

Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board

[Safeguarding Policy and Practice Update March 2017](#)

This bulletin provides a summary of recent national policy news, publications, consultations and articles relating specifically to adult safeguarding. A brief summary and link to the original webpage document is provided for each item.

Residential care	<u>Enhanced health in care homes framework</u>	
Published by: NHS England	Publication date: September 2016	
<p>Across England, six vanguards are working to improve the quality of life, healthcare and planning for people living in care homes. One in seven people aged 85 or over is living permanently in a care home. The evidence suggests that many of these people are not having their needs properly assessed and addressed. As a result, they often experience unnecessary, unplanned and avoidable admissions to hospital, and sub-optimal medication. Within these six vanguard areas, care homes are working closely with the NHS, local authorities, the voluntary sector, carers and families to optimise the health of their residents. The enhanced health in care homes (EHCH) care model is an adjunct to the other new care models that are delivering whole population healthcare. It will become a core element of the multispecialty community provider (MCP) and primary and acute care system (PACS) models.</p>		

Adult health and social care	<u>The state of health care and adult social care in England 2015 - 2016</u>	
Published by: Care Quality Commission	Publication date: October 2016	
<p>The 2015/16 <i>State of Care</i> report shows that, despite increasingly challenging circumstances, much good care is being delivered and encouraging levels of improvement are taking place. However, the sustainability of this position is in doubt. The report highlights evidence of deterioration in quality of services and that the fragility of the adult social care market and the pressure on primary care services are now beginning to impact both on service users and on the performance of secondary care. The combination of a growing and ageing population, people with more long-term conditions and a challenging economic climate means greater demand on services and more problems for people in accessing care. This is translating to increased A&E attendances, emergency admissions and delays to people leaving hospital, which in turn is affecting the ability of a growing number of trusts to meet their performance and financial targets. The link above will also give access to the additional reports forming part CQC's 2015/16 State of Care suite of reports covering:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult social care • Acute hospital, community health and ambulance services • Mental health • Primary care services • Equality in health and social care and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 		

Adult social care - Care Act Data	<u>Care Act data</u>
Published by: NHS Digital	Publication date: October 2016
<p>The first official data on performance on the Care Act, published by NHS Digital, shows that 55% of people who had been receiving care for at least 12 months did not receive a review during 2015-16. Where reviews had been carried out around half led to changes in the care plan. Also:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A third of carers in contact with councils did not receive an assessment or a review. • Councils received 1.81m requests for support for new clients, a slight decrease on the 1.83m received the previous year. • 57% of requests resulted in no direct support from the council, including 28 percent that resulted in signposting or universal services. • The number of people who received long term social care support was down to 873,000 from 885,000 the previous year. • 81% of the 387,000 carers in contact with local authorities received direct support. 	

LGO complaints	<u>LGO Annual Review of Complaints 2015/16</u>
Published by: Local Government Ombudsman	Publication date: November 2016
<p>A review by the Local Government Ombudsman has highlighted that complaints about the quality of home care have risen markedly over the past year. The LGO received 372 complaints about home-based social care in 2015-16, a 25% increase on the previous year and the most significant rise across different service types. Complaints about residential care rose 20.5%, from 497 to 599. Two-thirds of the home care complaints were upheld, 7% higher than the average for adult social care. Problems included care workers being late or missing appointments and poor communication between providers and local authority commissioners. The report states that home care providers were “underfunded and over-stretched”, with staffing shortages and the introduction of the national living wage adding to the pressure. The report also highlighted complaints over the way local authorities are arranging and commissioning social care:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Complaints over assessment and care planning rose 4%, from 576 to 600. Some 59% were upheld, a 2% rise on last year. • Among 57 complaints about care planning that were investigated in detail, 70% were upheld – an increase on 53% the previous year. • Complaints about charging rose 6% from 262 to 278, with 63% upheld. • Safeguarding complaints dropped from 258 to 223, but the % upheld rose from 51% to 58%. • Complaints about direct payments dropped 12% from 117 to 102, with 62% upheld. <p>Complaints about care arranged and funded privately also rose from 319 to 386 and now make up around 13% of the ombudsman’s total social care caseload.</p>	

Adult social care funding	<u>Adult social care funding - state of the nation report 2016</u>
Published by: Local Government Association	Publication date: November 2016
This report outlines the current position and challenges regarding the funding of adult social care.	

