

**HEALTH AND WELL-BEING
24 SEPTEMBER 2019****WORCESTERSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT – 2018-19**

Board Sponsor

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Author

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Priorities

Mental health & well-being

Being Active

Reducing harm from Alcohol

Other (specify below)

- Older People and long term conditions
- Domestic abuse
- People with learning disabilities

(Please click below
then on down arrow)

Yes

No

Yes

Safeguarding

Impact on Safeguarding Children

No

This report details an assessment of the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children

Impact on Safeguarding Adults

Yes

If yes please give details

Item for Decision, Consideration or Information

Consideration

Recommendation

- 1. The Health and Well-being Board is asked to consider any cross cutting themes and to refer issues either directly to the WSAB or, through the next Joint Cross Cutting Issues meeting to be held between the Chairs of the four Boards.**

Background

2. The Annual Report provides an overview of the activity of the Board during 2018 to 2019. This includes the safeguarding activity that took place to protect people in Worcestershire with care and support needs at risk of harm during this period.

3. The report covers the third year as a statutory board under the Care Act 2014. The guidance provided by the Act clearly sets expectations for the minimum content for Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) and Annual Reports (Schedule 2.4 (1) a-g).
4. Overall good progress was made against the objectives for the year against a background where. Statutory partners have continued to face significant funding pressures and increased workloads.
5. Key achievements during the year included a successful learning event for managers and practitioners on Domestic Abuse and Coercive Control, which was well received and oversubscribed. Processes for three reference groups are now in place to increase engagement from the wider community; Links were also made to other organisations to support the work of the Board, including the Worcestershire Office of Data Analytics (WODA) and the Voluntary Sector.
6. Work around Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) has continued to be a significant priority for the Board. A Protocol is now in place for communication on potential overlap between SARs and Learning Disability Mortality Review (LeDeRs). The Case Review sub-group also established a process for evidencing the impact that SAR actions have had.
7. Cross cutting work continued to evolve, particularly around Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and the Get Safe agenda led by the Worcestershire Safeguarding Children's Board.
8. Activity data found that the level of safeguarding concerns reported saw a rise compared to the previous year. The level of of inappropriate referrals, where the issue raised is not a safeguarding matter and therefore did not meet the appropriate level for a statutory enquiry to take place, also saw a slight increase this year. Developing awareness of safeguarding issues remains a priority.
9. It is important to note that a significant number of non-statutory enquires were also completed during the year. Whilst there is no obligation to undertake a formal enquiry, it was felt proportionate to undertake this approach as it would enable the Local Authority to promote the person's wellbeing and support the preventative agenda.
10. As with previous years, physical abuse was the highest reported type of primary abuse followed by neglect. The other main areas were financial and psychological and financial abuse, in that order. These abuse types are usually the most highly reported because the signs are more visible.
11. Finally, the report includes contributions from each of the key partner agencies of the Board. These illustrate the work that is taking place across the County by the partner agencies to protect adults at risk from harm.

Legal, Financial and HR Implications

12. Not applicable

Privacy Impact Assessment

13. Not applicable

Equality and Diversity Implications

14. The report contains references to the demographic of the County and cross references safeguarding activity to the demographic. The outcomes show there is a continued under-representation of BME citizens being referred for safeguarding protective arrangements.

Supporting Information

- Worcestershire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2018/19 – Available on line.

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

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Specific Contact Points for this report

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