

**For general release**

<b>REPORT TO:</b>	<b>Croydon Health Scrutiny Committee 16 January 2018</b>
<b>SUBJECT:</b>	<b>Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report</b>
<b>LEAD OFFICERS:</b>	<b>Barbara Peacock, Executive Director People Guy Van Dichele, Interim Executive Director Adults &amp; All Age Disability Service Pratima Solanki, Director of Adult Social Care and All Age Disability Service</b>
<b>CABINET MEMBER:</b>	<b>Councillor Louisa Woodley, Cabinet Member for Families, Health and Social Care</b>
<b>PERSON LEADING AT SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING:</b>	<b>Pratima Solanki, Director of Adult Social Care and All Age Disability</b>
<b>ORIGIN OF ITEM:</b>	<b>This section is completed by the Scrutiny Officer before the report is written.</b>
<b>BRIEF FOR THE COMMITTEE:</b>	<b>To review the activity of the Safeguarding Adults Board 2016/2017</b>

## **1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

- 1.1 That the Croydon Health Scrutiny Committee notes the annual report 2016 – 17 of the Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board.

## **2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

- 2.1. The purpose of the report is to detail the activity and effectiveness of the Croydon Safeguarding Adults board (CSAB) between April 2016 and March 2017. The report was submitted to the July CSAB board meeting by the Independent Chair which ensures that the statutory partners and other agencies are given the opportunity to give objective feedback on the effectiveness of local arrangements for safeguarding adults in Croydon

## **3. CROYDON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (CSAB) ANNUAL REPORT**

- 3.1. The Annual Report can be found at the following website address  
<http://www.croydonsab.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/CSAB-Annual-report-2016-17-Final-31-July-2017.pdf>

- 3.2 The CSAB has a statutory obligation to publish an Annual Report. The Adults' Annual Safeguarding Report was presented to Cabinet on 17<sup>th</sup> July 2017 and to the Adults Social Services Review Panel on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017. It is an important function of the Council's oversight that the safeguarding activity of our most vulnerable residents is given rigorous scrutiny by elected members.
- 3.3 The report gives a comprehensive update on the multi-agency activity to safeguard adults.
- 3.4 Page 32 of the report identifies key priorities for this year which are:
- Making Safeguarding Personal – Including ensuring advocacy services are commissioned and accessible to adults at risk.
  - Mental Capacity Act – practitioners understand and are able to apply the MCA to ensure all adults at risk are assessed and services tailored to meet their needs.
  - The CSAB partners gain greater understanding of the different communities in Croydon and apply this knowledge to service commissioning and delivery.
  - The CSAB ensures compliance with the Care Act 2014 with focus on Mutual challenge and Duty of Candour.
  - Awareness Raising and Engaging Communities with a focus on Financial Abuse and Social Isolation

### 3.5 **Activity**

Pages 11-14 outline the safeguarding activity. Last year there were 2589 Safeguarding Concerns, this is an increase of 114 from the previous reporting year. On one level this is positive as we are raising awareness about adult safeguarding however, it is noticeable that the number of cases going on to be Section 42 Enquiries has fallen. A section 42 Enquiry is a formal investigation if there is evidence of abuse or neglect and the adult is unable to protect themselves. Last year 66% of concerns raised went on to be Enquires, this percentage is now around 38%. This is a positive move as it brings Croydon in line with other Local Authorities both in London and Nationally. This change has been driven by the safeguarding triage process based in the Centralised Duty Team. Previously some concerns were subject of enquiries which was not always the best option for the person at the centre of the safeguarding concern. Triage ensures that the wishes and feelings are considered and that the most appropriate route is chosen to meet the person's needs and to protect them.

### 3.6 **Progress made by the CSAB**

The Statutory Guidance enshrines the Six Principles of Safeguarding. These are Empowerment, Prevention, Proportionality, Protection, Partnership and Accountability. Pages 17 -23 outlines the Boards progress in ensuring these principles are embedded and also sets out areas of development.

3.7 The business plan for 2017/18 sets the priorities going forward:

- Prevention and early identification of adults at risk of abuse
- Commissioning to ensure vulnerable adults services that protect them from abuse and there is a robust response to market failure
- Voice of service users is central to the work of the CSAB and all partners and influences policy and practice
- Making Safeguarding Personal is central to the commissioning and delivery of services to vulnerable adults.
- The CSAB ensures there is effective communications with Croydon residents, between professionals, agencies and between different Boards and Partnerships

### 3.8 Current Position

Since the publication of the Annual Report Sarah Baker has left the role of Independent Chair. An Interim Chair was appointed until a permanent Chair was recruited. The Interim Chair is Doctor Adi Cooper, Adi is the LGA Care and Health Improvement Advisor for London, she Chairs two other London Boards and is nationally renowned as an authority on Safeguarding Adults. Dr Cooper took up the role in October 2017. Interviews for a permanent Chair took place on the 7<sup>th</sup> December when Annie Callanan was appointed and accepted the post, Annie will take up post on the 25 January when she will Chair the next CSAB meeting. Annie is an experienced senior manager with a wide base of expertise in Social Care and Health. She is currently the Safeguarding Adult Board Chair in both the LB Bexley and West Sussex.

Safeguarding Adults continues to be a major priority for the Council, which is led by the Adult Social Care & All Age Disability Division. A key focus continues to be on Making Safeguarding Personal. The Division is currently reviewing its safeguarding processes to ensure that adult safeguarding is fully embedded across the Council and partners. A key area is the work with social care providers to ensure that quality services are provided for Croydon residents

The Board recognises the importance of the partnership in working together to meet the above objectives.

## 4. CONSULTATION

4.1 Statutory Partners contributed to the Annual Report along with local agencies and the CSAB Committee members.

## 5. EQUALITIES IMPACT

5.1. A key priority for the Council is ensuring we work with our partners to make Croydon a stronger and fairer place for all our communities. The impact of the proposals that have been and / or will be delivered through the structures outlined in this report are expected to have a positive impact on residents with different protected characteristics, in particular older people, women and the BME communities.

- 5.2. Quality assurance data provided in the annual report is designed as a summary set of information and is provided at a high level, without detailed breakdown of groups with various protected characteristics. However, as a multi-agency Board, and with an independent identity, the new performance dashboard will still enable the Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board to assess its impact against the Council's Equality Policy (2016/20) and statutory Equality Objectives (2016/20).
- 5.3 Although partner agencies cannot be held accountable to these, as statutory agencies they will have their distinctive organisational equality objectives and policies, under the Public Sector Equality Duty.
- 5.4 The equality objectives for 2016 - 20 with which this work is particularly aligned are on community safety (domestic abuse), and social isolation. It also aligns with the Independence and Liveability objectives of the Corporate Plan.
- 5.5 Going forward, the Board will need to consider which agency carries the corporate risk to show 'due regard', under the Public Sector Equality Duty of the Equality Act, as and when projects and programmes arise from the work of Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board.

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**APPENDICES:** None

**BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS:** Annual Report 2016 – 17  
<http://www.croydonsab.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2016/10/CSAB-Annual-report-2016-17-Final-31-July-2017.pdf>