

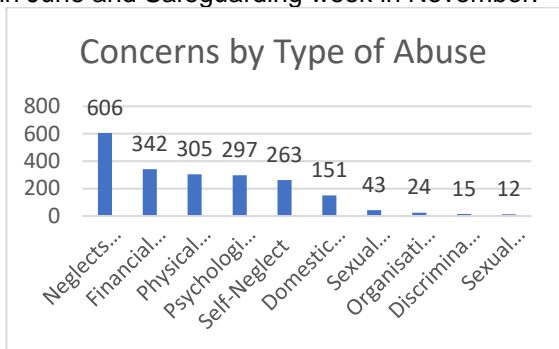


# Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board Summary Annual Report 2020-21

The Safeguarding Adults Board ['BSAB'] is a partnership of voluntary, statutory and community organisations. Our vision is for all 'adults at risk',<sup>1</sup> in Barnet to be safeguarded from abuse and neglect in a way that supports them to make choices and have control about how they want to live safely.

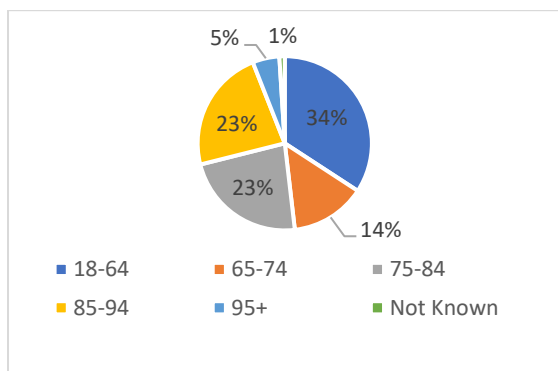
**Safeguarding activity in Barnet in 20-21** There was a 3% increase in activity with 1794 safeguarding decisions completed. Initially in Barnet (as nationally) referrals reduced during the first lockdown in March, but overall safeguarding activity was increased both in numbers of cases and in the **complexity** of safeguarding enquiries

**Concerns by types of abuse** Again, in common with findings from national data, there was a rise in concerns regarding domestic abuse, self-neglect and psychological abuse (compared with 2019). This provided a focus on public consultations and awareness sessions to highlight new powers under the Domestic Abuse Act 2020 and inform the issues discussed in on-line community engagement events during Carers week in June and Safeguarding week in November.



**Concerns by Gender** 60% of concerns related to female adults at risk, 38% referred were male (2% gender was not recorded). This is a similar pattern to 2019-20 and is largely in line with national statistics.

### Concerns by age

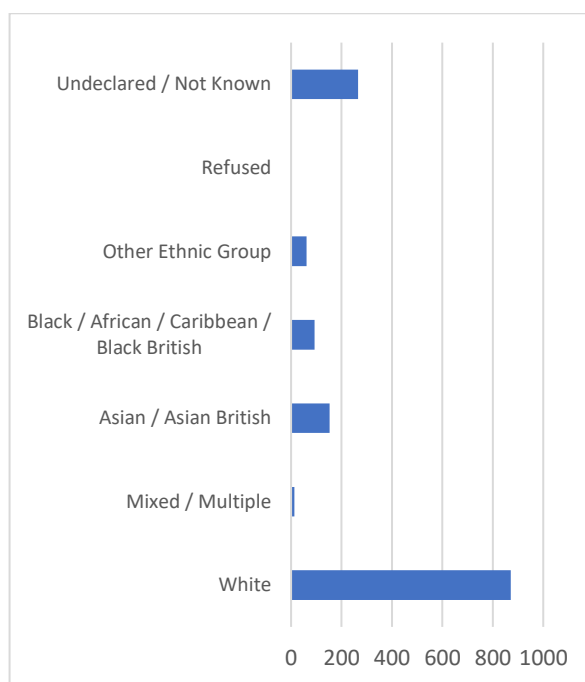


### Source of Referral for Concerns

Source of Referral	Total	%
Health staff	457	27%
Social care staff	360	21%
Police	233	14%
Anonymous	162	10%
Family, friends, neighbours	142	8.4%
Self-referrals	28	2%






Safeguarding concerns are most often raised by police, health and social care staff. This is because of the high level of safeguarding training across that workforce, but also because of the professional responsibility to recognise and report safeguarding concerns. This year we have seen a welcome rise in reporting from family, neighbours, friends and from those wishing to remain anonymous as more people come into contact with adults at risk during the pandemic.

**Concerns by Ethnicity** Whilst data suggests more people from our diverse communities know how to report abuse, we know we still need to do more to build confidence and to ensure that partners record ethnicity, so that from the beginning of discussions we are considering the adult at risk's needs in a culturally sensitive manner.



<sup>1</sup> Defined by s42 Care Act 2014 as adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse or neglect and unable to protect themselves

## How BSAB partners worked together to respond to these concerns and address our work priorities

	<p><b>BSAB partnership response to Covid-19 pandemic</b></p> <p>Throughout 2020-21 partners provided regular assurance reports to the BSAB about the work they were doing within their own organisation and collectively to anticipate new risks that emerged due to Covid-19, mitigate the risks associated with the changing nature of how support was provided and manage safeguarding duties as 'business as usual' given the exceptional pressures across the health, social care and criminal justice workforce.</p>
	<p><b>Learning lessons through local &amp; national safeguarding adult reviews</b></p> <p>In 2020-21 the CRG commissioned 2 review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gabrielle- exploring lessons arising from the refusal by family members to the provision of health care worried about the risk of cross infection from Covid-19</li> <li>• Thematic review- supporting learning disabled adults at risk from hoarding behaviours and not accessing health checks</li> </ul> <p>Both reports are available on the website and details of what steps have been taken to implement recommendations are within the Annual Report</p>
	<p><b>Establish consistent practice across partnership agencies which reflect the 'Making Safeguarding Personal' principles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PQA heard from each partner agency on the steps they have taken to embed MSP within their organisation.</li> <li>• Worked with the Voluntary, faith and community sector organisations to produce a guide 'Making Safeguarding Personal- Steps to success'</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Ensure 'adults at risk' are heard and understood and their experiences and views shape continuous improvement</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BSAB amended constitution to enable an 'expert by experience' to act as vice co-chair alongside our voluntary sector rep.</li> <li>• Ensure every action within the work plan details how experts by experience will be involved in shaping improvements.</li> <li>• Our Board Manager worked with London SAB 'voices group' to develop job descriptions and publicity to enable the recruitment of experts by experience to our BSAB and SABs across London.</li> </ul>
	<p><b>Advance equality of opportunity, including access to justice for 'adults at risk'</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued to receive reports and data on the availability of appropriate adults services for adults with care and support needs in custody.</li> <li>• Championed hate crime reporting, sadly we saw an increase in racist hate crime against our Chinese community in the early months of the pandemic.</li> </ul>

### The BSAB is working towards making safeguarding everybody's business

If you wish to raise a safeguarding concern please call **020 8359 5000** text (SMS) **07506 693707** or email [socialcaredirect@barnet.Gov.Uk](mailto:socialcaredirect@barnet.Gov.Uk)

If the person has been seriously hurt or a crime has been committed, please contact the emergency services on **999**