

SAFEGUARDING
Adults



Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Annual Report

2020-21

Accountability
Protection
Empowerment
Proportionality
Partnership
Prevention



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Independent Chair's

Foreword

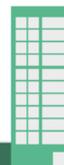
I am pleased to introduce the Annual Report of the Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board for 2020/21. I took on the role of chairing the Board in January 2021.

The period covered by this report was of course dominated by the devastating impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on communities, on vulnerable people, and on staff and services across all agencies faced with the challenge of responding to a completely unprecedented set of demands in a completely unprecedented set of circumstances. It is interesting that one outcome of the pandemic in Doncaster was a significant fall in the number of concerns raised during the year about the safeguarding of vulnerable adults. The number of concerns raised dropped by 23%, and the number of safeguarding enquiries initiated under Section 42 of the Care Act 2014 fell by 29%. This contrasts with both national and regional experience. In England as a whole, the number of concerns raised about abuse went up by 5% during this pandemic year, and while the number of safeguarding enquiries in response to those concerns went down, it fell by only 6%. In the Yorkshire and the Humber Region the number of concerns raised was almost the same as the year before, and the number of enquiries fell by 9%.

There is no obvious explanation why Doncaster should appear such an outlier in safeguarding adults activity. The risks to vulnerable adults created or exacerbated by the pandemic – risks arising from isolation and forced proximity to other family members when people were unable to leave their homes, the increase in domestic violence and in mental health difficulties, the huge stress on carers, financial hardship and insecurity – were at least present in Doncaster as anywhere else. There is a real contrast between levels of adult safeguarding activity in Doncaster during 2020/21 and a very different picture in children's safeguarding. Children's services in Doncaster are an outlier in exactly the opposite direction. Referrals to children's social care in Doncaster went up in 2020/21 by 16%. Nationally, they fell by 7%, and regionally by 12%.

Does this indicate that while awareness of child protection issues is very high in the Doncaster community, the awareness of the vulnerability of adults to abuse and neglect, including self-neglect, and a willingness to report it, is very much lower? And if so, what are the implications for publicity, campaigning, awareness raising, and the prevention of abuse? Many Safeguarding Adults Reviews – and this is certainly true of elements of the reviews that were in progress in Doncaster at the end of this reporting period, but which will be published during 2021/22 – tell the stories of people who were ostracised, harassed, or simply invisible in their community. They are, however, people who the state has a statutory responsibility to seek to protect. This apparent mismatch, between levels of concern for children at risk and levels of concern for vulnerable adults, is something that the Board should explore further.

The number of applications made under the Deprivation of Liberty Standards (DoLS) to Doncaster MBC fell by just under 5% in 2020/21, compared to a fall of 3% nationally. The statutory timescale within which standard (non-urgent) applications should be dealt with is 21



days. According to data published by NHS Digital, only 4% of standard applications in Doncaster were completed within that timescale, compared to 24% nationally and 21% regionally. However, the mean duration (time taken to complete an application) in Doncaster for all applications, at 144 days, was very similar to both national and regional performance. The inability of the DoLS system to meet statutory requirements, following the massive extension of their scope by a Supreme Court judgement in 2014, is a national issue. This is being addressed through the replacement of the DoLS system by the Liberty Protection Safeguards, under the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019). This will relieve some of the pressure on local authorities, as under the Act hospital managers will be able to authorise applications. However, there have been very significant delays at central government level in the necessary preparations for the implementation of LPS, even before the pandemic, and there has recently been a further deferment of the revised target date of April 2022.

Another impact of the pandemic was a 78% drop in the number of people attending multi-agency safeguarding training, from 401 attendances in 2019/20 to 90 in 2021/21. It is notable, however, that even with the extreme and exceptional pressures on NHS staff throughout this period, RDaSH nevertheless managed to facilitate an increase in attendance, from 18 attendances in 2019/20 to 50 in 2020/21. While the reduction in the availability of training is completely understandable, given the enforced suspension for almost half of the year while online alternatives were developed, it is clearly important to ensure that the training offer is rebuilt as the current year progresses. A well-trained and confident workforce must surely be a critical element in driving and sustaining continued improvement in practice.

It is encouraging to read in the report that the self-assessment carried out in September 2020 identified many areas of strength. I would however caution against complacency. There are indications in the Safeguarding Adults Reviews that were in progress at the end of the reporting year that practice needs strengthening in several areas, particularly on the hugely challenging issue of self-neglect. There are examples of instances where partners did not bring safeguarding concerns to the attention of the local authority when they should have done, and instances where it is not clear whether sufficient information was gathered on concerns that were raised before the decision was made not to undertake a safeguarding enquiry. It is for this reason that the Board has identified as a priority for 2021/22 the embedding in practice of LGA / ADASS guidance on knowing when to raise a safeguarding concern, and on decision making on S42 safeguarding enquiries. It is of course the case that a Safeguarding Adults Review, almost by definition, will concern a case in which there may have been some deficits in practice, It has not yet been possible for the Board to assess whether the areas for improvement that have been identified are specific to the individual cases reviewed or more widespread. The Board did not receive any quality assurance audits in 2020/21 and is now working to re-establish the regular auditing of multiagency practice as one of its core priorities. Crucially, we have no data on what happened to the individuals in the 67% of cases where a concern was raised but in which a safeguarding enquiry was not initiated. This does not mean, of course, that no response was needed to safeguard and ensure the welfare of those individuals. The local authority should not simply 'walk away' once it has determined that the criteria for a safeguarding enquiry are not met. An assessment of need under the Care Act, the active linking of the individual in with other agencies rather than just 'making a referral', helping them to access community sources of support, the provision of advice and information and other forms of signposting



may be required. We do not know what happened for all those people whose circumstances and needs were not judged to require a safeguarding enquiry, or what the outcomes for those individuals were.

