



Derby Safeguarding Adults Board

Strategic Plan 2025-28



Introduction from the Derby Safeguarding Adults Board Independent Chair, Richard Proctor



It is my pleasure to introduce the Derby Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan for 2025 to 2028. The strategic priorities have been developed in consultation with strategic partners and through the analysis of safeguarding adult data to support our decision-making process. The priorities are underpinned by the six principles of adult safeguarding as identified in the Care Act 2014 which will be used to assess our progress against each priority area.

I am optimistic we will improve outcomes for adults in our community through the delivery of this plan. I am committed to the Safeguarding Adults Board playing a pivotal role in coordinating the activities of the partnership and where appropriate holding partners to account to ensure we successfully deliver the identified strategic priorities.

**Richard Proctor Independent Chair, Derby Safeguarding
Adults Board**

Who are we?

The Derby Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB) is a multi-agency strategic partnership who seek assurance and oversee the effectiveness of arrangements made by individual agencies to safeguard adults who have care and support needs and are experiencing, or are at risk of experiencing, abuse or neglect.

DSAB has three statutory partners and have a wider membership consisting of key statutory and voluntary agencies in Derby City.

The statutory partners for DSAB:

Derby City Council	NHS Derby and Derbyshire Integrated Care Board	Derbyshire Constabulary
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A list of current Derby SAB Board members can be found on DSAB [website](#).

The Chair of the DSAB is independent of all partners and has a dedicated Board Business Manager and business services support.

The Derby Safeguarding Adults Board is closely aligned to the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board. Both Boards are committed to working jointly to avoid duplication of effort and maximise the impact of our collective resources wherever possible, whilst maintaining focus on the different challenges which each distinct area presents.

What do we do?

The work of safeguarding adults boards (SABs) is directed by legislation, namely The [Care Act 2014](#). The Care Act states that SABs must assure themselves that local safeguarding arrangements and partners are protecting 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 are 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 experience of abuse or neglect.

Safeguarding Adults Boards have the following statutory duties:

- To produce and publish an Annual Report detailing the activity and effectiveness of the Board over the previous year.
- develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute.
- commission safeguarding adults reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these in accordance with Section 44 of the Care Act.

The DSAB also has a wider remit with both a preventative and development focus on safeguarding adults:

- To work together to oversee, monitor and coordinate systems and services in their duties of prevention of harm and protection of adults with care and support needs.
- To seek assurance that partners work together to safeguard adults in Derby in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live.
- To develop multi-agency safeguarding adults policies and procedures and monitor their implementation.
- To provide multi-agency training in relation to safeguarding adults and be assured that staff in organisations access high quality training relevant to their role.
- To seek assurance, through the application of its quality assurance framework, that partners are applying MSP principles so that individuals are supported and feel empowered to make their own choices and decisions.
- To identify and highlight positive safeguarding adults practice and learning.
- To raise awareness of safeguarding to the general public to create a safer community.
- To be accountable and transparent to professionals and the public by making the function and work of the Board accessible to all.
- To respectfully challenge each other and provide assurance about performance of DSAB partners to safeguard adults with care and support needs.
- To proactively monitor, assess, and respond to changes in legislation that may impact adult safeguarding in Derby, ensuring the DSAB remains flexible and compliant with current legal requirements.

Principles of Safeguarding Adults

The six principles of Safeguarding Adults are set out in the Care Act 2014 and each hold equal importance in the effective safeguarding of adults.

Empowerment	Protection
<p>People in Derby should be supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent</p> <p><i>“I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process, and these directly inform what happens.”</i></p>	<p>Support and representation for those in greatest need</p> <p><i>“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”</i></p>
Prevention	Proportionality
<p>It is better to take action before harm occurs</p> <p><i>“I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help.”</i></p>	<p>The least intrusive response to the risk presented.</p> <p><i>“I am sure that the professionals will work in my interest, and they will only get involved as much as is needed.”</i></p>
Partnership	Accountability
<p>Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse.</p> <p><i>“I know that staff treat my 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.”</i></p>	<p>Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice for people who live in Derby City.</p>

The Vision of the Derby SABs:

“We will work together to enable people in Derby to make choices to stay safe and to live a life free from fear, harm, and abuse”

Our vision for people in Derby also includes adults placed or living out of county and our cross-border responsibilities in line with our policies and procedures.

