

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report 2016 - 2017

(01 April 2016 - 31 March 2017)

Author: Joanne Pell	Date Completed 27/11/17
WSAB	Ratified 6/12/17
Health and Well Being Board	Date11/12/17
Safer Walsall Partnership Board	Date TBC
Chief Executive – Walsall Council	Date

Foreword

Welcome to Walsall's Safeguarding Adults 2016-2017 Annual Report which provides the Board, and its partner agencies, the opportunity to reflect on their achievements in the past year and plan for the year ahead.

It also gives us the opportunity to demonstrate the Board's fulfilment of its role and commitment to safeguard adults with care and support needs in the Borough of Walsall.

The year began with an acknowledgement that the Board, working in close cooperation with the Children's Board, had insufficient resources to do more than meet its basic statutory obligations. I am pleased to say that partners, particularly the Local Authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) rose to the challenge and addressed this, though funds were only received in the last quarter of the year. At the time of writing this in the autumn of 2017 I am confident that the Board has the resources and commitment to provide increasing challenge across the partnership and that the historic underfunding issue is resolved for the foreseeable future.

Through this introduction I would like to pay tribute to those who work directly with service users in Walsall. Central to effective safeguarding is strong multi-agency working and I know that all Board members are committed to this and to ensure that practice continues to develop.

I am delighted to present this report to you, which I hope you will use to raise awareness and identify issues that you can take forward in your own organisation. Thank you to all of those who have contributed to supporting and protecting our most at risk adults in Walsall.

Alan Critchley Independent Chair Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board

Introduction: Policy Context

In March 2016 the Department of Health published an updated edition of the *Care Act: Care and Support Statutory Guidance*, originally issued in October 2014. This was updated again in February 2017, taking account of regulatory changes, feedback from stakeholders and the care sector and developments following the postponement of social care funding reforms to 2020. The Guidance highlights the specific role of the Safeguarding Adults Board to be an important source of advice and assistance in helping others improve their safeguarding mechanisms and being an effective link with key partnerships in the locality by sharing relevant information and work plans.

Under Section 43 of the Care act 2014 local authorities and their partners are required to set up a Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB).

The overarching purpose of a SAB is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs. It does this by:

- Assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act 2014 and statutory guidance.
- Assuring itself that safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focussed.
- Working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible.
- Ensuring agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses where abuse or neglect has occurred.
- Assuring itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life for adults in their communities.

The Safeguarding Adults Board has three core duties:

- 1. To produce and publish a strategic plan
- 2. To conduct any Safeguarding Adults Review in accordance with Section 44 of the Care Act.
- 3. To produce and publish an annual report

The Act identifies six key principles which underpin all adult safeguarding work, which apply equally to all sectors and settings:

- Empowerment people being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent
- Prevention it is better to take action before harm occurs
- > **Proportionality** the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
- Protection support and representation to those in greatest need
- > **Partnership** local solutions through services working with their communities
- > Accountability accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice

The Walsall Safeguarding Adult Board (WSAB) is committed to ensuring that it meets its responsibilities under the Care Act, in line with the above key principles.

This Annual Report contains details of how safeguarding has been promoted and developed throughout Walsall, through the work of the Board and its sub groups, which are populated by senior representatives from our statutory partners, along with other partner agencies.

It gives an overview of the work achieved by the WSAB from 01 April 2016 to 31 March 2017 and identifies what further work needs to be done to strengthen safeguarding arrangements

and promote the welfare of adults at risk in Walsall. It demonstrates the commitment of all partner agencies to consolidate on the work achieved and to continue to move the safeguarding adult agenda forward in Walsall.

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About Walsall

Walsall is a Metropolitan Borough Council in the West Midlands.

- It has an estimated resident population of 269,323 (2011 Census), which is predicted to increase over the next 10 years by 5.1% to 284,700 in 2021.
- Walsall has a culturally-mixed population. People of Indian, Pakistani and Bangladeshi background form the largest minority ethnic groups. The number of Non-UK Born residents in Walsall has increased by 3.7% (or 9,859 people) between the 2001 and 2011 censuses.
- Walsall has an over-representation (higher than national average) of people in the older age groups, aged 65 and above. This population is predicted to increase by 13.8%, with the number of people 85 years and older increasing from 47,200 in 2012 to 53,700 in 2022.
- The dementia diagnosis rate in Walsall is increasing and is now 68% as of 31st March 2017. The number of older people living alone is expected to increase, as is the number of older people with dementia expected to increase.
- 11.4% of residents in Walsall provide unpaid care to relatives, friends or neighbours compared with 10.3% nationally. This equates to over 17,000 people providing between 1 and 19 hours' unpaid care a week, while almost 8,800 provide unpaid care for over 50 hours a week (2011 Census).
- 84.96% of adults with a learning disability live in their own home or with their family.
- The proportion of people with an Adult Social Care Personal Budget is 97.33%, an increase from 91.35% in 2015-2016. In 2016/2017, 141 people with a mental illness had personal budgets approved to support their needs. 31.42% of people are now in receipt of a Direct Payment.
- A survey of Adult Social Care service users indicated that 80% of people felt safe and secure compared to a regional minimum of 79% and a maximum of 93%

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board

There has been a Safeguarding Adults Board in place in Walsall since 2012. However, the Care Act 2014 gave the WSAB a statutory footing for the first time as of 1st April 2015.

Following a review of Board arrangements at the end of 2015, the outcome was to strengthen links, and align some of its business processes and functions, with the Walsall Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) to enable the development of a more holistic approach to safeguarding.

New joined up support and management arrangements began in 2016 and have continued throughout 2017. Both Boards have the same Independent Chair and Safeguarding Board Manager. Support from the Safeguarding Business Unit ensures a consistent joined up approach to administration and more effective working on joint agendas. WSAB and WSCB Board meetings are held on the same day with transitional arrangements and common areas

of interest discussed at the mid-point of the meeting ensuring adult and children safeguarding agendas are joined up. This enables individual adult and children board priorities but also identifies common joint safeguarding needs and the merging of key issues, actions and initiatives.

Whilst still retaining its separate identify as an Adults Board, these new arrangements facilitate a stronger approach to the 'Think Family' agenda.

During 2016-17 the Board met quarterly and covered a wide range of business including agency assurance reports and sub group updates. A Development Day was planned for summer 2017 to agree priorities for 2017-2018.

Strategic Vision

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board is committed to ensuring that:

Walsall is a place where all adults with care and support needs, regardless of background or personal circumstances, can live a life free from fear of, or experience of, abuse or neglect

The Board is keen to ensure that adults with care and support needs, their families and carers, wider community and all professionals understand that Walsall is a place where:

- Abuse or neglect is not tolerated
- Everyone works together to prevent abuse or neglect
- Everyone works together to ensure adults are safeguarded when abuse or neglect is suspected or witnessed
- People who are victims of crime are supported to get justice through the Courts or other civil routes.

To make this happen, the Board is keen to ensure that the voice of adults with care and support needs, their family and / or advocate are understood and informs safeguarding practices.

Board Membership

In law (Care Act 2014), the statutory members of a Safeguarding Adults Board are defined as the Local Authority, the local Police force and the relevant Clinical Commissioning Group. In Walsall, we recognise the importance of the contribution made by all of our partner agencies and this is reflected by the wider Board membership as outlined below (correct as of 01 April 2017).

The Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board is chaired by an Independent Chair and is made up of senior members from the 3 statutory core agencies:

- Walsall Council
- Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group

West Midlands Police

Individual partner statements from the core agencies above are included later on in this Report.

