

Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report 2020/21



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To raise a concern email safeguardingadults@thurrock.gov.uk or call **Thurrock First 01375 511000**. For more information about the adult safeguarding process take a look at the [Southend, Essex and Thurrock \(SET\) Safeguarding Adults Guidelines](#)¹

www.thurrocksab.org.uk

¹ <https://www.thurrocksab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/SET-safeguarding-adult-guidelines-FINAL-002-2020.pdf>

FOREWORD

I am proud to present the Annual Report of the Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board for 2020/21. This has been a year which, due to the Covid pandemic, has presented enormous challenges for everyone involved in the field of safeguarding. It has been an inspiration to see how determined our colleagues in social care, health, and police, as well as our non-statutory partners, have been to maintain and develop the best possible service to our local communities. It is to their enormous credit that they have been so successful, as can be seen for their achievements, set out in the body of this Report.

The central theme has been the energetic implementation of the Priorities contained in the three-year Strategic Plan. This was refreshed this year and covers 2020 to 2023. Details of that implementation and future activities are also outlined below. It was especially helpful to develop with the invaluable help of Thurrock Lifestyle Solutions, an Easy-Read version of the Plan which has been very well received.

One of the most important pieces of work in support of the Plan has been the production of an over-arching study of sexual exploitation of adults and transition-aged young people in Thurrock which will be launched early next year. Some important issues have been identified and work is well underway, in conjunction with the agencies engaged in this work, to address them and to improve further our response to these dreadful issues.

Plans are also underway to shape our response to the post-pandemic challenges that we will be facing. These will include recognition of the huge pressures staff have had to face and the impact this has had on them.

Finally, I again express grateful thanks on behalf of the Board to Thurrock Council; the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner for Essex; and the Clinical Commissioning Group for their continued financial support, especially at a time of increasing fiscal pressure. The Board would simply not be able to function without their contributions.



Jim Nicolson

Independent Chair

INTRODUCTION

The Care Act 2014 states that all local authorities establish Safeguarding Adult Boards (SAB) and as a minimum must have three members; Thurrock Council, Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group and Essex Police. The Act and the accompanying Statutory Guidance set out the responsibilities of the SABs which includes helping and protecting adults in its area by developing, sharing and implementing a joint safeguarding strategy.

SABs have three core responsibilities:

1. To produce and publish an Annual Report detailing how effective our work has been
2. In collaboration with stakeholders and Healthwatch, produce a Strategic Plan setting out how we will meet our objectives, and
3. Conduct Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) for any cases which meet the criteria

The ethos of Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) is underpinned by the six safeguarding principles within the Care Act 2014:

Empowerment

- “I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and this directly inform what happens.”

Prevention

- “I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is. I know how to recognise the signs, and I know what I can do to seek help.”

Proportionality

- “I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest and they will only get involved as much as is necessary.”

Protection

- “I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want.”

Partnership

- “I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me.”

Accountability

- “I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.”

This Annual Report reflects the work that we, as a partnership, have achieved during the period April 1st 2020 to March 31st 2021. The Report will explain both what we have done during the year to achieve our objectives and what our priorities are moving forward.

ABOUT THE THURROCK SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (TSAB)

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to stop or prevent both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect. At the same time it must be made sure that the adult's wellbeing is protected including, where appropriate, due regard for their views, wishes, feelings and beliefs in deciding on any action.

The TSAB's vision is that people are able to live a life free from harm, where the community has a culture that does not tolerate abuse, works together to prevent abuse, and knows what to do when abuse happens.

Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board continues to focus on its core function of ensuring that the safeguarding system works effectively. Additionally, there are four distinct pieces of work that focus on particular groups of people or abuse types. These are the Board's Priorities for 2020/23:

1. To increase our understanding of abuse and neglect: using data to create profiles by location, abuse type, perpetrator, care and support need
2. To contribute implementing the recommendations of the Sexual Abuse/Violence Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
3. To focus on perpetrator disruption
4. To strengthen transitional safeguarding arrangements

For more information about the board's objectives you can read the [Strategic Plan 2020/23](#).²

² <https://www.thurrocksab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/Final-TSAB-Strategic-Plan-2020.23-v1.0.pdf>

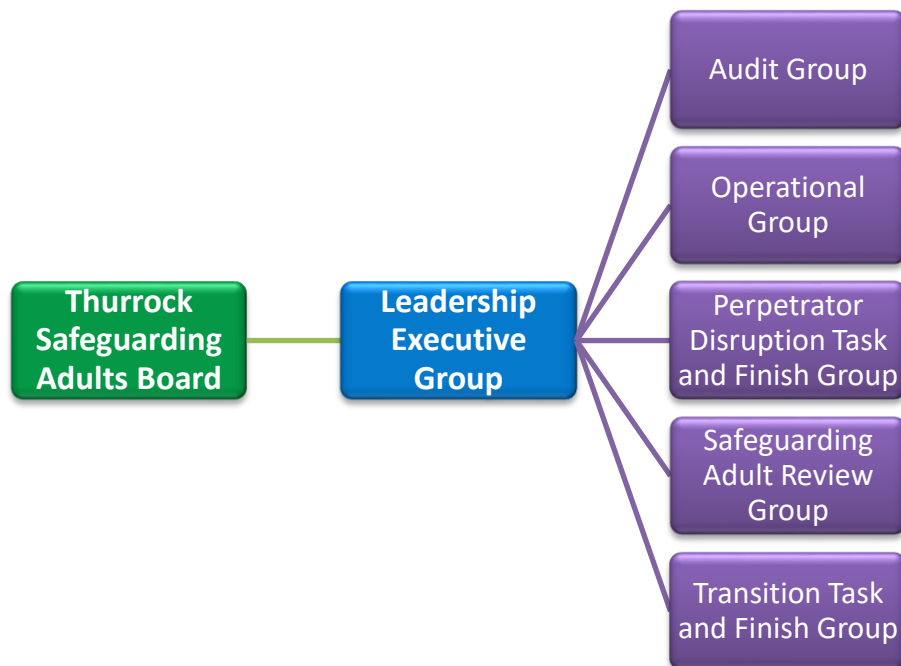
TSAB has a strong and consistent multi-agency membership and consists of the following agencies:



The Board also works closely with other strategic partnerships such as:

- Thurrock Safeguarding Childrens Partnership
- Thurrock Community Safety Partnership
- Thurrock Health and Wellbeing Board
- Essex Safeguarding Adult Board
- Southend Safeguarding Adult Board

In order for us to progress our work we have a number of groups sitting under the Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board and the Leadership Executive Group. The structure chart is shown below. The Transitions Task and Finish Group and Perpetrator Disruption Task and Finish Group have been set up this year in order to drive forward the new Priorities. The Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) group only meets if a case is referred to be considered for a SAR. All terms of reference can be found on our website - www.thurrocksab.org.uk.



Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Board and its sub-groups were unable to meet face to face, however the Board adapted and conducted all its meetings virtually. The table below shows the number of meetings that were held for the Board and its sub groups.

	Meeting	Number
	Board	4
	Leadership Executive Group	8
	Audit Group	3
	Operational Group	6
	Perpetrator Disruption Task and Finish Group	3
	Safeguarding Adult Review Group	0
	Transition Task and Finish Group	4

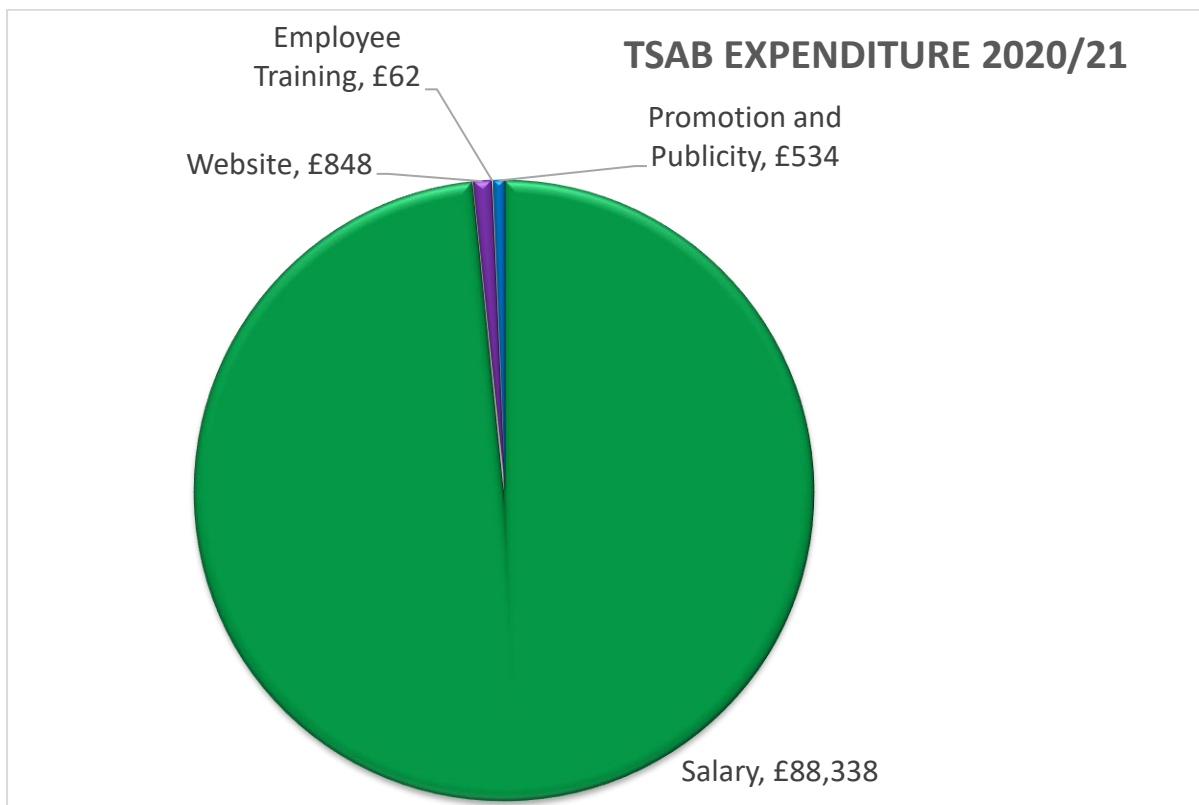
As well at the meetings above, there were also meetings set up across Southend, Essex and Thurrock to share good practice and to coordinate a joint response to the pandemic.

TSAB BUDGET

The TSAB received funding from Thurrock Council (£74,160); NHS Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group (£18,750); and the Office of Fire Police and Crime Commissioner for Essex (£18,750).

The income for 2020/21 was £161,133, this included a carry forward from 2019/20 (money not spent from the previous year) of £49,473. £15,000 is held separately in the event a SAR is commissioned.

Total expenditure during 2020/21 was £89,782, as indicated in the chart below:



The majority of the budget was spent on staff costs. Due to COVID-19, the Board was unfortunately unable to undertake all the activities planned for the year, and for which funds had been allocated. The resultant underspend will therefore be carried forward to fund plans to implement the Board's Priorities in 2021/22.

SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEW (SAR)

Under the Care Act 2014, section 44 states that the SAB must conduct a SAR in circumstances where it has concerns about how members of the SAB or other agencies with relevant functions, have worked together to protect an adult who has care and support needs, and who:

1. has died as a result of suspected abuse or neglect, or
2. is still alive, but has experienced serious abuse or neglect, and would have died if it were not for intervention, or has suffered permanent harm.

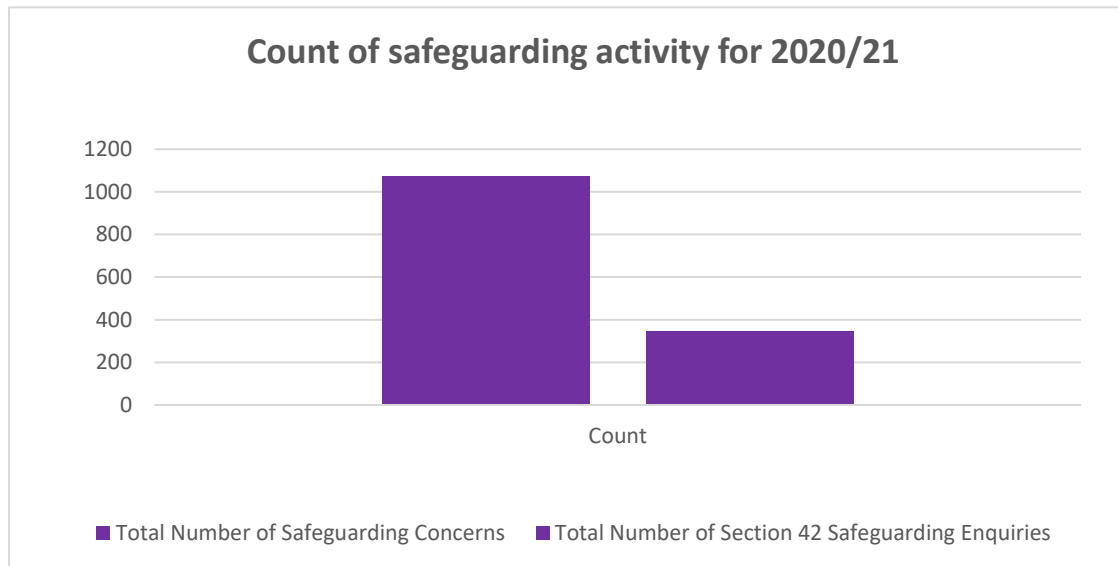
The SAR is intended to identify and learn lessons from an incident that will prevent deaths and serious abuse or neglect happening in the future. SARs are also used to explore examples of best practice in the way the case was managed, for example how agencies worked together to prevent and reduce abuse and neglect.

