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Message from the Independent Chair, Helen Taylor

I am very pleased to introduce the annual report of the Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board for 2018-2019. In this report you will find an overview of the Board’s work over the past 12 months.

In this period one of the priorities has been *Making Safeguarding Personal*. The Care Act emphasises a personalised approach to adult safeguarding that is led by the individual and not the process. In this annual report you will see data that illustrates how safeguarding adults work in Waltham Forest is becoming more person led and outcome focussed. There has been a successful launch of new *Making Safeguarding Personal* guidelines and further events are planned to embed the work.

There have been significant changes for two of the three statutory partners during this year as the police and CCG now working across more than one Borough. Partnership working to safeguard adults in Waltham Forest has undoubtedly been progressed by the drive and support of senior officers in the SAB and I hope that this level of input can be maintained with the new working arrangements.

At the end of 2018-2019 we reviewed our priorities across the strategic partnerships in Waltham Forest. A new overarching priority is working on violence and exploitation. Some of the work led by the SAB directly supports this priority – a good example is the work on cuckooing over the past year.

The two priority areas of focus that are specific to the SAB in this next year are continuing the work on the complex area of self-neglect, and a new priority on developing thresholds for managing risk and intervention for adults. One key aspect will be understanding more about those people who do not meet the threshold for a statutory Section 42 (of the Care Act) assessment, and how they can be kept safe. Progress on this work will be reported in the next annual report.

As a Board we are increasingly strengthening our partnership work and challenging ourselves with the “so what” question, to consider how we maximise the impact of the work that is led by the SAB.

I would like to thank all partners and citizens who have led, contributed to and supported our joint work towards delivering our safeguarding priorities. Thanks also to Louise Griffiths who joined us during the year to provide very capable support to the Board and who has coordinated production of this report.

Helen Taylor

Independent Chair
Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board
May 2019
Introduction and Purpose of the Report
The Care Act 2014 requires Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs / “The Board”) to ensure that vulnerable adults are safe, and that agencies work together to promote their welfare. The Act sets out a legal framework for how local authorities and other organisations should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. The Board has a statutory duty to prepare an annual report on its findings of safeguarding arrangements in its area.

This annual report provides details of our Strategic Priority Action Plans for 2018-2019. It illustrates how effective the WFSAB has been over 2018-2019, outlines how its partners have contributed to the work of the Board to improve effective safeguarding.

Contributions were sought directly from board members, chairs of sub-groups and other relevant partnerships. Numerous reports presented to The Board and its subgroups were applied to create an annual overview of the work completed and implemented.

Core Duties of Waltham Forest Adults Safeguarding Board
The purpose of the board is to help safeguard adults with care and support needs and work in a partnership to do so.

Six Safeguarding Principles

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Empowerment</th>
<th>Protection</th>
<th>Prevention</th>
<th>Proportionality</th>
<th>Partnership</th>
<th>Accountability</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Encourages support of vulnerable adults so they can confidently make their own decisions and give informed consent regarding their care.</td>
<td>Providing service users with clear, simple information about how to recognise sings of abuse, responding immediately to concerns and taking action to liberate a vulnerable person from a dangerous situation.</td>
<td>Being proactive to stop safeguarding concerns from developing in the first place.</td>
<td>Utilizing preventative measures or responding to safeguarding issues in the most unobtrusive way possible.</td>
<td>Partnering with local services and communities to help prevent, detect and report suspected cases of abuse and neglect.</td>
<td>Being wholly transparent and taking responsibility for, all the safeguarding practices to support vulnerable people.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## About Waltham Forest

### Population

The Greater London Authority (GLA) 2015 round of population projections estimate that Waltham Forest population will increase from 274,800 residents in 2016 to a total of 291,500 by 2021, an increase of 16,700 (6%). The fastest growing group is projected to be those aged 50 and over.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fact</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waltham Forest is home to an estimated</td>
<td>271,200 residents and 104,000 households;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The median age of residents is</td>
<td>34 years compared to the UK average of 40 years;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The borough is one of the most diverse areas in the country.</td>
<td>48% of residents are from a minority ethnic background;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The top five countries of origin for residents born overseas are</td>
<td>Pakistan (8,200), Poland (8,200), Romania (4,300), Jamaica (4,200) and India (4,200);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The top five languages spoken locally other than English are</td>
<td>Urdu, Polish, Romanian, Turkish and Lithuanian;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>93% of the 9,940 enterprises in Waltham Forest micro businesses employing fewer than 10 people;</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>More than 135,000 working age residents (73.1%) are in employment whilst the unemployment rate is down to</td>
<td>6.4%;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The average annual earnings for full-time working residents increased</td>
<td>4% from 2015 to 2016 and is currently at £30,900;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waltham Forest is currently ranked</td>
<td>35th most deprived borough nationally according to the 2015 Index of Multiple Deprivation (an improvement from 15th most deprived in the 2010 edition);</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life expectancy in Waltham Forest is similar to the England average –</td>
<td>79.4 years for men and 83.8 years for women</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Picture of Safeguarding in Waltham Forest

If an issue about an adult safety or welfare is raised with the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), this is categorized as **Safeguarding Concern**. The MASH will then assess the concern and take appropriate action. A decision is made to see if the concern meets the threshold for a **Section 42** enquiry. The Section 42 is derived from The Care Act 2014, and required local authorities to make enquires or instruct others to do so, if it is believed an adult is at risk of abuse or neglect.

**Number of Safeguarding Concerns and Section 42 Enquiries**

In 2018/19 **1403** safeguarding concerns were and **36%** of them progressed to **S42**. This is very similar to the 2017/19 figure when we received 1412 concerns and 35% progressed to enquiry.

