

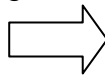
Introduction

The Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is a multi-agency partnership made up of statutory, independent and charitable organisations which have a stakeholder interest in safeguarding adults across Northumberland.

The vision of the NSAB is to promote individuals' human rights and capacity for independence; to ensure that each person is treated with dignity and respect; and to ensure that individuals who have care and support needs are afforded protection from abuse, neglect, discrimination or poor treatment and that their carers whether paid or unpaid, are safe.

Strategy Principles

As no single agency can act in isolation, all constituent members of the Safeguarding Adults Board recognise the need for and give a commitment to work in partnership and collaboration. In addition the NSAB agrees to follow the six Care Act principles which underpin all adult safeguarding work.



Shared statement of Intent

It is the intent of the NSAB to improve the lives of adults at risk of abuse who are living in Northumberland by ensuring that all those who work with them know what abuse is, will work together to prevent individuals becoming victims in the first place. will intervene as early as possible to stop abuse or neglect where it is occurring, will respond to the needs of victims to help repair the damage caused and ensure that they are afforded justice.

Purpose of the SAB

The overarching purpose of the SAB is to:

- Assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act
- Assure itself that safeguarding practice is person centred and outcome focussed
- Prevent abuse and neglect where possible
- Ensure timely and proportionate responses when abuse and neglect have occurred
- Assure itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area
- Ensure implementation of findings and lessons learned from Safeguarding Adult Reviews across the safeguarding system

- **Empowerment** – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
“I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens.”
- **Prevention** – It is better to take action before harm occurs.
“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help.”
- **Proportionality** – The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
“I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed.”
- **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need.
“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** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.
“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** – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding
I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they.”

Strategy aims and objectives

Adult safeguarding remains a generally under-reported activity. The aim of this strategy is to raise the profile of the issue and develop expertise across all partner agencies. The aspiration of the Northumberland SAB is to develop a strategic overview of adult safeguarding supporting a proactive partnership where those at risk are identified and safeguarded and afforded restorative justice, and perpetrators are disrupted and where prosecuted.

Prevalence of adult safeguarding in Northumberland

The number of Adult Concern Notifications¹ in 2014-15 was 32% higher (4795) compared to 2013-14 (3638).

There were 754 Safeguarding Referrals² during 2014-15. This was 13% higher than the previous year (669 referrals in 2013-14). Of these, 544 (63%) were assessed as requiring an investigation.

The main sources of referral were the Police (27%), Care Home staff (15%), Social Care staff (9%) and Family/Friend/Neighbour (9%).

The referrals by client group were Physical Disability and Illness (46%), Mental Health (31%), Learning Disability (12%) and other (11%)

The types of abuse reported were Physical (30%), Neglect (25%), Emotional (20%), Sexual (4%), Financial (14%), Institutional (6%) and Discriminatory (1%)

NSAB Key Priorities

PREVENTION

- Identifying vulnerable individuals and groups, offering early intervention and providing on-going support to help them build resilience and prevent abuse and neglect occurring in the future
- Enabling adults at risk of abuse and neglect to make safe choices, and stay safe through education and raising awareness of the risks

SAFEGUARDING

- By supporting victims and/or carers through interventions designed around their individual needs, aspirations and interests
- Ensuring support from professionals is consistent; drawing on recognised models of best practice to help victims make sense of their experience, regain control and exit from abusive or neglectful situations

¹ A Notification is information from other agencies which does not (on it's own) indicate that there has been a significant incident of abuse or neglect, but which may, taken together with other information, call for further investigation.

² A referral is a safeguarding concern that has been assessed as serious enough to warrant consideration for further assessment and investigation

RESPONDING TO PERPETRATORS OF ABUSE AND NEGLECT

- Being pro-active across multi-agency partnerships and joint protocols to identify, disrupt and prosecute perpetrators, and minimise the duration and impact of abuse being experienced by victims
- Supporting perpetrators where they have needs of their own that need to be met to prevent them from harming others

BUILDING PUBLIC CONFIDENCE

- Making sure that communities understand the risks of adult abuse and neglect, and that they know how to access help and support
- Providing accessible information which highlights the role of community vigilance in tackling adult abuse and neglect
- Assuring our communities that we are learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and embedding that learning across the whole system.

