

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

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To: Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee –
11 September 2015

Subject: **KENT AND MEDWAY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS ANNUAL REPORT APRIL 2014 – MARCH 2015**

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway: Social Care, Health and Wellbeing DMT

Future Pathway: None

Electoral Division: All

Summary: This report introduces the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Annual Report April 2014 – March 2015 (attached as Appendix 1) which details the work of the multi-agency partnership and how it managed safeguarding adults issues in 2014-2015. The report provides safeguarding activity information and also contains key statements from partner organisations regarding how they dealt with safeguarding issues in their respective agencies.

Recommendations: Members of the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee are asked to:
a) **NOTE** and
b) **COMMENT** on the attached report

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Safeguarding Adults continues to be the major priority of the Social Care, Health and Wellbeing Directorate. In meeting this responsibility, it is essential that the Directorate plays a key role in the workings of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 1.2 The Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board works to make sure that all agencies are working together to help keep Kent and Medway's adults safe from harm and to protect the rights of citizens under the Mental Capacity Act.
- 1.3 The enactment and implementation of the Care Act 2014 placed Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory basis from April 2015. The

Care Act (14.116) states that the following organisations **must** be represented on the Safeguarding Adults Board:

- Local Authority
- Clinical Commissioning Groups in the Local Authority's area
- Police

1.4 The Care Act (14.10) also requires that each Local Authority **must**:

- make enquiries, or cause others to do so, if it believes an adult is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. An enquiry should establish whether any action needs to be taken to prevent or stop abuse or neglect, and if so, by whom

- set up a Safeguarding Adults Board

- arrange, where appropriate, for an independent advocate to represent and support an adult who is the subject of a safeguarding enquiry or Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) where the adult has 'substantial difficulty' in being involved in the process and where there is no other suitable person to represent

and support them

- co-operate with each of its relevant partners (as set out in Section 6 of the Care Act) in order to protect the adult. In their each relevant partner must also co-operate with the local authority

1.5 In line with the Care Act 2014, the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is required to publish an Annual Plan each financial year.

1.6 During 2014-2015, the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board comprised Senior Officers from the key agencies in Kent and Medway involved in safeguarding, including the Police, Health Service, Medway Council and Kent County Council. The current chair of the Board is the Corporate Director of Social Care, Health and Wellbeing, Kent County Council.

2. Financial Implications

2.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from the report.

3. Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes

3.1 The work of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board, which is detailed within the Annual Report, plays a key role in supporting KCC's Strategic Statement 'Increasing Opportunities, Improving Outcomes':

"Older and vulnerable residents are safe and supported with choices to live independently".

4. The Report

- 4.1 The report contains a wealth of information from each of the key agencies engaged in the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board. The following paragraphs give a brief overview of key sections of the report.
- 4.2 **Section 2** provides a summary of a number of key documents published in 2014-2015 which have influenced the safeguarding agenda.
- 4.3 **Section 3** summarises the local context for adult safeguarding in Kent and Medway.
- 4.4 **Section 4** outlines the multi-agency safeguarding training programme supported by the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board. This section highlights activity and attendance at training courses.
- 4.5 **Section 5** provides details of the funding arrangements for the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 4.6 **Section 6** summarises the work of each member agency of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board.
- 4.7 **Section 7** outlines the activity data for adult safeguarding in Kent and Medway. This includes referral data, the background data in regard to victims and the current trends in relation to adult safeguarding in Kent and Medway.
- 4.8 **Section 8** identifies the key priorities for the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board for 2015-2016.

5. Conclusion

- 5.1 The Annual Report provides a retrospective view of the work of the Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board and details key safeguarding activity between April 2014 – March 2015.

6. Recommendations

- 6.1 Members of the Adult Social Care and Health Cabinet Committee are asked to:

- a) **NOTE** and
- b) **COMMENT** on the attached report

7. Background Documents

None

8. Contact Details

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