It became clear to me when I became Chair of the Doncaster Safeguarding Board in January 2021 that the Board needed both more time and more focus for its work. On at least one occasion in the previous year, just 40 minutes had been allocated for its quarterly meeting. The Board now meets for a minimum of two hours every three months, which is beginning to allow it to focus on driving forward its agreed priorities, set out in its 2021/22 Delivery Plan which is included in this report. I would like to pay tribute to Angelique Choppin, Shabnum Amin and their colleagues in the Safeguarding Business Unit who have tirelessly supported the work and development of the Board and its subgroups. I have been very encouraged by the positive and constructive way in which all partner agencies have responded to what has effectively been a challenge to work in a very different way. I would particularly like to express my appreciation to all those individuals from across the partnership who have made such an important contribution and commitment to the work of the Board subgroups, and in particular the Chairs – Ian Boldy and Andrew Russell from the CCG, Karen Milner from Doncaster Council, and until his recent departure Andrew Goodall from Healthwatch Doncaster. Both the sharing of chairing responsibilities between agencies and the wide membership of the groups themselves are clear evidence of the commitment to partnership working in the borough. This is a great base on which to develop further the work of the Safeguarding Adults Board and its mission to keep people safe in Doncaster.

John Goldup, Independent Chair, Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board



Membership of the board

Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council



Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership



Doncaster Clinical Commissioning Group



South Yorkshire Community
Rehabilitation Service



South Yorkshire Police



Care Quality Commission
(attends Board on annual basis
by invitation)



St Leger Homes of Doncaster



Healthwatch Doncaster



Rotherham Doncaster and South Humber
NHS Foundation Trust



National Probation Service



Doncaster and Bassetlaw Teaching Hospitals NHS
Foundation Trust



Yorkshire Ambulance Service
represented by Doncaster Clinical
Commissioning Group



South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue



Doncaster Keeping Safe Forum



Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Partnership



Department of Work & Pensions



Prison Services



Purpose of Safeguarding Adult Board

The Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) is a statutory body established by the Care Act 2014. It is made up of senior leaders from organisations that have a role in preventing the neglect and abuse of adults. Its main objective is to protect all adults in its area who have needs for care and support and who are experiencing or at risk of abuse or neglect against which they are unable to protect themselves because of their care and support needs.

Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board works to empower and protect vulnerable adults in Doncaster. Our Mission Statement is:

“Keeping people safe in Doncaster”

Our strategic priorities are:

1. To assure effectiveness and impact of safeguarding arrangements
2. To lead and shape safeguarding practice
3. To respond to current and emerging issues
4. To collaborate, trust and build partnerships



Care Act 2014

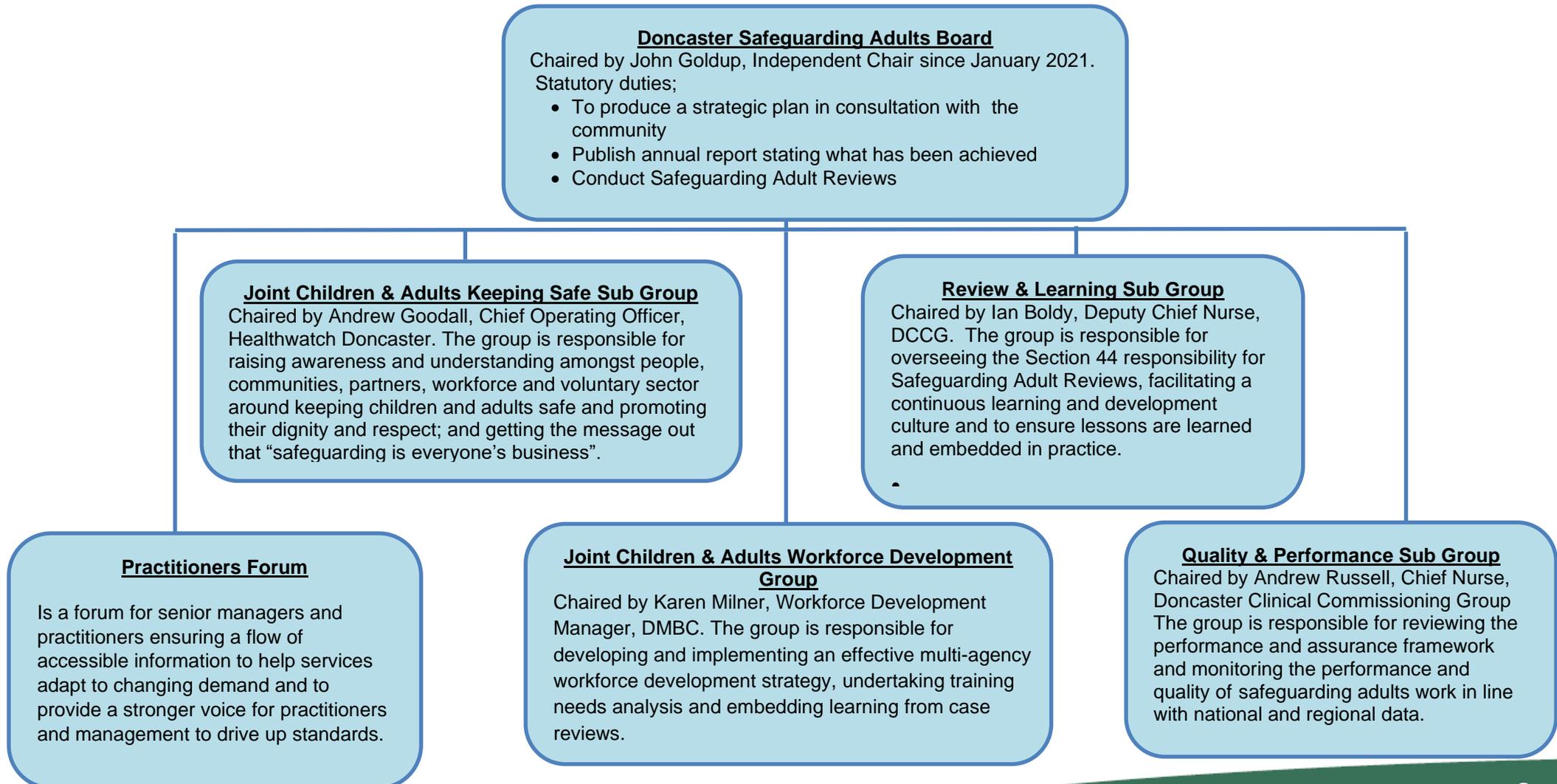


Governance

2020/21

The Board has met on four occasions. Overall there has been excellent multi-agency attendance. The Board's annual reports and safeguarding adults reviews are publicly available and can be found at www.doncaster.gov.uk/safeguardingadults

Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board Structure



DSAB Key

Sub Group achievements 2020/21

Quality & Performance Sub Group

The Quality and Performance sub group have continued to meet on a quarterly basis to receive, analyse and discuss multi-agency safeguarding adults' performance information.