Implementation

The NSAB Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2016 outlines the work that will be undertaken by the NSAB in association with other partnership boards to safeguard those people in Northumberland who have care and support needs and require help to stay safe. To implement this strategy and meet our shared priorities we will focus on:

- **Providing leadership and working in partnership**
- **Identification and understanding risk**
- **Engagement, intervention and supporting victims**
- **Training and awareness raising**
- **Responding to perpetrators**

Our Strategic Action Plan will be used to monitor the Board's work over the next year and an update on progress will be formally made at each Board meeting. The Action Plan will also form part of the Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2015/16.

Note: Board Priorities that are shared with other Partnership Boards/Safeguarding Boards are shown in blue boxes.

Required Outcome What do we want to achieve?	Action What we are going to do to achieve it?	Who will be responsible?	Review Date	RAG status	Evidence How will we know we have achieved the target?
Strategic Priority 1: Providing leadership and working in partnership					
<p>1.1 Adequate resources are available to the SAB to enable it to carry out its functions and members of the SAB, collectively, have sufficient skills and experience to perform their role</p> <p>1.2 All stakeholders are clear about the terms of reference of the board and their roles and responsibilities in relation to the board</p>	<p>-All partners to provide appropriately senior representatives</p> <p>-Ensure all new members receive “Board induction pack” plus a copy of the Board training catalogue to support them in their role</p>	<p>All Board Partners</p> <p>Independent Chair and Strategic Manager</p>	April 2016		<p>Terms of Reference will be published including membership</p> <p>There will be a record that all new members have received induction on joining the board and all partners have a role description and Terms of Reference</p>
1.3 The SAB is compliant with the provisions of the Care Act 2014	-Publish an Annual Report and Strategic Plan and commission SAR’s as required	Independent Chair/Strategic Safeguarding Manager	April 2016		<p>Annual Report and Strategic plan will be available on NCC website</p> <p>SAR’s will be commissioned as indicated and reported on the NCC website</p>

<p>1.4 Safeguarding practice in Northumberland is person centred and outcome focussed</p> <p>1.5 Consistently good and person centred multi-agency safeguarding practice is embedded across the county and continuously improved through feedback from people with care and support needs, their carers, links with the wider community, and feedback from partners.</p>	<p>-All partners to complete the self-assessment/audit framework (QAF) on an annual basis and report this for inclusion in the annual report</p> <p>-Annual case file audit to dip sample cases across Northumberland</p> <p>-Service user and carer feedback to be monitored</p>	<p>All Board members</p> <p>Performance Sub Group</p> <p>Performance and Service user Sub Groups</p>	<p>April 2016</p>		<p>Board will report on the number of QAF's received. Noted in minutes and reported through the annual report. Available publicly on NCC website.</p> <p>Outcomes of audit will be reported to board and available via minutes on the NCC website</p> <p>Reports will be provided to the board and minutes available on NCC website</p>
<p>1.6 Partners can evidence that they are embedding the learning from complex cases and Safeguarding Adults Reviews</p>	<p>-Reports provided bi-monthly to the Board</p> <p>-Learning from cases will be disseminated to Board partners and embedded into training strategy</p>	<p>Safeguarding Adults Review Committee</p> <p>Communications Sub Group</p> <p>Training Sub Group</p>	<p>April 2016</p>		<p>Reports will be provided routinely to the board. Minutes available on NCC website</p> <p>SAR Executive Summaries and recommendations will be shared with the board and published</p> <p>Briefing notes will be produced for staff/public</p> <p>Social Work Forums will consider case studies and lessons learnt</p>

	-All partners to benchmark against lessons learned from local and national SARs				Training strategy will reflect learning from SARs and complex cases
1.7 Adequate governance arrangements are in place, our partners are accountable for their contribution and the work of the Board is receiving appropriate scrutiny	-The agreed protocol between the SAB and HWB Board will be in operation and the Strategic Plan, Annual Report and commissioned SAR's will be shared with the Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Health & Well Being Board	Independent Chair/Strategic Safeguarding Manager	April 2016		Annual Strategic Plan and Report will be presented to Overview & Scrutiny Committee and Health & Well Being Board. Minutes of those meetings available on NCC website
	-All partners will contribute to the collective accountability of the board to ensure adequate safeguarding	All Board Members	April 2016		Board will report on the number of QAF's received and identify any gaps.