**Age of Individuals Involved in Safeguarding Concerns and Section 42 Enquires**

The data shows that age plays an important role in determining whether a concern progresses to an enquiry. In short, concerns involving people over the age of 64 are much more likely to progress to enquiry than concerns involving people under the age of 64.
Ethnicity of Individuals Involved in Safeguarding Concerns and Section 42 Enquires

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Safeguarding Concerns</th>
<th>Section 42 Enquires</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Asian British</td>
<td>139</td>
<td>730</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black or Black British</td>
<td>209</td>
<td>291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mixed</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not Stated</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>77</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicities</td>
<td>25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Not stated</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicities</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was not stated</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was mixed</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicities</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was not answered</td>
<td>14%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was mixed</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicities</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was not answered</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was mixed</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other ethnicities</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was not answered</td>
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</tr>
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<td>Other ethnicities</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ethnic origin was not answered</td>
<td>7%</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

60% of concerns involved females and 39% involved males. These figures are very similar to the figure for 2017/18 although in 2016/17 45% of concerns involved males and 55% involved females.

In 2018/19 56% of enquiries involved females and 44% involved males. The ratio in 2017/18 was quite different because 63% of enquiries involved females and 37% involved males. The 2016/17 figure was 59% females and 41% male.

White is the highest recorded ethnicity accounting for 52% of concerns and 58% of enquiries.
Black/British accounted for 15% of concerns and 17% of enquiries.
Asian/Asian British accounted for 10% of concerns and 10% of enquiries.
The individuals ethnic origin was not stated in 5% of concerns and 4% of enquiries.
The ethnic origin was mixed in 2% of concerns and 2% of enquiries.
Other ethnicities accounted for 2% of concerns and 2% of enquiries.
The question was not answered in 14% of concerns and 7% of enquiries.
Primary Support Reasons of Individuals Involved in Safeguarding Concerns and Section 42 Enquires

Not known or other are the primary support reasons in 2018/19 unlike 2017/18 when physical support was the most common reason.

**Safeguarding Concerns**
- Memory and cognition doubled to 4% compared to 2% in 2017/18
- Mental health concerns reduced from 17% of the total in 2017/18 to 8% in 2018/19
- LD concerns reduced to 6% of the total in 2018/19 compared to 10% in 2017/18

**Section 42 Enquiries**
- Memory and cognition doubled to 4% compared to 2% in 2017/18
- Mental health concerns reduced from 13% of the total in 2017/18 to 10% in 2018/19
- LD concerns reduced to 7% of the total in 2018/19 compared to 12% in 2017/18

**Section 42 Enquires by Location**
- Own home is the most significant location of harm and the proportion has increased from 51% in 2017/18 to 56% in 2018/19;
- Enquires involving community services (including supported living) have increased from 2% in 2017/18 to 10% in 2018/19.
Was the individual or individual’s representative asked what their desired outcomes were?

Outcomes expressed has risen from 64% of cases in 2017/18 to 85% of cases in 2018/19

No outcome expressed has fallen from 28% in 2017/18 to 8% in 2018/19

Not recorded has stayed stable at 7%
Risk Outcomes

- Risk Remained in 4% of cases where risk was identified
- Risk was removed in 38% of cases where risk was identified
- The baseline measure is the figure for London is 2017/18 was 32.5%
- LBWF figures are better than the London average and also better than the average for England
- Baseline measures are from the SAC 2017/18
- The baseline figure for London in 2017/18 was 10.1%
- Risk was reduced in 58% of cases where risk was identified
- The baseline figure for London in 2017/18 was 57.5%

Safeguarding Concerns by Type of Abuse

- The “Core Four” (Neglect, Physical, Psychological and Financial) accounted for 82% of concerns in the Borough
- Other significant categories were self-neglect, domestic abuse and sexual abuse
About Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board (WFSAB)

Think Family

The Safeguarding Adults Board adopts the approach of ‘Think Family’ this means securing better outcomes for children and adults by co-ordinating the support they receive; and ensuring the safeguarding of each family member is taken into consideration. It is recognising that families are complex systems and if family members want to make changes that are helpful and long lasting this need to be done with all members of the family as a whole. We need to recognise how the needs and outcomes of each person in the family affect each other. If the work is only with one person in the family, there will only be limited changes to the whole system/family. Families are individual and will have their own culture and ways of working. It is important to learn from families how they work and change the way we work with them accordingly. Within the projects and strategies run by the board the Think Family approach is embedded throughout.

Section 42 Enquires by Type of Abuse

- Enquires involving neglect accounted for 43% of the total compared to 35% in 2017/18
- Enquires involving financial accounted for 19% of the total compared to 16% in 2017/18
- Enquires in Enquires involving physical abuse accounted for 15% of the total compared to 21% in 2017/18
- Enquires involving psychological abuse accounted for 13% of the total compared to 12% in 2017/18
- Enquires involving the “core four” increased to 90% of the total compared to 84% in 2017/18
Strategic Partnership Unit and Our Strategic Links

In early 2016 the Strategic Partnership Unit was set up to provide joined up support across the four strategic boards; Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board, SafetyNet, Health and Wellbeing Board and Waltham Forest Safeguarding Children Board. The unit provides policy support and strategic planning to all the boards and identifies opportunities to undertake cross-cutting work across more than one board with the aim of reducing duplication and increasing effectiveness and efficiency to improve outcomes for residents. Examples of cross cutting work include the Learning and Improving Practice Forum which oversees multi-agency audit activity, multi-agency training and disseminating of learning from local learning reviews and statutory reviews. We also have the One Panel that ensures we have a Think Family approach to our review work that enhances our learning.

This way of working is still relatively unique across London and nationally and we have continued to develop our approach to ensure we are maximising the opportunities it provides us. Early evidence of impact includes improvements in the functioning of the boards, alongside the appropriateness of the reports through the use of challenge questions for authors. There has been a reduction in duplication and it is now much easier to agree where a piece of work should sit when of interest to more than one board. The joined up needs assessment and priority refresh added value and understanding to the boards. The One Panel has continued to grow and is now a mature partnership which is able to make complex decisions and be clear about being proportionate and focused when commissioning reviews. The One Panel continues to attract attention from across the country. Events such as Think Family, Think Safeguarding are much easier to organise and provide a Think Family holistic platform for partners.
Governance and Membership

The full Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board met on a quarterly basis during 2018/19. The WFSAB is supported by the WFSAB Business Management Group (BMG). The BMG meets six weeks before the WFSAB’s quarterly Board Meetings. We have the benefit of Lay Members on the Board, who bring a residents and community perspective to the work. The task and finish groups meet either monthly or bimonthly. The progress of these are reported the Business Management Group and the Board.