Quality assurance work during 2020 has focused on safeguarding practice and recording in line with safeguarding standards. Information and guidance have been developed for practitioners to ensure a standard approach to recording and to drive up standards within the safeguarding adult hub.

Ongoing presentations of the Safeguarding Adult Performance Framework have provoked debate at Board level which has led to positive challenge and focused deep dives to assure the Board. For example, the analysis indicated a low use of advocacy which resulted in the Safeguarding Adults Hub responding with a dedicated piece of work with the team to improve accessing advocacy support early on in the safeguarding process. Voiceability who are contracted in Doncaster for advocacy support are also now represented as members of the DSAB and Joint DSCAP.

Review & Learning Sub Group

The sub group has continued to meet on a monthly basis to establish whether there are lessons to be learned to safeguard adults across Doncaster. It receives and considers Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) requests under Section 44 of the Care Act 2014.

During 2020/21 one Lessons Learned Report was completed, and one SAR was completed. Lessons were shared across the partnership and continue to be embedded in practice and monitored by the sub group. Five SAR requests were received during 2020/21 with two new SARs being commissioned as a result.

The sub group received information regarding themes and trends relating to SAR activity and have identified a theme of Self Neglect and Hoarding. This information will be used to influence the strategic priorities of the Board for 2021/22.

Joint Keeping Safe Sub Group

Throughout the Covid 19 pandemic the Joint Keeping Safe Subgroup continued to meet (every quarter) virtually but with a focus on support for the community. Due to using online platforms to hold meetings it has been well attended across the membership. The aim of the subgroup is to:

1. Ensure the voice of the Child / Adult informs all that we do - "Nothing about me without me".
2. Engage the Voluntary, Community and Faith sector ensuring that "Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility".

(Joint DSCB DSAB Safeguarding Strategic Plan 2019 – 2021)

Through the first lockdown the subgroup centred on how services were able to provide support, especially to those most vulnerable. The group has heard how agencies have been quick to adapt and ensure that they are able to provide a service. For example, DMBC and St Leger Homes contacted 12,000 people to offer support and Healthwatch Doncaster have held a 'Daily Dose' online session via Zoom for people to learn and share what help is available.

It has been re-assuring that all agencies have responded well in terms of working in partnership and providing the best service possible. There has been real positive learning in terms of community support and how services can come together and work in partnership better.

Moving forward the subgroup has highlighted the need to capture the voice of people using services through Service User Feedback and will develop a project plan focused on this.

It has also co-produced the Keeping Safe Leaflet with the Keeping Safe Forum and the Young People Voice group that has been adapted for both safeguarding adults and children and will be launched this year.

Joint Workforce Development Group

The Joint Workforce group aims to assist partner agencies in considering what training is needed and evaluating the effectiveness of it and help promote multi-agency training and support staff to undertake safeguarding training. It will also take forward learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Lessons Learnt Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews.

Initially face to face training courses were postponed until online systems could be set up. Over the past few months these have been developed and now offer a suite of training across adults (Learning Pool) and children's (Buy Doncaster). Courses for Adults have included:

- Undertaking S.42 Enquiries
- Self Neglect
- Domestic Abuse
- Coercive and Controlling Behaviour
- Honour Based Violence, Forced Marriage and FGM
- Safeguarding Adults Basic Awareness and Raising concerns

The Subgroup has regularly reviewed the impact on delivering courses online. It has found that the majority of attendees prefer the flexibility of on-line as this cuts traveling time and there are less restrictions on delegate numbers. Moving forward it has been suggested that a blended approach to delivery of courses should be offered.

The group has developed and sought approval of the Joint Workforce Strategy. The purpose of the workforce strategy outlines how the Board proposes to ensure that the workforce in Doncaster has the required competencies to safeguard adults and children. This will be through ensuring that the right training courses are available and the implementation of the Core Principles for Working with Children and Adults in Need of Care and Support.

Practitioner Forum

Listening to the voice of the practitioner

Is a forum for senior managers and practitioners ensuring a flow of accessible information to help services adapt to changing demand and to provide a stronger voice for practitioners and management to drive up standards.

For 2020/21 the forum focused on the impact of Covid-19 on front line staff and how services have responded under lockdown.

Organisations have adapted to using virtual technology such as Microsoft Teams, which has been a huge learning curve in a relatively short time. Especially within Early Help, it has been positive engaging with families differently.

We have seen an increase in attendance from across agencies such as Health, SY Police, Education, Local Authority and Third Sector organisations. Practitioners have found it useful to share some of the issues they have faced recently: for example, the increase in referrals or the difficulties that certain groups of people in our communities have experienced in accessing support due to either language barriers or families not having access to digital technology.

The forum has highlighted that under recent circumstances, it is now more important than ever and for all to be more diligent and raise awareness that "Safeguarding is everyone's business".

The wide range of practitioners in attendance reflects a strong partnership in Doncaster and the Practitioner Forum will continue to be a key vehicle for continuing dialogue, that brings both adults and children's practitioners together and is reflective of how Doncaster has made a strong commitment to both children's and adult services.



Working Together to Safeguard Adults and Children

The Board have continued to work in partnership with Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Partnership to promote a whole family approach to safeguarding across children and adult services.

Response to Covid Pandemic

The Independent Chair of the Board convened an extraordinary joint meeting at the beginning of May 2020 requesting all agencies across children's and adult services to assure the Board of their contingency plans in response to the Covid 19 pandemic. This extraordinary meeting confirmed that agencies had contingency plans and that these were being implemented and their impact was being effective. Agencies assured the Board that they were adapting to the situation through virtual platforms and technology which was supporting continuity of services wherever possible.

In addition, the Board focused on the emerging issues and what was being effectively done to mitigate risk. Issues such as an increased demand for domestic abuse services and mental health services were identified as areas of risk for the partnership. In response the Board received assurance that agencies were working together to address pressures on the system and areas of concern.

