

Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board

Summary Minutes

Meeting held on **Wednesday 4 March 2020**, 1-3.30pm, RVI

Please note these are not full minutes. They are intended to provide an overview of discussions and decisions. Due to the confidential nature of some of the items discussed, it is not possible to publically share full minutes.

The Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is the multi-agency partnership responsible for ensuring that adults at risk in Newcastle are safeguarded and protected.

NSAB Vision and Priorities 2020-2023 and NSAB Strategic Annual Plan 2020-21

Claire Nixon provided an overview of the updated NSAB Vision and Priorities for 2020-23 and the draft Strategic Annual Plan for 2020-21. These have been developed using a variety of information sources. The Vision and Priorities were agreed by NSAB members. The Strategic Annual Plan is still subject to ongoing public consultation. NSAB members were asked to support this via social media and any forums/networks they attended or co-ordinated. Some of the key actions for 2020-21 are in relation to: Making Safeguarding Personal; homelessness; criminal exploitation; multi-agency and single-agency training; and NSAB member development.

Suicide Prevention

Board members received an update on data-related to suicide in Newcastle, as well as progress in relation to the Suicide Prevention Action Plan. Suicide rates in Newcastle are consistent with rates across the Northumbria area; these are higher than the rates in England but lower than the rest of the North East. Men are more likely to die as a result of suspected suicide and the average age is 40. The NSAB were informed of a number of region-wide initiatives that had been funded: Suicide Prevention Coordinator; Suicide Prevention Data Analyst; Training Hub; football campaign; and community grass roots funding. The data analyst has been in post since January; they are developing a real-time alerts database for suicides and drug-related deaths.

Drug-Related Deaths

Following on from the above report, Board members heard about the number of deaths in Newcastle linked to drugs and the new integrated drug and alcohol structured treatment and recovery support service. Most recent data (2018) shows that the North East has the highest rate nationally for drug-related deaths. Early-alerts for 2019-20 show that there are fewer deaths reported but that are increased admissions for drug-related mental and behavioural disorders. There is an increase in the use of crack cocaine in Newcastle which presents particular issues. The new Newcastle Treatment and Recovery Partnership commenced on 1 December 2019.

Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) Self-Assessment

The CRC presented their self-assessment in relation to safeguarding adults arrangements. It was highlighted that the CRC is committed to top-down and bottom-up investment in further developing & improving the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding practice; is a learning organisation that shares learning & good practice; and has effective links with other organisations and undergoes high level of scrutiny. The CRC would be focussing on promoting greater practitioner awareness and Making Safeguarding Personal.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 20 May 2020, 1pm - 3.30pm, Civic Centre

For more information about Safeguarding Adults, and the work of the Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board, please visit:
<https://www.newcastle.gov.uk/social-care-and-health/safeguarding-and-abuse/safeguarding-information-professionals/newcastle-safeguarding-adults-board>