Resources and Funding

2018/19 the four Strategic Partnership Boards received a total funding of £308,029 from partners. Key statutory agencies contributed financially to the operating budget which ensured that the four Strategic Partnership Boards were able to meet their statutory requirements.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Income £308,029</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Clinical Commissing Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>North East London Foundation Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barts Health NHS Trust</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police - nationally agreed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CAFCASS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Probation Service - nationally agreed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>London Borough of Waltham Forest</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenditure £308,029</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Salaries of SPU</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salaries of Chairs for 17/18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Running costs, printing and publishing, events, bitesize, advert for chairs, travel, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Statutory reviews – SCR and SAR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Commitment by partners to ensure the voice of service user is at the centre of safeguarding

Adult service users: Carers FIRST is committed as a charity to the principles and aims of user involvement at a strategic level of the organisation, the details of which are in our User Involvement Strategy which places the carer at the heart of all

Carer’s First

The “Think Family” approach is embedded into Adult Social Care ensuring the voice of children and adults is central. Moreover, our local systems highlight the need for practitioners to consider risks to children, carers and any others, providing guidance on what action to take as required. Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is an integral part of Safeguarding Adults activity and the tools, policies and best practice guidance are embedded into Adult Social Care practice and training offers. Multi agency MSP training is delivered by the Safeguarding Adults and Dols Service, this will continue on a regular basis to further embed MSP across the partnership.

Adult Social Care

Bart’s Heath has a committed and long standing patient panel who are members of our governance committees. They also participate in our monthly peer reviews. We have speciality specific patient groups such as the joint group, rheumatology, etc. who provide support and feedback to other patients as well as the service. Users have been involved in improvement work streams following the inpatient and cancer patient survey, this work is still on-going. Recently the Whipps cross development program has engaged community to form an advisory group to shape the future development of Whipps Cross in collaboration with the local authority.

Barts Health

Adult service users: we have adapted some of our internal forms (e.g., incident report form) to include a section that takes into account “adult’s views and wishes”. This was not on the form previously; it has placed the adult’s views and wishes as a priority.

Grove Residential Home

In terms of adults London CRC has developed a new integrated case management and risk assessment tool ‘OMNIA’ which was launched in the first quarter of 2019. OMNIA puts the service user’s voice central to the risk and needs assessment by design and utilises an interactive service users self-scoring tool to assess risk and needs and assign objectives for completion during the course of their order.

Community Rehabilitation Company
Fire crews and fire safety practitioners operating within Waltham forest engage with the community through station visits, open days and borough based community events. At incidents and Home fire safety visits our services are tailored to meet the needs of the residents.

London Fire Brigade

Our enhanced training for staff highlights the requirement to gain consent from patients before a safeguarding alert has been raised recognising that an adult with capacity is able to refuse consent for a safeguarding to be raised if this is their preference. Other mandatory training on Mental Capacity and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and Prevent is available to all staff via e learning. We operate an adult safeguarding advice service desk for staff to contact the team by telephone, email, datix or face-to-face to access support and guidance on safeguarding concerns. The advice service operates Monday to Friday 0900-1700 except public holidays and outside of these hours staff are directed to contact the local authority out of hours team to discuss any safeguarding concerns. Specialist Safeguarding Advisors visit teams in all NELFT areas to allow staff the opportunity to meet and discuss any concerns they may have. Bespoke supervision can also be arranged if necessary.

North East London Foundation Trust

We continue to work hard to ensure that all our service users are engaged and part of developing their own sentence plans. Our 2018 offender survey showed that 77% of Haringey, Redbridge and Waltham Forest (HRWF) service users were satisfied with the service provided. The national target was 75% and the London average was 75.93%. This was also a significant improvement on 2017 when the satisfaction rate was 56.58% for HRWF.

National Probation Service

Safeguarding within housing is championed by Senior Management and embedded into housing procedures. Safeguarding training is compulsory and forms part of our officers roles. Housing participates in the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and the Daily Risk Management (DRM’s) calls. Housing chaired the Cuckooing task and finish group to develop a referral pathway and raise awareness amongst practitioners and formed part of the Self Neglect task and finish group. We ensure our repairs partnering contactors, Morgan Sindall and Astons understand their responsibilities to report any vulnerability issues to the client and staff at MSPS are trained and/or will receive training in this regard.

Housing
In the last twelve months our Borough Community Safety Unit has merged with local elements of the Child Abuse and Sexual Offences (CASO) Command to form the North East Area Safeguarding Unit, servicing the boroughs of Waltham Forest and Newham. This is helping us to provide a better safeguarding service to adult victims of domestic and sexual offenses, all of whom, by the very nature of these crimes are considered to be vulnerable. We continue to be fully engaged with Waltham Forest through our Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) at Willow House that has also been enhanced by taking in elements of CASO. We maintain our commitment to the Waltham Forest Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC), a process that helps to safeguard the most vulnerable victims of Domestic Abuse. We provide a dedicated police officer, funded by the Borough to support this process. We are faced by challenges with limited resources to invest in risk management around vulnerable adults with complex needs, particularly in respect of Mental Health issues, Substance Abuse, Housing problems and vulnerability to Criminal Exploitation on associated abuse. We have identified that the level of joint problem solving and multi-agency work with our key partners in this field does not meet the standard of our Child Protection delivery and we are striving, by seeking increased resources and through our partnership engagement to improve this position.
Board Priorities

Priorities for the four Strategic Partnership Boards 2017-19

Supporting agencies to work together to improve outcomes in safety, safeguarding and wellbeing for residents in Waltham Forest

Members:

Safeguarding

- Reduce anti-social behaviour, gang crime, violence against women and girls, youth offending, and substance misuse

- Safeguarding Children Board
  - Partners work together for the safety and wellbeing of children and young people

- Safeguarding Adults Board
  - To protect people who need help and support

- Health and Wellbeing Board
  - To deliver health services in the borough, improve people’s health and reduce health inequalities

- Cross Cutting Priorities
  - Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG)
  - Adolescents Safeguarding including child sexual exploitation, children missing, harmful sexual behaviour, gangs etc.
  - Modern Slavery
  - Cuckooing
  - Drugs and Alcohol
  - Mental Wellbeing

We ensure residents influence the work of the boards in different ways. We share learning with practitioners to improve practice.

www.walthamforest.gov.uk/strategicpartnerships
**WFSAB Priority: Pressure Care**

A pressure ulcer is damage to the skin and the deeper layer of tissue under the skin. This happens when pressure is applied to the same area of skin for a period of time and cuts off its blood supply. Pressure ulcers are sometimes called 'bedsores' or 'pressure sores'. (National Institute for Care Excellence, 2005)

The board highlighted pressure care as priority as it estimated that nearly half a million people in the UK will develop at least one given pressure ulcer in any given year. Pressure ulcers can lead to further complications and fatality and therefore a safeguarding concern, as a partnership it is our aim to ensure that those at risk receive preventative and appropriate care.