The multi-agency partnership has continued to work throughout 2020-21 finding alternative ways to meet, discuss and respond to emerging issues identified due to the impact of Covid 19 on the community of Doncaster with a focus on protecting children, young people, and adults at risk during these challenging times.

Joint Workforce strategy

In November 2020 the Joint Workforce Strategy was approved by DSAB. The 3-year strategy is a partnership strategy between DSAB, DSCP and Stronger Communities. It reflects the appropriate national legislation and local policy and procedures in relation to joint safeguarding.

The aim is to create an ethos that values working collaboratively with others, respects diversity, promotes equality and encourages the participation of individuals, families and unpaid carers in safeguarding processes. It should reflect the needs of individuals taking account of the Equality strands or any other marginalised groups in our local community.

This strategy proposes the introduction and implementation of Core Principles of Working with Children and Adults in Need of Care and Support. The principles are aimed across the workforce who work with vulnerable children and adults and provide guidance on required competencies.



Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB), Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Partnership (DSCP) and the Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership (SSDP), have agreed the joint workforce strategy and will work towards jointly commissioned training that meets the required standards.

It is the responsibility of Managers/Senior Leaders to identify the training needs of staff and ensure that they can access the required courses to meet the Core Principles.

Training Provision

The DSCP and DSAB support the development of a positive learning environment through effective multi-agency safeguarding training provision.

The Joint Safeguarding Workforce Development sub group has responsibility for overseeing the implementation of the core principles and that adequate training is provided.

The sub group will oversee the development and delivery of a full programme of multi-agency safeguarding training, available for the workforce in Doncaster.

South Yorkshire Safeguarding Adults Working Together Programme

DSAB is also a partner in the Working Together Programme that delivers regional training and conferences across South Yorkshire. Other partners in the programme are Sheffield Safeguarding Adults Board, Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board and South Yorkshire Police.

The aim of the programme is for agencies across the region to work together in safeguarding adults and address common issues. The programme delivers a 2-day training course and a conference rotationally within each area. The programme will also jointly commission specific training against requirements identified.



Joint Self-assessment of Safeguarding Arrangements

The Doncaster Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) completed a joint safeguarding self-assessment and Section 11 process with the Doncaster Safeguarding Children's Partnership in September 2020. It was agreed to replicate the previous self-assessment used in 2017 to provide assurance to the Boards around areas of crossover in safeguarding practices, increase efficiency and reduce duplication. However, it was agreed that individual agency challenge meetings would not be arranged at this time due to the Covid 19 pandemic. This self-assessment process was completed, and the following key themes were identified.

Areas of Strength

1. Clear accountability regarding safeguarding within agencies with links to the partnership
2. Clear safeguarding procedures and training in place across the partnership
3. Good representation and engagement with DSAB and DSCP
4. Proactive measures taken by partners to engage with service users and children to inform service development.
5. A clear focus on child neglect and domestic abuse
6. Reported widespread use of the Signs of Safety principles and Making Safeguarding Personal
7. Quality assurance and audit activity
8. Strong culture, systems and processes in place for sharing information
9. Good level of safeguarding self-awareness across the partnership and identification of areas for development

Development Themes

1. Evidencing the impact of safeguarding activity on outcomes for adults and children
2. Provision of training for staff in relation to allegations against people working with adults and children
3. Delay in provision of training generally in relation to the adaptation to delivering virtual training as a result of the Covid 19 pandemic.
4. Evidence of impact of training regarding the Mental Capacity Act 2005
5. Using local information on diversity to plan and implement services

Moving forwards, action plans submitted by agencies in relation to their self-assessments will be monitored and challenged by the DSAB. In addition, these themes will be used to review the self-assessment and Section 11 process.



Self-Neglect and Hoarding

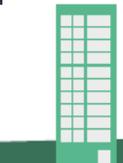
Policy in Doncaster

Self-neglect and / or hoarding is a worrying issue for all concerned. It can prove challenging to address as it is often combined with a lack of engagement and motivation from the individual which can increase risk to themselves and others. Causes are often grounded in, and influenced by, personal, social and cultural values. The individuals concerned have often been subjected to previous abuse and trauma, often have deep rooted mental health troubles, fragile self-esteem and self-worth combined with a distrust of services.

Doncaster Safeguarding Adults and Children's Boards, alongside Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership, have worked in partnership to develop a policy and procedure to respond to cases of self-neglect and hoarding. The policy can be accessed via the Safeguarding Adults webpage: <http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care/safeguarding-adults-policy-and-procedures>

In order to support staff who may come across vulnerable adults who are self-neglecting, the DSAB have developed training courses to increase skills and knowledge. These courses can be accessed using the following link: <https://doncaster.learningpool.com/login/index.php>

Moving forwards the Board will be reviewing its policy for self-neglect and/or hoarding through support and challenge to deliver a more effective response.



Front Door

Safeguarding Adults Hub

The Safeguarding Adults Hub was created in April 2016 and brings together a range of agencies such as Social Workers, NHS Nursing Staff and trained Community Care Officers that are fully trained and competent in assessing and responding to safeguarding concerns. In addition, the Police are co-located within the same building providing a multi-agency safeguarding function.

The Safeguarding Adults Hub aims to embed the principles of Making Safeguarding Personal focusing on what the person wants from the beginning of the process and empowering adults at risk to achieve their outcomes.

During 2020/21 the Safeguarding Adults Hub received 1719 Safeguarding Concerns and 33% progressed to a section 42 enquiry. In 2019/20 36% of concerns progressed to a Section 42.

Adult H – Financial Abuse

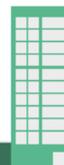
Adult H, known to learning disability services, was befriended by Adult D (also known to have learning disabilities) with whom he started a relationship. D asked for H to take contracts out on a mobile phone, a watch, and a tablet, which D signed for stating that she was a carer for H to purchase the items. H also told his support worker at the Centre that D has access to his bank card and that he has given consent for her to use it. Various agencies were aware of the victim's vulnerability as H was exposed to financial exploitation previously.

The support worker at the Centre told D that she was contacting the police regarding the dispute and D then said that she would accuse H of rape. A safeguarding adults concern was raised in relation to financial abuse.

