

STATEMENT OF PRINCIPLES
Working arrangements between Stockton on Tees'
Health and Wellbeing Board and Safeguarding Adults Board
Statement of Intent

Both Stockton on Tees Health and Wellbeing Board (SHWB) and the Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Committee (SVAC) recognise that the health, wellbeing and safety of Vulnerable Adults in Stockton on Tees is of the utmost importance and are committed to working together to achieve the best possible outcomes for them.

The Roles of Each Board

Stockton on Tees Health and Wellbeing Board (SHWB) SHWB is a committee of the Council and has a statutory duty to: identify needs through the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA), agree a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy to meet those needs and support integrated working.

Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Committee (SVAC)

The SVAC is a body with responsibility to co-ordinate and provide effective inter agency working to safeguard vulnerable adults in our community.

The Roles of Partner Organisations

Both Boards have a responsibility to work in partnership with other organisations, most of which are common to both Boards. They will ensure that the views and needs of partner organisations are recognised and incorporated into their joint working arrangements. There are a wide range of organisations involved in fulfilling the partnership functions, both from the statutory, independent and community and voluntary sectors.

Expectations that the Boards will have of each other

Cooperation:

In addition to any formal duty to cooperate the Boards will seek to ensure the closest possible cooperation in order to achieve their aims.

Positive Input:

The safeguarding of vulnerable adults and the promotion of their health and wellbeing is complex and demanding; both Boards will expect its partners to offer positive and constructive input based on mutual trust and respect.

Critique:

This is the process of giving positive critical input, which is consistent with the expectations of cooperation and positive input in order to optimise the effectiveness of both Boards.

Support, Expertise, Experience and Information sharing:

Both Boards and their supporting officers have knowledge, expertise and experience that is of value to the other and which will be openly shared in order to achieve the agreed outcomes.

Scrutiny / Hold to Account:

The roles of each Board in relation to formal scrutiny differ. Using the principles outlined above the Boards will hold each another to account for their contribution to

the safety, health and wellbeing of vulnerable adults. Additionally they will accept joint accountability for specific issues requiring cooperation and joint action.

Raise Issues of concern:

In addition to assurance and accountability processes the Boards, using the processes described above, will raise issues of individual and joint concern. These will be addressed through ongoing dialogue and through formal reporting.

Dialogue:

The Boards will use both routine and ad hoc opportunities to promote discussion and consultation, with vulnerable adults people, about their actions and planning arrangements.

Development:

Both Boards will seek to improve their effectiveness through an ongoing process of development, where appropriate this will be undertaken jointly when this is considered to be beneficial.

Ways of Working

In order to optimise the benefits for vulnerable adults in Stockton on Tees, the Boards will commit to working collaboratively. These collaborative arrangements will have both formal and informal elements, facilitated by the joint membership of the Boards. In addition the Chairs of both Boards will maintain a dialogue in order to identify and develop shared issues.

Care will be taken to ensure that the constituent members of both Boards work together to avoid duplication, address areas of potential service deficit, and by identifying specific leads for those identified work streams.