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Blackpool Council

8 October 2014

To: Councillors Mrs Callow JP, D Coleman, I Coleman, Doherty, Elmes, Galley, Mrs Henderson MBE, Hunter, Mrs Jackson, M Mitchell, Smith, Stansfield, L Taylor and Mrs Taylor

The above members are requested to attend the:

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Thursday, 16 October 2014 at 6.00 pm
in Committee Room A, Townhall, Blackpool

A G E N D A

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members are asked to declare any interests in the items under consideration and in doing so state:

- (1) the type of interest concerned; and
- (2) the nature of the interest concerned

If any member requires advice on declarations of interests, they are advised to contact the Head of Democratic Services in advance of the meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 11TH SEPTEMBER 2014 (Pages 1 - 6)

To agree the minutes of the last meeting held on 11th September 2014 as a true and correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING (Pages 7 - 10)

To consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS (Pages 11 - 18)

To consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken since the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

5 FORWARD PLAN (Pages 19 - 24)

To consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, issue number 9/2014.

6 SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK, FINDINGS AND SERVICE RESPONSES (Pages 25 - 54)

To consider the Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis Report (2013/2014), together with the Alert and Referral Analysis and Practice Update for Quarter One 2014.

7 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND DRAINAGE (Pages 55 - 60)

To consider a progress report on Flood Risk Management and Drainage.

8 EDUCATION SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL (Pages 61 - 66)

To consider the report of the Education Scrutiny Review Panel.

9 SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE (Pages 67 - 74)

To consider progress updates on the appointed Scrutiny Panels including verbal updates from Lead Members.

10 COMMITTEE WORKPLAN (Pages 75 - 80)

To consider the Scrutiny Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

11 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 20th November 2014, at 6.00pm.

Venue information:

First floor meeting room (lift available), accessible toilets (ground floor), no-smoking building.

Other information:

For queries regarding this agenda please contact Steve Sienkiewicz, Democratic Services Team Leader, Tel: (01253) 477123, e-mail steve.sienkiewicz@blackpool.gov.uk

Copies of agendas and minutes of Council and committee meetings are available on the Council's website at www.blackpool.gov.uk.

Agenda Item 2

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

Present:

Councillor Mrs Taylor (in the Chair)

Councillors

Benson	D Coleman	Mrs Jackson	Doherty
I Coleman	Elmes	M Mitchell	Galley
Mrs Callow JP	Mrs Henderson MBE	Stansfield	L Taylor

In Attendance:

Carmel McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive
Delyth Curtis, Assistant Chief Executive - Adult Services
Steve Thompson, Assistant Chief Executive - Treasurer Services
Karen Smith, Interim Director Adults Services
Marie McRoberts, Assistant Treasurer
James Kelly, Head of Integrated Transport and Waste Services
Ruth Henshaw, Engagement and Intelligence Officer
Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Services Adviser

Councillor Fred Jackson, Deputy Leader of the Council and Cabinet Member for Urban Regeneration

Councillor Graham Cain, Cabinet Member for Tourism and Leisure

Councillor Amy Cross, Cabinet Member for Street Scene and the Environment

Councillor John Jones, Cabinet Member for Highways, Transport and Equality and Diversity

Councillor Kath Rowson, Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care

Councillor Ivan Taylor, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Councillor Christine Wright, Cabinet Member for Culture and Heritage

Also Present:

Councillor Green

1 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest on this occasion.

2 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING HELD ON 19TH JUNE 2014

The Committee agreed that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee meeting held on 19th June 2014 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

3 PUBLIC SPEAKING

The Committee noted that there were no applications to speak by members of the public on this occasion.

4 EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

The Committee considered the decisions taken since the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee by the Executive and Cabinet Members.

A question was raised in relation to decision number PH/70/2014 'Acquisition of 40/46 Tyldesley Road' and whether further details of the funding for the acquisition could be provided. As the relevant Cabinet Member was not in attendance at the meeting, Mr C Kelly, Senior Democratic Services Adviser, advised that an answer would be sought for Committee Members.

The Committee agreed to note the Executive and Cabinet Member Decisions.

5 FORWARD PLAN

The Committee considered the items contained within the Forward Plan, issue number 08/2014.

The Committee agreed to note the Forward Plan items.

6 RAISING ASPIRATIONS THEME REPORT 2014 / 2015

Mrs R. Henshaw, Engagement and Intelligence Officer, presented the Raising Aspirations Theme report, which summarised performance against the following Council priorities:

- Priority One – Tackle child poverty, raise aspirations and improve educational achievement.
- Priority Two – Safeguard and protect the most vulnerable
- Priority Nine – Deliver quality services through a professional, well-rewarded and motivated workforce.

The Committee was advised that performance against each priority would be presented by Council Plan theme throughout 2014/2015.

Mrs D Curtis, Director of Children's Services, provided the Committee with reports on Priority One. She advised the Committee of the key challenges for 2014/2015, which included keeping children safe in Blackpool, ensuring children were ready for school, ensuring more good and outstanding schools in Blackpool and securing apprenticeships and developing pathways into work. Mrs Curtis informed the Committee of the various ways in which Children's Services intended to tackle those challenges and explained that the recently secured Better Start funding would be important for use in many of the schemes to tackle the challenges of this priority.

Mrs Curtis also provided the Committee with a summary of the recently published Ofsted report following its inspection of Children's Services. Members were advised that Ofsted had recognised the progress that had been made since its previous inspection and the report highlighted a number of strengths, such as there being appropriate measures in place to prevent child sexual exploitation and there being a strong commitment from Members and Senior Leadership to drive improvement in services. However, Mrs Curtis explained to Members that the report also highlighted a number of areas that required

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

improvement and she summarised what the next steps would be in order for the Council to make those improvements.

Councillor Ivan Taylor responded to a question from the Committee regarding plans to improve all secondary schools in Blackpool. It was noted that all but one secondary school was now an academy and therefore the local authority no longer had the same level of control in order to drive improvements as it had done in the past. Councillor Taylor explained that, although the issue was particularly challenging, the local authority needed to monitor and challenge all schools' plans and that Children's Services worked hard to maintain relationships with all schools and sponsors.

Ms K Smith, Director of Adult Services, provided an update to the Committee on Priority Two. She advised that the key challenges for the priority for 2014/2015 were to:

- promote independence and person-centred care;
- instigate service redesign and modernisation in light of the Care Act 2014 and the Better Care Fund;
- further improve safeguarding;
- raise quality standards across the service offer in partnership with stakeholders; and
- maximise the use of resources.

Ms Smith reported the current areas of activity being undertaken to meet those challenges, which included promoting independence and person-centred care, instigating service redesign and modernisation in the light of the Care Act 2014, making further safeguarding improvements and raising quality standards. Ms Smith also responded to questions from the Committee in relation to issues around the Priority.

Mrs C McKeogh, Deputy Chief Executive, provided the Committee with an update report on Priority Nine, highlighting the key issues for the last quarter. The Committee noted that the key challenges for 2014/2015 were to:

- continue to manage budgets well and take action to ensure that future years budget pressures were addressed;
- move all agreed staff to Bickerstaffe House within the agreed timescales and with minimal disruption;
- ensure the ICT roll out plan for staff was executed effectively to help deliver efficiencies and meet the requirements of the Public Services Network;
- support staff through continued budget pressure and build team and individual resilience; and
- improve customer feedback mechanisms so that we continue to improve our understanding of the residents' view of Council services.

It was noted that when the Priority Report was last presented to the Committee, Members had raised a number of questions with regards to customer service. Therefore, Ms McRoberts, Assistant Treasurer, presented the Committee with information regarding the performance of Customer First.

Ms McRoberts noted the services provided by Customer First, with a breakdown of which services were delivered one stop, which services were arranged by Customer First and

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

which services for which requests were logged.

The Committee was advised of the current situation with regards to the 2014/2015 budget of the service and the calls and other forms of contact received, as compared to the position in 2012/2013. Members noted the increase in the number of complaints in relation to people not being able to get through to the service, the decrease in percentage of calls answered and the increase in the average wait time for calls. However, Ms McRoberts reported that this was inevitable as a result of the reduction in resources of the service, with there being 17 fewer members of staff and those staff that remained having additional unpaid leave. The potential impacts of this issue with regards to staff, customers and the Council were discussed.

There then followed a discussion on how the situation could be improved. Ms McRoberts reported on a number of ways in which improvements would be made. Those included:

- a review of staffing levels in Customer First;
- an improvement in digital access, which would include an improved telephony system;
- a greater emphasis on shared responsibility and ownership from other Council Services, Elected Members and residents 'self-helping'; and
- help to access services online for those that are currently unable.

In response to questions raised by the Committee, Ms McRoberts reported that approximately 40 per cent of failure calls were regarding some aspect of waste, such as fly tipping, missed collections, or drains being blocked.

The Committee agreed to note the content of the report.

Background papers: None.

7 ANNUAL CUSTOMER FEEDBACK REPORT 2013 / 2014

Mrs R Henshaw, Corporate Development Officer, presented the Annual Customer Feedback Report 2013/2014 to the Committee.

The Committee was advised that the report provided an overview of customer feedback recorded by the Council in the period 1st July 2013 – 31st March 2014, following a refresh of the Council's complaints procedure and the introduction of the customer feedback system in July 2013.

Mrs Henshaw noted that the report included a breakdown of the comments, compliments and complaints received during the year and summarised the Council's performance in dealing with complaints and feedback. In terms of lessons learnt, Mrs Henshaw reported that changes would be made to the customer feedback system to further simplify the system for users, Council services would be encouraged to use the customer feedback system more and a report would be produced investigating the reasons for late responses to complaints.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

Background papers: None

8 APPOINTMENT OF SUB-COMMITTEE

The Committee considered the appointment of one additional Member to the Call-In Sub Committee.

The Committee agreed to appoint Councillor Mrs Jackson to the Call-In Sub Committee.

Background papers: None.

9 SCRUTINY ANNUAL REPORT 2013 / 2014

The Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/2014 was presented to the Committee.

The Committee approved the Scrutiny Annual Report 2013/2014.

Background papers: None.

10 SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE

The Committee considered a progress report on the appointed Scrutiny Panels.

The Committee agreed to note the report.

Background papers: None.

11 COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

The Committee considered its Workplan for the remainder of the Municipal Year.

A proposal for a scrutiny review into the Skip Hire Initiative and a Scrutiny Selection Checklist was circulated amongst Committee Members. The Committee agreed that the request should be considered at a future meeting, at a date when the impact of the initiative could be assessed.

The Committee agreed:

1. To note the Workplan.
2. To reconsider establishing a scrutiny review into Skip Hire and Waste Metal Collections at a future meeting of the Committee.

Background papers: None.

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

MINUTES OF SCRUTINY COMMITTEE MEETING - THURSDAY, 11 SEPTEMBER 2014

The Committee agreed to note the date of the next meeting as Thursday 16th October 2014, at 6.00pm.

Chairman

(The meeting ended 7.40 pm)

Any queries regarding these minutes, please contact:
Steve Sienkiewicz Democratic Services Team Leader
Tel: (01253) 477123
E-mail: steve.sienkiewicz@blackpool.gov.uk

Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	3
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

PUBLIC SPEAKING

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider any applications from members of the public to speak at the meeting.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To consider and respond to representations made to the Committee by members of the public.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To encourage public involvement in the scrutiny process.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 At the meeting of full Council on 29th June 2011, a formal scheme was agreed in relation to public speaking at Council meetings. Listed below is the criteria in relation to meetings of the Scrutiny Committee.

5.2 General

5.2.1 Subject as follows, members of the public may make representations at ordinary meetings of the Council, the Planning Committee, the Scrutiny Committee and the Health Scrutiny Committee.

With regard to Council, Scrutiny and Health Scrutiny Committee meetings not more than five people may speak at any one meeting and no persons may speak for longer than five minutes. These meetings can also consider petitions submitted in accordance with the Council's approved scheme, but will not receive representations, petitions or questions during the period between the calling of and the holding of any election or referendum.

5.3 Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee or Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting

5.3.1 A person wishing to make representations or otherwise wish to speak at the Scrutiny Committee or Health Scrutiny Committee must submit such a request in writing to the Head of Democratic Services, for consideration.

The deadline for applications will be 5pm on the day prior to the dispatch of the agenda for the meeting at which their representations, requests or questions will be received. (The Chairman in exceptional circumstances may allow a speaker to speak on a specific agenda item for a Scrutiny Committee or Health Scrutiny Committee, no later than noon, one working day prior to the meeting).

Those submitting representations, requests or questions will be given a response at the meeting from the Chairman of the Committee, or other person acting as Chairman for the meeting.

