

Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board

Annual Report 2016-17

**Southwark Safeguarding
Adults Partnership**



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Foreword and Introduction from the Independent Chair of the Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board



This is my second year as the Independent Chair of Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board.

It has been a busy and interesting year. We have continued to focus on key areas of the Adults Safeguarding agenda such as Making Safeguarding Personal but during this year we subsumed the community safety agenda into the boards' work.

We have also agreed several joint priorities such as Domestic abuse, knife crime and preventing extremism with the Safeguarding Children's Board. This will lead to achieving improved outcomes for adults through an integrated approach.

At the heart of our practice improvement agenda, a range of service reviews were undertaken to promote better outcomes for adults with care and support needs in Southwark and ensuring legal compliance with statutory social care duties. In particular, we have had a determined focus on enhancing the practice with adults who have been abused or neglected, or who might be at risk of this and in need of an adult safeguarding response. During the year we have examined the issues of hoarding, financial abuse, housing safeguarding issues in addition to other key safeguarding issues and also finally completed an Adult's Safeguarding Review into the death of a vulnerable adult. The learning from this review has significant safeguarding implications for all agencies. The Board will review next year how well our partnership protocols joint-working arrangements, information sharing and an agreed understanding of the risk of harm are operating across Southwark's safeguarding partnership.

Over 2016/17, the SSAB has supported and challenged safeguarding practice and key local priorities, leading to improved partnership ways of working and enabled the partnership to adapt to changing needs. As I reported last year safeguarding adults is a very complex and challenging agenda in which a wide range of issues need to be covered. To be effective as a Board requires us to prioritise our work and so I believe we have established a strong foundation to do that and focus on key areas of safeguarding for Southwark.

This report reviews the activity taken by the partnership over the past year, and sets out our priorities for the next period which will be covered by a two year Business plan reviewed after the first year and adjusted as necessary.

The four subgroups, Community Engagement, HR and Safeguarding (both jointly with SSCB), Quality and Performance, and Safer Communities have taken shape and will continue to deliver the board's priorities for 2017/18.

The effectiveness of the Board depends on the work of all partners and I acknowledge the excellent contribution by all partners and the continuing commitment to improving the lives of many vulnerable adults who need to be safeguarded in Southwark.

Michael O'Connor, SSAB Independent Chair

Overview of the Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board's Vision and Priorities for 2016/17

The SSAB, led by the independent chair, developed the following Vision Statement and Strategic Priorities for 2016/17:

Our Vision

We believe all vulnerable adults living in or visiting Southwark have the right to be safe and protected from harm. We will all work together to support vulnerable adults and their carers to make informed choices and to provide the highest quality services so they can live full, independent and self determined lives.

Responsibilities

The Board will hold agencies to account for their key safeguarding responsibilities, so that:

- All those who work with vulnerable adults know what to do if there are concerns about possible harm.
- When concerns about a vulnerable adult's welfare or concerns about harm are reported action is taken quickly and the right support is provided at the right time.
- Agencies who provide services for vulnerable adults ensure they are safe and monitor service quality and impact.

Key Strategic Questions for the Board

- Is the help provided effective? How will we know our interventions are making a positive difference? How will we know all agencies are doing everything they can to make sure vulnerable adults are safe?
- Are all partner agencies meeting their statutory responsibilities as set out in The Care Act (including Empowerment, Prevention, Proportionality, Protection, Partnership and Accountability), Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards?
- Do all partner agencies quality assure practice and is there evidence of learning and improving practice?
- Is safeguarding training monitored and evaluated and is there evidence of training impacting on practice? This includes multi-agency training.

Our Priorities for 2016/17

Assurance that practice improves outcomes and service user experiences

Empowerment: Making Safeguarding Personal

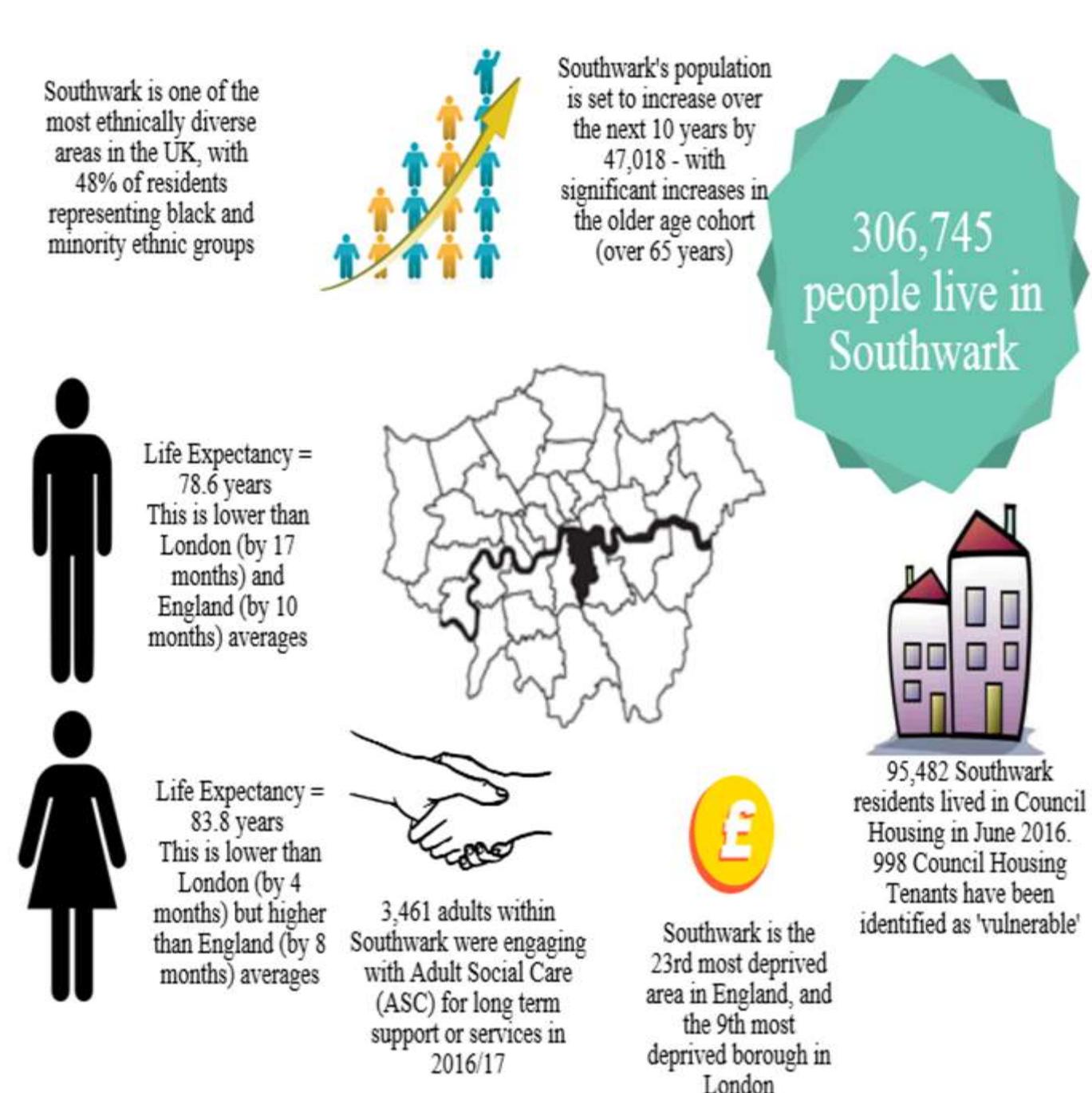
Learn from Practice

Embed the Mental Capacity Act

Safeguarding Adults at risk

Chapter 1 - The Southwark Context to Safeguarding

1.1 Local profile of Southwark



1.2 Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board

The Board's primary objective is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults who are at risk of/or experiencing abuse or neglect.

