

2 November 2023		ITEM: 6
Health and Wellbeing Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2022/23		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: Not applicable	
Report of: Jim Nicolson, Independent Chair of Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board		
Accountable Assistant Director: Les Billingham, Assistant Director of Adult Social Care and Community Development		
Accountable Director: Ian Wake, Corporate Director of Adults, Housing and Health		
This report is public.		

Executive Summary

The Care Act 2014 requires all local authorities to establish a Safeguarding Adult Boards (SAB), which must have, as a minimum, senior representation of three core agencies, namely the local Council; Health; and 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 joint strategic safeguarding activity.

SABs also have three legal responsibilities under the Act, which are:

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

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 That the Annual Report be noted by Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members.

2. Introduction and Background

- 2.1 The role of the Thurrock Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) is to ensure the effective co-ordination and delivery of services to safeguard and promote the

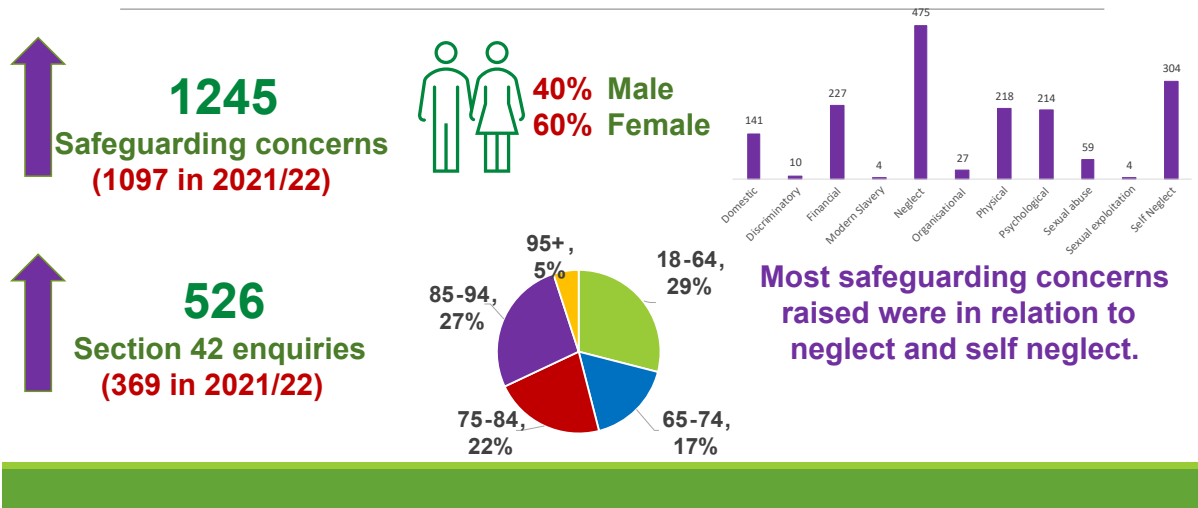
welfare of at-risk adults in accordance with the Care Act 2014 and the accompanying Statutory Guidance.

- 2.2 The Care Act 2014 requires that each Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) publish an Annual Report, that it be shared widely and specifically to key partners including, the Chief Executive and Leader of the Local Authority, Essex Police, Healthwatch and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board. This was agreed by the Board in July, and formally shared with partners in September.
- 2.3 The Annual Report sets out the adult safeguarding activity within Thurrock for the period 2022/23 and what our priorities are moving forward.

3. Safeguarding data

- 3.1 Throughout the year, the operational group monitors safeguarding data to identify trends and themes. Recent examples include;
 - Reviewing all safeguarding concerns raised that were closed before an enquiry was undertaken. It was established that alternative sources of support/pathways were offered i.e. a Care Act Assessment, Carers Assessment, referral to another agency.
 - Engaging with Essex Police and Mid and South Essex Integrated Care Board staff to reduce the number of inappropriate referrals for their staff. These have now been reduced.
 - Due to the high number of self-neglect cases, social media posts have included information on self-neglect and hoarding. TSAB have also supported Thurrock Council's Hoarding Support Group, including funding transportation of service users to and from meetings.
- 3.2 TSAB will continue to improve further the quality and quantity of data collected, as well as its analysis, to ensure scarce resources are targeted to greatest effect.

Safeguarding data by concern summary 2022/23



4. Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR)

- 4.1 TSAB published one SAR this year.
- 4.2 There are also a further two SAR's ongoing which will likely be published in the next financial year.

5. Finance

- 5.1 During 2020/21 the SAB was funded by the three core partners, Thurrock Council, Thurrock NHS Clinical Commissioning Group and the Office of the Police, Fire and Crime Commissioner.

TSAB Income for 2022/23	
Budgets contributions Thurrock Council	£71,354
Budgets contributions - Thurrock CCG	£18,750
Budgets contributions - Essex Police	£18,750
Essex County Council – Easy read document	£166
Southend Council – Easy read document	£166
Reserves	£67,714
Ring fenced money for SARs	£15,000
Total	£191,900

- 5.2 The total expenditure during 2022/23 was £92,130 which was mainly staff costs. The Board has a programme of planned expenditure to deliver its strategic aims, which will draw on this underspend over the next financial year.

6. Strategic Objectives

6.1 The Board's Priorities for 2020/23 are:

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

6.2 Details of the progress made against these Objectives over the last year is contained in the Annual Report, which is available via Sway, Word or in the Easy Read format.

6.3 This is the final year of the 2020/23 Strategic Plan. As well as delivering on the Board's ongoing priorities, a great deal of time was spent this year consulting and drafting priorities for the next Strategic Plan. This was presented to HOSC on 31st August 2023.

7. Reasons for Recommendation

7.1 That the Committee notes the contents of the TSAB's Annual Report.

8. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

8.1 The Annual Report was co-produced with core partners of the TSAB, including detailed updates from the three statutory partners, following extensive consultation with statutory partners, other stake-holders and service users.

9. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

9.1 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.

This means:

- high quality, consistent and accessible public services which are right first time.
- build on our partnerships with statutory, community, voluntary and faith groups to work together to improve health and wellbeing.
- communities are empowered to make choices and be safer and stronger together.

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10. Implications

10.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Mike Jones**
**Strategic Lead, Corporate Finance – Resources
and Place Delivery**

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.

10.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Nicola Monerville**
Principal Solicitor

The Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee Members are asked to note the Annual Report. No decision is required.

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 to, each financial year, publish a Strategic Plan setting out its plan for safeguarding those vulnerable adults.

The Act also 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 one of 2 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.

Having considered the Annual Report, taking into account the statutory objective set out in section 43, the Report is within the scope of the SAB and Local Authority's statutory duties.

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

10.3 **Diversity and Equality**

Implications verified by:

Roxanne Scanlon

**Community Engagement and Project
Monitoring Officer, Adults, Housing and
Health**

This Annual Report details how the Board has safeguarded and promoted the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs in Thurrock in the year under review. The TSAB Annual Report covers those with care and support needs in all protected characteristics as defined within the Equalities Act, 2010.

10.4 **Other implications** (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health Inequalities, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder and Looked After Children

None

11. **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):

None

12. **Appendices to the report**

- TSAB Annual Report 2022/23
<https://sway.office.com/oEBRccsyOrySbny?ref=Link>
- TSAB Annual Report 2022/23 Easy Read Version
<https://www.thurrocksab.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2023/09/TSAB-annual-report-2022-23-EASY-READ-V3.pdf>
- PowerPoint Presentation

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