

HARBOROUGH DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO THE COUNCIL MEETING OF 13th December 2021

PUBLIC REPORT: Y

EXEMPT REPORT: N

Report Title	Annual Reports of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP)
Report Author	Julie Clarke, Equality and Diversity Officer
Recommendation	To consider the annual reports of the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and Safeguarding Children Partnership (SCP) to increase awareness of issues relevant to the district.
Purpose of Report	Harborough District Council is a partner of the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB and the SCP. Best practice guidance from the Local Government Association (LGA) is that one of the key 'must know' questions for District Council Members is to ask, 'if the council formally consider the annual report of the safeguarding adults board, and does this identify issues for your council area?' Therefore, it is recommended that the annual reports of the SAB and SCP are formally discussed at Council meetings.
Reason for Decision	There is no decision required, however, Harborough District Council has a legal duty to safeguard children, young people, and adults at risk of harm and consideration of the annual reports of the Leicestershire and Rutland SAB and SCP will help raise awareness of the local context.
Portfolio (holder)	Cllr Dann
Corporate Priorities	People: a healthy, inclusive, and empowered community CO 6 Support vulnerable people of all ages.
Financial Implications	There are no financial implications as this is resourced through existing budgets.
Risk Management Implications	There are no risk implications with regards to the report, but safeguarding is a mandatory responsibility of the Council and failure of staff and Members to effectively understand, monitor and promote safeguarding issues could result in harm to residents or service users.
Environmental Implications	None
Legal Implications	We have a legal duty to protect children, young people, and adults at risk of harm.

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Equality Implications	There are no equality implications mentioned within the annual reports, although one of the Safeguarding Children Partnership's priorities for 2021/22 onwards is 'Safeguarding Children from Diverse Backgrounds'
Data Protection Implications	The annual reports are publicly available so there are no data protection implications
Consultation	The SAB and SCP completed their own consultation.
Background Papers	Harborough District Council Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures Harborough District Council Children and Young People Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
Appendices	Appendix 1 - Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2020/21 Appendix 2 – Equality Analysis Harborough District Council Adult Safeguarding Policy August 2021 Appendix 3 - Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020/21 Appendix 4 – Equality Analysis Harborough District Council Safeguarding Children Policy August 2021

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Discussing annual reports of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Boards at Council meetings will assist in making sure all Members are informed of safeguarding matters relevant to the district whilst also promoting and increasing safeguarding awareness.

2. Key Facts

- 2.1 Safeguarding officers at Harborough District Council made 105 adult referrals during 2020/21, not all were reported to Adult Social Care, some were reported to the Police or other relevant agencies. The three main concerns raised were in relation to mental health crisis, care needs and domestic abuse. More information can be found in Appendix 2.
- 2.2 The priorities for the Safeguarding Adults Board from 2021 onwards are:
- **Covid 19**, understanding and responding to the ongoing impact of Covid 19 on Safeguarding Adults and Children
 - **Hidden Harm**, reviewing how we work together across society to prevent the needs of, and harm to, adults with care and support needs being missed or hidden and ensuring we respond effectively
 - **Care homes**, work together to support and sustain effective safeguarding in Care homes

- 2.3 Safeguarding officers at Harborough District Council made 15 child referrals during 2020/21, not all were reported to Children's Social Care, some were reported to the Police or other relevant agencies. The main concerns were children at risk of homelessness, neglect and foodbank requests from families who did not have enough money for food for their children. More information can be found in Appendix 4.
- 2.4 The Safeguarding Children Board has set the following priorities for 2020/21 onwards:
- **Safeguarding Babies**, improve how we work together with families before and after birth to safeguarding babies
 - **Child Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing**, seek assurance that partners are working to support good mental health for children and that mental health and safeguarding are effectively addressed together
 - **Domestic Abuse and Child Safeguarding**, seek assurance that partners are responding appropriately to safeguard and support children living with domestic abuse
 - **Harm Outside of The Home**, seek assurance that the local approach to safeguarding children from extra-familial threat is effective
 - **Safeguarding Children from Diverse Backgrounds**, understand and improve how well partners work together with children and families from diverse backgrounds
 - **Covid 19** (shared with the Safeguarding Adults Board), reflect on and respond to the ongoing impact of the Coronavirus pandemic on safeguarding children and adults