

ITEM 4

Time commenced – 6.02 pm

Time finished – 7.08 pm

Protecting Vulnerable Adults Overview and Scrutiny Board

18 April 2017

Present: Councillor J Khan (Chair)
Councillors Evans, Froggatt, Hudson, Ingall, Turner and Webb

21/16 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Raju.

22/16 Late Items

There were no late items.

23/16 Declarations of Interest

Councillor Webb declared an interest as the Chair of a Care Home.

24/16 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The Minutes from the meeting of 27 January 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

25/16 Safeguarding Adults and the Deprivation of Living Safeguards

The Board received a report of the Strategic Director of People's Services updating the Board on the significant increase in adult safeguarding activity since the implementation of the Care Act (2014). Members were informed that Safeguarding Adults and the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) are statutory functions which must be fulfilled by the Local Authority. The Board was also informed that, the subsequent increase in demand on Adult Social care has resulted in an increased need for resources to meet this demand.

It was reported that following the increase in these statutory areas of work, a decision was taken by the Chief Officers Group to implement a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The Board was told that this went live with key partner agencies (Police and Health) from 19 September 2016 and has been significant in improving partnership working and information sharing; however for this to continue to develop and show further efficiencies, additional resources are required.

It was further reported that in 2016/17 there were a total of 2,432 adult safeguarding referrals, which was a 7% increase on 2015/16 and a cumulative increase of 53% on

pre-Care Act numbers, evidencing the significant increase in work for all partner agencies in relation to Safeguarding Adults since the implementation of the Act in 2015. In relation to DOLS, as a result of this there was originally a ten-fold increase in DOLS applications which has now accelerated to over a twenty-fold increase since the Supreme Court judgement in March 2014 brought into effect the “Acid Test” which lowered the threshold for Deprivation of Liberty. In 2013/14 the Council received only 55 applications; however in 2016/17 1234 applications have been received. It was clarified for the Board that DOLS only apply to those in residential and care home setting, and not those living in the community.

Members queried

MINUTES END