There were no cases raised with the TSAB during 2020/21, which met the criteria to undertake a Safeguarding Adult Review. Although the operational group did review several published SARs (including several from Essex SAB) and their recommendations, so that we could be aware of and address any emerging risks, issues and potential gaps in our own current practice.

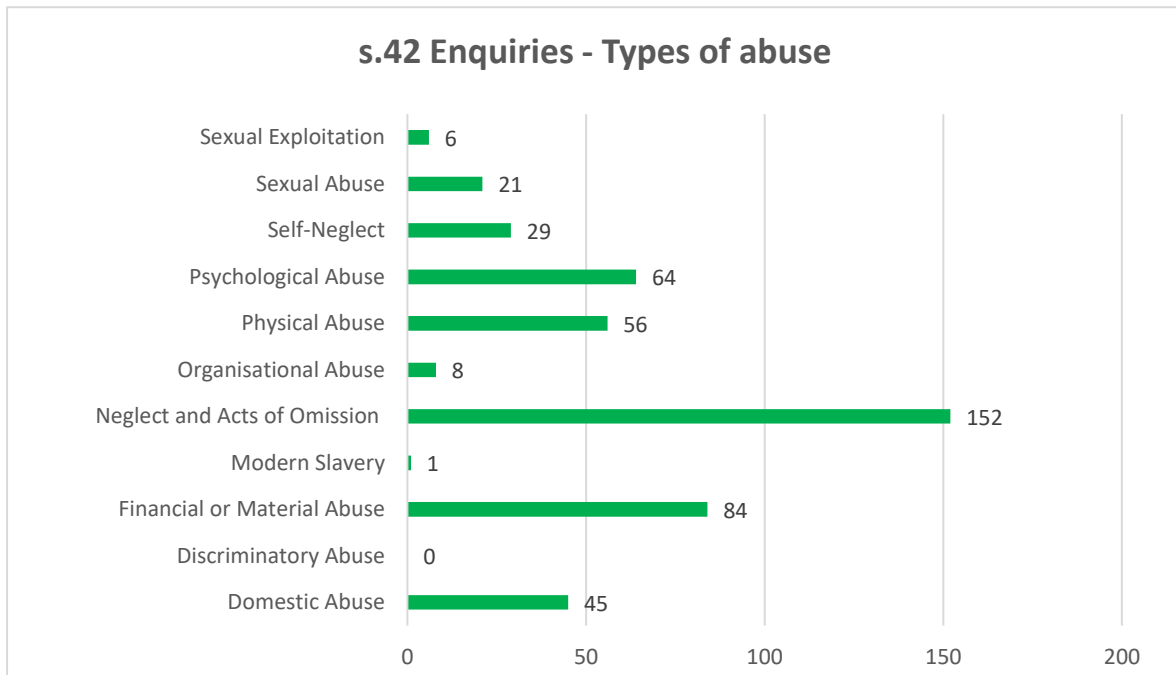
During the year, we actively raised awareness of the SAR criteria with Board members with the request to pass this information on to their staff. This will be repeated in 2021/22. The Board will also look to implement the recommendations of the National SAR analysis.

THE PICTURE OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT DURING 2020/21

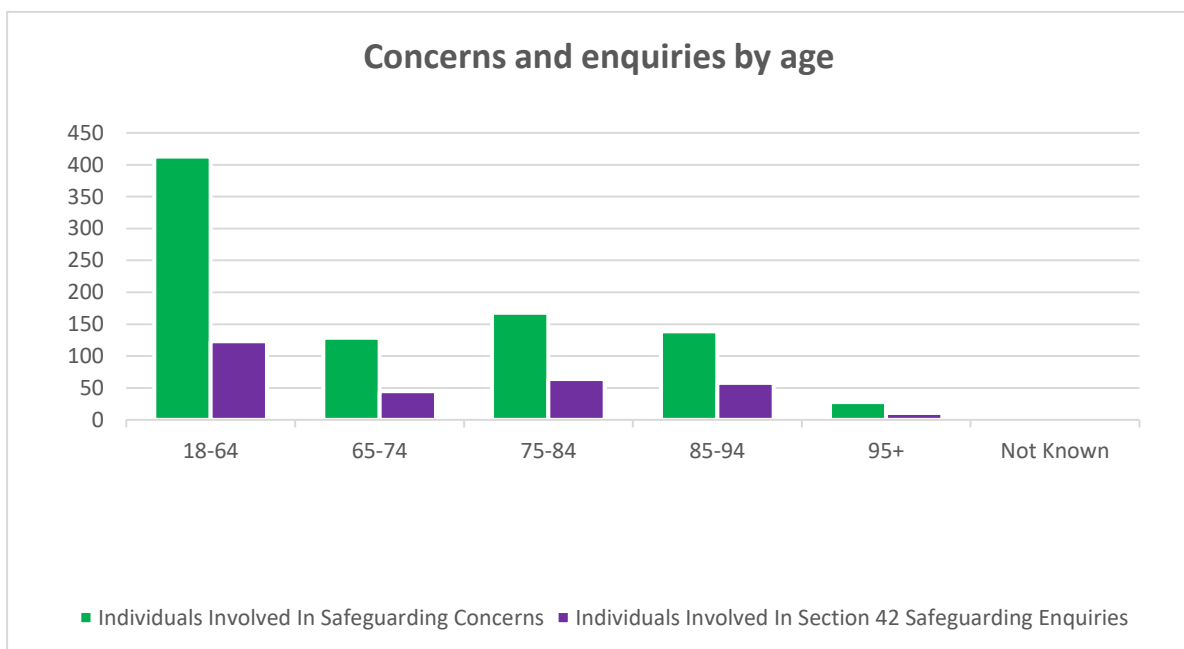
The data below is taken from the annual SAC return. The SAC (Safeguarding Adults Collection) return is completed by all local authorities in England and records information on safeguarding data for adults 18 and over. COVID-19 has significantly affected safeguarding activity nationally and in Thurrock, the audit and operational continue to monitor the data for trends.