Membership also includes representation from:

- Walsall Healthcare Trust
- National Probation Services
- Community Rehabilitation Company
- Public Health
- Elected Member (Portfolio Holder- Adult Social Care)
- Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust
- Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust
- West Midlands Fire Service
- Healthwatch
- Walsall College
- Age UK

As a Board we recognise the need to include the voice of service users. In 2016 discussions took place with a Local Authority consultant who was undertaking a project on service user engagement. The intention being that this newly developed group, appropriately supported, could be one such vehicle for dialogue and understanding. However, funding for this project was withdrawn and therefore the Board will need to seek alternative routes for engagement in 2017-18.

A lay member was recruited April 2017, to support both Boards.

Board Attendance

The WSAB meets quarterly and in late 2016, actions were put in place to monitor attendance at Board and Sub-Group meetings. These monitoring arrangements will continue into 2017/2018 with a view to ensuring that agencies provide and maintain appropriate representation at meetings. Members unable to attend meetings should ensure that an appropriate substitution from their organisation attends on their behalf.

See Appendix 1 for Board List of Attendance by Agency

Board Structure and Strategic Partnership Links

The Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board is chaired by an Independent Chairperson who also chairs the Safeguarding Children Board. The Chair provides independent challenge to partner agencies and maintains close links with other partnership boards. This provides scrutiny of all-age safeguarding and allows for oversight of those important transition arrangements where young people transfer through to adult provision.

The Independent Chairperson of the Safeguarding Adult Board is accountable to the Chief Executive of the Local Authority.

Sub Groups

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board is supported by four Sub Groups. These Sub Groups play a pivotal role in driving forward the work of the Board and its functions. Each Sub Group is chaired by a member of either the WSAB or WSCB. The Sub Groups are:

- 1. Quality Assurance and Performance
- 2. Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR)
- 3. Policy and Procedures
- 4. Learning and Development

Two of these Sub Groups, Policy and Procedures and Learning and Development are joint groups covering both the WSAB and WSCB. The merging of these two Sub Groups took place in early 2016, originally forming a single group, PPLD (Policy, Procedure, Learning and Development) across both adults and children's agenda's. However the subject matters and volume of work for a single meeting did not work in practice. Therefore in June 2016 the group separated into Policy and Procedures and Learning and Development to allow for more joined up working in these areas with a focus on the cross cutting issues across both the adults and the children's agendas.

In 2016/2017, these Sub Groups facilitated focused work in line with individual work plans and provided regular updates to the Board.

In February 2017 a **Chairs Sub Group** was established for Sub Group chairs to meet with the Independent Chair and Safeguarding Board Manager prior to Board meetings. It is a leadership group supporting the virtuous circle in fostering the planning, audit and challenge across both WSAB and WSCB. During the first meeting the Chairs Sub Group reviewed and considered the business support for both safeguarding boards and the budget to support this work to ensure both meet their statutory functions.

During 2016 the previous DoLS (Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards) Group ceased to be a Sub Group of the Board. It was felt that this issue was now part of regular safeguarding practice and the Board would retain oversight by way of assurance reports and therefore did not need an operational Sub Group. Many of the partners continued to meet as a multi agency steering group and the Board received DoLS reports as part of the WSAB agenda.

The Communications Sub Group also ceased during this reporting period, as the work is carried out in other forums. It was agreed that any communications functions would be undertaken by a 'Task and Finish' group style meeting as required and linked with other networks such as the WIN (Walsall Information Network).

Strategic Partnership Links

Identifying strategies for the prevention of abuse and neglect is a core responsibility of the Board. In order to achieve this the Board requires an overview of how this is taking place within its area of responsibility as well as how its strategic plan and objectives tie in with the work undertaken by other Boards and Partnerships.

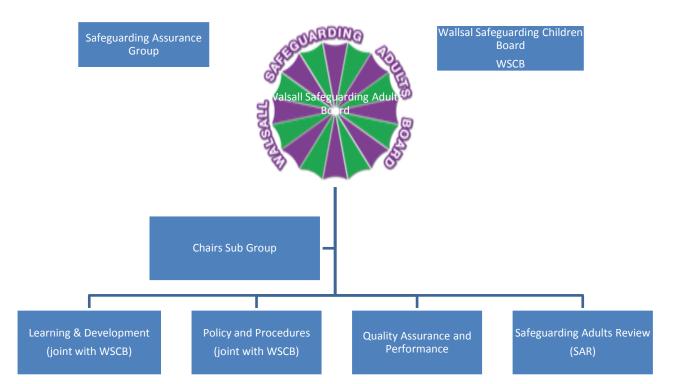
The WSAB continues to build and strengthen its linkage with other partnership boards. Not only is this key to ensuring effective safeguarding arrangements are in place, it is also essential in establishing efficient and collaborative arrangements, to meet our shared aims of prevention and early intervention.

Over the past 12 months we have strengthened our relationship with a number of Walsall strategic partnerships including:

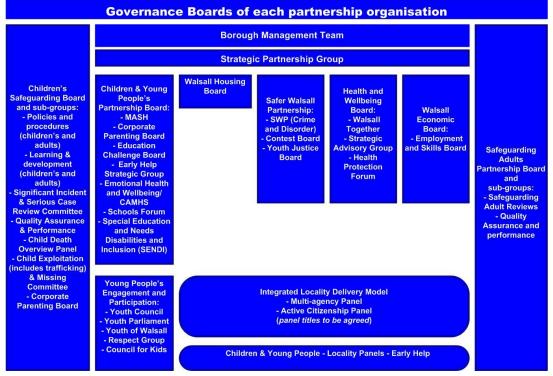
- Walsall Strategic Partnership Board
- Health and Well Being Board the addition of all-age safeguarding to the Walsall Plan has been a notable achievement
- Walsall Safeguarding Children Board

An Inter-Board Protocol will be developed in 2017-18 to clarify arrangements between Boards.

The Safeguarding Assurance Group was established in 2015 and is an important feature of the safeguarding governance arrangements in Walsall. It provides a mechanism for the Local Authority Chief Executive to meet the Independent Chairperson, along with partners, to ensure that safeguarding is effective at all levels across the Borough. Its role is to reflect on the safeguarding 'system' in Walsall and, as appropriate, to seek assurance that matters in relation to resourcing, capacity, performance and governance are being addressed by the relevant agency or body within the strategic partnership arrangements.



Walsall Partnership Relationships & Groups (not a hierarchical structure)



Key Achievements 2016-2017

An acknowledged lack of resources and capacity for the majority of 2016-2017, but addressed as the year progressed, has meant limited progress for the WSAB. However the Board has delivered a number of key achievements and some of these are described below:

- Discussed and contributed to regional and national guidance and policy documents such as the ADASS Out-of-Area Safeguarding Adults Arrangements and the Modern Slavery Duty to Notify.
- Challenged partners appropriately regarding safeguarding in their organisations e.g. Walsall Healthcare Trust were required to provided assurance to the Board relating to actions taken in response to Care Quality Commission (CQC) recommendations in relation to:
 - Maternity Services
 - Emergency Department and the approach to paediatrics; and
 - Mental Capacity Act (MCA)/DoLS in terms of the relevance to 16/17 year olds.

The Local Authority was asked to provide an assurance report on the progress of Community DoLS in domestic settings and registered settings.

- Supported the consultation regarding the procurement of emergency accommodation for victims of domestic abuse.
- Undertook a Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) and table top learning reviews (more information available later on in this Report)
- Progressed the development of a multi-agency performance scorecard
- Delivered a multi-agency training programme

We need to continue our work...