Care costs	<u>TrustedCare.co.uk</u>
Published by: TrustedCare.co.uk	Publication date: December 2016
Analysis by TrustedCare has highlighted a significant rise in costs as the number of services rated as good or outstanding has fallen. TrustedCare found that the price of a week in a care home jumped by almost a quarter over the last year, from an average of £557.86 a week to £686.32, while the cost of a nursing home rose more than a third from £692.17 per week to £924.82. The price per hour of care visits also rose, from £15.01 to £17.02. The analysis was based on data from providers registered on TrustedCare, as well as calls made by its researchers to more than 100 services in each English county over the last four months.	

Care at home	<u>Practical support at home - evidence review</u>
Published by: Age UK	Publication date: December 2016
<p>This Age UK review has highlighted that hundreds of thousands of vulnerable older people struggle to get by with little or no care because of cuts to care in England. The review looked at existing data and concluded there were nearly 1.2 million people who were not now getting the care they need - a rise of 48% since 2010. This included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 696,500 who do not get any help, of whom 53,000 have trouble with at least three daily tasks such as washing, dressing and eating • 487,400 get help but not enough to cover their needs <p>Age UK said this had been caused by cuts to council budgets which had led to a rationing of services. Last year, fewer than half of the people who requested help from councils were given it. The charity warns that the whole system was close to collapse in some areas with services closing.</p> <p>Last week, Health Secretary Jeremy Hunt pledged action on social care, which covers care homes and help in the home. That has prompted a growing expectation that a rescue package will be announced in the Budget in early March.</p>	

Later life	<u>Later life facts and statistics</u>
Published by: Age UK	Publication date: December 2016
This collection of statistics, which are regularly updated, is the best source of publicly-available, general information on people in later life in the UK.	

ADASS survey	<u>Survey of directors of adult social services</u>	
Published by: Association of Directors of Social Services	Publication date: December 2016	
<p>129 out of 152 directors responded to the ADASS survey, which found that councils have projected overspends on adult social care budgets by almost half a billion in the first six months of this financial year. This was worsened by NHS pressures, with 68 per cent of directors reporting reductions to continuing healthcare funding. A further 51 per cent experienced increasing demand on social care services because of people with very high needs not admitted to hospital, while 56 per cent reported that more social care staff were expected to undertake healthcare duties. More than half of local authorities experienced a home care or care home provider leave the market in the first half of 2016.</p>		

Community safety	<u>Community Safety Survey 2016</u>	
Published by: Local Government Association	Publication date: December 2016	
<p>This survey was conducted by the LGA's Research and Information team in autumn 2016 in order to gather information about how community safety partnerships, county strategy groups and councils' community safety services currently operate, some of the key challenges for effective delivery, and the response of the sector to these challenges. The survey was sent to all 375 local authorities in England and Wales and 107 (29 per cent) responded. Some of the main findings are summarised below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 75% of respondents identified domestic violence/violence against women and girls as one of the five main priorities of their CSP/CSG. This was followed by 64% for anti-social behaviour and 45% for drug/alcohol/substance misuse. • 99% of respondents indicated that the police service had influenced their CSP/CSG's current priorities to either a great or moderate extent. The proportion was also high for their own local authority (98%) and police and crime commissioners (76%). • 97% of respondents indicated that they directly employed staff engaged in community staff functions. The median average number was 3.4 full-time equivalents. Just over two-thirds of respondents (68%) indicated that the number of staff had decreased since 2010. • 84% of respondents were either very or fairly confident that their CSP/CSG would deliver against its priorities in its current partnership plan/county community safety agreement. 		

