

Safeguarding Adults Board

- 1. Needs assessment for safeguarding in Tower Hamlets**
- 2. Strategic Priorities going forward**
- 3. Challenges**

Safeguarding Adults Board

Why we need a Safeguarding Strategy

- **Care Act 2014:** One of the duties of the Safeguarding Adults Board is to develop and publish a strategic plan
- Families with low economic capacity at greater risk of abuse/neglect – **TH 10th most deprived** borough in country.
- In TH: **Number of safeguarding concerns** has been increasing in past 3 years. In 2016-17, there were **720** concerns raised, which increased to **940** in 2017-18. The most recent data showed **1028** safeguarding concerns for Q1, Q2, Q3.
- **699 safeguarding adults' enquiries** were undertaken and concluded in 2017-18; similar to the figure of 696 the year before.

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Location and Type of Abuse

- The majority of safeguarding issues take place in the alleged victim's own home. The figure is 61% in Tower Hamlets – up from 58% last year and 54% the year before.
- 13% of enquiries related to people in care homes, which is similar to previous years.
- **Neglect** was the largest single type of abuse investigated in Tower Hamlets in 2017-18 at 32%. **Self-neglect** has increased this year from 3% to 7%.
- **Financial abuse** accounted for 22% of investigations, up from 20% last year.

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6 Key Principles of Safeguarding

Empowerment - People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent.

Prevention - It is better to take action before harm occurs.

Proportionality - The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

Protection - Support and representation for those in greatest need.

Partnership - Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

Accountability - Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.

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Joint Adults Safeguarding Strategy developed after:

- a. Analysis of local, regional and national data/evidence
- b. Soft consultation with residents and various service user groups (including Carers Centre, Learning and Development Partnership Board and Older Peoples Reference Group)
- c. SAB partners feedback, including Council, Police, Health and Voluntary and Community Sector

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Empowerment

What we want to achieve

People are helped to protect themselves and each other from abuse

Agencies involve people in safeguarding processes that are made personal to them

Staff members are proactive and able to have meaningful, engaging conversations with people

People are offered appropriate support through safeguarding processes, including offering advocates.

People who have been through safeguarding processes feel safer as a result

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Prevention

What we want to achieve

People will know how to identify and avoid abuse

The reasons behind abuse and neglect are tackled, including loneliness and isolation

The reasons behind repeat referrals are tackled

New forms of abuse and neglect are identified and tackled at an early stage

The wider factors of safeguarding are addressed (including poverty and domestic abuse).

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Proportionality

What we want to achieve

Individuals will feel supported to make informed decisions on risk tasking and the level of intervention that they receive

Everyone going through a safeguarding concern is asked what matters to them

The proportion of cases where peoples objectives are achieved increases

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Protection

What we want to achieve

Safeguarding practice is continually strengthened

Staff members are able to identify and manage risk

Financial scams and other organised exploitative activity is disrupted and prevented

People, including hard-to-reach groups, know where to go for help

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Partnership

What we want to achieve

Partners work together to prevent abuse and neglect

Partners will share their evidence and performance and analyse it together to learn and make continual improvements

Partnership Boards work together to identify safeguarding trends

Voluntary Sector Organisations will be able to influence services and strategies through co-delivery and co-production

Partners effectively implement multi agency procedures

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Accountability

What we want to achieve

Partners learn lessons from Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Learning Disabilities Mortality Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews, Audits and more.

Service users, carers and patients feel empowered and able to influence service delivery

Consultation and co-production with users become routine

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Challenges

- **Reduced funding:** Local Authorities across England are facing unprecedented pressures due to increasing care costs in the context of reduced funding to local government.
- **An ageing population:** The population of residents aged 65 and over in Tower Hamlets is expected to grow by 39 per cent over the next ten years.
- **Diversity of residents:** The borough is ranked as the 16th most ethnically diverse local authority in England.
- **Emerging risks:** Online risks such as Cyberbullying, cultural practises such as FGM and other risks such as 'Cuckooing' and 'County Lines'.
- **Quality of Care**
- **Commissioning**

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POPULATION

304,900

We have the fastest growing population in the country



49.7% of older people live below the poverty line

13.7% of families have a household income of less than £15K

HEALTH



78.1 years – life expectancy for a man versus 79.6 years national average



82.5 years – life expectancy for a woman versus 83.2 years national average



Severe mental illness is the **fifth** highest in London

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2017-18

A Keeping Safe in Tower Hamlets event for people with a learning disability in July 2017 raised awareness of safeguarding.

More than 80,000 households in London had a Home Fire Safety visit – a key way of protecting vulnerable people safe from the risk of fire.

63.5% of adult social care users said in February 2018 that they felt as safe as they wanted to, compared to 63% the year before.

New processes have been put in place to hear the views and experiences of people experiencing a safeguarding investigation.

SAFEGUARDING ENQUIRIES

699 safeguarding enquiries were conducted by adult social care teams to establish whether abuse has occurred

In **62%** of cases risks to the person were reduced and in **30%** of cases the risk was completely removed

61% of safeguarding issues occur in the adult's own home

13% of safeguarding issues occurred in care homes



The most common types of abuse investigated were:

32% neglect

22% financial abuse

18% physical abuse

SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Making Safeguarding Personal



6 key principles of safeguarding:

Empowerment

Prevention

Proportionality

Protection

Partnership

Accountability

“Going through the safeguarding process has made me feel stronger and I know now that I am not as vulnerable as people make me out to be.”

Safeguarding adults is everyone's responsibility

PRIORITIES FOR 2018-19

We will focus awareness-raising activity on financial scamming and modern slavery.

We will learn from Safeguarding Adult Reviews at a national and regional level to understand local implications.

Minimise repeat safeguarding issues.

We will learn from health reviews (LeDeRs) in relation to the death of individuals with a learning disability.

We will continue to focus on making safeguarding personal.

We will continue to ensure effective holding to account of agencies.