



**HULL SAFEGUARDING  
ADULTS PARTNERSHIP BOARD**

# **ANNUAL REPORT**

**2023-2024**

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# FOREWORD



by Kay Durrant

I am pleased to present the annual report of the Hull Safeguarding Adults Board. The cost-of-living crisis has impacted many of our communities, business, charities, and statutory services in this period and despite these challenges people and organisations have still looked at opportunities to help and support one another to ensure that adults at risk receive the services they deserve.

What matters to me is that we never lose sight of who matters most, and that is our adults in Hull. They deserve a Safeguarding Adults Board that does all it can to ensure a culture of high support and high challenge.

As Independent Chair, I have been supported by the board manager, and together we have ensured that action plans are driven which could not have been achieved without our sub-group chairs who have been amazing and made a real difference with all partners and community groups. I have witnessed strong leadership from the three statutory partner executive members and there is a healthy culture of high support and high challenge and a commitment to learn and make improvements.

The community and voluntary sector continue to be strong and driven, ensuring that their services are given the recognition they deserve. As a collective, our quality assurance processes have ensured that we identify key areas of priority and identify what's working well and what needs to improve.

Front line practitioners have worked tirelessly, and multi-agency relationships are strong operationally and good practice has been seen and new learning embedded. Working with others in Hull from other boards and partnerships, and within the region and nationally, has provided more opportunities to be more efficient and effective.

Finally, I want to mention those adults who have worked with us to share their lived experience and to tell us exactly how it is. We do have more to do and should not be complacent, as our current and future service users and their families deserve nothing less than our best.



The Hull collaborative partnership, that I chair, also demonstrates wider system leadership and we have looked across our business areas and focused on making a real difference in Hull for adults, children, families and communities.

My hope is that over the next 12 months we can engage with more adults, and really listen to what matters most to you and work hard to ensure that we prevent and respond to harm with an ethic of care at the heart of all our practice.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'K. Durrant'.

**KAY DURRANT**

**Independent Chair of the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board**

# WHAT IS THE HULL SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD AND WHAT DO WE DO?

The Hull Safeguarding Adult Partnership Board Annual Report (2023/2024) details the arrangements for how safeguarding partners, within Hull, work effectively together to keep adults safe.

This annual report demonstrates the progress which has been made during the year, with a particular focus on building strong partnership relationships at all levels.

Section 43 of the Care Act 2014 requires every Local Authority to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) in its area. The Safeguarding Adults Board operates at a strategic level, protecting adults from abuse and neglect, through ensuring that local safeguarding arrangements act to effectively help and safeguard adults.

In Hull, responsibility for safeguarding adults is led by the three statutory safeguarding agencies: Hull Local Authority, NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Humberside Police. The three statutory safeguarding partners contribute financially to the functioning of the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and collaborate closely with multiple relevant partner agencies across Hull.

The statutory partners form the Hull Safeguarding Adults Safeguarding Partnership Executive Board (HSAPB Executive Board), with attendance from additional safeguarding agencies and Elected Member representation. Throughout 2023-2024, the HSAPB Executive Board have met on a bi-monthly basis, with all meetings consistently chaired by the HSAPB Independent Chair.

Progress has been made during the year and we are collectively determined that this will be sustained and built upon further in the years ahead.



**DEBORAH LOWE**

Acting Director of Nursing & Quality  
NHS Hull Clinical Commissioning Group



**TRACY MEYERHOFF**

Director of Adult Social Services  
(DASS)



**MATTHEW PEACH**

Chief Superintendent  
Humberside Police



**COUNCILLOR LINDA CHAMBERS**

Portfolio Holder  
Adult Social Care and Public Health

## Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Vision



“Safeguarding Partners work together to enable people to live in safety, where our community has a culture that supports the protection of a person’s health, wellbeing and right to live free from harm, abuse and neglect and promotes the views, wishes and beliefs of adults in any decisions made”

# SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

The main objective of the **Safeguarding Adults Board** is to seek assurance that local safeguarding arrangements, and partners, act to help and protect adults in its area who:

- have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs)
- are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of their care and support needs are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

There has been evident commitment by all agencies to further develop working practices with synergy. Strong relationships have been forged which will continue to ensure that the needs of adults at risk, and in need of help, are responded to proactively and promptly.