Adult social care – market shaping	<u>Adult social care market shaping</u>	
Published by: Department of Health	Publication date: February 2017	
<p>This guidance is aimed at local authority commissioners. It covers overview, roles and responsibilities, market demands and trends, quality ratings, datasets to support market intelligence, market development resources, market oversight, contingency planning, resources for commissioners, workforce aspects of the care market and examples of market shaping in practice. It also considers NHS enhanced care home vanguards, NHS quick guides on transforming care services and access to funding streams. This is not a standalone resource; it links to other sources of information.</p>		

Allegations against people in a position of trust	<u>Allegations against people in a position of trust</u>	
Published by: BBC News	Publication date: February 2017	
<p>Research by the BCC has highlighted that more than 23,000 allegations of abuse have been made against carers working in people's homes across the UK. The data comes from a Freedom of Information request submitted by the BBC Radio 4 programme File on 4. The United Kingdom Homecare Association, which represents 2,000 care companies, described the findings as "horrifying" and blamed cuts to local government budgets. The BBC asked every council in England, Scotland and Wales with responsibility for social care for the numbers of allegations of abuse and neglect made against home carers contracted by local authorities. This revealed that between 2013-14 and 2015-16 there had been at least 23,428 safeguarding alerts across the UK, but only half the councils provided data. Most of the alerts related to care provided in England.</p>		

Young carers	<u>Children's Commissioner for England - report on young carers</u>	
Published by: Children's Commissioner	Publication date: January 2017	
<p>A study carried out by the Children's Commissioner for England has highlighted that four out of five young carers who look after sick, disabled or addicted family members receive no support from local authorities. Although children who care for a relative are entitled to help from their council, an estimated 130,000 youngsters aged five to 17 did not receive any, according to the report. The survey of English local authorities found there were 160 carers aged under five, some of whom had been formally assessed and supported as carers, though it was not clear what responsibilities they had. The legal definition of a young carer is "a person under 18 who provides or intends to provide care to another person". They have a right to a needs assessment, which will determine whether the care they provide is excessive or inappropriate, especially if it impacts on their health, wellbeing or education. The report cites that one in 12 young carers spends more than 15 hours a week in a caring role. One in five miss school because of caring responsibilities, and many do poorly in exams as a result. Young carers may miss out on typical childhood experiences and opportunities, the commissioner said. They often struggle to make and maintain friendships and are at risk of falling behind at school.</p>		

Suicide prevention	<u>Suicide Prevention Atlas</u>	
Published by: Public Health England	Publication date: 2016	
<p>. Public Health England has published a suicide prevention atlas shows data on suicide, related risk factors and service contacts for every local authority in England.</p>		

Dementia	<u>Dementia Atlas for England</u>	
Published by: NHS Digital		Publication date: 2016
<p>NHS Digital have produced a Dementia Atlas for England which shows the proportion of people aged 65 years and over registered with a GP practice in a CCG that have a formal and recorded diagnosis of dementia</p>		

Mental health - older people	<u>Hidden in plain sight – the unmet mental health needs of older people</u>	
Published by: Age UK		Publication date: October 2016
<p>This report highlights that older people experience substantial gaps in their access to mental health services. This is despite the fact that up to a quarter of older people in the community, are estimated to have symptoms of depression that may require intervention. Historically older people have not been able to expect the same level of support.</p> <p>Older people with common mental health conditions are much less likely to be receiving talking therapies compared to younger age groups. At the same time, people over 75 were six times more likely to be on tranquilisers or similar drug therapies. On average, older people are waiting slightly longer for mental health treatment, in particular old age psychiatry where waiting times have increased over the past five years from an average of 22 days in 2011/12 to 26 days in 2015/16.</p> <p>Many older people live with both physical and mental health conditions, yet almost 40% of mental health trusts do not have a specific policy or strategy for supporting comorbidities (i.e. the presence of more than one long-term condition). Often, physical and mental health needs are inter-related and failing to address them together can severely undermine an older person’s ability to recover from an illness or deterioration in their health. Figures for older people detained in police stations and hospitals under the Mental Health Act suggest that mental health crisis care is not always adequately dealing with their needs. In light of these findings, Age UK makes a number of recommendations to build on progress already made and ensure that older people’s mental health gains not only parity of esteem with physical health concerns but parity with other age groups as well.</p>		

