

**Wiltshire Council**

**Health Select Committee**

**15<sup>th</sup> November 2012**

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## **Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2011-12**

### **Executive summary**

The purpose of the report is to present the Annual Report of the Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) for consideration and comment by the Select Committee. The Annual Report reviews the work of the Board during 2011-12 and sets out the priorities for the current year; it includes contributions from all partner agencies. The WSAB has formerly been accountable to the Council's cabinet, but it is now to be accountable to the Health and Wellbeing Board, to which, in its shadow form, the Annual Report will be presented on 27<sup>th</sup> November.

### **Proposal**



That the committee:

- a) Notes and comments on the Annual Report.
- b) Identifies any specific issues it wishes to be brought to the attention of the Health and Wellbeing Board when it receives the report.

### **Reason for proposal**

The Council has a lead responsibility in relation to safeguarding adults who are defined as "vulnerable" or "at risk", which it discharges in partnership with other agencies. The Safeguarding Board brings together those agencies at senior level to ensure that the overall system is working in the interests of Wiltshire residents. It is therefore appropriate that the Select Committee has the opportunity to scrutinise the Board's work and make its views known.

**Author:** Margaret Sheather, Independent Chair of Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board

Contact details:  07766-228389  
 m.sheather@btinternet.com

# **Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2011-12**

## **Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of the report is to present the Annual Report of the Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) for 2011-12 for consideration and comment by the Committee.

## **Background**

2. The purpose of the Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) is to ensure that all agencies work together to minimise the risk of abuse to adults at risk of harm and to protect and empower vulnerable adults effectively when abuse has occurred or may have occurred. The WSAB aims to fulfil its purpose by:
  - Maintaining and developing inter-agency frameworks for safeguarding adults in Wiltshire, including determining policy, facilitating joint training and raising public awareness.
  - Co-ordinating the safeguarding adults work undertaken by those organisations represented on the WSAB and monitoring and reviewing the quality of services relating to safeguarding adults in Wiltshire.
3. Part of its responsibilities is to produce an Annual Report which reviews the past year's work and sets out priorities for the coming year. The report for 2011-12 is attached as Appendix 1 to this report.

## **Main considerations for the committee**

4. The committee may particularly wish to note the following points.
  - The theme of "development in a time of change" set out in the Chair's Foreword and the specific impacts on the work of the Board of the familiar context of change and financial pressure at present in all public services.
  - The revised and updated Terms of Reference, drawing on the government's statement of policy, that are at Annex 1.
  - The developments and achievements of the Board described in section 3 and those of the partner agencies in section 5.
  - The increased volume of safeguarding work identified in section 4 and the associated data
  - The priorities for the current year and beyond, that are set out in section 7.

## **Environmental impact of the proposal**

5. There are no environmental impacts from this report.

## **Equality and diversity impact of the proposal**

6. The work of the WSAB has a significant role to play in promoting equality. It

contributes to ensuring that all Wiltshire residents, whatever their circumstances or needs for support, can live free from the fear of harm or abuse, that they are treated with dignity and their choices respected.

### **Risk assessment**

7. There are no specific risks associated to the proposed actions in this report. However, the assessment and management of risk generally is central to effective safeguarding work, both with individual who are at risk and in the management of safeguarding in individual organisations and by the WSAB. The Board has established a risk register to ensure that it tracks the risks to the overall safeguarding arrangements that may arise from the particularly intense period of change affecting organisations currently.

### **Financial implications**

8. There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The WSAB does not currently have an identified budget, and one of the tasks for the current year is to identify the current and potential costs associated to the Board and discuss the way that these should be met across partner agencies.

### **Legal implications**

9. There are no legal implications arising directly from this report.

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### **Background papers**

The following unpublished documents have been relied on in the preparation of this report: None.

### **Appendices**

Appendix 1 – Wiltshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2011-12.