**Overarching aim**

Our overarching aim is to ensure information is shared across the local system to prevent, and where necessary, address poor quality of care issues to enable a proactive approach to maintaining high quality of care in relation to pressure care and dementia both in the community and in residential and nursing care settings.

**Key Achievements**

**Raised Awareness and Increased Referrals**

Within the pressure care group the focus for 2018-19 was on raising awareness of pressure care prevention and referring when pressure sores became a concern. The group completed an audit of 100 cases which looked at what type of care people received before their pressure sore became severe. It revealed that the majority of patients presenting with pressure damage have not had prior contact with social or health community services. This focused the group on raising awareness in the community. A leaflet was created and distributed across the borough. Since distribution, referrals to the single point of access have increased for those who have pressure ulcers in the community.

**Offered more training and tools for professionals**

A pressure ulcer video was recorded and is used a tool for professionals. People who were in receipt of care with pressure ulcers were consulted. This had a direct impact in the creation of an education pack. A very visual tool for all carers and professionals to use when talking and supporting someone with pressure care needs. A risk alert card was launched and tested for practitioners highlight when they feel a service user is at risk of a pressure ulcer or their current ulcer getting worse. A best practice training session was held which was targeted at carers and care providers; this entailed a morning of training on providing pressure care and extra information around how to engage service users into conversation about healthy lifestyles.

**Ensuring pressure care is reported on and governed**

Health partners including Barts Health and North East London Foundation Trust have committed to reporting data to the board on a quarterly basis. This data includes, how many people came into hospital with pressure ulcers, how many people developed pressure ulcers when already in hospital and the severity of the ulcers.
What impact did this have?

From raising awareness the increased referrals means that people will be risked assessed and will have access to services they may require. Professionals are then able to monitor the sore and take action at an earlier point. As a result of this work Grove Residential Home have updated their incident reporting forms and have focused on prevention, by creating a hydration policy. Carers have fed back and said they feel more confident with supporting patients with pressure ulcers.

Within the Best Practice Session there was feedback about a gap between carers and community nurses, this is a new focus of the group for next months. Whipps Cross supported improvement work which focused on educating the public to self-refer to community health services. A pressure ulcer alert card pilot took place on an OPS ward and the pressure ulcer patient information leaflet has been made available throughout the site including in out-patients & Emergency department. With a risk alert card, this draws in the attention of other professional to focus on those who may require further support and put in extra precautions to prevent this. Having a visual easy to read tool ensures that there is a consistent message across the partnership on how to provide care and support.

The reporting on data makes certain that senior leaders from all agencies can have oversight and collectively monitor the level of pressure care within the borough, and take early action to investigate if there are any concerns. This also ensures quality of care is being delivered to those who need it.

WFSAB Priority: Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)

Making Safeguarding Personal is a personalised approach that enables safeguarding to be carried out with the person at the centre of their care; and ensuring they are consulted and listened to throughout. Adult safeguarding services and agencies are person-led and outcome focused as service users personal outcomes are identified, through encouraging and supporting people to make their own decisions.

Overarching aim

To ensure the adult’s wishes are obtained in relation to the safeguarding matter and that action or inaction supports the adult’s personal outcome(s), taking issues of capacity in to account and wider public interest. This will be achieved through clarifying the adult’s personal outcome(s) at the beginning and measuring if the outcomes are met.

Key Achievements

Made Making Safeguarding Personal clear for professionals to deliver

Through the adult social care recording system, various check points have been embedded this includes establishing the adults view at the very beginning, an adult social care head of service was the lead design officer for this. A tool kit has been made available for professionals and this includes:

- MSP process overview
- MSP leaflet to give to the adult ( or their representative)
- Advocacy process
- Advising the Police process
MSP meeting guidance
MSP minute templates
The Adult’s view questionnaire

An event to launch these tools to promote the importance of the making safeguarding personal to over 100 professionals from various agencies. The event included a multi-agency Q&A panel. The feedback was so positive two additional events will be held this year.

Listened to our service users and took the jargon and unknown out of safeguarding

Service users were consulted throughout this group and feedback explained that too many documents did not make sense outside the safeguarding realm. A clear advocacy was created to explain the process and make the decision of using and advocate. We recognised that residents and staff were not aware of what happens if you inform the police about a safeguarding concern or in general. The group created a document in entitled ‘what happens when you call the police’ breaking down every step of the process. Staff and residents felt this was a key barrier to having conversations with the police.

Performance reporting on Making Safeguarding Personal

Making Safeguarding Personal now has a reporting mechanism into the safeguarding board where members can monitor whether views were taken into consideration in safeguarding cases, how many advocates were used, how many people were asked about advocacy and how many end of safeguarding questionnaires were completed.

What impact did this have?

Making the process as simple and clear as possible for staff will now ensure that adults will remain at the centre of their care, with their views listened too throughout their care and support. The message has been delivered to many frontline professionals and will continue to. Professionals have fed back explaining that the tools are easy to follow and they are helpful to ensure the adult remains at the centre of their care. An easy to follow process and automatic prompts on the adult safeguarding system ensures adults will always have their voice heard within their care. Barts Health have making safeguarding personal within the ethos of the safeguarding process. Staff are encouraged to ensure this is incorporated into the safeguarding referral process. Residents explained that the police document has increased their confidence in reporting concerns. Carers first explained the outcome for carers is that the process for dealing with potential safeguarding concerns is more robust, that there is a clear and concise written record of all concerns, regardless of whether they meet the safeguarding thresholds. Adults were consulted throughout so this ensures we can shape the services to their needs.