- In developing and improving upon our performance reporting to ensure it is fully reflective of multi-agency working and incorporates prevention and early intervention.
- In gaining the 'voice' of users/carers to inform our work and identify improvements.
- In seeking feedback on our strategic plans and priorities by consulting with Healthwatch, the wider workforce and communities of interest.
- In further developing bespoke audit activities, inclusive of thematic audits that can support preventative strategies.
- To commission an Independent Review of the Board and Board arrangements Review commissioned to take place July 2017.

Moving Forward: Key Issues and Priorities 2017-2018

A Development Day was held for the WSAB in July 2017. Whilst this is out of the reporting time frame for this report it sets the context of the Business Plan and priorities for 2017-18 which are set out below:

- 1. Focus on improving Board effectiveness
- 2. **Raising Public Awareness** Drive forward the Walsall Plan Obsession "If it doesn't feel right, then act on it" ensuring everyone knows that Safeguarding is everyone's business
- 3. **Understand the application of thresholds** for vulnerable adults and those with care and support needs
- 4. **Assurance regarding transition arrangements** for agreed vulnerable groups between children and adult services.
- 5. Quality assurance of safeguarding practice in Care Homes and by Care Providers.
- 6. Seek assurance regarding the appropriate management of **Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)** which are referred to the Local Authority.

These priorities make up the Board's Annual Business Plan 2017-2018.

The Board will also focus on:

- Voice of the Service user Ensure the voice of the service user is heard and drives service improvements.
- Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) Ensure MSP is fully meeting the expectations set out in the Care Act and that it improves the lives of adults at risk of abuse / neglect. To gain an understanding of the extent to which MSP is embedded in practice and has outcomes for service users.

In addition, as part of the quality assurance role within the Board, a number of Assurance Workshops will be held, focusing on:

- Domestic Violence / Domestic Homicide
- Smoking / Fire Safety
- Financial abuse
- Safeguarding in supported accommodation and hostels

Any issues from these workshops will be included in the Board's Annual Business Plan, as appropriate.

These workshops draw together interested parties and local 'experts' on a given subject to scope our understanding across the partnership. Key questions considered include: What data is held? What pathways, procedures and support services are in place? As a partnership are we assured that service users are safe? What, if any, next steps are required?

Safeguarding Adults Performance Information

Walsall Council Safeguarding Adults Data 2016-2017

The information presented below provides an overview of the Safeguarding Adults data collated by Walsall Council for the period 01April 2016 – 31 March 2017.

The data is monitored, on both a local and national level, to ensure that all concerns raised are reviewed from the point of their initial contact through to their conclusion to confirm the timeliness of response and quality of service provided. A variety of measures are used including the nature of the harm, location, the service user's primary support reason as well as their identified outcomes.

This information is scrutinised by the Quality Assurance and Performance Sub Group which reports their findings directly to the Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board on a quarterly basis. Walsall Council is also required to submit this data to the Department of Health to enable a comparison across other local authorities to take place.

Key areas to highlight:

• Table 1 - The number of concerns received for 2016/17 was 1379 with 345 enquires completed. Compared to 2015/16 this shows an increase in concerns but a decrease in enquiries being completed, reducing from 37.7% to 25%. The increase in concerns could be reflective of a multi-agency and wider community awareness and confidence to report safeguarding concerns. There has been a reduction in safeguarding enquiries, which is felt to be due to the new Social Care model of safeguarding introduced which provides a robust screening function, ensuring effective lateral checks are completed at the point of concern before progressing further.

There has been a commitment to the ongoing training of staff in relation to safeguarding and practice has changed significantly in line with Care Act guidance.

- Table 4 The data reflects previous years, with the majority of safeguarding enquires within the 65+ age group. The trend in higher cases across older age groups is consistent with the demographic of the Borough as vulnerability tends to increase with age. However what is noticeable 2016/17 has seen an overall increase in enquiries completed for the age group 18-64 from 32% to 39.1%. In 2015/16 it was reported that there was further work to be done to raise awareness within the wider community, especially within the younger age group. The ongoing commitment and actions of the board to raise awareness within the younger age group appears to have made a positive impact.
- Table 5 The highest reported primary support reason continues to be physical support (170). Of note, this is followed by Learning Disability (66) which has

increased from 3.9% to 17.9% and can be linked to the increased awareness raising within the younger age group as per Table 4.

The trend in higher cases across the older group is reflective of the demographic as people require increased physical support when getting older.

- Table 7 The data shows that the highest proportion of safeguarding enquiries are • within the person's own home (51.8%), followed by a Care Home (30.7%). This is a shift from 2015/16 where Care Homes were the highest source of risk (57.7%), followed by own home (35.9%). This shift could potentially be due to increased awareness within the community, but also the proactive work of commissioners in relation to the quality of care services within the Borough. Walsall CCG has continued to lead a quality improvement approach for nursing homes in the borough. in collaboration with the Council and the nursing home sector. WCCG also commissioned and led a range of initiatives to improve quality outcomes for patients in Nursing homes, including awareness raising and training. Regular CQC meetings attended by the partnership also ensure that there is proactive information sharing to identify possible areas of concern. There has also been a consistent approach to screening of concerns to ensure that poor care practice is not addressed through the safeguarding route, but through more appropriate routes such as commissioning and contract compliance.
- Table 8 The highest proportion of safeguarding enquires has been in relation to neglect acts of omission (37.1%), followed by physical abuse (26%). This follows a similar trend to the previous year. There has been a slight increase in enquires completed for financial abuse, with 24.6% in 2016/17 compared to 19.8% in 2015/16.

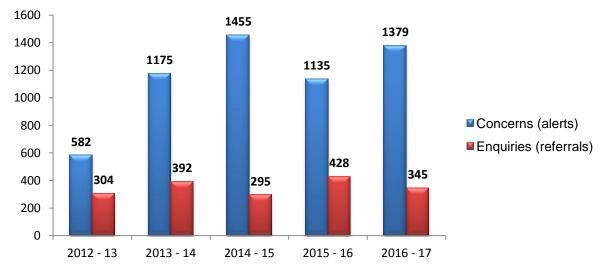
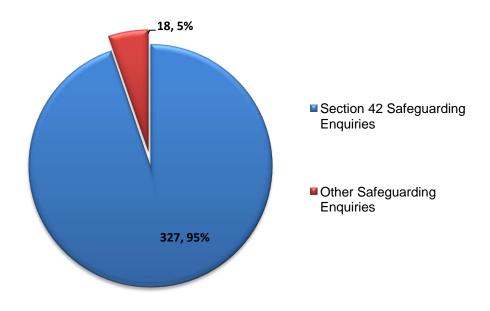


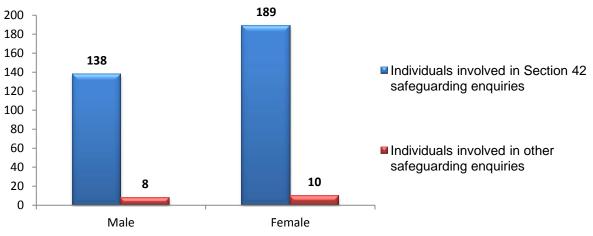
Table 1: Number of individuals involved in completed concerns (alerts) and enquiries (referrals) per year

Table 2: Breakdown of completed enquiries per year by enquiry type: 2016 –2017

Enquiry type	Number of Individuals
Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries	327
Other Safeguarding Enquiries	18







