

Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board

# Annual Report 2017-18



# Independent Chair's Executive Summary

I am pleased to present the 2017/18 Annual Report of the Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board. The Annual Report looks back at safeguarding issues across Darlington throughout 2017/18 and looks forward to the challenges and risks in the year ahead.

This has been a significant year for the Board, we revised the Board's strategic plan to set out our future priorities, and required all partners to undertake a safeguarding health check. This valuable exercise provided the Board with an overview of safeguarding practice, and gave assurance on how well partners are working together.

We have changed the format of the report to present the key information as clearly as possible, with details of our demography, Board structures and governance arrangements. This allows the reader to easily access the most important information in the report, and outlines the progress which the partnership has made in the past twelve months against our strategic priorities.

I wish to thank colleagues from all those organisations who work hard every day to protect the most vulnerable people in our communities. By working together, sharing information and practice, providing early help and protection and strengthening the safeguarding network we aim to make Darlington a safer place for everyone.

**Ann Baxter**  
**Independent Chair (August 2018)**

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## Introduction

Since moving to a statutory footing, as set out in the Care Act 2014, Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (DSAPB) continues to seek assurance that local safeguarding arrangements are in place across the Darlington locality and that organisations act appropriately to help and protect adults with care and support needs from abuse and neglect.

### Our Mission

*'DSAPB aims through inter-agency collaboration and co-ordination to protect and promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse, injury or harm.'*

The DSAPB has a strategic role and coordinates what is done by each agency represented on the Board. It ensures the effectiveness of safeguarding adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse and neglect in Darlington.

### Our Vision

*'Is to ensure that Darlington is an increasingly safer place for adults at risk of abuse and neglect.'*

The DSAPB has adopted the six key principles that support good inter agency Adult Safeguarding as outlined in the Care Act 2014 as the strategic aims:



A three year strategic plan has been developed which describes each year how it will deliver against these priorities. The plan is reviewed annually taking into account the progress to date and learning and information received from audits, quality assurance activity, data and case reviews.

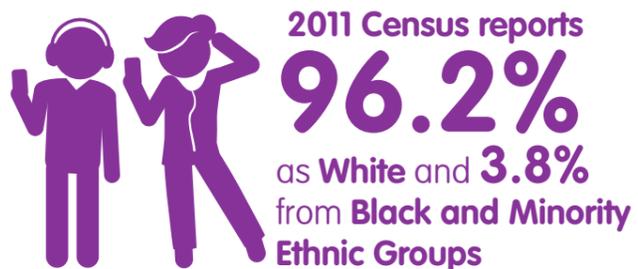
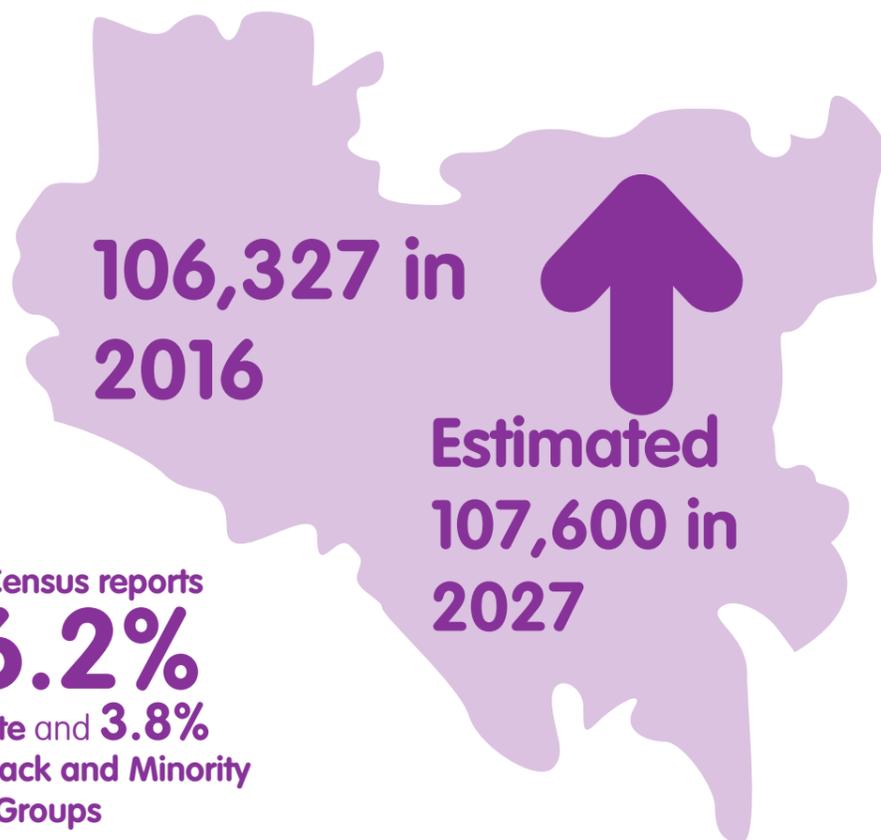
Throughout 2017/18 the Board's work focussed on:

- reviewing and updating multi agency safeguarding policies and practice guidance to reflect learning from local and national Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Learning Lessons Reviews
- developing practice guidance in respect of self-neglect, sexual exploitation and modern slavery
- improving the Board's understanding of the adults at risk's perception of the safeguarding experience
- developing a forward plan of how the partnership will raise awareness of safeguarding including Making Safeguarding Personal to support and empower adults at risk
- developing an audit framework and undertaking a self-assessment safeguarding audit with statutory partners and other key stakeholders to seek assurance that safeguarding practice in Darlington is effective and to support organisations to develop safeguarding policies and procedures as required
- reviewing and revising the SAR protocol to ensure the process is cost effective and leads to change that will make a positive difference to children, adults and their families
- capturing learning from local, regional and national case reviews
- developing a forward plan to communicate learning from case reviews and audits across the partnership and to the wider public
- establishing effective links with other key strategic partnerships i.e. Local Safeguarding Children Board, Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Partnership



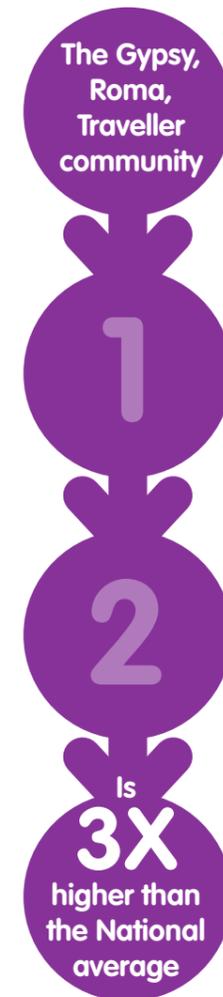
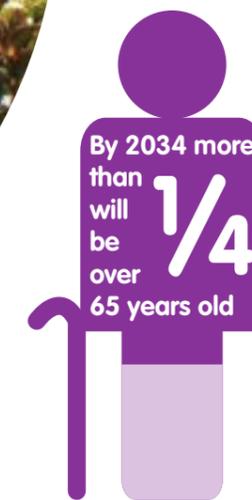


- seeking assurance that services are coordinated and accessible to the Gypsy/Roma/Traveller community (GRT)
- developing the multi-agency data set which enables Board to have a true understanding of how the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are working for adults at risk
- developing the joint Training Strategy 2016-19 to support continued professional development throughout the partnership and raising awareness of safeguarding in the wider community
- strengthening partnership working and collaboration and ensuring appropriate strategic representation at Board



