

**Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board**

Strategic Plan 2023 – 2026

**HSAB VISION:**

*Herefordshire’s adults at risk are able to exercise choice and control in an environment in which their well-being needs are met and they are safe from harm.*

**Introduction**

The Care Act details the statutory requirement to have a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and that the board has three primary functions:

1. It must publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objectives, and what the members will do to achieve these objectives. The plan must be developed with local community involvement, and the SAB must consult the local Healthwatch organisation.
2. It must publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objectives and implement its strategic plan, and what each member has done to implement the strategy as well as detailing the findings of any Safeguarding Adults Reviews or any on-going reviews.
3. It must conduct any Safeguarding Adults Reviews in accordance with Section 44 of the Act.

Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board membership includes statutory members and representatives from service providers, including the community and voluntary sector. We have also instigated closer working relationships with both our neighbouring board in Worcestershire (this is in response to the number of agencies that work across the two counties and the common themes arising from reviews) and our regional colleagues.

HSAB members contribute to development day activities, which shape the board structure, revise its membership and agree its strategic priorities.

This Strategic Plan outlines the agreed priorities, aims and objectives for Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) for the period 2023-2026

The business plan, included later in this document, identifies how the Board and its members will achieve the strategic priorities.

The Herefordshire Safeguarding Adults Board also aims to ensure that its work will compliment and contribute to the delivery of the Hereford Joint Local Health and Well Being strategy 2023 to 2033.  In particular the HSAB will monitor the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements for those with complex needs and to ensure making safeguarding personal is embedded in the work to ensure that people can live and age well.  The SAB is also committed to the community paradigm; the’ Talk Community programme’; and the seven principles outlined in the strategy:

* Prevention first approach
* Community Empowerment
* Integrating services
* Evidence informed
* Reducing inequalities
* Outcomes focussed
* High quality workforce

**Mission and Values of the HSAB**

**Mission**

HSAB’s **Mission** is to empower adults and their communities and work together in effective partnerships to ensure that local services and arrangements are effective in promoting the well-being of; preventing harm to; and protecting adults in Herefordshire.

**Values**

HSAB’s **Values** are:

* The impact on the well-being and safety of Herefordshire’s adults will be at the centre of all HSAB activity.
* We will work with adults and their communities to encourage and promote personal responsibility for their own safety while respecting an individual’s right to personal choice.
* We will learn and develop, responding to local and national evidence and best practice to reduce the risk of abuse.
* We will work in an open and honest manner with adults, their families, friends and advocates, with their communities and with each other.
* We will address the well-being needs of adults at the earliest opportunity and prevent the need for later safeguarding intervention whenever possible while supporting choice and control.
* We will work together being open to receive and provide constructive challenge as part of the process of continuous improvement and development.
* We will adopt, embed, and promote to others the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal.
* We will develop methodologies on working with risk.

**HSAB Priorities**

The HSAB and wider partners has agreed five priorities:

**Self-neglect,**

To improve our response to understanding and managing self-neglect needs, making sure all agencies understand and respond to self-neglect

**Exploitation**

To address the safeguarding issues and challenges arising from criminal exploitation including cuckooing, sexual exploitation, modern slavery, county lines, human trafficking and financial exploitation.

**Prevention**

To support and promote initiatives and activities which prevent or reduce abuse and neglect and keep people safe

**Neglect and omission**

To understand the profile of neglect and omission occurrences within the County and develop resources to mitigate.

**Board Effectiveness**

To ensure that the Board fulfils its statutory functions and is effective in its role of assurance of the safeguarding system.

**In addition**

It was agreed that the following areas would be a golden thread that works through all the priority areas.

TRANSITIONS: Moving from either child to adulthood, service to service or service to discharge in a safe and positive way.

MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL: All facets of our work will uphold the principles of MSP:

Empowerment: People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.

Prevention: It is better to take action before harm occurs.

Proportionality: The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.

Protection: Organisations must ensure that they know what to do when abuse has happened

Partnership: Organisations should work in partnership with each other and local communities

Accountability:  Everyone must accept that we are all accountable as individuals, services and as organisations.

The development of this strategy marks a commitment for a shared vision and actions that will keep adults at risk safe and protected from abuse and neglect.