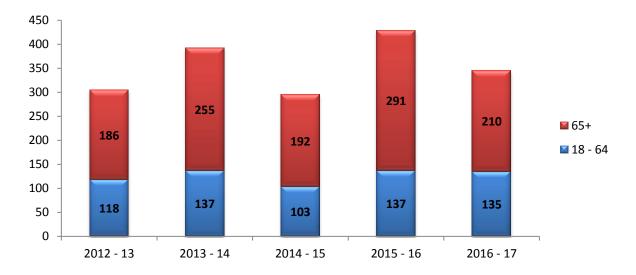
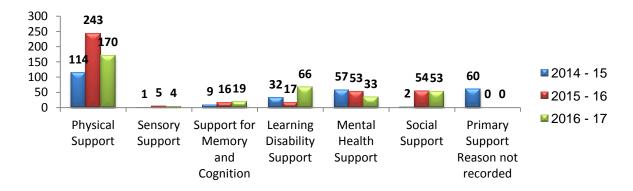


Table 4: Number of individuals involved in completed enquiries per year byage band

Table 5: Number of completed enquiries per year by primary support reason



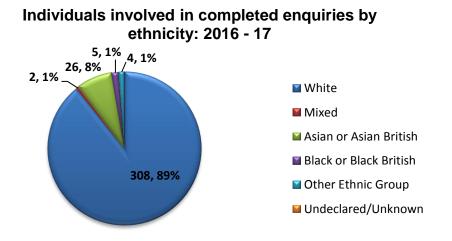


Table 6: Individuals involved in completed enquiries per year by ethnicity



	Conclude	d Section 42	Enquiries	Other	Concluded En	quiries
Location	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual
Own Home	29	120	19	3	8	0
In the community (excluding community services)	3	11	3	0	0	0
In a community service	4	6	1	0	0	0
Care Home - Nursing	8	10	1	0	1	1
Care Home - Residential	38	40	5	0	1	1
Hospital - Acute	0	1	1	0	0	0
Hospital - Mental Health	0	0	0	0	0	0
Hospital - Community	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other	3	11	2	1	0	0

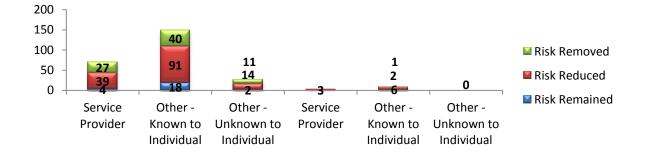
Table 8: Individual or organisation believed to be the source of risk, by type of abuse or risk: completed enquires 2016 – 17

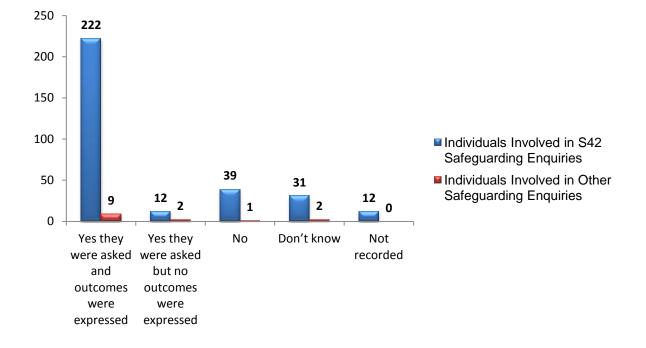
	Conclud	ed Section 42 E	Enquiries	Other	Concluded End	quiries
	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual
Physical Abuse	12	65	9	2	2	0
Sexual Abuse	1	9	2	0	2	0
Psychological Abuse	8	30	3	1	1	0
Financial or Material Abuse	13	57	12	0	3	0
Discriminatory Abuse	0	1	0	0	0	0
Organisational Abuse	23	8	0	1	0	0
Neglect and Acts of Omission	46	67	10	2	3	0
Domestic Abuse	0	9	0	0	0	0
Sexual Exploitation	0	2	0	0	0	0
Modern Slavery	0	1	0	0	0	0
Self-Neglect	0	7	0	0	0	0

Table 9: Individual or organisation believed to be the source of risk, by action and result taken: 2016 - 17

	Conclude	ed Section 4	2 Enquiries	Other Concluded Enquiries			
Risk Assessment Outcomes: Was a risk identified and was any action taken / planned to be taken?	Service Provide r	Other - Known to Individu al	Other - Unknown to Individua I	Service Provide r	Other - Known to Individu al	Other - Unknow n to Individu al	
Risk identified and action taken	66	139	25	3	9	0	
Risk identified and no action taken	4	10	2	0	0	0	
Risk - Assessment inconclusive and action taken	4	12	0	1	0	0	
Risk - Assessment inconclusive and no action taken	1	9	0	0	0	0	
No risk identified and action taken	1	13	1	0	0	0	
No risk identified and no action taken	9	9	4	0	0	0	
Enquiry ceased at individual's request and no action taken	0	7	0	0	1	0	

	Conclude	d Section 42 E	Enquiries	Other Concluded Enquiries			
Risk Outcomes: Where a risk was identified, what was the outcome / expected outcome when the case was concluded?	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual	Service Provider	Other - Known to Individual	Other - Unknown to Individual	
Risk Remained	4	18	2	0	2	0	
Risk Reduced	39	91	14	3	6	0	
Risk Removed	27	40	11	0	1	0	





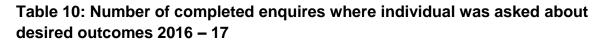
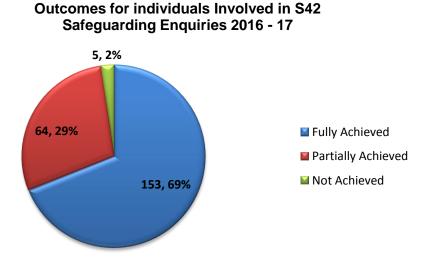


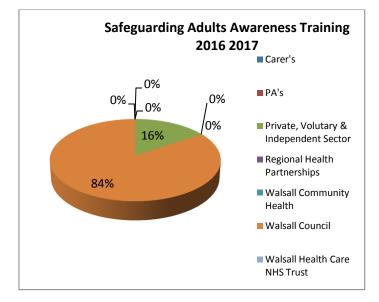
Table 11: Of the concluded enquiries in 2016 - 17 where outcomes were expressed, these outcomes were:



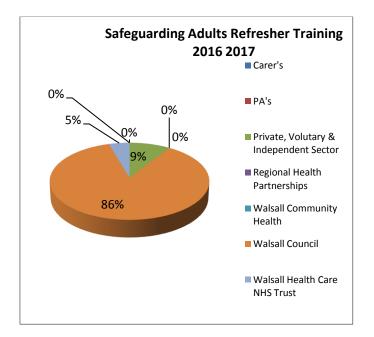
Outcomes for individuals Involved in Other Safeguarding Enquiries 2016 - 17 , 22% , 22% , 5, 56% Substrate of the second second

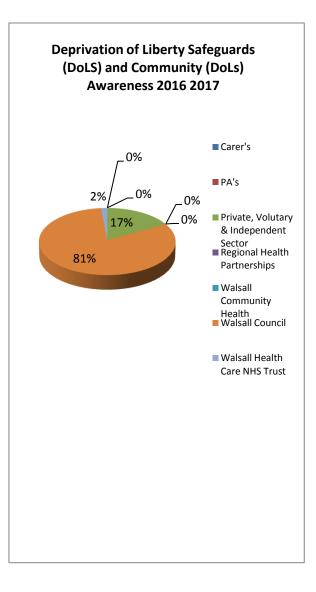
Learning and Development

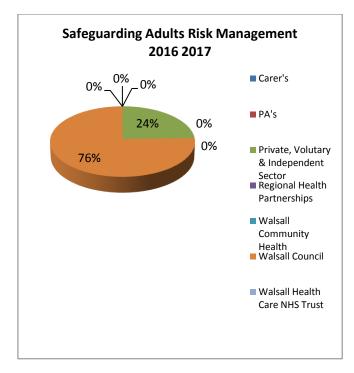
The 2016-17 Walsall Council Learning and Development programme provided a range of learning and development training opportunities for statutory, private and voluntary sector organisations. Courses included Awareness Training, Refresher Training, DoLS Awareness Training, Risk Management, Key Stages of the Safeguarding Response, MCA and Best Interest Decision Making in Practice, Awareness Training on Interface between MHA and MCA and Managing the Safeguarding Response. It is important to note that other agencies such as the Police and CCG also provide various levels of safeguarding training, appropriate for their staff.