### About Darlington:

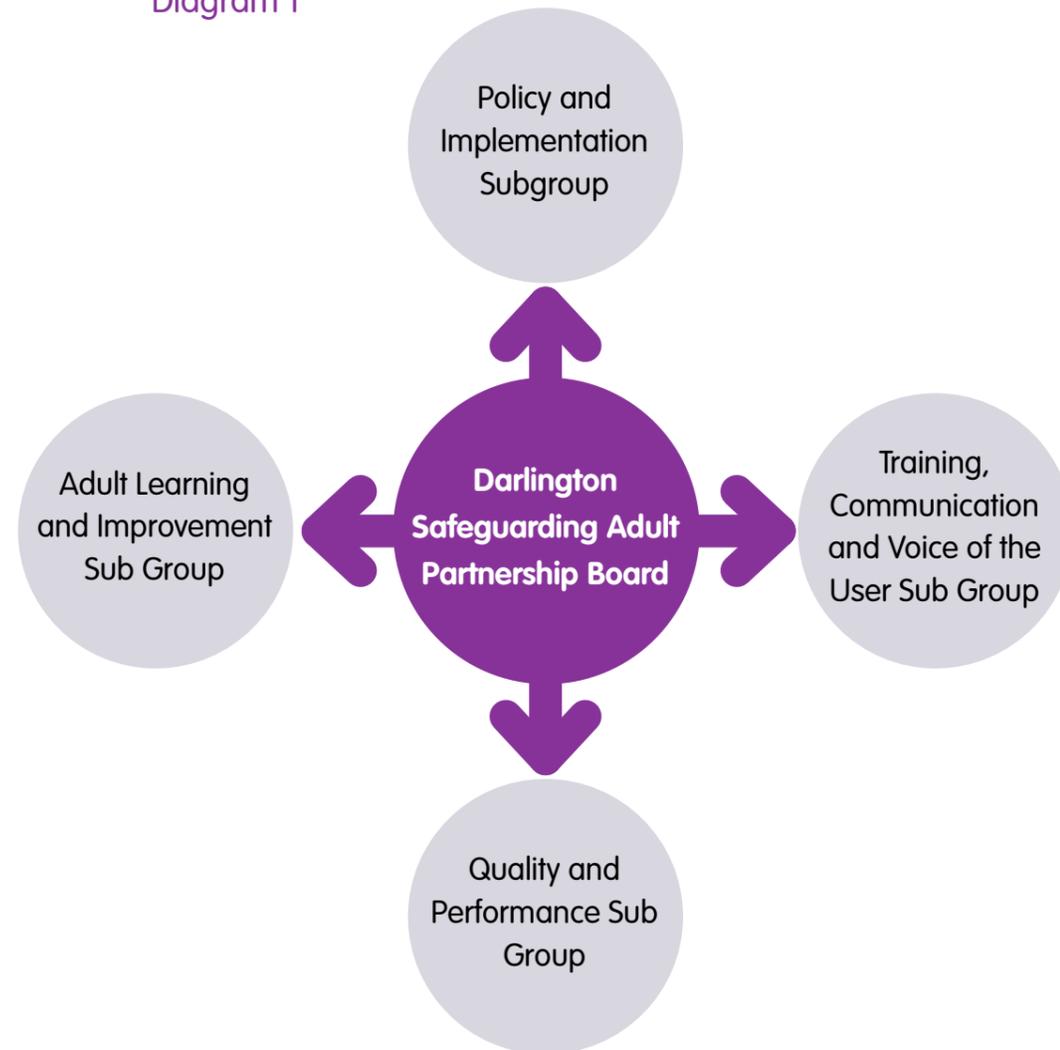
Darlington is a Unitary Authority which covers an area of approximately 200km. The Office of National Statistics mid-year 2016 population estimates the population of Darlington to be 106,327 of which the 2011 census reports 96.2% as white and 3.8% from Black and Minority Ethnic Groups (BME) which is defined as anyone who is not white British. This is an increase from 2.1% in the 2001 census, however these populations remain a lower proportion of the population than the North East at 4.7% and England at 14.6%. The total population is predicted to rise to 107,600 in 2027. By 2034 more than one quarter of the Darlington population will be aged over 65 years old. The number of people aged over 85 years old in Darlington is estimated to more than double by 2034 to a total of 5,600 individuals representing 5.5% of the total population. This increase in the number of older people combined with a trend of decreasing healthy life expectancy for Darlington is likely to result in an increasing demand on health and social care over the next decades and present new challenges to providing local Health and Social Care service in the Borough. Darlington also has the largest Gypsy, Roma Traveller (GRT) community in the area as reported in the 2011 Census. This minority group is three times higher than the national average but equates to 0.3% of the population. The Census return shows 350 individuals declaring as Gypsy or Irish Traveller locally. A health needs assessment undertaken in 2010 has estimated the GRT population size to be much higher based on an audit undertaken for both Durham and Darlington by Durham County Council's Housing Strategy Service, whereby the estimated population is in the range of 1540 to 2060 for Darlington.



## Membership and Structure of the Board

The Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board Terms of Reference sets out the governance arrangements and standards for the Board members. The Board is a two tier structure (diagram 1) and is supported by the joint Safeguarding Boards' Business Unit.

Diagram 1



The Board is made up of strategic leads (as identified in **Appendix 1**) from across the key strategic partners that work with adults at risk and their families in Darlington and have a role in Safeguarding. Board members are of sufficient authority to hold their organisation to account. The Board meets six times a year.

The DSAPB is independently chaired by Ann Baxter who has been Chair since September 2016. The Vice Chair is Karen Agar of Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust.

There are two Lay members appointed to the Board who represent the community. The role of the lay member is to help to forge the links between the Board and the community, support stronger public engagement in local adult safeguarding issues and improve public understanding of Adult Safeguarding. They also play a part in the oversight and scrutiny of decisions and policies made by the Board to help shape safeguarding policy and practice.

For an outline of the organisations represented at Board see **Appendix 1**

There are four sub-groups that report to the Board and their purpose is to deliver on the key responsibilities and priority areas which have been agreed by the Board. In addition the sub-groups may initiate time-limited task and finish groups to focus on specific pieces of work which is required to enable the Board to successfully meet its strategic objectives.

The sub groups that report to DSAPB are as follows:

- **Policy and Implementation sub-group:** with a focus on developing and publicising multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures across the partner agencies working in Darlington.
- **Adult Learning and Improvement sub-group:** with a focus to consider any cases referred for a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) and to manage the process where a SAR or alternative review is required. To also consider local and national learning to improve practice.
- **Quality and Performance sub-group:** with a focus to develop and monitor the multi-agency safeguarding data and to highlight issues to Board. To undertake multi-agency quality assurance activity to enable Board to seek assurances of safeguarding practice in Darlington.
- **Training, Communication and Voice of the User sub-group (joint group with Darlington Safeguarding Children's Board):** with a focus to develop a joint Training Strategy and a Communications and Engagement Strategy to enable the promotion of important safeguarding messages and to ensure training is updated in a timely manner with local and national learning. To actively seek an understanding from service users of their safeguarding experience to enable Board to seek its assurances.

For an outline of the achievements of the four sub-groups in 2017/18 see **Appendix 2**.



## Revenue

The Care Act (2014), Care and Support Statutory Guidance states:

*'Members of the DSAPB are expected to consider what assistance they can provide in supporting the Board in its work. This might be through payment to the Local Authority or to a joint fund established by the local authority to provide, for example, secretariat functions for the Board. Members might also support the work of the SAB by providing administrative help, premises for meetings or holding training sessions. It is in all core partners' interests to have an effective SAB that is resourced adequately to carry out its functions.'*

The contributions are to ensure the DSAPB can deliver the duties and functions under Schedule 2 of the Care Act 2014 and make a positive impact on safeguarding practice in Darlington.

It is a challenge each financial year for the DSAPB to ensure there are sufficient resources to meet its statutory responsibilities. This is proving more challenging as agencies undertake savings programmes to meet reductions in budgets from central government. The Board is aware that increasing demands and high expectations will continue to be challenging and this remains an important area to monitor closely, but also an area Board members are considering how to work differently to ensure high standards of safeguarding are delivered across Darlington.

For details of the revenue and partner contributions see **Appendix 3**

## How effective has the DSAPB partnership been in the past year and how do we know this?

The DSAPB has adopted the six key principles as outlined in the Care Act 2014 as the strategic aims and in 2017-18 the DSAPB made the following progress against the six key principles:

### Outcome 1 – Empowerment

*People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent.*

#### **The Board agreed it would:**

*Ensure adults at risk are being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions through access to advocacy where relevant and information being provided in such a way it helps inform their decisions and their consent.*

#### **Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)**

Effective safeguarding should always place the adult at the heart of what we do. Developing a safeguarding culture that ensures adults are empowered and supported to make their own decisions is essential. During 2017/18 the Board has actively sought feedback from adults at risk who have been involved in the safeguarding process to be assured that practice reflects the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal. The principles are now well embedded in concern forms and multi-agency training.

#### What our services users have said:

*"I was fully informed and supported throughout"*

*"it was nice to talk to people who listened to me"*

*"everything was clearly explained to me and people made sure I understood"*

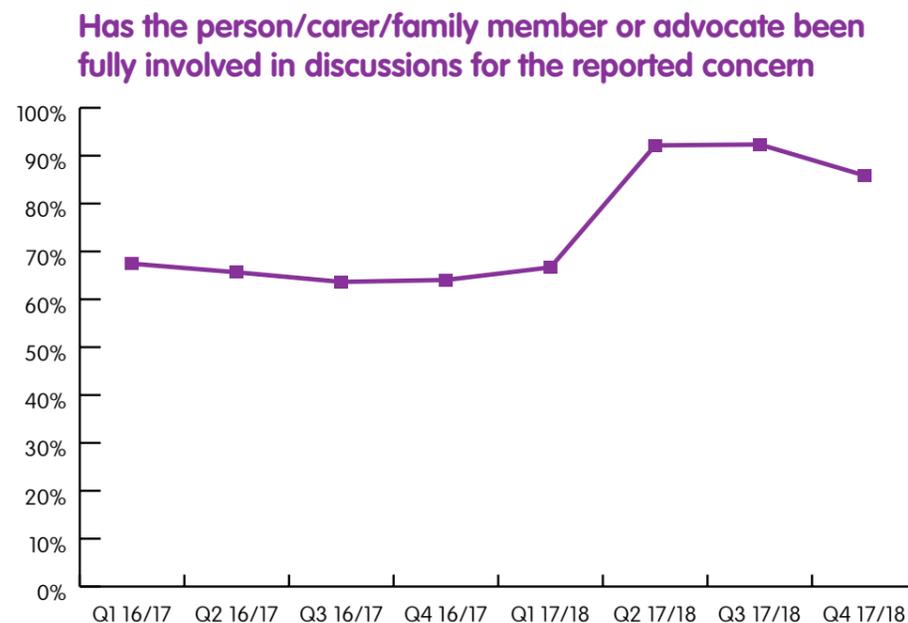
*"my advocate was very good and kept me informed"*

*"getting back my independence and enjoying my life"*

A new case management system (Liquid Logic) was implemented by Darlington Borough Council in 2016-17 which has had a positive impact on reporting methods of data for quality assurance purposes. The system is now embedded and is supporting the collation and analysis of data.

