

MESSAGES BULLETIN

**FROM THE DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING ADULTS PARTNERSHIP
BOARD**

ISSUE 3 – SEPTEMBER 2016

Welcome to the third bulletin from the Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. The Board is made up of leaders from a range of organisations such as Police, Public Health, Care Quality Commission (CQC), Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), providers of Health Care, Social Care, Housing, Voluntary Services and the Probation Service all of whom have an interest in safeguarding adults at risk of abuse or neglect. On a bi-monthly basis the board meet to ensure safeguarding practice is well coordinated and meeting the needs of individuals being safeguarded.

The Board met on **27 September 2016** and the headlines from the meeting are:



Welcome to the new Independent Chair

Ann Baxter was welcomed by the Board as the Interim Independent Chair until January 2017. Ann is a very experienced Independent Chair and has had a long career working in adult and children's services. Ann currently balances a range of consultancy, charity and chairing roles. Ann is also the Independent Chair of the Tees Safeguarding Adults Board and she is a Regional Advisor for the Local Government Association.

Vice Chair of the DSAPB

The Board agreed to Lyn Peart, Detective Chief Inspector for Durham Constabulary to be the Vice Chair of the Board for one year.



Annual Report 2015-16

DSAPB Annual Report 2015/2016

The Board approved the annual report. The annual report is a reflection of how effective the Board was during 2015/2016 in promoting the welfare and protecting adults at risk from abuse and neglect. The annual report also includes the Boards strengths and weaknesses during this period to inform the future priorities of the Board. The annual report will be presented to the Health and Well Being Board and the Adult and Housing Scrutiny Committee within Darlington Borough Council. The annual report is also shared with the Chief Executive and Lead Member of Darlington Borough Council, Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner for County Durham and Darlington and the Chair of the Community Safety Partnership.



Budget Report

The Board received an updated budget report which highlighted that the budget is of great concern for 2017/2018. Statutory Partners and current contributors of the Board are to meet and review the position and look at future approaches to sufficiently resource the Board to enable it to meet its statutory responsibilities.



Peer led research into sex work in Durham and Darlington

CHANGING LIVES

October 2016

Presentation from ‘Changing Lives’ on the nature of sex work in County Durham and Darlington.

Laura Seebohm, Director of Women and Criminal Justice Services attended the Board meeting and provided a detailed presentation on a study that has been commissioned by Ron Hogg, the Police Crime and Victims Commissioner. The study sets out to understand the nature of sex work in County Durham and Darlington, and to examine interactions between sex workers and the services that they are likely to come into contact with. The study used the successful, peer-led methodology of Changing Lives’ Girls Are Proud (GAP) project, to uncover truths about the lived experiences of sex workers that operate in County Durham and Darlington. The Board are using this study with other intelligence to look at how it can improve the support of adults that are being sexually exploited. Further updates will be provided via this bulletin. The full report can be accessed from the [Changing Lives](http://www.changinglives.org.uk) website.



Mental Capacity Assessments Audit

The Board committed to and agreed to undertake an audit which will examine and evaluate how agencies have worked together when it has been assessed that an adult at risk does not have capacity to make safeguarding decisions. The aim of the audit is to better understand mental capacity assessments that have been undertaken and if these assessments are reviewed and the adult at risks desired outcomes are re-checked. The learning from the audit will inform future practice and training. The headlines from the audit will be reported at the next Board meeting in December 2016.



North East and Cumbria Learning Disability Mortality Review Network

Since the presentation received in June 2016 to decide who will provide the governance overview of this work, it has been determined that this will be the Director of Adult Services (Locally this is Suzanne Joyner, Director for Children and Adults Services, Darlington Borough Council) and the Board will receive via its subgroups any cases that have been reviewed with safeguarding concerns.



Multi-agency training

The Board offers a range of safeguarding training to volunteers and employed staff in Darlington working with adults at risk. The Board received the findings from the training needs analysis which was undertaken earlier in the year. The training programme has been updated to reflect the feedback received from the training needs analysis. Further consideration is to be undertaken by the Board to understand the relationship between the needs analysis, the annual report and what partners are doing in respect of safeguarding training.

You can view the available training today via the website:

http://www.darlington.gov.uk/media/1056565/Safeguarding_Training_Programme.pdf and you can contact the safeguarding boards’ business unit on 01325 406452 to book a place or email LSCB.Training@darlington.gov.uk.

Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is:

Ann Baxter

The Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board is supported by a joint business unit which also supports the Darlington Safeguarding Children Board.

For further information you can contact a member of the team on: 01325 406452.