

TITLE	Adult Safeguarding 2011-12
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 25 September 2012
WARD	None Specific

Adult Safeguarding 2011 - 2012

Linda MacEachen

Adult Safeguarding Service Manager

Karen Jackson

Head of Adult Social Care Statutory
services



Annual Report to HOSC

- Independent review of Adult Safeguarding
- WBC performance and achievements
- National policy – proposed changes
- Royal Berks NHS Foundation Trust - partnership working
- Next year



Why review Adult Safeguarding?

- Last CQC inspection 2008 – Good
- CQC not inspecting Safeguarding now
- Increasing public awareness and increasing referrals putting pressure on Adult Social Care resources
- Concern about abuse in care provision
 - Winterbourne View
 - Locally – CQC report Atlas care homes



Two work streams

- **Adult Safeguarding** – How ASC responds to Alerts raised under multi-agency policy and procedures. Statutory role of local authority to assess Alerts and determine the most appropriate response under multi-agency policy and procedures.
- **Care Governance process** – How we respond to concerns about poor practice and abuse in care settings
- **Independent reviewer commissioned**
- Prevention work out of scope for this review



Findings of independent reviewer

- Alerts were being raised by a wide range of professionals, including external health partners and provider organisations.
- Although this was only a small sample of cases, the evidence suggested that the message of 'zero tolerance of abuse' was well understood and that people were raising Alerts appropriately.



Findings of the independent reviewer

- Of the 16 cases analysed, **all of the responses were proportionate.**
- The audit did not identify any significant concerns in relation to safeguarding practice. People were being safeguarded and practice was safe.
- However, a number of areas for development were identified and four recommendations have been made to assist the Council with the next phase of practice development.



Care Governance

- WBC Safeguarding duty for all providers of social care – not just those we commission
- Aim to ensure they are safe and meet needs of customers
- Provide training; support and advice
- Work in partnership with NHS, Police and CQC
- Cautions list – sanction for providers where there are concerns about safety and quality of care



Findings

- WBC response is proportionate, robust and effective
- Similar to other local authorities
- Areas for development:
 - Communication with providers about decisions
 - Framework to support decision making
 - Framework for investigating concerns raised



Next Steps

- Action plan to address recommendations of review
- Continue to monitor activity levels and allocate resources accordingly
- Need to consider how we can respond to increasing referral rate
- Dignity in Care campaign to address concerns in care provision



Referrals 2011-12

643 referrals to Adult Social Care where an adult may be at risk of harm – 69% increase from last year

Wide range includes:

- **Unexplained bruising, self neglect**
- **Medication errors**
- **Theft and financial abuse**

258 of completed cases, substantiated or partly substantiated

- **Harm may have been caused but not deliberately**



Data sources

- Information provided to Department of Health – last 3 years from SWIFT and now Frameworkki
- Data provided for Annual Report was from manual recording from referral forms
- Proposed changes to DH reporting to reflect emphasis on outcomes



Why is the number of reports increasing?

- Improved accuracy of recording
- National and local awareness increasing
- Our success in promoting message of zero tolerance of abuse.
- More referrals where an adult may be at risk of harm are counted as Safeguarding
- Improved training and work with social care providers



Where do incidents happen?

- People's own home – 52%
- Care homes; Supported living and hospitals – 31%
- In the community



Prevention

- Safer Places scheme – positive feedback from shops and businesses and vulnerable people.
- Support With Confidence launched
- Partnership working with local police and Community Safety



Care and Support Bill 2012

- Puts into statute the local authority lead role to make (or cause to be made) enquiries when they have cause to suspect abuse of a vulnerable adult
- Duty to form Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board and for Police and NHS to attend
- Consultation on giving Local Authorities powers to enter premises to assess individuals.



The Royal Berks

- Lead nurse Elizabeth Porter
- Monthly meetings with lead District Nurse and WBC – Improved communication
- Investigating concerns raised by WBC residents and officers
- Referring concerns about Wokingham residents to Adult Social Care



This year - priorities

- Dignity in Care project
- Support With Confidence
- Safer Places scheme
- Recommendations of Safeguarding Review