In addition, The Care Act 2014 stipulates the following three core duties for Safeguarding Adult Boards;

Safeguarding Adults Board – Core Duties

1. To publish a Strategic Plan;
2. To publish an Annual Report that details what the Board has done during the year to achieve its main objectives and implement its strategic plan, as well as present the findings and subsequent actions of any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs);
3. To conduct Safeguarding Adults Reviews.

Chapter 2 – Progress on Thematic Priorities 2016/17

The Board's Vision Statement and Strategic Priorities are underpinned by the six Care Act safeguarding principles of empowerment, prevention, proportionality, protection, partnership and accountability. Our vision and priorities have also been developed inline with the broader framework of Southwark policies and strategies, especially Southwark Council's *Fairer Futures Promises* and the *Southwark Health & Wellbeing Strategy 2015-2020*.

The 2016/17 priorities were identified to set the direction of the strategic partnership, in its efforts to ensure that Southwark safeguarding arrangements and organisations work to protect local adults at risk of abuse or neglect, and to ensure that:

- Adults at risk are empowered to develop their own solutions, and those taking steps to safeguard adults at risk respect their right to take positive risks.
- Safeguarding practice in Southwark is effective and makes a positive difference to people's lives.
- Safeguarding adults activities are integral to other relevant work-streams, and contribute to the Council's Fairer Future promise of making Southwark a safer place for everyone.

Priority 1: Assurance that practice improves outcomes and service user experience

In order to gauge whether interventions are effective it is vital systems are in place to ensure a positive direction of travel, that the right outcomes are being achieved, and to identify issues and concerns as they arise. It is also critical that the service user is at the heart of their solution. This is at the forefront of our thinking in developing and monitoring services for vulnerable adults.

During the year a cross care sector network of practice leaders has been developed which has helped to promote the 'Think Family' approach which underpins good practice within both children's and adults social care services. It has also led to effective joint working on a variety of issues of common interest to both sectors, particularly in situations where safeguarding concerns for children and for adults may both be present within family settings or in the wider community. An example of this

was a multi agency audit of practice within the Transitions Team which allowed for a 'whole system' perspective when evaluating the experiences of young people transitioning into adulthood and transferring between two different legal frameworks and services.

Following from the successful challenge event held for statutory agencies in February 2016, in May 2016 the SSAB led a provider challenge event. This was attended by six organisations from the residential sector and domiciliary care home services and provided the opportunity for peer challenge as well as learning from examples of good practice. Providers completed a self assessment and reported on the key successes and challenges they faced. There were a number of themes that were applicable to all the agencies which are summarised below;

Provider Challenge Event – key themes

- Differing medication policies & procedures across all London boroughs leads to challenges when clients are discharged from hospital with medication, often resulting in them being re-admitted purely for medication purposes.
- Despite only one staff supervision per year being required by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), without exception, all providers were significantly exceeding this. However, there were inconsistencies as to the standard of this supervision.
- All providers engaged family members and the community through a range of forums which enhanced succession planning and the wellbeing of clients.

Priority 2: Empowerment - Making Safeguarding Personal

Developing a safeguarding culture that focuses on the personalised outcomes desired by people with care and support needs who may have been abused is a key operational and strategic goal across the partnership. Throughout the year the Board has promoted the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) by ensuring

these are incorporated into local service planning and delivery and encouraging a strong multi-agency commitment to them.

The 6 principles of safeguarding must apply to the work of all of the Boards safeguarding partner agencies:

Key Safeguarding Principle	MSP consideration
Empowerment	I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens
Prevention	I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help
Proportionality	I am sure that the professionals will work in my interests, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed
Protection	I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want
Partnership	I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me
Accountability	I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they

Southwark council has set its sights on achieving the Gold level of Making Safeguarding Personal and the Board are ensuring we are continually striving towards achieving our ambition. The new adult safeguarding workflow and recording tools in MOSAIC which were introduced into the live environment in July 2016 have been

designed to capture evidence of the shifts towards the more personalised safeguarding practice that the MSP approach requires. This particularly applies in relation to establishing the outcomes that each adult would like their own individual safeguarding process to help them achieve, and whether these outcomes are achieved.

Case Study

Mr A reported that his partner, Ms B had taken all of his savings. Ms B is known to the Police for substance misuse and other related offences including shoplifting and possession of illegal drugs, although Mr A was not aware of Ms A's history.

Mr A was embarrassed by this experience; he wanted to stop giving Ms B his money and to end his relationship with Ms B, but said he required support to do this. Ms B was very intimidating and Mr A was afraid of the consequences if he told her he would not give her any more money.

With Mr A's agreement, he was supported to cancel his bank cards and he agreed for the police to become involved and take the required action. Mr A is no longer in a relationship with Ms B and is rebuilding his life, regaining his confidence. He confirms that he is happy with this outcome and wants to look to the future.

Whether personalisation has been successfully embedded within the adult safeguarding services, together with the development of new responses to offer to adults at risk, including restorative approaches and family group conferencing requires independent evaluation by a research organisation. As one of the four core members of the South East London Teaching Partnership in association with Goldsmiths, University of London, there is an excellent opportunity for the council to call upon the research skills and expertise of the academic faculty at Goldsmiths for this purpose. This will be explored via the partnership during 2017/18.

During the course of 2016/17 the Principal Social Worker for Adults worked with a member of the faculty at Goldsmiths to

design an 'Academics in Practice' workshop for practitioners based around the key principles of the Making Safeguarding Personal approach. The Academics in Practice programme aims to bring the benefits of academic theory and research skills into the workplace. It has been designed to explore this question from within a practice discourse; examining themes such as social justice, the empowerment of adults at risk, and ethical interventions, whilst examining the very concept of personalisation itself. The objective is to develop a better understanding of those factors that help to enhance personalised practice in adult safeguarding – for example reflective practice, skilled supervision, and risk-enablement - as well as identifying obstacles that may hinder this.

There has been a successful programme of classroom based training for council staff on MSP over the year, together with some random sampling of casework demonstrated that adults involved in safeguarding processes were being asked about their

preferred outcomes. However, what is less reliably known is how effective training has been in helping staff to adopt the shifts in practice that are required to deliver a genuinely personalised experience of safeguarding processes to adults at risk.