WFSAB Priority: Self Neglect

Self-Neglect has been made a priority for 2018-19; Self-Neglect is a term to describe a vulnerable adult living in a way that puts his or her health, safety, or well-being at risk. The group will be working on creating a new multi-agency policy so practitioners easily identify and support those who are self-neglecting. In order to complete this, various professionals will be consulted and previous case studies will be evaluated to identify any gaps in practice.

Overarching aim

To develop self-neglect operational policies and procedures which will provide a robust framework to guide the multi-agency, as well as offering procedural guidance for case workers in adult social services to assist in cases of self-neglect and hoarding.
Key Achievements

Research on self-neglect with local and national demographics

Earlier in the year a report on self-neglect was presented to the board which showed recent research of linking previous trauma with people who now currently self-neglect. The report showed the demographic of people who have been referred to adult social care due to self-neglect in the borough. The report highlighted different aspects of self-neglect including medical neglect where a person refuses to attend medical appointments or treatment. The report was discussed at the resident’s forum, where residents directly fed back explaining they know people who show signs of self-neglect but they are unsure how to help. This has led us to shape the next phase of this work around a community response.

Case Study Exercises

The group looked back over cases that had various elements of self-neglect to identify other factors, through this exercise the group looked at Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR) from across the county. This showed at the severest end of self-neglect there was a lack of multi-agency working, think family and early intervention. The SAR’s also highlighted different demographics including younger people and females experiencing self-neglect. This has focused the work on raising awareness across various demographics.

Researched policy guidance to create practitioners guidance

The group are refreshing the current policy and are rebranding this as a practitioner's guidance to make it more accessible. This is currently in process over 10 various policies from other authorities and organisations have been looked at and benchmarked. The group have agreed on the content and have distributed parts of the policy between agencies and this is being collaborated. This will ensure the guidance is truly multi-agency and works for everyone. A practitioner group is being set up to feed into the guidance and share their top tips for conversation starters.

What impact did this this have?

The report showing research around the link of previous trauma and self-neglect has focused the group of raising awareness and linking with communities to support people who may be at risk of self-neglect. Drawing attention to various kinds of self-neglect it prompted services to look at their guidance, which was mainly around one type- hoarding. The focus has been research, analysing data and bench marking so far, this is to ensure the tools produced from the group are at the highest quality and we have a clear view of where services should be aimed at. The CCG explained that Self-Neglect has been one of the key findings from a previous local safeguarding adult review and has been identified as a key area to improve on for agencies. Scoping work is required within the borough to educate practitioners and improve. Within the scoping phase Adult Social Care completed a service audit to identify areas of strength and development and are aware of the need to ensure that the local partnership understand their roles and responsibilities in relation to self-neglect at every level from advice and guidance, early intervention, care and support. London Fire Brigade has ensured Safe and well visits have been successful in providing additional support to residents who have complex care needs. Delivered
awareness session to practitioners on hoarding and self-neglect. The practitioner’s guidance is in development to address all types of self-neglect and a version will be available for the public.

**WFSAB Cross-Cutting Priority: Modern Slavery**

“Modern slavery is the recruitment, movement, harbouring or receiving of children, women or men through the use of force, coercion, and abuse of vulnerability, deception or other means for the purpose of exploitation. Individuals may be trafficked into, out of or within the UK, and they may be trafficked for a number of reasons including sexual exploitation, forced labour, domestic servitude and organ harvesting.

The Home Office estimates there are 13,000 victims and survivors of modern slavery in the UK; 55% of these are female and 35% of all victims are trafficked for sexual exploitation.”

**Overarching aim**

Our overarching aim is to develop effective multi-agency plans for safe, quality and timely responses to create positive outcomes for victims by enabling identification at the earliest point. We will achieve this by raising awareness across the partnership and supporting communities to counter modern slavery through equipping key professionals, community members and residents to understand what modern slavery is in the broadest context and how to respond.

We aim to deliver our strategic plan in line with the National Modern Slavery Strategy 2014: PURSUE PREVENT PROTECT PREPARE

**Key Achievements**

**Implementing a robust framework**

The London Borough of Waltham Forest are now part of the Co-operative Party Charter against Modern Slavery and have signed up to the Modern Slavery Co-operative party Charter. The Charter has provided a robust framework for LBWF to address Modern Slavery in terms of procurement and the action plan details the activity to date and future plans. Members worked with in-house procurement teams to ensure the quality assurance of all tenders. The Adult Social Care recording system was updated to ensure modern slavery is being recorded in the correct manor. A modern slavery statement was completed and demonstrates the ongoing commitment against modern slavery.

**Raised awareness and delivered training**

Training sessions were delivered throughout the year to various professionals, and this will continue throughout the next few years. The group raised awareness through providing posters to spot the signs and focused on vulnerable people who could be affected. The CCG arranged a visit to a day opportunities centre to provide information around modern slavery, additional visits to other locations have been arranged to minimise the risk of adults being victims and ensuring the response is the most effective.

**Transitioned into business as usual**

As the group has completed the actions it originally set out to do, Modern Slavery has been transited into business as usual. The board will still monitor activity through the dashboard looking into the amount of referrals of Modern Slavery within a quarter. Regulatory Services has taken the lead on the work and will
host bi-annual meetings where all agencies will discuss data, challenges and good practice. Strong links are maintained with the Human Trafficking Foundation.

What impact did this have?

With the focus of this year’s work on training and awareness partners committed to ensure frontline professionals were confident in spotting the signs of modern slavery and knew how to act on it for example Barts Health ensured, training across the hospital commenced in January. The site has engaged in public and staff awareness sessions which have been supported by the social workers. Adult Social Care are actively engaged in work related to modern slavery, are more able to identify victims and have a greater understanding of their statutory duties and best practice. Modern Slavery is highlighted as a type of abuse in the updated computer system Mosaic, with specific questions related to the National Referral Mechanism. This enables activity to be analysed and monitored to sharpen focus on areas of concern and areas that we need to develop. As regulatory services will be leading on the day-to-day work as the awareness this ensure that services such as trading standard and licensing are able to identify signs of modern slavery within their daily activity and escalate as appropriate. Professionals have said after training they feel more confident in recognising and referring victims of modern slavery.

