



**Haringey** Council

Agenda item:

**Cabinet Meeting**

**On 290908**

Report Title: **Haringey Council Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2007/08**

Forward Plan reference number (if applicable): **[add reference]**

Report of: **Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services**

Wards(s) affected:

Report for: **Non Key Decision**

**1. Purpose**

1.1 To inform members of the key content of the Haringey Council Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2007/08

**2. Introduction by Cabinet Member (if necessary)**

- 2.1 This report gives an overview of the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) 2007/08. (Please refer to annexe 1, the Haringey Council Safeguarding Adults Annual Report 2007/08).
- 2.2 It explains how the change has created greater ownership of the policy and procedures by partner agencies which has led to an improvement in collaborative work between the agencies; and
- 2.3 It identifies the working objectives for 2008/09 in accordance with national guidance, directives and policy

**3. Recommendations**

3.1 That members are aware of the Safeguarding Annual Report and its work plan 2008/09.

Report Authorised by: **Mun Thong Phung,  
Director of Adult, Culture and Community Services**

Contact Officer: **Olive Komba-Kono – Safeguarding Adults Manager, 0208 489 3191,  
[olive.komba-kono@haringey.gov.uk](mailto:olive.komba-kono@haringey.gov.uk)**

**4. Chief Financial Officer Comments**

There are no direct budget implications arising from the 2007/08 Annual Report. However, if any items in the 2008/09 work plan require additional funding this must be met from within existing resources.

#### **5. Head of Legal Services Comments**

No legal implications

#### **6. Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985**

6.1 N/A

6.2 N/A

#### **7. Strategic Implications**

7.1 The new restructured SAB ensures that each partner agency plays the lead role in own agency. The North Middlesex Hospital, Community Mental Health Services, Haringey Teaching Primary care Trust (HTPCT) and Adult Community and Culture Services (ACCS) has safeguarding leads.

7.2 The SAB reports directly to the Well-Being Partnership Board (WBPB). The WBPB is accountable to the Haringey Strategic Partnership which in turn is linked to the Local Delivery Plan for Health Services.

7.3 The SAB is also linked into the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and the Domestic Violence partnership. These linkages ensure that agencies are familiar with each other processes and work in partnership to investigate abuses in households.

7.4 The SAB has an elected Councillor Catherine Harris as the Dignity Champion to promote adult safeguarding issues at executive level. A carer and a user representative was also recruited to the board to add a carer's perspective to the decision-making process.

7.5 These new relationships ensure that service providers and users are aware of the policy.

7.6 Strategic Commissioning play a very important role in providing safe services and have the responsibility of insisting that providers comply with the safeguarding standards in service delivery.

7.7 The policy and procedures were revised in March 2008 to reflect the changes in the National Framework for Best Practice, 2005. It is on the Haringey website and can be accessed by anyone interested to know how Haringey safeguards its vulnerable adults.

7.8 A joint information-sharing protocol signed by all the statutory partners enables the investigations to assess risks and better manage the risks by sharing information.

7.9 There have been yearly increases in the rate of referrals and investigations since 2006. In 2005/06 there were 96 referrals, in 2006/07, there were 172 referrals but 158 investigations and in 2007/08, there were 189 referrals including three joint investigations with children's services and five referrals to the Domestic Violence Team one of which led to a multi agency risk assessment conference (MARAC). It is envisaged that as more people become aware of

the service, the rates of referrals and investigations will grow and this has implications for staffing resources.

- 7.10 Some BME groups in the community are over and under represented and not represented in accessing the service. Outreach work to these communities commenced in September 08 and there is a planned publicity campaign in October-November 08.

## **8. Financial Implications**

- 8.1 There has been an increase in referrals since 2006. From April –July 2008, there were 91 referrals and 63 of those were for older people. No additional resources were allocated for the extra responsibilities. The safeguarding adult processes are similar to those of children and yet only the safeguarding manager (co-ordinator) post was recommended in “*No Secrets*”. A new Safeguarding Adults Officer (assistant to the Safeguarding Manager post) has been established in 2008.

## **9. Equalities Implications**

The Equality Impact Assessment (EIA) highlighted concerns about access to service by some Black and Minority Ethnic (BME) groups. All Black groups (African and Caribbean) were over-represented in the sample of December 06 to December 07. However, the ethnicity analysis based on referrals from April 07 to March 08 was more balanced. The only ethnic group not accessing the service is the Chinese. A publicity campaign and outreach work with these communities is planned to commence in the autumn of 2008 – please refer to annex 1 for further detail information.

## **10. Consultation**

Consultation was made to the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Well-Being Partnership Board

## **11. Background**

“No Secrets”, Department of Health, 2000 was the government framework for the protection of vulnerable adults from abuse.<sup>1</sup> A vulnerable person is anyone over the age of 18 who is in need of or receiving community care services. This policy was reviewed and revised in 2005 and became “Safeguarding Adults - the National Framework for Standards of Good Practice”, ADSS, 2005.<sup>2</sup> The new guidance emphasised the need for preventative measures in protection vulnerable adults. It is a multi-agency policy and social services were nominated to act as the lead agency.

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[http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH\\_4008486](http://www.dh.gov.uk/en/Publicationsandstatistics/Publications/PublicationsPolicyAndGuidance/DH_4008486)

<sup>2</sup> <http://www.adss.org.uk/publications/guidance/guidance.shtml>

**12. Outcome**

That Members are aware of the Annual Safeguarding Report and its Action Plan.