

**Sefton Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB)**

**STRATEGIC PLAN**

**including the Business Plan**

**2022- 2024**

**Sefton’s Strategic Plan**

**Introduction Page Content**

Following a review of activities undertaken within the first year of SSAB coming into being, the Strategic Plan has been reviewed and amended to reflect the priorities for the coming year. The Plan will be subject to continued scrutiny and adjustment in light of any emerging themes that require attention and necessary actioning. With the introduction of the independent SSAB website scheduled for late 2022 we will be encouraging on-line consultations with communities across Sefton, and we will welcome and respond to your feedback.

Your views are very important to us. We are confident that you will embrace the opportunities to work closely with both SSAB and the Subgroups, helping to achieve what is paramount to us all. We aim to provide a safe, comfortable environment where individuals with care and support needs are consistently respected, valued and enabled to live a life that they choose with access to support in a way that meets their needs.

Sefton Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) is a statutory body with strategic responsibility to work with members and partners to protect and support adults with care and support needs from abuse, neglect and self-neglect in Sefton.

**Statement of Purpose**

To enable Sefton to be a safe place for everyone, the Board and its members will work together to:

* prevent abuse, neglect and self-neglect
* provide timely and proportionate response to abuse, neglect and self-neglect
* promote awareness and understanding of safeguarding adults
* ensure safeguarding practice is person-centered and outcome focused
* ensure continual development of safeguarding practice and arrangements across Sefton

To ensure effective coordination of services to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults, in accordance with the Care Act 2014 and the Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2014, SSAB aims to achieve whilst supporting individuals in maintaining control over their lives and in making informed choices without coercion. The Board’s Strategic Plan outlines the aim and objectives that will allow us to achieve, it provides direction and continuity to our Annual Work Plan.

The six principles of safeguarding will be closely adhered to:

* Empowerment- presumption of person-led decisions and informed consent
* Prevention – it is best to action before harm occurs
* Proportionality – the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
* Protection – support and representation for those in greatest need
* Partnership – local solutions through services working with communities
* Accountability – accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding

**Strategic Objectives**

Strategic Objectiveswill be reviewed at a minimum of every year to monitor progress.

They are:

**Leadership and Accountability**

* Ensure that SSAB provides strategic leadership to embed safeguarding principles and contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect
* Ensure that partners are held to account for their safeguarding practices with the use of robust mechanisms
* In consultation with other Boards ensure flexibility within the system to be able to respond and adapt to emerging safeguarding themes in a timely manner to ensure provision of adequate provision to address concerns.
* Ensure clear and transparent annual budget arrangements are committed to enable all necessary safeguarding activity to be adequately funded.
* Ensure all statutory duties are complied with in accordance with Care Act 2014 requirements and all key partners are engaged with, to enable strategic leadership to be achieved
* Ensure risk in service provision is regularly monitored and addressed

**Policy and Procedure**

* Ensure regular review of all related policy documents and procedural guidance to enable to positively influence and guide understanding and practice
* Ensure all policy documents are sufficiently robust
* Develop thorough understanding across Sefton of the Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)process and ensure that the threshold is consistent with regional practice
* Develop borough-wide approaches to safeguarding practice. The Board will adapt its annual plan as needed to respond to emerging priorities. This plan is being developed at a time when the country is beginning to experience the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and the Board will work to understand the safeguarding implications for Sefton residents, and support the partnership respond to emerging threats and issues. Borough wide approaches will also include working in partnership with key strategic boards, such as Sefton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP), in relation to support for people with complex needs.  Work during this period will include identifying learning to support people living street- based lives and working with strategic partners to develop our approach to domestic abuse.