	<p>processes are in place across Northumberland</p> <p>--All partners to complete the self-assessment/audit framework (QAF) on an annual basis and report this for inclusion in the annual report</p>				
1.8 All member agencies are contributing to the work of the Board and sub-groups	-Audit of attendance by Board members	Strategic Safeguarding Manager	April 2016		Audit will be reported to the Board. Minutes available on NCC website
1.9 Partner agencies are attending safeguarding meetings	-Annual audit of attendance by partner agencies at safeguarding meetings	Performance Sub Group	April 2016		Information will be included in performance report to board and reviewed at annual Development Day. Minutes on NCC website
1.10 All partners are able to provide assurance with regards safeguarding issues in their area (to include specific reports on issues such as	-Individual reports, CQC and NCC/CCG commissioning reports to the Performance Sub Group	All Board Partners	April 2016		Board will report on the number of QAF's received. Noted in minutes and reported through the annual report. Available publicly on NCC website

<p>domestic violence, welfare reform, restraint, prisons, commissioning, CCG and housing providers)</p>	<p>-All partners to complete QAF as above</p>				
<p>1.11 Partners are meeting their duties in relation to supporting people who may need safeguarding under the PREVENT agenda</p>	<p>-Reports will be provided to SAB by the Safer Northumberland Partnership Any training needs identified will be responded to -Any necessary changes to policy will be highlighted and amendments made</p>	<p>Safer Northumberland Partnership Manager NOT training Group Strategic Safeguarding Manager/Policies and Procedures Group</p>	<p>April 2016</p>		<p>Regular reports will be provided to SAB. Minutes on NCC website</p>

Strategic Priority 2. Identification and understanding of risk					
2.1 Abuse and neglect are identified and responded to quickly and appropriately in Northumberland	-All policies and procedures to be kept up to date and reviewed in line with the overarching multi agency policy and any learning from local or national SARs - Performance Sub Group will receive and analyse performance information on a bi-monthly basis from a range of sources, including other partners	All Board Partners Strategic Safeguarding Manager Performance Sub Group	April 2016		Multi agency Policies and Procedures are published on NCC website All board partners will publish their policies and procedures on linked websites Performance information will continue to be analysed and shared with the board. Minutes will be on NCC website
2.2 Abuse and neglect are prevented wherever possible before they occur	-Develop a prevention policy across the North of Tyne (NOT) area	Strategic Safeguarding Manager and NOT group Safer Northumberland Partnership Board	Dec 2015		Prevention Policy will be publically available on the NCC website
2.3 Safeguarding responses are proportionate and recognise people's	-Develop Risk Enablement policy and publish to all stakeholders	Policies and Procedures Sub NOT group	Dec 2015		Policy will be ratified by the Board. Minutes of Board will be available on NCC website.

strengths wherever possible so that individuals are supported in the least restrictive and most person centred way possible and empowered to take positive risks in their lives					
2.4 There is a robust means of sharing information about regulated services to and from Care Quality Commission	-Finalise local protocol for working with Care Quality Commission in response to Transforming care agenda and develop Sharepoint project	Strategic Safeguarding manager/ CQC	Dec 15		Protocol will be ratified by Board. Minutes of board will be available on NCC website Sharepoint will be operational
2.5 There is a multi-partnership strategy and adequate policies and procedures in place to protect people with care and support needs at risk of sexual exploitation	-Review policies in place for the protection of adults at risk of sexual exploitation in Northumberland	Northumberland Safeguarding Childrens Board/Safer Northumberland Partnership Board/Adult Services NCC	Dec 16		Policy will be ratified by all three Boards. Minutes of boards and copy of the policy will be available on the NCC website
2.6 Appropriate responses are offered	-Develop self-neglect policy and	NOT group	Dec 2015		Policy will be published on NCC website

to people with care and support needs who may neglect themselves or hoard in their homes	training	Policies and Procedures Group NOT training group			
2.7 The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) and Mental Capacity Act 2005 are being operated effectively	-Dashboard report will be produced for the Performance sub group by NHCFT information team -any issues will be escalated	Performance Sub Group	April 2016		Information will be included in performance report to board. Minutes on NCC website

