



# Strategic Plan 2021-2024

Prevention



Partnership



Collaboration Making Safeguarding Personal



Learning Together



### **Statutory objective**

The Care Act 2014 sets out that the overarching objective of a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in its area who:

- Have needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs); and
- Are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- As a result of those care and support needs are unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

### **Statutory requirements**

The Care Act 2014 sets out the Board's specific functions. One of these is that it **must publish a strategic plan for each financial year** that sets how it will meet its main objectives and what Board members will do to achieve these objectives. The plan must be developed with local community involvement, and the Board must consult the Local Healthwatch organisation. To give clear direction, and as reflected in the Board's Constitution, DBCP Safeguarding Adults Board has produced an overarching plan for the three years from **2021-2024**.

Each year, a Business Plan will be drawn up which sets out in more detail how the boards will meet the objectives of the three-year strategic plan over each twelve-month period.

### **Statutory guidance requirements**

The Care and Support Statutory Guidance gives more detail about how SABs should meet the requirements of the Care Act 2014. DBCP SAB Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures [Safeguarding Adults Procedures \(myzen.co.uk\)](https://myzen.co.uk) details how we will respond to safeguarding concerns and sets out how it will address these requirements:

- Develop preventative strategies that aim to reduce instances of abuse and neglect in its area
- Develop strategies to deal with the impact of issues of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and gender orientation, sexual orientation, age, disadvantage and disability on abuse and neglect
- Promote multi-agency training, seek assurance about the quality of partners' training in line with the DBCP SAB Training Strategy and consider any specialist training that may be required e.g., to consider any scope to jointly commission training with other partnerships, such as the Community Safety Partnership or to develop training in line with themes of learning emanating from Safeguarding Adult Reviews.

The DBCP SAB strategy also seeks to align itself more effectively with people and those with lived experience of safeguarding interventions, involving them in the Board's work. This will be achieved through the development of a Community Reference Group.

The strategy was developed by all DBCP Safeguarding Adults Board Partners in consultation with members of the Board's subgroups and has been developed by considering key strategic challenges being faced locally and nationally because of the Covid-19 Pandemic as well as safeguarding adult specific data and trends across the Pan-Dorset region.

The strategy sets out how we intend to achieve each of the key priorities (detailed below) and it will be the Boards' road map for the next three years. It follows on from a previous three-year strategic plan which concluded in March 2021. Some areas of work identified during the progression of this three-year plan have been incorporated into our new plan to ensure continued focus and development in these key areas.

The strategic plan will ensure everyone - Board Members, all professionals (especially those working on the front line of services), and the public are clear about what we want to do and how we can work together to make it happen.

We have reviewed the outcomes of the previous 3-year strategic plan and accompanying work plans and have incorporated some of these into this strategic plan to enable progress to be maintained.

### **The impact of Covid-19:**

The Covid pandemic has had a significant impact on all members of the community, Board partners and service providers. The Board held an exceptional meeting in November 2021 to consider the impact of Covid 19 on adult safeguarding, the care market and challenges deriving from the pandemic for partners.

The Coronavirus Act 2020 did not affect duties to safeguard adults at risk as laid out in the Care Act 2014. However, partner agencies have had to quickly adapt to a changing landscape which has created new challenges in safeguarding adults with care and support needs. The Board Quality Assurance subgroup holds responsibility for reviewing the analysis of safeguarding data collected by both local authorities for the Safeguarding Adults Collection (SAC) as well as health and police related data to ensure there is full understanding of the volume of safeguarding activity and the outcomes of section 42.2 enquiries. This remains core business and we will continue to work with our partners to encourage greater depth of analysis and understanding to ensure a Making Safeguarding Personal approach is always adhered to despite the challenges we currently face across the system.

Whilst it is important to acknowledge the impact of Covid-19, our intention is to maintain focus on safeguarding adults and seek to learn and move forward in order to improve the experiences of those accessing our services, to support them to achieve their identified desired outcomes and remain safe. The Board will continue to have a statutory duty to seek assurance that local arrangements and risk assessments respond effectively to safeguarding concerns and the impact of other significant events which affect concerns reported and responses to them. These discussions have been reflected in the final version of our strategic plan, detailed below.

