

Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adults Board

Board Briefing March 2018



Welcome to the Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adults Board briefing. The last Board meeting was held on Monday the 5th March 2018, and attended by over 15 members from organisations working with adults with care and support needs in the city. This briefing will give you an update of the topics discussed. If you have any comments please contact us SAB@brighton-hove.gov.uk

What is a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)?

The Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Adult Board (B&H SAB) is a group of statutory, private, voluntary, and independent organisations across Brighton & Hove who work together to empower and protect some of the most vulnerable members of our community.

Our purpose is to raise awareness and promote the welfare of vulnerable adults by the development of an effective co-operative. We are committed to ensuring that the work done effectively brings about good outcomes for adults so that people live safe and secure lives.

We have three core duties we must do in order to fulfil our statutory requirements:

1. Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how we will meet our objectives and how our member and partner agencies will contribute
 2. Publish an annual report detailing how effective our work has been
 3. Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these
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For more information on the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board see our [website](#).

Responding to Homelessness

Through referrals into our Safeguarding Adult Review Subcommittee we remain alert to concerns about homelessness as a safeguarding issue. Changes in practice and service provision which have resulted from our activity will take time to embed and we took some time at today's meeting to review activity to date.

Next steps include ensuring that we are better sighted on the number of homeless deaths in the City and that we receive a full report on learning from the Adult Social Care auditing activity on safeguarding cases regarding this client group.

We will also be doing a further multi-agency re-audit of homeless cases in 2019 to test improvement.

Safeguarding Strategic Self-Assessment Challenge

Every two years we ask our safeguarding partners to complete a self-assessment, looking closely at their own arrangements for keeping adults with care and support needs safe. We then hold a Sussex wide as well as local 'Challenge' to further scrutinise the agency's arrangements.

We have now heard from all our agencies on what they believe their safeguarding strengths and weaknesses are and we are due to hear how they are progressing their weak areas in the April Quality Assurance Subgroup ([Terms of Reference](#)).

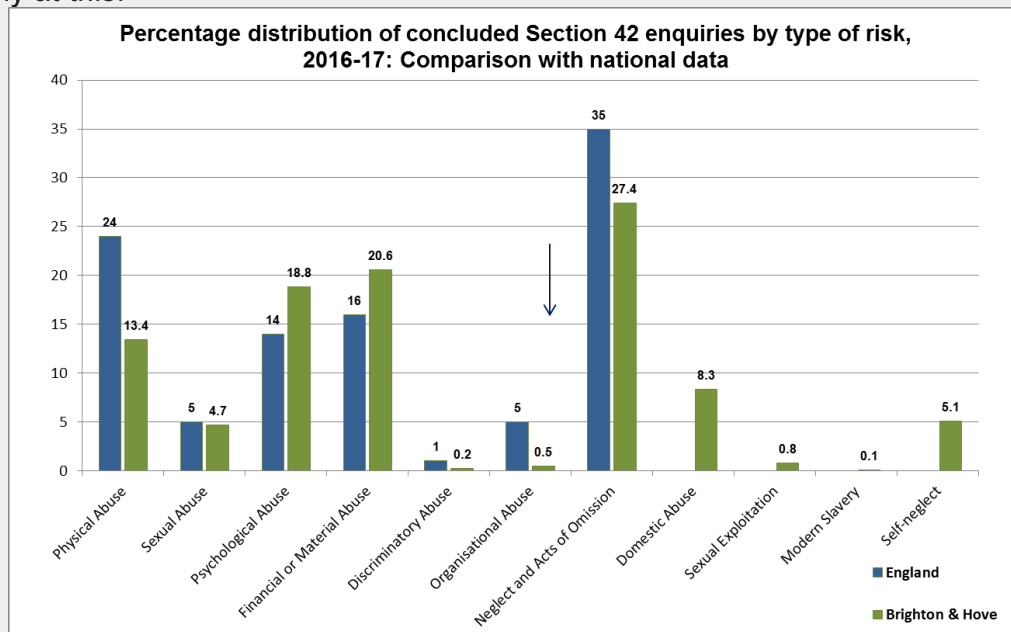
Multi-Agency Safeguarding Data

The Quality Assurance Officer presented Q1 and Q2 safeguarding data. We use data to assess the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Brighton & Hove and as a tool to set our strategic priorities.

The main issues highlighted from the dataset were:

Organisational Abuse

Nationally, the level of organisational abuse recorded is 5%. In Brighton & Hove this is 0.5%. However, this comes with a caveat that the statutory requirements for data mean that some categories which are reported on a voluntary basis are only available for Brighton & Hove. However, 0.5% does seem low and we will want to look more closely at this.

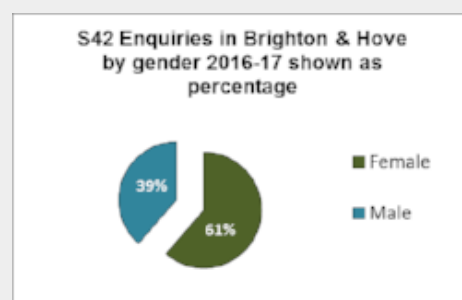


Repeat Safeguarding Referrals

The data shows 16 adults with five or more safeguarding enquiries and we are looking for further details to ascertain whether appropriate action is being taken to minimise the risk for these 16 people. We have asked that four adults with four or more enquiries, that we are provided with a case study summary which considers; age, gender, ethnicity, support needs, a summary of concerns and actions taken, and measures in place to address risk and current situation. This will help us to build a better picture of repeat referrals.

Gender

Statutory reporting only covers male/female and does not require non-binary gender data. This means we are not able to quickly identify enquiries relating to adults who do not identify as male or female. We want to rectify this as a priority.



Healthwatch Report on the Impact of PIP and ESA

We were joined by Alan Boyd, Project Coordinator at Healthwatch. Alan told us that throughout 2017 Healthwatch had been contacted by several organisations with concerns about how PIP/ESA assessments were being conducted as well as assessors knowledge and attitudes. He provided us with a few first hand stories of clients' experiences which showed a number of impacts on applicants – physically, mentally and financially. The report recommended; improved training for assessors, that reasonable adjustments are provided and the scrutiny of mandatory reconsiderations - a fully independent re-assessment with a clear rationale given behind any new decision. We noted and shared the concerns raised in the sobering report and committed to raise concerns related to safeguarding with the appropriate bodies to seek assurance that the issues are being addressed



New Leadership Group

The chair described plans to trial a Leadership Group with the Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board. This group has already been running successfully in the LSCB for a number of years and is attended by all chairs of Board subcommittees.

The rationale behind inviting the SAB Chairs to this meeting is to help minimise any duplication for those who sit on both Boards and it is hoped this arrangement will be conducive to a more joined up approach across the Board's workplans, especially in areas where work streams merge.



Upcoming Meetings

We next meet on the 25th of June. If you would like to discuss any aspect of this briefing or if you have a topic you would like raised at the SAB please contact [Mia Brown](#).

Date	Time	Venue
25 June	3-5pm	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
3 September	3-5pm	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
3 December	3-5pm	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall
18 March 2019	3-5pm	Council Chamber, Hove Town Hall



Working together to enable people in Brighton & Hove to live a life free from fear, harm and abuse

[@SAB_Brighton](#)
[Safeguarding Adult Board Website](#)