**Strategic Plan**

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| **Strategic Priority** | **Aim** | **Objectives** | **How we will know we have made a difference.** |
| Priority 1: **Self Neglect** | To improve our response to understanding and managing self-neglect needs, making sure all agencies recognise and respond to self-neglect | 1. Use data and case information to aid understanding of the nature/profile and   *- to identify prevalence, nature and profile of self-neglect.*  *- to know we have the right interventions.*  *- to evidence the impact of supportive interventions.*   1. To develop and implement professional resources to support practitioners 2. To build community resilience to effectively identify and provide support those who self-neglect to improve their outcomes. | * Through assessment, individuals and professionals identify what is working well and what needs to change. * Individuals’ plans to provide support set out clearly what needs to change and how the change will be measured. * Staff are confident in recognising self-neglect and provide an appropriate response * The reported prevalence of self-neglect is reducing |

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| Priority 2:  **Exploitation** | To address the safeguarding issues and challenges arising from criminal exploitation including cuckooing, sexual exploitation, modern slavery, county lines, human trafficking and financial exploitation. | 1. Understand the nature and prevalence of exploitation locally 2. Identify those who are most at risk of exploitation      1. Ensure exploitation is recognised and responded to effectively, including when young people transition into adulthood. 2. Introduce exploitation toolkit 3. To develop effective pathways to prepare, prevent, protect, and pursue, to reduce the risk of exploitation. | * Have a defined multi-agency data set which supports our joint understanding of, and response to, exploitation. * Exploitation toolkit will be recognised by practitioners and used to protect those being exploited * Practice guidance to have been shared and communicated to all partners. * People who are, or who are at risk of, being exploited are adequately supported by services including when they transition into adulthood and this is evidenced through feedback from service users. |

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| Priority 3: **Prevention** | To support and promote initiatives and activities which prevent or reduce abuse and neglect and keep people safe | 1. Revise HSAB Prevention Strategy and produce a delivery plan linked to the development of the community paradigm approach 2. Monitor the response to adults with multiple complex needs through Brave, including the development of a prevention arm through Talk Community | * Reduction in safeguarding concerns reported as a result of prevention activity * Quarterly monitoring of Brave work and feedback from those with lived experience. |

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| **Strategic Priority** | **Aim** | **Objectives** | **How we will know we have made a difference.** |
| Priority 4:  **Neglect and Omission** | To understand the profile of neglect and omission occurrences within the County and develop resources for partner agencies | 1. Use local data to understand the nature and prevalence of neglect and omission locally (to include organisational abuse) 2. To develop and implement professional resources to support practitioners 3. To build citizens knowledge to effectively identify and report instances of neglect or omission to improve their outcomes | * Through assessment, individuals and professionals identify what is working well and what needs to change. * Staff are confident in recognising neglect and provide an appropriate response * The reported prevalence of neglect and omission is reducing |

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| **Underpinning**  **Priority** | **Aim** | **Objectives** | **How we will know we have made a difference.** |
| **Board Effectiveness** | To ensure that the Board fulfils its statutory functions and is effective in its role of assurance and challenge of the safeguarding system | 1. Review governance surrounding this and other partnerships and boards 2. Develop and implement an agreed multi-agency outcomes/dataset for the Board. 3. Develop and implement an agreed audit programme, which will test the extent to which learning from SARs has impacted front line delivery. 4. Develop and implement a communications strategy for the Board, raising awareness of how to recognise and respond to adult safeguarding issues. 5. Enable local people with lived experience of safeguarding to influence the work of the Board. 6. Ensure that learning from SARs is widely disseminated so that similar multi-agency safeguarding practice issues are less likely to occur in future. 7. Produce an annual report | * This and other Boards will work effectively in partnership * The Board will have oversight and be aware of any emerging issues * The Board will have evidence that learning from reviews has made a difference * There will be evidence of better awareness of safeguarding across communities * The voice of adults that have been safeguarded will be included in all Board documents |

**How we will achieve this**

Delivery of the Strategic Plan will be co-ordinated and managed through the Safeguarding Board’s Subgroups, other relevant groups and/or named individuals will be held to account for the delivery of their agreed objectives, as outlined above. In particular, they will need to evidence how the cross cutting themes – transitions and MSP – have been addressed in their work.

The Board will monitor the progress of the actions on a quarterly basis through a combination of update/highlight reports, performance data, and audit outcomes.

Our community, voluntary and faith sector is integral to the delivery of this strategic plan and we will include them in the planning and delivery of work.