WFSAB Cross-Cutting Priority: Cuckooing

The term “cuckooing” refers to the process by which a person exploits a resident’s vulnerability and/or threatens violence, in order to use their premises for criminal acts.

Individuals may be targeted as a result of a learning disability, physical disability, mental health, substance misuse, frailty or age etc. (this list is not exhaustive). The exploitation can include: grooming, forced entry to the address, property being taken over by others, keys being taken, the resident being coerced or forced into criminality, encouraged to use drugs, the “payment” for use of the address with drugs (or the supply of drugs at reduced cost), sexual exploitation and physical abuse. It is important to highlight that children and young people can also be victims, through living in the same address, sexual exploitation or as a result of being coerced into gang activity.

Overarching aim

To review current process of referrals and ensure pathways are suitable for agencies to use. To raise awareness across practitioners and public of what cuckooing is and who may be affected by this. Ensure that we have transparent systems to address and act on cuckooing.
Key Achievements

Reviewed the current system and ensured governance of Cuckooing cases

The group looked at various different panels within the current system that addresses issues such as gang activity, domestic abuse and anti-social behaviour. After analysing the purpose of the groups the decision was made for the Anti-Social Behaviour Risk Assessment Conference (ASBRAC) to be the panel where cases were escalated to and governed by. The group will assess the vulnerabilities of the person who is being a cuckooed and act to keep them safe as well as addressing the criminal behaviour of those who have cuckooed the property. Housing, police and the anti-social behaviour team have had a key role in ensuring this. Adult Social Care also has a representative at ASBRAC to ensure there is a safeguarding approach to these cases.

Raised Awareness for Practitioners and the Public

A pathway has been formed to ensure that all cuckooing cases go through a single point of access which is the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The full pathway has been drawn up into an easy to read referral diagrammed so professionals are aware of every step that needs to be taken when addressing cuckooing. Training slides for professional were created to give a collective message about cuckooing, how to spot the signs, who could be vulnerable and what do if you are concerned. Each member of the group committed to using the slides at team meetings within their agencies. The Met police have collaborated with North East Foundation Trust to deliver joint awareness sessions within team meetings. A poster was created and signed off by the group. These are displayed across the borough including in general needs housing and sheltered housing schemes.

Picture of cuckooing in Waltham forest

The police produced a map and an analysis of those in the borough who are involved in cuckooing cases. This broke down the demographic of those who have been a victim and perpetrator of cuckooing. Soft data has shown that victims often have substance misuse issues and some victims have contact with their local pharmacy, which can provide an opportunity for them to be targeted. This has influenced the group to look at training and awareness with pharmaceutical staff.

What impact has this had?

With the revised system of governance of cases and making a referral through MASH this ensures a single approach for all agencies. This will avoid duplication and ensure all agencies that need to be involved are within each case. Adult Social Care staff have been actively involved in work with service users and partners related to cases of cuckooing. This work is helping to inform practice and shape roles across involved agencies such as housing and police. A multiagency approach has been adopted within many teams including, the pre eviction panel, homelessness services, the Advanced Mental Health Practitioner Team, and the complex clinical case forum have all contributed to managing risks and ensuring the right outcomes are achieved for residents. The Police have delivered numerous awareness raising sessions amongst their officers that has focused on the safeguarding of the victim. Housing have ensured that information relating to cuckooing was issued in resident’s news and tweeted by the lead member for housing and have identified a small budget for emergency cases for temporary accommodation.
Cross Cutting Priorities

**Violence against Women and Girls – reports to SafetyNet**

In 2017/18 we held a series of survivor consultations in Waltham Forest. Survivors told us their key concern was not being believed when they reached out for support. They also spoke about gatekeepers within their communities stopping them getting support and actions of the community working to ensure the silence and submission of survivors. This was compounded by their experiences of abuse from multiple perpetrators.

The findings from survivors showed that there was further need to access support in the community and online. The findings highlighted that services needed to improve around being more mindful of the repercussions of the survivor accessing help, allocate more time, and show empathy to all aspects of the abuse. Further work needed was required to ensure services are inclusive of all trying to access including those with disabilities and language needs. There were disclosers of women trying to seek help with medical professionals but not feeling heard.

Several consultations were held with residents in relation to safety in public spaces. The findings showed that women and school aged girls faced harassment in the streets and would often take different routes to avoid this. Women and girls often felt unable to fully participate in civic life due to the fear of further harassment.

**Key Achievements**

- Improved communication between policed and schools, Operation Encompass is a process by which “Key Adults” in schools and academies are informed that a child in Waltham Forest has been affected by domestic abuse;
- Ask Me Project which is targeted towards people who come into contact with the local community at a grass roots level and empower them to raise awareness around VAWG and create a safe space for people to share their experiences;
- Training surgeries and case guidance for professionals;
- Public engagement, held stalls across the borough and delivered public workshops on VAWG in partnership with libraries, children and family centres and VCS organisations;
- A ‘live system’ for safety planning high risk domestic abuse cases (i.e. MARAC cases) has been introduced. All MARAC cases are immediately referred into the Daily Risk Management Meeting (DRMM). At DRMM agencies share relevant information and agree clear action plans relating to victims, perpetrators and children, ensuring a whole family approach.
- We have assessed our approach to Female Genital Mutilation, reviewing existing practice and pathways. As a result we have developed a document outlining the approach and key development.
Drugs and Alcohol – reports to Health and Wellbeing Board

The Alcohol & Drugs Steering Group has worked hard into 2018-19 to build on and the findings from the multi-agency audit and needs assessment and to implement key aspects of the substance misuse strategy.

Key focuses have been to focus on:

- Development of an improved dual diagnosis (mental health and alcohol and drugs) pathway and inclusion of access within new commissioning of services for people with learning disabilities;
- Increasing referrals to alcohol and drug treatment services, working closely to develop referral pathways with key partners against a background of a new services contract being designed. This has included closer work with Early Help, Adult Education, Employment and Anti-Social Behaviour Teams to identify issues and encourage outreach and training by CGL.

