

Report to:	ADULT SOCIAL CARE AND HEALTH SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
Relevant Officer:	Stephen Ashley, Independent Chair, Blackpool Safeguarding Adult Board
Date of Meeting:	31 March 2022

BLACKPOOL SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

1.0 Purpose of the report:

1.1 This report is being presented to the committee prior to publication of the Blackpool Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report. All partner agencies have been consulted with and contributed to the content of the report.

2.0 Recommendation(s):

2.1 The Adult Social Care and Health Scrutiny committee is asked to note the contents of the report and comment on any key issues and consider the implications for the conduct of council business.

3.0 Reasons for recommendation(s):

3.1 To ensure relevant partners are sighted on, and have opportunity to comment on the BSAB Annual Report for the 2020-21 reporting period.

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

3.3 Is the recommendation in accordance with the Council's approved budget? No

4.0 Other alternative options to be considered:

4.1 None

5.0 Council priority:

5.1 The relevant Council priority is

- Communities: Creating stronger communities and increasing resilience.

6.0 Background information

- 6.1 The Care Act requires that in every local authority administrative area there must be a Safeguarding Adults Board. Key local agencies are represented on the Board at a senior level with an Independent Chair.

The Safeguarding Adults Boards are required to produce and publish an annual report which reflects on safeguarding practice and issues in the area. The draft Annual Report which covers the period from April 2020 to end of March 2021 is attached at Appendix 5(a). The Annual Report provides a summary of the work undertaken by the Safeguarding Adult Board in Blackpool over the last year.

During this reporting period the Covid-19 pandemic has affected the way in which many agencies who are part of the Adults Board have worked. The Department of Health acknowledged this last year and to alleviate additional pressures associated with producing the report, permitted the Adults Boards to produce condensed reports during this reporting period. Blackpool Safeguarding partners felt it was important to have an annual report and acknowledge the work that had been undertaken.

Agencies that are responsible for safeguarding and protecting our most vulnerable adults have been able to maintain their services and our thoughts and gratitude are with those professionals that have worked on the front line.

Adult Services in Blackpool, supported by the Council have continued to work hard to protect and support people. During the Covid- 19 pandemic the agencies that form the Lancashire Resilience Forum agencies ensured that there was an efficient system of maintaining contact with elderly and 'shielded' residents and an efficient system to ensure food deliveries were made to those that needed them.

All Statutory work of the Blackpool Safeguarding Adult Board continued during the pandemic with Board meetings held virtually and Safeguarding Adult Reviews continued to be undertaken. The Joint Partnership Business Unit has continued to operate during the pandemic to ensure the functions of the Board have been fulfilled.

The Adult Executive Board, comprised of Senior Executive Leads from Statutory Partners, has continued to meet and has been chaired by Mr Stephen Ashley and includes the three Safeguarding Adult Boards across Blackburn with Darwen, Blackpool and Lancashire.

All Board partner agencies have been consulted during the preparation of the Annual Report. The report reflects comments made and includes information directly provided by the agencies.

- 6.2 Does the information submitted include any exempt information?

No

7.0 List of Appendices:

7.1 Appendix 5(a): Blackpool Safeguarding Adult Report 2020-21

8.0 Financial considerations:

8.1 The Board's Joint Partnership Business Unit and activity is financed from multi-agency contributions. For the year 2020/21, support for the Board will be structured to fall within available resources.

9.0 Legal considerations:

9.1 Failure to meet the statutory requirements in the provision of services could increase the risk of harm. It would also impact on the reputation of the council and partner agencies.

10.0 Risk management considerations:

10.1 The risks are as set out in the report, monitored by the Blackpool Safeguarding Adult Board.

11.0 Equalities considerations:

11.1 Any deficits in service are likely to impact more significantly on those living in areas of high deprivation.

12.0 Sustainability, climate change and environmental considerations:

12.1 None.

13.0 Internal/external consultation undertaken:

13.1 All Board Partner Agencies have been consulted during the preparation of the Annual Report. The report reflects comments made and includes information directly provided by the Agencies. This report is currently in draft form and is out for comments and feedback from Agencies.

14.0 Background papers:

14.1 Care Act 2014