5.4 Reason for Refusing a Request to Participate at a Scrutiny Committee or Health Scrutiny Committee Meeting

- 5.4.1
- 1) if it is illegal, defamatory, scurrilous, frivolous or offensive;
 - 2) if it is factually inaccurate;
 - 3) if the issues to be raised would be considered 'exempt' information under the Council's Access to Information Procedure rules;
 - 4) if it refers to legal proceedings in which the Council is involved or is in contemplation;
 - 5) if it relates directly to the provision of a service to an individual where the use of

the Council's complaints procedure would be relevant; and
6) if the deputation has a financial or commercial interest in the issue.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

None.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 To ensure that the opportunity to speak at Scrutiny Committee meetings is open to all members of the public.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	4
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

EXECUTIVE AND CABINET MEMBER DECISIONS

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Executive and Cabinet Member decisions taken since the last meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to the decisions taken.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure that the opportunity is given for all Executive and Cabinet Member decisions to be scrutinised and held to account.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 Attached at Appendix 4 (a) is a summary of the decisions taken, which have been circulated to Members previously.
- 5.2 This report is presented to ensure Members are provided with a timely update on the decisions taken by the Executive and Cabinet Members. It provides a process where the Committee can raise questions and a response be provided.
- 5.3 Members are encouraged to seek updates on decisions and will have the opportunity to raise any issues.
- 5.4 It should be noted that the scrutiny of any decisions relating to finance or budget are normally undertaken by the Council's Finance and Audit Committee.
- 5.5 In respect of Ward and Area Forum budget decisions, the Scrutiny Committee has agreed that as those decisions were taken on a ward and area basis, they would not be required for consideration by the Committee.

5.6 Witnesses/representatives

- 5.6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the decisions taken in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor S. Blackburn
- Councillor G. Campbell
- Councillor F. Jackson
- Councillor I. Taylor

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 4a. Summary of decisions taken.

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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APPENDIX 4a

DECISION / OUTCOME	DESCRIPTION	NUMBER	DATE	CABINET MEMBER
<p><u>OFFICER CODE OF CONDUCT</u> To recommend the draft Officer Code to the full Council, as part of the Council's Constitution.</p>	To consider a proposed draft officer code of conduct which is fit for purpose and can be considered for recommendation to the Council, as part of the Council's Constitution.	EX/45/2014	8/9/14	Cllr S. Blackburn
<p><u>BETTER START FUND</u> To agree the budget commitments and recommend Council to include these commitments when approving or reviewing the budget.</p>	The budget implications for the Council concerning Better Start.	EX/46/2014	8/9/14	Cllr I. Taylor
<p><u>COMMUNITY TRIGGER THRESHOLDS</u> To agree the threshold for the Community Trigger as that outlined in section 5.8 of the Executive report and in line with neighbouring Lancashire authorities namely:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If you (as an individual) have complained about three or more incidents of antisocial behaviour in the last six months, or • If five individuals have complained about the same or similar incidents in the last six months, or • If you (as an individual) have complained about one incident or crime motivated by hatred (Hate Incident/Hate Crime) in the last six months 	Setting the thresholds for the forthcoming Community Trigger.	EX/47/2014	8/9/14	Cllr G. Campbell
<p><u>TANGERINE CONFECTIONERY</u> 1. To approve a grant of £125,000 towards the relocation of the chews and bon bons production line from Clifton Road to Vicarage Lane plant, to secure employment for 35 local workers for a minimum of three years.</p>	To award targeted grant assistance towards the costs of relocating part of the Tangerine Confectionery manufacturing operation at Clifton Road to its sister plant at Vicarage Lane, to secure investment and safeguard at least 35 jobs.	PH/78/2014	29/8/14	Cllr F. Jackson

<p>2. That the Council helps coordinate appropriate advice and support to workers facing redundancy at the Clifton Road plant who are not able to relocate to other sites and wish to continue to work in the future.</p>				
<p><u>BID FOR GRANT FUNDING FOR QUEENS PARK PHASE 2</u> 1. To authorise a bid to be made for grant funding under the Homes and Communities Agency's Affordable Homes Programme on the terms set out in this report.</p> <p>2. To give authority to the Head of Strategic Housing and Planning to enter into any further negotiations with the Homes and Communities Agency subsequent to the bid being made, subject to the final terms agreed with the Homes and Communities Agency's being notified to the Cabinet Member.</p>	<p>The Council decided to re-develop the whole of the existing Queens Park estate in Executive decision EX46/2011, on the 21st September 2011. Construction work has commenced on site to re-develop Phase 1, which is due to be completed by March 2015. The Homes and Communities Agency has invited bids for the Affordable Homes Programme 2015-18 and this report seeks approval to the terms of a bid for grant funding through that programme to help deliver Queens Park Phase 2.</p>	<p>PH/79/2014</p>	<p>29/8/14</p>	<p>Cllr G. Campbell</p>
<p><u>PAYMENT UNDER COMPENSATION CODE - 1A BLUNDELL STREET</u> To make a payment under rule 6 of Section 5 of the Land Compensation Act 1961 in the sum of £23,200 (twenty three thousand two hundred pounds) in respect of total extinguishment of business in respect of 1a Blundell Street.</p>	<p>The award of payment in respect of total extinguishment of business under the Compensation Code.</p>	<p>PH/80/2014</p>	<p>9/9/14</p>	<p>Cllr G. Campbell</p>
<p><u>BLACKPOOL LOCAL PLAN AND COMMUNITY INFRASTRUCTURE LEVY VIABILITY STUDY</u> To approve the Viability Study as part of the evidence base for the emerging Blackpool Local Plan, to inform the development of policy which will be used in making Development Management decisions.</p>	<p>To inform the Cabinet Member of the findings of the recently completed Blackpool Local Plan and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) Viability Study and seek endorsement of the Study's findings with respect</p>	<p>PH/84/2014</p>	<p>17/9/14</p>	<p>Cllr F. Jackson</p>

<p><u>SUPPLY OF DATA CENTRE SERVICES TO BLACKPOOL TEACHING HOSPITALS</u> To approve the supply of Data Centre Services to Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust from the Council's IT Services.</p>	To approve the supply of Data Centre Services to Blackpool Teaching Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust from the Council's IT Service.	PH/85/2014	17/9/14	Cllr F. Jackson
<p><u>PROPOSAL TO CHARGE FOR CON29 RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL INFORMATION REQUESTS</u> That a charge is introduced of £25.52 for enquiries related to residential properties and £26.53 for enquiries related to commercial properties.</p>	The introduction of a charge for answering Environmental Information Requests containing questions from the CON29 local authority search forms.	PH/86/2014	30/9/14	Cllr F. Jackson

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Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	5
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

FORWARD PLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the content of the Council's Forward Plan, issue number 9/2014.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 Members will have the opportunity to question the Leader of the Council and / or the relevant Cabinet Member in relation to any of the items contained within the Forward Plan.

2.2 Members will have the opportunity to consider whether any of the items should be subjected to pre-decision scrutiny. In so doing, account should be taken of any requests or observations made by the relevant Cabinet Member.

2.3 To note that finance and audit related matters will normally be considered by the Council's Finance and Audit Committee.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To enable the opportunity for pre-decision scrutiny of the Forward Plan items.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Forward Plan is prepared by the Leader of the Council to cover a period of four months and has effect from the first working day of any month. It is updated on a monthly basis and subsequent plans cover a period beginning with the first working day of the second month covered in the preceding plan.

5.2 The Forward Plan contains matters which the Leader has reason to believe will be subject of a key decision to be taken either by the Executive, a Committee of the Executive, individual Cabinet Members, or Officers.

5.3 Attached at Appendix 5 (a) is a list of items contained in the current Forward Plan. Further details appertaining to each item is contained in the Forward Plan, which has been forwarded to all members separately.

5.6 Witnesses/representatives

5.6.1 The following Cabinet Members are responsible for the Forward Plan items in this report and have been invited to attend the meeting:

- Councillor I. Taylor
- Councillor S. Blackburn
- Councillor J. Jones
- Councillor G. Campbell
- Councillor F. Jackson

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 5 (a) – Summary of items contained within Forward Plan 9/2014.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN - SUMMARY OF KEY DECISIONS

(OCTOBER 2014 TO JANUARY 2015)

* Denotes New Item

Page Nº	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
1	October 2014	Blackpool Children and Young People's Plan New Priorities	8/2013	Council	Cllr Taylor
2	October 2014	Fylde Coast Highways and Transport Masterplan. This is a Lancashire County Council lead, with Blackpool Council as a partner and signatory.	6/2014	Executive	Cllr Jones
3	October 2014	Formal approval of the Council's contribution to the Museum for Blackpool Project	14/2014	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
4	October 2014	The latest changes to the Draft Affordable Housing Supplementary Planning Document and agree a further round of public consultation.	15/2014	Cabinet Member	Cllr Jackson
5	October 2014	To consider the implications of introducing a mandatory Community Infrastructure Levy and agree a way forward	16/2014	Executive	Cllr Jackson
6	October 2014	The issues arising from the public consultation of the Blackpool Local Plan Part 1: Core Strategy Proposed Submission document	17/2014	Executive	Cllr Jackson
7	October 2014	Establishment of a wholly owned housing regeneration company.	18/2014	Executive	Cllr Campbell
8	December 2014	The proposed elements of the local Council Tax Reduction Scheme 2015-16 which will apply to working age claimants and the options available to the Council.	19/2014	Council	Cllr Blackburn
9	October 2014	The delivery partnership arrangements for the delivery of Universal Credit in conjunction with the Department for Work and Pensions.	20/2014	Executive	Cllr Blackburn
*10	December 2014	Queens Park Estate redevelopment, approval to proceed to Phase 2.	21/2014	Executive	Cllr Campbell

Page Nº	Anticipated Date of Decision	Matter for Decision	Decision Reference	Decision Taker	Relevant Cabinet Member
*11	December 2014	To adopt a revised claims acceptance policy to reduce the administrative burden associated with processing claims for Housing Benefit and Council Tax Reduction.	22/2014	Executive	Cllr Blackburn

Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	6
Relevant Officer:	Karen Smith, Director of Adult Services.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AT RISK, FINDINGS AND SERVICE RESPONSES

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis Report (2013/2014), together with the Alert and Referral Analysis and Practice Update for Quarter One 2014.

1.2 In respect of the Alert and Referral Analysis and Practice Update, the Committee is informed of service developments and improvements both planned and ongoing, ahead of a Local Authority Peer Review of Blackpool Council Safeguarding Adults activity scheduled to take place at the end of January 2015.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 It is recommended that the reports are examined by the Committee before being made available to the Safeguarding Adults Board and constituent member agencies.

2.2 The Committee is asked to endorse the current Policy and Practice developments taking place within the Safeguarding Adults Team with the focus of that activity being a multi-agency approach to Making Safeguarding Personal, led by the Head of Safeguarding Adults and the Designated Safeguarding Manager.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 The Committee is encouraged to review the Year End Report to gain insight into the patterns and trends found in relation to the reports of abuse of adults at risk and the findings of these following the Safeguarding Adults Response conducted by Adult Social Care.

The Year End pattern and trend analysis can be directly compared with previous year end reports prepared by the Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults which has been made available annually to the Committee.

Dissemination of these reports and findings will promote a wider understanding of this local work in the national context and will provide further evidence to Blackpool's partner agencies to assist them in safeguarding adults at risk.

- 3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? no
- 3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? yes
- 3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:
None.

4.0 Council Priority:

- 4.1 Safeguard and protect the most vulnerable

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 This Report provides information on Safeguarding Adults alerts and referrals and a summary of the outcomes and findings of those safeguarding alerts that were referred for further investigation. This Report concerns the Year End Analysis for 2013-2014 and provides commentary on alert and referral numbers and the prevalent issues reflected in those safeguarding alerts and referrals.

The distinction between a Safeguarding Alert and Safeguarding Referral has previously been explained to Committee members and is again detailed in the main body of the Year End Report for information.