Mental health - suicide prevention	<u>Health Select Committee report on suicide prevention</u>
Published by: Health Select Committee	Publication date: December 2016
<p>A report by the Health Select Committee has stated that the number of people taking their own lives in England is unacceptably high. The number of deaths by suicide was 4,820 in England in 2015 - part of a UK-wide figure of 6,188. The report said support needed to be more accessible to those at risk and calls for the NHS to "embrace innovative approaches" such as online services. GPs need more training in spotting people at risk of suicide and that there should be more support after patients are discharged from psychiatric services. Dr Sarah Wollaston, the committee's chair, said: "4,820 people are recorded as having died by suicide in England last year, but the true figure is likely to be higher". The government's revised suicide prevention strategy is due to be published in January.</p> <p>Public Health England have published a suicide prevention atlas</p> <p><u>The Suicide Prevention Atlas shows data on suicide, related risk factors and service contacts for every local authority in England</u></p>	

Mental health - suicide prevention	<u>Suicide Prevention - third progress report</u>
Published by: Department of Health	Publication date: January 2017
<p>The cross-Government National Suicide Prevention Strategy for England was published in 2012. This report provides progress against the key areas of action identified by the National Strategy and looks at ways of improving support for people at risk of suicide. It follows publication of the Health Select Committee's inquiry into suicide prevention which made five key recommendations for improving the national strategy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving implementation through strong leadership and clear accountability; • Improving transparency and scrutiny; • Improving support for people most vulnerable to the risk of suicide; • Raising awareness of the Information Sharing and Suicide Prevention Consensus Statement; • Improving national data; and • Improving the response to media reporting suicide. 	

Health care – mixed sex wards	<u>NHS England data on mixed-sex wards</u>
Published by: NHS England	Publication Date: January 2017
<p>Statistics from NHS England show that in 2016, a total of 7,163 patients were put in mix-sexed wards, an increase from 4,248 in 2015 - an increase of almost 70% from the previous year. Since April 2011, trusts have been fined £250 when a patient is placed on a mixed-sex ward.</p> <p>The data provides information on how many breaches of the mixed-sex accommodation rules there have been each month. In December 2010, there were 11,802 breaches and this dropped to 907 in December 2011 and 314 in the same month in 2012. In 2014 there was a total of 2,585 patients placed on mixed-sex wards - a figure which increased by 177% in 2016.</p>	

A & E waiting times	<u>NHS England report on emergency care</u>	
Published by: NHS England	Publication date: January 2017	
<p>Data from NHS England shows that more than 4 in 10 hospitals in England declared a major alert in the first week of 2017. 66 out of 152 trusts raised the alarm as increasing bed shortages led to large numbers of patients experiencing trolley waits and delays in A&E. The data shows that performance against the four-hour target appears to have sunk to its lowest level since the target was first introduced in 2004. Based on the NHS England data:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - One in five patients admitted as an emergency last week experienced a delay of at least four hours for a bed, known as a trolley wait. This is twice the rate seen over the past year - Nearly one in four patients waited over four hours to be seen in A&E - in some places it reached nearly half - On some days a quarter of ambulances arriving at A&E took more than 30 minutes to hand over their patients to hospital staff - twice as long as it should take - Of the 66 declaring major alerts, a tenth were at level four, the highest status, which has the potential for patient safety and care to be compromised - A third of hospitals declaring a major alert spent the whole week after the bank holiday on the status 		

Hospital treatment waiting times	<u>NHS England report on hospital treatment waiting times</u>	
Published by: NHS England	Publication date: February 2017	
<p>Data shows that the number of people facing long waits for hospital treatment in England has more than doubled in the past four years. Patients needing routine care such as knee and hip replacements are meant to be treated in 18 weeks under NHS rules. But the numbers waiting longer than that now top 350,000, 163% rise since 2012. There are 3.7 million people in total on the waiting list. Royal College of Surgeons spokesperson said the picture was “very disappointing” as these operations and treatments could make a huge difference to people’s lives. The King’s Fund has predicted that the numbers on the waiting list are set to keep rising. The total of 3.7m is a 44% increase since 2012, but it is expected that the trend will continue to rise and break through the four million barriers by the spring.</p>		