Priority 3: Learn from Practice

The SSAB is committed to ensuring that everyone working with adults at risk of abuse and neglect in our community has the right skills and knowledge to provide the right support and interventions to protect them from harm.

Up to date training, partnership work & sharing of best practice are vital tools to;

- Prevent harm, and prevent care and support needs arising or worsening
- Deliver service user focused outcomes and improve wellbeing
- Ensure compliance with legislative and regulatory requirements
- Address evolving needs and landscapes

The SSAB training plan for 2016/17 was developed to meet the priorities of the Safeguarding Adults' Board. The training was developed to reflect the national safeguarding adults' competency framework from Bournemouth University and Learn to Care, as well as the requirements of the Care Act 2014. The framework and the guidance in the Care Act provides a clear and transparent framework for workforce development standards and competencies so that all multi-agency organisations in our community have employees and volunteers

with the right skills and knowledge to be confident to safeguard adults. The SSAB delegated the development of the Learning & Development programme to the Organisational Transformation team within the council. The priorities for the training plan were fed through from the Board, and resulted in a number of courses for 16/17. These included safeguarding adults level 2, 3 and refresher training, safeguarding enquiries, MCA/DoLs, Making Safeguarding personal, hoarding, domestic abuse.

Whilst the attendance at the SSAB's multi agency training has been good, we recognise that we need to do more to ensure that there is better representation of partner agencies at the training. In light of this, for 2017/18 a training needs analysis has been undertaken and a review of the multi agency training, to ensure that it reflects the key priorities for the board for 2017/18, as well as the revised national competency framework.

The training strategy for 2017/18 reflects a more joined up approach, with the Practice Development & Training subgroup now incorporating representatives from the SSAB, and the training plan includes more joined up training across both the SSAB and SSCB. There is a new system in place to evaluate the effectiveness of the multi agency training, so that we can measure the impact on practice as well as on the adults we are trying to protect.

In addition to the multi agency offer, the Board is assured that the adult safeguarding agenda is embedded in single agency

training delivered across the partnership. In Primary Care, the GP Leads Safeguarding Forum takes place quarterly and these address key themes for both safeguarding adults and children. For instance, at the end of the financial year, the focus of the forum was drug and alcohol misuse in the context of adult safeguarding. It was attended by Southwark's commissioned Drug and Alcohol Service, who used case discussions to highlight important Adult Safeguarding issues.

Furthermore, the Primary Care Safeguarding Annual Review, involving feedback from GP surgeries across the borough, highlighted a number of key areas for safeguarding training in Primary Care. This lead to the production of the document 'Training Requirements for Adult Safeguarding in Primary Care', to guide practices around their training requirements at all levels, and signpost to appropriate training resources, ahead of the intercollegiate document due in summer 2017.

Priority 4: Embed the Mental Capacity Act

During the Board Challenge Event in May 2016, Board members identified Mental Capacity implementation and compliance as an area of continuous challenge. The Mental Capacity Act 2005 protects people who lack capacity by providing a framework that

places them at the heart of the decision-making process, ensuring that they participate as much as possible in any decisions made on their behalf, and that decisions made for them are made in their best interests.

Case Study

A family member made contact with Adult Social Care expressing concern about their mother, Ms J, who has dementia and thus is unable to advocate for herself.

The concerns raised were in relation to care delivery in a nursing home setting. With the inclusion of the family member, the social worker undertook a fact finding process, which was completed in a sensitive and respectful way and incorporated the desired outcomes requested by the family member.

Partnership working took place across health and social care, the care home provider and the family, with a person centred approach. The family member was happy with the outcomes and reports feeling reassured that measures are now in place and care is working well. A single point of contact back into the service has been provided should further concerns arise.

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) were introduced in 2005 to ensure that individuals who are in hospitals or care homes are not unnecessarily deprived of their liberty. The precedent set following the Cheshire West legal challenge in March 2014 led to an unprecedented increase in the number of DoLS applications local authorities are asked to review. In order to deal with this sharp increase in demand for authorisations,, the Council established a specialist DoLS team.

During the course of 2016 a major review of DoLS processes was carried out in order to identify areas of strength, target areas for improvement, and to maximise efficiencies in light of increasing demand. As an outcome of this review, the DoLS Team introduced during the year a new system for administering the council's duties as a Supervisory Body, including the following service improvements listed in the table below;

Service Improvements - 2016/17

- New systems to expedite the turnaround time for DoLS authorisation signatories.
- The secondment of two full time Best Interest Assessors to the DoLS Team to help develop models of best practice and test out new ways of working.
- The establishment of a practice forum for Best Interest Assessors to disseminate examples of best practice across the service and help foster the growth of a 'community of practice'.
- The development of a 'rota' system in partnership with service and team managers to manage the allocation of assessments to internal Best Interest Assessors, thereby reducing reliance upon external Best Interest Assessor.
- The design and launch of a DoLS module on MOSAIC.
- The development of a DoLS Policy and Procedure.
- Improved analysis of the capacity requirement for Best Interest Assessors within the ASC workforce.
- Greater clarity about career pathway planning and training expectations for staff wishing to consider becoming Best Interest Assessors in the future.

During November 2016 was MCA Awareness Week and the CCG took this opportunity to hold its annual Safeguarding Adults learning event for GPs which focused on Mental Capacity Assessment. It was a great event, with in excess of 240 people in attendance. Also during this week a multi agency MCA awareness event was held. This collaborative event was hosted by Southwark, Lambeth and GSTT to raise the profile of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 within the borough. It aimed to ensure that local health and social care services are

respectful of people's right to make their own decisions and be supported to do so where they evidently lack capacity. It comprised of a number of talks and learning events to support the learning process. There have been a range of other exciting initiatives throughout the year; the CCG have worked with colleagues in neighbouring boroughs to produce a Mental Capacity Assessment Quality Assurance Framework for use within the Health and Social Care economy, which has been considered at the Board level and adopted accordingly.

Furthermore, the Named GP and Lead Nurse for Adult Safeguarding supported a project undertaken by NHS England, the Royal College of General Practitioners and the CQC, to support London GPs to improve MCA quality and assurance to CCGs. The project has created standardised templates for use in GP systems. The templates are being finalised, before being shared with GP practices.



Priority 5: Safeguarding Adults at Risk

Partnership work continues to be vital to the successful delivery of safeguarding services and interventions in Southwark. We remain confident that safeguarding is at the heart of the services delivered by statutory and voluntary services in Southwark, and we also remain committed to maintaining an open dialogue with all our partners, and working jointly with partners to ensure the

best person centred outcomes for adults at risk.

To this end during 16/17 the SSAB agreed to subsume the governance arrangements for the community safety partnership, specifically its statutory functions, formally undertaken through the Safer Southwark Partnership.

Safer Communities

The community safety statutory framework is set out through the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, amended by the Police and Justice Act 2006. This introduced a statutory framework which included six ‘responsible authorities’, (the Local Authority, Police, Fire and Rescue Authority, National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company and the Clinical Commissioning Group) which must by law work together to reduce crime, anti-social behaviour, reoffending, substance misuse and any other behaviour which has a negative effect on the local environment.

