

**ADULT CARE AND WELL BEING  
OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL  
27 SEPTEMBER 2017****WORCESTERSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD**

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**Summary**

1. The Independent Chair and Board Manager of the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) have been invited to set out the role of the Safeguarding Board, and to discuss progress and developments in safeguarding vulnerable adults in Worcestershire. This will include the Board's Annual Report 2016-2017.
2. The Director and the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Adult Social Care have also been invited.

**Background**

3. Safeguarding vulnerable adults is an important and ongoing part of the work of the Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel and this will be the Panel's fourth update on the work of the Safeguarding Board.
4. For the benefit of new Panel members, the Safeguarding Adults Board is an independent board, which seek to promote wellbeing and reduce the risk of harm for people with care and support needs. Statutory partners include the County Council, Clinical Commissioning Groups, National Health Services and West Mercia Police.
5. The Council's website has a section dedicated to safeguarding adults, [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wsab](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wsab) which includes useful definitions, information about who does what, newsletters, leaflets and WSAB Board papers.
6. The Care Act 2014 placed safeguarding adults on a statutory footing for the first time and made safeguarding boards a legal requirement, although Worcestershire's Board has been in place for several years. The Panel received a briefing in January 2015 on the changes that had been made to ensure that the Safeguarding Adults Board met the requirements of the Care Act, under its Independent Chair Kathy McAteer.
7. Regular meetings have taken place between the Panel and the Safeguarding Board Chair since the Panel's more in-depth scrutiny review of safeguarding adults in 2011, which recommended regular dialogue between this Panel, the Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Chair and the Director and Cabinet Member, as part of the Panel's monitoring role.

**Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016-17**

8. Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016-17 will be available on the County Council's website [here](#) and copies will be circulated separately to members of the Scrutiny Panel.

9. Discussion of the Annual Report provides the Panel with an opportunity to verify that systems across Worcestershire, including those of the County Council are working well to safeguard Worcestershire's vulnerable adults. Discussions also enable the Panel to keep up to date with safeguarding statistics and trends, and to explore any issues identified through serious case reviews, and also through the Panel's own scrutiny work.

10. Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report is also presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board and Healthwatch.

## **Purpose of the Meeting**

11. The Panel has the opportunity to:

- learn about the role of the Safeguarding Adults Board
- understand and discuss key safeguarding statistics from this year's Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board's report
- identify any further information needs or potential areas for scrutiny.

## **Supporting Information**

Appendix 1 – Presentation on Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board

Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2016-17 – copies have been circulated to the Panel and the report will be available on the County Council's website: [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20363/safeguarding\\_adults/1105/safeguarding\\_adults\\_board\\_documents](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/info/20363/safeguarding_adults/1105/safeguarding_adults_board_documents)

## **Contact Points**

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## **Background Papers**

In the opinion of the proper officer (in this case the Head of Legal and Democratic Services) the following are the background papers relating to the subject matter of this report:

- Agenda and Minutes of the Adult Care and Well Being Overview and Scrutiny Panel on 21 November 2016, 22 January and 13 October 2015 and 5 September 2013
- Safeguarding Adults Scrutiny Report November 2011  
[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/3280/safeguarding\\_adults](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/file/3280/safeguarding_adults)