



**SUNDERLAND
SAFEGUARDING
ADULTS BOARD**

SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Strategic Delivery Plan 2019 - 2024

Document Control	
Owner	Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board
Version	0.2
Approval Body	Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board
Issue Date	July 2019
Update Frequency	Yearly Progress Review
Review Frequency	3 years
Next Review Date	July 2022
Author	Strategic Safeguarding Adults Team, Neighbourhoods Directorate, Sunderland City Council

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Delivery Plan

2019 – 2024

The Strategic Delivery Plan details the key focus areas and vision of Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) for the period 2019-2024. 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 five years via the work of the Partnership Group and Sub Committees. It will be reviewed annually as part of the SSAB governance and quality assurance processes, 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 Plan will be supported by information gathered from the Safeguarding Adults Performance dataset, collated using a 'Performance Scorecard' approach.

Progress on actions is monitored by the relevant Sub Committees of the SSAB, and updates will be provided 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.

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.

The Care Act & Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board

The [Care Act \(2014\)](#) required local authorities to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board in their area, including Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group & Police as the 3 core member agencies, and to develop a shared plan for safeguarding adults at risk of abuse & neglect; reporting annually on what has been achieved to progress the actions within the plan.

SSAB fully embraces the [six key principles of adult safeguarding](#) (Care Act, 2014, Safeguarding Chapter 14, section 14.13) which should guide and inform the approach to the delivery of safeguarding responsibilities by all partner agencies across Sunderland.

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. Whilst the Board's partners 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. SSAB works to ensure its operational and strategic direction is

complementary to that of other key Boards – see **Appendix 1** showing 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.

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-focused 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 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-focused approach.

Appendix 2 shows the focus areas where the SSAB is working to make a difference to safeguard adults in Sunderland.

Statutory Actions

The statutory actions for the SSAB are those as set out in the [Care Act \(2014\) Guidance](#) (Safeguarding chapter 14, point 14.139) for all Safeguarding Adults Boards.

SSAB Strategic Priorities

Sunderland Safeguarding Adults Board has established four strategic priorities for 2019 – 2024:

- PREVENTION
- MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL / USER ENGAGEMENT
- PARTNERSHIP (INCLUDING REGIONAL COLLABORATION)
- KEY LOCAL AREAS OF RISK

These will inform the Board's local actions to safeguard adults in Sunderland and are underpinned by the Care Act's [six key principles of adult safeguarding](#).

The strategic priorities will be taken forward via the Work Programmes of SSAB's Quality Assurance and Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub Committees and the Partnership Group. Key actions for the strategic priorities are given below. In addition, some specific local short term actions for Year 1 (2019-2020) are shown in **Appendix 3**.

Prevention

The prevention of abuse and neglect or adults at risk is a multi-agency and society responsibility; it is also one of the six key principles of adult safeguarding. SSAB has identified prevention as a priority and has identified key actions to enable it to maximise opportunities to carry forward the prevention agenda.

Key Challenges & Areas for Development include:

- Utilising social media opportunities to raise awareness of safeguarding and promote prevention activities
- Become more efficient and effective at sharing good practice, building on current activity
- Raising prevention and safeguarding awareness with children and young people
- Broaden the delivery of the safeguarding message to a wider workforce

- Delivering the safeguarding message to the public using the most effective methods

SSAB has developed a Prevention Strategy to set out the SSAB's approach to prevention, as this is a key priority that can have a positive impact on wider public 'keeping safe' issues as well as other safeguarding priorities. The SSAB Prevention Strategy includes the actions listed above, and also others identified through recent SSAB work on this area.

Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) / User Engagement

Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is a person-led, outcome-focused approach that engages the person and enhances their involvement, choice and control seeking to improve their quality of life, wellbeing and safety. SSAB is committed to embedding MSP across the work of the partnership.