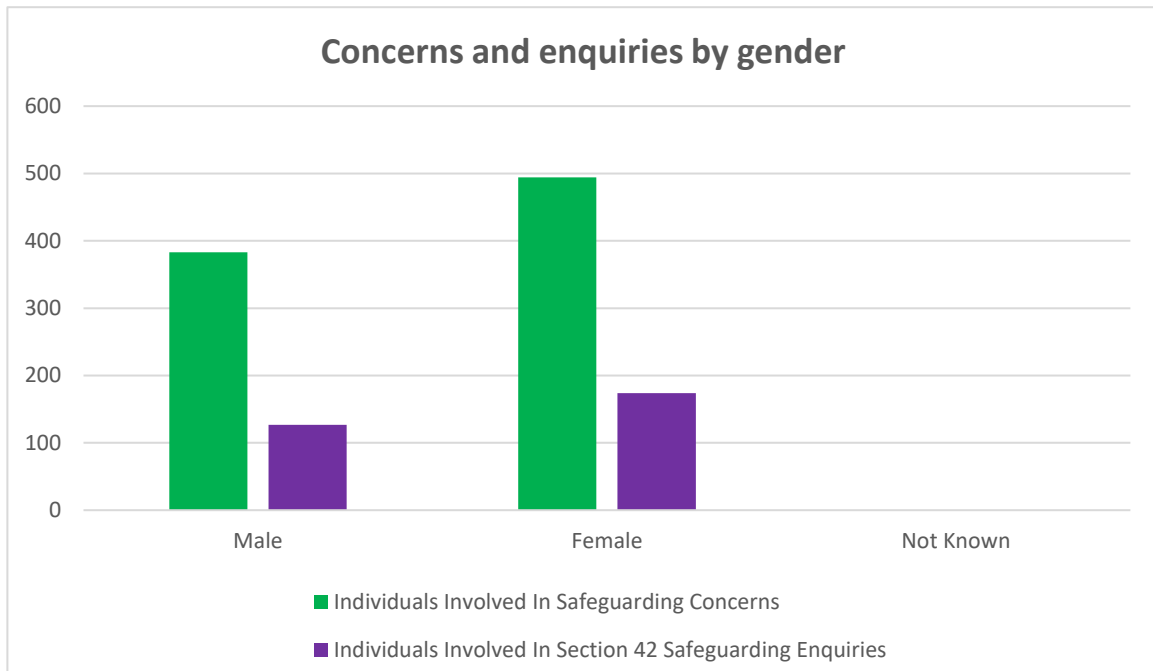
The number of safeguarding concerns continued to rise this year to from 1000 in 2019/20 to 1071 in 2020/21, although the number of s.42 enquiries dropped slightly from 445 to 346.



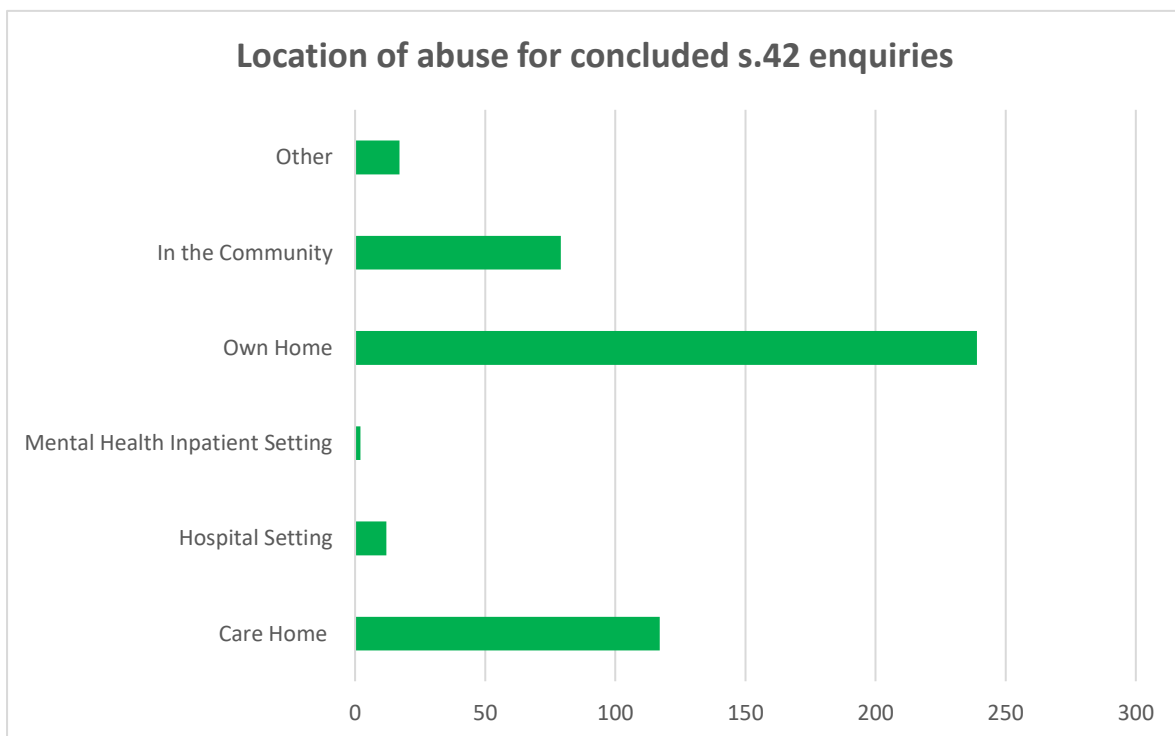
Neglect continues to be the most reported abuse type, followed by financial abuse and psychological abuse. Work has been ongoing this year to improve the accuracy of recording of abuse types. Some enquiries will feature more than one abuse type for example domestic abuse may be recorded as domestic and emotional.