It is also recognised that there have been challenges across all agencies, including health and social care. The COVID-19 pandemic has continued to impact on personal and professional lives to an extent that few could have predicted. There have also been continued challenges in respect of workforce stability, recruitment, retention and fatigue. Despite this, practitioners have continued to work diligently to support adults and their family networks.

During this reporting period, the cost-of-living crisis has been highlighted as a safeguarding concern for the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (HSAPB). This has caused an increase in poverty, debt, mental ill health and domestic abuse. A further increase is expected in the use of food banks and homelessness. Packages of support have been implemented through the local authority and partner agencies, including providing essential items to those in need and the development of the 'Thrive Directory' of services, implemented by the key partners in Hull who provide emotional health and wellbeing support for children, young people and their families.

## Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Vision



“Safeguarding Partners work together to enable people to live in safety, where our community has a culture that supports the protection of a person’s health, wellbeing and right to live free from harm, abuse and neglect and promotes the views, wishes and beliefs of adults in any decisions made.”

## WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP – HULL SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ARRANGEMENTS

Under the current arrangements, multi-agency subgroups are in place which drive forward the work of the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. Statutory safeguarding partners take a shared responsibility in chairing the subgroup meetings which enables joint working and ownership in relation to priorities.

Within all subgroups there is multi-agency representation and engagement from across the partnership, including the voluntary and community sectors, housing, police, probation, adults social care, health colleagues and drug and alcohol agencies. Attendance is good, and all agencies actively contribute and demonstrate tangible investment in progressing forward activity to improve outcomes for adults.

**Strategic Delivery Group (SDG)** – this group is responsible for the delivery of the strategic action plan. The subgroup meets on a quarterly basis and is represented by over twenty partner agencies. The group is chaired by the Assistant Chief Nurse, Hull University Teaching Hospital.

**Assurance, Performance & Governance Subgroup** - this subgroup has been established to provide the SAB with safeguarding data and assurance activity to support the identification of future areas for development. This group has also considered updates to policies and guidance. The group is chaired by the Local Authority Adults Head of Service for Quality & Safeguarding

**Learning & Improvement Subgroup** – this subgroup has focused on recent reviews, both locally and nationally, which have highlighted the continued need for learning. The HSAPB recognises that learning and improvement should be central to all work undertaken. The group is chaired by the Designated Professional Safeguarding Adults - NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board.



# WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP – HULL SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ARRANGEMENTS

There has also been a commitment to strengthen the joint working between Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, the Hull Safeguarding Children Partnership, Hull Community Safety Partnership and the Hull Health and Wellbeing Board.

Shared strategic priorities have been agreed and positive working relationships have developed with joint working taking place to meet shared goals.



## The priority themes and subgroups of the Hull Collaborative Partnership:

### • EXPLOITATION

### • DOMESTIC ABUSE

### • COMBINED LEARNING

### • TRAUMA INFORMED CITY

To further strengthen working arrangements, the Hull Collaborative Partnership has now been formed, including strategic leads from each partnership. The Hull Collaborative Partnership meeting will continue to co-ordinate and drive this forward as the combined value of all partnerships working together is very evident. Adults, children and communities benefit from agencies working together, as learning is shared across organisations and a consistent approach is adopted to the provision of support.

A Hull Collaborative Partnership Strategic Meeting is convened on a quarterly basis with the aim of delivering change through collective effort to better integrate and align the work of the four constituent strategic partnerships. Emerging themes from each partnership are identified to provide an integrated city-wide response.

