

Warwickshire Safeguarding

Annual Report
Executive Summary
2019-2020



Warwickshire
Safeguarding

Introduction

Warwickshire Safeguarding has just completed its first year as a joint partnership covering both children and adults safeguarding.

The annual report for 2019-2020 highlights the changes introduced as a consequence of the new governance arrangements put into place to respond to the Government's statutory guidance on Working Together 2018.



Elaine Coleridge-Smith
Independent Chair & Scrutineer
Warwickshire Safeguarding

Key Changes

1. **Implementation of a new governance structure** that has created opportunities to consider and respond to safeguarding issues covering both children and adults
2. **Roll out of a new Quality Assurance Framework** which supports the partnership to fulfil its statutory responsibility to seek assurance on the effectiveness of safeguarding practices. The introduction of Strategic Thematic Reviews enables the partnership to undertake a deep dive audit of specific topics of focus. In 2019-2020 the partnership reviewed the effectiveness of safeguarding practices relating to the exploitation of children and adults.
3. **Introduction of new learning tools** to support widespread learning from local safeguarding reviews via the development of 'Lessons Learned Briefings' and '7 Minute Briefings'. Partner agencies are encouraged to promote these resources to support individual and organisational development.
4. **Establishment of streamlined processes for the management of reviews** including Rapid Reviews of cases involving children/adults within the Government's guideline of 15 days. There is evidence of increased confidence amongst professionals in the use of referral mechanisms for the partnership to consider cases for reviews. In 2019-2020 the partnership
 - a. received 21 referrals for cases involving children/adults
 - b. conducted 14 Rapid Reviews of cases
 - c. progressed 4 cases to a full review



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Forward Plan

Moving forward, Warwickshire Safeguarding plans to:

Complete a second strategic thematic review designed to seek assurance around the delivery of core safeguarding practice from a selection of partner agencies.

Evidence the impact of learning and improved practice resulting from the 'Exploitation of Children and Adults' strategic thematic review.

Evidence the impact of the introduction of its new quality assurance framework, safeguarding briefings and learning from reviews and demonstrate how this has impacted on service delivery to safeguarding children and adults across the county.

Evidence and understand the impact of Covid-19 and the challenges faced by partners in ensuring to reach and support the most vulnerable in our communities.



Key Facts (Adults)

3144

CONCERNS RECEIVED

(3483 in 2018/19)



298

SECTION 42 ENQUIRIES

(192 in 2018/19)

Section 42 Enquiries – Top 3 primary support reasons:

- Physical Support
- Mental Health
- Learning Disability

Top 3 Types of Abuse for concluded Section 42 Enquiries

Financial or Material Abuse	Physical Abuse	Psychological Abuse
36.29%	14.97%	14.21%

Concluded Section 42 Enquiries – Top 2 locations of risks:

- Own Home
- In the community (excluding community services)

Asked what outcome they want

64.79%

(71.24% in 2018/19)

Risk Reduced or Removed

68.9%

(81.62% in 2018/19)

Outcome Fully or Partially Met

94.94%

(94.07% in 2018/19)

22

Safeguarding enquiries involved strangers who were unknown to the victim

231

Concluded safeguarding enquiries listed the source of risk as an individual known to the victim