The rationale for absorbing community safety into the Adult Safeguarding governance included discussions on an overarching responsibility to safeguard the whole population including vulnerable adults, children and preventing crime and disorder in communities. Both must ensure that appropriate partnership arrangements are in place to identify priorities, develop strategies, implement and monitor plans that deliver improved safeguarding outcomes for individuals and communities.

Across the partnership organisations it was felt that a number of key themes such as domestic abuse, substance misuse, financial abuse, female genital mutilation and Prevent cut across both ‘safeguarding’

and ‘community safety’ agendas. This commonality provided an opportunity and basis for priorities to be integrated into the working priorities of the SSAB and where appropriate join up work across the boards and focus on shared outcomes. Both the SSAB and the Safer Southwark Partnership had a similar membership structure, with the Council, Police, and National Probation Service, CCG represented on both the SSP and the SSAB. The proposal to operate as one collaborative board provided the opportunity to be more resource efficient.

The SSAB met in June 2016 as part of a partnership session to look at opportunities and risk along with looking at implementing these new arrangements. It was recognised that this approach was ambitious and unique and that this year would be very much transitional with further effort required to progress this commitment. Planning took place during the summer including a revision of the new governance arrangements in readiness for the first SSAB meeting with the newly subsumed function which was held in October 2016.

The community safety operational delivery function of the SSAB is undertaken through the Safer Communities Delivery Group and includes, although is not restricted to the 6 Responsible Authorities outlined above.

Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017/2020

Under the Crime & Disorder Act 1998, the community safety partnership is required to undertake an annual evidence based strategic assessment of the impact of crime and disorder, substance misuse and offending in a local area. Following this, there is a requirement to produce a partnership plan setting out priorities, objectives and targets.

Since the last Community Safety Partnership Plan was published Southwark has achieved over the last five years, year on year overall reductions in recorded crime, in particular in relation to violence offences. However, compared to the London average, Southwark remains one of the highest

volume boroughs for violent offending. Most recently we have seen a notifiable increase in knife related offences. The Community Safety Partnership Plan 2017/2020 reflects the borough wide community concerns in relation to violence, in particular domestic abuse and knife crime and knife carrying.

Additional priorities identified in the plan include; substance misuse, which is one of the key drivers of offending, Child Sexual Exploitation, PREVENT and Hate Crime. Particular groups of the community are specifically vulnerable to potential victimisations. The operational oversight of activities in relation to these priorities is held by the Safer Communities Delivery Group.

Domestic Abuse

The council and its partners have recognised Domestic Abuse (DA) as a priority for many years and it is one of the council's Fairer Future priorities. In March 2015, following extensive consultation, Cabinet agreed the council's Domestic Abuse Strategy (DAS) 2015-2020¹. Actions arising from the recommendations are set out in the strategy's delivery plan. Prevention and early intervention are key to the strategy and the partnership approach to tackling DA. The Safer Communities delivery group has delivery oversight for the DAS with overall strategic accountability sitting with the SSAB.

Over the last two years good progress has been made against the implementation of the strategy and associated delivery plan, particularly in awareness raising and early identification of DA victims.

Through the annual review process on progress against the action plan, areas have been identified more recently where cases of first contact made by a victim of DA has required support from agencies at point of crisis. For example the need for emergency housing. There is a requirement to review and develop a new cross partnership early action/intervention approach to DA, to identify individuals and families at risk of, or experiencing DA, intervening at an earlier point to avoid reaching a point of crisis. This will be a continuing area of focus for 2017/18.

Further to this, although explicitly linked to a renewed early intervention offer is the focus required holistically to deal with perpetrators of Domestic Abuse. A programme is being developed that involves developing and implementing a multi-agency response to the way perpetrators, and those who display harmful sexual behaviour, are held to account and offered opportunities to change. It also includes where this approach

¹

www.southwark.gov.uk/.../id/11740/domestic_abuse_strategy_2015-2020

fails, that perpetrators face the consequences of enforcement and disruption.

This will start with early intervention and prevention work with young people exhibiting harmful sexual behaviour and, escalating to interventions and risk management around our most high-risk and prolific Violence Against Women & Girls nominals who have been identified through the Metropolitan Police Service Dauntless Plus project. In addition to perpetrator intervention programme, there will be a women's support service, which will make active contact with the victim to offer support, risk management and safety planning.

Through the Board's joint work with the SSCB on supporting vulnerable parents, work has been undertaken to look at the partnerships' support offer for survivors of DA with complex needs who have children known to Child Protection and who are hard to engage. As a response to this, we will be developing a new model for vulnerable adults, putting in place bespoke dedicated support for women suffering from Domestic Abuse who have children known to children's services through Child Protection Plans. It places high emphasis on researching, planning and resourcing tailored engagement approaches. This will introduce further therapeutic support for children, to ensure the effects of witnessing abuse are addressed and its long-term effects minimised.

Knife Crime

Following the SSCB's commencement of a Serious Case Review on a fatal stabbing of a young person, coupled with an increase in knife crime and carrying, since the summer of 2016, it was agreed that the SSAB through the Safer Communities sub-group would lead on the development and delivery of a Knife Crime Action Plan.

Knife crime has been increasing steadily across London over the last few years and for the last five years Southwark has had higher than the London average level of knife crime. The offences of knife crime with injury and knife possession have also been above the capital's average. Statistics and anecdotal evidence suggest that knife carrying by young people (10 to 24 years) is now more prevalent. Current understanding of the local profile outlines that young people carry knives mainly for the following reasons, (1) Protection/Safety (2) Attention (3) Criminality – Involvement in gangs/robbery, drug activity (4) Peer Pressure.

The Knife Crime Action Plan will reflect the London wide prioritisation of knife crime as seen in the Mayors Office Knife Crime Action Plan 2017 – 2021, MPS Control Strategy, Southwark Council Plan, and Southwark Community Safety Partnership Plan. The plan is supported legislatively by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (and subsequent amendments) through the work of the Community Safety Partnership for which the statutory responsibility is held by the Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board. The plan is also supported by safeguarding legislation.

The Safer Communities subgroup organised a facilitated workshop in January 2017 with a wide variety of stakeholders including young people up to the age of 24 years, to look at how this could be tackled and to start the process of developing a plan to outline how knife crime and knife carrying would be addressed in Southwark. The themes that emerged from the workshop and subsequent engagement with stakeholders reflected in the action plan are listed below.

Knife crime action plan – key themes

- **Consultation and engagement** – with stakeholders, the wider community and young people is essential in understanding the causes and impacts of knife crime and knife carrying and how to deal with it.
- **Information sharing and intelligence development** – between partners and with the community is essential to ensure the multi-agency response to knife crime and knife carrying is effective.
- **Communication of key messages and awareness raising** – including clear signposting of where to go for help.
- **Building resilience** – young people, parents and carers developing the resilience and skills to avoid knife crime as victim and/or perpetrator including work with schools across Southwark.
- **Prevention and early intervention** – working to increase the feeling of safety of young people, diverting people from becoming involved in knife crime and knife carrying and targeted support to those at risk.
- **Enforcement against perpetrators** – using a wide range of enforcement options across the partnership to disrupt and prosecute knife carrying criminals.