Similarly the outcome options for the Social Worker/decision maker at the Threshold point of the alerting process has also been outlined to Committee members. A Threshold Decision Support Tool now supports front line Social Work practitioners to engage them more actively in discussions with their managers about safeguarding thresholds

5.2 Summary of Key Issues, Year End Safeguarding Adults Report

- 5.2.1 The Local Authority (Adult Social Care) has lead responsibility for responding to safeguarding concerns and reports that a person at risk may be in circumstances where they have been harmed or are at risk of being harmed. An adult at risk of harm is entitled to protection by the Local Authority regardless of their eligibility for community care services or funding source. A person at risk of harm, previously referred to as a vulnerable adult, is a person who stands in need of care and support and - as a result of those needs - may be unable to protect him or herself against abuse or neglect or the risk of it. Social Workers and Social Work Managers within the Adult Social Care are responsible for taking decisions following the receipt of safeguarding alerts. The Social Worker in consultation with their manager will take a decision which is proportionate to the vulnerability of the person and the risk posed to them. Importantly this decision must be taken with the participation of the person at risk wherever this is possible. This is to ensure that there is a clear understanding of what preferred outcome is sought by the person at risk. Where a person has been assessed as lacking the mental capacity to take this decision the decision may be taken in the person's best interests as defined in statute in the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Code of Practice to it.
- 5.2.2 During the twelve months from April 1st 2013 to March 31st 2014 there were 771 Safeguarding Alerts received by Adult Social Care across all team disciplines. This represents an increase of 35% when compared with the total for last year which was 502. As has previously been reported to the Committee, some of the increase can be attributed to the alerts where whole numbers of care home residents are included within one Alert/Referral and a where programme of awareness raising has taken place. The evidence is that the alert trend is upward. The number of alerts that are then referred on into the safeguarding investigation process has but at a lesser ratio.
- 5.2.3 The increase in alerts rose by 35% whilst the subsequent decision to refer those on for investigation has only gone up by 20%. Consistency in adherence to a clear Threshold Framework explains in large part how this increase in alerts has been managed by Adult Social Care.
- 5.2.4 Of the 771 Alerts received this year 402 Alerts were deemed to be Not Safeguarding or Incident Only. This figure is equivalent to 52% of Alerts compared with the 35% of such decisions last year and as indicated reflects greater consistency and confidence in applying a more robust Threshold practice. When the data was captured on 21st August 2014 there were 41 (5.3%) of cases undecided with the majority of these being yet undecided in the final quarter.
- 5.2.5 Figures show that there were 328 people referred for further investigation within the formal Safeguarding Adults Procedures. This figure is equivalent to 42.5% which is lower than last year. These 328 referrals together had within them 464 individual citations of alleged type of abuse (where one allegation may cite more than one type of abuse) as prescribed by the Department of Health. Full detail of these referrals is

contained in the Designated Safeguarding Manager's Year End Report and Analysis. That report provides details of significant findings and outcomes following referral for investigation as well as making some comparisons with the ratio of findings when comparing Alerts and Referrals.

- 5.2.6 As has been reported in previous years the characteristics of the person deemed to be at risk are significant in terms of age. At 81.5% it is those aged over 65 who appear on the safeguarding referrals. Of all safeguarding investigations undertaken in Blackpool 36.5% concern people aged 85 and over. For those aged 18-64 it is 18.5%.
- 5.2.7 The referral numbers for the year continue to demonstrate the significant gender difference for people who have been referred as at risk. At 65.5% of all those referrals women continue to be almost twice as likely as men to have a safeguarding referral made concerning them.
- 5.2.8 Of the 328 people referred for investigation 304 were white British, 16 were recorded as not known, 8 were 'other' background.
- 5.2.9 Of the 771 alerts received Neglect, Ill Treatment and Acts of Omission of adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable was the most prevalent cause for concern with 400 alerts citing this as the primary cause for concern. Of these 400 Alerts, 188 were referred for further investigation. Findings have remained constant throughout the year that, by prevalence of Alert and Referral, Neglect is the most prevalent form of abuse reported. Indeed evidence in the Year End Report cites this as most prevalent in Care Homes and Nursing Homes. After Financial abuse concerns, Neglect is cited as affecting more people in their own homes. Full details of type of abuse cross matched with location can be found in the Year End Report appended to this document.
- 5.2.10 In decisions taken to refer on for investigation and second to Neglect/Mistreatment, Institutional Abuse is the most prevalent type investigated with 78 citations with all but ten of these relating to Care Homes and Nursing Homes. Following this is Financial Abuse with 63 citations, the majority of which relate to a person's own home. In equal measures Physical and Psychological abuse then follow as most prevalent in care homes.
- 5.2.11 Investigations concerning local hospitals number Institutional Abuse (1), Physical Abuse (5) and Neglect (2).
- 5.2.12 At the end of the year and consistent with previous years the distribution pattern found in the alerts can be found to be proportionately similar when we look at the decision to refer into investigation and mirror the outcomes thereafter.
- 5.2.13 With reference to the evidence Neglect and Mistreatment is often coextensive with

other reports of abuse such as Physical, Psychological and Particularly Institutional Abuse. Institutional Abuse is not solely confined to Care Homes and there have been some instances investigated this year where it has happened outside of care homes.

5.2.14 Neglect and Mistreatment in Care Homes and Care Homes with Nursing was the most prevalent form of abuse investigated this year and has increased from last year when it too was the most prevalent form of abuse reported and referred for investigation.

5.2.15 In terms of location it has already been noted that Residential and Nursing homes are the most prevalent location for referred investigations, some 304 separate citations concern Homes. Following this it is the person's own home where the cause for concern rests. Some 116 separate citations were referred for investigation where the cause for concern was for a person at home. There were 15 referrals for supported accommodation and 8 referrals for hospital.

5.2.16 Examination of the relationship of the person posing the risk to the person reflects the pattern of referrals. Of the 333 people cited as posing a risk in the 328 referrals 183 (55%) were staff in Residential care. This is equivalent to last year's findings. Domiciliary Care Agency staff accounted for 44 (13%) of people referred to as causing the harm and family members a further 31 (9.5%). Health care staff amounted to 13 referrals (4%). Once again this year the evidence is that the person posing the risk reported in referrals is overwhelmingly in a position of trust to the vulnerable person. Breach of trust remains central to the operation of adult abuse and neglect.

5.2.17 Of the 328 cases referred for investigation the outcomes findings are shown below.

- 30 Inconclusive
- 89 Not Substantiated
- 67 Partly Substantiated
- 79 Substantiated.

Of the 328 referrals into investigations 265 reached a determination using one of the four outcome classifications as prescribed by the Health and Social Care Information Centre. This represents a figure of 81% of cases that follow through the whole safeguarding process to the point known as the Reporting Meeting stage. Compared with last year this is an increase in terms of completed cases of 25%. Last year at this point only 56% of investigations commenced had completed. This is a significant improvement in performance in case progression and recording.

5.2.18 Further detail on the outcomes is contained in the annual report. Specifically a section of that report is focused on the outcomes of Substantiated and Partly Substantiated allegations concerning Care Homes and Care Homes with Nursing as this is the most prevalent location for alerts and referrals for safeguarding adults.

Details of the outcomes in all cases are provided in that section of the report.

5.2.19 Actions have been taken by the Council and its partners to support providers of care to address the issues in care homes and care homes with nursing. These include the delivery of a range of free training opportunities, focused input from a community pharmacist and dementia training officer commissioned by Adult Social Care, a contract monitoring and a quality of care assessment processes based on a consistent framework and more robust relationships with the Care Quality Commission as the regulatory body to close the accountability loop.

5.3 Summary of Key Issues Quarter 1 Adult Safeguarding

5.3.1 The full suite of data for Quarter 1 Adult Safeguarding is not presently available to report on in the detail given in the Year End Report. Information currently available about Alert and Referral numbers together with type, age and gender.

5.3.2 Since April 1st 2014 209 safeguarding alerts have been recorded by Adult Social Care. The pattern of distribution by type continues to mirror findings from last year. Neglect is the highest by prevalence with 82 referrals followed by Physical abuse and Financial abuse both with 37 alerts. Psychological abuse has been raised in 30 cases and Institutional abuse in a further 11. Of these alerts 151 have been raised concerning care providers. Of these 151, 78 have been deemed Not Safeguarding or Incident only and the remaining 73 have been referred to the Safeguarding Procedures for further investigation.

5.3.3 Of the 151 alerts raised in that quarter concerning providers 103 of them concerned people aged over 65. Of the 73 referred for investigation 48 people were aged 65 and over and a further 24 were aged 19 to 64.

5.3.4 From the information available the evidence suggests that the known patterns and trends for Safeguarding alerts and referrals continue to reflect those found during the past two years but that amendments made to the electronic recording process are expediting the work flow resulting in speedier outcome decisions.

5.4 Safeguarding Adults Service Developments

5.4.1 The Listening Review Project tender process has now been completed. In partnership with the Council, this work will be carried out by the Blackpool Advocacy Service – ‘Empowerment’.

5.4.2 The Listening Reviews commenced the week commencing 6th October 2014. Reviews will be carried out with the person’s consent and will be undertaken by an independent advocate assigned by Empowerment. Up to eight reviews per month will be undertaken and the Designated Safeguarding Manager and Head of Adult

Safeguarding will evaluate the reports on a monthly basis. Summary reports will be produced on a quarterly basis and that report will form part of future reports to Overview and Scrutiny Committee.

The purpose of the Listening Reviews is to gather the views of those who have been supported through the Council's Safeguarding Framework and to use those views to inform and change existing Adult Social Care practice and policy. This project is in keeping with the current LGA and Association of Directors of Adult Social Services, 'Making Safeguarding Personal Agenda'.

- 5.4.3 Adult Social Care is committed to the Making Safeguarding Personal Agenda and work in relation to this is being lead with the Safeguarding Adults Board partner agencies by Lynn Gornall the Principal Social Worker and Head of Adult Safeguarding. Making Safeguarding Personal is a shift in culture and practice in response to what we now know about what makes safeguarding more or less effective from the perspective of the person being safeguarded. It is about shaping practice that places the person at the centre of the safeguarding process in a way that enhances involvement, choice and control as well as improving quality of life, wellbeing and safety. It is about seeing people as experts in their own lives and working alongside them, (Making Safeguarding Personal, LGA/ADASS Guide 2014).
- 5.4.4 This approach will be supported by the changes made to the Council's Adult Social Care recording system, Framework I. Social Work practitioners are now empowered to take more safeguarding threshold decisions and carry out less data processing than before. The Threshold Decision Support Tool places the person at risk of harm at the centre of the process. Feedback from has been positive from those who Lead the Safeguarding process in practice.
- 5.4.5 The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards. Following the landmark judgement in the Supreme Court in March this year known as the Cheshire West and Chester judgement the Councils Supervisory Body within Adult Social Care have resulted in an exponential rise (700%) in applications for Deprivation of Liberty Authorisations for those residing in Care Homes and Hospitals. To date 170 applications concerning Blackpool citizens have been received with the exception of five these all have concerned people residing in Blackpool Care Homes or Hospitals. Of these applications 114 have thus far resulted in Deprivation of Liberty being authorised by the Councils Supervisory Body. In addition, one person who resides in supported living in Blackpool has been authorised to be Deprived of their Liberty by the Court of Protection.
- 5.4.6 A rota system for Best Interests Assessors has been introduced by the Safeguarding Adults Team in order to manage the increasing demand whilst complying with the rigorous Statutory timescales for assessments. Periodic or multiple increases in demand are further supported by the commissioning of Independent Best Interests Assessors.

5.5 Witnesses/representatives

- 5.5.1
- Karen Smith Director of Adult Services.
 - Lynn Gornall Principal Social Worker and Head of Safeguarding Adults.
 - Peter Charlesworth Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

5.6 List of Appendices:

- 5.6.1 Appendix 6a, Year End Report and Analysis of the Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults 2013-2014.

6.0 Legal considerations:

- 6.1 Statutory Guidelines will be published on 17th October concerning the implementation of the Care Act 2014. These guidelines will set out the continuing arrangements for the Safeguarding of Adults at Risk including the Statutory Duty for the Local Authority to make or cause Safeguarding Enquiries; to undertake Safeguarding Adult Reviews, establish a duty on partner agencies to co-operate and supply information for Safeguarding Purposes; Create and host a Statutory Safeguarding Adults Board.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

- 7.1 None

8.0 Equalities considerations:

- 8.1 None

9.0 Financial considerations:

- 9.1 N/A

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 N/A

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 N/A

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 N/A

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None

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Matter for consideration

Year End Referral Analysis prepared by the Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults on behalf of the Director of Adult Services and the Head of Safeguarding (Adults)

Summary of key issues

This report covers the period 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014. It provides information on the incidence and prevalence of Safeguarding Adults referrals and an analysis of the outcomes and findings of safeguarding investigations that were co-ordinated by Blackpool Council as the lead agency for responding to adult protection concerns. The data provided in this report has been extracted from the Local Authority Adult Social Care database known as Framework I and has been classified and supplied to the Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults by the Local Authority Management Information Team. The data in this report has also been validated and returned to the Department of Health as part of the Annual Safeguarding Adults Return from Blackpool Council.

For the purposes of this report the information was captured on 20th August 2014.

The distinction between a Safeguarding Alert and a Safeguarding Referral has now been clearly defined by the Department of Health NHS Information Centre and this distinction is the one employed in this document.

- Safeguarding Alert > a concern about an adult or adults at risk raised with the Local Authority Social Services Department. The alert is usually associated with concerns that a person is being abused, mistreated or neglected. Where a Safeguarding Alert is created on the Framework I database a Social Worker will then take a Threshold decision.
- Safeguarding Referral > a referral is defined as a report of risk of potential or actual abuse, harm or neglect which leads to an investigation under the Safeguarding Procedures.

This distinction between Alert and Referral is the one employed in this analysis. The Social Worker's 'Threshold' decision, in terms of how Referrals are differentiated from Alerts, is explained further below. Differentiation is made using three classifications.