Mortality rates	<u>Mortality study - 30000- deaths in 2015 linked to cuts in health and social care</u>	
Published by Royal Society of Medicine	Publication date: February 2017	
<p>Research by Oxford University suggests cuts to social care budgets and the “widespread failure” of NHS services may have led to the biggest rise in death rates for 50 years. The study said an “unprecedented” spike in mortality - with 30,000 excess deaths in 2015 - could be linked to budget reductions for councils, and a rapid deterioration in performance by health services. Researchers said increases in death rates were likely to continue, with recent levels the highest they have been for three years, without “urgent intervention” to boost funding for health and social care. .</p> <p>The Department of Health has disputed the findings. Researchers from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, University of Oxford and Blackburn with Darwen Borough Council found a steep rise in death rates in 2015, amounting to the greatest percentage increase since 1968. They concluded: "The long-term decline in mortality in England and Wales has reversed, with approximately 30,000 extra deaths compared to what would be expected if the average age-specific death rates in 2006 to 2014." The studies, published in the Journal of the Royal Society of Medicine, examined different possible causes for the spike in deaths before concluding that "the evidence points to a major failure of the health system, possibly exacerbated by failings in social care".</p>		

Domestic Homicide Reviews	<u>Domestic Homicide Review Analysis 2015- 2016</u>	
Published by: Home Office	Publication date: December 2016	
<p>This report highlights that since April 2011 in excess of 400 DHRs have been completed. DHRs provide a rich source of information on the nature of domestic homicide, the context in which it occurs and the lessons that can be learned from the tragic event. This analysis sets out what is known about domestic homicide and draws out common themes and trends and identifies learning that emerged across the sample of DHRs.</p>		

Domestic Abuse	<u>New legislation on domestic abuse proposed</u>	
Published by: Department of Health	Publication date: February 2017	
<p>The government has announced new laws to deal with domestic abuse in England and Wales. Current legislation was described as lacking clarity and the new act will aim to address this inconsistency and make the law work better for victims. The ONS has published domestic abuse figures for the year ending March 2016. These show that 1.8m people aged 16-59 told the Crime Survey for England and Wales they were a victim. 1.2m victims were female. 651,000 male victims. 79% Did not report partner or ex-partner and 100,930 Cases resulted in prosecution.</p>		

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Policy	www.hampshiresab.org.uk
Published by: HSAB	Publication date: March 2017
<p>A refresh of the current 4LSAB multi-agency safeguarding policy and guidance has been completed in response to the changes to the Care Act statutory guidance. The new policy now has updated or new information relating to Modern Day Slavery, Prevent, Responding to Self Neglect and Persistent Welfare Concerns, Risk Management, Scamming, Domestic Abuse and the Management of Allegations Against People in a Position of Trust. Strategic and practice leadership have been added to the section on multi agency roles and responsibilities and links to new local and national guidance have been added. The policy will be available as a web based resource on the HSAB website from the end of March.</p>	

DOLS	Law Commission
Published by: Law Commission	Publication date: December 2017
<p>The final report of a major government-commissioned review of deprivation of liberty legislation has been postponed until next year. The Law Commission was due to submit their final recommendations, including draft legislation, on a proposed replacement for the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DOLS) by the end of 2016 but the project has been pushed back to March 2017. In a statement the commission said the reason for the delay is the complexity of the task of drafting legislation on such an important issue. Local authorities have struggled to meet legal requirements under the current DOLS framework since the Supreme Court's landmark 'Cheshire West' ruling in March 2014 triggered a surge in DOLs applications. A national backlog of cases hit more than 100,000 in April 2016.</p>	

MSP	Making Safeguarding Personal Temperature Check 2016
Published by: ADASS	Publication date: July 2016
<p>ADASS fully supports the MSP approach and wants to see it fully implemented in all councils and has commissioned the MSP 'Temperature Check'. The temperature check has three aims:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To measure progress towards full implementation of MSP 2. To gather information/views to shape the 2016/17 safeguarding development programme 3. To offer reflective coaching and expert advice to MSP leads in local authorities 	

Bulletin Compiled by Sue Lee, Hampshire Safeguarding Adults Board Manager

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