

Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee

A meeting of Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee was held on Tuesday, 10th December, 2019.

Present: Cllr Evaline Cunningham(Chairman), Cllr Clare Gamble(Vice-Chair), Cllr Jacky Bright, Cllr Kevin Faulks, Cllr Lynn Hall, Cllr Mohammed Javed, Cllr Paul Weston, Cllr Luke Frost

Officers: Judy Trainer, Gary Woods, Marianne Sleeman (MD)

Also in attendance: Ann Baxter

Apologies: Cllr Bill Woodhead (MBE)

ASH 40/19 Evacuation Procedure

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and the evacuation procedure was noted.

ASH 41/19 Declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

ASH 42/19 Minutes from the meeting on 12th November 2019 for approval / signature

Consideration was given to the minutes from the meeting held on 12th November 2019.

AGREED that the minutes from the meeting held on 12th November 2019 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

ASH 43/19 Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) - Annual Report 2018-2019

Consideration was given to the Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) Annual Report 2018-2019 and Strategic Business Plan 2019-2020 which was presented by the TSAB Independent Chair.

The main issues discussed during the presentation and in response to the Committee's questions were as follows:

- Good practice and resources were shared across the four Local Authority areas that are covered by the TSAB, as well as the other statutory partners (Cleveland Police and local CCGs. However, the TSAB acknowledge that there could be challenges around links to the ground in each of the four localities. It is important that the Board is not just a talking shop.
- Safeguarding concerns and Section 42 enquiries in adults had risen over the last year; this could be due to more safeguarding awareness. More abuse took place in homes and not Care Homes.
- Discussion took place around the difficulty in safeguarding adults due to an individual's capacity; there was a balance between personal choice and

statutory responsibility.

- Stockton has the highest number of Safe Places in the Borough and Cleveland Fire Service provide Stay Safe and Warm visits to residents – two very positive initiatives in terms of safeguarding.
- It is the statutory duty of the Adult Safeguarding Board to look at the quality of training through multi-agency audits.
- Safeguarding adults is something that is everyone's business, but this can lead to it being nobody's business (e.g. Domestic Abuse) – a key ongoing challenge is how the Board and its partners can work better together and best use their collective resources.
- Members were informed that some people misuse alcohol or drugs to gain access to hospital so they have a bed for the night.
- Most serious adult reviews (SARs) following a death concern middle-aged people who have led a chaotic lifestyle. They are often known to services but are very hard to help.
- Members suggested that including trend data in future TSAB Annual Reports would be useful (e.g. Where did Adult Abuse Occur (page 5)). An explanation around what constituted a 'concern' and a 'Section 42 Enquiry' was also proposed (page 5).
- Discussion took place around the situations that cause domestic abuse, with cases within BME communities highlighted. It was noted that some cases involve different types of abuse.
- Regarding the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS), Members asked if the Board receive feedback on this from Local Authorities, and expressed concern that this had become a process where the individual is lost. The Independent Chair acknowledged the danger that it becomes a paper exercise, and is often a poor experience for families / carers. TSAB have provided its own feedback nationally and have seen draft changes in the Government Green Paper. Members encouraged the gathering of views from all stakeholders involved in DoLS.
- Concerns around Social Care for adults and children being at odds with each other was expressed by Members, as was safeguarding within care homes. Regarding the latter, there were a high number of medication errors taking place in care homes previously, but Board-led work on this has led to a 20% reduction in errors. The high staff turnover ('churn') within care homes can affect quality, and challenges remain around changing the perceptions of people who do not see care jobs as skilled roles.
- In terms of training, more feedback on this could be provided in future TSAB reports. It was reported that high workloads can prevent staff accessing training, and that some staff question the benefits of online courses as they cannot discuss issues or interact with other professionals.

AGREED that

- The Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board (TSAB) Annual Report 2018-2019 and Strategic Business Plan 2019-2020 be noted.
- The information requested be provided to Committee as part of future TSAB Annual Reports.

**ASH
44/19** **Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

Consideration was given to the Minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board (September and October 2019).

AGREED that the minutes of the Health and Wellbeing Board (September and October 2019) be noted.

**ASH
45/19** **Work Programme 2019-2020**

Consideration was given to the Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Work Programme 2019-2020.

AGREED that the Adult Social Care and Health Select Committee Work Programme 2019-2020 be noted.

**ASH
46/19** **Chairs Update**

The Chair had nothing further to update.