



Report Reference Number: S/21/8

To: Scrutiny Committee
Date: 28 October 2021
Status: Non-Key
Ward(s) Affected: All
Author: Suzanne Sweeting, Partnerships Manager
Community, Partnerships and Customers
Lead Executive Member: Councillor David Buckle, Lead Executive Member for
Communities and Economic Development
Lead Officer: Angela Crossland, Head of Community, Partnerships
and Customers

Title: North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Reports 2019/2020
and North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnerships Independent
Scrutineer's Annual Reports 2019/2020

Summary:

This report accompanies the above-named annual reports. Below offers a short summary of the documents and an insight into Selby District Council's current position in relation to ensuring effective safeguarding practices

Recommendation:

The Scrutiny Committee is asked to note the content of the attached annual reports for the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adult's Board.

Reasons for recommendation:

Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults is a statutory duty for the District Council.

1. Introduction and background

1.1.1 The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board has a statutory duty to publish annual reports, accounting for the activities of the Board for the previous year. This report covers 2019/20 activity and provides evidence of the key areas of focus for the current year.

1.1.2 It is important to note the changes in working arrangements for children's safeguarding following the reform in the 2017 Children and Social Work Act and to statutory Working Together guidance in 2018. These changes led to the removal of the statutory requirement for North Yorkshire to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board; the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NYSCP) undertakes the work formerly delivered by the North Yorkshire Children's Trust and North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board. The annual report provides a review and update of the delivery of the Young and Yorkshire Strategy, which aims to improve the lives of children, young people and their families across North Yorkshire. The strategy includes:

- The vision and approach to working for children and young people;
- The key considerations that will be used to check that a difference in truly being made;
- The desired outcomes for all children and young people; and
- Priorities and actions.

1.1.3 Local Safeguarding Partnerships were launched in September 2019, encompassing adult safeguarding, community safety and children/young people's safeguarding. There is a Selby locality group with meetings taking place quarterly.

2. North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2019/2020

The report outlines the strategic vision and outcomes, along with a summary of the priorities.

Strategic Vision:

"We will provide leadership, challenge and direction to ensure that the partner agencies improve outcomes for adults at risk of harm or abuse. We will promote values of openness, trust, respect and learning."

Strategic Outcomes:

- Awareness and Empowerment
- Prevention
- Protection and Proportionality
- Partnership and Accountability

Strategic Priorities 2019/20:

- Work more closely with communities in North Yorkshire to develop strategies that reduce the risk of abuse, and help improve services
- Implement and embed the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policies and Procedures, in line with national guidance and best practice around Making Safeguarding Personal
- Develop a whole community approach to the prevention of abuse
- Ensure the accountability of all partners working with adults at risk of abuse.

2.1 The report explains that June 2019 saw the launch of the new website <http://www.safeguardingadults.co.uk> and activities in support of the annual Safeguarding Awareness Week. In October 2019, there was also the introduction of new multi-agency safeguarding procedures for safeguarding adults, and the subsequent change from a seven to a four-stage model which simplifies the process, helps to put the wishes of those people at risk at the heart of the safeguarding enquiry and makes safeguarding personal.

2.2 The report updates on the change in governance committee structure, to a joint communication strategy and 12-month calendar of activity being developed across the three Partnerships in line with the over-arching priorities and work of each Partnership.

2.3 A total of 4503 adult safeguarding concerns were received during 2019/2020 across North Yorkshire, which was an 18% reduction in the number of concerns received the previous year. At this time work is being undertaken to get the specific referral figures for the Selby district. It should be noted that neglect and acts of omission (i.e., Ignoring medical, emotional or physical care needs or failure to provide access to appropriate health, care and support or educational services) was the highest type of abuse that was recorded for completed enquiries in 2019/2020.

3. North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnerships Independent Scrutineer's Annual Reports 2019/2020

3.1 This report covers the first six months of the NYSCP but will have a full year of reflections in the 2020/2021 Scrutiny report.