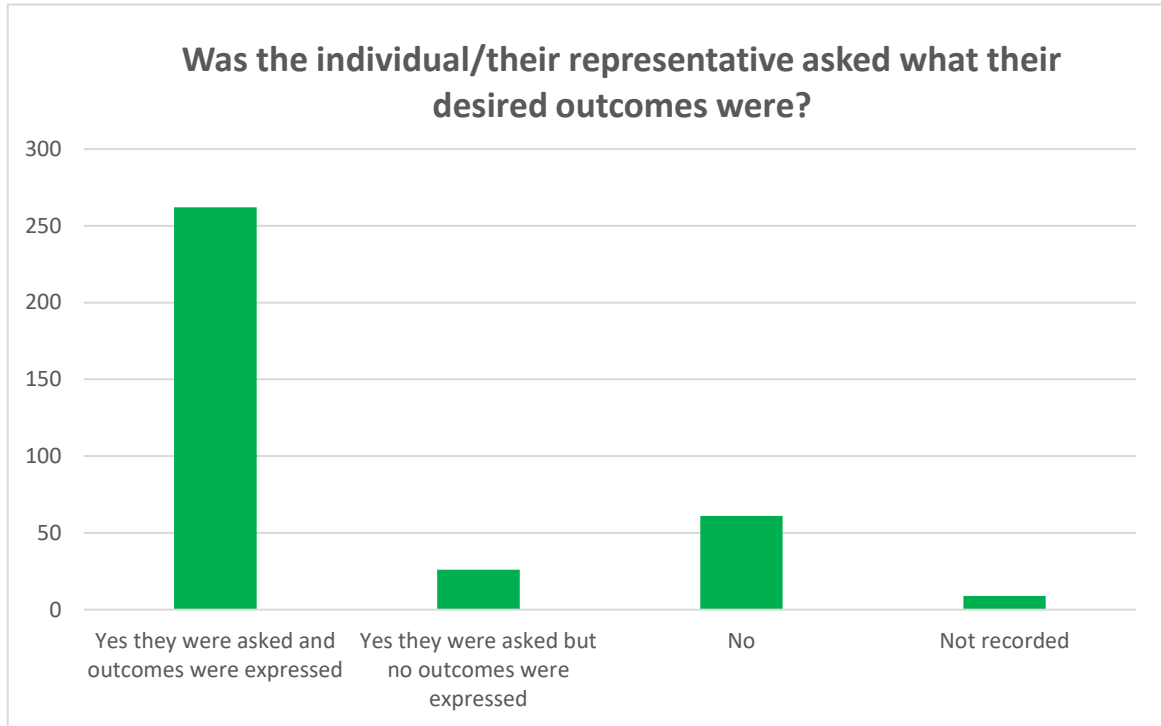
Most safeguarding concerns are raised about adults aged between 18-64 year olds. It is likely that a lot of the safeguarding concerns raised are managed through other processes.



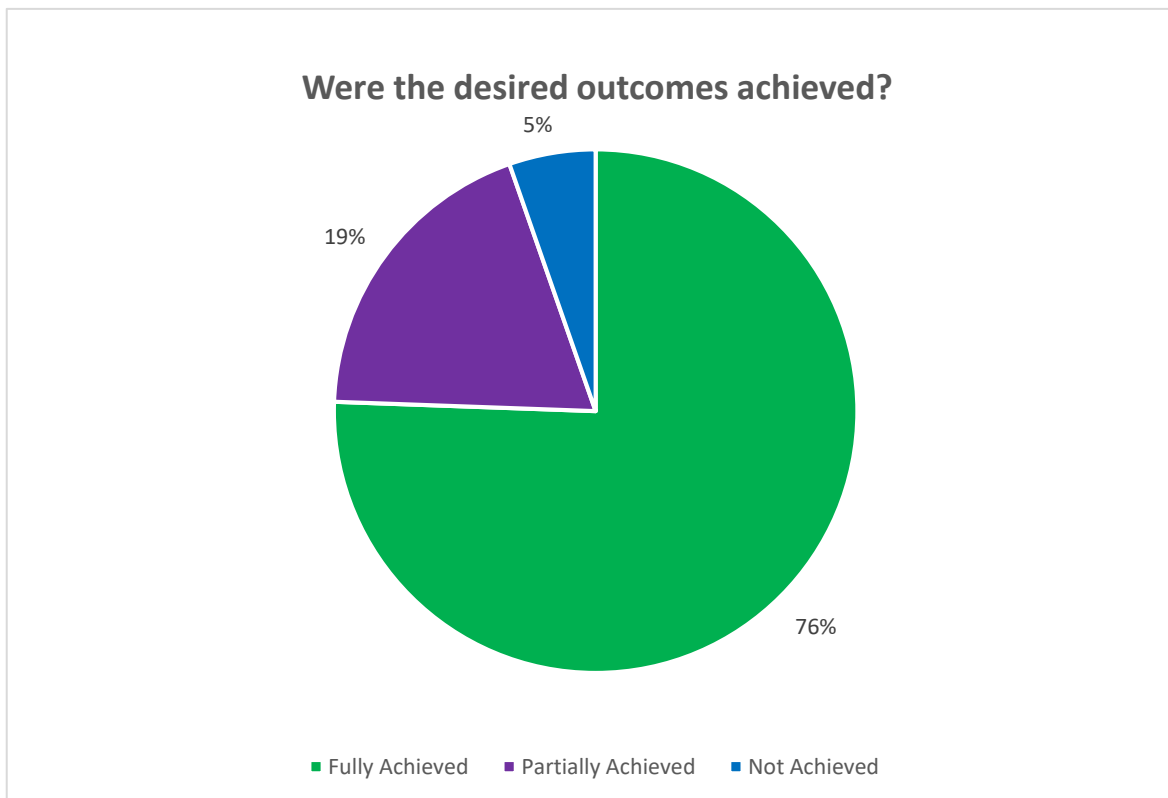
Historically concerns received for females are higher, however, the gap between the number of concerns for males and females has reduced.



Own home continues to be the highest location of risk with care homes continuing to be the second highest.



Adult Social Care continue to have low numbers on how many desired outcomes have not been achieved for closed s.42 enquiries.



Of the s.42 enquiries recorded as “yes they were asked and desired outcomes were expressed”, 76% were fully achieved and 19% partially achieved.

Adults safeguarding case study (names have been changed)

Mr D is resident of a care home and his finances are managed by his son "A" who is his LPA (Lasting Power of Attorney). Concerns were raised by Mr D's Advocate that he did not have access to his money to purchase items such as newspapers and magazines that he had asked for. There were also allegations made by Mr D's sister "B", that "A" was mismanaging his state and private pensions.

