

Leicester  
**Safeguarding**  
Adults Board

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP  
TO KEEP ADULTS SAFE

# Strategic Plan

Author Ruth Lake

2017 - 2020



# Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board

## Strategic Plan 2017 - 2020

---

### Foreword

I am pleased to share this strategic plan, which sets out the priorities for safeguarding in Leicester city. As chair of the Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB), I am keen to ensure that people who live and work in the city are clear about our vision and understand how we will take action to deliver this in partnership.

Safeguarding is everybody's business – we all have a part to play in keeping citizens safe from harm and abuse. By helping people to understand what abuse is, how this can be reported and how agencies will respond to concerns, we aim to build empowered communities. It is this empowerment, of individuals and of agencies that will protect vulnerable people from harm and enable all partners to respond quickly and effectively where required.

These are big issues and broad priorities, which will be delivered over a three year period; the LSAB annual business plan sets out the specific actions and areas for focus over that time frame.

**Jane Geraghty**  
Independent Chair

### Introduction

Safeguarding Adults Boards (SAB) are required to publish a strategic plan. This should set out how the SAB will seek to prevent abuse and neglect and how it will help and protect people with care and support needs at risk of abuse and neglect.

The strategic plan has two main purposes:

- To specify the actions required by the SAB and each of its member agencies to implement the strategy
- To inform the local community and all interested parties, including practitioners, about the work programme of the SAB

This strategic plan is a high level statement of the SAB's vision and priorities over the next three years. The Leicester SAB (LSAB) also has an annual business plan, which supports the delivery of the strategic plan and sets out the detailed actions and delivery timetable during the year.

The LSAB strategic plan is informed by a range of data and qualitative feedback about safeguarding in Leicester. This includes comparisons with other boards, national and local research, findings of case reviews, audits and safeguarding adults reviews (SAR) as well as feedback from people who use services or have experienced a safeguarding episode.

The Government has published six principles to be used by local authority adult social services, the NHS, police and other agencies for both developing and assessing the effectiveness of their local adult safeguarding arrangements. These also describe, in broad terms, the desired outcomes for adult safeguarding, for both individuals and agencies.

**Empowerment** – People in Leicester will be supported and encouraged to make their own decisions through informed consent.

**Prevention** – In Leicester we believe it is better to take action before harm occurs.

**Proportionality** – To safeguard the people of Leicester, we will take the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk.

**Protection** – We will support and ensure representation for those in greatest need.

**Partnership** – Solutions will come from agencies and local people working together across Leicester, all having a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.

**Accountability** – The work of the board will be transparent and accountable to the people of Leicester.

## Engagement with the plan

SABs must engage and consult with the local Healthwatch and the local community in preparing its plan. This plan has been shared with a range of stakeholders and local groups for their input:

- Healthwatch Leicester
- Leicestershire Centre for Integrated Living
- Learning Disability Partnership Board
- Mental Health Partnership Board
- Older Person's Forum

## About the Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board

The Leicester Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) is a statutory, multi-agency partnership coordinated by the local authority. The LSAB oversees and leads adult safeguarding across the Leicester City Council area. LSAB's main objective is to gain assurance that safeguarding arrangements locally and its partner organisations work effectively individually and together, to support and safeguard adults in its area who are at risk of abuse and neglect.

## Leicester's vision for safeguarding

The LSAB aspires to have:

A city where people are able to live their lives without abuse or harm from others because

- Abuse is not tolerated
- People know what to do if abuse happens
- People and organisations work together to prevent and respond to abuse

Making Safeguarding Personal is an approach that places individuals at the centre of a safeguarding process. In Leicester, we have adopted these principles, delivering a different approach to safeguarding interventions across partners. Therefore, Making Safeguarding Personal is an underpinning principle for all of our activity as a SAB.

## Our purpose

LSAB's purpose is to:

- Set the vision and priorities for partnership working on safeguarding
- Agree specific objectives to strengthen safeguarding in Leicester
- Coordinate the strategic development of adult safeguarding across the city

## Our values

LSAB members embrace a common set of values, shared with the Leicester Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB):

1. All people of Leicester have the right to:
  - dignity, choice and respect
  - protection from abuse and/or neglect
  - effective and coordinated work by all agencies to ensure a holistic child/person centred response
  - the best possible outcomes, regardless of their age, gender, ability, race, ethnicity, religion, sexual orientation and circumstances
  - high quality service provision
2. Safeguarding the wellbeing of children, young people and adults is a responsibility we all share.
3. Openness, transparency and sustainability will underpin the work of the boards.
4. Participation by children, young people and adults is essential to inform services, policies, procedures and practices.
5. Services to meet the individual needs of children, young people and adults aspire to reach the highest standards.
6. Celebration of strengths and positive achievements is important to the boards, as is the commitment to a process of continuous development and improvement.
7. Constructive shared learning to protect children, young people and adults will be integral to the boards' business.