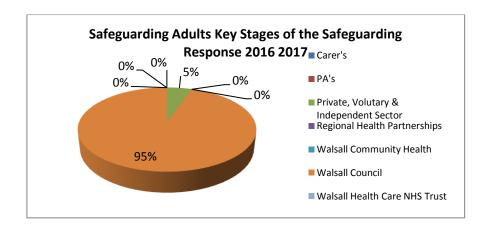


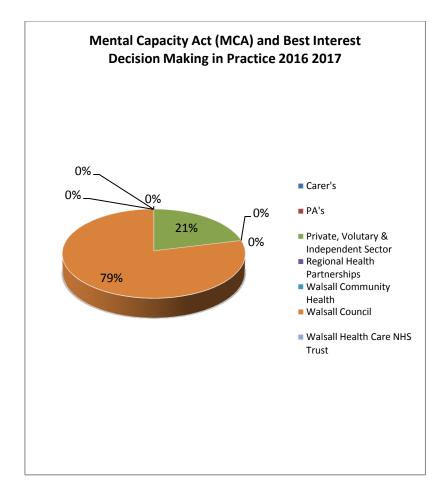
Walsall Council Multi-Agency Training Data 2016-2017

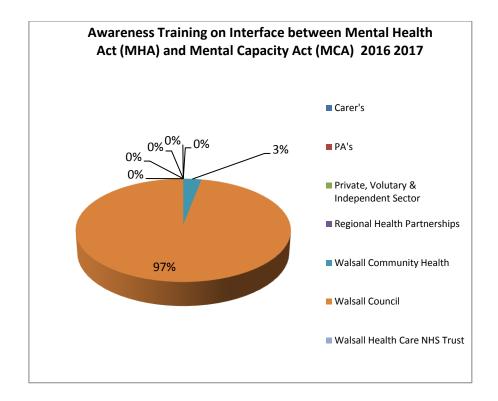


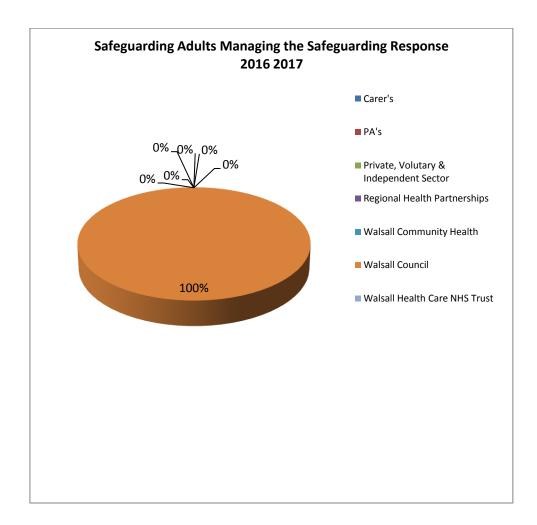




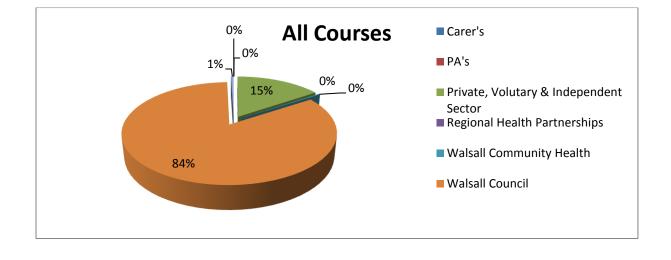








		Carer's	PA's	Private, Volutary & Independent Sector	Regional Health Partnerships	Walsall Community Health	Walsall Council	Walsall Health Care NHS Trust	Total No. of Attendees
Total No of Attendees	All Courses	0	0	62	0	1	335	2	400



Core Partner Statements

The following are statements provided by the core partners of WSAB outlining some of their key contributions to the work of the Board and areas to take forward into 2017 - 2018.

Walsall Council – Adult Social Care

The Local Authority has the lead co-ordinating role, under the Care Act 2014, for safeguarding adults at risk of abuse, neglect or exploitation. In addition to this strategic co-ordinating role, the Local Authority Adult Social Care department also has responsibility for co-ordinating the action taken by organisations in response to concerns that a person at risk is being, or is at risk of being, abused or neglected. Below are some of the **Key Contributions/Achievements in 2016/2017:**

- Regular attendance at the Multi-Agency Case Audit where 10 concerns and 3 S42 enquiries are audited on an alternate basis. Outcomes are fed back to operational teams to improve practice and also into training.
- Table top reviews have been completed on 2 cases, one in relation to domestic abuse and one in relation to sexual exploitation. Outcomes have been used to embed practice and start to develop pathways/procedures.
- Previous safeguarding model has been changed, we have moved away from the specialist safeguarding team role to screen and advise on safeguarding concerns to a 'whole service' approach where all operational teams within Adult Social Care take

responsibility for the ownership and decision making in safeguarding. This is enabling all staff to be more skilled and confident in safeguarding practice.

- Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) continues to be embedded within practice, ensuring that MSP is fully covered within all safeguarding training delivered, safeguarding procedures and all practice templates used by operational staff.
- Care delivery services within the borough where commissioned are expected to adhere to our safeguarding policy and ensure concerns are reported. The monitoring of compliance is undertaken by our Commissioning team and actions taken where appropriate in conjunction with the Contract Management Team. The distinction between poor care and safeguarding is an area where work has been undertaken to ensure that staff and commissioners are aware that poor practice does not automatically mean the safeguarding route should be followed. More emphasis is now placed on the role of the Commissioners and Contract Monitoring in such cases and the need for proactive monitoring of commissioned services to ensure areas of concern are addressed to enable services to improve and prevent the need for the safeguarding pathway to be followed.
- In relation to the commissioning of safeguarding training, this has continued with a number of safeguarding courses being commissioned ranging from awareness raising, through to managing safeguarding enquiries. Feedback has been positive from staff who have attended and continues to embed safeguarding practice within the Borough.