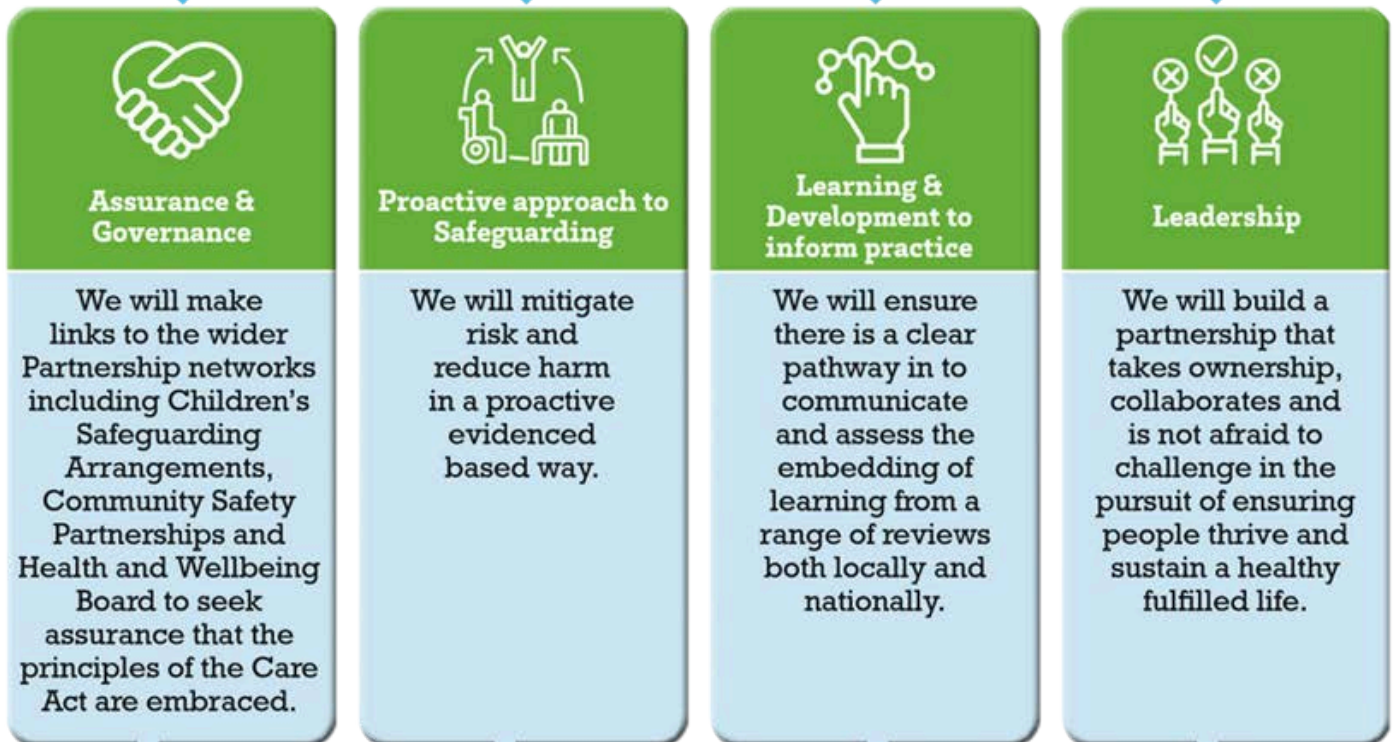


# STRATEGIC AIM OF THE HSAB

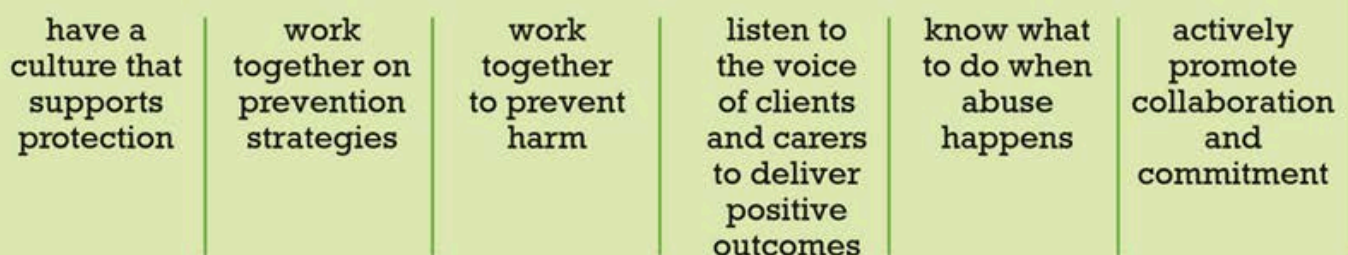


## AIMS

**We will seek the Voice of the Person at every opportunity to have a smarter understanding of co-production and a citizen based approach through equality and diversity to safeguarding**