31

Safeguarding allegations involved abuse by social care staff

Individuals involved in Safeguarding Concerns



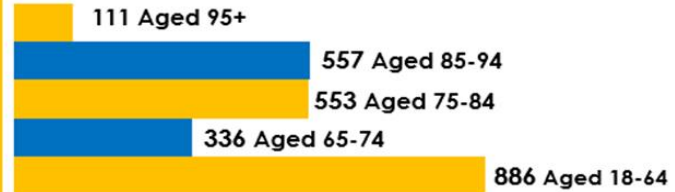
966 Male



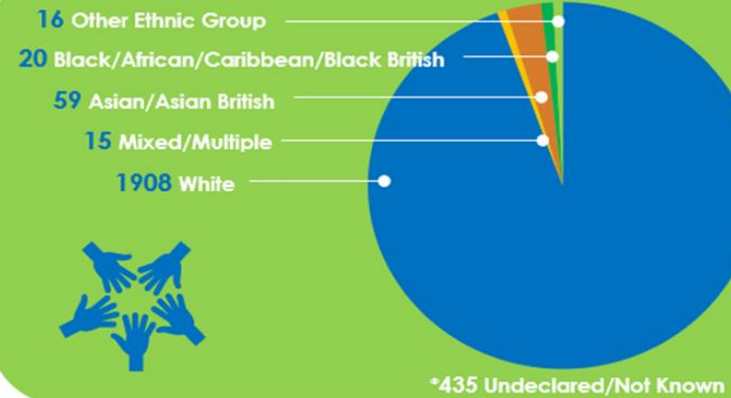
1482 Female

*5 Unknown

DEMOGRAPHICS



*10 Unknown



- Slight reduction in the number of safeguarding concerns received compared to 2018-19, this could potentially be attributed to Covid-19, but no clear evidence yet to support this assumption until the figures for 2020-2021 are analysed.
- Financial or material abuse remains the highest category of abuse followed by physical and psychological abuse
- Almost 95% of s42 enquires concluded with the individual's desired outcomes being met in full or in part; this is comparable to 2018-2019
- The majority of s42 enquiries concluded listed the source of risk as an individual known to the adult victim



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Key Facts (Children's)

Warwickshire has a resident population of approximately **117,720** children ages **0-17 years**, who make up around a fifth of the total population of the county

18,081
CONTACTS RECEIVED
(19,878 in 2018/19)



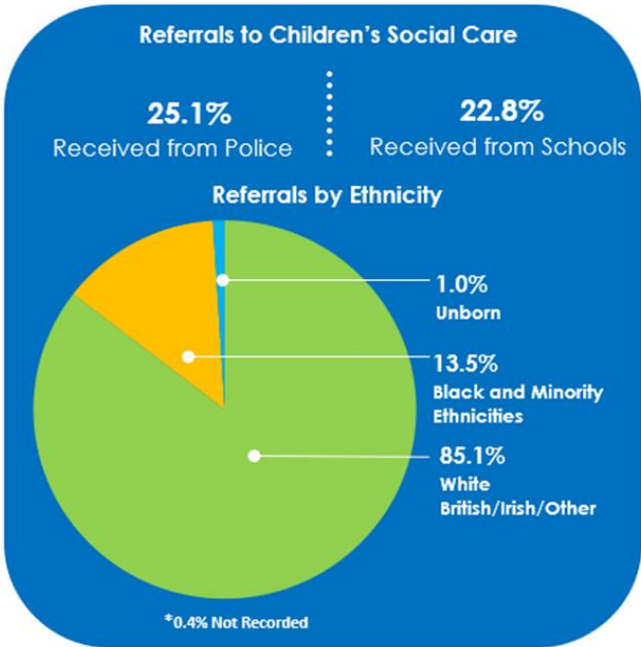
5,046
SAFEGUARDING REFERRALS RECEIVED
(5,351 in 2018/19)

- **754** Looked After Children (722 in 2018/19)
- **673** LAC Missing Episodes (822 in 2018/19)
- **120** Missing Looked After Children (128 in 2018/19)
- **295** Children subject to a CP Plan (345 in 2018/19)

Open to Child Sexual Exploitation Team
68
(59 in 2018/19)

Domestic Violence most prevalent risk factor in children
2728
(2269 in 2018/19)

Referrals received for children with a disability
1.2%
(1.3% in 2018/19)



Largest proportion of children subject to a child protection plan were aged **0 to 5**. This is a change to the previous year when the largest cohort was aged **10 to 15**.

In January 2020, **19%** of the school population were classified as being of an ethnic group other than White British, the largest minority ethnic group being 'Any Other White Background' (**6%**) followed by 'Indian' (**4%**).

Top 3 types of abuse for children subject to Child Protection Plans:

- Emotional Abuse **46%**
- Neglect **25%**
- Multiple **22%**

- Slight reduction in both contacts and referrals received comparable to 2018-2019, this could potentially be attributed to the Covid-19 lockdown restrictions
- Largest cohort of Child Protection Plans in 2019-2020 related to children aged 0-5 years; previously the largest proportion of children subject to a Child Protection Plan were aged between 10-15 years
- Domestic Violence is the most prevalent risk factor in children where the number of cases has continued to increase in 2019-2020 followed by an increase in the number of cases of Child Sexual Exploitation
- Police and Schools remaining the largest referring agencies