In Darlington the involvement of service users or their representative in safeguarding enquiries is measured from the outset and is evaluated as part of the safeguarding process. This is achieved by asking seven questions about their experience of the safeguarding process, allowing their views to be assessed at all stages of the enquiry making the process easier to evaluate and allowing for more accurate feedback to be obtained to enable more focussed improvements on the outcomes for the service user. This information is captured quarterly and shared with the Quality and Performance sub-group within the multi-agency data set. The detail is analysed to provide assurance to Board that people are supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and give informed consent to the safeguarding process.

As the graph below demonstrates, in the quarter 4 period for the year 2017-18 86% of service users or their representative had been fully involved in discussions for the reported concern, this was a small decrease on the previous quarter. The data does however highlight that the involvement of the service user or their representative in discussions and decision making has increased significantly over the past twelve months, which would suggest that work undertaken to embed MSP from the very earliest point in the safeguarding process is having the desired impact.



Themes are being developed from the 'individual views' and early indication is that the emerging issues for individuals include the language used by professionals is not always clear and there is too much use of medical terminology in meetings. Work is being undertaken by the Local Authority to ensure meetings do not use unnecessary jargon or abbreviations and that more time is taken to ensure individuals feel confident with the information given to them. This will also be reinforced in multi-agency safeguarding training.

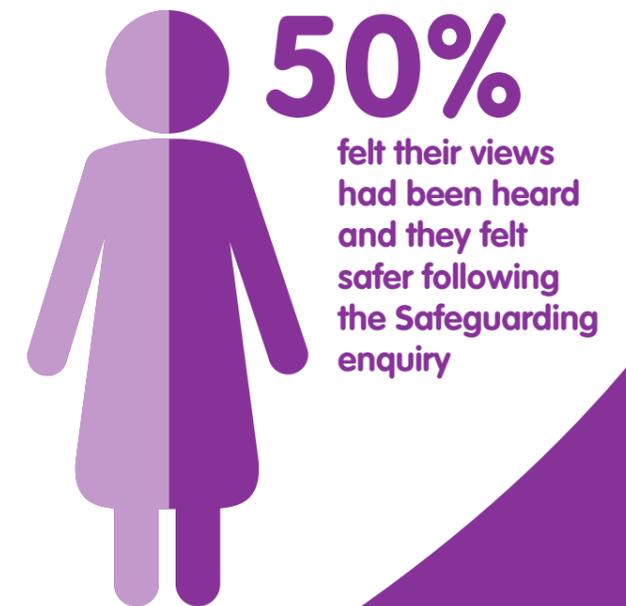
During 2017-18, the individual's view of their experience of the safeguarding process was asked through the following seven questions:

1. Did you feel listened to?
2. Were you kept informed throughout the process?
3. Were you able to understand the information given?
4. Were you satisfied with the end result?
5. Were you satisfied with how many people dealt with the concern throughout?
6. Do you feel safer now?
7. Did you achieve what you said you wanted to at the beginning?

From the responses received 50% agreed with the questions asked indicating that they felt that their views had been heard and they felt safer following the safeguarding enquiry. Ten percent indicated they were not satisfied with the end result and the remaining 40% either declined to answer, could not be contacted or had died since the time of the referral.

It should be acknowledged that it is unrealistic to obtain a 100% target for views obtained as there may be legitimate reasons for views not being obtained due to specific circumstances, for example from police or ambulance service, where it is not often possible to have the discussions with adults at risk all the time.

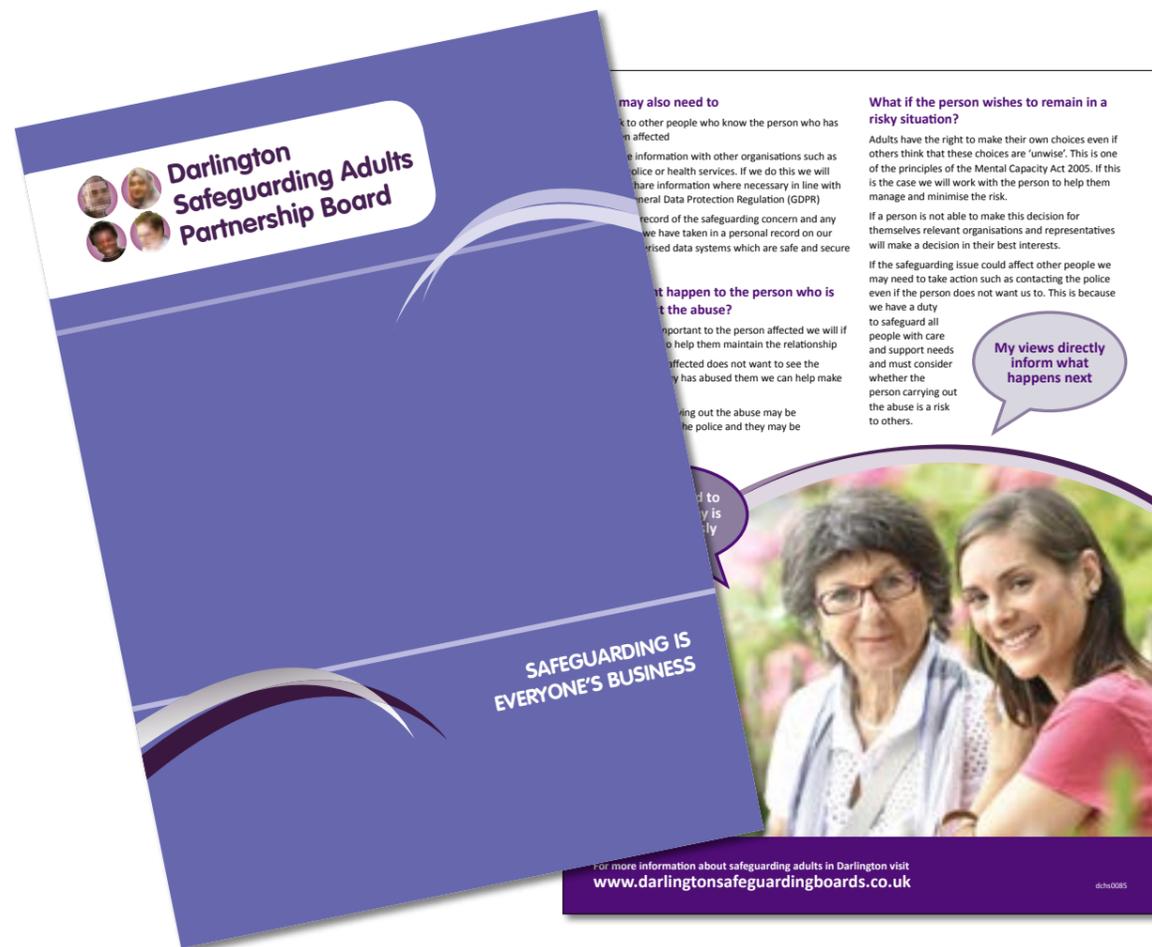
The Quality and Performance Sub group will continue to monitor and escalate any concerns to the Board for discussion.



In 2017/18 the Quality and Performance sub-group explored ways to obtain a better understanding of the experience of service users involved in a safeguarding enquiry. It was agreed that this task would be undertaken by a social worker independent of the enquiry, therefore there is now an element of independent oversight of each users' experience, this will be monitored through the quality assurance activity.

### Safeguarding Adults leaflet

The Training Communications and Voice of the User sub group developed a new Safeguarding Adults leaflet to explain abuse and neglect, how to refer concerns and what action will be taken when a concern is raised. The leaflet explains that the views and wishes of the adult at the centre of the enquiry will always be sought and that no decisions will be made without the involvement of the person at risk or their advocate or representative - 'no decision about me without me'. The leaflet is designed for service users and providers and the wider public. The leaflet has been widely circulated and is available on the Safeguarding Boards' website.



**CASE STUDY:** A twenty five year old with mental health issues presented as homeless and was accommodated at the YMCA. This individual was consuming alcohol to excess to the point where hospitalisation was necessary and YMCA staff felt they were simply providing a safe place for the service user to drink alcohol and there was a real possibility this person would die as a result of alcohol misuse. Appointments with both NECA and the Community Rehabilitation Company

(CRC) had lapsed. The service user had no contact with their partner and children due to alcohol misuse and had no other family support. There were serious concerns of further risk to this individual's physical and mental health if support was not provided. The YMCA submitted a referral to the safeguarding team and a strategy meeting was held. Discussions were held with the service user to ascertain views and wishes and desired outcomes from the safeguarding process. The service user expressed a wish to reduce their alcohol consumption and turn their life around. The service user welcomed the support of professionals which was delivered through a multi-agency approach and expressed the wish that family members should not be involved in the safeguarding process. The service user engaged with MIND and the Psychosis Team, NECA (Darlington Recovery and Wellbeing Service) and the Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC). The YMCA continued to monitor the service user's physical health and provide daily support including accompanying the service user to NECA appointments. The service user made significant progress following the first meeting and in a relatively short space of time the service user has dramatically reduced alcohol intake, secured employment and has been discharged from NECA. The service user has also re-established contact with their partner and is having regular contact with their children and has relocated to be near them. From there being serious concerns about the service user's health following the referral from the YMCA, through a multi-agency safeguarding approach coordinated by the Safeguarding Adults Team at Darlington Borough Council, this highly vulnerable person chose to engage with safeguarding professionals and as a result has turned their life around and is now healthy, employed and has resumed contact with their partner and children.