The safeguarding Concern was progressed to S42 enquiry for further information to be gathered. It was established that Mr D did not have capacity around the concerns raised, however his views and wishes were gathered by his Advocate who has an established relationship with him.

S42 Enquiry

Enquiries were completed through speaking to the Advocate, Care Home manager, "A" (son) "B" (Mr D's sister) and Thurrock Council Customer Finance Team.

- It was found that there were no concerns around payment of Mr D's care fees and all invoices are paid on time.
- It was identified that there were issues around communication between the Care Home and "A" which meant that he was not informed when Mr D's personal allowance at the home had run out and needed to be replenished.
- With regards to the allegations made by "B" that Mrs D's finances were being mismanaged it was found that this was due to her lack of understanding of Care Home fees and the contribution that Mr D makes towards them.

Outcome of Enquiry

It was found that the concerns raised were partially substantiated. Actions taken:

- Agreement between "A" and Care Home of more open communication to ensure that when funds and personal items are requested for Mr D they are received in a timely manner.
- Subscriptions in place for magazine and newspaper of Mr D's choice.

Outcome for Mr D

It was found that Mr D had been estranged from his sister "B" for over 20 years. Through the safeguarding process and communication with all parties the relationship between the family members has been reunited. Mr D is now in regular contact with his previously estranged sister and her family. They are now working together to visit (when Covid restrictions allow) and send treats and top up his personal allowance (she was unaware that his allowance is approx. £25 per week and believed he was able to keep all his pensions for himself).

CONTRIBUTIONS FROM STATUTORY PARTNERS

Essex Police – Elliott Judge

Leadership and Structure - Safeguarding of vulnerable people is a priority for Essex Police, this is reflected in its continued appearance in the Force Plan. The Force has good oversight and governance of vulnerability, which is led by the Assistant Chief Constable (ACC) for Crime & Public Protection (C&PP) and Criminal Justice. The ACC holds a quarterly Public Protection Programme Board attended by C&PP Command who report on activity, risks and issues. The Head of C&PP Command is a Detective Chief Superintendent who is supported by two Detective Superintendents leading on Proactive & Partnerships and Investigations. Through this structure the safeguarding of vulnerable adults is championed throughout the organisation.



In terms of staffing and resourcing committed to working with partners, the Force are engaged and represented at a senior level at the Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board and associated subgroups. Essex Police chair the Thurrock Adults Safeguarding Audit Board, who together with key partners, review and quality assure policies to audit compliance and identify learning. The Force have recently appointed a police staff member as a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) researcher/administrator to further support the partnership.

The Operations Centre is the point of entry into Essex Police for all public protection partnership-related enquiries and referrals, forming the link to the Thurrock Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The Operations Centre also contains the Central Referral Unit (CRU) who are responsible for risk assessing and safeguarding high-risk victims of domestic abuse.

Activity / Initiatives / Operations - Due to the impact of COVID-19, Essex Police have adapted their working practices which has enabled increased agile and flexible working. Utilising IT platforms such as Microsoft Teams has continued to ensure that Essex Police work effectively with partners to support vulnerable people. In November 2020 coinciding with National Safeguarding Awareness Week, Adult Safeguarding 'Street Weeks' took place in Thurrock. This initiative saw the Community Policing Team, partner agencies and volunteers develop virtual coordinated engagements across the week focusing on financial abuse. During which training was delivered to over 180 Adult Care Service professionals, to demonstrate how safeguarding concerns are managed by Essex Police.

The centralisation of all secondary risk assessments for high risk domestic abuse cases are now performed by the CRU. This provides a greater consistency across the Force, which has increased the accuracy and quality of risk assessments, together with timeliness of safeguarding.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, following a national focus into domestic abuse conviction rates, the Force with support from partners, engaged in a national domestic abuse deep dive end to end review process in May 2020. The review involved colleagues from the Crown Prosecution Service and HM Courts and Tribunals Service (HMCTS) who reviewed a small number of high-risk cases to further understand the journey of an investigation from the time that an offence is reported, through to the investigation entering the criminal justice system. This will help support an improved evidence based national understanding regarding domestic abuse and convictions.

Operation 'Enforce', is a process that has been implemented within the MARAC process to identify intelligence and enforcement opportunities to mitigate offending by repeat perpetrators. The CRU develops the intelligence and are able to task proactive Domestic Abuse teams across the Force to target those offenders.

Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group – Stephen Mayo

Thurrock Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) is a committed statutory partner of the Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Board. Joint working throughout the Covid-19 pandemic has seen the established strong working relationships between statutory partners develop even further.



Some key areas of success can be seen with:

Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) - The CCG has been an active statutory participant in the TSAB, providing clinical advice and support to the Board. Particular focus can be seen with the provision, oversight and scrutiny of information and intelligence presented at TSAB and safeguarding adults training requirements for professionals and citizens of Thurrock. As well as the TSAB, the CCG is also a member of several adult safeguarding sub groups such as the Prevent Board, Gang Related Violence Group and Violence Against Women Group.

Safeguarding concerns - Through 2020/21 the CCG has supported Thurrock Local Authority with clinical advice and support when safeguarding adult concerns have been. All concerns were subject to robust investigation. Some of the themes and investigations that the CCG has clinically supported the Local Authority with have been:

- poor identification of clinical deteriorating patient
- medicines management
- family not happy with general care and wellbeing provided by care home
- patient falls

The CCG has also played a vital role with ensuring any corrective actions required are taken forward.

Care Home Sector Hub - The CCG established a Care Home Hub with local partners. Membership included representatives from the CCG, the Local Authority, local community provider, Care Quality Commission and the local Hospice. The aim of the Thurrock Care Home Hub was originally to provide a coordinated local system approach to supporting Thurrock Care homes with Infection Prevention and Control, quality, and Public Health advice, guidance, monitoring of Covid-19 outbreaks in care homes and domiciliary care providers but also the reporting of quality issues, safeguarding concerns.

Further areas of support in Thurrock Care Homes can be seen with the support of digital innovation such as –

- **Whzan Telehealth** which measures vital observations such as blood pressure recordings. By doing so care homes can detect early signs resident's ill health before any illness worsens, enabling early intervention and safeguarding Thurrock Care home residents from unnecessary harm.
- All Care Homes had the opportunity to receive **Facebook portals** for residents to use as part of reducing social isolation.
- **Digital Tablets** were also purchased for Care Homes to use for both clinical assessment use and to support with social isolation.

