

2 May 2018

New chapter for Safeguarding Adults Board

Introducing Jeanette McDiarmid, Chair of Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board

Dear Colleagues,

I was appointed in September and have spent the last few months reviewing the work of the board and establishing its programme for the next 12 months. One of the things I have been very conscious of is the need to communicate effectively with people, especially practitioners, about the work of the board. This is the first of what will be regular updates and bulletins.

I have spent my career in the police and local government, most recently as Deputy Chief Executive at Scottish Borders Council, and I'm passionate about delivering the best possible service to adults with safeguarding needs across Cumbria. My priority as Chair of the Board is to ensure that all partners have the right services in place and are working together to safeguard adults who have care and support needs or who are vulnerable. That includes the safety of patients in local health services and the quality of local care and support services.

Communication and engagement is key, we have to speak to people who have experienced abuse and neglect to understand how best to provide them with support and care. We also need to raise awareness with the general public. Abuse and neglect takes many forms, for example human trafficking, domestic abuse, forced marriage or financial harm, and people need to know how to spot the signs that abuse is taking place and know what to do about it. That's why today I am also talking to the local media about the role of the board in an effort to raise its profile and highlight the fact that everyone has a role in keeping Cumbria's vulnerable adults safe.

I'm excited about leading the Board and making a positive difference and will be keeping you up to date with its work via bulletins like this and hopefully meeting some of you face to face over the coming months.

I'd welcome your feedback about the board and how it could best fulfil its role going forward. Please contact me at csab@cumbria.gov.uk

Yours

Jeanette McDiarmid

Chair of Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board



New website and Twitter account launched



Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board now has a [new website](#) with information for professionals and the public. The site is still being added to and we would welcome your feedback on the site and other information you think it should include.

Please send your feedback to csab@cumbria.gov.uk

You can also follow the Board on Twitter [@cumbriasab](#). We'll be posting news about the Board and also sharing other relevant safeguarding related content.

What is safeguarding and what is the Board for?

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live safely, free from abuse and neglect. It is about people and organisations working together to prevent and stop both the risks and experience of abuse or neglect, while making sure that the adult's wellbeing is promoted. This includes considering the individual's views, wishes and feelings.

The Care Act 2014 places Safeguarding Adult responsibility on a statutory footing and requires the local authority, police and the NHS to work in partnership to safeguard adults

The Act requires each local authority to set up a Safeguarding Adults Board. The main objective of the Safeguarding Adults Board are:

1. To assure itself that the local safeguarding arrangements across its area are effective.
2. Ensure partners work collaboratively to prevent abuse and neglect and that agencies and individuals give timely and proportionate responses where abuse or neglect has occurred.
3. Have mechanisms in place to ensure that safeguarding practices are continuously improving and enhancing the quality of life of adults with care and support needs.

Safeguarding Adult Boards have three core duties:

1. Develop and Publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute
2. Publish an annual report detailing how effective the work of the work of the Board has been
3. Commission Safeguarding Adult Review for any case which meets the criteria

Care Act Guidance suggests that it is beneficial to appoint an independent chair to the Safeguarding Adults Board who is not an employee or member of an agency.

Get in touch!

If you would like to speak with someone about the work of the Cumbria Safeguarding Adults Board please contact:

- Email: csab@cumbria.gov.uk
- Web: www.cumbriasab.org.uk
- Phone: 01228 226455
- Twitter: [@cumbriasab](#)
- E-bulletins: cumbria.gov.uk/signup