### What we are doing in 2018/19:

- continue to monitor the themes identified from individual views through the performance data
- develop a safeguarding adult poster for circulation to community areas and GP surgeries

## Outcome 2 - Prevention

*It is better to take action before harm occurs.*

The Board agreed it would:

*Ensure there is a coordinated approach to understand why and how abuse and neglect has occurred, the information will be used to prevent future incidents of abuse or neglect. Ensure adults at risk are provided with sufficient information through direct work and general awareness raising that enables them to understand risks to help themselves and where appropriate to keep themselves safe.*

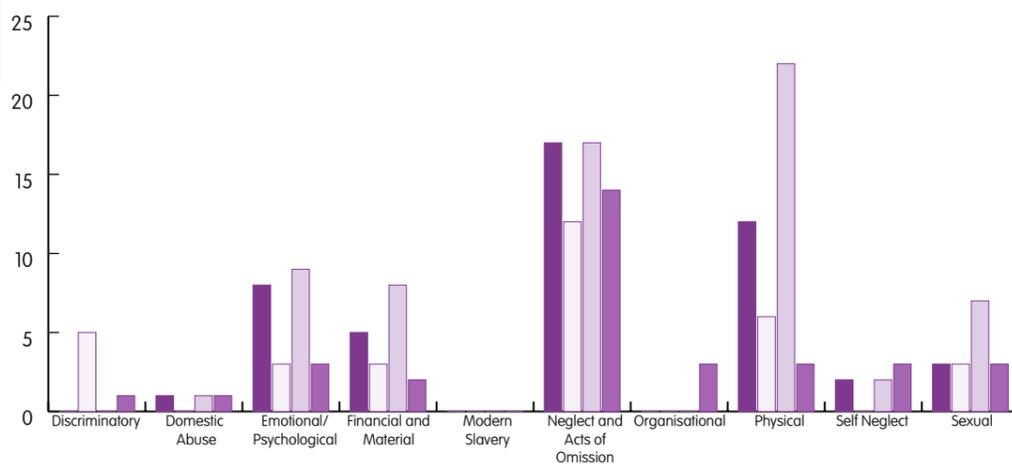
This principle focuses on the type of abuse and location.

### Safeguarding Activity

During 2017- 18 there were 1152 reported concerns to Adult Social Care for abuse and neglect with 139 of these progressing to section 42 enquiries (12%).

The graph below demonstrates that throughout 2017/18 neglect or act of omission and physical abuse were the most common categories of alleged abuse for cases that progressed to a strategy meeting.

### Enquiries/investigations by category of alleged abuse.

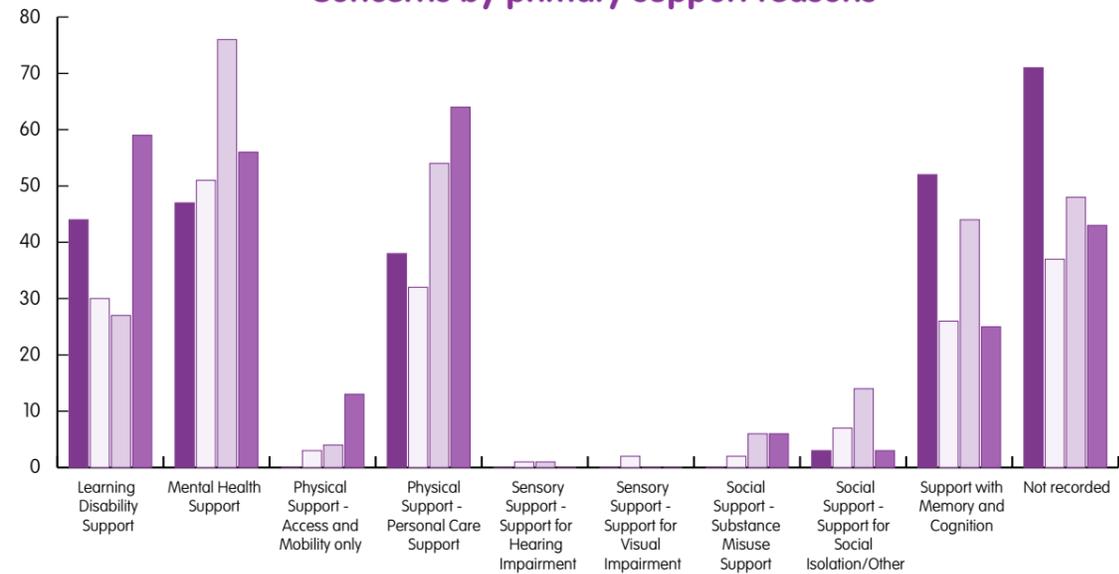


During 2017/18 the majority of allegations of abuse which progressed to a strategy meeting occurred in residential care settings. As a result the Quality and Performance sub group analysed the information for the quarter four period to establish if there were any pattern of concern or links between the type of abuse and the location, the group was assured that no pattern was established or concerns relating to any particular establishment uncovered.

## Concerns by primary support reasons

The graph below demonstrates that in 2017/18 the main primary support reason for concerns is mental health support followed by physical support/ personal care support. Steps are being taken to improve the recording of this category within the Local Authority Case Management System (Liquid Logic).

### Concerns by primary support reasons



## Learning Lessons from Local and National Reviews

Reviewing and learning from serious incidents is a crucial aspect of good safeguarding practice and requires leadership from senior managers across all organisations involved. In February 2018 a joint Children's and Adults workshop was held to allow senior managers across the partnership with responsibility for safeguarding in Darlington to examine how reviews can be used to identify and embed learning including making sure that both the decision to conduct a review and the review process itself is cost effective and leads to change that will really make a positive difference adults and their families. The SAR protocol will be reviewed and updated in 2018/19 and will incorporate any good practice identified through the implementation of the Children and Social work Act 2017. The protocol will consider the interface between other reviews and parallel processes which may run concurrently with a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) (such as a Coroner's inquiry or Domestic Homicide Review) and how the processes can work more efficiently.

The purpose of any review is to identify learning that will bring about improvements in safeguarding practice so that the likelihood of future harm to adults at risk is minimised. Examples of good practice can also be considered to identify learning that can be applied to future cases. The Adult learning and Improvement sub-group has developed a template for collating themes and lessons learnt from local, regional and national reviews. The information will be updated twice a year and is available on the DSAPB website.

A challenge for Board in 2017/18 will be to identify learning which is relevant to safeguarding in Darlington and to ensure that good practice is identified from the learning and which is embedded in safeguarding procedures in Darlington. This principle also applies to learning from local strategy meetings. The sub-group will also seek to strengthen links with the Training sub-group to seek evidence that the learning from local and national reviews is embedded in the multi-agency training programme.

It will be a further challenge for the sub-group to establish a method to evidence the embedding of 'lessons learned' and analyse the resulting impact on practice.

### Training

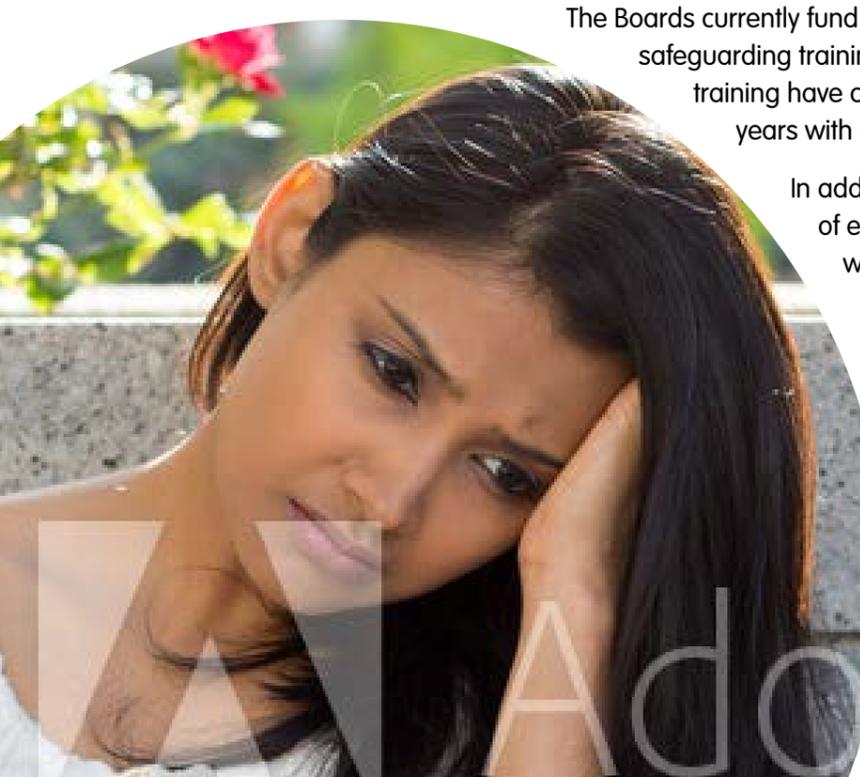
Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of adults at risk of abuse is one of the key priorities of the Board and remains the focus of any DSAPB learning and development activity across the partnership whether statutory, voluntary or independent sector.