## To achieve these aims, the Board will:

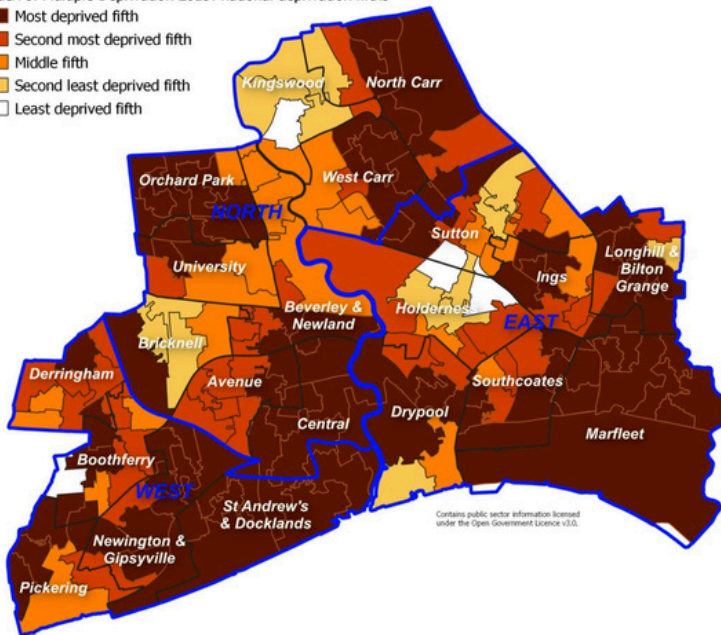


# POPULATION OF HULL

Compact and highly urbanised, Hull is the most densely populated local authority in the Yorkshire and Humber region. With the city's overall population total **around 279,100**.

Index of Multiple Deprivation 2019: national deprivation fifths

- Most deprived fifth
- Second most deprived fifth
- Middle fifth
- Second least deprived fifth
- Least deprived fifth



**123,600**  
residential properties



Approximately **57,600 children and young people** aged 0 to 17 account for **22 per cent** of the city's overall population.

Residents experience  
average of around

**years**

with



## Health and Wellbeing

People's health in the Yorkshire and Humber region is **generally poorer** than the England average; health inequalities are closely linked to deprivation. The health of children and adults in the city is generally poorer than the England average.

## Deprivation and Poverty

The unemployment claim count in the city of Hull is at its highest rate in the last 25 years, with Hull being the **4th most deprived local authority** area (out of 317).

**23,500**

of households  
experiencing  
fuel poverty



# ADULT SOCIAL CARE SERVICES – SAFEGUARDING DATA

Adult social care services are broadly structured by way of a front door service, assessment teams, active recovery teams (including assessment, planning and supporting independence) and longer-term care provision.

