

Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board
Strategic Plan 2019-2021



Working Together to Keep People Safe

Who are we?

Northamptonshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is a partnership of key agencies, and includes:

- Northamptonshire County Council Adult Social Care
- Northamptonshire Police
- NHS Nene and NHS Corby Clinical Commissioning Groups
- District and Borough Council Representative
- Cabinet member for Adult Social Care
- Opposition representative

The newly formed NSAB Delivery Board has a wider membership and is responsible for delivering the strategic plan objectives.

What we do:

We work together to ensure that people in Northamptonshire are safeguarded from harm, and can live their lives independently and free from abuse and neglect.

The work of Safeguarding Adults Boards (SABs) is directed by legislation – the Care Act 2014. The Act sets out the core purpose of the Board ensuring that local safeguarding arrangements are effective and take account of the views of the local community.

In addition to this, Northamptonshire learns and improves as part of its processes and has adopted the East Midlands regional priorities for Safeguarding adults.

Our strategic plan sets out:

- **Our vision** to safeguard people in Northamptonshire; and
- **Our objectives** for the period 2019-21 and outlines our aims and objectives to achieve our vision, and provides direction and continuity for our Delivery Board Action Plan.

The Action Plan will be reviewed on a quarterly basis by the Delivery Board and an update will be provided to Board to highlight progress and any difficulties in achieving the goals within timescale.

Our vision:

In Northamptonshire our vision for Safeguarding Adults at risk is that we are:

'Working together to keep people safe'

- We believe that people should be able to live a life that is free from harm, communities have a culture that does not tolerate abuse, that Northamptonshire is a place where we work together to prevent abuse, and where people know what to do when abuse happens.
- To make this vision a reality, everyone needs to work together as a partnership involving the person at risk, their families and all the agencies across the partnership. Our strategic priorities drive this joint working and partnership.

Our core functions:

The Board has the following core functions:

- To publish a Strategic Plan and an Annual Report in each financial year in accordance with the duties outlined within the Care Act 2014; and
- To undertake Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and ensure that any learning is disseminated and implemented across relevant agencies.

In order to fulfil its core duties, the Board will:

- Assure itself that safeguarding practice is continuously improving to enhance the quality of life of adults in the locality;
- Establish an effective structure to deliver against its strategic priorities;
- Consider implications of national and local policy;
- Develop a quality assurance framework to evidence the impact of the Strategic Plan;
- Support organisations to carry out their safeguarding responsibilities by developing multi-agency policies and procedures;
- Monitor the quality and performance of safeguarding activities including self-audit, single agency and multi-agency audit activity;
- Use meaningful safeguarding data and intelligence to identify risk and increase the Board's understanding of emerging themes;
- Ensure local agencies are receiving appropriate learning opportunities to increase confidence, skills and knowledge;
- Share information in line with Data Protection and GDPR;
- Maintain oversight of the effectiveness of partnership arrangements;
- Ensure sufficient funding is available to promote safeguarding adults, policies and good practice; and
- Develop and maintain links with relevant strategic and delivery partnerships e.g. Health and Wellbeing Board, Northamptonshire Safeguarding Children Board (Safeguarding Partnership), Community Safety Partnerships.

Six key principles and what this means to people in Northamptonshire:

Each one of the key principles forms a 'strategic outcome' in our strategy.

	Key Principle	Description	What this means to the people who live in Northamptonshire
1.	Empowerment	People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.	"I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens."
2.	Prevention	It is better to take action before harm occurs	"I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help."
3.	Proportionality	The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.	"I am sure that the professionals will work in my best interests, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed."
4.	Protection	Support and representation for those in greatest need	"I get help and support to report abuse and neglect. I get help so that I am able to take part in the safeguarding process to the extent to which I want."
5.	Partnership	Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse	"I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence, only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me."
6.	Accountability	Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding.	"I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they."

Our strategic plan 2019-21:

Our Strategic Plan for 2019-2021 is built on our previous plans and is structured according to our vision, the six key principles as set out by the Government in the statutory guidance accompanying the Care Act 2014 (see above), and local and regional priorities. The six principles hold equal importance and are the foundation of good and effective safeguarding.

The Board priorities for 2019-21 are:

1. **Making Safeguarding Personal¹**
2. **Prevention**
3. **Quality**

Our themes:

In order to deliver the priorities and themes each year, the objectives will be reviewed against the Delivery Board Action Plan including key goals and target timescales. Our themes are:

1. **Suicide (link with the Suicide Prevention Group)**
2. **Domestic Abuse**
3. **Street Homelessness (link with the Chief Housing Officer Groups (CHOG))**
4. **Serious Organised Crime**
5. **Adults that don't meet the need for statutory services (Adult Risk Management process)**

Priority 1 - Making Safeguarding Personal

- a. Work together as a Board to provide local leadership on safeguarding adults to ensure people are safe; particularly during the period of transition from the County Council to the new Unitary Authorities.
- b. Continuously learn and develop as the NSAB to ensure the Board's key priorities and objectives are delivered by the partnership.
- c. Ensure appropriate membership is at the right level for Board and Sub Groups and engagement is appropriate to drive business.
- d. Ensure users and carers are supported in their role in keeping people safe, and they help to evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding adults within Northamptonshire.

Priority 2 - Prevention:

- a. Enable and support local communities to play their role in keeping people safe by improving communication to raise awareness of key safeguarding messages.
- b. Ensure learning from national and local multi-agency reviews and reports are shared and implemented locally.
- c. Ensure learning and development opportunities are available to the voluntary sector.

Priority 3 - Quality:

- a. Ensure statutory responsibilities for a safe and legal transfer to the new Unitary Authorities is in place, and that customers are not adversely affected by the change.
- b. Mitigate risks flagged on the NSAB Risk Register.
- c. Ensure effective analysis and response to partnership data.
- d. Ensure Board have oversight of partners' use of resources to meet the demands to meet quality standards.
- e. Ensure NSAB multi-agency policies and procedures are reviewed in a timely manner.

¹ Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is a sector led initiative which aims to develop an outcomes focus to safeguarding work, and a range of responses to support people to improve or resolve their circumstances. It is about engaging with people about the outcomes they want at the beginning and middle of working with them, and then ascertaining the extent to which those outcomes were realised at the end.