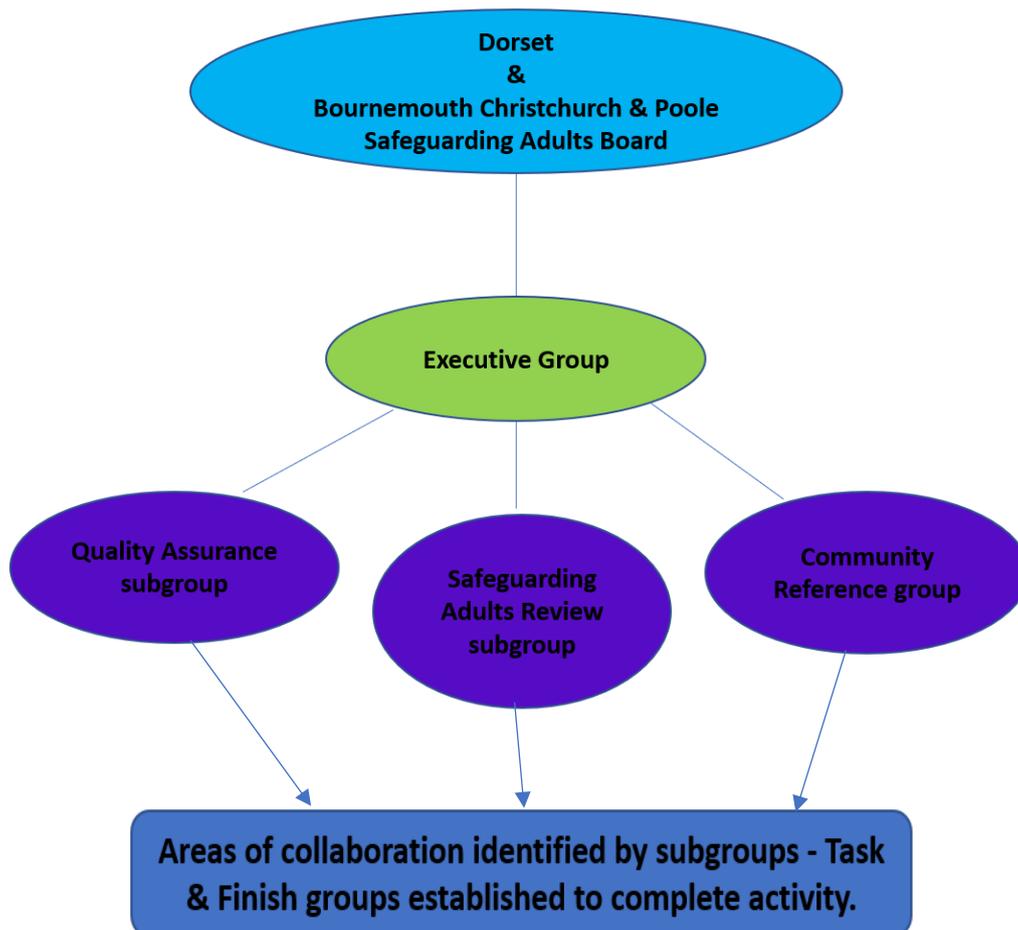
**Our mission**

The Board brings together all public sector and voluntary/ community sector agencies across Dorset and BCP with the aim of working together to protect adults at risk from abuse, harm, or neglect. We achieve this through joined up strategic leadership and collective accountability.



The Boards are currently undertaking a governance review with the aim of joining the two separate Safeguarding Adults Boards, previously constituted in BCP and Dorset into one shared Safeguarding Adults Board. This will enable better consistency and focus across the Pan Dorset region as well as a more efficient use of time, particularly for those partners working sub-regionally. Where specific place-based work is identified each local authority will establish separate task-specific arrangements for working/ governance within its own area to focus on this work.

**Diagram below shows the new board structure for 2021/22 onwards –**



**Key priorities for 2021-2024**

**The Boards continue to follow the 4 strategic aims which underpin all our work**



The agreed areas for focus in the strategic plan **2021-24** are reflective of these aims and are outlined on the following page.

## The 2021-2024 Strategic Plan will deliver under the following headings

**Continued development with partners of preventative work in safeguarding** - will feature in all our work, reports to the Board, audits, reviews, and general assurance.

**Work within the the new Integrated Care System in the context of the safeguarding assurance framework** - continuously developing how the board delivers assurance with the evolving governance frameworks within the NHS and social care. This will be developed through effective partnership working

**Transitional Safeguarding** - working closely with Safeguarding Children's Partnership to ensure that the complexities for children and young people who have transitioned from children's service intervention are recognised when safeguarding concerns are considered by adult services and that there is good information sharing, when necessary, between the service areas

**Homelessness** – ensuring that there is good multi agency working with a contextual safeguarding approach to preventative activities for people who are homeless

**Involving people in the work we do** – through reviewing how we communicate more widely to citizens and ensuring we listen to the voices of those who have experienced safeguarding interventions. Delivering our communication/ engagement strategy to the widest audience with the support of the voluntary and community sector

**Improving assurance on health and social care practice and provider care quality** – by understanding the significant impacts on commissioning services by health and social care; by understanding how we work in partnership with citizens (through Healthwatch) and the regulator (CQC); through having oversight, through single and multi-agency audit which shows how risk is identified and responded to

**Improving assurance on delivery of safe practice in private mental health hospitals** – through understanding the extent of commissioned out of area placements and the quality assurance mechanisms in place together with service review which safeguards and protects people needing support from these (often specialist) services

**Developing assurance on the delivery of Liberty Protection Safeguards** – and in particular the changes which will be implemented in 2022 for 'Liberty Protection Safeguards'

**Enhancing understanding and recognition of Domestic abuse and coercive and controlling behaviour and its impact on people with care and support needs** – by working closely with the Community Safety Partnerships and the Pan Dorset Safeguarding Childrens Partnership assurance will be provided on the improved usage of the Multi-Agency Risk Management Framework