This two year action plan will take forward and shape existing responses to knife crime in Southwark using the themes above and through existing provision e.g. the Southwark Anti-Violence Unit (SAVU) and SERVE (multi-agency programmes providing support for individuals aged 16-25 years involved in or at risk from gang related crime), HAMROW (fortnightly police led multi-agency gangs intervention meeting) and MPS Gangs Unit. It will also include, acknowledge and build on the work done in schools, alternative educational provision, colleges, businesses and the community.

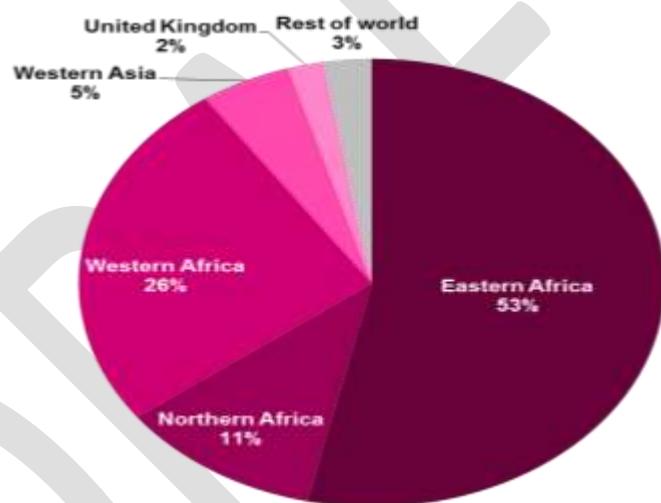
The collective roles & responsibilities of all stakeholders including schools, parents, and carers will be considered in developing a credible strategic and operational response to knife crime and carrying. A response including prevention, harm reduction, risk management and enforcement, which recognises that victims need support and perpetrators need to be rehabilitated. The plan will be subject to an annual review to measure progress and ensure its continuing relevance in tackling and preventing knife crime and knife carrying in Southwark.

Female Genital Mutilation

The SSCB and SSAB are leading the FGM agenda which is a joint priority for both boards. During this year, the FGM multi agency guidance document, including the intervention framework for identifying, assessing and responding to FGM has been updated and widened to include adults. Strong partnership working, shared values and a shared commitment to ensure that intervention is provided to support survivors of female genital mutilation. Based on national research there are populations at risk of FGM and under-reporting, so during

2016/17 work commenced to develop a local community profile to ensure that the protected characteristics of those concerned are very well understood and responded to effectively in a culturally sensitive and appropriate way. Through this work, we know that over half of all newly recorded cases of FGM in Southwark during the year were from women born in eastern Africa, (See Figure 1). In comparison, nationally eastern Africa accounts for approximately a third of all newly recorded cases.

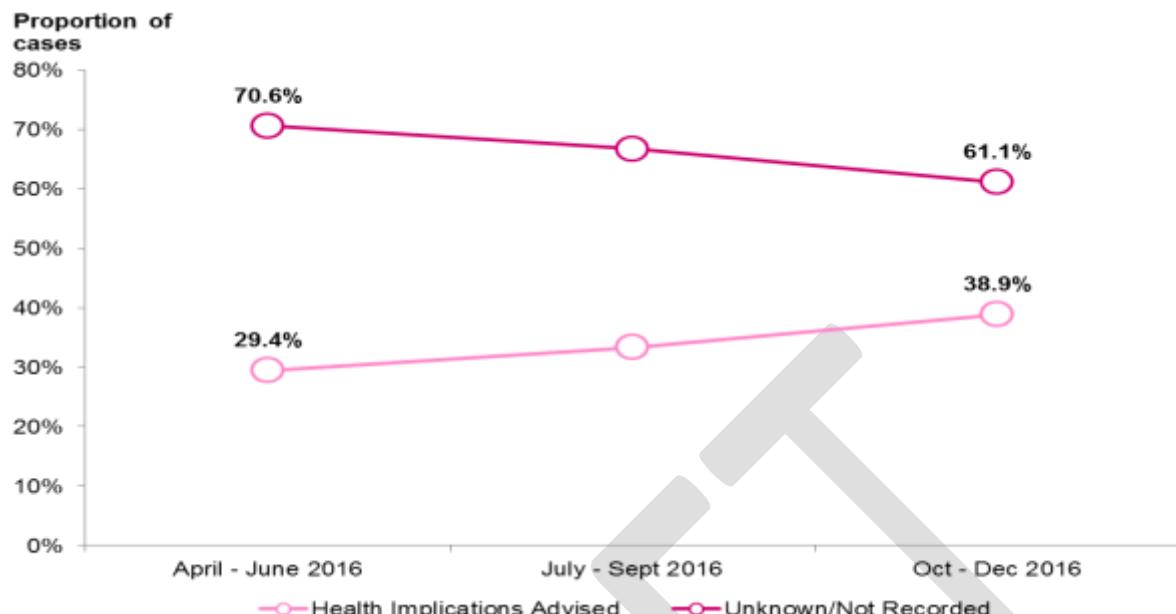
Figure 1. Country of origin of women with FGM in Southwark



Health partners have been key to providing vital support to women with FGM and intervening to prevent girls and women at risk of FGM from being harmed; therefore, the training of health professionals has been prioritised and referral and information pathways in acute hospitals have been developed.

When FGM is identified by a clinician it is now routinely recorded. Despite a large proportion of newly identified records having missing data due to clinicians being unable to confirm details or patients unwilling to disclose information, the proportion of women being advised of the health implications of FGM at point of contact (39%) is higher than compared to the national picture (34%), see Figure 2 below.

Figure 2: Proportion of cases in Southwark where patient advised on health implications of FGM, April – December 2016



A number of community events and initiatives have been delivered over the course of 2016/17 with the ultimate purpose being the eradication of FGM. In June 2016 there was an open forum and luncheon event inviting women, young people and parents to attend. The forum provided reassurance to these females about the mandatory reporting now required by

professionals. There was a half day safeguarding conference for voluntary sector organisations in October 2016 which focused on raising awareness about FGM, together with a range of other events across the year including information stalls at local events such as the Camberwell Fair and multi agency cross borough events on FGM zero tolerance day in February 2017.

