

MEETING:	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
MEETING DATE:	9 th July 2013
TITLE OF REPORT:	Annual Reports of the Safeguarding Boards
REPORT BY:	Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults and Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Boards Business Manager

1. Classification

Open

2. Key Decision

This is not an executive decision

3. Wards Affected

County-wide

4. Purpose

To inform the Health and Wellbeing Board of Safeguarding Boards' assessment of safeguarding in Herefordshire and of their own effectiveness and to enable the Health and Wellbeing Board the opportunity to inform the final annual reports before their publication.

5. Recommendation(s)

THAT THE BOARD:

- (a) **Notes the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Herefordshire as assessed by the Safeguarding Boards;**
- (b) **Acknowledges the priorities of the Boards in relation to specific safeguarding issues in Herefordshire;**
- (c) **Considers how the Health and Wellbeing Board is contributing to service improvement through commissioning within Herefordshire with regard to these safeguarding issues; and**
- (d) **Makes any comments to the safeguarding boards about their future work programmes.**

6. Key Considerations

6.1 Children's Safeguarding

- The annual reports of the Safeguarding Boards enable the Health and Wellbeing Board to understand and assess the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.
- Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board has set the following strategic priorities

for the next three years:

- Improving the experience of children, young people and families when they are supported in safeguarding systems (i.e. CAF, Social Care)
 - Improving multi-agency case work.
 - Tackling evidenced safeguarding issues in Herefordshire.
 - Improving the functioning of Herefordshire's Safeguarding Boards.
 -
 - Within the framework of the strategic priorities and as a result of the annual report, and the OFSTED inspection, the Board is focussing on:
 - Using the voice of children and families to be used to improve services.
 - Improving multi-agency work and assessments with children.
 - Improving its leadership and visibility;
 - Strengthening its performance and QA framework in order to ensure that the Board knows exactly how individual agencies are performing and the impact this is having on children
 - Understanding the impact of sexual exploitation and domestic abuse within Herefordshire and the implementation of action plans;
 - Embedding the Levels of Need Guidance in practice across organisations working with children and young people
- 6.2
- Improving the process of communicating analysis of performance data to the Strategic Board
 - Developing an agreed process across West Mercia LSCBs for multi-agency significant case reviews
 - Proactive commissioning in the light of the unmet needs identified by quality assurance work;
 - Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board structures its work to ensure that it meets its statutory responsibilities, therefore ensuring that the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements across its partners continues to increase. It is currently reviewing its membership and functioning.

Adults Safeguarding

- Key developments in the way adult safeguarding referrals are received and initially processed by Wye Valley NHS Trust have provided a more robust system for understanding safeguarding issues and the needs of adults at risk in Herefordshire.
- Through this new approach, the Board is beginning to increase its understanding the causes of abuse for adults at risk in Herefordshire and will ensure that it is able to ensure people's needs are met at the earliest point;
- Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board has set the following strategic priorities for the next three years:
 - Improving the experience of adults at risk and their communities when they are supported in safeguarding systems
 - Improving multi-agency case work
 - Tackling evidenced safeguarding issues in Herefordshire
 - Improving the functioning of Herefordshire's Safeguarding Boards
- The Board will review and assess the effectiveness of the new referral processes and the response arrangements to inform further development of these;

- The Board will continue its work around the Mental Capacity Act and improving the response to the number of referrals relating to learning disability issues;
- Developing the Board's QA and performance role and championing adults at risk and learning from the inspection for Children's Services.
- The Board will also be developing its work around understanding the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding work undertaken by social care providers across Herefordshire and developing its relationship with them.

7. Consultees

- 7.1 Members of the strategic boards of Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board and Herefordshire Safeguarding Children Board are consulted on the Annual Reports and Business Plans before publication.

The Business Plans have been consulted upon and published while the Annual Reports are currently out for consultation before publication.

8. Appendices

- 8.1 HSCB Annual Report 2012-13 (Draft)
HSAB Annual Report 2012-13 (Draft)
HSCB Business Plan 2013-14
HSAB Business Plan 2013-14

9. Background Papers

- 9.1 None identified.