

Name of Meeting: Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

Date: Tuesday 12th March 2019

Title of report: Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board - Peer Challenge

Purpose of Report: To present the key highlight of the Peer Challenge of the Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board December 2018

Key Decision - Is it likely to result in spending or a saving of £250k or more, or to have a significant effect on two or more electoral wards?	N/A
Is it in the Council's Forward Plan (Key Decisions and Private Reports)?	N/A
The Decision - Is it eligible for "call in" by Scrutiny?	N/A
Date signed off by Director and name Is it also signed off by the Assistant Director for Financial Management, IT, Risk and Performance? Is it also signed off by the Assistant Director, Legal, Governance and Monitoring	N/A N/A
Cabinet member portfolio	Cllr Musarrat Khan, Portfolio Holder for Health and Social Care

Electoral [wards](#) affected: All

Ward councillors consulted: Consultation with Ward Councillors is not applicable to this report

Public or private: Public

1. **Summary**

1.1 **The Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board**

1.1.1 The Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board (KSAB) is a statutory strategic partnership, which brings together the main organisations working with adults at risk of abuse or neglect. Hence, its membership includes: the Council, West Yorkshire Police, NHS organisations and West Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service. Its overarching purpose is to help and safeguard adults with care and support needs in Kirklees. It does this by:

- Assuring itself that local safeguarding arrangements are in place as defined by the Care Act 2014 and statutory guidance.
- Assuring itself that safeguarding practice is person-centred and outcome-focused.
- Working collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect where possible.
- Ensuring agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses when abuse or neglect have occurred.
- Assuring itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults in its area.

1.1.2 In 2018 the KSAB commissioned a Peer Challenge. A Peer challenge is a proven tool for improvement. It is a process usually commissioned by a council and involves a small team of local government officer's time at the council as peers to provide

challenge and share learning. This Peer Challenge was unique as it was not a Peer Challenge solely exploring the performance of the Kirklees Council.

- 1.1.3 Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board (KSAB) procured the peer challenge through the Yorkshire and Humber ADASS regional sector led improvement programme. The KSAB Chair acted as the peer challenge sponsor. The board was seeking an external view on the work of the KSAB and its effectiveness in fulfilling its overarching purpose (see 1.1.1).

The KSAB intends to use the findings of this peer challenge as a marker on its continuous improvement journey. The KSAB commissioned the Peer Challenge team:

1. To evaluate performance against strategic priorities
2. To explore the effectiveness of alignment of strategy and delivery action (golden thread).
3. To consider and evaluate current Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR's) improvement plans.
4. To consider the potential for further refinement /development of the dashboard
5. To consider the effectiveness of integrated working and partnership collaboration
6. To consider whether intelligence from file audit and any case follow up show:
 - a. Evidence of risk assessment and capacity assessment
 - b. Timeliness
 - c. Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)

- 1.1.3 The team was on-site from 5th December – 7th December 2018. The programme for the on-site phase included activities designed to enable members of the team to meet and talk to a range of partners, external stakeholders and KSAB Board Members.

These activities included:

- interviews and discussions with councillors, officers, experts by experience and partners;
- focus groups with managers, partners, providers and frontline staff;
- reading documents provided by the KSAB, including a self-assessment of progress, strengths and areas for improvement;
- comprehensive audit of 14 individual service records.

1.2 Key findings

- 1.2.1 The [Peer Challenge report](#) (see attachment or link) is structured to cover themes focused on:

- Leadership Strategy and Commissioning.
- Outcomes for People who use Services.
- Effective Practice, Service Delivery and Performance Management.
- Effective Practice, Service Delivery and Performance Management - Performance Dashboard.
- Working Together.

- 1.2.2 For each theme the report highlights strengths and suggests areas for consideration. Areas for consideration are both strategic and operational. The Board will ensure continued collaboration between partners in the production of the improvement/implementation plan. It is reassuring that there were no surprises. Many

the improvements suggested are already contained within the Board's current strategic plan and can be refined taking account of the report's findings.

1.2.3 Overall the findings and conclusion of the Peer Challenge team were positive. The team observed that adult safeguarding is well led and Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board is operating effectively with partnership engagement being robust. The case file audit and interviews with front line workers evidenced good practice and recording, and that 'making safeguarding personal' is embedded. The report recognises that there is a strong foundation to build from.

1.2.4 A key area to highlight is alignment of the strategic work of the board with its translation into front line practice. The Peer Challenge Team was particularly asked to focus on this important area. It was clear from interviews with practitioners that there continues to be a need to focus on strengthening this golden thread. Therefore, to supplement the current twice-yearly themed network events and the board's newsletter, the board will this year facilitate and support practitioner forums and also offer some opportunities for practitioners to attend and observe board meetings as part of their continued professional development.

1.3 **Next Steps for the KSAB**

1.3.1 The Board will collaborate with partners to produce the improvement/implementation plan based on the identified areas for consideration. The Board will then oversee the implementation of the plan.

2. **Information required to take a decision**

The KSAB Peer Challenge report is being presented for information and reference.

3. **Implications for the Council**

3.1 The Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board (KSAB) is a strategic partnership. The Council hosts the board and the Council, working with its partners, has the statutory responsibility for setting up the KSAB. The KSAB routinely brings reports to the Scrutiny Board thus providing assurance of its statutory functions in respect of Safeguarding Adults.

3.2 **Economic Resilience**

Not applicable.

3.3 **Improving Outcomes for Children**

Not applicable.

3.4 **Reducing Demand for Services**

Not applicable.

3.5 **Legal/Financial or Human Resources**

Not applicable.

4. **Consultees and their opinions**

The Peers Challenge team met with and interviewed the wide range of stakeholders.

5. **Next steps**

Not applicable.

6. Officer recommendations and reasons

The KSAB Peer Challenge report is being presented for information and reference.

7. Cabinet Portfolio holder recommendation

Not applicable.

8. Contact Officer

Mike Houghton-Evans, Independent Chair, Kirklees Safeguarding Adults Board.

9. Background papers and history of decisions

- Kirklees Safeguarding Adults [strategic plan](#) and [annual report](#) – previously submitted to Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel on 6th November 2018.
- Adults Safeguarding [Peer Challenge Report](#) (December 2018)

10. Service Director responsible

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