Waltham Forest Safeguarding Adults Board—Annual Summary 2018-19

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 purpose of the board is to help safeguard adults with care and support needs and work in a partnership to do so. In 2018/19 1403 safeguarding concerns were and 36% of them progressed to Section 42, which is similar to the 2017/19 figure when we received 1412 concerns and 35% progressed to enquiry.

### Pressure Care

**Aim:** To ensure information is shared to prevent, and address poor quality of care issues to enable a proactive approach for maintaining high quality of care in the community in residential and nursing care settings.

This has been achieved through a process of auditing to identify what type of care patients received before presenting to hospital, which directed the awareness raising. The group streamlined the performance of pressure care and this is continued being monitored by the SAB. More training and tools were offered to professionals.

### Making Safeguarding Personal

**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 and public interest into account.

This has been and continues to be achieved through clarifying the adult’s personal outcome(s) at the beginning and measuring if these outcomes are met through out the care and support offered. The group developed and embedded tools for frontline practitioners to use and made Making Safeguarding Personal clear for professionals to deliver. They listened to our service users and took at the jargon and unknown of safeguarding;

### Self Neglect

**Aim:** The group will be working on creating a new multi-agency policy so practitioners easily identify and support those who are self-neglecting.

This is continuing to be achieved through a multi-agency effort to research and consult on the causes and effective interventions of self-neglect. The group reflected on previous cases and researched self-neglect demographics, causes and impacts on a local and national level. Various professionals will be consulted through the journey of creating a multi-agency guidance.

### Modern Slavery

**Aim:** to develop effective multiagency plans for safe, quality and timely responses to create positive outcomes for victims by enabling identification at the earliest point.

This has been achieved by raising awareness across the partnership and supporting communities to counter modern slavery through equipping key professionals and, community members to understand what modern slavery is in the broadest context and how to respond. A robust framework was implemented including a statement to demonstrate the ongoing commitment against modern slavery.

### Cuckooing

**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.

This has been achieved by reviewing the current system of cuckooing at simplifying the referral route. Through creating tools and a multi-agency approach awareness was raised with practitioners and the public. The police and ASB team worked together to produce an analysis of what cuckooing looks like within Waltham Forest.

### What’s Next for 2019/20

**Pressure Care**

The pressure care group will continue into the autumn of 2019. As many tools and materials were created the priority will be to embed this into practice within various agencies.

**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.

**Self-Neglect**

There has been a longer term commitment to tackling self-neglect within the bough; the initial focus is on the development of a practitioner’s guidance addressing all aspects of self-neglect.

**New Priority: 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.

**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.