## Our membership

The LSAB has an independent chair. The chair is responsible for ensuring that organisations make an effective contribution to the work of the board and is accountable to relevant strategic committees and boards, for example the Leicester City Council's Executive.

The LSAB is required to have core statutory membership from the local authority, police and the local Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), in this case Leicester City CCG. In addition, the LSAB includes NHS providers, emergency services, independent sector care providers, housing services, providers of probation and prison services, representatives of service users and carers and the local Healthwatch.

## Joint working

Leicester city shares many of its partners and providers with Leicestershire and Rutland; together Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) form a sub-region and is often the footprint for wider strategic planning. Therefore the LSAB works closely with the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB on a number of strategic and operational safeguarding matters. A Joint Executive Group, with representatives of each of the two SABs, meets regularly to review shared priorities and actions.

## Strategic priorities 2017 - 2020

The LSAB has a number of statutory duties which must be met. The LSAB also has an ongoing responsibility to ensure everyday activity is delivered by all partners in a way that safeguards people from abuse and harm. This is business as usual and is monitored by the LSAB routinely.

The LSAB uses a range of information sources to understand how well people are being safeguarded and where we may need to pay more focus in order to secure improvements. Information sources include:

- The Performance Assurance Framework, which captures data, quality and experiential information
- The annual report
- Feedback from people who use services and carers
- Dialogue with providers of services and staff

The LSAB holds a business development day at least annually, where the range of intelligence about safeguarding in Leicester is considered and the areas of focus for the coming year are agreed.

The LSAB must ensure statutory compliance and seek assurance about how effective all safeguarding activity is, as well as address any priority issues for action. Therefore the LSAB has two core and four developmental priorities. The developmental priorities are broad and the annual business plan will set out any specific themes or areas of focus for that year.

## Core priorities

### 1. Ensuring statutory compliance

The LSAB has mechanisms in place to ensure that it complies with the requirements of the Care Act 2014. These include the production and publication of a strategic plan and an annual report as well as commissioning safeguarding adults reviews in line with legislation. The LSAB shares multi-agency procedures with Leicestershire and Rutland.

## **2. Enhancing everyday business**

The LSAB requires assurance from all partners that they are delivering good quality services which keep people safe from harm and abuse. In addition, the awareness, training and development of staff is critical to those good quality services. The LSAB takes a lead in ensuring that there is enhanced training for the partnership, whilst expecting that every agency ensures that its own staff have the core safeguarding training that they need to do their jobs effectively and safely. The LSAB shares an Audit Group with Leicestershire and Rutland.

## **Developmental priorities**

### **1. Strengthening user and carer engagement**

The LSAB is committed to learning from the experience of people who use services and their carers, including those who have directly experienced safeguarding issues. Whilst we have made good progress in this area we need to develop a sustainable and effective set of arrangements for engaging with users and carers. Understanding the impact of our work is felt to be critical to our assurance process as a board.

### **2. Raising awareness within our diverse communities**

Leicester is a highly diverse city and it is vital that all of our communities are safeguarded. To deliver this effectively the LSAB needs to be assured that communities understand what abuse is, know how to respond where they are concerned about abuse and receive support that is relevant and appropriate to their circumstances. The data in the Annual Report (2016/17) suggests an under-representation of people from black and minority ethnic communities and therefore it is a priority for the LSAB to better understand and address any barriers to engaging well with these communities. This focus may change to consider other communities in future years.

### **3. Understanding how well we work together**

Messages from safeguarding reviews and domestic homicide reviews have reflected the challenges in working with people who have multiple risk factors in their lives, such as mental health needs, substance misuse issues, learning disabilities or domestic violence issues. Nationally, the effectiveness of joint working, including information sharing and communication, are themes from learning reviews. Therefore the LSAB has a priority to ensure that our joint working is effective. Recognising that this is a significant piece of work, the annual plan will identify a specific theme for exploration and action as a 'task and finish' activity.

### **4. Improving safeguarding transitions for young people (including those who may have experienced child sexual exploitation (CSE))**

The LSAB, working with the LSCB, has recognised the differences that exist in safeguarding arrangements for young people and for adults. Risks may be unchanged as people turn 18 but the approaches to safeguarding for these young adults change significantly. Learning from reviews and audits would suggest that improvements could be made in the pathway for young people who are approaching adulthood with existing safeguarding concerns. This includes young people who have been subject to CSE as a particularly vulnerable group. The LSAB wishes to ensure clear pathways for the identification of young people and joint working between children and adult services to ensure good transitions at the age of 18.

## Delivering the Strategic Plan

The LSAB has reviewed its partnership arrangements and developed a set of subgroups and task and finish groups that will enable the delivery of the strategic priorities and statutory expectation, as well as maintaining oversight of usual business.

These may change as the annual business plan refines the actions that are required to deliver the strategic plan.





### **Annual business plans**

The LSAB publishes an annual business plan which sets out how the priorities will be delivered by the groups above. These are available at [leicester.gov.uk/lsab](http://leicester.gov.uk/lsab)