## SAFEGUARDING

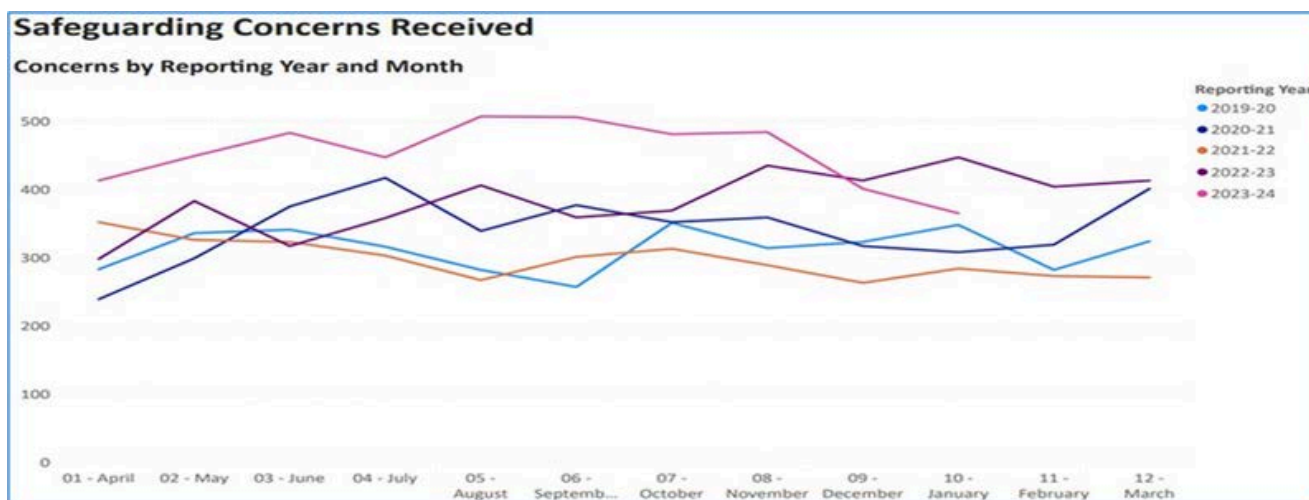
We received **6,438 safeguarding concerns** during April 2023 to March 2024, of which **2,411** progressed to a **Safeguarding enquiry**.

**87.2% OF PEOPLE SAID SERVICES HAVE  
MADE THEM FEEL SAFER**

**76.8% OF PEOPLE FEEL SAFE**

The recorded number of safeguarding concerns raised to Hull City Council's Safeguarding Adults team, from April 2023 to March 2024, totalled 6,438 over the year period, making the monthly average of contacts, 537. 2,411 of these contacts progressed to a safeguarding enquiry.

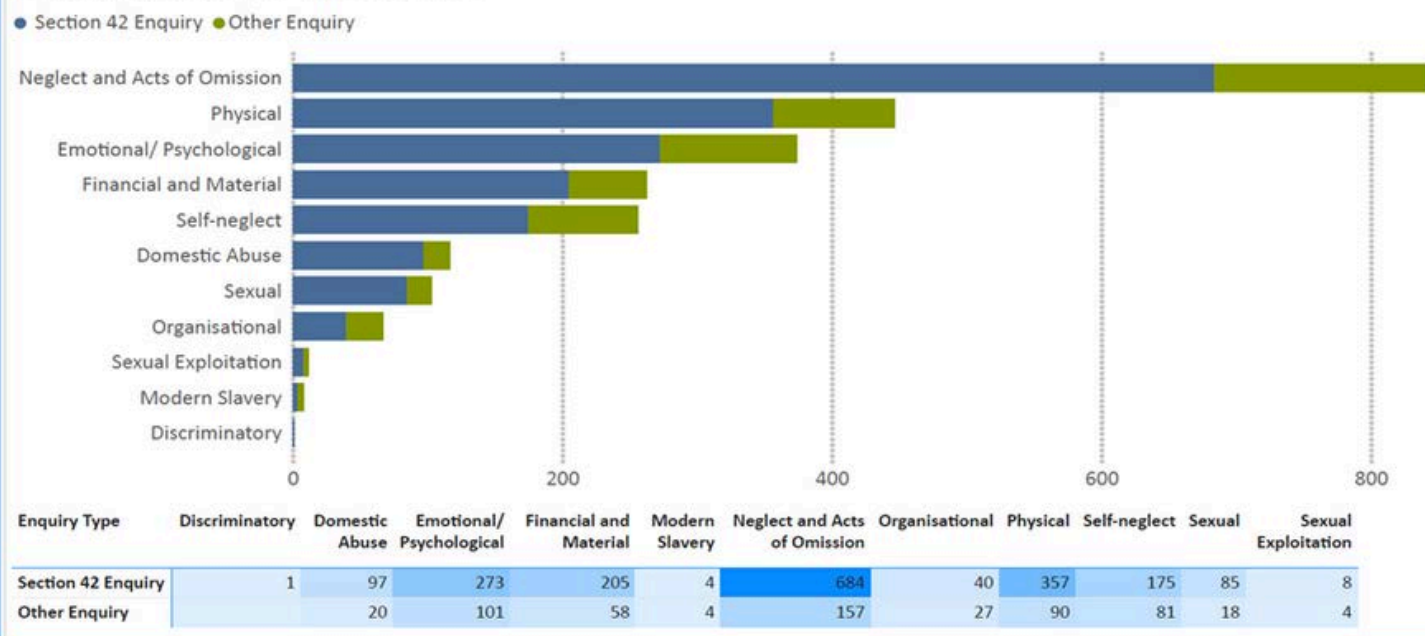
This demonstrates an increase of safeguarding concerns over the reporting period.