The Group’s action plan has continued to focus on some key target groups:

- Reducing drug and alcohol associated disruption in families, including prevention of future substance misuse as young people transition to adulthood
- Improved outcomes for adults with problematic substance use issues in addition to other complex needs
- Reduce the number of residents experiencing alcohol or drug-related exploitation
- Improve outcomes for couples who live with a combination of substance misuse, domestic violence and complex health or social needs.

Mental Wellbeing – reports to Health and Wellbeing Board

After starting work in late 2017, the Mental Wellbeing Task & Finish Group has completed a multi-agency audit, had its strategy approved by the Health and Wellbeing Board and developed a detailed partnership action plan, which prioritises these areas:

- Promote mental wellbeing with the communications, digital and London Borough of Culture teams
- Address wider determinants of mental wellbeing, including housing and poverty
- Early intervention for those struggling with their mental health, including training for frontline staff, collating referral services details and raising awareness and use of London Digital Mental Wellbeing Service – Good Thinking
- Promote mental wellbeing in schools; support vulnerable children/ young people

Key actions to date include:

- Multi-agency work on mental wellbeing as part of the London Borough of Culture, within schools, education, employment and housing, including a funding bid to the Department of Work & Pensions.
- Support the borough’s new Time to Change hub, a project that works with volunteers who have experienced mental ill-health to challenge stigma and discrimination.
- The development of key data indicators and a draft communications plan to support the Group’s work
Adolescent Safeguarding – reports to Safeguarding Children’s Board

Improved the collective response to adolescent risk through:

- Developing and producing the Safeguarding Adolescents Practice Guide and accompanying resources such as bitesize video guide;
- Specialists adolescents safeguarding posts in both Children’s Social Care and the Youth Justice Team;
- Identifying and training safeguarding adolescent leads in each agency;
- Embedding adolescents safeguarding in to Daily Risk Management meetings;
- Delivering Barnardo’s ‘Night watch Project’ by engaging with those working in the night time economy in Waltham Forest.

Earlier intervention to prevent children being exploited through:

- Advanced Life skills Resilience Programme that is being delivered in schools over 3 years;
- Delivered VAWG training and awareness sessions to schools staff and pupils through the Whole School Approach Project;
- Refreshed WFSCB webpage to provide effective signposting and information for young people and parents.

Addressed gaps in services through:

- A recovery Task and Finish Group to scope and develop pathways, exploring good practice elsewhere and mapping existing provision in Waltham Forest;
- Procurement of an emotional support hub for child sexual abuse survivors across North East London.

The Learning and Improving Practice Forum

This forum oversees a multi-agency audit programme and reports to the WFSCB. The Learning and Improving Practice Forum oversees the multi-agency audit program as well as driving forward the effective dissemination and sharing of learning across the partnership in a variety of ways as outlined below.
How Partners Share Learning

ASC has been committed and engaged in all audit and reviews run by the board this has led to: There is greater awareness of and improvement in working in accordance with local SGA policies and procedures and best practice. There have been changes in policies, procedures and practice as a result of SARs, audits and learning reviews. More reflective and learning culture is being developed with staff becoming more aware of development/training needs and feeling able to address these. There is an increasingly more co-ordinated attendance with increased staff engagement at multi agency forums i.e. MARAC and DRM. – Adult Social Care

All learning from the SABs are distributed to the staff teams across the whole organisation and where appropriate through our media outlets. Carers FIRST produce quarterly e-bulletins for professionals in the borough and signposts to updates on the ASB website and promotional materials such as the Modern Slavery Poster and Pressure Care leaflets.” – Carer’s first

Whipps Cross at Bart’s health holds a 6 weekly safeguarding board meetings. Safeguarding performance compliance, learning from reviews and audits are shared together with updates from strategic partnership board priorities and updates. – Barts Health

We have disseminated this information through our internal staff meetings. -Grove Residential Home

London CRC regular participates in case reviews to ensure the learning from any such reviews is disseminated we have appointed five contracts and partnership managers across London. We have also hold by monthly public protection boards in each area as a mechanism to ensure we capture any ongoing areas for improvement and good practice. It is the function of these boards to ensure any learning from partnership reviews is appropriately disseminated. Furthermore, London CRC is in the process of launching a new online learning platform in recognition that people learn differently, via this platform bitesize training will be developed for all staff. - Community Rehabilitation Company

“As well as providing the usual tailored fire safety advice and installing smoke alarms in all areas where a fire can start, we share learning from post incident reviews directly with housing and social services departments. - London Fire Brigade

This learning has been shared via monthly safeguarding summary reports, safeguarding supervision network meetings, safeguarding training, named professional team meetings, senior safeguarding meetings, safeguarding advisor team meetings and also on our learning review register. - NELFT

“We also have a local, regular, practitioner driven, Cluster Quality Group at which safeguarding adults has been a discussion topic where good practice is shared and understanding enhanced. Managers also regularly case audit and any learning is disseminated to staff. “ - National Probation Service

Housing has previously and is always readily available to participate in SAR’s. Two of the main housing areas, Housing Management and Housing Solutions led lunch time briefings for all front line and back office staff raising awareness on Modern Day Slavery. We continue to ensure partnership working across housing and adult social care. - LBWF Housing

The police are committed to being involved in audits and Safeguarding Adult Reviews. The police chair one panel where the decisions to conduct the reviews are made. We are committed to sharing and learning from previous practice. - Metropolitan Police
Multi-agency Audits

The Learning and Improving Practice Forum (LIF) coordinates four multi-agency audits a year, with the themes identified by the LIF in relation to the priorities for the four strategic boards. The audits are usually undertaken by front line managers. The LIF felt it was important to gain the views of front line practitioners and this would also be a way of involving practitioners more in the work of the four strategic boards.

Modern Slavery

Modern Slavery is identified as a type of abuse or neglect in Safeguarding Adults and Child Protection procedures. To eliminate the risks of Modern Slavery within our local organisations and supply chain agencies must ensure they have a coordinated response with defined roles and responsibilities.