3.2 The report takes time to outline the governance changes to a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangement (MASA). It is explained that MASAs are bound by statutory guidance for partners, and that Working Together 2018 is clear that MASAs do not work in isolation, but form part of the wider means of ensuring local citizen's wellbeing. It is important to note that the 'business' that the Board previously managed, is now held, managed and delivered by Partnership subcommittees.

3.3 The NYSCP adopted the Young and Yorkshire Strategy, which was developed by the Children's Trust, which sets out the plan for children, young people and families in North Yorkshire. The strategic headings are outlined as:

- Safe
- Happy
- Healthy
- Achieving

3.4 It is noted in the report that areas for continued development for the new NYSCP include:

- Develop an understanding of what needs the most attention across all areas of the Partnership's work
- Keep pace with the needs and demands of the social care service to ensure that the Ofsted judgement of Outstanding remains sound
- Identify and work to address the ongoing issues for children and young people whose emotional and mental health are poor.

Other priorities include (but are not limited to):

- Ongoing review of the new governance arrangements
- Ensure what all agencies remain aware of the wider issues affecting children, families and communities
- Providing evidence and 'showcasing' of the realities of safeguarding practice in comparison to the ambitions set by leaders
- Ensure MACE arrangements fulfil the remit set, and can prove that the work carried out makes the required differences
- Ensure service improvements and lessons learned are embedded
- Ensure that priorities are both data and evidence led.

4. Local Delivery

To discharge our duty to cooperate, the Community, Partnerships and Customers team have delivered the following through the 2019- 2021 period to date:

- Conducted and submitted the Section 11 audits as per our statutory requirements
- Supported the planning and delivery of Safeguarding Awareness Week, with the overarching theme of 'Safeguarding is Everybody's Business. A focus was placed on a theme a day throughout the week to increase understanding of safeguarding concerns and activity.
- Promoted attendance of Safeguarding masterclasses, and other useful materials such as the One Minute Guides, to support the continual development of our staff and partners.
- Selby District Council hold an internal Safeguarding Panel with cross service representation to ensure safeguarding practices are embedded across the organisation.
- Attended the Local Safeguarding Partnerships and continued to manage the Safer Selby Hub multi-agency tasking meetings to support community safety, prevent and safeguarding case issues.
- Selby District Council's Partnerships Manager became the Chair of the Selby Local Safeguarding Partnership in September 2021.

5. Alternative Options Considered

None.

6. Implications

6.1 Legal Implications

The Council has a statutory duty to cooperate in safeguarding children and vulnerable adults.

6.2 Financial Implications

None identified.

6.3 Policy and Risk Implications

None identified.

6.4 Corporate Plan Implications

The Council's Corporate Plan sets out long term plans to make Selby District a great place to do business, enjoy life, make a difference, supported by the Council delivering great value. An effective safeguarding function is essential to protect those who are most vulnerable in our communities, ensuring everyone can enjoy life in Selby District.

6.5 Resource Implications

None identified.

6.6 Other Implications

Not applicable.

6.7 Equalities Impact Assessment

Not applicable.

7. Conclusion

7.1 The North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board and the North Yorkshire safeguarding Partnership are required to publish Annual Reports to provide an overview of the activity that has taken place to effectively safeguard and promote the welfare of Children and Adults in North Yorkshire.

The 2019-20 reports outline the changes in governance within each of the establishments and highlights the areas of strategic focus for the coming year.

8. Background Documents

None.

9. Appendices

Appendix A – North Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2019-2020

Appendix B – North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Independent Scrutineer's Annual Report 2019-2020

Contact Officers:

Suzanne Sweeting, Partnerships Manager, Community, Partnerships and Customers

ssweeting@selby.gov.uk

Angela Crossland, Head of Community, Partnerships and Customers

acrossland@selby.gov.uk