Key Challenges & Areas for Development include:

- Involving service users in the work of the Board
- Role of Healthwatch in the work of the Board
- Links with the Area Committees and the Community and Voluntary sector (including BAME)

Partnership

Strong partnerships are those with common goals and a good understanding of each other's roles and responsibilities. SSAB recognises that a wide range of organisations are involved in providing services to adults, and the need for collaborative working to achieve the common goal of promoting safety and wellbeing.

Key Challenges & Areas for Development include:

- Regional policies and practices
- Links with other North East Safeguarding Boards
- Links with Strategic Groups & Forums that work on safeguarding adults issues
- Links with other local Boards
- Commissioning and reviewing of reports and considering proposals from other boards & groups
- Partnership working in complex cases

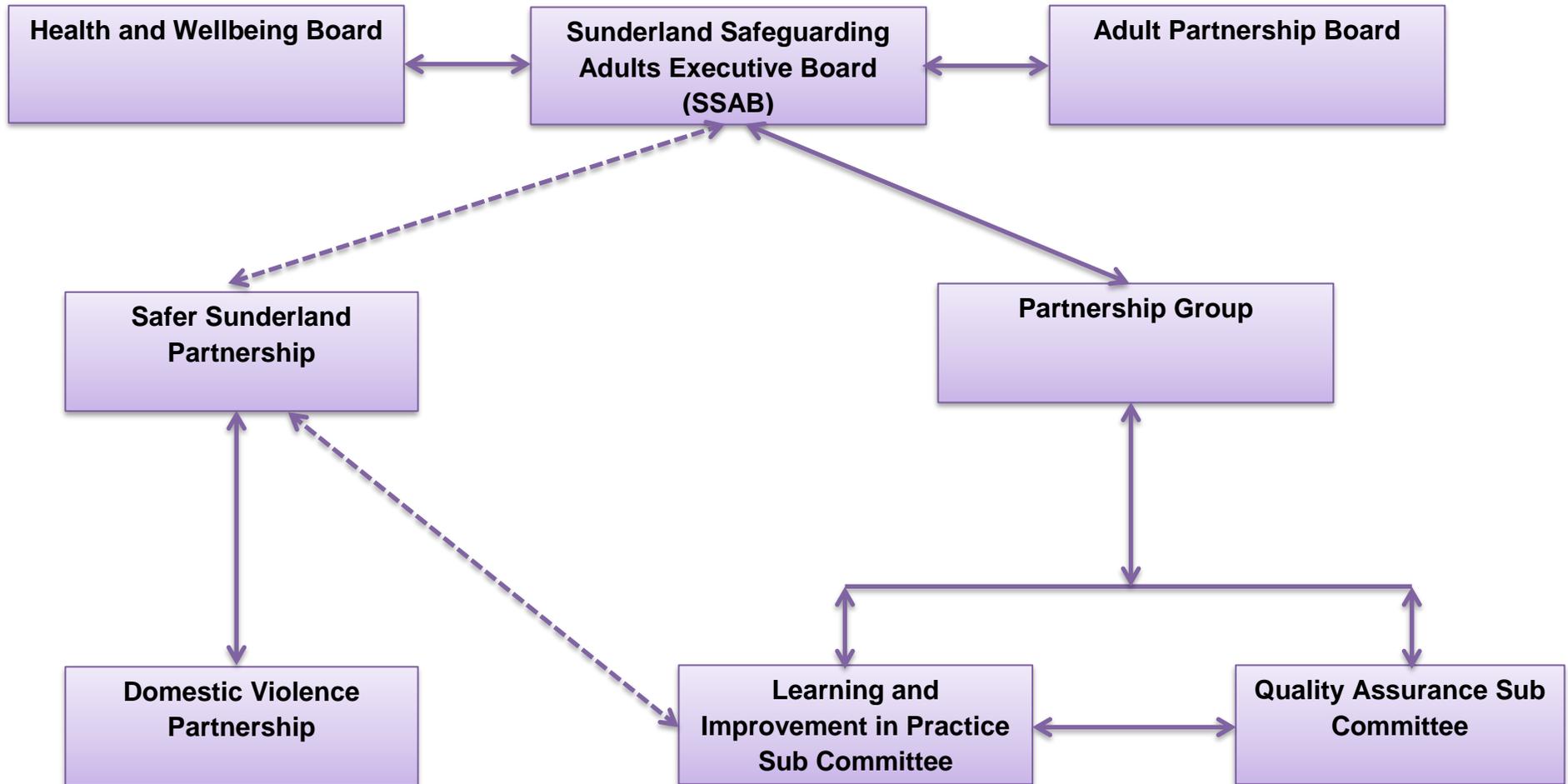
Key Local Areas of Risk

SSAB prioritises emerging areas of concern identified by its Sub-Committees and partner organisations, and informed by the performance framework and learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews. Actions to address these will be identified and taken forward by the Sub Committees and Partnership Group.

Key Challenges & Areas for Development include:

- Self-neglect
- Mental Capacity
- Exploitation

Appendix 1: Board Structure and Lines of Accountability



Appendix 2: Making a Difference



Appendix 3: Local Actions

Short Term Actions

Performance/Assurance/Governance
LSCB undertaking overall partnership audit tool (S.11) – explore mirroring this for SSAB.
Inclusion of greater degree of partner agency data to give an enhanced dataset for reporting/assurance to SSAB as currently it is heavily weighted towards Local Authority data.
Link data to SSAB priorities.
Consider using existing reporting mechanisms to provide data.
Consider using data to identify areas of risk to target (e.g. Age UK provided with information regarding high number of concerns raised for females aged 85+).
Use data proactively rather than reactively.
Engage with Local Authority Chief Executive’s review of partnership structures.
Continue to work on maintaining the identified Performance targets for 2019-20: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - % of completed cases where risk reduced or removed target 95% - % of completed cases where individual (or advocate) ask their desired outcomes target 85% - % of completed cases where desired outcome was achieved or partially achieved target 95%
Policies & Procedures