The Board is committed to delivering a high quality inter-agency training programme. This programme aims to support professionals, volunteers and the independent sector in their work to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs and promotes a 'learning culture', which is outlined in the Safeguarding Boards' joint Training Strategy and is informed through the training needs analysis and feedback from training delivered.

The Boards currently fund a multi-agency Trainer who delivers safeguarding training. Attendance figures for safeguarding training have continually increased over the past eight years with a 467% increase since 2010-11 period.

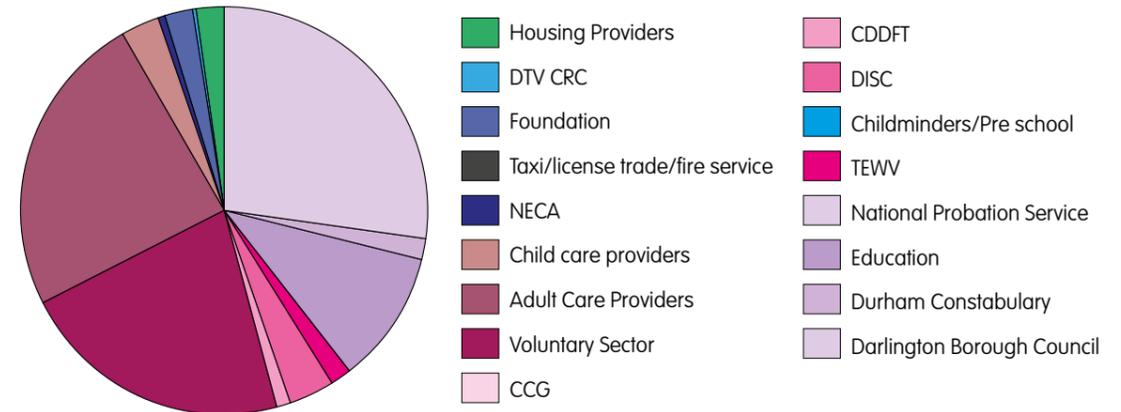
In addition to face to face training, a number of e-learning packages or workbooks were completed during the year. A total of 190 learners completed the Level 1 safeguarding adult workbook and 281 learners accessed the PREVENT online course. A number of other additional free e-learning courses are available on the Safeguarding Boards website which include Forced Marriage, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Mental Capacity Act (MCA) for 16 and 17 year olds.

**467%**  
increase in  
Safeguarding  
training  
attendance



The chart below outlines the attendance for adult only training accessed by partner agencies during the period April 2017 to March 2018.

### Safeguarding Adult Learners



Further information and a breakdown of the training figures can be found in the Training Strategy 2017-20 and the Training Annual Report 2017/18 both of which are available on the Safeguarding Boards website.

### Communication and Engagement

Further work was undertaken on developing a forward plan of how the partnership will raise awareness of safeguarding. A communication workshop was held which identified there appears to be strong partnership working amongst the communication and media representatives within each partner organisation. Key links have now been embedded between the business unit and the communication and media teams within each organisation to ensure key messages are shared when appropriate, using various means of communication including social media.

A challenge in 2018/19 for the DSAPB will be to further develop the communication and engagement strategy, to strengthen links with the other sub-groups to ensure that policy changes, learning and national good practice are shared throughout the partnership and to establish links with media teams throughout the partnership to raise awareness of safeguarding in Darlington.

### Policy Development

**Managing Allegations Policy and Practice Guidance** -The Care Act 2014 required the DSAPB to establish a framework for dealing with allegations against people who work with adults who have care and support needs alongside a process for the notification of such allegations or concerns. As a consequence the Policy and Implementation sub-group developed and ratified a policy and practice guidance document outlining how such allegations and concerns should be reported and the framework for responding to concerns of this nature. This policy was implemented in June 2017.

## Outcome 3 - Proportionality

*The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented*

**The Board agreed it would:**

*Ensure through coordinated and joined up multi-agency practice, audits and lesson learnt reviews that safeguarding processes are proportionate with the best possible outcome for the adult at risk, including identifying the learning that will inform safeguarding practice across the adult workforces.*

The DSAPB seeks assurance that from partner organisations that safeguarding response are proportionate to the risk of significant harm. Data indicates reported concerns have increased year on year. This increase is consistent with the raised profile of adult safeguarding across Darlington which has included the development of robust multi-agency procedures, safeguarding training and increased awareness through provider forums along with direct work with a range of organisations.

The graph below shows the number of concerns reported in 2017/18 which has increased by 14.5% in comparison with the previous year. When analysed the data suggests that many of the concerns from care homes are low level, one off incidents where no harm has occurred, feedback received when this was challenged included an expectation from CQC that care homes report all apparent incidents as a safeguarding concern, this has been challenged with CQC.

Effective management of allegations together with effective safer recruitment policies ensures that unsuitable people do not obtain employment where they may pose a risk to vulnerable people. The policy document is available on the Safeguarding Boards' website and there is a web page dedicated to the issue of managing allegations and the referral pathways.

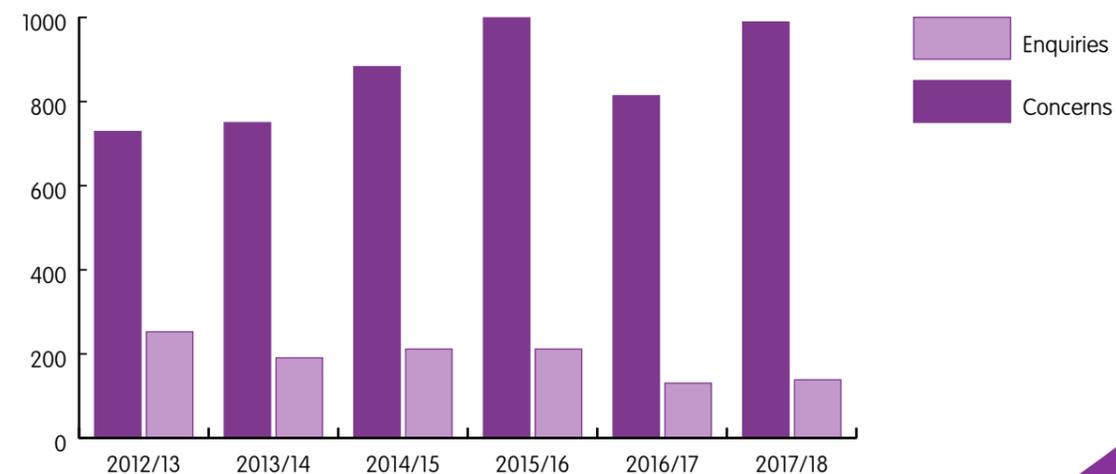
Details of these allegations are recorded and dealt with by the Safeguarding Adults Managers and will be monitored by the Local Authority. Details will be provided to the Quality and Performance sub group to provide assurance to Board that this policy has been embedded across the partnership and where any concerns are highlighted, appropriate action is taken to ensure unsuitable people do not seek employment where they may pose a risk.

### What we are doing in 2018/19:

- Reviewing and revising procedures to ensure that DSAPB has in place robust procedures and referral processes to consider SARs and LLRs which includes consideration of other reviews such as Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR) Serious Case Reviews (SCR) Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) and Mental Health Homicide Reviews.
- Considering how to capture the learning from strategy meetings to inform future practice
- Undertaking an impact evaluation survey to establish whether the learning from reviews has been communicated across agencies and how this has altered practice.
  - Establishing a process to capture learning from strategy meetings and disseminating the learning throughout the partnership
  - Determining how to ensure appropriate messages are communicated across the partnership including the use of social media to raise awareness of safeguarding
  - Continuing to develop the Safeguarding Boards website to further strengthen engagement with children, young people and adults
  - Developing an events calendar within the 'Living Well' Directory to promote safeguarding events
  - Developing an approach to assess and analyse the impact of multi-agency training on practice within the partnership
  - Evaluation of single agency training



**Comparison of concerns and enquiries year on year**





In contrast, the percentage of cases which have progressed to a safeguarding meeting has fallen. Further work and analysis is required to establish the reason for this trend which may be a result of the introduction of the five day timescale to complete an initial enquiry during which time a safeguarding manager may obtain sufficient information to finalise a case without the need to progress to a strategy meeting. A comprehensive audit will be undertaken on the decision making around reported safeguarding concerns in relation to progressing to enquiries.

