

Islington Safeguarding Adults Board

Summary Annual Review 2020 - 21

Our Achievements



Criminal abuse rose across country during the pandemic but Central North London saw one of the lowest increases. Police detection rates for domestic abuse, rape & serious sexual assaults improved.



167 verified local rough sleepers were accommodated as part of the national 'Everyone In' initiative. This has been a positive step towards addressing the local rough sleeper's multiple needs.



A further 93 'hidden homeless' cases were accommodated, some of whom would not normally be eligible for homelessness assistance because of their immigration status.



We updated staff, volunteers and local residents about novel and emerging scams, such as scammers charging people for covid tests and vaccinations.



Partners worked together to ensure care homes were fully prepared, particularly around infection control. We sought assurances around the viability of commissioned services and the safety of the service users during the pandemic.



A comprehensive system of welfare telephone checks for shielding residents or those with care and support needs was set up, with follow-up welfare visits, organising food boxes and making referrals where needed



As staff could not visit people in care homes, measures were put in place to ensure that any new authorisation of a deprivation of liberty would take account of the fact that the person hadn't been seen face to face.

Key Statistics



Concerns about possible adult abuse or neglect were similar to the previous year's



In more than 4 out of 5 cases, people were worried about an adult but when we looked into it, we decided a formal safeguarding enquiry was not needed



More than half of all cases of abuse and neglect took place in the adult's own home



11% decrease in new Deprivation of Liberty Safeguard referrals but a 17% increase in authorisations.



342 enquiries into suspected adult abuse (a slight decrease on the previous year)



In nearly 90% of cases we either removed or reduced the risks through safeguarding action



1 in 3 cases we looked into were about neglect



The most common types of abuse found in safeguarding enquires in Islington are (1) neglect, (2) financial, (3) psychological and (4) physical

Key Developments



The Domestic Abuse Act has been passed into law. We will continue to work with partners to prevent and address domestic abuse experienced by adults with care and support needs.



Nationally, there were reports of blanket Do Not Assist Cardiac Resuscitation orders on groups of patients. We will make it clear this is an unacceptable practice and seek assurances this never happens locally.



We continue to have no backlogs on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards applications and authorisations and are well-placed to transition smoothly into Liberty Protection Safeguards in 2022.



The Covid-19 pandemic brought challenges and risks for adults with care and support needs and the services supporting them. We will be reflecting on learning from the pandemic.

We will work on these developments over the next year.