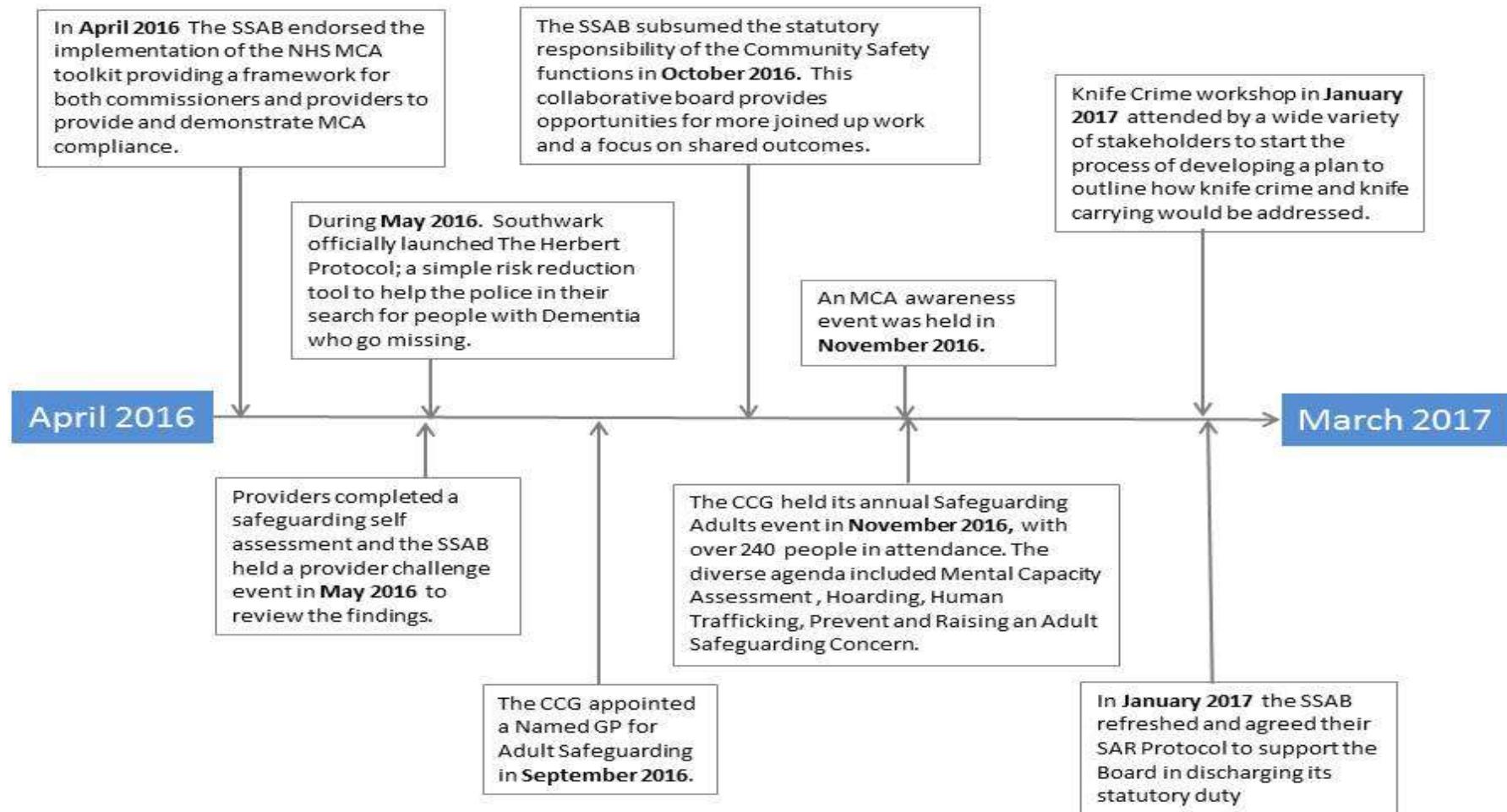
Preventing Violent Extremism

During 2016-17, both the SSCB and SSAB have continued to positively drive forward the development of Southwark's multi-agency approach to preventing violent extremism in relation to safeguarding children, young people and families. The multi-agency approach to identifying and supporting cases, as exemplified through the Channel panel process, continues to draw on expertise from partners including local-authority social care, the police, the NHS, and youth offending service. Accredited training continues to be undertaken across the partnership to ensure that frontline practitioners are able to spot the signs of concern and make appropriate referrals, with additional work being undertaken to produce bespoke training for high-priority frontline staff (such as Social Workers and school staff) to incorporate case-studies and opportunities for the development of reflective practice. Southwark continues to participate fully in pan-London and national groups around Prevent practice, to ensure that the borough continues to draw from, and contribute to, the development of best-practice in relation to this important area.

Looking ahead to 2017/18, the SSAB in conjunction with the SSCB will continue to drive forward a robust and responsive safeguarding-led approach to preventing radicalisation and violent extremism in the year ahead by finalising a refreshed Local Delivery Plan in summer 2017, ensuring that partnership priorities are agreed and appropriate monitoring is in place to evaluate progress and continuing to promote the Prevent duty across the partnership, and signposting examples of good-practice safeguarding where identified.

The annual Adult Safeguarding training for GPs in November 2016 included a Prevent workshop, which provided an overview of the Southwark Prevent Programme, and relevant case discussions. It highlighted the need for more tailored training for promoting the Prevent program within health care settings, and specifically General Practice together with the need to continue the awareness raising of Prevent, ensuring the continued roll out of training across health partners.