To achieve this vision, we need to apply the following guiding principles;

- put the individual and their support network (friends, family and advocates) at the centre of everything we do during the safeguarding process
- raise awareness about recognising and reporting abuse with both the public and professionals to promote the safeguarding adults agenda.
- develop preventative strategies to reduce the abuse and neglect of adults in Derby.
- ensure that safeguarding adults is a shared responsibility of all organisations and agencies, as multi-agency working is essential to effectively safeguard adults.
- continue to learn and improve the way we work with adults who have care and support needs and monitor the implementation of change.
- establish ways to collect, analyse and interpret data in relation to adult safeguarding in Derby to increase the understanding of local safeguarding issues.
- have arrangements in place for partners to self-audit and performance monitoring.
- develop and review multi-agency policies and procedures in relation to safeguarding adults.

Our Strategic Priorities

The DSAB have three strategic priorities for 2025-2028 in line with our vision and values. Over the next three years, DSAB will be focusing on the below three priorities:

Prevention



It is important that both the public and professionals have access to clear information in a variety of formats about abuse, neglect and safeguarding so that everyone understands how to recognise and report abuse and seek help.

The partnership will develop and implement preventative strategies that seek to reduce the incidence of abuse and neglect in Derby which will clearly demonstrate the work required and how success will be measured.

To achieve this the partnership will:

- Develop a prevention strategy which aims to proactively reduce the risk of abuse and neglect of adults before the harm occurs.
- Analyse adult safeguarding data (referral source, types of abuse, location, and demographics) to develop prevention strategies aimed at reducing incidence and impact.
- Identify key priorities for the partnership to address and highlight emerging trends and patterns.
- Collaborate with other partnerships and boards to work together to prevent common safeguarding issues.
- Commit to multi-agency learning and development, including embedding learnings from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and other reviews such as Fatal Fire Reviews, Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews, etc.
- Raise awareness of adult safeguarding, decision-making processes, and improve understanding of the application of the safeguarding adult criteria, through targeted education and outreach initiatives.

Empowerment



We must put the adult at the centre of everything we do. The focus should always be on listening to, engaging with and understanding what the adult wants to achieve. This involves agreeing, negotiating and recording their desired outcomes, working with them to see how these can be achieved and asking throughout and at the end of the process whether their expectations have been met.

Consultation with advocates, whether they are formal or informal, is vital when an adult lacks capacity to ensure we are Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP).

The DSAB will work to ensure all partners embed MSP into practice in a meaningful way and that the voice of people at risk of abuse and neglect influences practice in Derby.

To achieve this the partnership will:

- Ensure that the Key Performance Indicators around MSP are delivered by DSAB partners.
- Obtain qualitative feedback from the adult, their representative or expert by experience on their experience with the safeguarding process.
- Engage with equality, diversity and inclusion groups to raise awareness of the safeguarding process and promote inclusivity.
- Develop and provide information and processes that engage people in an inclusive, creative manner, tailored to the needs of adults at risk.

Accountability and Quality Assurance



The DSAB will seek assurance that all partners have robust processes and arrangements in place to safeguard adults at risk in Derby.

The DSAB will work to ensure that Board partners are compliant with Care Act (2014) specifications.

To achieve this the partnership will:

- Highlight areas of concern or good practice and determine any necessary actions to be taken as a result.
- Analyse referral quality and the impact of applying the criteria under s.42 of the Care Act (2014).
- Ensure that any Safeguarding Adults Reviews are processed in line with the Care Act (2014).
- Seek assurances from the partners using the Assurance Framework Tool, ensuring that each agency understands and fulfils its responsibilities in safeguarding.
- Ensure that the Key Performance Indicators, as defined and agreed by the DSAB, are met by all partners.
- Ensure that safeguarding policies are clear, and up to date, reflecting best practices.

The Strategic Plan 2025-28 sets out the direction of the DSAB for this period.

More detailed information around how this will be achieved is included in the subgroup action plans which will be updated quarterly and reviewed annually. The effectiveness of the Board will also be reviewed and reflected upon in the SAB annual reports.

How we will measure and evidence the impact

The primary methods the DSAB will use to measure and evidence its impact are outlined below:

Updates from each subgroup outlining how they contribute to the DSAB's strategic priorities, using action plans

Learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews and Multi-Agency Case File Audits

Qualitative feedback from the Adult with lived experience and those who support them, including families and carers

Assurance and partner accountability through quarterly Key Performance Indicators and by-annually Self-Assessment Tool

Reviewing of quarterly performance data

Attendance and active involvement across DSAB and subgroups

Publishing DSAB Annual Report

Attendance data and participant feedback from multi-agency training delivered by the DSAB

Peer reviews and inspections

Governance

The DSAB has developed a governance framework that includes subgroups, working groups and task and finish groups, holding these groups accountable for developing strategies that align with their business plans, while considering the overarching strategic aims and objectives. This will provide the Board with assurance and highlight areas of risk.

