



# Barnet Safeguarding Adults Board ['BSAB'] Work Plan for 2022-23

## Our values:

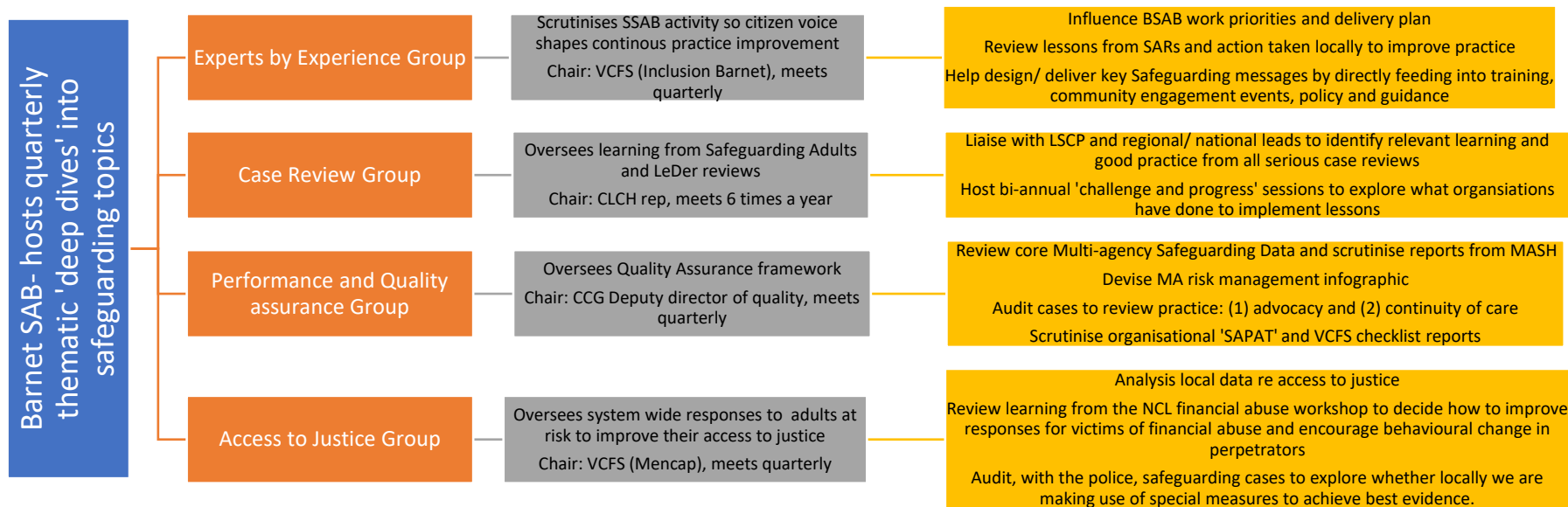
BSAB partners have reaffirmed their shared commitment to the strategic safeguarding adults priorities, namely:

- Priority 1: establishing consistent practice across the partnership which reflects the MSP principles
- Priority 2: adults at risk are heard and understood, their experiences and views shape continuous improvement
- Priority 3: advance equality of opportunity, including access to justice for 'Adults at Risk' in Barnet

The Board also wish to retain the current structure of sub-groups to enable practitioners across the statutory, voluntary and community sectors come together to build on the innovation and strong partnership collaboration so evident in the response during the Pandemic.

In recognition of the wide-ranging impact of the Pandemic and of further significant planned changes to legal duties (e.g. introduction of the liberty protection safeguards) and the way in which services will be delivered, (e.g. migration over to Integrated Care Systems) the BSAB have reviewed how sub-groups and the main meetings of the board will interact to complete key tasks to fulfil our joint statutory functions. That work will continue to be complemented by community engagement activities and multi-agency sector-led workshops so that we can demonstrate effective, proportionate safeguarding practice across our partner agencies.

## Our structure:



### **Our functions:**

BSAB has statutory obligations to build up an understanding of the prevalence of abuse and neglect locally, devise local policies to support effective multi-agency safeguarding practice, raise awareness and seek assurance from partners that local safeguarding practice acts to prevent abuse and, where this does occur, is responsive, proportionate and effective- keeping adults with care and support needs safe! We must also conduct reviews if an adult at risk has died or suffered serious harm when there are lessons to learn. BSAB partners are committed to carrying out these functions in collaboration with adults and their carers/ family who have experience abuse, exploitation or neglect and to demonstrating the impact of our work.

### **Our tasks for the year ahead:**

We have identified four safeguarding topics to provide a focus for the quarterly BSAB meetings, namely financial abuse, fire safety, multiple exclusion homelessness (incl. support to refugees/ NRPF) and modern slavery. These themes have been chosen because of national and local learning from safeguarding adults reviews or to take forward local strategic plans. Theming meetings in this way affords partners an opportunity to reflect on activities undertaken by their organisation to address systematic or persistent levels of harm experienced by adults at risk in Barnet. Agencies will be asked to provide assurance on the steps taken to implement policies, disseminate practice guidance and monitor service delivery to ensure we are working collectively to safeguard adults at risk in Barnet.

A key priority of the BSAB is to find new ways to reach out and listen to individuals and communities we work to protect. Throughout 2021-22 we were proud to recruit experts by experience who, having suffered harm, could help shape what we do and how we do it. We want to build on that success, to create a community of experts, supported by advocates and partners in the voluntary sector. We will be guided by the issues that matter to them at each of their quarterly meetings; we welcome the honest feedback and critical challenge they give, both to the BSAB work and the London Voices group.

We have also identified key areas of practice that will require specific audit activity, policy development or awareness raising activity. This work will be undertaken by our remaining sub-groups or in standalone sector-led practice improvement workshops to take forward our priority areas.

### **Establishing consistent practice across the partnership which reflects the MSP principles:**

- Designing an infographics to explain local safeguarding and risk management processes;
- Auditing the use of advocacy within safeguarding enquiries;
- Audit cases to explore any barriers to continuity of care at hospital/ service discharge or for adults with learning disabilities placed out of area;
- Scrutinise partner agencies safeguarding adults partnership self-assessment [SAPAT] to identify good practice, any remaining barriers to safeguarding and the value added by partnership approach;
- Provide support, through workshops and checklists, to smaller organisations operating in Barnet to evaluate their safeguarding practice;
- Run monthly webinars for all practitioners across voluntary, statutory and community organisations.



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### **Adults at risk are heard and understood, their experiences and views shape continuous improvement:**

- Working with colleagues at a regional and national level to support policy implementation for the Liberty Protection Safeguards and proposed Mental Health Act reforms;
- Publish practice guidance on working with families and carers to support best interest decision making.
- Publish vignettes of good safeguarding practice, incorporating the views of adults at risk, their carers and frontline staff.

### **Advance equality of opportunity, including access to justice for 'Adults at Risk' in Barnet**

- Alongside colleagues across North Central London, explore opportunities to identify and respond more effectively to financial abuse within familial or friendships/ peer relationships.
- Auditing the use of special measures within safeguarding enquiries and criminal investigations to ensure we 'achieve best evidence'.