be reviewed annually, to ensure it continues to take account of local & national safeguarding adults developments and that the actions continue to be relevant to safeguarding adults in Sunderland.

The actions are monitored by the relevant Sub Committees of the SSAB, and progress will be fed back to the Partnership Group and SSAB on a regular basis. The Sub Committees play a key role in assuring the SSAB that organisations are achieving a robust and consistent approach to safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Sunderland.

## Key Focus Area: Challenge

### Statutory Actions:

- Carry out safeguarding adult reviews and determine any publication arrangements
- Evidence how SAB members have challenged one another and held other boards to account

### Local Actions:

- Highlight and promote principles of Making Safeguarding Personal
- Engagement of individuals and carers in the safeguarding process needs to be strengthened
- Develop a proposal for the greater involvement of Healthwatch

## Key Focus Area: Influence

### Statutory Actions:

- Establish mechanisms for developing policies and strategies for protecting adults which should be formulated, not only in collaboration and consultation with all relevant agencies but also take account of the views of adults who have needs for care and support, their families, advocates and carer representatives
- Develop preventative strategies that aim to reduce instances of abuse and neglect in its area
- Identify types of circumstances giving grounds for concern and when they should be considered as a referral to the local authority as an enquiry
- Formulate guidance about the arrangements for managing adult safeguarding, and dealing with complaints, grievances and professional and administrative malpractice in relation to safeguarding adults
- Develop strategies to deal with the impact of issues of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and gender orientation, sexual orientation, age, disadvantage and disability on abuse and neglect
- Balance the requirements of confidentiality with the consideration that, to protect adults, it may be necessary to share information on a 'need-to-know basis'
- Promote multi-agency training and consider any specialist training that may be required. Consider any scope to jointly commission some training with other partnerships, such as the Community Safety Partnership

**Local Actions:**

- Further work needed on communications, particularly around prevention
- Review of training programme
- Strengthen strategic focus of SSAB
- Undertake Joint Strategic Needs Assessment in relation to safeguarding vulnerable adults
- Highlight and promote principles of Making Safeguarding Personal

**Key Focus Area: Assurance****Statutory Actions:**

- Identify the role, responsibility, authority and accountability with regard to the action each agency and professional group should take to ensure the protection of adults
- Establish ways of analysing and interrogating data on safeguarding notifications that increase the Safeguarding Adults Board's understanding of prevalence of abuse and neglect locally that builds up a picture over time
- Establish how it will hold partners to account and gain assurance of the effectiveness of its arrangements
- Determine its arrangements for peer review and self-audit
- Identify mechanisms for monitoring and reviewing the implementation and impact of policy and training
- Produce a strategic plan and an annual report

**Local Actions:**

- Review of audit programme and need analysis
- Need to develop an assurance and performance framework
- Take a whole system approach to the collection of safeguarding adults performance and activity data
- Regularly review membership of SSAB, Partnership Group and Sub Committees
- Regular promotion and review of Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Model to address any arising application and interpretation issues and make any necessary improvements
- Review of services for homeless people

## Appendix 1: Making a Difference



Appendix 2: Board Structure and Lines of Accountability