**What we are doing in 2018/19:**

- Monitoring the progression of safeguarding concerns to strategy meetings through audit
- Conducting a thematic multi agency audit in respect of self-neglect which will incorporate MSP

## Outcome 4 - Protection

*Support and representation for those in greatest need*

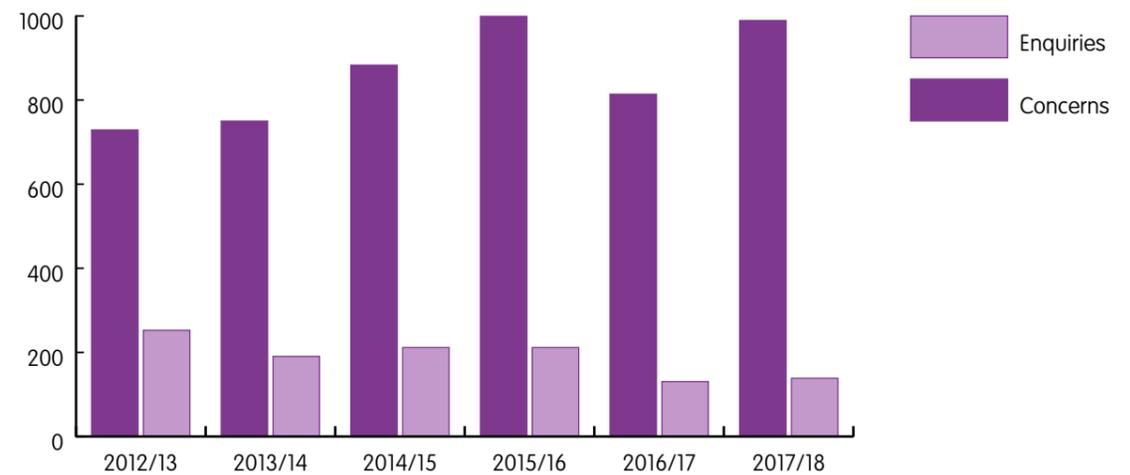
**The Board agreed it would:**

*Continue to ensure there is good multi-agency coordination of support and representation for adults at risk throughout the safeguarding process which appreciates and recognises their individual needs.*

The Board will continue to monitor local safeguarding arrangements for reporting abuse and neglect through the performance data. The data for the period 2017-18 has remained relatively constant. It seems there are more robust processes in place within organisations as staff are now seeking advice from safeguarding leads before referring directly to adult safeguarding. In addition one agency identified management changes which had impacted on threshold decision making, this is being addressed by that organisation.

The graph below highlights the number of concerns received and the percentage that progressed to a safeguarding strategy meeting.

**Comparison of concerns and enquiries year on year**



**Multi-agency Safeguarding Audit**

During 2017/18 the Board and Quality and Performance sub group worked in collaboration with Darlington Safeguarding Children’s Board (DSCB) to conduct a robust self-assessment audit based on the similar principles of section 11 of the Children Act 2004, section 175 of the Education Act and Working Together 2015 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The audit framework was adapted for use in adult safeguarding to enable the Board to seek assurance through scrutinising local arrangements and assessing whether partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations with due regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs.

This year a much more rigorous process was implemented with the inclusion of a moderation process. The audit extended beyond the statutory partners and for the first time include charitable and voluntary organisations, faith settings and GPs to allow the Board to assess the effectiveness of adult safeguarding within Darlington and support agencies to develop action plans where necessary.

The purpose of the audit was to seek assurance that safeguarding arrangements are robust across all sectors in Darlington and that agencies have comprehensive arrangements in place to deliver their safeguarding responsibilities and that they are able to provide evidence that these arrangements are effective.

The audit was conducted between May and July 2017 and the responses to the audit were overwhelmingly positive. Analysis of the audit returns and the moderation process provided evidence that the principles of safeguarding are embedded in practice and are effective in promoting the safety and welfare of children and adults at risk in Darlington; the majority of organisations can demonstrate they have appropriate safeguarding arrangements in place which are effective and are compliant with statutory requirements. The findings of the safeguarding audit were reported to Board in March 2018 and to the Health and Wellbeing Board in May 2018.

It was highlighted that a number of large sport and voluntary organisations did not respond to the audit request and this is being followed up. The Quality and Performance sub group will review the emerging issues to build on the assurances and provide updates to Board.

In conclusion, the Board can be assured that safeguarding arrangements in Darlington are robust and that the investment of time in the audit process is worth the outcome.

## Operation PISA

Operation PISA was launched by Durham Constabulary to assess and disrupt Organised Crime and investigate potential Modern Slavery Offences. This originated from a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) investigation where car wash workers were identified as being employed at a premises in Darlington. The operation allowed Durham Constabulary and the partnership to demonstrate commitment to the investigation of Modern Slavery offences and tackling and disrupting Organised Crime Groups who seek to use vulnerable people in their businesses. The successful media campaign allowed Modern Slavery to be publicised in the local area and to appeal for the public to report persons and premises of concern, this has resulted in an increase in reporting via the Modern Slavery Helpline. It also demonstrated strong partnership working to address this category of crime which cannot be tackled purely by the police. The workers have also now been positively identified within the community and ongoing support is being provided to them by the Community Cohesion Unit. The Operation resulted in up-skilling of all personnel involved in the operation, both police and partner agencies and ensured Victim Reception Centre provisions are now in place for future operations to ensure more efficient and effective operations in the future. The operation was inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and found to be national best practice, mainly due to the early partnership approach.

The Policy and Implementation sub-group is currently developing a Modern Slavery and human trafficking protocol and practice guidance document (jointly with DSCB) to support future operations. The lessons from Operation Caspian will be incorporated in the practice guidance.

## Multi-Agency Practice Guidance-Self Neglect and Hoarding

The Policy and Implementation sub-group developed a multi-agency procedure and practice guidance document in respect of self-neglect and hoarding. This document outlines the guidance for supporting adults with care and support needs who are at risk of harm as a result of self-neglect. Effective multi-agency partnership working and collaboration can help inform the bigger picture and facilitate earlier and more effective interventions in cases of self-neglect. The guidance is available on the professional's page of the Safeguarding Boards website at:

[www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk](http://www.darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk)



## Sexual Exploitation Referral pathway

Jointly with Durham Safeguarding Adults Board the Policy and Implementation sub-group has developed and ratified the sexual exploitation referral pathway which is a tool to support and guide staff and volunteers if it is known or suspected that an adult is experiencing or is at risk of sexual exploitation. Discussions are currently ongoing to establish transitional arrangements from children's services to adult services to identify if there are any gaps in provision and support.

## Professional Challenge

In April 2017 the Policy and Implementation sub-group developed a multi-agency Professional Challenge procedure and practice guidance. Professional challenge is a positive activity and a sign of good professional practice and effective multi-agency working. The practice guidance outlines a process for resolving practitioner disagreements and ensuring that there is effective challenge within the system.

**CASE STUDY:** There is evidence that the professional challenge protocol (and the Level 1 training which included the protocol) has been effective and has improved practice. In 2017 a training delegate reported that having attended the Safeguarding Adults Level 1 training and learning of the Professional Challenge Practice Guidance she was able to reflect on an individual case and the outcome of the reported safeguarding concern. She identified issues with the risk management response and identified serious concerns for the person's health and wellbeing and the potential for self-harm. Using the practice guidance and following the escalation flowchart the concerns were escalated and subsequently considered at Head of Service level. As a result a new risk management response was initiated and the risk of harm was greatly reduced.

## Executive Strategy Meeting Guidance

The Executive Strategy Meeting Guidance clarifies the roles and responsibilities of agencies involved in the investigation of suspected organised or institutional abuse or neglect ensuring effective communication and collaboration between partner agencies at a strategic level. These procedures were approved by Board in April 2017. In 2017/2018 there have been less than five Executive Strategy meetings in respect of organisations contracted by Darlington Borough Council.

## Multi-agency data set

The DSAPB continues to monitor local safeguarding arrangements for reporting abuse and neglect through the performance data. One of the challenges for the DSAPB during 2017/18 has been to identify the data criteria which will inform Board and identify aspects of single and multi-agency safeguarding practice which need to improve and inform the strategic priorities. In 2017/18 the Quality and Performance sub-group succeeded in the development of a multi-agency data set and has established a framework for obtaining the data from partner agencies on a quarterly basis and ensuring that analysis of the data is completed by all partner agencies. The data is further analysed during sub-group meetings where it is decided whether the data has provided assurance and whether issues need to be highlighted to Board in an exception report.

The continuing challenge for the Board in 2018/2019 will be to improve multi-agency data collection and create a safeguarding profile of Darlington in order to establish how effectively respective agencies are working in partnership and fulfilling their statutory duties in accordance with the Care Act 2014. Therefore work on the multi-agency data set will continue into 2018/19 to refine the process of collating and analysing the data and exception reporting to Board.

## What we are doing in 2018/19:

- in conjunction with DSCB and Durham Constabulary develop a joint multi agency practice guidance document in respect of Modern Slavery and a 'Modern Slavery at a glance' leaflet taking into consideration the implications from lessons learnt from Operation Caspian and Border (Modern Slavery) in respect of the resources required should Darlington be required to set up a reception centre and provide associated resources in the event of a complex case investigation.
- consider how learning from national case reviews can be captured and embedded in practice throughout the partnership
- develop multi-agency practice guidance in respect of Domestic Abuse
- consideration of transition arrangements
- further development of the multi-agency data set and exception reporting to Board.

## Outcome 5 - Partnership

*Local solutions through services working with their communities to prevent and report neglect and abuse*

### The Board agreed it would:

*Ensure multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures are embedded and there are clear information sharing arrangements in place to inform the overall safeguarding strategy through sharing of data, soft intelligence and learning through safeguarding enquiries and other audits and reviews.*

### Strategic Partnerships



The DSAPB works in partnership with three key strategic partnership boards to ensure strong joint working arrangements across agencies which coordinate the vision, aims and priorities for Darlington and its population.