Infection Prevention Control (IPC) - The CCG, Thurrock Local Authority and Thurrock Public Health have worked jointly to further support Thurrock Care Homes with vital IPC work throughout the pandemic. This work has been key with safeguarding the health and wellbeing of Thurrock Care home residents. Key areas of IPC support provided has included:

- The development of Visitors IPC policies
- Advice and guidance on specific Covid-19 interventions such as the usage of personal protective equipment (PPE) or correct social distancing measures
- Monthly IPC training

Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS) - The CCG is working with Thurrock Local Authority and wider Southend, Essex and Thurrock partners in terms of implementing the new Liberty Protection Safeguards process. A CCG LPS Implementation Group has been established to support the changes and preparation required for legislative implementation.

Thurrock Council – Les Billingham

Thurrock Council has lead responsibility for operational safeguarding of vulnerable adults in the borough. This responsibility is mainly delivered within the Adult Social Care directorate by the Adult Safeguarding Team.



The Adult Social Care (ASC) department is part of the board's executive, working closely with other statutory partners in the local Clinical Commissioning Group and the Police Service. ASC also provides support to the wider partnership via its role in administration of the Adult Safeguarding Board and Operational Group.

The last year has seen many challenges brought about by the ongoing impact of the COVID pandemic. However, the broad partnership has performed remarkably well in spite of these difficulties and the operational performance of all of the key partners has continued to deliver effectively throughout the period; this is to be commended.

That is not to say that there has not been areas of concern. The increased risk within care homes brought about by a lack of external scrutiny and the need to ensure people who lack consent have had their best interests protected, are examples of how our safeguarding activity has had to adapt to these circumstances, however, overall these increased risks were managed well. Unfortunately, some of our vulnerable residents passed away as a consequence of this dreadful pandemic, despite our best efforts, any loss of life is always deeply sad. However, I am proud of the efforts of everyone involved in the health and care sector locally, care workers, nurses, managers and support staff to name but a few, I am certain that their efforts ensured that the impact of the pandemic was managed as well as it could be.

Thurrock ASC and its partners have always been recognised for the quality and creativity of its transformation programme, "Better Care Together Thurrock". The focus of this transformation is to move to a strengths and place based approach to the delivery of well-being services, placing emphasis on the choices of individuals to live the best life they are able to with appropriate support and on preventing deterioration wherever possible to allow people to stay independent. As such the approach fits extremely well with the Making Safeguarding Personal agenda. Unfortunately, the transformation programme has been inevitably delayed as a result of the need to respond pre-actively to COVID; accelerating this programme, along with dealing with the longer term fall out from the pandemic must now be our priority as a system.

There will be many challenges ahead as we learn more about the longer term impacts of the pandemic, however, I think that the partnership has been strengthened as a consequence of our joint response and remain confident that we will continue to do everything we can to safeguard vulnerable adults effectively in the future.

Adults safeguarding case study (names have been changed)

Alan was referred to the safeguarding team by his key worker Karen. Prior to the referral Alan was supported by Children Services and was receiving ongoing support from CAMHS. Alan witnessed domestic violence from his father towards his mother for many years which could have contributed to his mental health difficulties. Alan has a daughter who lives with her mother and Alan had a supervised contact with her.

The following safeguarding concerns were reported to the Safeguarding Team:

- Alan was homeless after his father assaulted him
- Alan was only provided with support from Karen after he became an adult
- There were concerns Alan was being exploited by someone he was involved with
- Alan's support with his mental health finished with CAMHS and he was not transferred to Adult Mental Health Team

The additional concerns were raised during the safeguarding enquiry:

- A letter was sent to Alan for a Mental Health Assessment but as he was homeless he didn't receive this and therefore didn't attend and his case was closed
- Alan was housed in a hostel out of borough which made it difficult for him to see his daughter or to access mental health support

Intervention

A safeguarding strategy meeting took place with all relevant agencies invited. During the meeting it was agreed that firstly a mental health assessment needs to be offered and then Alan needs to return to his local area with the right accommodation and support in place.

Outcome

Alan returned back to his local borough and is now receiving ongoing support from the mental health team. Alan has shared the following message with his support worker Karen:

"This place is actually nice and peaceful to be honest Karen I actually like this place not going lie I hope they leave me here I'm out of Grays that's the main things now it's time to apply my driving license and that I love this place thank you so much Karen and your team tell them I'm am very great full what use have done for me thank you so much it's time to changed and have a better life now"

What happened next?

Alan was referred to Local Area Coordinator team for ongoing support with his transition to adulthood. Alan will be supported to use local services and support to live independently.

WHAT THE TSAB ACHIEVED DURING 2020/21

The only remaining action from 2019/20 was the development of an induction pack for new Board members to improve their understanding of the role and increase their participation in the agenda. This was completed in the first half of the year and is now sent to inform any new members alongside the Board agenda and papers.

Prevention Strategy 2019/20

Prevention is one of the core principles of safeguarding and as such forms a fundamental part of local adult safeguarding policy framework and arrangements. The current Prevention Strategy came to an end this year and will be refreshed in 2021/22 to include themes that have been discussed at the Board such as infection control and smoking as well as any covid-19 related issues.

Strategic Plan 2020/23

During the year, the TSAB published the refreshed three-year strategic plan and the associated Equality Impact Assessment. To implement our Priorities, we held virtual events and worked with partner agencies to develop SMART, more manageable objectives – which identify what we want to achieve, the tasks that need to be completed, measure performance and how to understand whether we have achieved it.

We also published an easy read version of our strategic plan developed in consultation with partner agencies and users. This can be found on the [TSAB website](#)³.

Linked to the strategic plan, the Board developed a risk register. This helps us manage risks that might prevent us from delivering our plans both locally and nationally. Obviously, the impact of COVID-19 has featured heavily within the risk register. The document is discussed and updated at every Leadership Executive Group.

³ <https://www.thurrocksab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/easy-read-tsab-strategic-plan-lo-res-v3.pdf>

The table below demonstrates what we have achieved during the first year of the strategic plan as well as actions for the rest of the 2021/22.

Strategic Objective 1 – To increase our understanding of abuse and neglect using data
What we achieved:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We developed a 3 year delivery plan looking at improving outcomes for adults being safeguarded using safeguarding data. • We developed a new and improved performance dashboard. This provides a more visual picture about abuse and neglect in Thurrock. • We commenced our audit programme, auditing cases based upon themes such as safeguarding and domestic abuse.
What are we planning to do 2021/22:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We plan to refine the analysis and interrogation of the data using key themes. • We will develop a quality assurance framework to assess the quality of the work we do in order to safeguard adults. • We will collaboratively develop and distribute the SET safeguarding Adults Self-Assessment in order to assure the Board that partners are meeting their responsibilities under the Care Act.

