

HEALTH AND WELL-BEING

17 November 2020

WSAB ANNUAL REPORT – 2019-20

Board Sponsor

Director of Adult Services and Health

Author

Bridget Brickley, Board Manager

Relevance of Paper – Priorities

Older people and long-term conditions

Mental health and well-being

Alcohol and substance misuse

Relevance - Groups of Particular Interest

People with mental health needs

People with learning disabilities

Older People

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 2019-20. 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 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). Early in the pandemic the Department of Health and Social Care contacted all Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) in recognition of the impact that it might have in meeting its statutory duties, including Annual Reports. The letter stated, given that local challenges may vary, each SAB should decide on whether to delay or reduce the coverage of the report. Whilst the WSAB produced an Annual Report to its normal timescale there has been a slight reduction in the level of data available for this report.

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. Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) have continued to be a significant area of work the Board. During 2019/20 there were 12 referrals requesting consideration for SAR to be undertaken. 5 of these resulted in the recommendation that a SAR should be commissioned. Of the remaining 7 referrals, 4 resulted in single agency actions being recommended, 2 referrals required no additional actions and 1 decision was left pending due to Covid-19.
6. Key achievements during the year included the launch of the Joint website with the Children's Safeguarding Partnership; we also re-launched our quarterly newsletters; another successful annual learning event was held this time exploring the use of strength-based approaches in Safeguarding; the formal establishment of a safeguarding adults network with bi-annual meetings and the publication of a new countywide training strategy.
7. Cross cutting work continued to evolve, particularly around exploitation. A Task and Finish group was established to take forward this agenda out of which two of projects have been established.
8. Section 4 of the Report, on the Activity and Performance is the only section which is not at the same level as previous reports. Whilst we did receive some data from Adult Social Care, it was not as comprehensive as previous years. This was in part due to the migration of information systems which took place mid-year (November 2019). With information for the full year being held on two systems, not all the data had been brought together at the point of completing the report. Unfortunately, the Covid-19 situation created additional challenges in capacity to manage this process which added to the delay.
9. Activity data saw an increase in the level of safeguarding concerns reported compared to the previous year. The measurement of safeguarding concerns is in part due to the way data from Framework I has been migrated to Liquid Logic, so it was not possible to make a direct comparison to previous years. The remaining data we were able to access shows a similar pattern to previous years.
10. 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

1. Not applicable

Privacy Impact Assessment

2. Not applicable

Equality and Diversity Implications

3. 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 2019/20 – Available online via the following link:
[WSAB Annual Report 2019 to 2020](#)

Contact Points

County Council Contact Points

County Council: 01905 763763

Worcestershire Hub: 01905 765765

Email: worcestershirehub@worcestershire.gov.uk

Specific Contact Points for this report

Bridget Brickley

WSAB Board Manager

Tel: 01905- 846572

Email: BBrickley@Worcestershire.gov.uk