**Quality, Audit and Learning**

* Ensure a culture of openness and transparency is adopted to promote learning from Single Agency Reviews, Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Domestic Homicide Reviews, Learning Disability Mortality Reviews (LeDeR), section 42 enquiries, and general practice learning.
* Share learning across the region with fellow LA areas
* Ensure all partners produce robust safeguarding data to shape learning, awareness, practice, and effect necessary change
* Ensure consistent improvement of awareness of safeguarding across communities and partner organisations. SSAB is committed to learning from experiences and will make endeavours to do so by working across communities and with partners to ensure people know where and how to seek help and have the confidence in the safeguarding process to enable them to do so. Each year areas of development will be specified within the annual plan that will consistently work towards promotion of awareness across the Borough and across all sectors of communities.

**Prevention, Engagement and Making Safeguarding Personal**

* Build resilience of those who may be at risk of abuse and neglect, including adolescents who are transitioning into adulthood and those who are homeless, to promote wellbeing. Partners will work closely together and share necessary information to identify those at risk of abuse or neglect.
* Continuously develop safeguarding approaches to achieve prevention
* Ensure development of safeguarding approaches across all partner agencies that are person led and underpinned by the six key principles
* Build on capturing the perspectives of those who access the service from across the Borough and use their experiences to shape the required service of the future.
* Ensure that the purpose and functions of the Board are effectively promoted across the Borough and people understand how to engage with Board activities

**Learning and Workforce Development**

* Ensure the workforce across the partnership is sufficiently skilled and equipped to effectively support adults at risk where abuse and/ or neglect is suspected
* Ensure all learning and development opportunities, available to all, including Board members is subject to evaluation and necessary adjustments promptly made

The current Subgroup Work Plan below demonstrates key areas under development in the next 12 months.

Appendix 1

**Sefton Safeguarding Adults Board**

Strategic Business Plan 2022-2024

**Work Plan 2021-2022**

Sefton’s Safeguarding Adults Board Business Plan is instrumental in scheduling the key themes for development of the work of the Board.

* The itemised themes and objectives set out the key areas of work for the period ahead
* Clearly describe how the Board is going to undertake this work
* Demonstrate intent for on-going improvement and development of safeguarding work
* Makes essential contribution to partner agencies corporate plans for effective safeguarding of adults at risk.

The Business Plan identifies both long- and short-term actions to build on the creation of safer communities and informed services for all adults at risk across Sefton Place.

Sefton SAB keys focuses are themed as below:

**Key Theme 1:** Review and develop how safeguarding is perceived and understood across all communities

**Key Theme 2: Improve awareness of safeguarding across communities and partner agencies.**

**Key Them**e **3: Develop Sefton wide approaches to safeguarding practices and the wellbeing of individuals engaged within them**

**Key** Theme **4: Learning from experience to improve the quality of how we work inclusive of wellbeing**

We will measure our progress and achievements through our Business Plan which will be updated every three months and reviewed by the SAB. The Board will adapt the Business Plan to address any emerging trends and issues.