# ADULT SOCIAL CARE - SAFEGUARDING DATA

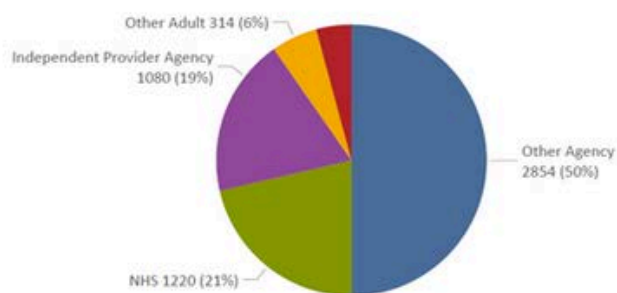
The bar chart and tables below illustrate the resulting section 42 or 'other' enquiries by the type of abuse reported for 2023-2024. The category with the highest number of enquiries 'neglect and acts of omission,' followed by physical harm and emotional / psychological harm.

**Concluded Enquiries: Type of Abuse**



**Safeguarding Concerns Received: Source of Concern**

**Source of Concerns**

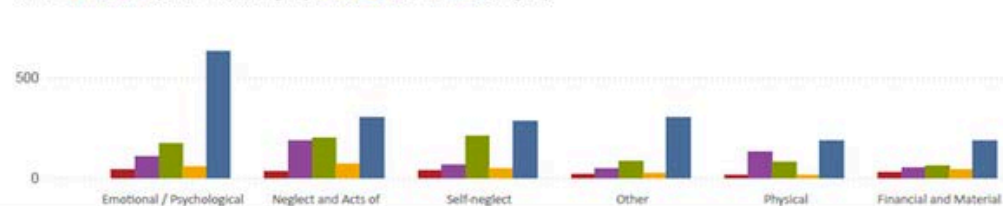


**NHS Agency**

	Count of Concern ID
Primary Community Health (GP, Community-based)	273
Secondary Health (A&E, Hospital, OT, Ward, Hospice)	947
<b>Total</b>	<b>1220</b>

