

By: Graham Gibbens, Cabinet Member, Adult Social Services  
Oliver Mills, Managing Director, Kent Adult Social Services

To: Adult Social Services Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee –  
30 March 2010

Subject: **SAFEGUARDING ADULTS ANNUAL REPORT 2008/2009**

Classification: Unrestricted

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Summary: This report presents the Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults  
Annual Report for 2008-2009

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## **Introduction**

1 (1) This multi agency safeguarding report summarises the work undertaken by partner agencies in the year leading up to the Commission for Social Care Inspectorates Safeguarding themed inspection of Kent Adult Social Services which took place in March 2009. Some additional monitoring data from Medway Council is awaited and will be amalgamated with the Kent data prior to publication.

## **Summary of Safeguarding Issues emerging in 2009/2010**

2 (1) Following the CSCI inspection report KASS has developed and worked on its post inspection action plan. Our multi agency partners supported the inspection process and are supporting activities e.g. further development of the publicity and awareness strategy which will include by holding a safeguarding week in June 2010.

(2) Working with partner agencies to address the issues raised by the bringing together of adults with a range of social problems and risky behaviour in bed and breakfast accommodation in Thanet, ensuring that KASS does not support placements in multi-occupancy accommodation for any vulnerable adults without careful planning. This will be tackled through the Margate Task Force theme in Kent's Total Place report.

(3) Maintaining a close working relationship with Supporting People (SP) whenever safeguarding concerns arise in services with a SP contract.

(4) The publication of the Leicestershire Serious Case Review (SCR) for Fiona Pilkington and her 18 year old daughter was discussed at the Safeguarding adults' board and committee. This SCR greatly raised the profile of Hate Crime and the multi agency safeguarding policy and protocols have been revised to include vulnerable people who are victims of Hate Crime. Kent Police established in April 2009 Hate Crime units across the county. They are ensuring that any incidents involving vulnerable adults are discussed with the specialist adult abuse officers who will raise a safeguarding alert which will ensure a multi agency response to these concerns.

(5) In July 2009 the DH published the report following the consultation on the review of No Secrets. To date there has not been a full response to the report from the government and this is not now expected before the general election. However NHS Care Service Minister Phil Hope did state that 'we are going to make it law that every local area must have a Safeguarding Adults Board'. He also announced a new Ministerial group to oversee the safeguarding of vulnerable adults.

(6) On 24 February the Law Commission published consultation paper 192 encompassing all aspects of Adult Social Care. The consultation closes on 1 July 2010. Part 12 of the consultation paper relates to safeguarding adults at risk. The proposals include:

- *A duty on the local authority to make enquiries and investigate allegations of abuse and take actions within its power to safeguarding persons from harm*
- *To replace the term Vulnerable Adults to Adults at Risk. It will include anyone with social care needs who is or maybe at risk of harm*
- *To consider if emergency powers are needed to protect adults at risk*
- *To place in statute the duty on each social services authority to establish an adult safeguarding board with specified functions and membership and a requirement to share information and contribute to serious case reviews.*
- *An enhanced duty to cooperate in safeguarding adults from abuse and neglect.*
- *That the successor to No Secrets should be linked to a local authorities statutory function to safeguarding adults from abuse and neglect.*

## **Recommendation**

3. (1) Members are asked to NOTE and COMMENT on the contents of the report.

Michael Thomas-Sam  
Head of Policy and Service Standards  
01622 694843 (VPN 7000 4843)  
michael.thomas-sam@kent.gov.uk

Carol McKeough  
Safeguarding Adults Policy and Standards Manager  
01233 714811  
carol.mckeough@kent.gov.uk

*Background documents*  
Multi agency annual report 2007/2008