

# LONDON BOROUGH OF CROYDON

<b>REPORT:</b>	<b>Health &amp; Social Care Scrutiny Committee</b>	
<b>DATE OF DECISION</b>	<b>3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023</b>	
<b>REPORT TITLE:</b>	<b>Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2022 - 2023</b>	
<b>CORPORATE DIRECTOR / DIRECTOR:</b>	<b>Annette McPartland, Corporate Director of Adult Social Care and Health</b>	
<b>LEAD OFFICER:</b>	<b>David Williams, Independent Chair, CSAB</b>	
<b>LEAD MEMBER:</b>	<b>Cllr Yvette Hopley, Cabinet Member for Health &amp; Social Care</b>	
<b>AUTHORITY TO TAKE DECISION:</b>	<b>There is no decision to be taken by the Sub-Committee. The Annual Report is shared with the Sub-Committee to enable it to review the performance of the Board.</b>	
<b>CONTAINS EXEMPT INFORMATION?</b>	<b>[YES] / [NO]</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>WARDS AFFECTED:</b>	<b>N/A</b>	

## 1 RECOMMENDATION FOR THE SUB-COMMITTEE

The Health & Social Care Sub-Committee is asked to:

1. Note the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2022-2023.
2. Consider whether there are any considerations or concerns it may wish to submit to the Cabinet during its consideration of the Annual Report.
3. In particular, give consideration as to whether the Annual Report provides sufficient reassurance on the performance and effectiveness of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board.

## 2 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 2.1 This report provides the H&SC Scrutiny meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October with an Executive Summary of the contents within the Croydon Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for 2022/23, this is an independent report which has been ratified and signed off at the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board on the 26 July 2023 as outlined by S43 Care Act and the Statutory Guidance.
- 2.2 Following a Pre-agenda meeting on the 21<sup>st</sup> September this will provide the information for discussion on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October taking into account the feedback provided from the pre-meet. The board were thanked for the work undertaken within the report however, further work is required around the accessibility for everyone to be able to read and

access the content. This included the acronyms used [these have been removed from this summary], colour used, flow of the document so a short executive summary would be a good way to present to Scrutiny.

- 2.3 These comments will be taken forward however, time restraints to take forward these suggestions was agreed that it would not be possible for the 3<sup>rd</sup> October.
- 2.4 This Report is being presented to Cabinet by the multi-agency Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board and asked to note the work undertaken by the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board partners. The recommendations arising from the Health & Social Care Scrutiny Committee taking place on the 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 will be taken forward for the 2023/24 Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report and shared with Cabinet on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2023.
- 2.5 The purpose of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report is to detail the activity and effectiveness of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board between April 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 to 31 March 2023. The report is submitted by the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Independent Chair, David Williams. It ensures that the statutory partners (Council, Health and Police), residents and other agencies are given the opportunity to provide objective feedback on the work and effectiveness of local arrangements for safeguarding adults. The report covers the 2022/23 priorities demonstrating what has been achieved and the work which needs to continue throughout 2023/24. It is important to note that the remit for producing this report is that it is produced as a public facing document.
- 2.6 The Performance and Quality Assurance sub-group continues its robust work to develop the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Dashboard which has continued to improve year on year both to inform the CSAB work and also to identify gaps in service across all sectors. Following the recent review by the Partners in Health & Care (LGA) we have been taking forward the recommendations and developed an Action Plan which is regularly monitored. We have already held positive meetings with both Health and Police colleagues to identify data which can be both collected and fit for purpose in relation to the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board's priorities.
- 2.7 Engagement and Communication across the partnership has been key to the work of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board. The level of engagement is evidenced within the report with more agencies being represented on the board's sub-groups along with their involvement with the process for safeguarding adult reviews. It can also be seen in both attendance at the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board quarterly meetings and sub-groups but also at events organised by the Board.
- 2.8 Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 mandates Safeguarding Adult Boards (SABs) must arrange for there to be a Safeguarding Adult Review of a case involving an adult in its area with care and support needs (whether or not the local authority has been meeting any of these needs) if:

- a) There is reasonable concern about how the Safeguarding Adult Board, partner agencies or other persons with relevant functions worked together to safeguard the adult AND
- b) The adult died as a result of abuse or neglect (or suspected abuse or neglect) OR
- c) The adult experienced serious abuse or neglect.

However, the overall purpose of a Safeguarding Adult Review is to promote learning and improve practice, not to re-investigate or to apportion blame.

- 2.9 The Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board has seen an increase in Safeguarding Adult Reviews [SARs] which can be seen as a positive due to work carried out raising awareness of the work of the board. Two are included in this report as they have been published during the period for this report and full reports for Madeleine and Sylvia, along with 7 Minute briefings, can be found on the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board website. They were both around the theme of transitional safeguarding and the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board are currently in the process of organising multi agency Bitesize Training sessions similar to those which provided a success for the Catherine and VB SARs.
- 2.10 The Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board will continue to engage across the Croydon Partnership, regionally and nationally through meetings and networks. We are also working closely with colleagues from the Children's Partnership which will include transitional safeguarding.
- 2.11 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report as all priorities within the 2022/23 Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report has been funded through the Adult Social Care budget and allocations from the statutory partners for the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board (Health and Police).

### **3 BACKGROUND AND DETAILS**

- 3.1 The report will be introduced by David Williams with the strategic partners present – Adult Social Care, Health and Police at Cabinet on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November. It will provide an update on the multi agency work undertaken across the partnership from the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2023.
- 3.2 Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Safeguarding Statistics can be found on pages 8 - 9 of the report. Slide 8 shows the number of safeguarding referrals received during this time totally 1786 with 599 closed S42 safeguarding enquiries indicating the source of the referrals. These numbers are down from last year with the continued modified the process by the local authority, whereby there is a screening of all 'at risk' contacts on being received. This has led to the number of safeguarding concerns dropping but more importantly a timely and preventative response to a significant number of cases.
- 3.3 75% of closed safeguarding enquiries were located within the community which was a similar figure to the previous year (76%), 25% were located in care homes which was

the same percentage in 2021/22. You can see from the data on page 9 that those asked if their desired outcomes were either fully or partially achieved saw an increase of 1% from the previous year (95%).