Strategic Objective 2 – To contribute to implementing the recommendations of the Sexual abuse/violence Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)
What we achieved:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We finalised the exploratory study of the scale and nature of sexual exploitation of adults and transition aged young people in Thurrock. • We reviewed the recommendations from the report which highlighted a number of issues for practitioners and agencies in Thurrock in relation to the response to Adult Sexual Exploitation.
What are we planning to do 2021/22:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We will publish the exploratory study of the scale and nature of sexual exploitation of adults and transition aged young people in Thurrock virtually in order to share the findings and recommendations. • We will work with the Thurrock sexual Violence and Abuse Strategic Partnership to pick up the recommendations from the study and ensure a whole system approach to sexual violence and abuse in Thurrock.

Strategic Objective 3 – To focus on perpetrator disruption

What we achieved:

- We developed a 3 year delivery plan focusing on disrupting perpetrators targeting adults at risk.
- We started collecting data to analyse prevalence and identify trends, themes and 'hot spots'.
- We identified key themes for the partnership to work on:
 1. Cuckooing
 2. Scams
 3. Modern slavery
 4. Adult sexual exploitation.

What are we planning to do 2021/22:

- We will ensure that training is available for staff on a range of topics including; modern day slavery, domestic abuse, cuckooing and sexual exploitation.
- We will focus our activity on priority areas where perpetrators are; cuckooing adults at risk, committing hate crime and sexually exploiting vulnerable adults.

Strategic Objective 4– To strengthen transitional safeguarding arrangements

What we achieved:

- We developed a plan for year 1 to help us identify the strategic direction for strengthening transitional safeguarding for children and young people in Thurrock.
- We started our baseline mapping in order to ensure that young adults are able to safeguard themselves from harm when they are moving from children services to adult services.

What are we planning to do 2021/22:

- We will review the learning from both local and national reviews around how our approach to transitions could be improved.
- We will ensure that young people, carers, parents are included in the development of the plan and any strategy/policy and service delivery.

As well as implementing the Strategic Objectives, the TSAB were also involved and worked on the following projects.

Southend, Essex and Thurrock (SET) Safeguarding Adult Boards

TSAB works closely with colleagues in the Essex and Southend Safeguarding Adult Boards on a number of areas which cross our boundaries. Mainly, the joint work focusses on joint guidance and policy. During the year, the 3 SABs jointly developed and /or updated the following SET documents:

- A guide to developing a Safeguarding Adults Policy
- Missing Protocol
- Safeguarding Handbook
- Learning and Development Framework
- Safeguarding Adult Guidelines and Safeguarding Adult Form
- One Minute Guide – Hoarding
- One Minute Guide – Missing People
- One Minute Guide – Modern Slavery

Plans for next year include updating the SET Hoarding Guidance, SET Modern Slavery Guidance and SET Mental Capacity Act/Deprivation of Liberty Guidance.

Liberty Protection Safeguards are planned to come into force in April 2022, therefore the Board will support the local implementation of this.

In partnership with the Essex Violence and Vulnerability Unit and Southend and Essex Safeguarding Children and Adult Boards, a new e-learning package was launched to support anyone who would like to improve their knowledge and understanding of exploitation. The e-learning package is free to access for those working or volunteering in Thurrock and includes three learning modules that cover exploitation awareness, child exploitation and adult exploitation.

COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT

The Board increased its use of social media and the website this year sharing lots of information, including covid-19 resources as well as general safeguarding information.

Website

We have reviewed and refreshed the content on the website to improve accessibility, content and reach and generally make it more user friendly.

There were 18,835 visits to the website during the year. The most popular pages were the Home page, organisational abuse page and financial and material abuse page.

Social media

TSAB continued to raise awareness of safeguarding adults through the Thurrock Councils Facebook and Twitter pages.

- 108 posts were issued throughout the year on the Thurrock Council social media accounts
- 746k total people reached (total number of individual people who have seen our content)
- 309 clicks through to Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Board website.
- 103 likes
- 109 shares
- 138k total impressions (how many times content is displayed on someone's news feed)

During 2021/22, the TSAB will have more targeted posts looking at specific themes as well as the generic theme of safeguarding.

National Safeguarding Adults Week (NSAW) – 18th 24th November

A virtual campaign was launched across Southend, Essex and Thurrock with a theme of "Financial Abuse". During the week several webinars and podcasts took place featuring a range of guest speakers. There was also a public facing awareness campaign on social media to encourage reporting of financial abuse.

TRAINING

All of the multi-agency training offer took place virtually and is detailed below, in addition to this training, there were also a lot of free national webinars available for staff which the Board promoted.

Training delivered during 2020/21	Training planned or in development, to run during 2021/22
J9	J9
Challenging Myths, Changing Attitudes	Challenging Myths, Changing Attitudes
LGBTQ+ awareness raising for commissioners and providers	LGBTQ+ awareness raising for commissioners and providers
Safeguarding Adults - elearning	Domestic abuse and stalking
Exploitation and transition into adulthood	Cuckooing
Psychology of the offender	Designated Safeguarding Adult Lead
Safeguarding Adults Level 3	Safeguarding Adults and the Law
Prevent and hate crime	Mental Capacity Act
	Prevent and hate crime

As a result of the pandemic, our annual conference did not take place during 2020/21. The Board will take a view on whether we will hold a conference (either virtually or face to face) during 2021/22.

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE – 2021/22

During the coming year, April 2021 to March 2022, our main focus will be to work through the delivery plans for the Strategic Objectives 2020/23. We will also:

- Continue to analyse the impact of the pandemic on vulnerable people and plan to address any additional safeguarding needs that emerge as a consequence.
- Update our SAR policy and form and implement the recommendations for the National SAR analysis to ensure we are prepared for future referrals/best practice.
- Refresh our prevention strategy with new themes.
- Continue to work closely with our local partnerships; Community Safety Partnership, and Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership, Essex and Southend Safeguarding Adult Boards.

FURTHER INFORMATION

If you want to know more about any project or topic within this report please send an email to TSAB@thurrock.gov.uk or visit www.thurrocksab.org.uk. **To raise a concern email safeguardingadults@thurrock.gov.uk or call Thurrock First 01375 511000.**

“To work in partnership, preventing abuse and ensuring excellent practice and timely responses to the safety and protection of individuals or groups within our communities”