Strategic Priority 3. Engagement, Intervention and Supporting victims					
3.1 Partners are working together to produce an events/campaigns calendar to raise public and professional awareness of safeguarding	-All stakeholders will confirm events/campaigns in which they are already involved -Shared Northumberland Safeguarding website to be finalised	Communications sub group	Dec 15		Events calendar will be published on Northumberland safeguarding website All member agencies will have links on their respective webpages.
3.2 Members of the public (including hard to reach groups) are aware of the work of the board, what abuse is and how to report it 3.3 A range of publicity campaigns eg SAFE WEEK, radio, awareness raising events and poster campaigns will be undertaken	-A publicity campaign calendar will be produced -A range of publicity campaigns eg SAFE WEEK, radio, awareness raising events and poster campaigns will be undertaken	Communications sub group NOT group Regional Safeguarding Group	Dec 15		Minutes of meeting and calendar will be available on website Press coverage, information on website Annual report
3.4 Awareness raising in Northumberland is effective	-Devise a survey/evaluation form for staff and	Communications Sub Group	Dec 15		Feedback will be reported to the board and minuted.

	<p>public to measure impact</p> <p>-Monitor any increase in referral rate/contact rate after events and campaigns</p>	Performance Sub Group			
<p>3.5 There are appropriate safeguarding resources for young people/ adults</p> <p>Safeguarding and You (SAY) Project will produce a DVD and supporting materials to explain what safeguarding is and how to report it to younger audience</p>	<p>-Safeguarding and You (SAY) Project will finalise DVD and supporting materials to explain what safeguarding is and how to report it to younger audience</p> <p>-Develop training module for schools regarding Adult Safeguarding</p>	<p>Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Future Routes Group and</p> <p>Training Sub Group/Education team</p>	Dec 2015		<p>Pilot to be identified to test materials with a view to wider roll out to schools across Northumberland. Details will be available on NCC website.</p>
<p>3.6 Care Providers are engaged in the work of the board</p>	<p>-Safeguarding to be discussed at quarterly meetings of Provider Forums</p>	Strategic Safeguarding Manager/Commissioning Team	April 2016		<p>Meetings will be recorded and minutes available on NCC website</p>

3.7 Victims are offered appropriate physical, emotional and psychological support following any incident of abuse or neglect	<p>-Victims to be offered appropriate support and/or signposting to more appropriate services</p> <p>-Sample audit of outcomes for victims to be undertaken</p>	<p>Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust/Northumberland Tyne and Wear Trust</p> <p>Performance Sub Group</p>	April 2016		Report to be included in Performance report to board and reflected in annual report.
Strategic Priority 4: Training and awareness raising					
4.1 All partners understand what abuse is and how to report it	-Finalise supervision and appraisal framework	NOT Training sub group	April 2016		Evidence of templates will be available and feedback from workforce will be reported to board. Minutes available on website
4.2 There is an up to date joint workforce development strategy for adult safeguarding across Northumberland and North Tyneside	-Update and maintain workforce development strategy	NOT Training sub group	April 2016		Action plan will be RAG rated and training statistics will be reported to the board. Minutes on NCC website

<p>4.3 Safeguarding training materials are available to carers to protect them from harm and support them in their role</p>	<p>-Finalise training strategy for carers</p>	<p>NOT Training sub group and Carers Lead (Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust)</p>	<p>Dec 2015</p>		<p>Report will be provided to the board. Minutes available on website.</p>
<p>Strategic Priority 5: Responding to perpetrators</p>					
<p>5.1 Perpetrators of abuse and neglect will be identified and dealt with appropriately.</p>	<p>-Northumbria Police will proactively use legislation to challenge and confront criminal behaviour</p> <p>-Partners use those powers available to them to prevent safeguarding from occurring or to help protect a person from harm.</p> <p>-The police will</p>	<p>Northumbria Police</p> <p>All Board Members</p> <p>Northumbria Police</p>	<p>April 2016</p>		<p>Prosecutions will be published</p> <p>Any contractual intervention will be reflected in the annual report</p> <p>CQC publish regulatory action</p>

	<p>identify persons subject to safeguarding risks and identify resources to reduce and mitigate risk eg neighbourhood policing</p> <p>-Adult social care will ensure that where the perpetrator is another vulnerable adult that they receive appropriate review of their own needs</p> <p>-Sample audit of outcomes for perpetrators to be conducted</p>	<p>Northumbria Healthcare Foundation Trust</p> <p>Performance Sub Group</p>			<p>Sample audit of outcomes for perpetrators will be provided to board and included in minutes which will be published.</p>
--	---	---	--	--	---

Key – Blue – Shared Strategic Priority with other board (s)