

<b>31 August 2023</b>		<b>ITEM: 8</b>
<b>Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Thurrock Safeguarding Adult Board (TSAB) Strategic Plan</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All wards	<b>Key Decision:</b> For information	
<b>Report of:</b> James Nicolson, Independent Chair, Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB)		
<b>Accountable Assistant Director:</b> Les Billingham - Assistant Director ASC and Community Development		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Ian Wake - Corporate Director of Adults, Housing & Health		
<b>This report is Public</b>		

## Executive Summary

The Care Act 2014 requires all local authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) which must, as a minimum, have three members. In Thurrock these include Thurrock Council, Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board and Essex Police. The Act, and the accompanying Statutory Guidance, set out the responsibilities of the SABs.

SABs have three core duties (see Appendix 1). 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 adult reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.

This Strategic Plan details the priorities for the Board for the period 2023/26. A more detailed delivery plan will sit underneath this to demonstrate how it will drive activity and evidence progress.

Supporting this Plan an Easy Read version is being developed with support from Thurrock Lifestyle Solutions.

### 1. Recommendation(s)

#### 1.1 That the Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members note the Strategic Plan.

## 2. Introduction and Background

2.1 The framework of the TSAB Strategic Plan is formatted upon the 6 national safeguarding principles, which are:

- **Empowerment:** TSAB will seek assurance that safeguarding services are delivered in line with Making Safeguarding Personal Principles and Mental Capacity Act 2005
- **Prevention:** TSAB will continue to develop approaches to raise awareness of adult safeguarding
- **Proportionality:** TSAB will seek assurance that services are learning and improving their safeguarding practice and that risks are managed collaboratively
- **Protection:** TSAB will protect people who need help and support
- **Partnership:** TSAB will improve multi-agency partnership and aligning its work with other partnerships
- **Accountability:** TSAB will provide strategic leadership to enable effective safeguarding arrangements to be in place across the partnership

## 3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

3.1 The TSAB risk register highlights if there is any prospect that the Board will not meet any of its statutory requirements under the Care Act, as well as any other risks. The register is monitored by the Leadership Executive Group at each of its meetings. Where appropriate, any identified risks will be escalated to the Board for a response. Failing to publish a Strategic Plan would be an example of the TSAB not meeting its statutory requirements.

3.2 The Board will also be provided with regular performance updates from the Operational Group who will monitor deliver of the priorities. There are no risks identified at present which would prevent the Board from delivering against the Strategic Plan.

## 4. Reasons for Recommendation

4.1 The priorities were based upon:

- Responses from this consultation
- Other recent consultations by partners such as the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Recommendations from local Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Links with other local and national strategic plans
- Relevant safeguarding data
- Southend, Essex and Thurrock Safeguarding Audit 2022

## **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 5.1 The Board undertook extensive consultation for the Strategic Plan from October 2022 to February 2023. This involved a survey promoted via social media as well as attendance at events in the community by TSAB support staff. Professionals from all partner organisations were also included in requesting information and suggestions. There were 70 responses to the TSAB consultation.
- 5.2 The Strategic Plan has been developed by the Operational Group in response to the results of this consultation and shared with Board partners for comment. It was approved by TSAB on 17.4.23.

## **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 The work of the TSAB contributes to the Council's Priorities and Vision in the following areas:
- People – a Borough where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay.

## **7. Implications**

### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Bradley Herbert**  
**Senior Management Accountant**

The Board receives financial contributions from Thurrock Council, Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board and Essex Police. The contributions allow the Board fully to undertake agreed activity. No further funds are required from Thurrock Council.

### **7.2 Legal**

Implications verified by: **Daniel Longe**  
**Principle Solicitor on behalf of Thurrock Council**

Section 43 of the Care Act 2014 (the Act) imposes an obligation on local authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) for its area to safeguard vulnerable adults who may be experiencing or are at risk of abuse or neglect and are unable to protect themselves.

To achieve this, Schedule 2 of the Act specifically requires SABs, each financial year, to publish a Strategic Plan setting out its plan for safeguarding those vulnerable adults.

Also, it requires an Annual Report to be produced each financial year, a copy of which should be sent to the chief executive of the local authority, amongst others.

Furthermore, Section 44 of the Act also imposes a duty on the SAB to carry out reviews of cases that meet either of these two conditions, namely the death of a vulnerable adult due to neglect or abuse and secondly, serious abuse or neglect of a vulnerable adult in the area. These are known as Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

Having considered the Strategic Plan, considering the statutory objective set out in section 43, the Plan is within the scope of the SAB and LA's statutory duties.

All information regarding Community Equality Impact Assessments can be found here: <https://intranet.thurrock.gov.uk/services/diversity-and-equality/ceia/>

### 7.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by: **Roxanne Scanlon**  
**Community Engagement and Project  
Monitoring Officer**

When developing the Strategic Plan due regard was given to equalities and the impact the Plan may have. The strategy details how the Board will safeguard and promote the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs in Thurrock. This covers anyone over 18 who has needs for care and support and whether the authority is meeting those needs: is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect and as a result of those needs is unable to protect himself or herself against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it. The TSAB Strategic Plan 2023-2026 includes those with care and support needs in all protected characteristics as defined within the Equalities Act, 2010.

### 7.4 **Other implications (where significant)** – i.e. Staff, Health Inequality, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder or Impact on Looked After Children

The TSAB Strategic Plan links closely with other Boards and Partnerships such as Community Safety Partnership and the Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children's Board.

8. **Background papers used in preparing the report** (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

TSAB Strategic Plan

9. **Appendices to the report**

Appendix 1 - TSAB Strategic Plan 2023/26

Appendix 2 - TSAB Summary Strategic Plan PowerPoint for TSAB website 2023/26

**Report Author:**

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