

**Report for:** Adults and Health Scrutiny Panel, 19<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Title:** Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2023-2024

**Report authorised by:** Dr Adi Cooper (Independent Chair of Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board)

**Lead Officer:** Ashraf Sahebodin, Governance and Improvement Officer, Adult Social Services.

**Ward(s) affected:** ALL

**Report for Key/**

**Non Key Decision:** Non key decision

**1. Describe the issue under consideration**

- 1.1 The annual report is for the period 1<sup>st</sup> April 2023 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and is produced as part of the Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board's (HSAB) statutory duty under The Care Act 2014 and Chapter 14 of the Care & Support Guidance. We are required to publish an annual report in relation to the preceding financial year, on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.
- 1.2 The HSAB Annual Report 2023/24 outlines the work of the Board over the last twelve months and how partner agencies have worked together to improve the safety of adults at risk of abuse. The report contains details of how safeguarding has been promoted and developed over the last year through the Board and its subgroups.

**1.3 Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR)**

The SAB has published two SARs in 2023/24. Both the Steve and Paulette SARs have been published on the Haringey website: [Safeguarding Adults Reviews | Haringey Council](#). The full SAR reports and 7-minute briefings have been shared with SAB partners to aid the dissemination of learning across partner agencies.

The Steve SAR, independently led, examined the circumstances leading to Steve's death after he fell through the rotten floor of his privately rented home. Despite efforts to find alternative housing, assistance arrived too late, and Steve died at 61. The review recommended improvements in multi-agency meetings, escalation of housing concerns, safeguarding training, safeguarding pathways, follow-up on referrals, and housing assessments for vulnerable individuals.

The Paulette SAR, published in January 2024, focused on Paulette's death at 56 from multiple organ failure and sepsis, two years after a diagnosis of early-onset dementia led to her temporary placement in a care home. Recommendations included ensuring effective Deprivation of Liberty Standards

(DoLS) procedures, addressing gaps in care services, enhancing care home quality assurance, providing specialist wheelchair services, improving tenancy account management, and better assessing and managing pressure damage.

In response to these SARs, several improvements have been implemented:

- The Multi-Agency Solutions Panel (MASP) was reviewed, and awareness was raised among SAB and the voluntary and community sector (VCS).
- Communication between Environmental Health, Housing, and MASP regarding private sector housing concerns was strengthened.
- Tenant legal rights information was shared with SAB and VCS.
- Safeguarding concern referral processes were revised.
- Training on self-neglect and safeguarding was enhanced, along with the promotion of relevant procedures.

## **2. Recommendation**

2.1 To note the contents of the annual report.

## **3. Background information**

3.1 The HSAB is a statutory body that works to make sure that all agencies are working together to help keep adults in Haringey safe from harm and to protect the rights of citizens to be safeguarded under the Care Act 2014, Mental Capacity Act (MCA) 2005 and the Human Rights Act (HRA) 1998. Under the Care Act 2014 Haringey SAB has three core duties:

- developing and publishing an annual strategic plan setting out how we will meet our objectives.
- publishing an annual report which sets out what we have achieved; and
- commissioning SAR where serious abuse or death has occurred, and learning can take place.

3.2 The work of the Board is driven by its vision is that Haringey residents are able to live a life free from harm, where communities have a culture that does not tolerate abuse; work together to prevent abuse; and know what to do when abuse happens. The overarching purpose of the Haringey 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 focused.
- working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible.
- ensuring agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses when abuse or neglect have occurred; and
- assuring itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area.

#### 4. The HSAB Strategic Plan

The Board has developed the strategy for the next five years which is driven by an annual delivery plan. The annual plans set out how we will seek to promote safeguarding, quality of services, raise awareness, and how we will help to protect people with care and support needs at risk of abuse and neglect.

The annual delivery plans have two main purposes:

1. Specify the actions required by the Board and each of its member agencies to implement the strategy, and
2. Inform the local community and all interested parties, including practitioners, about the work programme of the Board

#### 5. Delivery 2024/25 Priorities and Objectives

The delivery of the Board's priorities and objectives is overseen by its sub-groups, task and finish groups, and partners:

- **Chairs Executive Subgroup:** Provides leadership and direction to ensure the Board operates efficiently and delivers high-quality safeguarding services to vulnerable adults in Haringey.
- **Quality Assurance Subgroup:** Supports the Board in ensuring local safeguarding arrangements are effective by monitoring and evaluating the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding policies, procedures, practices, and performance.
- **Engagement & Prevention Subgroup:** Oversees the Haringey Safeguarding Adults Prevention Strategy, coordinates multi-agency safeguarding training, delivers awareness campaigns, and promotes effective communication and engagement with the community and stakeholders.
- **Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Subgroup:** Reviews cases that may meet the statutory criteria for a SAR under the Care Act 2014, oversees the SAR process, and ensures that recommendations are implemented and lessons are shared with all partners.
- **Practice & Improvement Subgroup:** Ensures that SAR recommendations are acted upon and works to improve the quality of safeguarding practices, ensuring vulnerable adults receive the necessary support and protection.

#### 6. Contribution to Corporate Strategic outcomes

##### 6.1 Links with the Haringey Corporate Delivery Plan 2024-2026

Cross cutting priorities across 'Children and young people', and 'Adults, Health, and Welfare'.

#### 7. Statutory Officers comments (Chief Finance Officer (including procurement), Assistant Director of Corporate Governance, Equalities)

N/A

**8. Use of Appendices**

N/A

**9. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

- The Care Act 2014  
(<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2014/23/contents/enacted>)
- Care & Support Statutory Guidance [Care and support statutory guidance - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/262402/care-and-support-statutory-guidance.pdf)
- London Multi-agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures  
(<https://www.haringey.gov.uk/sites/haringeygovuk/files/london-multi-agency-adult-safeguarding-policy-and-procedures.pdf>)