

		AGENDA ITEM 5
		PAF/24 /19
Committee:	People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee	
Date:	10 October 2019	
Enquiries to:	Paul Bedwell Board Manager, Essex Safeguarding Adults Board Contact: paul.bedwell@essex.gov.uk	
<p>Update on the Essex Safeguarding Adults Board</p> <p>Key documents:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ESAB Structure Chart• Annual report 2018/19• Strategic Plan 2019/21 <p><u>The presentation at Scrutiny will cover the following:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Introduction - Care Act responsibilities and ESAB's structure2. ESAB links to Operational Safeguarding3. Board plans for 2019/204. How ESAB Operates5. The Horizon Project <p>Introduction – Care Act Responsibilities and ESAB Structure</p> <p>The Essex Safeguarding Adults Board (ESAB) exists as a statutory body established by the Care Act 2014 and has a statutory objective to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• help and protect adults who have needs for care and support• and, who are experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect. <p>ESAB has 3 core duties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• it must publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objective and what the members will do to achieve this. The plan must be developed with local community involvement, and the SAB must consult the local Healthwatch organisation.• it must publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and implement its strategic plan• it must conduct safeguarding adult reviews		

Key functions of the Board include:

- Communicating to partner agencies and raising awareness of the need to safeguarding and promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by partner agencies, individually and collectively, to safeguard and promote the welfare of adults
- Undertaking reviews and advising partners on lessons to be learned
- Developing Safeguarding Policy and procedures

The role of the Safeguarding Adult Board is to have an independent coordinating and challenge role around safeguarding practice across its partner agencies.

Annual report and effectiveness

The ESAB annual report covering work ESAB carried out in 2018–19 is summarised at [Appendix 1](#). The full report is available on the [ESAB website](#)

ESAB links to Operational Safeguarding

ECC is primarily represented at ESAB by the Director for Adult Social Care (Nick Presmeg) and the Director for Adult Safeguarding (Fiona Davis). Cllr John Spence is also a member of the Board as Cabinet Member for Health and Adult Social Care and is regularly represented by Councillor Whitbread (deputy lead member).

ESAB links into operational safeguarding in a number of ways including:

- Safeguarding Adult Review activity
- Performance and quality assurance information considered by ESAB's Performance and Quality sub-committee
- Quarterly meetings with Operational Safeguarding leads across partner organisations
- Attendance at Health Executive Forum meetings of health safeguarding leads

Whilst the board has a strategic oversight of Safeguarding activity and practice across the care system in Essex by engaging the partnership arrangements, the ECC Adult Social Care operational teams ensure that individuals or organisations referred due to specific concerns are safeguarded by completing Section 42 enquiries wherever this is appropriate and necessary. Concerns come into the department via Adult Social Care Connects. These are then passed to Quadrant Locality Teams to triage and manage if the matter relates to an individual or to our two countywide Organisational Safeguarding teams if the concern relates to a potential organisational failure. .

ESAB Strategic Priorities 2019-21

The summary at Appendix 1 sets out the ESAB strategic priorities for the next three years and a range of actions that form the Boards work plan for 2019/20.

Business as usual activity also continues outside of the plan including:

- Completion of Safeguarding Adult Reviews and implementation of subsequent recommendations and learning
- Continued development of ESAB's performance management activity including quarterly deep-dives to inform themed ESAB meetings
- Learning and Development activity including a thorough review of ESAB's training programme

The priorities and annual workplan are monitored by the ESAB Executive Committee and will continue to be reviewed each November at an annual Board development session.

How ESAB operates – Homelessness

ESAB revised the format of its meetings in January 2019 to be set around particular themes where it is felt that the Board needed to gain assurance around a particular issue.

ESAB's approach to homelessness provided a good example of the revised format. In response to a Safeguarding Adult Review concerning a homeless man who had died and previous discussions about temporary accommodation the Board's meeting in January focussed specifically on homelessness. The meeting received a series of short 10 minute presentations including:

HF Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) Report - report commissioned by ESAB following the death on the 1st March 2018 of HF. It considers his contact and involvement with multiple professional agencies in the years before his death.	Peter Beazley – Independent Reviewer
Thematic Deepdive – Performance report looking specifically at homelessness in Essex	Sarah Willings – Senior Analyst ECC
Horizon Project - A report on a 12 month pilot service for offenders with complex needs run in Chelmsford from 1st December 2016. The pilot sought to work in a multi-disciplinary way to identify and work with a cohort of individuals who met the criteria of being homeless, offending, with substance misuse issues, with mental ill health and poverty also a common factor. The pilot worked with a cohort of 11 clients and was based on the Making Every Adult Matter (MEAM) approach,	Neale Thomas – ECC, Commissioning, Public Health and Wellbeing

