Welcome to the fourth edition of the County Durham Safeguarding Adults Inter-Agency Partnership Board’s newsletter.

County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service

As a fire and rescue service we are dedicated to the protection and support of our local community. One element of the service we provide is the delivery of Safe and Wellbeing visits which expanded on our home fire safety advice to include a wellbeing assessment, with referrals being made where necessary to relevant partner agencies who can offer additional specialist support.

To ensure this is effective in reducing risk in the community, we use a range of information to identify residents who may be vulnerable or at greater risk and target our resources to support them, which results in our crews interacting with people who have social care and safeguarding needs.

Being invited to join the County Durham Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) in May 2016 has greatly assisted me in enhancing the Service’s provision in relation to safeguarding. I have reviewed our internal policy and procedures to ensure compliance with the Care Act and Mental Capacity Act, and the training provided by the SAB has improved the knowledge and skills of our staff. I am committed to continue our work with the SAB to ensure that those members of our community with safeguarding needs are supported and we make every contact count. If anyone would like further information on the range of services and support we can offer or further advice, please see our website at www.ddfire.gov.uk or contact community safety enquiries on 0845 2234221.

Area Manager Keith Wanley
Head of Community Risk Management

Mark Henderson - County Durham & Darlington Fire and Rescue Service
Financial Abuse Event

The Board in its development session of March 2017 agreed that its annual event for 2017-2018 would focus upon Financial Abuse and raising awareness of a range of financial abuse issues, inclusive of scams.

The Safeguarding Adults Board has strong links with the Safe Durham Partnership who have been raising awareness of Cybercrime. Section 42(3) of the Care Act 2014 clearly states that abuse includes financial abuse; and for that purpose “financial abuse” includes –

£ having money or other property stolen,
£ being defrauded,
£ being put under pressure in relation to money or other property,
£ having money or other property misused

“Statutory Guidance to support Local Authorities implement the Care Act 2014” recognises that trading standards have a valuable contribution to make in ensuring adults are safeguarded. This includes internet scams, postal scams and doorstep crime.

There is a growth in the number of scams being developed, adults who are targeted and technology that makes these difficult to detect.

The event planned for 31st October will cover financial abuse related issues with a range of speakers. This is supportive of statutory guidance and fosters a whole partnership approach. Further information and booking details will follow so watch this space.

Access to Free E-learning: https://www.friendsagainstscams.org.uk/

National Scams Awareness Month ran throughout July, you can follow the link to download posters.

To support the lead up to the SAB event and the work of Trading Standards, please cascade/display within your agency.

Citizen’s Advice Campaign Poster

Should you have any queries relating to National Scams, please contact: Adele.appleby@durham.gov.uk
The Care and Support Statutory guidance informs that Modern Slavery encompasses
- slavery
- human trafficking
- forced labour and domestic servitude.
- traffickers and slave masters using whatever means they have at their disposal to coerce, deceive and force individuals into a life of abuse, servitude and inhumane treatment.

WOULD YOU BE ABLE TO SPOT THE SIGNS?
Modern slavery victims can be subject to different forms of abuse and slavery, they could be sold to other traffickers, and forced into other forms of exploitation.

Modern slavery is a serious crime. Section 52 of the Modern Slavery Act 2015 places a duty upon public authorities to make notifications about suspected victims of modern slavery or human trafficking.

WOULD YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?
The National Referral Mechanism is a victim identification and support process which is designed to make it easier for all the different agencies that could be involved in a trafficking case. You can find out more at the Modern Slavery Helpline.

WORKING IN PARTNERSHIP
Organisations need to work together to raise awareness and ensure victims of slavery, trafficking and exploitation are protected.

Durham SAB would like to give recognition to Newcastle Safeguarding Adults Board who extended invites region wide in June 2017 for other SABs and partners to attend a Modern Slavery event organised by Northumbria Police. The event was well received with Hope for Justice pleased that Newcastle were considering the ongoing needs of the victims of modern day slavery, representatives across the region expressed thanks to Newcastle City Council and their SAB highlighted this issue, and found the event and information useful to consider their own local responses. The event was an opportunity to raise awareness of modern slavery and related issues, and to learn from their experiences of modern slavery cases.

Information for victims is available in 11 languages.
Collaborative Working Protocol

It is essential that collaborative working and good information sharing is established and embedded throughout agencies, at all levels. This promotes effective practice of front-line staff across the wider workforce.

This protocol provides the framework for collaborative working and calls for a positive approach from services and agencies to work together to protect vulnerable adults, young people and children.

This protocol is applicable to all members of the Board, the independent, voluntary and community sector services and organisations working with vulnerable adults, young people and children.

You Can Access the Protocol on the Safeguarding Website HERE
It is vitally important to us that our communications remain as current and user friendly as possible. We will shortly be embarking on a refresh of our website, improving its structure to support users to find what they are looking for, we will be bringing a fresher look to the site to improve our customers’ overall experience. To help us to do this we have set up a short survey which will allow you to have your say in what we do to improve our site for the future. This short survey can be accessed via our website by following this link [http://www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info/article/8393/About-us](http://www.safeguardingdurhamadults.info/article/8393/About-us).

**Watch this space to keep up to date on the improvements to our website**

This survey is aimed at all organisations, staff, volunteers and the public. We want you to have to your say about how our website works and looks in the future. We welcome your feedback and look forward to finding out what would improve your experience of visiting our website.

The survey contains just 6 questions and should only take a few moments to complete.

We can also send you this survey by post if you would prefer, please contact us on 03000 268870.
Patient Congress

Event

As part of NHS North Durham Clinical Commissioning Groups continuing efforts to inform and engage local people and patients in discussions about your services they will be holding their next ‘Patient Congress’ event on Thursday 19 October, 1-3pm at Bowburn Community Centre. This is an open public event. At the event there will be presentations and discussions directly with staff involved in the planning of healthcare services for Durham.

At this event the main focus will be in relation to Mental Health services and will include updates from a local Mental Health service provider as well as commissioners on recent developments.

If you are interested in attending please do let us know through one of the methods here

By phone 0191 389 8617
By email d.blagdon@nhs.net
Online oct2017-patientcongress.eventbrite.co.uk/

If you are involved with a local group, organisation or service that would be interested in having a ‘stall’ at the event to promote what you are doing with people that attend then please do get in touch too. Places for this will be limited so please get in touch as early as possible if interested.
**SEND (Special Education Needs and Disabilities) e-learning**

For staff in Durham working with both adults and children or who need to consider the family situation of the adult they work with two new e-learning courses are available.

The SEND reforms set out in the Children and Families Act (2014) are the biggest reforms in meeting the needs of children and young people with special education needs and disabilities for over 30 years. This training will provide staff with information on these reforms and how to put them into practice.

Follow the link or go onto the safeguarding adults website training page for more information:


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**Train the Trainer**

Some of you may have taken part in the survey that was publicised in December to gauge the interest in a train the trainer programme for Level 1 training. Due to the positive response, train the trainer is being explored for rollout in Winter 2017. Watch this space for further information.

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**Training Annual Report**

The 2016-17 SAB Training Annual Report is now available on the Safeguarding Website. The report demonstrates the results of the improvements made to the range and quality of training offered in the past year, by the SAB and its partner agencies.

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**Training Strategy**

The new safeguarding adults training strategy is accessible via the website. It outlines the training opportunities for safeguarding adults for the period 2017/2018. Links to the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Communication and Training subgroup priorities are detailed in the strategy. The strategy also gives information on competency requirements for safeguarding adults and a link to the training programme.