- Not Safeguarding
- Safeguarding Incident
- Safeguarding Procedures

Totals and comparisons with previous years

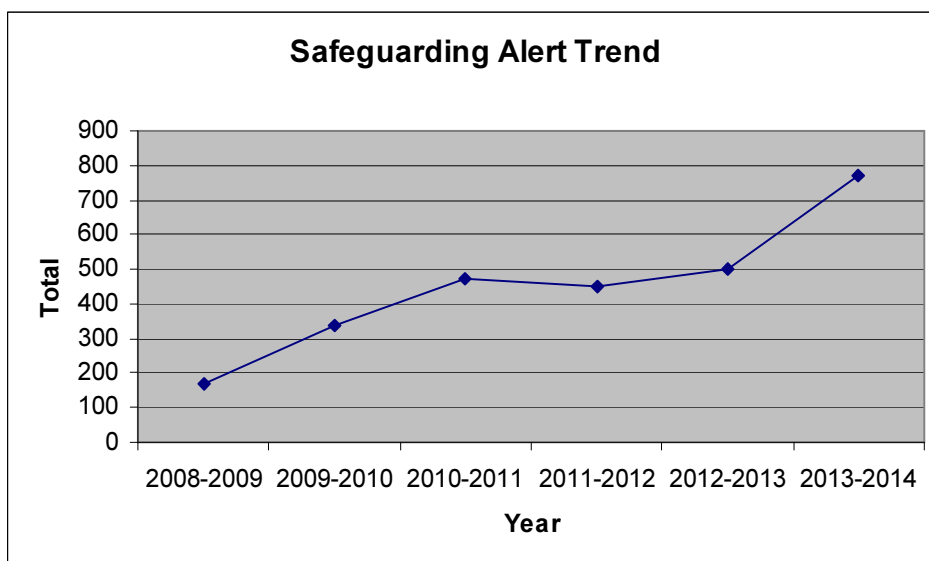
A total of 771 Adult Protection alerts were raised during the year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014. This compares with the 503 alerts raised during the preceding year and represents an increase of 35% from the last year. This significant increase can be understood to be caused in large part by the recording of multiple numbers of individuals in an alert concerning a residential care or nursing home where more than one person have been affected by the same episode of Neglect or Mistreatment. In particular earlier in the year 2013/14 Quarter Two figures showed a significant spike in this respect and that many of those alerts (111) were raised by the regulator the Care Quality Commission. Guidance received from the NHS Health and Social Care Information Centre requires that where there are multiple individuals affected, for example where a referral is in relation to risk of potential harm or neglect in a residential home situation, **each affected individual** should be counted.

This increase in alerts is also indicative of the finding, to be reported further below, that alerts and referrals concerning Mistreatment and/or Neglect in a care or nursing home setting are the most prevalent cause for concern across the whole year reported by type and location.

In general terms Adult Social Care continues to respond to persistently increasing levels of concern being raised with the department. This is a trend upward in overall reporting behaviour in all sectors of the community.

Actions have however been taken by the Council and its partners to support providers of care to address the issues in care homes and care homes with nursing. These include the delivery of a range of free training opportunities, focused input from a community pharmacist and dementia training officer commissioned by Adult Social Care, a contract monitoring and a quality of care assessment processes based on a consistent framework and more robust relationships with the Care Quality Commission as the regulatory body to close the accountability loop.

The chart below illustrates movement in the trend in alert by numbers over the last six years



**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

Alerts and Referrals by age of Client Group

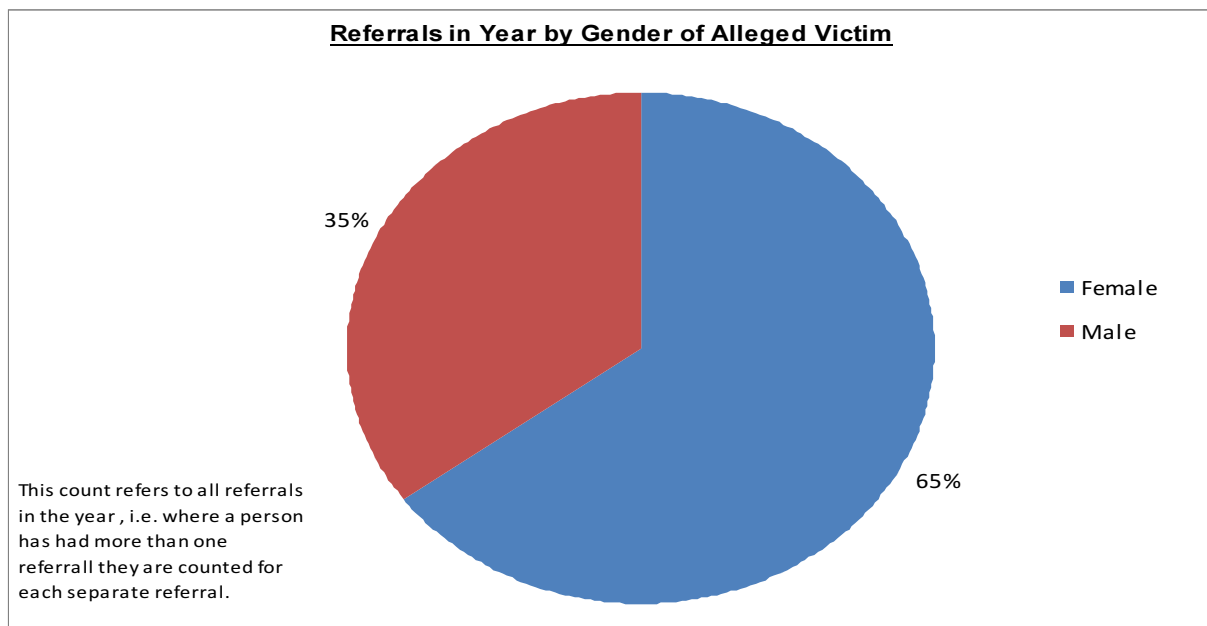
As has been reported in previous years the characteristics of the person deemed to be at risk are significant in terms of age. At 81.5% it is those aged over 65 who appear in the safeguarding referrals. For those aged 18-64 it is 18.5% in comparison. The table below shows both alerts and referrals by age.

Age Group	Alert Only	Ongoing	Referral	Grand Total
18-64	118	18	61	197
65-74	64	5	54	123
75-84	86	10	90	186
85 and over	127	7	120	254
Unknown	8	0	3	11

Alerts and Referrals by Gender

The referral numbers for the year 2013 to 2014 continue to demonstrate the significant gender difference for people who have been reported as at risk of potential harm, abuse and neglect. At 65.5% of all referrals, women continue to be more likely than men to have a safeguarding referral raised. This is consistent when compared to last year and is equivalent to what has been found in preceding years.

The table below illustrates this finding.

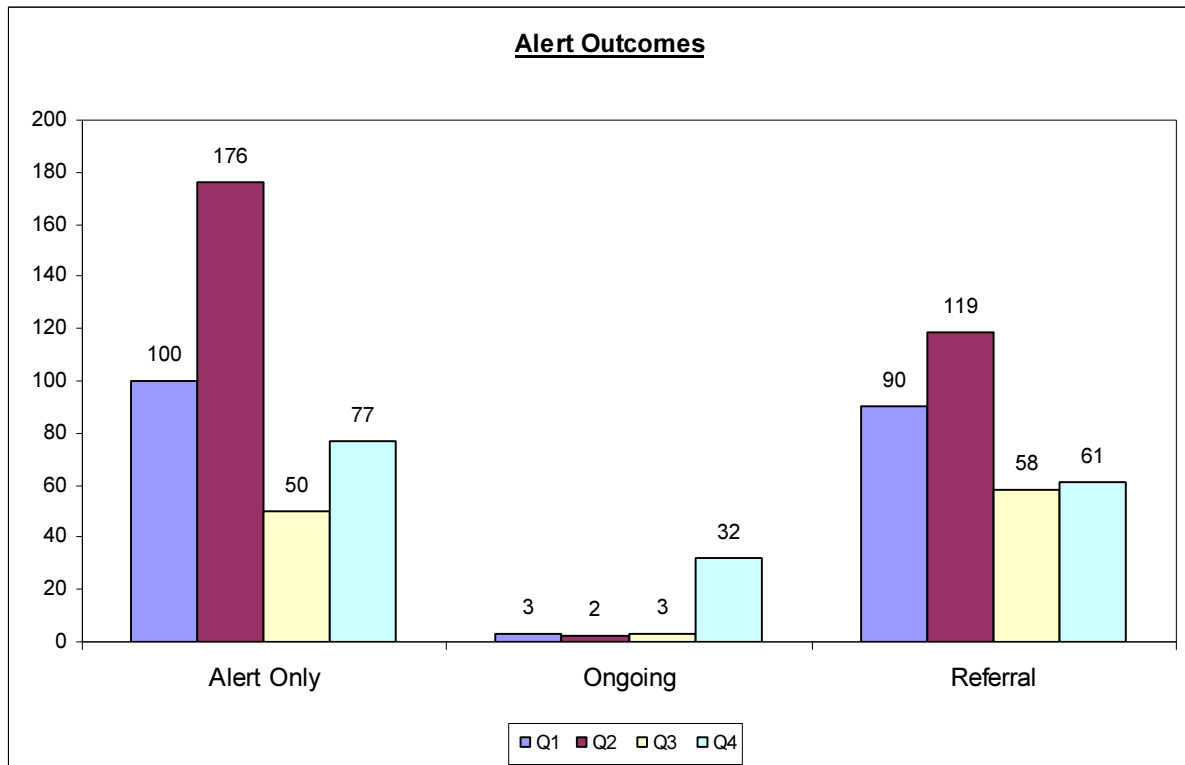


Alerts and Referrals by Ethnicity

Of the 771 Safeguarding Alerts, 360 were white British, 26 were ethnicity not obtained, 10 were deemed any other white background, 3 where Irish, 2 were Asian, 1 was another ethnic group and 1 person refused to say. For the year 99.2% of all alerts raised were deemed to be white/White British by Ethnic group. Of the 328 cases that were referred for investigation 304 were white British, 16 were not obtained, 8 were recorded as 'other' background.

Alert Outcome following Threshold Decision taken by the Social Worker

As described above the Safeguarding Threshold decision following the initial assessment of a safeguarding alert is taken using one of three outcomes. The Differentiation of alerts this year can be broken down simply as follows.



**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

- Incident Only 355
- Not Safeguarding 88
- Safeguarding Investigation (procedures) - 328
- Ongoing - 40 (cases started before 31st March 2014 but undecided at 21st August)

In summary 42.5% of all safeguarding alerts proceeded to a referral stage requiring further investigation, with the remainder fairly evenly split between cases that were deemed not safeguarding or were otherwise classified as a safeguarding incident only. Compared with last year this is down 10% and consistent with previous years, we have seen proportionately fewer cases go on to investigation. The number of cases investigated further this year is down 10% on last year which was also down 10% on the previous year. Although alerts rise, as a proportion we are seeing fewer cases proceed to investigation. This has been anticipated as there is now greater consistency in applying a more clearly understood threshold framework to assist Social Workers and their managers to use reasoned discernment when deciding whom and what amounts to abuse requiring investigation. The Safeguarding Adults Team has issued Managers and Lead practitioners in Adult Social Care with a Threshold Decision Support Tool for this purpose.

It is recognised that a significant proportion of contacts with Adult Social Care, are initially raised as safeguarding concerns but are subsequently deemed to be not Safeguarding in terms of either the person not being an adult at risk or where there is no third party perpetrator-based abuse or neglect in the circumstances. An example of such a case that would be 'not safeguarding' is where a person is neglecting their own health or hygiene or where there is a report of deterioration in the fabric in a care setting for example carpet or wallpaper in a care home. This type of issues would be dealt with via mechanisms other than the safeguarding approach such as through a care needs assessment or a contract monitoring approach

An example of an alert that is below the threshold for referral and investigation, recorded as a safeguarding incident, would be an instance of error in the administration of medication where the circumstances are known in full and have been remedied and where the impact was nil or minimal on the person at risk. This would be a one off incident and may be attributable to insufficient training or supervision within the care setting. Each instance needs to be carefully judged by the Social Worker receiving the alert. Some instances of the maladministration of medication can involve higher levels of concern and an example of this would be where PRN (as required) medication is being given routinely to people in order to disproportionately restrain them or guarantee a restful night for night carers in a care home. An instance such as this would require a referral to investigation.

Referrals by Abuse Type

The information contained in this section relates only to the 328 cases that proceeded to referral for investigation as this is the only validated data available which has been returned to the NHS Information Centre. Overall there has been a 20% increase in referrals for this year, however this compares with an increase in alerts of 35%. The information below is a breakdown of the 328 cases that were referred for a safeguarding investigation. The total number of classifications of abuse by type exceeds the figure of 328 cases as there are many instances in single cases where more than one type of abuse has been reported.