**Key Focus 1: Review and develop how safeguarding is perceived and understood across all communities**

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| **What we will do:** We will engage all sectors of local communities to discuss and capture their understanding and perception of safeguarding adults. We will involve individuals in developing safeguarding approaches and understanding in Sefton. |
|  | Actions by which we will achieve the priority | How/Details | By Whom | By When | Progress/Comments | RAG Status |
| 1.1 | Gain an understanding through engagement with partners, communities, individuals and organisations of what adult safeguarding means to them and how together we can address concerns that are raised.  | 1.1.1 Map out key personnel within various partnerships, organisations, communities, VCF groups and other opportunities to meet with individuals that access services.  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | Dec 2022  |  |  |
| * + 1. Agree the format of information to be shared and captured through discussion and consultation with those listed in 1.1.1.
 | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | Dec2022 | Resources to be developed on information that will be presented to those listed in 1.1.1. and how we will capture information gathered from individuals to maximise the use. |  |
| 1.1.3Develop a programme of visits and engagement opportunities with individuals and organisations across Sefton to gather feedback and allocate across the Subgroups and Business Unit.  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | Dec2022 | Develop a programme of visits with allocation of at least 2 individuals per visit from the Board partnership.  |  |
|  |  | 1.1.4Undertake visits as per plan developed in 1.1.3. De-brief and review and make appropriate adjustments.  | All  | On-going | De-brief of the visits to be undertaken with SAB Business Unit. Adjustments made on evaluation to optimise collection of information to inform developments. |  |
|  |  | 1.1.5Review and make appropriate adjustments to both resources and plan of engagement. Proposal for ‘Friends of the Board’ initiative floated and progressed  | All  | Sept2023 | Develop appropriate Terms of Reference for engaging with ‘Friends of the Board’, its vision and purpose in relationship with Board.  |  |
| 1.2 | Building on progress made with individuals/agencies/partners of Sefton through engagement. Consider additional opportunities to strengthen partnership working with events such as ‘Board Listening Day’ and ‘Virtual Network’. | 1.2.1 Using the information gathered from those with lived experience make necessary adjustment to practice guidance and procedures.  | All  | Sept 2023 | Inform the relevant author of documentation of information gathered for consideration of change in process based on feedback from individuals.  Share feedback with partners on topics/themes relevant to their organisation i.e MFRS and Fire Safety.  |  |
| 1.3  | Review the membership of ‘Friends of the Board’ and look at additional ways to capture individuals’ experiences  | 1.3.1 Consider engaging further with communities/ organisations to creatively design opportunities for co-working.  | All  | Sept2023 | Expand consultations with additional service providers such as advocacy services and a greater range of Sefton Residents Reference Groups. |  |

**Key Theme 2: Improve awareness of Safeguarding across communities and partner agencies.**

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| **What we will do:** We will evaluate all current means of communication, documentation and promotional materials and research means of communication to all residents of Sefton.  |
|  | Actions by which we will achieve the priority | How/Details | By Whom | By When | Progress/Comments | RAG Status |
| 2.1 | Gain an understanding of current forms of engagement and communication with partner, communities, individuals and organisations  | 2.1.1 Map out materials and forms of communication in relation to adult safeguarding from across various partnerships, organisation, communities, VCF groups  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | Link in 1.1 and produce by Jan.2023 | What materials/ways of communication do other partners/organisations have developed which can be shared and promoted?  |  |
| 2.1.2Collate all resources gathered  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | Link in 1.1 and produce by Jan.2023 | Produce Report for Board with regards to the current situation and make recommendations  |  |
| 2.2 | Research alternative methods of communication to meet the needs of residents in Sefton in relation to adult safeguarding.  | 2.2.1Identify appropriate means to meet the needs of individuals in promoting adult safeguarding messaging  | All  | March 2023 | Preventative agenda, reactive agenda Consider languages/communication barrier |  |
|  |  | 2.2.2Develop communication to identify existing resources and consider networking partnerships with other local authority areas beyond North-West. | All  |  May 2023  | Consideration given to communications with areas within GB with a higher prevalence of minority groups.  |  |
|  |  | 2.2.3 Review and adapt materials to adequately represent service provision across Sefton.  | All  | On-going  |  |  |
| 2.3 | Engage in SAB website development  | 2.3.1 Work with SAB Business Unit to design and populate resources  | All  | October 2022  |  |  |
|  |  | 2.3.2. Ensure clear partnership promotion of SAB’s independent website and independent email and Twitter accounts across all opportunities within organisations  | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | December 2022  | Maximise promotion and linkage to SAB website and electronic means of communications (Vice versa) |  |

