

By: Graham Gibbens - Cabinet Member for Adult Social Care and Public Health

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To: Adult Social Care and Public Health Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 10 November 2011

Subject: **KENT AND MEDWAY SAFEGUARDING VULNERABLE ADULTS ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2009 - MARCH 2010 AND APRIL 2010 - MARCH 2011**

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report introduces the above report which describes how the multi-agency partnership managed safeguarding adult issues in 2009 - 2011. The report provides safeguarding activity information. The report also contains key statements from partner organisations on how they dealt with safeguarding issues in their respective agencies.

Introduction

1 (1) Safeguarding Adults continues to be a key responsibility of the Families and Social Care Directorate. In meeting this responsibility it is essential that it plays a key role in the workings of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board.

(2) The Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board directs the work of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Team. The Board is comprised of Senior Officers from the key agencies in Kent and Medway involved in safeguarding including the Police, Health Service, Medway Council and KCC. The current chair of the Board is the Assistant Director of Adult Social Care, Medway Council.

(3) During 2010 the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board made significant changes to its structure and it was in response to this that the Board decided to delay the Annual Report in 2010 and to produce a report at this time covering the period from 2009 – 2011.

Policy Context

2. (1) There has been a full review of the multi-agency safeguarding structure and governance following the appointment of a Safeguarding Adults Board Manager in September 2009. The outcome of the review was confirmation that safeguarding adults arrangements in Kent and Medway are managed through the Kent and

Medway Safeguarding Adults Executive Board, currently chaired by Medway's Assistant Director of Social Care. The Board and a newly formed Executive Team led by the Board Manager involve representatives from the commissioning agencies, which are Social Services, Health and the Police.

(2) The involvement and engagement of other agencies and providers of services are through two network meetings held each year. A recent network meeting held in October focussed on financial abuse. Other sub-groups of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board are: Training, Policy, Protocol and Guidance and Serious Case Review.

(3) The governance of safeguarding is now primarily through the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board, with the Executive Team members taking a lead within their agencies to ensure that decisions taken by the Board are implemented. However, each agency and service are also responsible, through their own governance structures, to report on their safeguarding arrangements, focussing on the prevention of abuse and their compliance with the multi-agency policy, protocols and guidance.

(4) Additionally, within the Families & Social Care directorate in KCC, there is work being done internally on quality assuring the processes and outcomes of the safeguarding work. Information on this will be reported to the POSC in due course.

Key Areas of the Report

3. (1) The report contains a raft of valuable information from all the key agencies engaged in adult safeguarding across Kent and Medway. However there are specific areas of the report which Members might be interested in.

(2) **Sections 2 and 3** give more detail on the governance arrangements and the budget which supports this.

(3) **Section 4** summarises the nationally significant activity in regard to adult safeguarding.

(4) **Section 5** of the report outlines a key activity of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Vulnerable Adults Executive Board which focuses on safeguarding multi-agency training. It outlines the activity and the proposals to continue to ensure that training remains a key priority in this ever changing environment which all agencies are operating in.

(5) **Section 7** summarises the work of each agency. This is a retrospective look back and therefore in regard to KCC describes some of the work undertaken by the previous Adult Social Services Directorate.

(6) **Section 8** outlines the activity data for adult safeguarding. This includes the referral data, the background data in regard to victims and the current trends in regard to adult safeguarding within Kent and Medway.

Recommendation

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

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Background documents: None