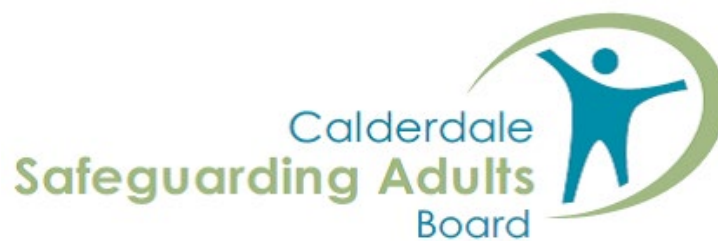


Calderdale Safeguarding Adult Board

Annual Report
2020 to 2021



Introduction and Executive Summary

This Annual Report for 2020-2021 reflects the significance and consequences of the COVID-19 Pandemic which began to impact in the United Kingdom in March 2020. Whilst the immediate response to COVID, lockdown and social distancing was at the forefront of the minds of service leaders, front line practitioners and Calderdale residents; the Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board (CSAB) remained focussed on safeguarding and how partners recognised and responded during this unusual year.

The CSAB initially paused workstreams and Subgroup activity and instead held extraordinary meetings with partners to collaboratively examine the national, regional, and local position in relation to both safeguarding issues, and COVID responses. Local and comparator data was collected, intelligence about the impact of COVID analysed, and the effects on safeguarding locally, were reported, and considered by the Independent Chair and Strategic CSAB Leads.

The CSAB Secretariat staff continued with statutory functions, and in addition increased the virtual training offer, and started new assurance activity through a risk register and logs of changes to services, which were communicated weekly to partners.

COVID specific safeguarding responses were reported during this period, including the 'Everyone In' initiative and the innovative approach to safely discharging patients back to care homes. Calderdale quickly embraced technological advances and the CSAB has continued online activity, with meetings, development days, training, and Safeguarding Week being held virtually.

Communications to the Calderdale community were developed by the CSAB through direct leaflets, safeguarding messages, video and on the website. A COVID safeguarding audit brought assurance from partners that safeguarding remained a priority and that professionals had adapted how they worked, to best identify and respond to safeguarding concerns.

The previous Independent Chair Ged McManus stood down in October 2020 as I commenced my term as Independent Chair of the CSAB. On my first working day I chaired the SAB meeting via Microsoft Teams; fortunately, the technology worked, and the meeting went well. From this point the Board has really continued 'business as usual', albeit most board, subgroup meetings and training sessions have been held online in deference to social distancing and lockdown measures.

With a new Independent Chair and recognition that living with Covid would be 'normality' for some time, a period of resetting followed. Business plans were reviewed, reenergised, and we were compelled to think about new ways of working forced upon us, and how we might want to continue.

The Calderdale "Vision 2024" provides a real aspiration as a place to live, to work and to visit. The Vision resonates with us, the Safeguarding Adults Board, and has informed our Vision and Strategic Objectives. We want Calderdale to be a place where everyone can realise their potential, where all voices are heard and a place that is defined by our innate kindness and resilience.

In addition to meeting the safeguarding challenges that Covid presents, balancing the need to protect those living in care homes or alone whilst mitigating isolation, and issues of safeguarding those with Multiple and Complex Needs has really captured our attention as a Board. The development of a Self-Neglect Toolkit and the formation of a Multi Agency Hoarding Panel are good examples of some of the Boards initiatives to tackle these complex areas of safeguarding.

Learning from recent Safeguarding Adults Reviews and particularly the 'Burnt Bridges?' Thematic review of 5 men leading street-based lives has really challenged our thinking. How can we better protect those vulnerable people in our community, not just those living in care homes, but those living in their own homes and sadly those living street-based lives? The Burnt Bridges? Review has engendered a culture shift in Calderdale, brought a broader umbrella of support for people in the community, and effected greater alignment with the Calderdale Vision of being kind and resilient. Whilst the role of SAB in driving service improvements in response to recommendations from this review is key, we recognise that many actions were systemic and fell outside the remit of the SAB. The wider issues have been and continue to be raised at strategic groups and bodies for inclusion in work streams and more streamlined governance for this area of work continues to be developed.

Throughout the pandemic the SAB have maintained a sharp focus on physically safeguarding the most vulnerable. Due to swift and decisive implementation of protective measures throughout Calderdale, comparatively speaking, we have seen fewer deaths in Care Homes than would have been anticipated, though we regard any death as one too many. The tremendous work in securing additional accommodation and developing services at "the Gathering Place" to better safeguard the most vulnerable through the peak of the pandemic is to be applauded.

As we continue to live through a period of sustained austerity, it is right that we should focus on the links between poverty, austerity and safeguarding and ensure that we reduce these inequalities rather than exacerbate them in any action we take.

I am incredibly proud of the work undertaken by all safeguarding professionals in Calderdale during perhaps the most challenging time many of us will experience in our lifetimes. Throughout the last 12 months they have put the need to care for others above their own personal safety and in my eyes each of them are heroes. I look forward to the challenges of the next 12 months as, hopefully, we are able to manage the impacts of Covid-19 and return to some sort of normality.