The Darlington Protocol was launched in November 2017 and outlines the relationship between the DSAPB and other strategic partnerships. It is recognised that each Board has its own governance and priorities and the protocol promotes effective ways of working to deliver the strategic outcomes, reflecting that 'safeguarding is everyone's business'.

Safeguarding is a responsibility that runs through all Boards but it is the responsibility of the two Safeguarding Boards to call the other partnerships to account. There are a number of areas of common interest where the named Strategic Boards need to ensure that leadership and accountability for these issues is clear and that information is effectively shared.

DSAPB works with these strategic partnerships to develop strong joint working arrangements to coordinate the vision, aims and priorities for Darlington. During 2017/18 DSAPB has been involved in joint work with the Community Safety Partnership to include safeguarding and seek assurance that services are coordinated and accessible to Gypsy, Roma, and Travelling families in Darlington. A network of service providers, commissioners and key wider partners met in January 2018 to share information and create clear contact routes for partners and act as a reference point for the Safeguarding Boards, the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) and the Community Safety Partnership (CSP).

The network meeting focussed on safeguarding recognising that safeguarding practice and risk assurance applies across all minority groups and the network will bring together key partners to clearly articulate the routes for partners to the range of risk assessment and multi-agency forums which exist and explore options for service improvement. The partnership has also proposed to focus on Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence to establish the current multi-agency position on reducing the prevalence of domestic abuse and identify the co-ordinated community response on prevention, support and protection services as well as establishing how perpetrators are dealt with.

The Independent Chairs of both Safeguarding Boards will present their annual reports to the Health and Wellbeing Board and will ensure there are relationships with the Community Safety Partnership. Where possible the Boards work together on specific projects for example training, media and communication messages, policies, conduct of reviews and sharing learning from the outcomes to inform practice.

### Engagement with minority communities

In 2017 the Independent Chairs of the DSAPB and DSCB sought assurance through the Strategic Partnerships that Gypsy, Roma and Travellers (GRT) were able to access services in Darlington. In January 2018 a network of service providers, commissioners and wider partners met to share information and create clear contact routes for partners and act as a reference point for the Safeguarding Boards, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Community Safety Partnership. The network recognises the needs of the GRT community whilst acknowledging there are other groups in Darlington who have needs and face barriers to equitable services. The concerns raised by the Independent Chairs in respect of safeguarding were recognised and this is now the first consideration of the network in recognising that safeguarding practice and risk assurance applies across all minority groups.



## Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy and Procedures

The Policy and Implementation sub-group reviewed and comprehensively revised the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy and Procedures which are available on the safeguarding boards' website. The policy has been updated to reflect recent changes in practice guidance and include learning from local and national case reviews and there is particular emphasis on the four stages of a safeguarding enquiry. The procedures are designed to assist members of the public to recognise and report abuse and neglect and guide professionals who work with adults who have care and support needs. The procedures are available at the Safeguarding Boards' website:

[www.darlington safeguarding boards.co.uk/adults-safeguarding-board/professionals/safeguarding-adult-multi-agency-policy-and-procedures](http://www.darlington safeguarding boards.co.uk/adults-safeguarding-board/professionals/safeguarding-adult-multi-agency-policy-and-procedures).

## Practitioner Forums

The DSAPB has continued to hold Practitioner Forums throughout 2017/18. The purpose of the Chair's forum is to allow practitioners to share with the Independent Chair their views and experience of safeguarding practice in Darlington, in particular what is working well and what needs to change. This enables the Board to have a better understanding of the challenges facing frontline practice and help practitioners understand and inform the work of the Board. The forums have identified that practitioners believe that overall there are effective working relationships between partner agencies in Darlington and there is evidence of good safeguarding practice and partnership working within County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service.

## County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service make a significant contribution to the prevention of abuse and neglect in Darlington. The Fire and Rescue Service is ideally placed to identify adults who may be at risk of abuse and neglect, including self-neglect and has developed strategies to engage adults at risk and support them in making changes to their environment and lifestyle to reduce risk. Since April 2017 a strategic representative from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service has attended Board meetings as a non-statutory member.

## Joint Board member induction pack

In 2017 the Policy and Implementation sub-group reviewed and revised a joint Board member induction pack which has been developed to provide new Board Members and Lay Members with an introduction to their roles and responsibilities and to provide an overview of the functions of both the Darlington Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) and the Darlington

Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board (DSAPB). Board members are crucial to the Boards being able to meet their statutory duties and it is important that members feel able to contribute at Board meetings, to be in a position to promote the aims of the DSCB/DSAPB, to hold their organisation to account, to commit resources, to make decisions on policy and practice, and to have an understanding of the issues facing front line practitioners.

## What we are doing in 2018/19:

- Recruiting a new Lay member to Board
- Continuing the Practitioner Forums to 'capture the voice' of the practitioner
- Considering the implications of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the changes in governance of the Darlington Safeguarding Children's Board and the implications for DSAPB.
- In conjunction with the Community Safety Partnership consult upon the local Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Plan and develop multi-agency policy and practice guidance on Domestic Abuse.



## Outcome 6 - Accountability

*Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice*

### The Board agreed it would:

*Review the Terms of reference which sets out how agencies will work together to cooperate to deliver on its statutory responsibilities. It will ensure it published Safeguarding Adult Reviews which meet the criteria as outlined in the Care Act and to provide a bi-monthly message bulleting to communicate the work of the Board publically to ensure it is being accountable and transparent in delivering safeguarding.*

### Terms of Reference

In November 2017 the DSAPB reviewed and revised the Terms of Reference (ToR) and governance arrangements for the Board. The Independent Chair of the DSAPB or appropriate representative attends Council Scrutiny Committees as required to discuss the work of the Board and adult safeguarding issues. As a minimum the DSAPB Annual Report is presented to the Adults Housing Scrutiny Committee. In addition, the Chief Executive and Chief Officers across the partnership receive regular updates of the DSAPB strategic plan and any challenges. The DSAPB Annual Report is also shared with the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB).

### Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs)

The Board has a duty to conduct Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) which are reviews that examine the way agencies and individuals that have been involved with an adult at risk have acted in cases where an adult with care and support needs has suffered significant harm as a result of abuse or neglect. The purpose of a SAR is to identify learning that will bring about improvements so that the likelihood of future harm to adults at risk is minimised. The Board may also arrange a review of any other case involving an adult in its area with needs for care and support with a view to identify lessons to be learned from the adult's case and to apply the learning to future cases. In addition, cases where there is good practice can also be considered to identify learning that can be applied to future cases.

In 2017/2018 DSAPB examined one case where a vulnerable adult diagnosed with a learning disability and dementia had died as a result of choking on food in a residential care home in March 2016. It was agreed that the case did not reach the threshold for a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) or a Learning Lessons Review (LLR). The case was referred to the Learning Disabilities

Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme which is a service commissioned by NHS England to support the review of deaths of people with a learning disability to identify common learning points and provide support to local areas in the development of action plans to take forward lessons learned. The LeDeR review identified a number of single agency recommendations for the residential home setting which have been implemented.

### Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Gladys

In April 2017 the report and findings of a Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) in respect of Gladys were published. Gladys was an eighty six year old lady with mixed Alzheimer's disease and vascular dementia who sadly died in care home following a succession of falls. The DSAPB commissioned a Safeguarding Adult Review and the findings of which were reported to Board in March 2017. The Adult Learning and Improvement Group developed a briefing document which summarises the learning points from the SAR. The main areas for learning involve communication between professionals. The briefing document can be accessed here at the Safeguarding Boards' website. The learning from the review has been shared locally and nationally and has been embedded in the multi-agency training programme.





### DSAPB newsletters

In 2017/18 the DSAPB published a bi-monthly messages bulletin which highlights key messages and communicates the work carried out by the Board. This has improved communication with practitioners throughout the partnership and highlights the purpose of the Board and the work that is carried out by the partnership. The bulletin has been available on the Safeguarding Boards website where it is accessible to the wider community as well as partner agencies and practitioners. The newsletter is also circulated electronically throughout the partnership and is shared with the Safeguarding Adults Managers at monthly meetings.

### Workforce Stability

Board members were provided with an overview of the multi-agency position in relation to workforce stability across the three main agencies, notably Health (commissioners and providers), Durham Constabulary and Darlington Borough Council as it was recognised that any fragility in the multi-agency workforce such as front-line staff and leadership may impact on safeguarding. The Board commissioned the report to understand which areas of the workforce are stable and to establish where there are any issues either now or potentially in the future.

Board members were provided with the assurance that all agencies have robust workforce strategies and arrangements in place to monitor staffing levels and workforce pressures. Pro-active plans are in place across the partnership in relation to recruitment and retention of staff, including the promotion of the North as a place to live and work.

### What we are doing in 2018/19:

- Conducting a multi-agency thematic audit in respect of self-neglect
- Continuing to maintain progress on the more challenging actions identified within SAR's and LLR's
- Conducting an impact evaluation survey
- Improving links and communication between sub groups

## Conclusion

The vision of the Board is to ensure that Darlington is an increasingly safer place for adults at risk of abuse and neglect. The six key principles underpin all adult safeguarding and in accordance with the three year Strategic Business Plan (2017-20) throughout 2018/19 the Board will continue to focus its strategic priorities on these principles.