The Safeguarding Adults Hub contacted the support worker to gain her view of any concerns she may have before speaking to H. The Support Worker confirmed that H follows a pattern of giving his bank details to his girlfriends. She confirmed that she has managed to support him to have the phone contracts stopped. The Safeguarding Adults Hub arranged to meet with H at the centre to chat about his finances. The Support Worker believed this was a good idea as his mum died last year and she helped H look after his finances.

H admits that due to his learning difficulty he is unable to 'read what people are really like'. H confirmed that he would in the future speak to someone he trusts such as his brother, the Support Worker, the Community Care Officer from the Hub, or someone from the centre. The support worker confirmed that H tends to give his bank card to new girlfriends, according to the Support Worker 'he follows a pattern'. The Support Worker is happy to 'vet' and advise H if he should meet another girlfriend. H has since parted from D and the police enquiries continue.

Through the conversation with the Community Care Officer, H now understands the dangers of giving his bank card to other people and understands that if he is unsure how to make an online transaction, he should ask for help from someone he trusts as named above. H understands the dangers of giving out the PIN of his bank cards to other people, and that he should seek advice from someone he trusts if he is worried. The Support Worker has supported H with making phone calls and cancelling contracts with phone providers. They have managed to gain some of the monies back from the providers.



Proportionality is key when responding to safeguarding situations. The Hub identifies the most appropriate and proportionate response alongside the adult at risk or their representative often signposting to other services or processes where the adult's desired outcomes will be better dealt with. The Hub empowers adults at risk to improve their lives as it puts service users and their families in the driving seat of the process and enables people to address concerns with the support of statutory services. It is a haven where people can access non-judgemental advice and support from professionals during some of the worst times of their lives, but in a proportionate way, at the service user's pace.

Throughout 2020/21 the Safeguarding Adults Hub asked **482** adults at risk what they wanted at the end of the safeguarding enquiry and in **424** of these cases the adult's outcomes were either fully or partially achieved.

482 Adults were asked what they wanted



424 Outcomes fully or partially met



Making Safeguarding Personal in Doncaster

The Board continues to seek assurance that practice in Doncaster is in line with Making Safeguarding Personal and is outcome focused. The Board has continued to seek assurance through the DSAB Performance framework.

Moving forwards we will

- Ensure that LGA / ADASS guidance for referrers on identifying safeguarding concerns, and the framework for decision making on S42 enquiries, are fully embedded in multi-agency safeguarding practice
- Review practice ensuring that Making Safeguarding Personal is embedded in all agencies, and that the voice of the service user is heard, listened to and acted upon in all of the Board's work and all adult safeguarding adult activity
- Continue to review and develop processes and practice to ensure that all safeguarding referrals receive a timely, proportionate, and appropriate response.

Refer to back page for details of how to report a safeguarding adults concern



Raising Awareness

Safeguarding Awareness Week held 16th to 20th November 2020

The Safeguarding Awareness Week is an opportunity for services to showcase how services safeguard people. For this year a number of virtual events took place over the week. We saw an increase in involvement from agencies with over 40 organisations taking part. The start of the week began with the Celebrating Safeguarding Awards for those individuals, groups and organisations that have supported people locally. The pandemic has shown community resilience and the importance of working in partnership. This was reflected in the awards received, from voluntary groups that have delivered food parcels to the most vulnerable to young volunteers who have raised awareness of safeguarding. Nationally we have seen an increase in domestic abuse cases. South Yorkshire Police wanted to recognise the hard work of the Domestic Abuse Hub for responding to an increase in demand and very complex cases.

Throughout the week sessions were held on online grooming, domestic abuse, child exploitation and transitions, mental health and wellbeing.

There was greater emphasis on social media, with a campaign running throughout the week. Agencies reported an increase in access to their social media platforms.

Keeping Safe

Community Event 2021

Held over 4 days from 15th to 18th February 2021, this followed a particular theme and used online platforms to deliver sessions. These included Mental Health Through the Ages, Staying Safe Online, Abuse and Covid, and Safeguarding is Everyone's Business.

Partner organisations held drop in sessions, creative writing workshops, wellbeing sessions and information videos throughout the week.

As the event was delivered differently to the traditional large event held at Keepmoat Stadium in Doncaster it proved successful by providing different platforms for people to access. Partners also worked well together to ensure that messages were delivered via social media with a good response from people taking part, in particular the Young People's Voice group who delivered a virtual training course on Safeguarding.



Keeping Your Community Safe

EMPOWERMENT
Standing up to make a change

PREVENTION
Take Action before harm happens

PROPORTIONALITY
Decide what the appropriate precautions are to take

PROTECTION
Keep yourself and others safe



PARTNERSHIP
Working together

ACCOUNTABILITY
See something, say something

Who?

Anyone can be abused. Adults and children.

Where?

Abuse can happen anywhere, anytime.

What?

There are different types of abuse.



Abuse can be:

Domestic Abuse
When you are hurt, bullied or frightened by a family member or someone you are in a relationship with.

Financial and Material Abuse
When someone takes your money or things when you don't want them to. This could be at home, at work or in the street.

Discriminatory Abuse
When you are treated less fairly by someone because you are different to them.

Physical Abuse
When someone hurts your body.

Hate Crime
When someone targets you because they think you are different.

Psychological and Emotional Abuse
When someone upsets or scares you.

Self Neglect
When you don't look after yourself such as not keeping clean or not eating properly.

Neglect
When your emotional needs are not met or someone could not provide for their emotional needs.

Exploitation
Exploitation is the deliberate maltreatment, manipulation or abuse of power and control over another person.
Child Criminal Exploitation - is child abuse where children and young people are manipulated and coerced into committing crimes.
Child Sexual Exploitation - when a child or young person is exploited they're given gifts, drugs, money and affection in exchange for performing sexual activities - often tricked into believing that they are in a relationship, this is called grooming. They are not in a relationship, it is abuse.

Sexual Abuse
Sexual abuse is not always about touch. To be asked to do something of a sexual nature that make you feel uncomfortable.

See Something : Say Something
Report:
Adults: 01302 737391
Children: 01302 737777
Out of hours: 01302 796000

These are just some of the safeguarding examples you may come across in your community.