**Key Theme 3: Develop Sefton wide approaches to safeguarding practices**

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| **What we will do:** We will review our current safeguarding practices and support mechanisms to make sure that they meet the needs and expectations of both professionals and communities alike. |
|  | Actions by which we will achieve the priority | How/Details | By Whom | By When | Progress/Comments | RAG Status |
| 3.1 | Gain an understanding through engagement with partners, communities, individuals and organisations of current management arrangements of safeguarding practices and the inter-relationship with local authority. | 3.1.1Map out current processes within the organisations to look at how concerns are raised and how and when they are raised into local authority.  |  Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | February 2023  | Useful to audit cases referred in by agencies considered to meet s42 criteria to check on how the LA managed the concerns –s42? etc |  |
|  |  | 3.1.2 Identify and compare thresholds for raising a safeguarding concern within each respective organisation  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | May 2023  |  |  |
|  |  | 3.1.3 Identify support structures to encourage individuals in disclosure and whistleblowing across services  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | July 2023 | Look at internal organisational support for staff, volunteers and users of services to access services, identify gaps to improve and identify or develop additional resources or opportunities to ensure improved wellbeing of all  |  |
|  |  | 3.1.4Collate individual organisational data of concerns raised and compare with how the concern raised into the local authority was managed to resolve the concern | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | May 2023  | Report for Board focused on areas where organisations consider s42 criteria is met but the concern is managed outside of the s42 enquiry process |  |
|  |  | 3.1.5Review and promote usage of parallel pathways to the safeguarding process and evaluate effectiveness. Include review of support and advice available to those managing the process and engaged in partnership working  | Comm, Qual & Process Subgroup | June 2023  | Assess the knowledge of the various supplementary processes to support adults with care and support needs and optimise learning across the partnership i.e., MARAM/MARAC/LeDeR etc Feed findings into the Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  |  |
|  |  | 3.1.6Taking the learning identified from .5 identify appropriate learning and promotional materials to broaden understanding of processes available to support communities and cascade across the borough  | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Sept 2023 |  |  |

**Key Theme 4: Learn from experience to improve how we work**

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| **What we will do: We will review the various sources of learning opportunities and maximise how we cascade learning across Sefton to all.**  |
|  | Actions by which we will achieve the priority | How/Details | By Whom | By When | Progress/Comments | RAG Status |
| 4.1 | Gain an understanding through engagement with partners, communities, individuals and organisations of embedded opportunities for learning | 4.1.1 Map out sources of learning from the range of activities engaged in across the partnership Approach the relevant Board Member to identify how to access the learning gathered from the activities undertaken within their setting and make the appropriate arrangements to access  |  Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | March 2023  | Look at SUIs, SAR/DHR/LeDeR etc |  |
|  |  | 4.1.2Agree a period to gather previous learning from the various sources and implement.  | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | June 2023  | Various sources identified such as near misses in clinical environment etc  |  |
|  |  | 4.1.3Collect, review and reflect on the identified proposed learning opportunities across the partnership | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Sept. 2023 |  |  |
|  |  | 4.1.4Monitor and dip sample if the proposed learning has positively impacted on current practices across the partnership  | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Nov 2023  | Report to Board – themes, trends, successful and non-successful outcomes  |  |
| 4.2 | Develop a training programme to promote learning from recommendations made but failed to be adopted | 4.2.1 Identify the appropriate agencies to lead from a Board perspective on delivery of learning in order to provide assurance to Board that practice is of satisfactory standard.  | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Sept 2023 | Look to partners with expertise in identified areas and the training opportunities open within their organisation and explore the potential for “buy -in” to events  |  |
|  |  | 4.2.2 Monitor delivery of the programme and the impact on frontline practice and on those individuals engaged within | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Sept 2023 | Undertake audit of cases  |  |
|  |  | 4.2.3 Engage with relevant Business Unit/Individuals to ensure inclusion in circulation of new and completed DHR/ SAR/LeDeR | Wellbeing and Learning Subgroup  | Sept 2023 | Continue to embed new learning opportunities identified from practice across the partnership.  |  |

Status key for RAG:

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| RED | For URGENT resolution.  Programme timescales significantly affected, objectives at risk.  Senior Management action required |
| AMBER | Requires action now.  If no action taken Programme timescales and/or objectives may be at risk. |
| GREEN | Activities largely on schedule.  No immediate action required. |
| BLUE | Completed and closed |
| Date Action Plan completed and agreed by SSAB  |  |