The Board will work closely with the DSCB to monitor the progress of the discussions concerning the legislative framework for the new safeguarding arrangements which will be introduced by September 2019 in accordance with the Children and Social Work Act 2017. This will ensure that best practice is also reflected in the work of the DSAPB.

## SEE IT, HEAR IT, REPORT IT!

If you are being abused or if you think someone you know is being abused:

- In an emergency contact Durham Constabulary on 999
- If a crime has been committed contact Durham Constabulary on 101
- You can report the abuse of an adult with care and support needs to Adult Social Care using the First Point of Contact on 01325 406111
- If you need urgent help outside office hours or at the weekend or on Bank Holidays contact the Emergency Duty Team on 01642 524552

## Appendix 1

Organisations represented on the Board. The attendance of each Board member at the bi-monthly meetings is indicated in brackets within the table.

Current Membership	Representative
Darlington Borough Council	Director of Children and Adult Services (4) Assistant Director Adult Social Care (6) Assistant Director Commissioning, Performance and Transformation (1) Director of Public Health (6) Lead Member for Adult Safeguarding (5) Assistant Director Housing and Building Services (6) Principal Lawyer (2) Head of Service Adult Social Care (5)
Durham Constabulary	Detective Chief Inspector (3)
Durham and Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)	Director of Nursing and Quality (4) Designated Nurse Safeguarding Adults (5) Safeguarding Adult Lead (as Chair of ALIG) (4)
County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust (CDDFT)	Associate Director of Nursing for Patient Experience and Safeguarding (3) Safeguarding Lead Nurse (3)
Community Rehabilitation Company	Director of Operations (2)
County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service (CDDFRS)	Group Manager (6)
National Probation Service	Head of County Durham National Probation Service (4)
Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)	Associate Director of Nursing (5)
Healthwatch	Development Manager (2)
Care Quality Commission (CQC)	Inspection Manager (4)
North East Ambulance Service (NEAS)	Memorandum of Understanding
NHS England	Memorandum of Understanding

## Appendix 2

The following table outlines the achievements of the four sub-groups in 2017/18:

Policy and Implementation sub-group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review and comprehensive revision of the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy, Procedures and Practice Guidance with particular emphasis on the four stages of an investigation which is available on the Safeguarding Boards' website</li> <li>Implementation of the Managing Allegations Policy and Practice Guidance</li> <li>The development of Multi-Agency Self-Neglect practice guidance</li> <li>Development of Professional Challenge practice guidance</li> <li>Development and implementation of a revised Executive Strategy protocol</li> <li>Review and revision of the Joint Board Member Induction Pack</li> <li>The Information Sharing Protocol agreed and signed by partner agencies</li> <li>Development Modern Slavery practice guidance (jointly with DSCB) currently awaiting a Memorandum of Understanding developed jointly with County Durham Safeguarding Adults Inter-Agency Partnership and Durham Constabulary</li> <li>Jointly with County Durham Safeguarding Adults Inter-Agency Partnership the development of a sexual exploitation referral pathway</li> </ul>
Adult Learning and Improvement sub-group
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Publication of the SAR 'Gladys'</li> <li>Dissemination of learning from LLR Adult 2 to domiciliary care providers</li> <li>Monitoring and support of progress of the implementation of action plans for SAR Gladys and LLR Adult 2</li> <li>Development and dissemination of Lessons Learned briefing documents in respect of LLR Adult 2 and SAR Gladys and dissemination across all relevant agencies</li> <li>Liaison with the multi-agency training group to ensure that lessons learned from SARs/LLRs is incorporated in training</li> <li>Liaison with the Policy and Implementation sub-group to ensure that learning from SARs and LLRs is incorporated in multi-agency policy and practice guidance</li> <li>Development of a template for collating themes and lessons learned from national and regional SARs and LLRs</li> <li>In February 2018 jointly with the DSCB held a Children's and Adults Workshop on learning from serious incidents.</li> <li>Ongoing work to review and revise the SAR Protocol</li> <li>Referral of the death of an adult with learning disabilities to the Learning Disabilities Mortality Review (LeDeR) Programme as the case did not meet the criteria for a SAR/LLR. The LeDeR review identified a number of single agency recommendations for the residential home setting which have been implemented.</li> </ul>

## Appendix 3

### Partner Contributions in 2017/2018

	2017/2018
Darlington Borough Council	£14,663.00
Durham Constabulary	£12,731.05
Darlington Clinical Commissioning Group	£14,305.00
County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust	£14,448.00
Training income	£6,690.00
<b>Total Revenue received in 2017/2018</b>	<b>£62,893.05</b>

The table above evidences how partners have met the budgetary requirements in 2017-2018. The table summarises the direct monetary contributions from partners but does not take into account members time or the use of rooms (provided free of charge). It is important to recognise the many other ways members and their staff contribute to the Board, for example attendance at sub-groups, participating in audit and quality assurance work, access to additional resources and designated roles. It should be noted that the cost of safeguarding adults at risk is significant and the DSAPB is therefore grateful to all of the partners who have fulfilled their commitment to fund and contribute to the work of the partnership.

#### Quality and Performance sub-group

- Development of a revised multi-agency data set which now includes analysis of the data by all organisations and the development of a performance reporting timeline
- Multi-Agency Safeguarding Audit methodology and revised audit tool developed
- Multi-Agency safeguarding audit completed including moderation and analysis of the audit findings which were reported to Board in March 2018 (conducted jointly with DSCB)
- Terms of Reference for the multi-agency thematic self-neglect audit agreed
- Adult Social Care case file audit of safeguarding concerns
- Review of the process used to capture the feedback of service users involved in a safeguarding enquiry to provide Board with a better understanding of the service user's experience of the safeguarding process
- The allocation of a social worker independent of the investigation to review service users response to the 7 questions and feedback regarding the safeguarding enquiry to improve Boards understanding of the experience of service users

#### Training, Communication and Voice of the User sub-group (joint with DSCB)

- Workforce stability report presented to Board
- Communications implementation plan agreed and developed
- Review and revision of the Communication and Engagement Strategy
- Review and revision of the Training Charging Policy
- Progression of the e learning package to incorporate PREVENT and CSE training
- Development and circulation of an information leaflet designed for adult service users and families
- Ongoing development of the Safeguarding Boards website and wider circulation of the safeguarding Boards' newsletter to share messages from the Board
- Ongoing review of the remit of the Training, Communication and Voice of the user sub-group

## Appendix 4

### Glossary of Terms

ALIG - Adult Learning and Improvement Group
BME - Black and Minority Ethnic
BTP - British Transport Police
CCG - Clinical Commissioning Group
CEO - Chief Executive Officer
CDDFRS - County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service
CDDFT - County Durham and Darlington NHS Foundation Trust
CQC - Care Quality Commission
CRC - Community Rehabilitation Company
CSE - Child Sexual Exploitation
CSP - Community Safety Partnership
DBC - Darlington Borough Council
DBS - Disclosure and Barring Service
DSAPB - Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board
DSCB - Darlington Safeguarding Children Board
FGM - Female Genital Mutilation
GRT - Gypsy Roma and Travelling Community
HMICFRS - Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services
HWB - Health and Wellbeing Board
HWD - Healthwatch Darlington
LA - Local Authority
LLR - Learning Lessons Review
LeDeR - Learning Disabilities Mortality Review
LSCB - Local Safeguarding Children Board
MARAC - Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference
MCA - Mental Capacity Act
MSP - Making Safeguarding Personal
NEAS - North East Ambulance Service
NECA - Darlington Recovery and Wellbeing Service
NHSE - National Health Service England
NICE - National Institute for Health and Care Excellence
NPS - National Probation Service
PCVC - Police Crime and Victim Commissioner
RCA - Root Cause Analysis
SAB - Safeguarding Adults Board

SAR - Safeguarding Adults Review

SCR - Serious Case Review

TOR - Terms of Reference

TEWV - Tees Esk and Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust

YMCA - Young Men's Christian Association

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We have incorporated hyperlinks where possible to take you to additional information and/or further details. If you are not able to access this then please contact us to arrange for the information to be made available. In addition, if you require this report in an alternative format, please contact the Joint Safeguarding Boards' Business Unit as above.

We would welcome feedback and this can be made to either the DSAPB Independent Chair or by contacting the Joint Safeguarding Boards Business Unit on 01325 406450, address as above or by e-mail

This Annual Report will be shared with the following partner agencies:

- The CEO and Leader of the Local Authority
- Police, Crime and Victims Commissioner (PCVC) and the Chief Constable of Durham Constabulary
- Healthwatch Darlington
- The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- County Durham and Darlington Foundation Trust (CDDFT)
- Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Tees Esk and Wear Valley Foundation Trust (TEWV)

The 2017/18 Annual Report will be presented to the Adults and Housing Scrutiny Committee to give an opportunity for wider engagement and scrutiny by Councillors.

Partner agencies are encouraged to have a link to the DSAPB Annual Report via their websites to improve accessibility.

The report is published on the DSAPB website:  
**[darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk](http://darlingtonsafeguardingboards.co.uk)**

