

APPENDIX 4

Objectives and core essentials of the Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

Extract below from Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) – Programme for 2013-14. Agreed formally at SAB meeting 21 May 2013

The draft Care Bill (2013/4), currently in its final parliamentary stages, intends that SABs should operate on a statutory basis whereby:

- § Local authorities are responsible for establishing and running Safeguarding Adults Boards.
- § Boards must coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of what each of its members does.
- § The local authority, Clinical Commissioning Group and chief officer of police must be core members (Boards have the power to determine other appropriate members).
- § The Board must publish a strategic plan each financial year setting out how it will protect people at risk of harm and what each member is to do to implement the strategy.
- § At the end of the financial year the Board must publish an annual report on its achievements, members' activity and findings from any Safeguarding Reviews during that period.
- § It must consult its area's Health Watch and involve the community in preparing the strategy.

In practice Tower Hamlets SAB has been working to most of these principles in recent years. In 2013-14 the SAB agree formally to work to these expectations given that most of the elements are already in place.

The SAB additionally agreed on 26 March 2013 that:

The Board needs to be clear about its key role as one of 'Governance' – assurance about:

- quality of practice
- compliance with policies and procedures
- quality of commissioning
- performance and quality of outcomes for people who need safeguarding interventions

There need to be clear statements, understood by all Board members and communicated within agencies, and ‘owned by all’, of SAB Strategy and Priorities. The Board must ensure that there is common understanding of all the essential features of safeguarding adults.

The SAB’s Independent Chair stated that the SAB should:

- § Ensure all relevant agencies and individuals work together to common policies, procedures and expectations of quality of practice and management - in a positive partnership spirit.
- § Take initiatives and respond to events specifically related to:
 - the communities of LBTH
 - learning from individual cases or events
- § Be assured that practice and performance fits with policy intentions and statutory requirements on both individual agency and a multi agency basis – holding all agencies and the SAB itself to account

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