

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD



TO:	Health and Wellbeing Board
FROM:	Hayley Kilpatrick, Samantha Riley, Mark Warren
DATE:	Tuesday, 5 March 2024

SUBJECT: Multi Agency Adults Safeguarding Policy

1. PURPOSE

To update Board members in respect of the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy in Blackburn with Darwen. This is a multi-agency operational policy / procedure for Safeguarding adults at risk. This operational procedure explains the values and culture underpinning how to work with adults at risk and to support individuals to stay safe, well and live free from abuse and neglect. It also explains the process of raising an adult safeguarding concern, and, subsequently, Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council's statutory duties and powers to undertake safeguarding enquiries, where there are concerns about the abuse, harm or neglect of an adult at risk.

This operational procedure:

1. Refers to the models and principles underpinning safe practice
2. Refers to the key steps that can be taken to safeguard adults at risk
3. Clarifies the roles and responsibilities of individuals and organisations
4. Reinforces that the adult at risk should experience the safeguarding process as empowering and supportive and that the views, needs and desired outcomes of the adult are central.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD

To accept, embed and promote the Multi-Agency Operational Policy / Procedure for Safeguarding Adults at Risk with all relevant partners within Blackburn with Darwen.

3. BACKGROUND

This Multi-agency Operational Policy / Procedure for Safeguarding Adults at Risk was drafted in December 2023, prior to acceptance from partner agencies at the Safeguarding Adults Board (also in December 2023). It was agreed during the Safeguarding Adults Board meeting, that Board members would now share the policy within their own respective fields of practice, for feedback to be gained, and for this feedback to be collated at the following Safeguarding Adults Board meeting (February 2024).

Once in agreement, and all feedback has been considered at the next Safeguarding Adults Board meeting, the Multi-Agency Operational Policy / Procedure for Safeguarding Adults at Risk will be

rolled out, implemented and embedded in all Safeguarding Adults practice across the borough.

4. RATIONALE

All relevant agencies have a duty to co-operate with each other in order to protect vulnerable adults in their area who are experiencing or are at risk of abuse or neglect. The new Multi-Agency operational policy/procedure for Safeguarding Adults at Risk will support and promote that co-operation which will improve adult safeguarding in our area. This operational procedure:

1. Refers to the models and principles underpinning safe practice
2. Refers to the key steps that can be taken to safeguard adults at risk
3. Clarifies the roles and responsibilities of individuals and organisations
4. Reinforces that the adult at risk should experience the safeguarding process as empowering and supportive and that the views, needs and desired outcomes of the adult are central.

5. KEY ISSUES

- . Clear process when undertaking S42 safeguarding enquiries
- . Clear expectations on roles and responsibilities from a multi-agency perspective, when undertaking S42 safeguarding enquiries
- . Importance of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) and creative ways in which this can be achieved
- . Explanation of legislative framework and how to embed / promote this within practice.
- . Clear process for escalation / professional conflict
- . Reinforces the importance of multi-agency working

6. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

Once in agreement, and all feedback has been considered at the next Safeguarding Adults Board meeting, the Multi-Agency Operational Policy / Procedure for Safeguarding Adults at Risk will be rolled out, implemented and embedded in all Safeguarding Adults practice. Training resources will also require to be updated, so that they reflects the Policy accordingly.

7. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

n/a

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Under section 6 of the Care Act 2014, the Local Authority and its relevant partners (which include health bodies) have statutory duties to cooperate with each other in respect of adult social care functions including Adult Safeguarding. As they are put into practice across the area, the multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures will assist the Health and Wellbeing Board's drive to promote joint working and improve the wellbeing of the local population.

9. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Training

10. EQUALITY AND HEALTH IMPLICATIONS

n/a

11. CONSULTATIONS

Healthwatch Blackburn with Darwen

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**BACKGROUND
PAPER:**