Key Priorities 2017-2018

- The Local Authority continues to see a rise in the number of DoLS applications and the number of those waiting for assessment/review/intervention. There is a permanent DoLS Manager post which oversees the DoLS process. There are currently11 qualified Best Interest Assessors (BIA's), 1 waiting for qualification and 6 staff who have applied to complete the BIA course in October 2017. Expressions of interest will also be sought from qualified Social Workers and occupational therapists to undertake the subsequent training programme likely to commence early 2018. Changes within the job and pay structure within adult Social Care and a recruitment drive within the service will aim to appoint more BIA's to specific new roles.
- A RAG rating for allocation of priority cases to manage the demand within available resources is utilised, with DoLS admin screening each referral to clarify the details and assist with prioritising of cases. The DoLS Lead and admin will continue to work jointly with the Manor Hospital (Safeguarding Lead) to screen patients referred for a DoLS and assist with prioritising those most in need of a DoLS authorisation.
- In relation to Community DoLS, Adult Social Care staff have attended mandatory training on DoLS/Community DoLS and will continue to support Children's Services with understanding MCA/DoLS.
- The current Law Commission review of DoLS proposes replacing the existing DoLS framework with a simpler system. This will mean significant changes to the way Council's manage the service, with the proposed change reducing the administrative and financial burden placed on the Council currently and hopefully reduce delays.
- Safeguarding training has been commissioned which will be shared with all providers to attend. Specific training has also been commissioned for providers in relation to the role of a provider within a safeguarding enquiry ('caused enquiry').

- An internal case file audit of approximately 100 cases will be completed in 2018 which will identify the quality of safeguarding practice and assist with the identification of any practice issues that will then be shared with relevant providers. Also, there will be a rolling programme of case audits being undertaken. Local Authority Commissioners will continue to provide quality visits to providers and as part of their review consider safeguarding practice.
- A regional conference in relation to Sexual Exploitation and transition is being developed by Safeguarding Leads to consider the transition arrangements between Adult and Children's services. Local guidance is currently being developed.
- Sexual Exploitation e-learning is being developed with plan to be rolled out towards the end of 2017 with some dedicated training sessions for Adult Social Care by the (C)SE lead early 2018. Transition pathways have been reviewed to ensure there is a more streamlined process.
- An internal threshold guidance tool has been developed to support staff with their understanding and application of thresholds. Plans to adapt this guidance as a Board document to provide guidance and support for all partner agencies. Rolling case file audits will continue to be undertaken to enable identification and understanding of thresholds. Outcomes to be embedded back into practice through practitioner development groups. Continued engagement between the safeguarding Lead and Access team to ensure thresholds are fully embedded and applied appropriately. Safeguarding training has been commissioned which incorporates thresholds and application.

Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group

As a core partner, Walsall Clinical Commissioning Group (WCCG) is fully committed to working with the WSAB and its Sub Groups to support the work of the Board and deliver its responsibilities. Some **Key Contributions/Achievements in 2016/2017** include:

- 100% Board attendance and high attendance rate at Sub Group and other Safeguarding Meetings.
- Quality Assurance and Performance Sub Group chaired by WCCG.
- All Chronologies and IMRs completed within time frames.
- WCCG has worked with the Local Authority and other partners where there is a safeguarding concern that needs investigation under section 42 and at fact finding level. Findings have been shared and actions monitored when in those providers commissioned by WCCG.
- WCCG has supported Primary care regarding safeguarding concerns and provided a comprehensive multi-agency training programme for GP practices. This training programme has supported GP's and other practice staff to achieve competency levels in line with the NHS England Training and Competency Guidance.
- PREVENT training has been aligned with the Safeguarding Adults competencies and WCCG commissioned an e-learning module to cover Level 1 awareness training. 83 staff are eligible, we are currently at 75.9% compliance and will aim to improve this over the year.

- WCCG has worked with providers with the introduction of the new performance framework to monitor safeguarding adult activity and training competency. Providers have had performance framework agreed and added to contracts and provider trusts have worked to trajectories to drive improvement. This data has been monitored through safeguarding performance reports presented by providers monthly at their Clinical Quality Review (CQR) meetings.
- Walsall CCG has led the quality improvement approach for Walsall Nursing homes, in collaboration with Local Council colleagues and the Nursing Home sector. WCCG has commissioned and led a range of initiatives to improve quality outcomes for patients in Nursing homes. The re-modelling of the quarterly Dashboard to gain information and a schedule of quality assurance visits both announced and unannounced will be used to measure their performance. Support to Nursing Homes will continue through the quarterly forum meetings where a range of topics will be scheduled and chosen by the Homes managers.
- WCCG is the lead commissioner for the MCA Project, which is a Project that supports health teams to embed the Mental Capacity Act across the Boroughs, raise public awareness of the Act and guide practice. Resources, such as factsheets, have been developed. Originally a 12 month project funded by Dudley, Walsall and Wolverhampton CCGs, the project was able to run for another 6 months and each CCG has found more funding to continue it into 2017-18.
- WCCG personnel were instrumental in the formation of a Task and Finish Group to drive forward the associated Action Plan of the Domestic Abuse Strategy, acting as facilitator and chair of a series of meetings.

Key Priorities 2017-2018

- Develop and roll out the IRIS (Identification and Referral to Improve Safety) Project around Domestic Violence. First phase of 15-20 GP practices to be trained and Advocate supporting them. Work collaboratively with other members to bring this project under the footprint of the Sustainability and Transformation Plans (STP).
- Maintain position as a core Member of the WSAB, fully committed to working with to deliver their responsibilities. To attend and play a strong role in the Sub Groups in order to help support the work required in order to make Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board and safeguarding in Walsall a success. WCCG will continue to give its full support when required to participating in SARs, DHRs and providing good quality Chronologies and producing IMRs in a timely manner
- Walsall CCG will continue to work with the Local Authority and other partners where there is a safeguarding concern that needs investigation where a Health organisation is better placed to investigate. We will undertake investigations in a timely manner and report any findings as required. Where there are lessons to be learnt the CCG will then monitor the organisation against any action plans.
- Over the next year Walsall CCG will continue to work closely with Nursing Homes to achieve a high standard of care. The re-modelling of the Dashboard to gain information and a schedule of quality assurance visits both announced and unannounced will be used to measure their performance. Support to Nursing Homes will continue through the quarterly forum meetings where a range of topics will be scheduled and chosen by the Homes managers. Improve safety with the support of the Quality Improvement Lead.

- WCCG will continue to embed Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty in practice with the continued support of the MCA Project to raise compliance and implementation across providers .Monitor provider compliance and take action as necessary if they fail to reach the agreed standards.
- Support Primary Care with Safeguarding Adults and deliver a training plan in line with their needs, improving on that of last year. Support with safeguarding concerns and investigations where required.

West Midlands Police

West Midlands Police (WMP) are key stakeholders in the Safeguarding Adults Board, its Sub Groups and Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) processes, contributing to the learning along with other information from external reviews. Some **Key Contributions/Achievements in 2016/2017**, from both a regional and local perspective, are set out below:

Regional

In November 2016 West Midlands Police (WMP) introduced new operational response principles (for all people contacting WMP, not just Vulnerable Adults), which included the introduction of a new grading policy to support the identification of the most suitable Primary (initial response) and Secondary (Investigation management and outcome) investigation resource. For Vulnerable Adult investigations this equates to Primary investigations primarily being undertaken by Force Response resources supported by the WMP Public Protection Adults at Risk Team and the secondary investigation being undertaken by a mix of the Adults at Risk Team and other WMP teams dependent upon the severity and nature of the incident. This approach allows WMP to have a risk and harm based approach to the Vulnerable Adults investigations reported to WMP, and is supported by bespoke Safeguarding activities delivered through frontline officers (Neighbourhood and Response), the Adults at Risk team, and other 3rd Sector Partners.

The Adult at Risk team actively engage with Social Services, Commissioning Providers and other Partner Agencies to ensure there is a cohesive approach to Safeguarding running alongside investigations. This work is reviewed through the Safeguarding Adult Board arrangements.