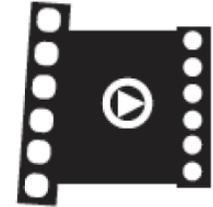


Adult referral



Child referral

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care/safeguarding-adults-contents-gazet>



Keeping Safe: How to help adults at risk of abuse

If you see something, say something

Don't be afraid to SPEAK out

Everybody deserves safety

Safeguarding Adults

Keeping Safe: How to help adults at risk of abuse

Who?
An adult at risk is someone who may be in need of help because of disability, age, or illness, and is unable to take care of themselves or stop someone else from harming or exploiting them.

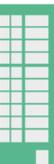
Where?
It can happen anywhere:
• Your home
• Carer's home
• Day centre
• Care/nursing home
• Hospital
• At work
• In the community

If you see something, say something

Don't be afraid to SPEAK out

Everybody deserves safety

Safeguarding Adults



Safeguarding Adult Reviews

Section 44 of the Care Act 2014 places a duty on Safeguarding Adults Boards to arrange for a review of any case in which an adult with care and support needs has experienced serious abuse or neglect, and there is 'reasonable cause for concern' about how agencies worked together to safeguard the adult. The Board may also arrange a review of any other case involving an adult with care and support needs, in which the statutory criteria which require a Safeguarding Adults Review are not met. Traditionally in Doncaster these 'discretionary' reviews have been described as Lessons Learned Reviews rather than Safeguarding Adults Reviews. In future, however, any case review commissioned by the Safeguarding Adults Board will be recognised as a Safeguarding Adults Review.

The Board completed one Lessons Learned Review in 2020/21 – the case of Adult D. The Board decided not to publish the report, in order to protect his and his family's identity. Adult D has extremely complex needs, with diagnosed elements of autism, personality disorder, and hypomania. He has a history of physical and sexual assaults and voyeurism. Between 2008 and 2019 he experienced eight different residential placements, all of which were ended as a result of his aggressiveness and sexualised behaviour towards women. The review highlighted the enormous difficulties the health and social care system faced in seeking to meet such complex needs, exacerbated by issues such as the lack of appropriate specialist services and pathways, on occasion poor discharge planning and information sharing, the lack of a single agency having oversight of Adult D's care and support needs, high thresholds for accessing mental health services, and difficulties in such a volatile and constantly changing situation of establishing and maintaining consistent consultant level oversight of his mental health and medication needs. However the review also identified positive steps that had been taken as a result of the learning generated: for example, the appointment of an Autism Nurse specialist within community health services to work on complex autistic spectrum disorder cases, and the creation of a Forensic Outreach Liaison team working both with people leaving secure settings and stepping down to community placements, and with people already in the community to prevent their relapse to hospital. A substantial amount of staff briefing and training has also taken place across agencies to disseminate the arising from this review.



Three Safeguarding Adults Reviews were ongoing at the end of the year, and will be completed in 2021/22.

Adult F After not being seen for several days, Adult F was found deceased in the bungalow in which he lived in December 2019. He was 51 years old. He had sustained injuries consistent with an assault and four males were later charged with his murder. Three of these males were later convicted of his murder or manslaughter. Some of these males were also involved in a previously reported Hate Crime during which Adult F, who was gay, received abuse relating to his sexual orientation. During the months prior to his death, Adult F was in contact with a range of agencies as concerns escalated about his physical and mental health. Adult F was a heavy drinker with mobility problems arising from earlier strokes who had sustained serious injuries after repeatedly falling in the street.

Adult P was a 67 year old man who died in January 2019. The cause of death was pneumonia and ischaemic heart disease. A number of agencies had increasing contact with Adult P in the last few months before his death. Concerns had been raised about his poor nutrition and personal presentation both in public places and at his home when answering his door. His living conditions were also unhygienic, posed heightened fire risk, and were generally deteriorating. The review will consider lessons to be learned from the case to improve the multi-agency response to the immensely challenging issue of self-neglect.

Adult V was a 22 year old woman, who had been in care until her eighteenth birthday. She had a one year old child who was subject to a supervision order to the local authority. She died in April 2020 in circumstances indicating chronic difficulties in self-care potentially amounting to self-neglect.



Our Priorities for 2021/22

Moving forwards

The Board held its annual away day in September 2021 to reflect and refresh its focus on a long-term direction for the Board in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014. The findings from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and safeguarding adults' performance data were considered and used to influence the strategic priorities. This work has culminated into a DSAB Business Plan 2021/22 as detailed below.

Strategic Priority	To deliver this priority, we will:	Lead Person	Milestones	What will success look like
<p>1. Ensure that LGA / ADASS guidance is fully embedded in multi-agency safeguarding practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Understanding what constitutes a Safeguarding Concern (2020) https://www.local.gov.uk/publications/understanding-what-constitutes-safeguarding-concern-and-how-support-effective-outcomes Making decisions on the duty to carry out Safeguarding Adult enquiries (2019) https://www.local.gov.uk/making-decisions-duty-carry-out-safeguarding-adults-enquiries 	<p>a) Engage with practitioners and referrers to ensure a full understanding of the frameworks</p> <p>b) Audit application of the S42 decision making framework in adult social care</p> <p>c) Review policies, procedures and guidance as required</p> <p>d) Commission and roll out training to support the priority as required</p>	<p>a) Angela Waite</p> <p>b) Ashton Wynter</p> <p>c) Safeguarding Business Unit</p> <p>d) Safeguarding Business Unit</p>	<p>a) Report to DSAB October 2021</p> <p>b) Report to Quality Subgroup Nov. 2021</p> <p>c) Revisions identified and completed by December 2021</p> <p>d) Initial training programme completed by 31.3.22</p>	<p>All partners fully understand when a safeguarding concern should be raised, and have disseminated that understanding throughout their agency</p> <p>The Board is assured that decision making on the duty to carry out a safeguarding adults enquiry is fully consistent with the ADASS framework</p> <p>If the S42 duty is not met, there are effective arrangements in place to ensure an appropriate alternative response</p>