- 3.4 The data is telling us that Asian/Asian British are underrepresented for safeguarding referrals compared to the ethnicity of Croydon's population. Black/African/Caribbean/Black British safeguarding referrals are 1% below the Croydon's population percentage. This is in line with national data and there has been much work undertaken in Croydon to raise awareness within the community. The Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Voice of the People sub-group has been leading this work and examples of this can be seen from information within the report. It has continued to engage with community groups and engaged with the BME Forum and Asian Resource Centre, the Chief Executive of the BME Forum, Andrew Brown is Vice Chair of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board. Bespoke workshops are currently in the planning phase with the Asian Resource Centre to raise awareness around 'Keeping You Safe' for 2023/24.
- 3.5 The report covers work undertaken and identifies further needed to be undertaken across each of the Board's priorities and some examples have been listed below:
- a) **Prevention** [pages 16 – 19]. Safeguarding Adult Reviews have continued to be commissioned with requests coming into the CSAB Safeguarding Adult Review sub-group from across the partnership. There are three further safeguarding adult reviews which are near completion and will be reported in next year's annual report. As part of the quality and improvement assurance the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board developed a Safeguarding Adult Review Comprehensive Action Plan which monitors the progress on the recommendations from all completed Safeguarding Adult Reviews. South London and Maudsley Trust has incorporated transitional safeguarding awareness into their adult safeguarding training and also as a result of the Madeleine SAR appointment of a transitional safeguarding mental health worker within Croydon Mental Health Services and works across the health and social care sector. Work has also begun on the Safer Croydon Partnership Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Strategy with the Violence Reduction Network presenting the work at the CSAB quarterly meeting.
  - b) **Commissioning** [pages 21 – 22]. Croydon Council commissioning team developed a quality monitoring risk rating for Adult Social Care providers to ensure oversight of all regulated care providers are monitored in a timely manner. This work compliments the market oversight work of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board Intelligence Sharing sub-group which meets bi-monthly with representatives across a wide range of agencies including the Care Quality Commission. This group has introduced a professional's feedback form in order to receive feedback on providers ahead of the Intelligence Sharing meetings. Other Safeguarding Adult Boards have shown an interest in the way in which this group operates with requests to learn more about its work.
  - c) **Quality & Improvement** [page 23 – 28]. The Performance and Quality Assurance sub-group have continued to improve the data with the focus of collecting more

robust data across all partners which tells us areas which requires further focus and identifies gaps. At Croydon's request the Local Government Association (Partners in Health & Care) undertook a three day bespoke review of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board (pages 24-26), the reviewer provided the board with recommendations and an action plan has been developed to take these forward. When asked the reviewer reported that the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board could be rated 'Good' but with further work could achieve 'outstanding'.

- d) **Cross Sector Working** [pages 29 – 30]. The report evidences many examples of how agencies have been working together, these include working with the Croydon Safeguarding Children Partnership around transitional safeguarding, Hear Us engaged with the Local Government Association review, Police colleagues have chaired SAR Panels and the BME Forum have undertaken many projects working with agencies across the partnership [page 35]. Also page 6 provides examples of good practice across the partnership.
  
- e) **Voice of the People** [page 32]. The Voice of the People sub-group continues to grow and focus their work around producing citizen led resources with the leaflet due to be completed in September 2023. Membership now includes Advocacy For All, Hear Us, Mind in Croydon and Crisis. They provided feedback to Adult Social Care on their new online portal and was part of the Local Government Association review process with the independent reviewer attending one of the quarterly meetings and their work mentioned in the final report. The 'Keeping you Safe' presentation continues to be shared with groups/network etc with further presentations planned for 2023/24 including the Asian Resource Centre.
  
- f) **Communication and Engagement** [pages 34 – 35]. There is excellent engagement with the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board with high attendance at meetings and events held with volunteers always keen to take part in the work of the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board. Strong links are in place with other SABs both regionally and nationally with Croydon being very proactive in work undertaken by these networks. The Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board have recently taken on the role of Chairing the South West London SAB Chairs and Managers network which follows the same footprint as the South West London Integrated Care Board.

## **4 CONSULTATION**

- 4.1 The three strategic partners [Local Authority, Health and Police] along with other organisations, the voluntary sector, residents and agencies have contributed to the annual report. Resident feedback and the Lay Member comments have also been included within the report.
- 4.2 Contributions are gathered by partners completing a template and also by continuous recording of work undertaken using the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board meeting structure of the board and its sub-groups. This year the template included additional questions following the feedback from last year's Scrutiny, we asked agencies to provide evidence on how they measured impact on services and for residents in order to report on the effectiveness of the Board. Contributions are also sourced by attending events and workshops.
- 4.3 The Annual Report will be signed off at the Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board at the quarterly meeting and is shared across the sub-group meetings during the months of March – August 2023.

## **5 CONTRIBUTION TO COUNCIL PRIORITIES**

- 5.1 The Croydon Safeguarding Adult Board sets its priorities each year which are highlighted throughout the Annual Report which includes safeguarding vulnerable adults in Croydon from harm/abuse.

Approved by: Annette McPartland, Corporate Director, Adult, Social Care and Health  
25<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **6 APPENDICES**

- 6.1 Appendix A - Copy of Draft Annual Report