Wilful Neglect/ill-treatment of adults whose circumstances make them vulnerable remains the single most prevalent cause for concern where a referral has been made. In 43% of referrals, concerns over neglect or mistreatment of an at risk person were reported. Taken on its own this is slightly lower than the findings from the last year which recorded 55%. This figure represents 188 instances which is an increase on last year. Neglect, mistreatment and acts of omission are often co-extensive with other forms of abuse such as physical, psychological and institutional abuse where the policies and processes operated by the organisation allow for an approach that might constitute abuse to occur.

Physical abuse is recorded on the referral to investigate in a further 59 cases and a further 78 cases concern Institutional Abuse. This continued increase in Institutional Abuse investigations reflects an increase of 23% of such cases for the proceeding year. This finding is consistent with the broader finding this year that Wilful Neglect and Ill-Treatment is the most prevalent concern in referrals and that this in turn is linked by location to Care and Nursing Homes. This situation was also reported for last year.

Emotional and Psychological Abuse is reported in 61 cases and these are almost always co-extensive with other forms of abuse.

As in previous years, there were many referrals reporting that one or more forms of abuse were occurring concurrently. The example here would be a situation where, in a care home, a person is exposed to Wilful Neglect, Physical Abuse and Psychological Abuse. In essence this may collectively amount to Institutional Abuse and hence we see the higher referral rate for this type.

Financial Abuse is cited in 63 cases as the primary concern for the person at risk where a case is referred to investigation. This represents a figure of 20% of all cases referred for investigation compared with that of 43% of cases involving Wilful Neglect and Ill-treatment. Although, this figure of 20% relates to referrals for investigation, it does record a slight decrease in the recording if not the incidence of this type of abuse. In previous years the figure has been as high as 36%.

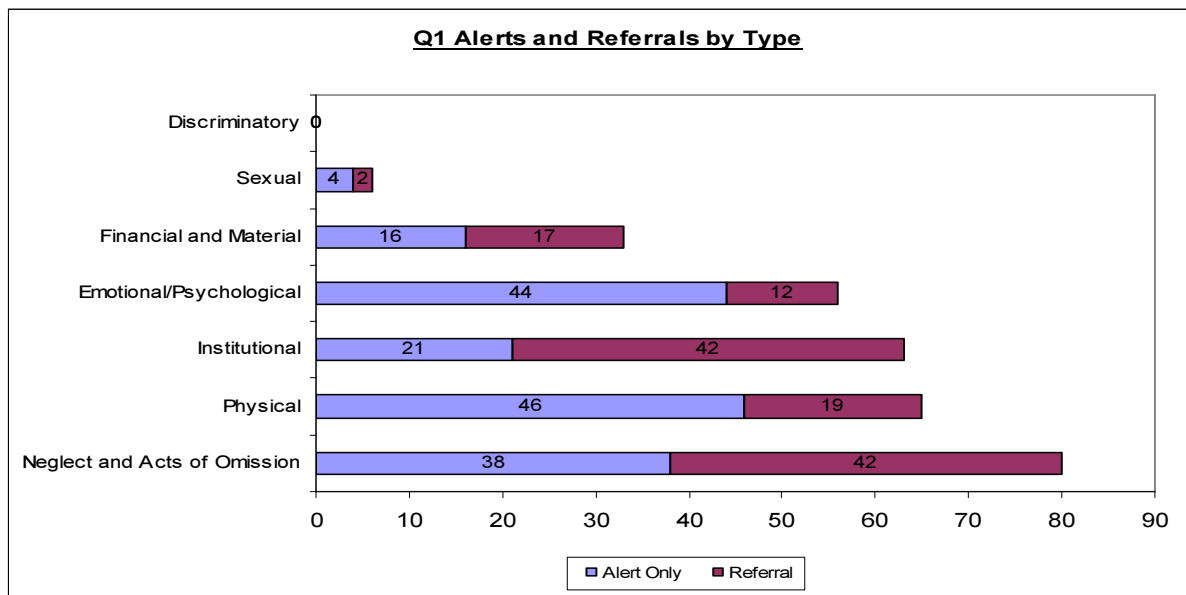
There were 10 referrals for investigation concerning the Sexual Abuse of a person at risk and 2 referrals for investigation concerning discriminatory abuse. Both of these figures are reduced when compared to last year.

As stated above in these cases more than one form of abuse is reported to be experienced by the person at risk at the same time. An example of this would be where the person is being sexually abused, they are almost certainly undergoing physical and psychological abuse and emotional harm.

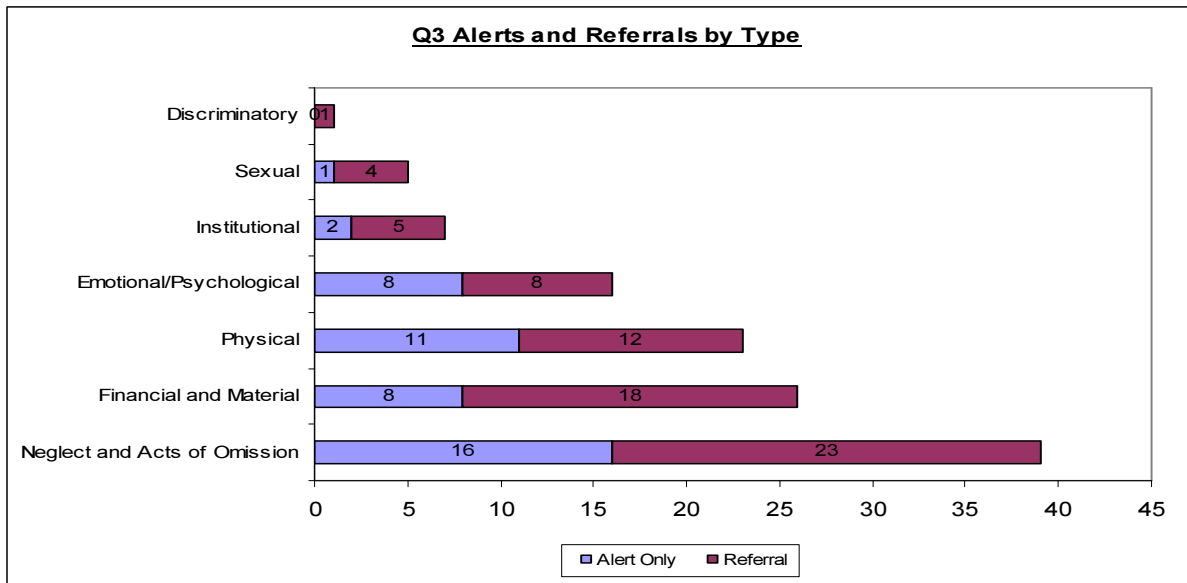
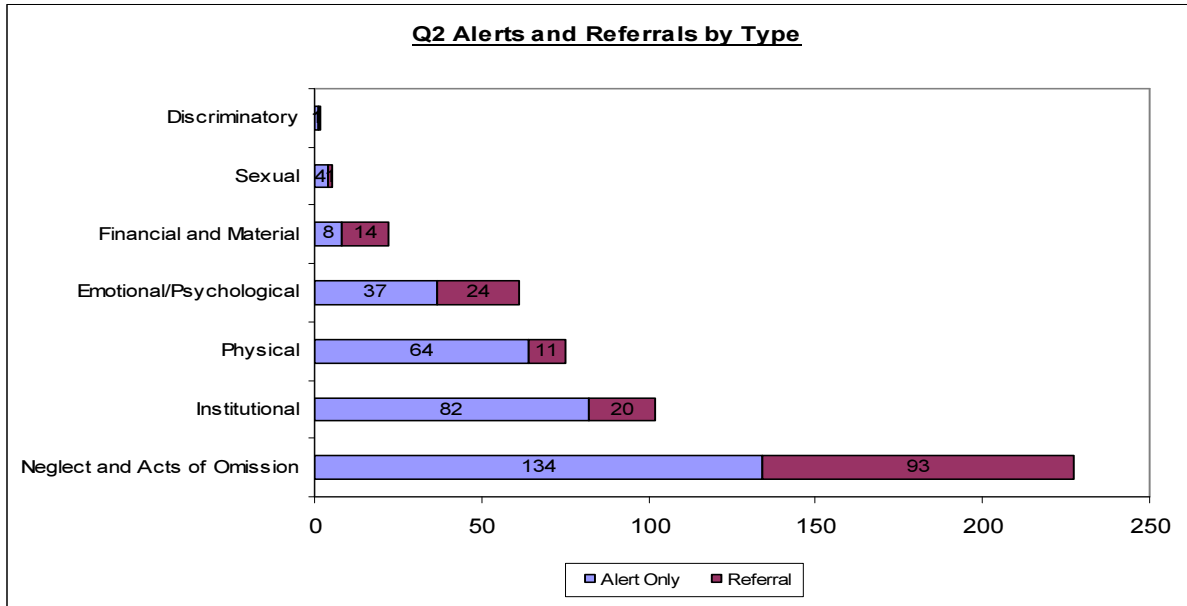
**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

In total, there were 464 citations/allegations of abuse and or wilful neglect/ill-treatment concerning at least 328 referred individuals. Interestingly the total number of citations has increased by only 2% whereas the number of those affected is up 20%. The details of these referrals for investigation showing abuse type cross matched with location are contained in [Appendix A](#) to this report. Analysis of this year’s findings again shows clearly that it is people aged over 65, who feature most in terms of investigations and it is women who are almost twice as likely to feature than men in cases of referrals for investigation.

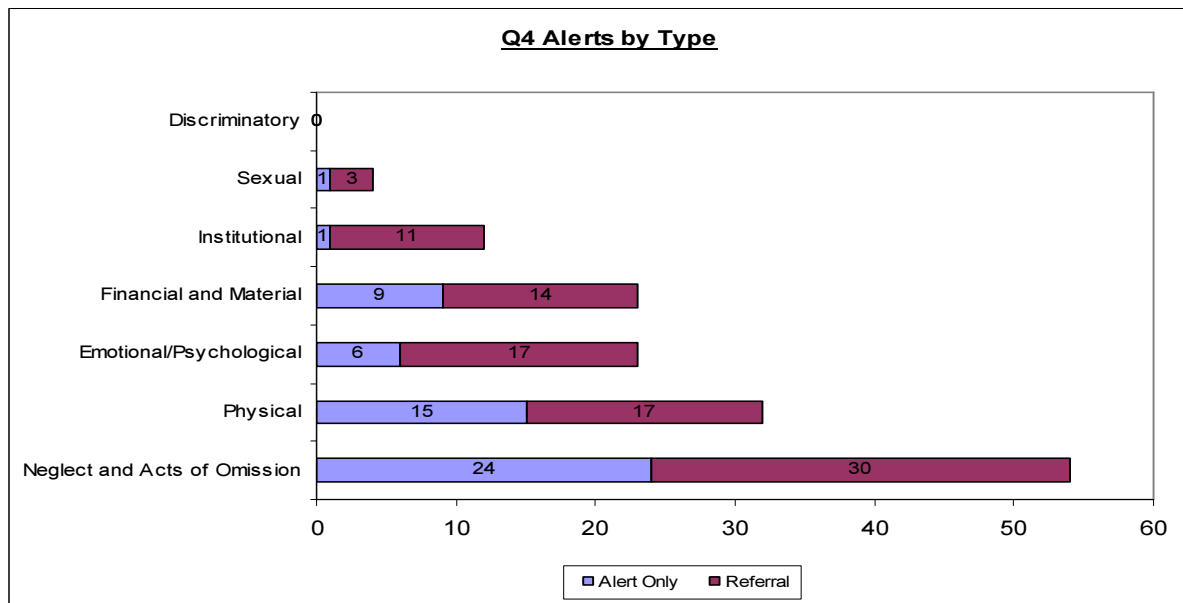
The graphs below illustrates the distribution of Referrals by type (nature) of abuse divided across the four quarters of the reporting year, also shown for comparative purposes are the alerts by category of reported abuse



**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**



**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**



Referrals by Location

This year's analysis of referrals shows that of all referrals for investigation amounting to the 464 citations 65.5 % were in relation to care homes or care homes with nursing. This figure equates to 214 people where a referral for investigation was pursued. This is a slight increase proportionately when compared to last year. In terms of the numbers of people affected it is an increase of 22%.

The second most prevalent location identified in the year end analysis shows that it is the person's own home where the abuse or potential abuse is reported. There were 84 referrals for investigation concerning people in their own home and this amounts to 25% of all referrals for investigation for the year 2013 to 2014. Similarly of all the citations investigated 25% concerned a person in their own home.

With care home and own home referrals amounting to 90.5% of all referrals, the distribution for other locations remains consistent with previous years with only a small number of cases in comparison being distributed across other service locations such as hospital inpatient settings or day centres.

Referrals by location cross matched with abuse type

This year's findings show that of the 464 citations referred for investigation 304 concerned a care or nursing home 152 of those (50%) concerned Wilful Neglect or Ill-Treatment, 33 cases (11%) concerned physical abuse and 68 (22%) concerned Institutional Abuse. Other types of abuse account for the remainder. We have already noted the increase in Institutional abuse referrals above.