<p>3. To fully embed Making Safeguarding Personal by ensuring that the voice of the service user is heard, listened to and acted upon in all of the Board's work and all adult safeguarding adult activity</p>	<p>a) Develop and pilot a service user engagement project, co-produced with practitioners, users and community groups</p> <p>b) All agencies to review safeguarding adults' procedure and practice to ensure that Making Safeguarding Personal is at the centre of all activity</p>	<p>a) Andrew Goodall</p> <p>b) Louise Bertman</p>	<p>a) Proposals to Board October 2021 Pilot completed and reported to Board by 31.3.22</p> <p>b) Ongoing</p>	<p>The Board will be able to evidence in its Annual Report 2021/22 the impact of the service user's voice</p> <p>Performance on recording and achieving service users' desired outcomes exceeds national and regional benchmarks</p>
<p>4. To ensure the embedding, dissemination, and evaluation of learning from the full range of quality assurance activity</p>	<p>a) Streamline the reporting of performance data to DSAB, ensuring areas for improvement clearly identified</p> <p>b) Establish programme of quarterly multi-agency audits of the effectiveness of multi-agency frontline practice</p>	<p>Policy, Insight and Change Team</p> <p>Ashton Wynter</p>	<p>a) Revised reporting in place from October 2021</p> <p>b) Audit programme in place from Quarter 2 2021/22</p>	<p>The DSAB can evidence that it has a clear line of sight into frontline practice</p> <p>There is evidence of continuing improvement as an outcome of performance monitoring, audit, and engagement activity.</p> <p>Practitioners confirm that they feel their voice is consistently heard,</p>



	<p>c) Receive annual reports from all safeguarding partners on single-agency audit activity undertaken, outcomes, and action taken.</p> <p>d) Engage with and learn from frontline practitioners in order to disseminate and embed learning from audit and case review activity.</p>	<p>Safeguarding Business Unit</p> <p>Safeguarding Business Unit</p>	<p>c) Reporting cycle established from October 2021 onwards</p> <p>d) First Practitioner Conference held October 2021</p>	<p>listened to, and acted on by the DSAB</p>
<p>5. To ensure that adults with care and support needs who experience domestic abuse, and who are unable to protect themselves against abuse due to their care and support needs, are effectively supported and safeguarded.</p>	<p>Work with Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership to ensure that the strategy and service development has clear focus on the adult safeguarding dimension of domestic abuse.</p>	<p>Safeguarding Business Unit</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>	<p>The Board is assured adults with safeguarding needs are effectively supported and protected</p>
<p>6. To ensure that multi-agency policies and procedures are kept under review, commissioning any work required as a consequence, and effectively scrutinising proposed new multi-agency policies and procedures.</p>	<p>Review all existing DSCP policies and procedures, and agree schedule for any necessary revision</p>	<p>Safeguarding Business Unit</p>	<p>Ongoing and completed by 31.3.22</p>	<p>The Board is assured that multi-agency safeguarding policies and procedures are comprehensive, up to date, and regularly reviewed</p>



Mental Capacity Act

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards

Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards are applied if a person who lacks the mental capacity to consent or otherwise to the arrangements is deprived of their liberty in a hospital or care home (i.e. they are subject to continuous control and supervision, and are not free to leave) other than under the Mental Health Act. The Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards require that this must be authorised by the local authority. In some circumstances the safeguards can also apply to care provided in a person's own home, or in a supported living situation. For these cases the final authority rests with the Court of Protection.

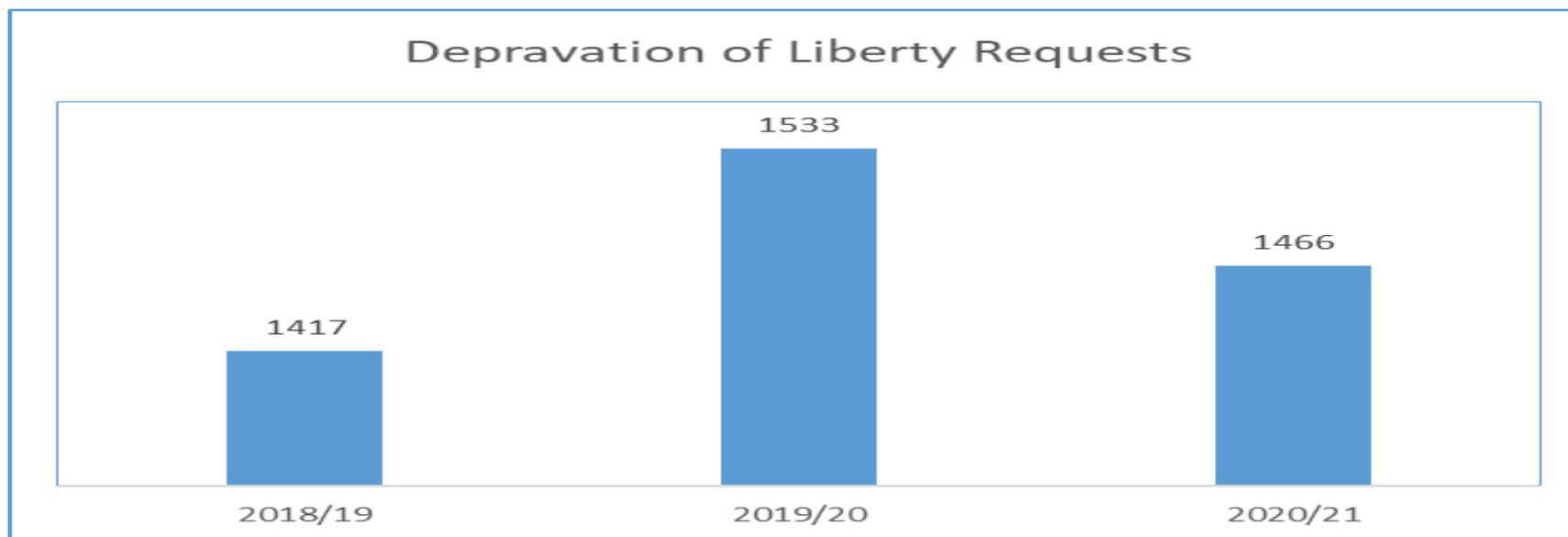
The Mental Capacity Act 2005 and subsequent Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 2007 came into force from April 2009. On 19th March 2014 the interpretation of the law by the Supreme Court changed, which has had a dramatic impact on Councils nationally due to a significant increase in Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard authorisation requests with no additional resources nationally identified to meet the increased demand.