**Continuing Assurance on the application of learning from SAR's and where appropriate DHR's, improving Legal Literacy** – through multi-agency audit, supported by an effective training strategy which supports organisational learning from SARs and other reviews. We will implement learning from SAR Katherine on adult safeguarding and Domestic Abuse

**Assurance on delivery of 'Making Safeguarding Personal'** – through shared learning from people's experience of safeguarding interventions via the Community Reference Subgroup or via case stories presented at the Board

**Continue to seek Assurance that all practitioners in all agencies 'Think Family'** and embed this in practice

### **How will the strategy be delivered?**

The Board has an overarching workplan to be delivered in each year, with allocated work from the 3-year strategy, as agreed by board members. The workplan provides the detail about how we will achieve our strategic aims and objectives. This is reviewed and monitored at each quarterly board meeting. In addition, each subgroup will also develop and progress a workplan which compliments and provides a more task-based approach to specific actions.

The subgroups are the engine room of the Board and are therefore pivotal to ensuring the objectives outlined in the strategic plan, together with associated outcomes, are achieved. Each subgroup reports progress to the Board on a quarterly basis. The QA subgroup will also seek to identify through the review of data and oversight of practise audit, particular thematic issues which may require additional focus. Membership of each subgroup will reflect a range of agencies across Dorset and will include individuals with specialist knowledge or ability to add the required skill to achieving the planned objectives. The Community Reference subgroup, as it develops and evolves, will bring the valuable experience of those who have received safeguarding interventions.

At the end of each year the DBCP SAB will publish its annual report which will highlight the Board's achievements and outline how the strategic plan has been delivered.

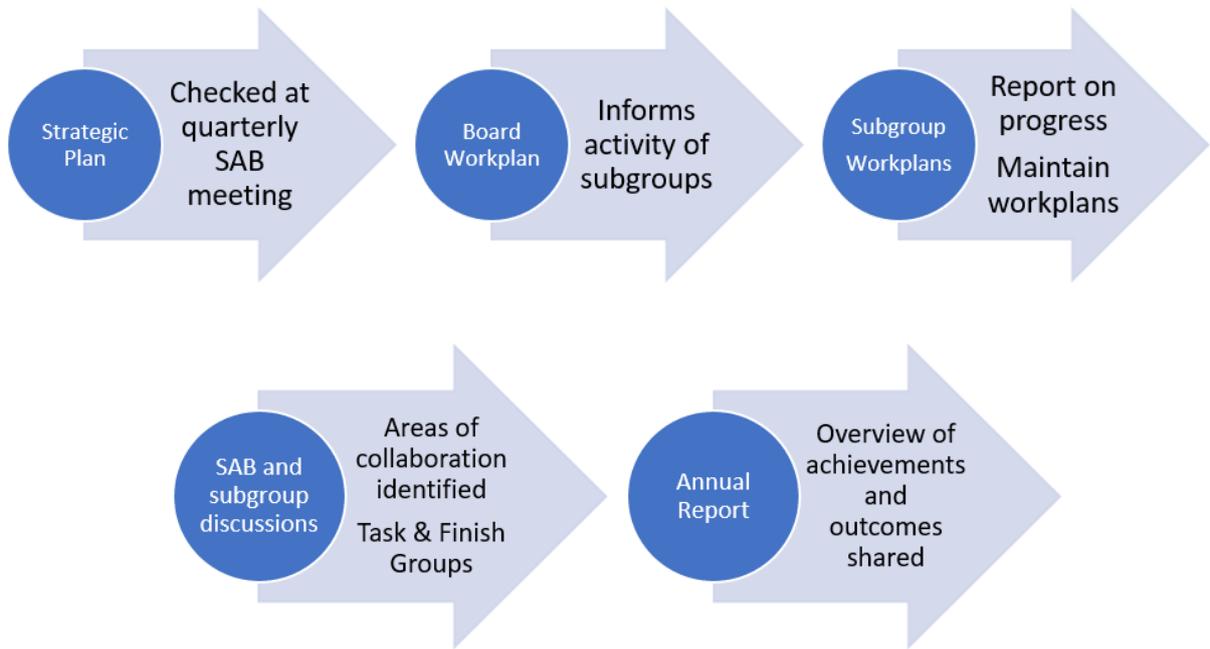
### **How will we measure progress?**

The Board will measure progress of the strategic plan and its impact at each quarterly Board meeting. The Board workplan will inform the activity carried out by each of the subgroups which will report back to the Board on progress, develop and maintain its own workplan to ensure focus and delivery of agreed objectives.

Areas of collaboration will be identified, and joint work will also be undertaken through the establishment of task and finish working groups where required. This will ensure our approach is streamlined and enable us to focus on real time activity. Positive working relationships with partners, with proactive partner contributions will be key to our success. Ensuring people are consulted about the Board's work and the difference it makes to them is vital to measuring our impact and ensure that 'Making Safeguarding Personal' (MSP) principles are at the heart of all we do.

An overview of achievements and outcomes will be detailed in the Board's annual report and shared at the end of each reporting year.

**The diagram below outlines how we will achieve our desired outcomes.**



Streamlined approach

Real time activity

Positive working relationships

Consult with people

Measure Impact



Making Safeguarding Personal at the heart of everything we do