It is these three types of abuse in this location that are the most prevalent forms of adult abuse requiring investigation of all cases reported to Adult Social Care. For the third consecutive year the evidence shows that by location Care Homes and Care Homes with Nursing are proportionately the most prevalent location for both safeguarding alerts and safeguarding referrals.

The third most prevalent type of abuse by location is a persons own home and specifically it is financial abuse in a persons own home that is most significant with a figure of 39 citations or 13% of the total by type and location cross matched. After this it is neglect or mistreatment in a persons own home with a figure of 27 citations amounting to 23% of such cases. In total there were 116 cases investigated concerning adult abuse in a person own home this is an increase of 35%.

[Appendix A](#) shows abuse type alleged cross matched with location referred for investigation.

Referrals and the relationship to the person posing the risk

An examination of the relationship to the person posing a risk continues to show that overwhelmingly the person is known to the adult at risk with either the relationship being familial or one of trust or confidence in the person, such as a paid carer. Residential and Nursing Home staff members continue to make up the largest percentage of alleged abusers by relationship.

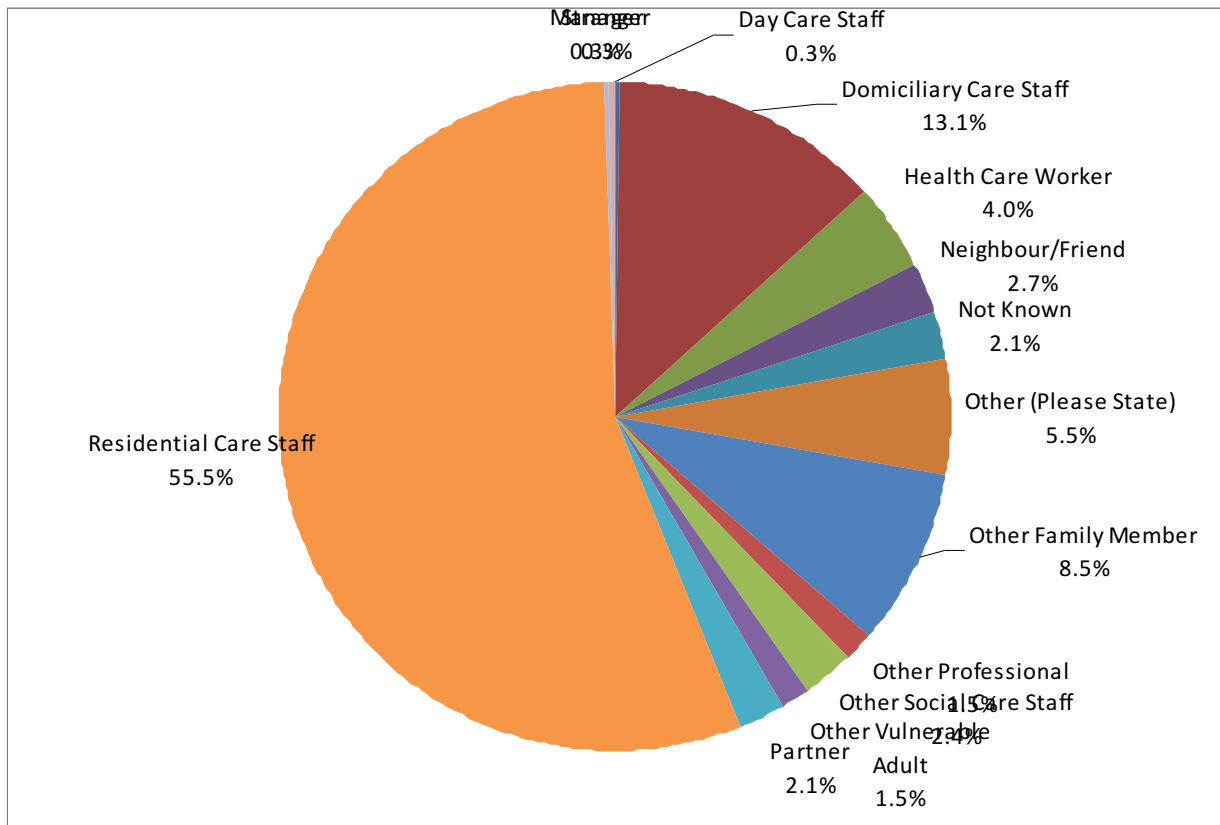
Examination of the relationship of the person posing the risk to the person reflects the pattern of referrals. Of the 333 people cited as posing a risk in the 328 referrals 183 (55%) were staff in Residential care. This is equivalent to last year's findings. Domiciliary Care Agency staff accounted for 44 (13%) of people referred as posing a risk, this is an increase when compared to last years 2.8%. Family members account for a further 31 (9.5%). Health care staff amounted to 13 (4%). referrals. Once again this year the evidence is that the person posing the risk reported in referrals is overwhelmingly in a position of trust to the vulnerable person. Breach of trust remains central to the operation of adult abuse and neglect.

When taken together a minimum of 70% of all safeguarding referrals for investigation concern a paid carer. This figure includes the 4% of referrals that concern a Health Care worker. Of this figure of 70%, 55% concern residential care staff. This is equivalent to last year's findings.

Consistent with other findings already illustrated, this finding, that over half of safeguarding investigations in Blackpool concern residential care staff, reflects the dominant picture that it is abuse in care and nursing homes in Blackpool that is of greatest safeguarding concern to the

Local Authority Adult Social Care Division. As noted previously in page 2 of this report the Local authority is taking measures to address this issue

The illustration below shows the distribution of the relationship of the alleged perpetrator to the person at risk in safeguarding referrals



Referral Source

Throughout 2013/14 the regulator (Care Quality Commission) were the most significant alerter in cases that were referred for investigation. Eighty two, (25%), of all referrals concerned them with the majority being in Quarter two. Second most prevalent alerter resulting in referrals were Social Worker and Social Care Staff with 54 (16.5%).Forty three (13%) were referred originally by residential care staff. Health care staff including mental health services were the alerter in 35 (10.5%) of cases. Of the remainder a further 26 (8%) were referred by family members. The person at risk self referred in 7 cases amounting to 2% of referrals. This year referrals from family have again dropped and the numbers of self referrals has stayed static, leaving this consistently low over a number of years. The remaining twenty five percent of referrals were originated from other services including housing, mental health services, primary healthcare and hospital staff, friends’ neighbours and other service users.

The Police accounted for a further nine cases that were referred for investigation (2.7%). This is comparable with last year’s findings for those cases that proceeded to investigation.

Referral Outcomes

Of the 771 Safeguarding Adults Alerts received by Blackpool Council during the period, April 1 2013 to 31 March 2014, 328 cases were referred for an adult protection investigation. How other cases were decided is shown above in the section Alert Outcome/Threshold Decision. Of the 328 referrals that produced 464 citations the outcomes were as follows.

- 30 Inconclusive
- 89 Not Substantiated
- 67 Partly Substantiated
- 79 Substantiated

Of the 328 referrals (investigations) 265 reached a determination using one of the four outcome classifications as prescribed by the Health and Social Care Information Centre classifications. This represents a figure of 81% of cases that follow through the whole safeguarding process to the point known as the Reporting Meeting stage. Compared with last year this is an increase in terms of completed cases of 25%. Last year at this point only 56% of investigations commenced had completed. This is a significant improvement in performance in case progression and recording.

It is at the Reporting Meeting stage that the outcomes and findings of the original allegations are determined. The determination of the allegations is made using a structured judgement process based on the civil rest of evidence Known as the balance of probabilities or “probability test”. The remaining cases 63 (19%) account for those cases that discontinued following the original decision to refer for investigation. In the main these cases discontinued at the first meeting or strategy meeting stage when the exchange and discussion of further information often means no further lines of enquiry are required. It is often at this point that a referral will exit the safeguarding process and be taken on within the Social Work and Care Management processes of adult social care. In addition some cases, due to their complexity and the additional time required, will span last year’s reporting meeting into this current. Such cases should account for no more than 5% of the total.

Where risks have been recorded as remaining this refers to risk that has been considered and accepted by the person themselves and where they have the mental capacity to make those decisions. It is recognised that with respect to independence and choice inevitably comes the dynamic of risk. Safeguarding interventions are designed not to remove all risk but to empower an individual to make decisions that put them in control. Sometimes people choose to accept risks in their lives. For example where most people do want to be safer, other things may be as, or more, important: maintaining relationships is an obvious one. In some cases people choose to stay in relationships that may on the surface of it be unwise to practitioners in Adult Social Care. The essence of personal autonomy is to be able to live, without interference from the state, with risky life choices so long as they are lawful and do not put others at risk.

**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

Residential Care Homes and Care Homes with Nursing - Outcomes of Safeguarding Alerts and Referrals

The overall number of Alerts and Referrals cross marched by type for people resident in Care Homes with Nursing (CHWN) are shown below in the table below.

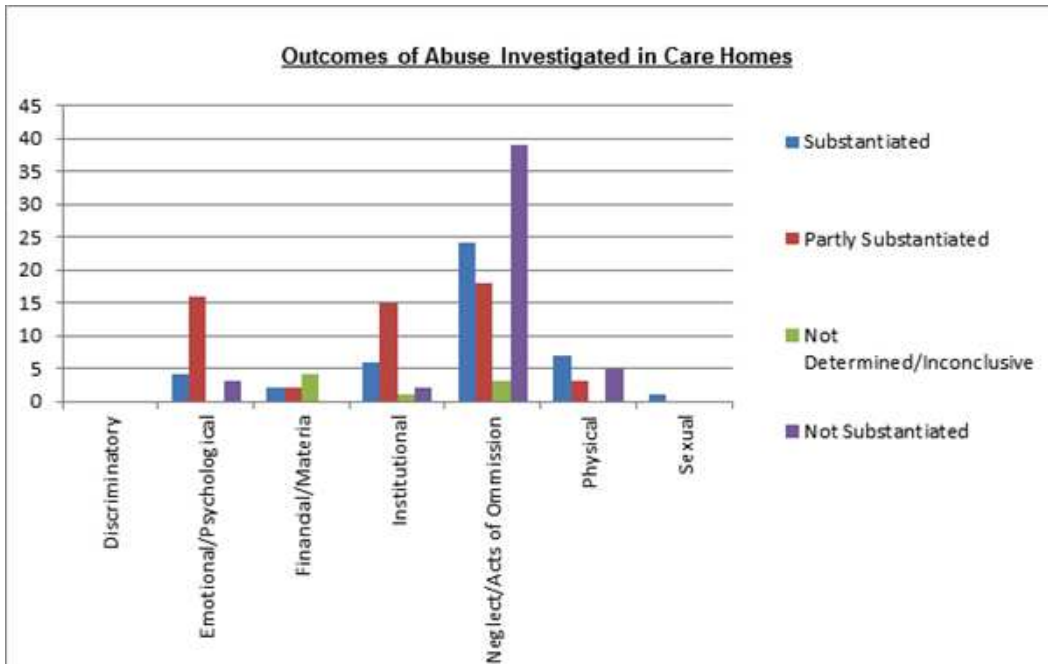
Care Homes and CHWN	Care Home	
	Alert Only Decision	Referral
Discriminatory	0	0
Emotional/Psychological	66	34
Financial and Material	8	15
Institutional	105	68
Neglect and Acts of Omission	185	146
Physical	92	33
Sexual	3	2
Wilful Neglect/III Treatment	0	6
Total	459	304

The table above represents citations of abuse by type for alerts and referrals. This section of the report concerns referrals only however it is worth pointing out the comparatively high conversion rate (66%) of alerts to referrals at the threshold decision split for care homes and care homes with nursing. The mean conversion rate for all cases is 42.5%. Also the 304 citations will be a greater number than the number of people these referrals concern. The reason for this is that any one person may have more than one type of abuse cited in their case e.g. P may have Neglect and Acts of Omission, Physical and Institutional Abuse cited in their case, yet this generates only one referral

Note: that for our purposes Neglect and Acts of Omission and Wilful Neglect/III-treatment may be considered as interchangeable terms of reference.

**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

Care Home and Care Home with Nursing (CHWN). Outcome Findings of location cross matched with type of abuse is shown diagrammatically below.



**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

The table below shows the numbers of cases where facts have been found following completion of the Safeguarding process. This data cross matches type of abuse and outcome within the residential and nursing home setting.

Data table:

	Substantiated	Partly Substantiated	Not Determined/ Inconclusive	Not Substantiated
Discriminatory	0	0	0	0
Emotional/ Psychological	4	16	0	3
Financial/ Material	2	2	4	0
Institutional	6	15	1	2
Neglect/Acts of Omission	24	18	3	39
Physical	7	3	0	5
Sexual	1	0	0	0

Provisional analysis indicates 44 Substantiated citations or cases of abuse of all types plus a further 54 partly substantiated cases of abuse, (usually one or more of the “multiple” citations). In total 98 positive citations of abuse in care homes for the year. It should be noted that this figure does not yet include all completed cases for the year where some received in Quarter 4 may still be incomplete due to the complex nature of the issues.