Figure 3: Overview of 2016/17 Milestones

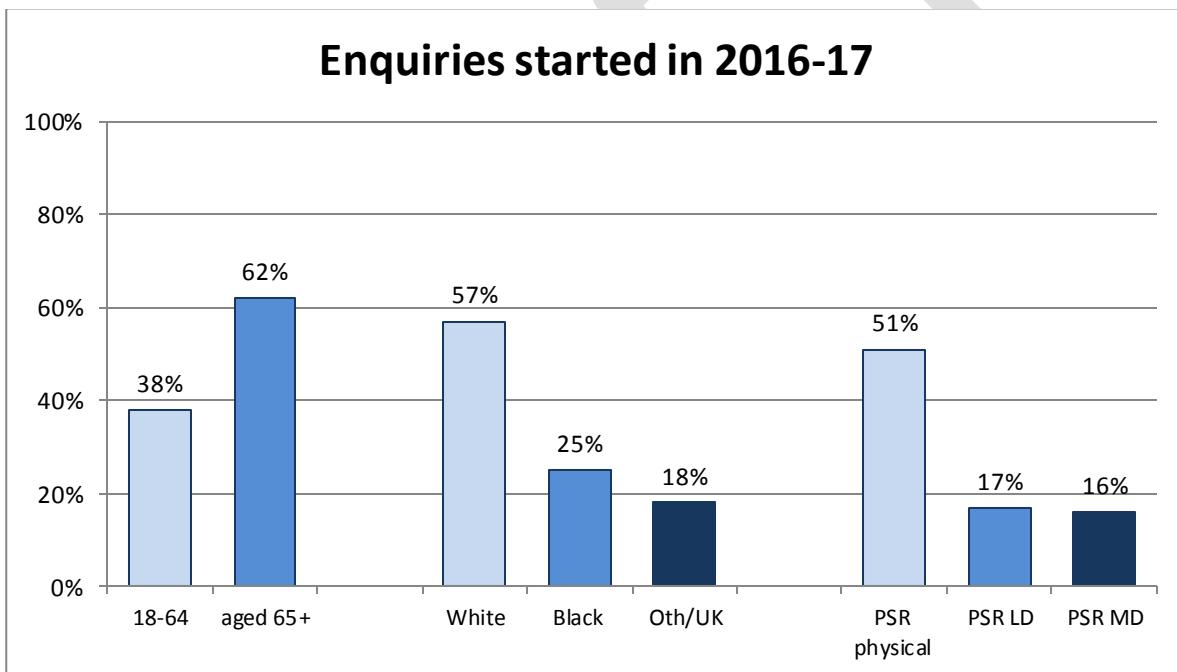


Chapter 3 – SSAB governance

3.1 Core Adult Safeguarding

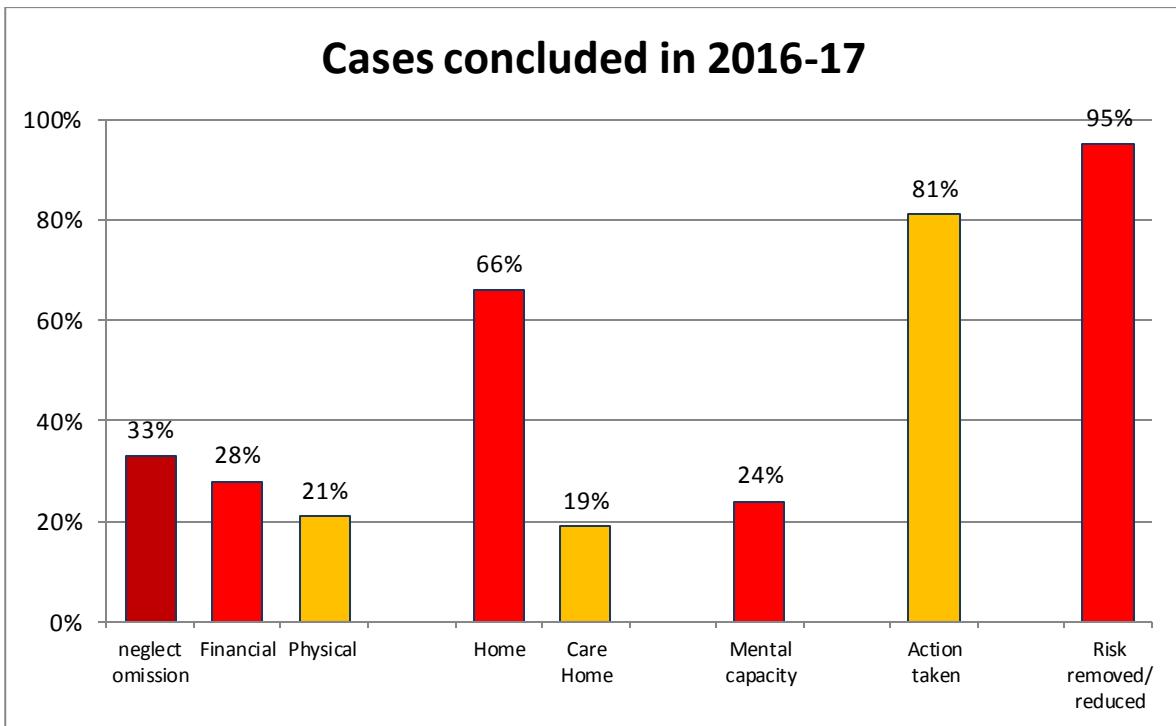
During 2016-17 a total of 484 Section 42 safeguarding enquiries for adults were started. Most but not all of these were concluded during 2016-17. Of these:

- 62% related to adults aged over 65 and 38% were aged 18-64
- 58% were in relation to women and 42% to men
- 57% were in relation to white service users, 25% to black service users. The remaining 18% were equally split between other ethnicities and people with unknown ethnicity
- The majority of enquiries (51%) were in relation to people with a primary support reason (PSR) of physical support, while 17% had a PSR of learning disability support and 16% had mental health support as their PSR.



A total of 464 adults were the subject of a Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries that was concluded during 2016-17. Some of these had begun the previous year. Of these:

- the greatest proportion of allegations were concerns around neglect and acts of omission (33%), followed by financial abuse (28%) and physical abuse (21%)
- abuse was suspected to have occurred in the service user's own home in two thirds (66%) of cases, followed by 19% in care homes
- 112 service users (24% of cases) were reported as lacking mental capacity
- action was taken following the investigation in 378 (81%) of the cases concluded in 2016/17.
- where a risk was identified action which resulted in the risk either being removed or reduced was taken in 95% of cases.



3.2 Care Homes

Whilst there have been significant improvements in the quality of nursing home provision in the borough, it has still remained a priority area for the Local Authority (LA) and the NHS Southwark CCG. These two organisations have

continued to work together on this area of shared interest by monitoring the situation closely and are committed to supporting and maintaining the nursing home sector in the borough. This is being achieved through:

Care Homes Improvement Plan

- Increased GP, elderly care consultant, social work and pharmacy time provided as part of the GP Enhanced Care Homes multi-disciplinary team that meets at the nursing homes every month.
- Joint meetings between the Local Authority, NHS Southwark CCG, Care Quality Commission (CQC) and Healthwatch Southwark where quality concerns are openly shared and discussed for a range of services so that all partners are aware and appropriate action can be taken.
- Increased NHS Funded Nursing Care Contribution - ensuring that care homes continue to benefit from this
- Co-ordinated monitoring and engagement with providers focussed on improving quality.

3.3 SSAB governance arrangements

It is a requirement of the Care Act that the Local Authority, NHS Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and the Chief Officer of police **must** be represented on Safeguarding Adult Boards. To ensure the Board fulfils its duties effectively, our membership is made up of senior officers from across the partnership who are able to promote the respective priorities of the organisations around the table, and also commit their organisations to agreed actions. Board membership during the

In addition to the quarterly meetings, a special board meeting was convened on the 2nd June 2016 facilitated by Institute of Public Care, (IPC) to discuss the proposal of the SSAB subsuming the statutory responsibility of the Community Safety functions. The boards have a similar membership structure, with the Council, Police, National Probation Service and Southwark CCG represented on both the Safeguarding Southwark Partnership and

course of 2016-17 is detailed in **Appendix 1.**

Although it is not a requirement, Care Act Guidance advises that thought be given to the appointment of an Independent Chair to Safeguarding Adult Boards. Since April 2015 the Board has had an Independent Chair. The Board meets four times per year and during 2016/17 the meetings have explored a number of key issues in depth, including hoarding, knife crime, DoLs and MCA.

the Board. There are also a number of key themes that cut across both 'safeguarding' and the 'community safety' agenda (such as domestic abuse, substance misuse, financial abuse, the abuse of vulnerable adults living in their own homes in the community, FGM and PREVENT). This was formally agreed in June 2016 and these new arrangements commenced from the 4th October 2016.