Some Key Findings:

All of adult’s cases involved adults were victims of domestic modern slavery and forced marriage was a common theme. The children's cases were mainly related to county lines;

A key area for development was to ensure that every person is spoken to alone and have an independent translator if required;

The think family approach and professional curiosity was not consistent in the cases, some of the cases outside factors in regards to extended family should have been considered and professionals missed opportunities to enquire further in medical appointments.

Action was taken in all of the adult's cases to optimise the safety of the adult by partner agencies.

Practitioner Audit on Think Family and Multi-Agency Working

Waltham Forest promotes a Think Family approach but a lack of the approach was present in previous audit and review work across the partnership. Further exploration of this was needed to understand further when and how this is working well and where it is not, what we need to do to improve it.

Some Key Findings:

Think Family approach is not consistent. There was a challenge for practitioners in ensuring that they were addressing the needs of both adults and children in the family in a consistent way which helped them both individually as well as impacting positively on the family as a whole;

Practitioners were not always clear who the lead professional (LP) was in a case. There was also a lot of discussion and questions in the audit about what the role of LP means and what does it look like when there are both children and adult services involved in a case;

Information sharing and communication across the multi-agency network working with a family was not as consistent as required and some practitioners felt there were barriers and blocks to sharing information effectively.

Application of the Thresholds

The audit was to assess the level of understanding of thresholds across the partnership, to establish how well embedded the document was and to assess how it is being delivered in practice. One of the key aspects of document is to promote quality conversations between practitioners as well as service users.

Some Key Findings
Good use of the TAF (team around the family) model and effective child focused and outcome plans to assist accountability and joint understanding of need and threshold application;

Lack of professional curiosity with some agencies leading to a limited understanding of the possible risks particularly around child sexual exploitation, gangs and grooming;

Positive application of child’s voice being at the centre of assessments and being the catalyst for shaping the intervention

Audit Feedback

- “Interesting and informative having several agencies around the table – their angle!”
- “Multi-agency sharing information/understanding thresholds/family dynamic from different perspectives”
- “Refreshing to share perspectives openly with professionals from other teams”
- A session of good brainstorming/professionals sharing ideas and information together/relaxed atmosphere/really interesting and interrogative”
- “Multi-agency sharing information/understanding thresholds/family dynamic from different perspectives”

Spotlights

We distributed spotlights too over 1000 practitioners in Waltham Forest with key messages from the four strategic boards, learnings from reviews and audits as well as details of any up and coming training. The aim was that these bulletins would raise the profile of the boards and awareness of key topics these included:

- Alcohol and Drugs
- Modern slavery
- Violence against women and girls
- Improving practice
- Adolescence safeguarding
- Pressure Care

Safe and Well month – June 2018

Month of raising awareness of all 16 priorities across the four boards, included 2 think family sessions on learning from audit and reviews – delivered by SAB and WFSCB chairs, alongside seminars, training and briefings. Included bitesize, spotlight on, training, resources etc. Feedback from practitioners was about going back and thinking about adults or children in the families they were working on.

Training

Training is one part of our creative approach to sharing learning and improving practice in Waltham Forest. It is delivered by multi-agency partners and is focussed around themes that arise from reviews and audits. We understand that practitioners have limited capacity to both attend and deliver full days of training so we try to provide as much of a varied offer as possible and includes our bitesize video guides, spotlights and safe and well month.

The One Panel, Statutory and Local Reviews

The One Panel consists of senior officers from different agencies including health, children social care, adult social care, community safety and police. It receives referrals on cases that may meet the criteria for a statutory review, such as a Serious Case Review, a Safeguarding Adults Review and a Domestic Homicide Review. The One Panel has continued to grow and is now a mature partnership which is able to make complex decisions and be clear about being proportionate and focused when commissioning reviews. The One Panel arrangements continues to attract attention from across the country.
Safeguarding Adult Review Peter
One safeguarding adult review was completed this year. This involved a man who we have called Peter who misused drugs and alcohol and had physical and mental health needs. Peter was surrounded by and involved in criminal behaviour and at times showed signs of self-neglect. Sadly this person was allegedly murdered and this is now subject to a criminal trial so we are not able to provide any further information or publish the report at this time. Lessons have been learnt, an action plan is in progress that is helping agencies improve practice in the future.

What’s next for 2019/20…

Pressure Care

The pressure care group will continue into the autumn of 2019 opening their doors to new agencies to join the subgroup. As many tools and materials were created the priority will be to embed this into practice within various agencies. The group will continue to closely monitor the data around pressure care in the borough.

Cuckooing

The cuckooing group will continue into the summer of 2019, the focus of the group will to ensure that there is a joined up response to act on cases of cuckooing. Over the next coming months the group will look into the outcomes of cuckooing cases and learn from previous practice.

Self-Neglect

There has been a longer term commitment to tackling self-neglect within the borough; the short term focus is on the development of a practitioner’s guidance addressing all aspects of self-neglect. Practitioners will be included within this development through workshops and consultations. The next phase of the group will be to embed the document into working practice and raise awareness within the community and voluntary sector.

New Priority: Adult Thresholds

The threshold guide is being developed to help practitioners understand and apply a multi-agency approach to working with adults, carers, families and communities in Waltham Forest. It sets the board’s vision and values, and the roles and responsibilities of all agencies to work together so that every vulnerable adult in the borough has the best possible outcomes. The work will include embedding this into practice within all agencies.

New Priority: Violence and Exploitation

Violence and Exploitation will report to all four boards, and will be embedded within the work we currently deliver. Waltham Forest Council’s public health approach to tackling violence includes working closely with all of our partners, and building a violence reduction partnership. Our four strands of curtail, treat, support and strengthen ensure that we view this as a joint approach. In April 2019, WF brought together over 90 partners and agreed pledges to work together under the VRP.

- Build resilience in primary school children and support transition to secondary through universal and targeted interventions
- Consistent safety and well-being curriculum and trauma-informed practice across WF schools and colleges for students, staff and parents
- Every partner organisation to embed trauma informed practice across WF
- Enhance safeguarding pathway for children involved in criminal exploitation