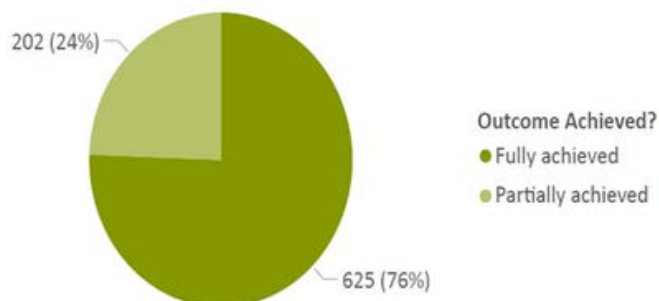
**Abuse Category by Source of Concern**

Source ● HCC ● Independent Provider Agency ● NHS ● Other Adult ● Other Agency

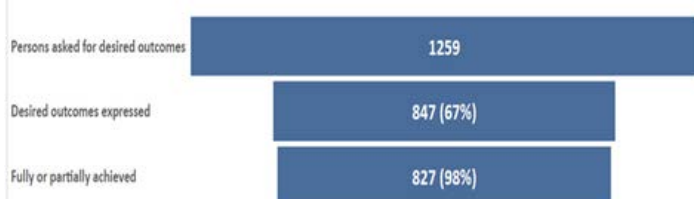


## LISTENING TO PEOPLE - 'MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL'

In relation to concluded enquiries, Adult Social Care asked 1259 people (64%) if their desired outcome had been achieved. 847 provided their views. Positively 76% of those felt that outcomes for themselves had been fully achieved.



Concluded enquiries where the person was asked what their desired outcome would be



## Working with People

**There are a number of participation boards in Hull that work with and represent the people of Hull, working to improve their lives. We want to continue to grow these!**

### The Older People's Partnership Hull and East Riding

Working across Hull and East Yorkshire, this multi-agency partnership promote the needs of older people, coordinating and improving existing services in the region.

They also help to find new, creative approaches to problems older people face in the community. This creativity is the driving force behind the Celebration of Older People Week, organised and run by the charity.

**Find out more about our partnerships and how to get involved**

### The Integrated Carers Partnership Board

The Board meets bi monthly and is made up of citywide partners and carers with lived experience. The Board discusses issues, reviews the Carers Strategy and implementation plan and agrees and measures actions to improve services and support for carers in Hull.

With carers with lived experience sitting on the board it has the ability to identify real issues that are affecting the lives of carers in Hull and understand what is needed to make a tangible improvement.

### Learning Disability Partnership Board

The Learning Disability Partnership Board Members of the board include people with learning disabilities, their family carers and people who work in Health, Social care, Education, Employment support and Housing.

The Board helps people with a learning disability to have their say and make sure their voices are heard.

### The Autism Partnership Board

The Autism partnership Board meets bi monthly and is made up of citywide partners and people with lived experience.

The Board discusses issues arising relating to services and support available to autistic people in Hull and agrees actions to improve these. Some improvements made in diagnostic process and with sharing of information.



## LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT

Having a culture of continuous learning, and development of practice, is a priority area throughout all work undertaken across the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. Good practice, and areas for improvement, are also identified through learning reviews and audit activity so that this can be shared to improve the quality of services provided to adults, and their family networks, across the partnership.

The Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Assurance Performance & Governance Subgroup has been established to provide the Safeguarding Adults Board with safeguarding data, and context, to provide assurance and support the identification of future priorities.

The Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Learning & Improvement Subgroup, chaired by the Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults - NHS Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board (ICB), has considered reviews, both locally and nationally, highlighting the continued need for learning. This subgroup has been pivotal in supporting the identification of gaps in service provision, changes to policy and procedure and embedding learning into daily practice.

Work to develop flexible learning to reach a wide range of practitioners continues to progress in response to both national and local learning.

## SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEWS (SARS)

Safeguarding Adults Board must arrange for a review of a safeguarding case relating to an individual if:

- **the person has died and the SAB suspects that the death resulted from abuse or neglect (whether or not the Local Authority had been alerted to the abuse or neglect prior to death); or**
- **the person is alive, but the SAB knows or suspects that they have experienced serious abuse or neglect; and**
- **there is a reasonable cause for concern about how the SAB, its members or other persons involved worked together to safeguard the adult.**

Each member of the Safeguarding Adults Board must co-operate and contribute to the Safeguarding Adults Review. The purpose of a Safeguarding Adults Review is not to proportion blame but to identify learning and decide how to apply this to future cases.

During the period from March 2023 to April 2024, the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board received eight referrals for consideration in relation to a Safeguarding Adult Review commencing. A Safeguarding Adults Review Panel (SAR Panel) was held to consider referrals, and how best impactful learning could take place. This was chaired by a Superintendent from Humberside Police, with multi-agency representation. It was agreed that the criteria were met for five reviews to commence, to ensure future learning.

## LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT

Discretionary learning reviews, and independent agency reviews, were undertaken during this reporting period to consider areas for future improvement. Key themes identified included the need for increased professional curiosity, understanding responsibilities in relation to the Mental Capacity Act, and the need for prompt escalation and resolution to take place where practice was not at the required standard. Activity is continuing to drive forward these practice development areas.

Whilst there were no commissioned reviews during this period, a review of Adult N was concluded. This review followed both the criminal and coronial processes.

Recommendations included the need for professionals to have access to a multi- agency policy to enhance understanding around the differing forms of exploitation. It was recognised that there was a need to strengthen how professionals should respond and work together to support individuals who are being exploited and strengthening awareness raising through training.

It was also recommended that the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board worked in partnership with East Riding Safeguarding Adult Board to introduce Multi-Agency Risk Management Meetings (MARM's) and to strengthen multi-agency referral processes.

Outcomes and learning from additional SARs subsequently held will be detailed within the next Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Annual Report, due to these taking place during the 2024/2025 reporting period.



## SAFEGUARDING WEEK 2023

The **National Adult Safeguarding Week** took place between **20th – 24th November 2023**. A series of events took place to recognise this, in collaboration with East Riding Safeguarding Adults Board and the Humber and North Yorkshire Integrated Care Board. A programme of events were developed for both professional and public audiences through virtual sessions.

The week was aligned to the themes set out by the Anne Craft Trust. A launch event took place at the Jubilee centre in Hull with organisations across Hull and East Riding, focusing on 'Who Cares for the Carers?' and 'Secondary and Vicarious Trauma'.

Key speakers supported the event including the Clinical Lead for Psychologically from Humber Teaching NHS Trust. The event offered the opportunity to network, discuss the opportunities and challenges faced when working with safeguarding adults and provided some time for partners to reflect and consider their own self-care.



A launch event started the week of virtual workshops, encompassing adopting trauma informed approaches to safeguarding adults.

The public health bus was placed across venues in Hull and East Riding throughout the campaign which included raising awareness of safeguarding adults, facilitated by City Health Care Partnership and supported by organisations from across the partnership. Hull City Centre was lit up in green to support the week, alongside promotions through social media and local radio.

The event was a success with positive feedback received from across the partnership and a high level of engagement.



## CONCLUSION AND FORWARD PLAN - NEXT STEPS 2024 / 2025

This report recognises the continual hard work and commitment, demonstrated by all agencies who have a role to play in safeguarding adults, to continually improve our responses to supporting adults at risk.

Strong relationships with key relevant agencies, to drive forward practice improvement, will remain at the forefront of our practice.

Strengthening the voice of people will be an evolving and continued focus for the Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. This will include further development in ensuring the views of adults in need of support, and the views of their family networks, are heard and acted upon. This priority will remain central to the work we undertake to improve the way in which we respond to adults at risk, and to demonstrate that the work of the Hull Safeguarding Adults Board is making a positive difference to individuals' lives.

Partnership wide learning and quality assurance will continue to be led by Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board to further develop a growing culture and commitment to continuous improvement. This will be achieved through high support and challenge.

During our next reporting period, the current foundations will continue to be built on to further improve and strengthen our drive for good practice. This will include ensuring a framework for learning from reviews, and improvement activity, makes a meaningful and tangible impact on improving safeguarding practice. We will further develop new and innovative ways to share learning and key messages through continuing to design and deliver effective training for all practitioners and volunteers who work to safeguard adults, and their family networks, across Hull.

The Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will continue to drive further improvement through the agreed strategic priorities and through sub-group activity, both under the governance structure of Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board, and through the continuation of embedding collaborative work. The Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board will continue to strengthen and evidence its own effectiveness through continual evaluation, scrutiny and rigorous constructive challenge.

It is important to us that we continue to have in place strong and effective governance arrangements, with responsibility for leading the work of sub-groups shared between partners. We will continue to explore, and maximise, the opportunity for joint working on shared priorities with other key strategic partnerships and continue to have in place effective independent scrutiny.



**LARA DAVIDSON**

Hull Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Manager

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Lara Davidson'.