The safeguards are there to ensure:

- A deprivation of liberty is a last resort
- Their care and treatment is in their best interest and least restrictive
- They have someone appointed to represent them
- The person is given the right of appeal
- The arrangements are reviewed and not continued for longer than necessary

Over the period of April 2020 to end of March 2021 there were 1466 authorisations requested to deprive individuals of their liberty.





In response DMBC have continued to target resources to deal with the significant number of DoLS requests. The Doncaster MCA / DoLS Team provides a single point of contact for organisations, professionals and the public in relation to Deprivation of Liberty issues. For further information visit <http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/services/adult-social-care/raising-concerns> or email dols@doncaster.gov.uk

Liberty Protection Safeguards

Under the Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019, the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards will be replaced by the Liberty Protection Safeguards. This will relieve some of the pressure on local authorities, as under the LPS hospital managers will be able to authorise applications. However, there have been very significant delays at central government level in the necessary preparations for the implementation of LPS, even before the pandemic, and there has recently been a further deferment of the revised target date of April 2022. However regional planning meetings have recommenced (with CCG, DBTH, RDASH, DCST), with a focus on plans internally within adult social care.

The LGA and ADASS have presented the following Regional Implementation Support Programme:

- Part 1: Development of materials for Best Interest Assessor (BIA) to Approved Mental Capacity Professional (AMCP) conversion training



- Part 2: Regional support for Adult Services to implement the Liberty Protection Safeguards from 2022/3
- Part 3: Regional support for Children's Services to implement the Liberty Protection Safeguards from 2022/3
- Part 4: Cross-Sectoral co-ordination for the place-based implementation of Liberty Protection Safeguards from 2022/3

Separate regional arrangements are being developed for the NHS.

Monitoring Themes and Trends

Safeguarding Adults Activity 2020/21

There has been a 23% decrease in referrals for this reporting year mainly due to the impact of Covid-19. Face to face contact was restricted during the first few months of the pandemic from some agencies. With the increase in coronavirus cases many Care Home Providers were overwhelmed with the impact on residents and staff and this resulted in capacity and resource issues. The following tables give a representation of the gender, age, types of abuse and ethnicity of enquiries received.

Measure	2019-20	2020-21
Safeguarding Concerns	2225	1719
Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries	795	561
Other Enquiries	230	156



Counts of Individuals by Gender	Male	Female	Not Known	Total
Individuals Involved In Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries	211	281	24	516

Counts of Individuals by Age Band	18-64	65-74	75-84	85-94	95+	Not Known	Total
Individuals Involved In Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiries	196	65	105	134	16	0	516

Counts of Enquiries by Type of Risk	
	Total Section 42
Physical Abuse	135
Sexual Abuse	25
Psychological Abuse	129
Financial or Material Abuse	158
Discriminatory Abuse	0
Organisational Abuse	24
Neglect and Acts of Omission	281
Domestic Abuse	25
Sexual Exploitation	4
Modern Slavery	0



Self-Neglect

51

Counts of Individuals by Ethnicity	White	Mixed / Multiple	Asian / Asian British	Black / African / Caribbean / Black British	Other Ethnic Group	Refused	Undeclared / Not Known	Total
Individuals Involved In Safeguarding Concerns	1154	1	9	7	0	0	203	1374

Counts of Enquiries by Location and Source of Risk

Own Home	278
In the community (excluding community services)	10
In a community service	11
Care Home - Nursing	37
Care Home - Residential	123
Hospital - Acute	4
Hospital - Mental Health	37
Hospital - Community	1
Other	72



Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Learning and Development

Multi-Agency training was disrupted at the beginning of the year as a consequence of the Covid 19 pandemic resulting in many courses cancelled. However, courses were reviewed and adapted to be delivered via a virtual platform which commenced in September 2020 offering a suite of training across adult services.

Below are attendance figures for 2020/21 for all Safeguarding Adults, MCA and DOLS courses.

Safeguarding Adults Courses Overall attendance	DMBC	Independent/Voluntary	NHS/RDaSH	SYP & Fire Service
Undertaking S.42 Enquiries VIRTUAL TRAINING	7	0	20	3
Safeguarding Adults – Basic Awareness and Reporting a Concern - VIRTUAL TRAINING	11	6	17	1
Self-Neglect and Hoarding – VIRTUAL TRAINING	12	0	13	0
Total 2020/21	30	6	50	4
Total 2019/20	212	159	18	12

MCA/DOLS Courses Overall attendance	DMBC	Independent/Voluntary	NHS/RDaSH	CCG
Assessing Capacity and Best Interest Decision Making (includes complex decision making) – VIRTUAL TRAINING	3	7	3	0
Introduction to DOLS – VIRTUAL TRAINING	6	4	1	0
Mental Capacity Act – Basic Awareness VIRTUAL TRAINING	15	3	1	0
Mental Capacity and Covid-19 – Principles Practice and Practical Approaches VIRTUAL TRAINING	55	0	0	0
Total 2020/21	79	14	5	0
Total 2019/20	125	96	2	0

In addition to the above training, partners also deliver single agency training on Safeguarding Adults.

Funding

Partner Agency Contributions for 2020/21	
DMBC – (Adult Social Care)	£124,250
CCG (including funding of Independent Chair)	£107,667
SY Police Crime Commissioner (Shared across children and adults)	£30,959
Total income	£262,876
Total Spend	£177,116
Total underspend	£85,760



To report a safeguarding adult concern

Adult Services Social Care - If you have any concerns about the welfare or safety of an adult you can report it online here:

<https://www.doncaster.gov.uk/doitonline/reporting-a-safeguarding-concern>

For general information, advice and guidance about safeguarding adults call the Safeguarding Adults Hub on 01302 737063

Emergency out of hours: 01302 796000

SMS/Text Number (for people from the deaf community): 0797 903 1116

Police: Non emergency 101 | Emergency 999

Police non-emergency SMS 07786 220022

Care Quality Commission (CQC): 03000 616161



“If you see something, say something”