Temporary Accommodation and Homelessness – report on progress of the group established by the Essex Chief Executives Group to oversee implementation of the Homelessness Reduction Act specifically in keeping adults with care and support needs safe.	<p>Dawn French – Chief Executive, Uttlesford District Council</p> <p>Rod Cullen - Housing Growth Lead, Housing Growth Team, ECC</p>
The Healthcare Experiences of Homeless People in Essex – Report looking at how homeless people experience the care they receive from mainstream NHS health care services in Essex, and whether being in contact with homelessness services affects the care they receive from mainstream NHS services	David Sollis – Chief Executive, Healthwatch Essex

Following the presentations the board discussed their content and considered whether they had received sufficient assurance around homelessness in Essex and identified additional actions to follow up some of the issues identified. The actions included seeking additional assurance from partners about the expansion of the Horizon project more widely across the county.

The Horizon Project

Horizons provides intensive support for individuals with multiple and complex disadvantages. The only criteria for accessing the service are that each individual has a history of offending, substance misuse and mental health issues but there are no other thresholds for entry. People for the service are selected by multi-disciplinary consensus and are generally well known to a range of services though ill-served by all. Each individual is intensively case managed and navigated through the web of social care, housing, health and other such support services. Additionally, leisure activities and peer support groups are an integral part of ensuring these individuals are able to manage their lives in a more effective way.

A more intense way of working with individuals provides improved outcomes for those people with undefined support needs who have been struggling for years to try to navigate the complexities of public and other services.

For these individuals, an approach that moves away from categorization and diagnosis is needed. This approach involves looking at each individual's circumstances and linking them in (in a managed way) to support services that exist in their area – a key part of this is peer support groups, leisure activities and other such activities.

Action

ESAB would be interested in views, comments and suggestions from members on the Boards current priorities for 2019/20

ESAB Annual Report Summary 2018/19

One of ESAB's statutory duties is to produce an annual report, setting out how it has met its statutory responsibilities and objectives as well as how it has progressed in delivering its strategic plan. The 2018/19 annual report meets those requirements as well as:

- Providing a summary of the Board's activities
- Evidencing its effectiveness in assessing and challenging safeguarding proactively across partner agencies
- Setting out some of the challenges that the Board has provided, what it has done to gain assurance in these areas and what further needs to be done

ESAB and Strategic Partnerships

ESAB has developed strong strategic partnerships with its key statutory partners, i.e. Essex County Council, Essex Police and the Essex Clinical Commissioning Groups as well as a wide range of other partners

Working through its partners, in collaboration with a support team, the Board has delivered on its [Strategic Priorities](#) to ensure that it meets its statutory objective; to help and protect adults with care and support needs from neglect and abuse, by coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of what each of its members does.

ESAB has been involved in extensive partnership activity throughout 2018/19, including continued work with the safeguarding boards in Southend and Thurrock to ensure a consistent approach is taken to adult safeguarding across the three local authority areas. The publication and promotion of updated [SET Adult Safeguarding Procedures](#) in April 2019 formed a key part of the partnership activity during the period.

ESAB Impact and Challenge

"It is important that SAB partners feel able to challenge each other and other organisations where it believes that their actions or inactions are increasing the risk of abuse or neglect. This will include commissioners, as well as providers of services."

(Care and Support Statutory Guidance 2016 section 14.134).

Through its meetings and a range of other activity, ESAB has been able to demonstrate challenge and impact in several areas including:

- Safe Discharge
- Homelessness,
- Mental health
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

Further detail is set out in the full ESAB [Annual Report 2018/19](#)

STRATEGIC PLAN UPDATE

Strategic Priority 1 – Mental Health – ESAB received a range of input throughout the reporting period from both mental health providers and commissioners, particularly providing assurance around CQC inspection findings including actions to take forward areas of concern within the report..

Strategic Priority 2 – Temporary Accommodation and Homelessness – ESAB held a thematic meeting in January 2019 focussing on the issue and considered whether they had sufficient assurance around homelessness in Essex as well as identifying additional actions to follow up some of the issues identified.

