

Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel

11 January 2024

Commenced: 6.00pm

Terminated: 7.10pm

Present: Councillors N Sharif (Chair), Owen (Deputy), Axford, Beardmore, Bowden, Drennan, B Holland, Patel, Warrington

Apologies: Councillor Tilbrook

26. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest submitted by members of the Scrutiny Panel.

27. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel held on 9 November 2023 were approved as a correct record.

28. ANNUAL REPORT – TAMESIDE ADULT SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP BOARD

The Panel welcomed Jane Timson, Independent Chair, Tameside Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board; and Anna Jenkins, Head of Safeguarding, Quality and Practice, to receive the annual report.

Panel members reviewed the Tameside Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board (TASPB) Annual Report for 2022/23; and received priorities of the TASPB Strategy 2022-25. Information was provided on membership of the board, with a need for the partnership to reflect and take account of the breadth of contributing factors, residents experiencing domestic abuse, self-neglect and multiple disadvantages.

Data was provided on the total number of safeguarding concerns between 2021 and 2023. It was reported that the number of concerns has increased bringing Tameside in line with regional averages, which followed changes made to the safeguarding policy and procedures in February 2022. The results also reflect national trends following a drop in referrals during the pandemic. More work is needed to explore a relatively low conversion rate.

It was reported that three safeguarding adult reviews (SARS) were published during 2022/23. It is important to ensure there is an effective multiagency approach to risk that reflects on how information is reviewed and sharing arrangements. Reference was made to the Team Around the Adult Policy and key aspects to 'think family' and to promote professional curiosity.

Examples were provided on the work undertaken to raise awareness, such the World Elder Abuse Day on 15 June and the national safeguarding week in November with an online conference for professionals. The TASPB newsletter is also circulated to all partner organisations and promotes the work undertaken.

A summary of achievements was provided for 2022/23, with detail of joint learning sessions, improved pathways for accessing Police support in safeguarding enquires and the training for multiagency partners. The plans for 2023/24 included further strategy review and development,

the creation of an integrated dashboard and to implement tiered risk assessment, to coordinate information better and a redesign of the TASP Team that supports the board.

Ms Timson and Ms Jenkins responded to a number of questions from the Panel on:

- The referral process, thresholds and community awareness.
- The effectiveness of the partnership and input from key stakeholders and agencies.
- The monitoring that is undertaken to track and measure safeguarding incidents and prevalence at a local level.
- Supporting residents with multiple disadvantages and delivering targeting training and support e.g hoarding.
- Better understanding of vulnerabilities and issues affecting residents.
- Working together with families and an earlier connection with support and services.

29. HEALTHWATCH TAMESIDE

The Panel welcomed Alex Leach, Manager of Healthwatch Tameside, to receive the annual report and to discuss opportunities regarding insight and information sharing, forward plans and the learning available by effectively capturing the voice and experience of patients and service users.

Actions: The points for action include:

- The Scrutiny Chair to meet with the Chair of Healthwatch Tameside to discuss suitable opportunities for joint working and work programme planning and development for 2024/25.

30. CHAIR'S UPDATE

The Chair updated members on:

- Scrutiny annual budget meetings arranged for 15 January 2024.
- The Scrutiny mid-year budget letter
- The conclusion of activity on Domestic Abuse services

31. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

To note that the next meeting of the Health and Adult Social Care Scrutiny Panel will take place on Thursday 7 March 2024.

32. URGENT ITEMS

The Chair reported that there were no urgent items for consideration at this meeting.

CHAIR