Referring to the overall referrals for care homes of 304 as shown above, 152 referrals cited Neglect/Act of Omission/Mistreatment and of these 42 were either wholly or partly substantiated accounting for 43% of all findings in the positive. This represents a conversion rate following referral for investigation at the Threshold stage of 31.5% for allegations of Neglect/ ill-treatment in a care home or care home with nursing.

There were six substantiated (concerning six care homes) findings of Institutional Abuse and a further 15 partly Substantiated findings.

Closing Summary

Whilst this quantitative information provides a clear insight into the most prevalent forms of abuse of adults at risk in Blackpool it does not reveal the experience of those who have been subjected to harm. That qualitative information may only be gained from those who have been subject to abuse in residential care in Blackpool. To this end the Safeguarding Adults Team in conjunction with Blackpool Advocacy Service, Empowerment, will be undertaking Listening Reviews for this group of people and others who have been supported through the Safeguarding Process. This process commenced during the week commencing 6th October 2014 for a 12 month period. Findings from this work will give an important qualitative perspective, provide opportunities to learn lessons, improve the ways in which practitioners work and the outcomes will be fed back to the Committee.

As outlined above there is now a culture shift taking place within the safeguarding arena in Adult Social Care. This is both a local and national shift. Taking a 'Making Safeguarding Personal' approach changes the emphasis from an organisation's centrally driven process to the experiences and wishes of the person at risk as paramount. Outputs have tended to centre on such things as decisions about whether abuse was substantiated or not and what was done as a result: often additional services or monitoring instead of emphasising the qualitative impact upon peoples lives. Whilst systems and processes are important it is the person's experience which is of greatest value when evaluating our safeguarding interventions.

The Listening Reviews commissioned by the Council from Blackpool Advocacy Service 'Empowerment' in conjunction with the Safeguarding Adults Team are an exemplary way in which the Adult Social Care Division will be able to judge what is working and how we are making a difference.

Lessons learned from the Listening Reviews will inform the future direction of change towards more personalisation in safeguarding.

Peter Charlesworth
Designated Safeguarding Manager for Adults

**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**



APPENDIX A - Type & Location of Abuse -Referrals Only

Quarter 1

Abuse Type	Location							Total	
	Own Home	Alleged Perpetrator's Home	Care Home	Supported Accommodation	Hospital	Public Place	Other		Not Known
Discriminatory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emotional/Psychological	6	0	3	3	0	0	0	0	12
Financial & Material	9	0	6	1	0	1	0	0	17
Institutional	0	0	40	0	0	0	2	0	42
Neglect & Acts of Omission	8	0	25	1	0	0	1	1	36
Physical	6	0	11	2	0	0	0	0	19
Sexual	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Willful Neglect / Ill Treatment	0	0	6	0	0	0	0	0	6
Total	30	0	92	7	0	1	3	1	134

Quarter 2

Abuse Type	Location							Total	
	Own Home	Alleged Perpetrator's Home	Care Home	Supported Accommodation	Hospital	Public Place	Other		Not Known
Discriminatory	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Emotional/Psychological	6	0	17	1	0	0	0	0	24
Financial & Material	10	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	14
Institutional	3	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	20
Neglect & Acts of Omission	10	1	79	0	1	1	1	0	93
Physical	5	1	3	0	2	0	0	0	11
Sexual	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Willful Neglect / Ill Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	36	2	118	1	4	1	2	0	164

Quarter 3

**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**

Abuse Type	Location								Total
	Own Home	Alleged Perpetrator's Home	Care Home	Supported Accommodation	Hospital	Public Place	Other	Not Known	
Discriminatory	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Emotional/Psychological	4	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	8
Financial & Material	10	1	5	2	0	0	0	0	18
Institutional	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	5
Neglect & Acts of Omission	6	0	16	0	1	0	0	0	23
Physical	4	0	5	0	3	1	0	1	14
Sexual	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	4
Willful Neglect / Ill Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	30	3	29	4	4	2	0	1	73

Quarter 4

Abuse Type	Location								Total
	Own Home	Alleged Perpetrator's Home	Care Home	Supported Accommodation	Hospital	Public Place	Other	Not Known	
Discriminatory	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Emotional/Psychological	2	0	12	1	0	2	0	0	17
Financial & Material	10	2	1	0	0	1	0	0	14
Institutional	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	11
Neglect & Acts of Omission	3	0	26	1	0	0	0	0	30
Physical	3	0	14	0	0	0	0	0	17
Sexual	2	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	4
Willful Neglect / Ill Treatment	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	20	2	65	3	0	3	0	0	93

Notes

**Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Team
Year End Alerts and Referrals Analysis
2013-2014**



Notes

Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	7
Relevant Officer:	Clare Nolan Barnes, Head of Coastal and Environmental Partnership Investments.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT AND DRAINAGE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider a progress report on Flood Risk Management and Drainage.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the content of the report and highlight any areas for further scrutiny.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure constructive and robust scrutiny of the report.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Council has certain statutory duties as set out in the Flood Risk Regulations 2009, the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 and the Flood Risk Management Overview and Scrutiny (England) Regulations 2011.

5.2 Following the completion of a Flood Risk Management Scrutiny Review in 2013, the Scrutiny Committee is to receive a report on an annual basis, relating to progress on Flood Risk Management and Drainage.

5.3 Witnesses/representatives

5.3.1 The following Officer has been invited to attend the meeting to report on this item:

- Clare Nolan Barnes, Head of Coastal and Environmental Partnership Investments.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

5.4 List of Appendices:

5.4.1 Appendix 7 (a) – Flood Risk Management and Drainage progress report

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

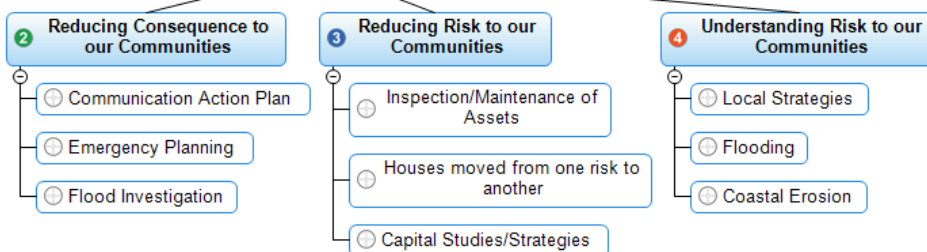
13.1 None.

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PROGRESS & PERFORMANCE – Q1 2014/15 FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT & DRAINAGE – DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

FLOOD RISK MANAGEMENT (FRM) STRATEGY

To improve health and wellbeing of our communities by working in partnership to manage the risk from local sources of flooding.



(1) AVOIDING INCREASE OF RISK TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Planning Application

The FRM team has provided a formal consultation response to outline major planning applications and those with critical drainage problems on which we have been specifically consulted. The SAB has yet to be formally implemented through Statutory Instrument by Government. It was confirmed on 30th June that SAB has been further delayed, pending further announcement in late Summer 2014.

Ordinary Watercourse Consenting

Since April 2012 Blackpool Council has been the lead on consenting to works within an ordinary watercourse. Figures of the current ongoing consent workload can be seen in the quarterly breakdown section on page 2.

Riparian Responsibilities

We encourage community engagement with riparian owners and where necessary take action to enforce action to ensure flood risk is reduced by maintaining the flow of all water courses.

(2) REDUCING CONSEQUENCES TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Communication Action Plan

The FRM team are looking to develop a streamlined communication action plan that will involve multi disciplinary services external to Blackpool Council. We will aim to make progress on this by December 2014. We are currently working with the Environment Agency and united Utilities in respect of communicating our joint projects in respect of reducing flood risk

Emergency Planning

An exercise was recently undertaken in Fylde to test the multi-agency flood plan. This exercise will be rolled out to all other districts. FRM team are currently working with our emergency planning team to develop and a revised emergency plan in respect of flood risk.

Flood Investigation

The FRM team is continuing to undertake flood investigations and have a clearer direction due to the introduction of the FRM management strategy. We are looking to develop and communicate Blackpool's criteria for Flood investigations to internal departments, stakeholders and members of the public.

(3) REDUCING RISK TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Inspection/Maintenance of Assets

We are working with the Asset Team to build up a Flood Risk Asset Register which is currently being populated. Assets have been placed into the register with more continuing to be included.

Houses moved from one risk to another

Linked to the flood investigation, a new scoring matrix is being developed to identify the original affect of flooding and rescored against the possible improvement works which the FRM could work towards. This will clearly define a cost benefit against the impact and risk.

Capital Studies/Strategies

The flood risk management team are working Corporately to ensure that any schemes required to reduce flood risk are developed in conjunction with colleagues across the Council

(4) UNDERSTANDING RISK TO OUR COMMUNITIES

Local Strategies

The Lancashire and Blackpool Local Flood Risk Management Strategy has been agreed and adopted by both LCC and Blackpool. This has identified 19 objectives which the FRM team will plan to achieve within the allocated time frame - short/medium/long term.

Flooding





The FRM team, with help from its partners, through the Corporate Water Management meetings keep updated records of flooding events which have affected local communities. Sharing this information with colleagues and external partners we are able to gain a better understand of the impacts due to the various drainage systems which can be investigated.

Coastal Erosion

The North West has been given funding through MTP to undertake major reconstruction of the Wyre coastal area. The two schemes involve works at Rossall and Anchorholme which has attracted funding to the cost of £85 million.

Actions for Quarter 2

- 1 Look into the introduction of the SAB in Blackpool
 - 1.1 Look at other riparian issues in the Blackpool and plans to assist in any schemes required to reduce flood risk
2. Provide details of the developed streamline system with multi agency services
 - 2.1 The FRM Team to provide more information on the website communicating its roles and responsibilities.
3. Progress update on the asset register will be provided with accurate records on the database
 - 3.1 A new scoring matrix linked to flood investigations will be worked on to define cost benefit against impact.
 - 3.2 Update on the Capital drainage program
4. A timescale plan will be drawn up for the implementation of the 19 objectives and 64 actions.
 - 4.1 Flooding incidents via the MSfW meeting will continue to be recorded and presented in the next quarter
 - 4.2 update on the Rossall and Anchorholme progress will be given in the next quarter

KEY: On track / On target  Progress not as planned / issues have arisen  Significant issues to note / address  For information 

Summary of statistics:

Between 1st April and 30th June 2014 there have been 5 records received by the Flood Risk Management Team. Further records have been carried forward from the previous financial year.

Each record has been assessed to determine whether any further action is required. Of the 50 records:

- **5** have met the criteria for a Flood Investigation, of which all are currently ongoing.
- **2** have met the criteria for Enforcement Action, of which all are currently ongoing.
- **0** are applications for Land Drainage Consent, of which 7 have been approved and 3 are currently under review.
- **1** have involved internal flooding to property.
- **1** have involved external flooding to property.
- **0** have involved flooding to infrastructure.

Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	8
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

EDUCATION SCRUTINY REVIEW PANEL

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the report of the Education Scrutiny Review Panel.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the ongoing work of the Education Scrutiny Review Panel and make comments or recommendations as appropriate.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure the scrutiny process continues to be fully accountable and an important part of the democratic process.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 Tackling child poverty, raising aspirations and improving educational achievement.

5.0 Background Information

- 5.1 At its meeting on 25th October 2012, the Scrutiny Committee appointed a Panel to undertake scrutiny of education matters including consideration of school performance information and Ofsted Inspection Reports.
- 5.2 The Panel is supported by Delyth Curtis, Director of People, Carl Baker, Deputy Director of People (Children’s Services), Charlotte Clarke, Head of Education Standards and Effectiveness and Chris Kelly, Senior Democratic Services Adviser (Scrutiny).
- 5.3 The membership of the Panel comprises of Councillors Stansfield (Lead Member), D Coleman, Green, Hutton and O’Hara.
- 5.4 The Panel has agreed a timetable of meetings based around school term times, with a total of six meetings scheduled for the academic year. Since the last report to the Scrutiny Committee the Panel has held three meetings and an additional two special meetings have been held to monitor the implementation of the Local Authority School Improvement Action Plan. This report to Committee summarises the work undertaken by the Panel in those meetings.
- 5.5 The Panel meets within schools across Blackpool and prior to each meeting receives a tour of the school utilised as a venue. This gives Members a chance to speak directly to Headteachers and/or school children about their school.
- 6.0 **School Performance Information**
- 6.1 At each meeting, performance information from a selection of schools is received by the Panel comprising a mix of schools e.g. maintained, academy, primary, secondary and special.
- 6.2 Since the last report to the Scrutiny Committee, the Panel has considered school performance information from Bispham High School, Kincaig Primary School, Our Lady RC Primary School, St. Kentigern RC Primary School, Hawes Side Primary Academy, Holy Family Catholic Primary School, St. Bernadette’s Catholic Primary School and Montgomery High School. As well as a composite report on Blackpool Schools Education Performance 2013/2014 for all Blackpool schools.
- 6.3 A key theme that Panel Members had considered from the information was that Blackpool schools were improving in most performance measured indicators. However, it had been noted by the Panel that in most areas Blackpool schools were not improving at a rate as fast as the national average. Members queried what was being done to address this challenge and noted that the Schools Improvement Team was working with schools on this issue.