Strategic Priority 3 – Local Safeguarding Multi-Agency working – ESAB worked with the City, District and Borough Council Sub-Committee to map local safeguarding partnership arrangements and creating a directory of the adult safeguarding leads for each district from the key agencies that will be updated every 6 months. Five quadrant based events were run during October/November 2018 by ESAB/ESCB Learning and Development sub-committee (in conjunction with the Essex Domestic Abuse Board) as part of current project looking at disseminating learning from statutory reviews.

Strategic Priority 4 – Vulnerable People – through a task and finish group ESAB explored how effective partnership arrangements are for managing difficult to categorise “vulnerable” people who do not fit into agencies eligibility criteria. The work culminated in a presentation to ESAB about a pilot project looking to address this area and further actions during 2019 to gain assurance about future commissioning arrangements for the project.

Strategic Priority 5 – Quality Assurance – ESAB received assurance from Adult Social Care that they have developed and implemented a quality assurance framework for its safeguarding arrangements. Additionally ESAB continued to work with Healthwatch Essex to pilot a system to receive feedback from users of safeguarding processes about their experiences in being involved in safeguarding enquiries

SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEWS (SARs)

The Care Act 2014 requires Safeguarding Adult Boards to conduct Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) when an adult in its area dies or is seriously harmed as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult. Boards may also carry out SARs in other cases.

During the year ESAB:

- Considered seven referrals resulting in three SAR's, one desktop review and three waiting for Serious Incident report
- Finalised one review with the recommendations being taken forward and learning shared with practitioners
- The main themes arising from these reviews were;
 - Professional curiosity
 - Effective Inter-agency working
 - Effective safeguarding

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

ESAB has a strong focus on learning and development through both the training it commissions to support partner agencies as well as the activity it undertakes to ensure it is able to identify the impact and effectiveness of learning and development activity.

Training Commissioned by ESAB

To support its partner agencies, ESAB commissions a number of training courses covering safeguarding - related subjects that are generally not widely available for agencies to commission for a relatively small number of staff. Further details can be found on the [ESAB website](#). ESAB's training programme is entirely self-financing.

PERFORMANCE

Throughout 2018/19 ESAB continued to develop its performance management function, including further development of its performance dashboard and focusing on specific areas where assurance was required. The following highlights key events from the past year including areas of achievement:

- Developed and revised the performance dashboard including developing links and collating data from partner agencies i.e. police and NHS
- Monitored the LeDeR (Learning Disability Mortality Reviews) programme
- Requested analysis of specific areas for a deep dive i.e. cuckooing, homelessness Agreed and started to develop the safeguarding audit format of a staff survey.

ESAB INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

ESAB's total income for 2018/19 was £278,228. The total expenditure for the same period was £257,514.

ESAB STRATEGIC PRIORITIES 2019/22 – PLAN ON A PAGE

Our Objective - To help and protect adults with needs for care and support who are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and are unable to protect themselves			
Strategic Priority 1 Prevention ESAB will develop a clear strategic approach to the prevention of abuse and neglect.	Strategic Priority 2 Engagement ESAB will develop and implement a strategy for engaging with users of safeguarding services and the public	Strategic Priority 3 Protection and Partnership ESAB will ensure that it has effective arrangements for gaining assurance about: <ul style="list-style-type: none">the effectiveness of operational safeguarding arrangementsthe robustness of agencies adult safeguarding systems	
Key Actions 2019/20			
1. Develop a multi-agency case audit system <i>Strategic Priority 3</i>	2. Work with partners to develop an approach that ensures children continue to be safeguarded as they become adults <i>Strategic Priority 1 + 3</i>	3. ESAB to receive assurance about LeDeR activity and learning in Essex <i>Strategic Priority 3</i>	4. Continue to develop ESAB's user engagement activity building on current work Healthwatch MSP project. Strategic Priority 2
5. Review how ESAB engages with the voluntary sector and particularly how it can help ESAB to understand the views of those who have used safeguarding services. <i>Strategic Priority 2</i>	6. Complete a safeguarding partnership staff survey <i>Strategic Priority 3</i>	7. Develop a strategic approach to the prevention of abuse and neglect within the context of the 6 safeguarding principles. <i>Strategic Priority 1</i>	8. Review and Refresh ESAB's Communications Strategy including the delivery of a safeguarding campaign to coincide with National Safeguarding Week <i>Strategic Priority 1 + 2</i>

ESAB Structure Chart