The DSAB currently have a joint Core Business Group and two joint subgroups with Derbyshire SAB:

Policy and Procedures Subgroup	Making Safeguarding Personal Subgroup
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DSAB has two standalone subgroups:

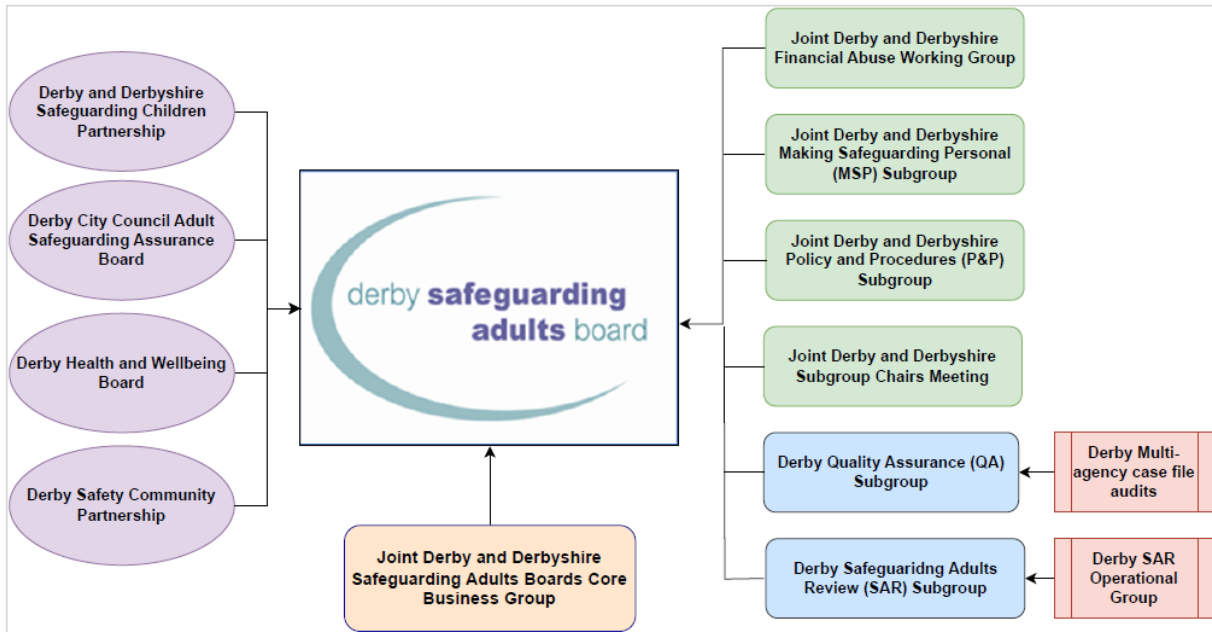
Quality Assurance Subgroup	Safeguarding Adult Review Subgroup
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Each subgroup meets quarterly and has a specific action plan relating to the three strategic priorities of Prevention, Empowerment and Accountability & Quality Assurance. A Subgroup Chairs has also been planned to share updates with all subgroup chairs.

The Derby SAB Annual Report and Strategic Plan is be shared with the Derby City Health and Wellbeing Board on a voluntary basis as the local authority has lead responsibilities for adult safeguarding across Derby City.

There are links in place with other partnership groups including the Derby and Derbyshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (DDSCP), Safer Communities Boards, and Wellbeing Boards, and a six-monthly Joint Chairs Liaison meeting is held with Chairs and Board managers.

Derby Safeguarding Adults Board Structure Chart



Equality and Diversity

The DSAB is committed to embedding the core values of equality and diversity in all safeguarding adult work. The following equality and diversity vision statement has been adopted by the DSAB.

DSAB is committed to promoting equality. The DSAB aspires to remove the barriers of institutional discrimination and oppression in Safeguarding Adults practice across the city.

Safeguarding means protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. Safeguarding Adults is everybody's business. Everybody is different and diversity will be celebrated and respected. Everybody will be treated fairly, with accessible information, advice and support to help stay safe and maintain control of their lives.

Contact Derby SAB

Please email DSAB@derby.gov.uk or write to us if you have any questions in relation to this Strategic Plan or if you would like to receive a copy in a different format.

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