7.0 **Ofsted Inspections**

7.1 Since the last report to Scrutiny Committee in November 2013, the Panel has considered the latest Ofsted inspection reports of Marton Primary School, St. John Vianney's Primary School, Montgomery High School, Bispham Endowed CE Primary School and Roseacre Primary Academy. The results from the inspections have been mixed and range from 'good' to 'inadequate'. The Panel is continuing to monitor Ofsted inspections and in particular those schools that receive judgements of 'inadequate.'

7.2 Members also receive an overview of current Ofsted gradings for all Blackpool schools and identify key points and actions from this data. The overview continues to highlight that over 75 per cent of primary school places in Blackpool are rated as 'good' or better, but only 25 per cent of high schools have that rating. Members continued to query what was being done to improve this statistic.

8.0 **Schools Causing Concern to the Authority/Register of Support**

8.1 The Panel has continued to receive information regarding schools causing concern and information relating to the Register of Support. Members have continued to receive HMI special measures monitoring inspection letters to monitor the progress being made by schools.

8.2 Academies have continued to be monitored by the Panel and the authority was holding discussions with a number of schools to determine how best to provide support to ensure improvement.

9.0 **Statistical First Releases**

9.1 At each meeting Members have been advised of any relevant information published. Information has been received regarding Participation in education, training and employment 16 – 19, Qualifications at 19, Looked After Children attainment, Neet statistics, Pupil absences in schools in England, Special Education Needs in schools in England, National Curriculum assessments at Key Stage 2 and School applications and offers.

10.0 **Local Authority Data Matrix**

10.1 The Panel continues to receive an up to date data matrix at each meeting. This matrix includes the data used by the Department for Education and Ofsted to measure the authority. Data is highlighted by exception with Members noting and questioning key characteristics.

11.0 **Local Authority School Improvement Action Plan**

- 11.1 Since the last report to Committee, the Panel has held two special meetings to consider the authority's progress against the Local Authority School Improvement Action Plan.
- 11.2 The Panel received information regarding the school improvement priorities, which were:
- Improving the quality of school leadership
 - Improving the quality of teaching and learning
 - Improving school attendance
 - Raising attainment at KS4 especially in Maths and English
 - Raising attainment of more able pupils
 - Managing pupil behaviour whilst reducing exclusions
 - Closing the attainment gap for different groups of pupils
- 11.3 Members asked questions regarding the plan and were provided with details of the actions undertaken and the progress by themes.

12.0 Witnesses/representatives

- 12.1 Councillor Stansfield, Scrutiny Lead/Shadow Cabinet Member for Children's Services and Culture and Heritage.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

None

13.0 Legal considerations:

- 13.1 None

14.1 Human Resources considerations:

- 14.1 None

15.0 Equalities considerations:

- 15.1 None

16.0 Financial considerations:

- 16.1 None

17.0 Risk management considerations:

17.1 None

18.0 Ethical considerations:

18.1 None

19.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

19.1 None

20.0 Background papers:

20.1 None

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Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	9
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

SCRUTINY PANEL UPDATE

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider progress updates on the appointed Scrutiny Panels including verbal updates from Lead Members.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To note the update report from the Scrutiny Lead Members.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure the Committee is fully appraised as to the progress of work of its appointed Panels.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The purpose of the report is to provide the Scrutiny Committee with an update on the work of the Scrutiny Panels, outlined in the report attached at Appendix 9a.

5.2 Lead Members will be invited to give a verbal update regarding work undertaken and planned and to feedback to the Committee on the reviews currently in progress.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information? No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 9a: Scrutiny progress report.

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

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SCRUTINY	MEMBERS INVOLVED	DATE COMMENCED	SUPPORTING OFFICERS	PROGRESS REPORT
Housing, Public Safety and Enforcement and Street Scene and the Environment - Councillor Galley				
Community Safety Partnership (CSP) Scrutiny Panel	Councillors: Galley (Lead Member), Stansfield, D. Coleman, Green, Hutton, M. Mitchell.	Ongoing statutory responsibility under Police and Justice Act legislation	Paolo Pertica	The last meeting of the Panel was held on 15 th April 2014 and considered the performance data of the Community Safety Partnership, capacity and changes to anti-social behaviour legislation. The next meeting will be held 28 th October 2014.
Tourism and Leisure, Highways, Transport and Equality and Diversity - Councillor Mrs Callow				
Outside Bodies Scrutiny Panel	Councillors: Mrs Callow (Lead Member), Doherty, D. Coleman Green, Hutton, M. Mitchell, O'Hara and Stansfield	November 2012	Various	This is an on-going Panel to scrutinise the performance and strategies of the Blackpool Zoo and Blackpool Airport, which are part-owned, by the Council. The Panel last met on 28 th April and the schedule for the next round of meetings has now been arranged as follows: Blackpool Zoo – 13 th November 2014, 2.00 pm at the Town Hall. Blackpool Airport – 3 rd February 2015, 2.00 pm at the Town Hall (subject to future confirmation).
Children's Services and Culture and Heritage - Councillor Stansfield				
Children's Services (Safeguarding) Review Panel	Councillors Stansfield, D. Coleman, Green, Hutton, O'Hara and Ryan	January 2014 - ongoing	Delyth Curtis Dominic Tumelty	The last meeting of this Review Panel was held on 17 th September 2014. The next meeting is due to be held on 26 th November 2014.

Education Scrutiny Review Panel	Councillors Stansfield (Lead Member), O'Hara, Hutton, D Coleman, Green	January 2013 - ongoing	Delyth Curtis Carl Baker Charlotte Clarke	<p>This Review Panel is now fully established and meeting on a regular, timetabled basis. An update of the work of the Panel to date was considered at the Scrutiny Committee meeting in March 2014 and further updates will be provided to the Committee at timely intervals.</p> <p>The last meeting of the Panel was held on 25th September 2014 at Montgomery Academy.</p> <p>The next ordinary meeting of the Panel will be held on 6th November 2014.</p>
Urban Regeneration – Councillor Doherty				
Apprenticeships Scrutiny Review Panel	Cllrs Elmes (Lead Member), Evans, Henderson, Hutton, O'Hara	March 2014	Peter Legg Mike Taplin Linda Dutton	<p>Following the final report of the Panel being approved by the Scrutiny Committee on 1st May 2014, it was subsequently approved by the Executive on 19th May 2014.</p> <p>Progress on the recommendations will be reported to Panel Members in due course.</p>
Outside Bodies Scrutiny Panel	Councillors: Doherty, Mrs Callow, D. Coleman Green, Hutton, M. Mitchell, O'Hara and Stansfield	November 2012	Alan Cavill Rob Green	<p>This is an on-going Panel to scrutinise the performance and strategies of the Blackpool, Fylde and Wyre Economic Development Company, which is part-owned, by the Council. The Panel last met on 28th April and the schedule for the next round of meetings has now been arranged as follows:</p> <p>Economic Development Company: 12th March 2015, 2.00 pm at the Town Hall.</p>
Corporate Management and Resources – Councillor Benson				
Priority reporting and monitoring	Scrutiny Committee	Ongoing	Corporate Leadership Team	Reporting in September 2014, November 2014 and February 2015. Progress reports against the Council's key corporate priorities. Due to the strategic nature of this item, it was agreed that it would be reported to the full Committee.

Public Health and Adult Social Care - Councillor Mrs Henderson MBE				
Visits to Care Homes	Councillors Henderson MBE, Stansfield, Hutton, Ryan and O'Hara	November 2013	Val Raynor	An initial briefing for interested Members was held on the 23 rd October 2013. Members are accompanying inspection staff in visits into care and nursing homes on an on-going basis and an update report highlighting the work undertaken will be submitted to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.

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Report to:	SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Item number	10
Relevant Officer:	Steve Sienkiewicz, Scrutiny Manager.
Date of Meeting	16 th October 2014

COMMITTEE WORKPLAN

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 The Committee to consider the Scrutiny Workplan, together with any suggestions that Members may wish to make for scrutiny review topics.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 To approve the Committee Workplan, taking into account any suggestions for amendment or addition.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure the Workplan is up to date and is an accurate representation of the Committee's work.

3.2a Is the recommendation contrary to a plan or strategy adopted or approved by the Council? No

3.2b Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? N/A

3.3 Other alternative options to be considered:

None.

4.0 Council Priority:

4.1 N/A

5.0 Background Information

5.1 The Scrutiny Committee Workplan is attached at Appendix 10a.

5.2 Committee Members are also invited, either now or in the future, to suggest topics that might be suitable for scrutiny. In so doing, Members are requested to be mindful of the scrutiny selection checklist that is attached to this report at Appendix 10b. At the Committee meeting on 9th June 2011 it was decided that the checklist should form part of the mandatory scrutiny procedure. It should therefore be completed and submitted for consideration by the Committee, prior to a topic being approved for scrutiny.

Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

List of Appendices:

Appendix 10a : Scrutiny Committee Workplan.

Appendix 10b: Scrutiny Selection Checklist - (blank template).

6.0 Legal considerations:

6.1 None.

7.0 Human Resources considerations:

7.1 None.

8.0 Equalities considerations:

8.1 None.

9.0 Financial considerations:

9.1 None.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 None.

11.0 Ethical considerations:

11.1 None.

12.0 Internal/ External Consultation undertaken:

12.1 None.

13.0 Background papers:

13.1 None.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2014/2015

Housing, Public Safety and Enforcement and Street Scene and the Environment – Lead Member: Cllr Galley	Community Safety Partnership Scrutiny Review Panel (statutory responsibility). Two meetings will be held per year. Next meeting due to take place 28th October 2014.
	Regular updates on the Transience Projects – Last update report to Committee on 12th December 2013. Next update TBC.
	Potential topics for consideration, identified through discussions with the Cabinet Member: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of the mobile recycling centre • Decent Homes
Tourism and Leisure, Highways, Transport and Equality and Diversity Lead Member: Cllr Mrs Callow	Outside body standing panels (one meeting each annually): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackpool Airport – Next meeting had been scheduled for Tuesday, 3rd February 2015 (subject to future confirmation). • Blackpool Zoo – Next meeting to be held on Thursday, 13th November 2014
	Prosperous Town Theme Report – Report will be presented to the Committee in November 2014
Children’s Services and Culture and Heritage Lead Member: Cllr Stansfield	Education Scrutiny Review Panel - Standing Panel, Ongoing. Update reports received quarterly, next report due October/November 2014. Next meeting due to take place on 6th November 2014.
	Children’s Services (Safeguarding) Scrutiny Panel - Standing Panel, Ongoing. Next meeting due to take place on 26th November 2014. An annual report will submitted to Committee in January 2015.
	Children’s Services Annual report was considered at the December 2013 meeting. To be considered annually by Committee.
Urban Regeneration Lead Member: Cllr Doherty	Flood Risk Scrutiny Review Panel - Annual report to Scrutiny Committee on flood risk issues and progress now the Panel has completed its work. First report due October 2014.

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE WORKPLAN 2014/2015

	Apprenticeships Scrutiny Review Panel - 'In a day' review to be held 26 th March 2014. Final report approved by Scrutiny Committee May 2014. All recommendations accepted by Executive. Progress report due November 2014.
	Bathing Water Scrutiny Review Panel - Final report approved by Committee 13th June 2013 (led by Cllr Mrs Callow). The Committee agreed that the Panel should meet annually to monitor progress. Next meeting expected to be February 2015.
	Outside body standing panel (one meeting annually): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blackpool Economic Development Company –Next meeting due to be held on Thursday, 12th March 2014.
Corporate Management and Resources. Lead Member: Cllr Benson	Quarterly progress reports against the Council's priorities - Reports due to Committee in September 2014, November 2014 and February 2015.
	Council Complaints Annual Report - Report will be presented to the Scrutiny Committee in June 2015.
Public Health and Adult Social Care. Lead Member: Cllr Mrs Henderson MBE.	Scrutiny Committee to monitor handling of CAF complaints, following Executive decision EX/11/2013. The Adult Services Annual Report was presented to the Scrutiny Committee in September 2013. To be considered annually by Committee.
	To consider Adult Safeguarding matters, including the annual Safeguarding report. Quarterly reports to Committee. Next report to Committee on 17th October 2014.
	Care Home Visits – The visits have commenced, following the initial briefing that was held on 23 rd October 2013. An update report was presented to Committee on 20 th March 2014 and there will be a further update presented in November 2014.
	Child Poverty - regular reports to be received by Committee as per recommendation at the Scrutiny Committee meeting in October 2013. Next report to Committee 20th November 2014.

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