SSAB subgroups

The SSAB's sub-groups play a vital role in taking forward the work of the Board. During 2016/17, the following sub-groups met regularly:

- Quality and Performance
- Community Engagement
- HR and Safeguarding
- Safer Communities

The Safer Communities subgroup organised a facilitated knife crime and knife carrying workshop in January 2017 with a wide variety of stakeholders including young people to look at how knife crime could be tackled and to start the process of developing a plan to outline how knife crime and knife carrying would be addressed in Southwark. The themes that emerged from the workshop and subsequent engagement

with stakeholders provides the content for the Knife Crime Action Plan, a priority for the SSAB under its safeguarding vulnerable people's priority, a joint piece with the Safeguarding Children Board.

The Board has strong relationships with other key strategic bodies in Southwark, including the Health and Wellbeing Board, CCG executive safeguarding meeting and Southwark Safeguarding Children's Board.

3.4 Financial arrangements

The work of the Board is supported by contributions from the Council, CCG, Police and the London Fire Brigade. The funding for the partnership for 2016/2017 was £49,500. 00

Chapter 4 – Serious Adults Reviews (SAR)

The SSAB have a statutory duty under S44 of The Care Act 2014 to arrange a SAR when an adult in its area dies as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult. The purpose of a SAR is to determine what the relevant agencies and individuals involved in the case might have done differently that could have prevented harm or death. It is not an enquiry into how an adult died or is it to apportion blame; but to learn from such situations, and that those lessons are applied to future cases to prevent similar harm occurring again. With this in mind, during 2016/17 the SSAB refreshed and agreed their SAR Protocol, which provides guidance to ensure the effective identification of and response to SARs within the Borough and to support the Board in discharging its statutory duty.

In the latter part of the year, the SSAB published the SAR on Adult A. All Review Panel members and SSAB partners expressed sadness and concern at the way in which Adult A died and wish to give their sincere condolences to his family. As required by the Care Act 2014 and Care and Support Statutory Guidance, the practice of all agencies in respect of Adult A was considered against each of the six Safeguarding Adults Principles. This Review has identified learning for all agencies supporting adults with care and support needs in Southwark, not just those organisations that have participated in this review. For that reason, key learning points summarised below will be considered across the multi-agency partnership;

Key learning points from Adult A SAR

- The vital significance of people having registration with GP practices and the need for organisations providing health and social care for people such as Adult A understanding the importance of primary care services.
- The importance of risk assessment and sharing information with and across partners.
- The need to understand how mental health conditions and physical conditions inter-relate.
- The obligations of practitioners across agencies to work together to meet their legal duties – in this case relating to the Mental Capacity Act [2005], the Crime and Justice Act [2003] and the Mental Health Act [1983].

- The importance of seeing Adult A as a human being, deserving of dignity rather than as a statistic passing through a system.
- The absolute importance of good discharge planning, with the person at the centre and across partnerships.

Tragically, we sadly lost one of our residents in a fire during the year. Due to the complex needs of the deceased and the involvement of numerous agencies, in January 2017 the SSAB took the decision to commission another SAR, which will be completed in the early part of 2017/18.

The SAR will provide useful insights into the way the partnership worked together and learn from such situations. These lessons learnt will be applied to future cases to prevent similar harm occurring again.

Chapter 5 - Summary and next steps

Good progress was made throughout 2016/17 to protect Southwark's adults at risk. Our partnership arrangements remain flexible and adapt to meet changing needs. We continue to strengthen our links with the children's safeguarding board (SSCB) and embed the community safety agenda to provide a joined up focus on vulnerable adults in the community such as those at risk or experiencing mental health, exploitation and abuse and most notably a shared concern around knife crime and knife carrying. Our priorities for 2017/18 sit within this context; the SSAB will continue to respond to local and national challenges considering ways in which multi-agency partners can better

work together to tackle shared areas of work and concern.

Throughout 2017/18 the Board will continue to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults who are at risk of or experiencing abuse or neglect. This will be achieved by ensuring that all partnership safeguarding activity is underpinned by the six Care Act safeguarding principles of empowerment, prevention, proportionality, protection, partnership and accountability. In addition to the core safeguarding activity to protect local adults at risk of abuse, harm or neglect, the Board has agreed a number of thematic priorities;

Priority 1: SSAB development & governance

During a SSAB development day at the start of 2017/18 the partnership focused on areas for development for the forthcoming year. In the context of a continually changing landscape, it is necessary to comprehensively re-review the Board's role and responsibilities. In summary, in 2017/18 we will;

- Revisit roles and responsibilities in accordance with the Pan-London procedures
- Consider how significant structure changes in partner organisations will potentially impact on the work of the Board
- Review the membership to include wider stakeholders
- Consider models of engagement with private providers
- Develop a two year business plan with an annual review

Priority 2: Managing risk

The Board has begun to challenge whether we have a collective understanding of what we mean by risk. It is apparent that thresholds and definitions can vary across the partnership depending on roles and responsibilities. On this basis, in 2017/18 we will;

- Establish a shared understanding across the different agencies as to what we mean by risk in Southwark

- Undertake a comprehensive review of MARAC focusing on thresholds and the understanding of risks and responsibilities across the partnership.
- A more focused approach on financial abuse exploring whether to approach via safeguarding or criminal activity.

Priority 3: Learning from SARs

During the latter part of 2016/17 the learning from the Serious Adult Review completed on Adult A was published. In the early part of 2017/18 the findings from Adult B's SAR will also be published, providing the opportunity to collectively review how the partnership worked together and applying the learning to prevent similar harm occurring again. During 2017/18 the Board will;

- Seek assurance, via the Quality and Performance subgroup that recommendations from the SAR's are put in place
- Review the management of people with long term chaotic behaviours
- Develop a communication strategy around SAR's especially Adult B as it was a fire related
- Explore the PDT subgroup focus shifting from training to moving to more skills based

Priority 4: Knife crime & knife carrying (joint priority with SSCB)

In July 2017, the two year action plan will be formally signed off by both the Safeguarding Children's Board and the Safeguarding Adults Board. The Knife Crime Action Plan will reflect the London wide prioritisation of knife crime as seen in the MOPAC Police and Crime Plan 2017 – 2021, MPS Control Strategy, Southwark Council Plan, and Southwark Community Safety Partnership Plan. The plan is supported legislatively by the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (and subsequent amendments) through the work of the Community Safety Partnership for which the statutory responsibility is held by the Southwark Safeguarding Adults Board. The plan is also supported by safeguarding legislation

In summary, during 2017/18 we will;

- Be delivering the knife crime action plan in collaboration with the community and closely monitoring progress to ensure we are making a difference.
- Launching a communications campaign with a set of key messages that will be embedded within wider civic activity.
- Providing a particular focus working with parents and carers to enable them to access information and appropriate support.

The partnership will continue to work together to improve the outcomes for adults, particularly those at risk in the borough and the SSAB Business Plan 2017-19 details how this will be achieved.

Contact information

If you have any questions about the content of this report (or you have thoughts about what we should include in future reports), please contact ssab@southwark.gov.uk.

If you are concerned about an adult at risk in the borough of Southwark you should notify us immediately (telephone: 020 7525 3324, or email: casc@southwark.gov.uk).

If the adult has been injured you should seek advice from their GP, or in an emergency call 999.

If you believe a crime has been committed you should notify the police.



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