SSAB Multi-Agency Procedures to be streamlined and format improved to make them more ‘user-friendly’, with a focus on practitioner guidance and practical advice (this is based on feedback from frontline staff).
Further work to promote the Procedures to partner agencies (briefings for staff about where the Procedures are and how to use them) and for partners to take greater responsibility in ensuring frontline staff are aware of this useful resource.
Consider development of regional procedures.

Medium Term Actions

Prevention (see SSAB Prevention Strategy for greater detail)
Explore the development of a safeguarding app
Explore opportunities to share good practice (including learning from local/regional Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs))
Explore the commissioning of analysis of social media to identify local safeguarding issues and themes
Work with school children to enable them to identify signs of abuse and neglect, raising prevention awareness for future generations
Broaden the delivery of the safeguarding message and embed in workforce culture, e.g. hairdressers, window cleaners, street cleaners
Consider alternative methods of communication with public
Making Safeguarding Personal/User Engagement
Explore ways to further involve service users in the work of the Board
Strengthen the role of Healthwatch in the work of the Board (see Prevention Strategy for specific actions regarding this).
Strengthen links with the Area Committees and the Community and Voluntary sector (including BAME) to highlight safeguarding issues and help them promote safeguarding in communities
Partnership
Development of regional policies and practices
Strengthen links with other North East Safeguarding Boards, especially Gateshead & South Tyneside, and explore opportunities for joint working and streamlining processes
Strengthen links with ADASS & ADCS Chairs group; Strategic Safeguarding Forum set up by Police and the North East Local Authorities' Safeguarding Adults Network
Strengthen links with other local Boards (Health & Wellbeing Board, Safer Sunderland Partnership, SSCB) and explore further opportunities for joint working on relevant areas, e.g. Domestic Abuse, Modern Day Slavery
Explore the potential for an annual group Boards' meeting (with representation from SSAB, Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Sunderland Partnership)
Explore further opportunities to strengthen commissioning and reviewing of reports and considering proposals from other Boards, Partnerships and other work areas, as appropriate
Key Local Areas of Risk
Self-neglect
Mental Capacity
Missing, Slavery, Exploitation (Criminal and Sexual) and Trafficking (MSET)