

Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults Board

Annual Report

2017 - 2018

Executive Summary



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults Board

**SAFEGUARDING IS
EVERYONE'S
RESPONSIBILITY**
safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk

Foreword by the Independent Chair

Our Annual Report has two main purposes. The first is to account formally for the work we have undertaken and to assure statutory bodies that we are meeting our duties under the Care Act. The second is to give an insight into the lives of the people needing safeguarding services; and demonstrate the importance of what we do to ensure that expressions of concern are heard and responded to effectively. This year's report, I believe, achieves both those aims and I am proud to present it to you.

The work of your Safeguarding Adults Board in Warwickshire represents considerable commitment to making safeguarding everyone's business and a passion to get it right each and every time. It is a challenge to us all and one made all the harder in times of budget reductions and increasing demands upon all our services. Given that pressure, it may seem strange that we have increased our public profile by the investment in our website and by reaching out to some groups in our community who may not be aware of the risk which they are experiencing and the fact that they can seek help. Unless we raise awareness and engage with all our community, we cannot have confidence that people will know where to take concerns and have them listened to.

New safeguarding categories such as Modern Slavery have given us cause to increase our understanding of this threat and improve the capacity of all our partner agencies to respond. Some longer standing aspects such as Financial Abuse through scams and extortion have grown exponentially, and we have had to develop our partnerships with excellent services such as Trading Standards to counteract this. In my position, with independence and oversight, I have the privilege of seeing some excellent work from committed staff – all too often taken for granted but I know it is appreciated and I always try to acknowledge this. This does not mean I am complacent. There is always room for improvement and one of the key tasks of the Board and its members is to challenge and devise means to give better and safer service.

This will be my final report after 4 years as the Independent Chair of your Board. I have been exceptionally well supported by the team here and always been given constructive access to all the agencies involved with safeguarding adults in the County. I have consistently found a positive response to the challenges and a willingness to put in time and effort to deliver what is needed. I wish to thank all with whom I have worked and I have confidence in your services and the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board going forward.



Mike Taylor

Independent Chair

WARWICKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

KEY SAFEGUARDING FACTS FOR 2017 - 2018



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
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Warwickshire had a total population of **445,720** people aged 18+ years. **114,597** of these were aged 65+ years.

Quick facts

2183 Safeguarding concerns reported into Adult Social Care where it was suspected an individual subjected to a form of abuse or neglect.

74 Safeguarding enquiries related to people with physical support needs.

29 Safeguarding cases involved strangers who were unknown to the victim.

16 Safeguarding concerns related to neglect.

253 Safeguarding concerns went on to be investigated further as enquiries.

189 Safeguarding enquiries listed the source of risk as an individual known to the victim.

25 Safeguarding allegations involved alleged abuse by Service Providers.

Type and place of abuse

87 Safeguarding enquiries related to allegations of financial and material abuse.

35 Safeguarding enquiries related to allegations of psychological or emotional abuse.

47 Related to physical abuse.

165 Safeguarding allegations were alleged to have occurred in the victims home.

13 Occurring in care homes.

Gender, race and age

61%  **39%** 
More women were victims of alleged abuse than men.

190 **13**
WHITE BRITISH **BLACK, MINORITY and ETHNIC**
The majority of safeguarding enquiries related to White British people.


135 Safeguarding enquiries related to people aged 18-64 years old.

28 
Safeguarding enquiries related to people aged 85+ years old.

What did the Board achieve in 2017 – 2018?

Here are a few highlights from the year against each of our strategic priorities:

- **Making Safeguarding Personal** - The Board extended its membership to include representation from Warwickshire County Council's newly commissioned Advocacy Service (Voiceability) who will join the Board from July 2018. They will provide the Board with qualitative data on the views and experiences of individuals supported through safeguarding. This provides a means of hearing the voice of the service user, which will in turn influence where and what improvements need to be made in how we work with individuals at risk of experiencing abuse or neglect; as well as highlighting areas of good practice.
- **Safe Services** - The SAR sub-committee has continued to look at lessons being learned from SARs, Domestic Homicide Reviews and Serious Case Reviews across the country. They have used the opportunity to reflect on/challenge local safeguarding practices against the key learning points raised within these reports. Work also continues to raise awareness and confidence in the use of safeguarding adults reviews (SARS) by partner organisations to help wider learning opportunities.
- **Listening and Engaging** - The Board extended its work with Equality and Inclusion Partnership (EQuIP) formerly known as Warwickshire Race Equality Partnership to continue the work of raising awareness and understanding of abuse/harm across the BME communities. This included the delivery of 8 workshops within a community setting to help community coordinators to develop a better understanding of safeguarding adults. (See Case Study 1)
- **Workforce Training** - The Learning and Development Task and Finish Group started work on developing a competency framework to provide standardised expectations for safeguarding training across partner organisations. This will also provide the Board with a framework for seeking assurance from partners on the quality of safeguarding training being delivered to their staff.
- **Transitions** - Members of WSAB worked with Warwickshire Safeguarding Children's Board to explore the feasibility of the two boards combining some of their agendas and work programmes to improve efficiency and use of resources. The two Safeguarding Boards now hold their meetings on the same day and also share an Independent Chair who manages both the agendas and meetings allowing for any crossover of items to be considered.
- **Informing** - The Board successfully launched its new joint website for the two Safeguarding Boards across Warwickshire. Visitors to the website can now access information pertaining to both adults and children's safeguarding through a single portal by visiting www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk. The website allows for most of its content to be translated into multiple languages for those communities where English may be their second language. (See Case Study 1)



Case Study 1: Empowering, engaging and informing people in order to develop resilience

Empowering communities to recognise the potential for abuse or neglect, to raise concerns and to act on these is a key priority for the Safeguarding Board. Involving users and user led organisations in educating the community can be a powerful way of getting the messages across to people in a way they will understand.

Warwickshire EQuIP delivered eight workshops in community settings, on behalf of the Safeguarding Board, to raise awareness of support available to anyone at risk of or suffering from abuse or neglect. Workshops were delivered to elderly/ vulnerable service users / community members and volunteers and coordinators in an environment where they felt safe. The service users/ community members were made aware of who to contact if they ever have any concerns about safeguarding. They were made aware of and given details of who can support them.

What do the Board plan to do in 2018 - 2019?

We plan to continue our work against each of the strategic priorities, to ensure changes/improvements are fully embedded:

- **Making Safeguarding Personal** – The Board will ensure that MSP is consistently understood by all agencies and applied in their safeguarding work.
- **Safe Services** – The Board will continue their representation on the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme Steering Group and will ensure there are proper procedures in place to address any shortcomings in policy and practice and a readiness to share learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR's) and 'near misses'.
- **Listening and Engaging** - The Board will ensure there is a clear understanding of the language and context of all types of abuse alongside, a sound and intelligible application of policy and procedures.
- **Workforce Training** - The Board will seek assurance that agency induction and training programmes contain sound safeguarding elements and that multi-agency training is delivered to a high standard and is well attended by all partner organisations.
- **Transitions** - The Board will identify times of transition in respect of specific groupings e.g. young people leaving care or vulnerable adults being moved into alternative accommodation and promote the need for safeguarding to form part of the assessment and delivery of care plans related to these needs. The Board will test out potential for working together with the Warwickshire Safeguarding Children's Board in all elements of work programmes and respond to issues raised.
- **Informing** - The Board will produce materials which are readily understood and which resonate with individual circumstances and life experiences, using all means of communication with the public and across agencies. It will review current information available to the public and develop an awareness raising strategy and communications campaign. The potential for links with Warwickshire Safeguarding Children's Board needs to be realised in this context.

Case Study 2: Safeguarding is everybody's responsibility

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk is a new website for adults, children, young people, families, and professionals to keep everyone in Warwickshire safe and protected from harm of abuse and neglect.

The website provides clear and straightforward information to individuals who may be victims of abuse or neglect; their family, friends and carers; and people who work with them. It also contains important information about current safeguarding issues, how to recognise the signs and where to report any concerns.

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk is easy to navigate. Information can be translated into different languages and accessed through a screen reader.

The website has been produced jointly by Warwickshire's adults and childrens safeguarding boards.



Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board Partners



If you would like to read the full Annual Report, visit:

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/safeguarding-adults/safeguarding-adults-board/wsab-annual-reports

Also, if you have any queries relating to this report or require additional information regarding Warwickshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) please contact the WSAB Business Manager via WSAB@warwickshire.gov.uk