

ADULTS AND COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
4 SEPTEMBER 2023

LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD
ANNUAL REPORT 2022/23

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND
RUTLAND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD

Purpose of Report

1. The purpose of this report is to seek the views of the Committee on the draft Annual Report of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB) for 2022/23, attached as an Appendix to this report.
2. The final Annual Report is the report of the Independent Chair who must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding adults in the local area. This is a statutory requirement under the Care Act 2014.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

3. The LRSAB is a statutory body established as a result of the Care Act 2014. The main purpose of the LRSAB is to ensure effective, co-ordinated multi-agency arrangements for the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.
4. The Committee considered the Strategic Plan of the LRSAB for 2020-2025 at its meeting on 7 September 2020.

Background

5. Safeguarding Adult Boards have three core duties. They must:
 - Develop and publish a Strategic Plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute;
 - Publish an Annual Report detailing how effective their work has been;
 - Commission Safeguarding Adults' Reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.
6. The Annual Report relates to the second of these duties.

Annual report for 2022/23

7. The Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance on the local approach to safeguarding adults in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014.

8. The key purpose of the Annual Report is to assess the impact of the work undertaken in 2022/23 on service quality and on safeguarding outcomes for adults with care and support needs in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically, it evaluates performance against the priorities that were set out in the LRSAB Business Plan 2022/23, which is attached for reference as Appendix B.
9. The key messages from the LRSAB, specifically in relation to Leicestershire are:
 - a) As is reported nationally, there continues to be pressure on the health and care services in Leicestershire, and in turn this impacts on the workforce.
 - b) Our Hidden Harm Business priority reviewed how we work together across society to support the needs of, and prevent harm to, adults with care and support needs being missed or hidden and ensuring we respond effectively. The LLR SAB performance subgroup produced a Hidden Harm Assurance Report for 2022/2023. It collated information from across subgroups and partnerships on hidden harm, including analysis of insights project, alerts and community concerns. It was presented to the SABs early in the new business year. Work was subsequently completed in relation to self-neglect, domestic abuse, cuckooing, and adults with learning disabilities.
 - c) In relation to our care homes business priority, work included a resource pack which was developed by the LLR SAB training subgroup for care providers. It highlights procedures, guidance, information and resources available to care homes. Also a multi-agency audit was carried out, and the LLR SAB performance subgroup collated data and assurance on safeguarding in care homes and produced a report for 2022/2023. It will be presented to the SABs early in the new business year. Data has not altered significantly; this will be reviewed in the next year as return to pre-Covid service levels.
 - d) There were fewer SARs commenced in 2022/23 and work continues to implement the lessons learnt from SAR reviews.
 - e) Stronger links were formed between the SAB and the LLR Carers Delivery Group through the representative of that group joining the Board.

Proposals

10. The Committee is asked to consider the draft Annual Report for the LRSAB appended to this report and to make any comments or proposed additions or amendments. Any comments will be considered and addressed prior to the final report being published.

Consultation

11. The draft Annual Report is produced as a summary of the work of the SAB which has been carried out in relation to safeguarding and prevention. A copy of the report will be published on the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board website [here](#)
12. All members of the Board have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Annual Report.

Resource Implications

13. There are no resource implications arising from this report. The LRSAB operates with a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
14. SAB statutory partners have, along with safeguarding partners for safeguarding children, have agreed to share the operating costs of the Safeguarding Children Partnerships (SCPs) and SABs for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. Costs are shared between the Local Authorities, Police and Integrated Care Boards.
15. As part of this agreement the County Council contributed £119,266 to the LRSAB and SCP in 2022/23. This is 33% of the total funding for the LRSAB and SCP (£364,633). This compares with £102,496 in the previous year which was 31% of the total pooled budget for the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB, SCP and SAB of £327,126 in 2021/22. This change in percentage was due to last year's reduction in contributions returning to normal level.
16. Expenditure has significantly reduced in the last year. This is due to the Board no longer paying for support services, with those processes being brought in-house. Additionally, expenditure on SARs decreased due to the number of reviews already being in an advanced stage and alternative methodologies being used, as appropriate. There was no cost for engagement as a number of projects had been paid for in the previous year. As of 1 April, the Safeguarding Partnership's reserve funds, stand at £168,895 and there is an agreed methodology for sharing the funds if not required.
17. The County Council also hosts the Safeguarding Partnerships' Business Office that supports the LRSAB and the SCP.
18. The Director of Corporate Resources and Director of Law and Governance have been consulted on the content of this report.

Timetable for Decisions

19. This reports seeks comments from this Committee prior to presenting the report to Cabinet on 15 September 2023 to note and comment on the Annual Report for 2022/23 particularly in relation to the business of the County Council.
20. Subject to consideration by the Cabinet, the Annual Report will be published by the end of September 2023 and presented to a future meeting of Leicestershire's Health and Wellbeing Board.

Equality Implications

21. The LRSAB seeks to ensure that a fair, effective and equitable service is discharged by the partnership to safeguard vulnerable adults. At the heart of the work is a focus on any individual or group that may be at greater risk of safeguarding vulnerability. The Annual Report includes a summary analysis of the characteristics of the subjects of SARs.

Human Rights Implications

22. There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

Crime and Disorder Implications

23. The LRSAB works closely with Community Safety Partnerships in Leicestershire to scrutinise and challenge performance in community safety issues that affect the safeguarding and wellbeing of individuals and groups, for example domestic abuse and Prevent. The Safeguarding Partnerships Business Office also supports Community Safety Partnerships in carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews.

Partnership Working and Associated Issues

24. Safeguarding is dependent on the effective work of the partnership as set out in national regulation relating to the Care Act 2014.

Background Papers

Report to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee: 7 September 2020 - LRSAB Annual Report 2019/20, Strategic Plan 2020 – 2025 and Business Plan 2020/21: [http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=1040&MIId=6170&Ver=4
\(item 14\)](http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=1040&MIId=6170&Ver=4(item 14))

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

None.

Appendices

- Appendix A -Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board Draft Annual Report 2021/22
- Appendix B – Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan 2022/23

Officers to Contact

Seona Douglas, Independent Chair, Leicestershire and Rutland SAB
Telephone: 0116 305 7130
Email: lrspbo@leics.gov.uk

Jon Wilson, Director of Adults and Communities
Adults and Communities Department
Telephone: 0116 305 7454
Email: jon.wilson@leics.gov.uk