The Neighbourhood Policing Units for each area also manage a referral portal system which allows frontline officers within the area to identify an individual who needs help, support, and/or intervention from partner agencies. This work is not confined to adults who fit the above definition but covers the broader definition of 'vulnerability' adopted by WMP:

"A person is vulnerable is as a result of their situation or circumstances, they are unable to take care or protect themselves, or others from harm or exploitation".

WMP are currently re-writing it's Adult at Risk policy. This policy will provide a clearer and updated framework for what good looks like internally.

The WMP process in terms of Vulnerable Adults training, particularly how our core training integrates with partnership training, is an area currently under development. We do as an organisation collate learning from the Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and use that to

inform Force Policies and practices, but a detailed mapping exercise needs to be competed to support the development of a learning plan that will ensure staff receive all relevant training for their role. It is hoped that this work will be completed through the Adult Safeguarding Regional Group during 2017/18

West Midlands Police have appointed two staff to work within the WMP Learning and Development department who have been commissioned to undertake a review of continuous professional development training (CPD), which will be used as part of a wider review of core training.

Local

- 100% Board attendance at WSAB with attendance at various Sub Groups and other Safeguarding Meetings, as appropriate.
- Development of a draft Adults at Risk policy and the commitment to review our approach to Vulnerable Adults in 2017.
- The Neighbouring Police Unit (NPU) Pathways referral process is now well established with over 1100 referrals signposted into our partnerships team. This enables all frontline officers to seek support and highlight individuals for further engagement and help. Supporting Impact Pathways external website with collation of relevant agencies to compliment the project.
- Addressing issues impacting on people and locations through a monthly Intervention and Prevention meeting. Our Police Officers are undertaking Intervention and Prevention work with service users in order to reduce Demand upstream. The Intervention and Prevention work is driven largely by Officers identifying individuals/ families / locations or themes requiring further support and investment of either Police or partnership intervention. Our Offender Management Team at Walsall, where possible, focuses on much more than a catch and convict strategy; it looks to focus on any intervention or pathway possible to change the lives of those offenders in Walsall, to prevent them reoffending
- Attendance at Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Partnership Forums addressing issues relevant to area of business and maximising opportunities afforded by the professional relationships afforded from this.
- PREVENT/CHANNEL meeting attendance and taking action of any tasks as appropriate.
- Creation and implementation of NPU PREVENT plan in support of Counter Terrorism Local Profile (CTLP).
- Modern Slavery Operations Group being formulated to support initiatives to identify, support and safeguard vulnerable individuals across the Borough. Also includes raising awareness of Modern Day Slavery and Human Trafficking in Walsall.
- Hate Crime interventions now forming part of normal daily business with daily scrutiny of emerging trends.
- Attendance and support at Vulnerability Forums supporting victims of Anti-social Behaviour with additional, contributing factors.
- Bespoke case conferences on an 'as and when needed' basis pertinent to vulnerable adults.
- Support of management of repeat adult missing persons, identifying and challenging key drivers behind missing episodes.
- Source and supply of crime prevention materials including the management and fitting of memo cams. Memo cams are small cameras used, with consent, for victims

of crime where there is the possibility of a repeat offence or if the victim is vulnerable. The camera is there to capture images of offenders.

- Supporting of national campaigns such as Hate Crime Week and Knife Crime awareness.
- Facilitating 'pop up stands' in areas of relevant demand to raise awareness.
- Support of licensing forums and communication of messages relevant to that area of business.
- Working with Street Teams is a positive example of a 'hidden crime' being addressed through partnership working around raising Sexual Exploitation awareness and Intervention and Prevention activity.
- Working alongside partners at Locality Panels to best support those most vulnerable in our society
- Improved partnership working through the co-location of Community Rehabilitation Company/Probation/Youth Offending Service/Mental Health/Drug and alcohol workers at Bloxwich Police Station. Co-location allows for quick time, multi agency interventions for vulnerable adult matters.
- Our Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) undertake targeted Connect and Build Activity in the community where vulnerable individuals have been subject to a crime, or are likely to be targeted or affected. Connect and Build activity is wide and varying and aims at making us visible, approachable and in the right place to reduce crime and reassure the public. It includes Crime Prevention advice delivery and identifying and engaging with Active Citizens in conjunction with One Walsall.
- Effective use of social media platforms, including WMNow, to disseminate appropriate messaging and share best practice. WMnow users benefit from two way messaging but will also hear about positive police action in their own community, help identify suspected or wanted criminals or learn about community groups, events and meetings in their area.

Key Priorities 2017-2018

The West Midlands Police *"WMP2020 Change Programme"*, created following extensive consultation with our staff, the public, and Partners, is a radical overhaul of all aspects of business with people and technology at its heart. The first phase of changes was delivered in November 2016, and the second phase is now underway. The approach has six fundamental principles underpinned by a series of outcomes, all of which will either directly or indirectly support the activity of the Adult Safeguarding Board and Vulnerable Adults within the West Midlands area. The principles are:

1. <u>"We trust our people"</u>

Outcomes sought

- To improve organisational fairness in how we make decisions.
- To increase the voice of staff in decision making.
- To improve employee wellbeing and reduce sickness absence.
- To improve the performance management of staff.
- To deliver the People Deal including our Leadership Promise.
- To develop effective workforce design and planning.
- To attract and develop diverse and talented employees.

2. <u>"Information drives our actions"</u>

Outcomes Sought

To increase information:

- Access: So people can access information when they need it
- Insight: So we understand issues more deeply
- Foresight: So we can become more predictive
- Security: So information is secure and managed ethically

So it can:

- Improve the experience of the public when using services
- Help us collaborate across boundaries
- Help us prevent crime / harm
- Improve productivity and/or lowers cost
- Increase staff motivation and satisfaction at work

3. <u>Designed to Listen and Reassure (Involving the public and treating them fairly)</u> Outcomes Sought

- To increase public participation in creating safe communities.
- To increase public satisfaction with West Midlands Police Services.
- To increase confidence in West Midlands Police.
- To improve the fairness of West Midlands Police.
- To design services to meet citizen need.
- Understand whether the service design of local policing works.

4. Geared to Prevent Harm

Outcomes Sought

- To prevent crime / harm
- To increase prevention activity
- To reduce offending, re-offending and improve rehabilitation
- To reduce unnecessary demand for service
- To increase partnership integration on outcomes and services

5. <u>Responding at Pace</u> Outcomes Sought

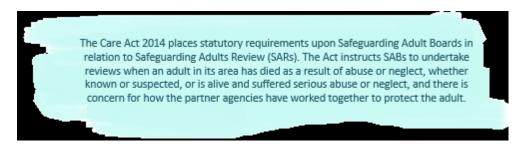
- To reduce demand
- To increase productivity in the areas of contact, dispatch, responding, investigation, justice, intelligence, safeguarding, tasking and coordination and business enablers
- To improve satisfaction of the public and colleagues with services
- To improve our ability to prevent crime, protect the public and help those in need

6. Learn and Adapt

Outcomes Sought

- To develop a sustainable operating model for learning
- To apply research activity as part of the programme of change

Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) – 2016-2017



The SAB must, within its annual report, provide details of any SAR's undertaken, the lessons learned and actions to be taken as a result of a SAR.

The Care and Support statutory guidance informs that wherever possible consideration should be given to parallel review processes, and also the exploration of joint reviews to prevent duplication.

In 2016-2017 the WSAB commenced one SAR and undertook one table top learning review.

