

Social Care Health and Housing Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Annual Report 2008/09 and Central Bedfordshire
Council's approach to improvement

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Bedfordshire Safeguarding Inspection – May 2008



- Adequate with uncertain prospects

Current Delivery of Outcomes ↓	Capacity to improve à	Poor	Uncertain	Promising	Excellent
Performing Poorly		0	0	0	0
Performing Adequately		0	*	*	**
Performing Well		*	**	**	***
Performing Excellently		**	***	***	***



Inspection Findings – The Council should:

- Improve mental health governance
- Ensure consistency and timeliness
- Implemented plans for safeguarding champions
- Improve third sector training
- Continue to raise awareness, especially in BME groups
- Improve strategic leadership
- Operate a detailed work programme
- Establish Safeguarding Board Sub-groups
- Enhance performance management
- Develop a strategic framework for prevention
- Develop a workforce strategy



Incidence during 2008/09

- A significant increase in the number of reported incidents
- Highest volume comes from LD
- High proportion from a single establishment
- Numbers of alerts about Older People rising
- Physical abuse is the most common type
- Incidence of reported financial abuse rising
- Reporting among BME groups remains low
- Alleged perpetrator is paid carer in almost 50% of allegations

Other key issues in 2008/09



- Active police engagement, but low prosecution rate
- User survey (June 2008) – themes of information and communication
- Separate Board for Luton established
- Training, awareness raising and 2 conferences
- “Serious Concerns” Work with 11 separate provider organisations

Actions already taken by the unitaries



- Created new enlarged Safeguarding Teams
- Established a joint senior level Board and coherent links to the Local Strategic Partnership
- Created sub-groups to do the work
- Written a detailed improvement plan
- Strengthened training
- Made significant improvements to recording and monitoring (cleared a backlog of 794 cases of which about 55% related to CBC)



Actions already taken by the unitaries

- Initiated a review of procedures and policies
- Implemented the “Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards”
- Introduced new safeguarding leaflets
- Standardised safeguarding for Mental health and established a protocol with the MH Trust
- Implemented the new national data set
- Devised a concordat to ensure Safeguarding Board members take actions in their own organisations



For the (immediate) Future

– Slide 1

- Safeguarding Board training (26th September 2009)
- Member seminar (TBA)
- More training (3 levels) – monitored for take-up and against competences
- More awareness raising, including GPs, partners, BME groups
- Procedural review led by an ex CQC inspector
- More extensive performance monitoring
- Implementation of the vetting and barring arrangements (Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act 2006)



For the (immediate) Future

- Slide 2

- Inclusion of users and carers in the Board
- Reviewing protocols with Children's Safeguarding Community Safety and Domestic Violence partnerships
- Audit of the management of incidents
- Implement the Serious Concerns Protocol and Serious Case Review Procedure
- Introduce a more comprehensive prevention programme
- More work with the police – at the prevention and prosecution levels
- Monitoring compliance



Safeguarding Adults 'Everyone's Business'



**Central
Bedfordshire**