Following the death of a Staffordshire resident in a Walsall Care home, a referral was made by Walsall Council to the Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board on 15th June 2016, and a decision was made that the criteria for a SAR was met under condition 1 as set out below:

An SAB must arrange for there to be a review of a case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority has been meeting any of those needs) if—

(a) there is reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, members of it or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult, and

(b) condition 1 or 2 is met.

Condition 1 is met if—

(a) the adult has died, and

(b) the SAB knows or suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not it knew about or suspected the abuse or neglect before the adult died).

An Independent Reviewer was commissioned and the terms of reference and methodology agreed by the SAR sub group. Due to ongoing criminal proceedings it was not possible to speak to professionals involved, precluding a 'Systems' method. Therefore a 'traditional' model of Individual Management Review Reports and chronologies were utilised.

It is anticipated that the report will be concluded in 2017-18, however publication may be delayed due to the criminal proceedings.

A Learning Review was also completed in late 2016 – early 2017. This was in relation to a service user who was not felt to meet the SAR criteria but was seriously assaulted whilst

sleeping rough, in addition to misusing substances (alcohol and heroin) and being known to several agencies. Recommendations were made in relation to staff training, information sharing and ensuring correct application of policies and procedures. An action plan is being monitored via the SAR sub group.

How Effective are Adult Safeguarding Arrangements in Walsall?

There are a number of ways in which SAB's can measure effectiveness, the most helpful of these is by having a real understanding of the needs in the area and assessing these against a clear dataset, testing improvements by auditing and ensuring that the learning from reviews is properly embedded. Over the reporting year the Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board was less effective than it should have been with insufficient resources and a focus on improvement for the Safeguarding Children Board. Multi-agency auditing took place but a greater focus on embedding learning and monitoring actions is required. With the development and introduction of a multi-agency Performance Scorecard, Annual Agency Assurance Statements and Board Risk Register, all of these aspects are starting to improve Board effectiveness and we are beginning to move to a view that adults at risk in Walsall are, at least, adequately safeguarded. These will continue to be utilised and improved in 2017/18 with the addition of a Learning Tracker and also briefing sessions on the findings from SAR's and learning reviews. The Board now holds regular Assurance Meetings relating to various themed areas of concern which will provide scrutiny and assurance from partner agencies. Over the reporting period leadership across the Borough has been relatively consistent and this has undoubtedly helped with stability.

Business Support

Resourcing of the WSAB and its work is a partnership responsibility. This is separate to partners' individual safeguarding responsibilities. Resourcing the work of the Board can be through financial or other contributions.

The main areas requiring partner support and investment are:

- The development, review and updating of local policies and procedures.
- Board professional and secretarial support.
- Supporting task-and-finish and sub-groups.
- Capacity for multi-agency training and development.
- Supporting publicity campaigns, conferences and development days
- Quality and assurance through the preparation and analysis of data provided by all partners.
- Funding of the Independent Chair.
- Costs associated with commissioning Safeguarding Adults Reviews.

Safeguarding Business Unit

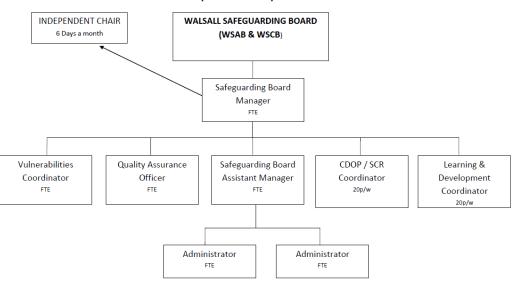
The Safeguarding Business Unit is located within Walsall Council. It provides support to both the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safeguarding Children Board.

During 2016-2017, the business support function included:

- The Independent Chair (WSCB and WSAB) contracted for 6 days a month.
- Safeguarding Board Manager (Strategic Lead for both WSCB and WSAB)
- 0.5 FTE Administrative Officer

In order for both the Children and Adult Board to function effectively and meet their statutory duties the Business Unit required additional resources. In late 2016 the Local Authority and CCG agreed increased financial support. This allowed a new team structure to be developed and agreed by the partnership. All posts will serve both Boards.

In 2017-18 the current unit will be re-structured to the following:



WALSALL SAFEGUARDING BOARDS (WSAB & WSCB) - STRUCTURE CHART

The challenge for 2017-18 is to promptly progress recruitment to roles within the unit to effectively deliver on Board business. Interim arrangements will be required to prevent further delay.

Funding Contributions

Partner Agency Contributions 2016-2017/Agreed 2017-2018

Partner Agency	2016-17 Contribution £	2017-18 Agreed Contributions £
NHS Walsall	5,000	5,000
Probation	3,000	3,000
West Midlands Police	15,121	15,121
Walsall CCG	15,000	15,000
Walsall Council Contribution	15,000	15,000
TOTAL	53,121	53,121

See Appendix 2: WSAB Expenditure Statement 2016-17/Forecast Spend 2017/2018

Appendix 1: Board List of Attendance by Agency

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board Meeting Attendance April 2016- March 2017

ORGANISATION	Jun-16	Sep-16	Dec-16	Feb 17	Total (%)
Independent Chair	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	100%
West Midlands Police	\checkmark	\checkmark			100%
Clinical Commissioning Group	\checkmark	\checkmark			100%
Walsall Council (Executive Director Adult Social Care)	×	х	V	X	25%
Walsall Council (Head of Community Care)	Х	\checkmark	Х	\checkmark	50%
Portfolio Holder Adult Social Care	Member from Dec 2016	Member from Dec 2016	X	×	
Walsall Healthcare NHS Trust	\checkmark	×	\checkmark		75%
Walsall College	\checkmark	\checkmark	\checkmark		100%
Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust	\checkmark	×	×	×	25%
West Midlands Fire Service	x	\checkmark	\checkmark	×	50%
National Probation Service (Walsall/Wolverhampton)	\checkmark	\checkmark	V	\checkmark	100%
Community Rehabilitation Company (Walsall/Wolverhampton)	×	\checkmark	×	\checkmark	50%
Age UK	×	×	×	×	0%
Healthwatch	×	×	\checkmark	×	25%
Walsall Council Public Health	\checkmark	\checkmark		\checkmark	100%
Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Partnership Trust	×	\checkmark	×	×	25%
NHS England	×	×	\checkmark	×	25%
Walsall Safeguarding Children's Board	\checkmark	\checkmark			100%

Appendix 2: WSAB Expenditure Statement 2016-17/Forecast Spend 2017/2018

Table 1 – WASB Outturn 2016/17	(£)
Admin Officer (50%)	9,582
Independent chair	25,279
Safeguarding Adult Reviews	1,500
Other Ad Hoc Costs	1,288
Total Forecast Expenditure	37,649
Income	
NHS Walsall	-5,000
Probation	-3,000
West Midlands Police	-15,121
Walsall CCG	-15,000
Walsall Council Contribution	-15,000
Total Forecast Income	-53,121
Net Expenditure 16/17	-15472
Transfer to Reserves	15472
Reported Variance	0

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board Actual Spend for 2016/17

Walsall Safeguarding Adults Board Forecast Spend for 2017/18

Table 2 – WASB Outturn 2017/18	(£)
Admin Officer (50%)	9,582
Independent chair	25,279
Serious Case Reviews	6,000
Other Ad-Hoc Costs	1,000
Board development consultant	32,500
Total Forecast Expenditure	74,361
Income	
NHS Walsall	-5,000
Probation	-3,000
West Midlands Police	-15,121
Walsall CCG	-15,000
Walsall Council Contribution	-15,000
Total Forecast Income	-53,121
Forecast Net Expenditure 17/18	21,240
Forecast Use of Reserves	-21,240
Forecast Reported Variance	0