We look forward to a Peer Review of the SAB towards the end of the calendar year, which we believe will help us to identify areas where we can further develop our effectiveness as a Board.

We will continue to develop our broader approach to safeguarding across all our community with a particular focus on the MEAM (Making Every Adult Matter) initiative. In partnership with our colleagues across West Yorkshire working towards being a Trauma Informed System and thereby ensuring that we can truly be a place where everyone can realise their potential, where all voices are heard and a place that is defined by our innate kindness and resilience.

M Huison

Marianne Huison

Independent Chair

Calderdale Safeguarding Adult Board

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1. The Vision of the Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board

The Vision for the Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board (CSAB) is aligned with the Borough of Calderdale to be **kind and resilient**; a safe place to live for all its citizens, regardless of their circumstances. We want to hear **the voices that were unheard** in the past and ensure all Citizens of Calderdale, irrespective of age, race, gender, religion, disability or sexual orientation live in a community that protects their rights and freedoms and allows them to live a **'larger life'**, free from abuse and neglect, and the fear of abuse and neglect. We want all our Citizens to **realise their potential** and live a life **full of hope**.



Our Strategic Objectives

Kind and Resilient: CSAB is assured that services are supporting the recovery from Covid-19 in relation to safeguarding people.

Voices are heard: CSAB gains assurance that adults are supported with timely and proportionate responses to concerns of neglect or abuse.

Living a larger life: CSAB provides strategic leadership, initiates effective joint working practices and gains assurance of the effectiveness of partners' safeguarding arrangements.

Full of Hope: CSAB creates a learning culture which consistently improves outcomes for adults at risk.

To make this vision a reality it is essential that agencies work together to:

1. Prevent harm and reduce the risk of abuse or neglect to adults
2. Ensure that they safeguard adults in a way that supports them in making choices and having control about how they want to live
3. Proactively take steps to stop abuse or neglect
4. Learn from good practice and Safeguarding Adults Reviews
5. Ensure there is common understanding and belief of what to do when abuse happens, embedding the principles of 'Making Safeguarding Personal'
6. Ensure they have a competent and able workforce
7. Raise public awareness recognising the valuable role that local communities can play in prevention and early intervention
8. Engaging with and being responsive to the needs of all stakeholders, including adults at risk, carers, service providers and the wider community, is essential to promote the CSAB vision.

2. Calderdale Context



- Male Life expectancy is 78.7 years compared with 79.8 for England. Female life expectancy is 82.4 years compared with 83.4 for England
- The gap in life expectancy is 10.7 years for males and 10.0 years for females between the most and least deprived neighbourhoods in Calderdale.
- It is estimated that Calderdale's population will increase from 210,100 residents in 2018 to 212,400 in 2024. The fastest growing age group is projected to be those aged 75 and over.
- The median age of residents is 42 years compared to the UK average of 40 years
- 10.3% of Calderdale residents are from a minority ethnic background.
- The top five countries of origin for residents born overseas are Pakistan (5,100), Poland (1,600), Ireland (1,400), India (600), and Germany (600)
- Calderdale is currently ranked 66th most deprived borough (out of 317) nationally according to the 2019 Index of Multiple Deprivation (it was 89th in the 2015 edition)
- 18% of Calderdale residents have a long-term health problem or disability that limits their day to day activities; for 8%, day to day activities are limited a lot.

The Calderdale Safeguarding Adults Board Approach to Safeguarding Adults

The CSAB contributes to how adults are safeguarded in Calderdale through providing strategic leadership to embed the principles of safeguarding and contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect.

The CSAB has a legal responsibility to ensure that agencies work together to safeguarding and protect adults at risk.

The CSAB comprises of appropriate senior leaders of Adult Services and Wellbeing, West Yorkshire Police, Health Organisations as well as Housing, voluntary and other statutory services who are held to account for their safeguarding practice. The Board Members are responsible for ensuring key partners across all sectors, including domiciliary care, care homes, housing providers and community workers are engaged with safeguarding messages and learning.

The Board provides leaders, front line practitioners and volunteers with safeguarding policies, procedures, guidance, and tools for safeguarding practice. The Board seeks assurance, monitors risk and impact, applies quantitative, qualitative, and independent scrutiny to provide key messages from learning about how adults in Calderdale are safeguarded.

The Board has and is continuing to develop arrangements with other local and regional strategic partnerships to ensure a collaborative responsive and effective use of resources in response to emerging safeguarding themes.

More recently, and throughout the COVID period, the Board has been supporting messages about how the workforce is equipped and supported so that they in turn can safeguard adults appropriately and proportionately where abuse or neglect is suspected.

The Board has created networks to build stronger links with the community and enable the voice of local people to be heard in relation to safeguarding, ensuring learning from reviews is effectively embedded into practice, and to facilitate organisational change across agencies.

The CSAB is proud to have engendered a culture of openness and transparency where members of the Board are able to challenge each other. A continuous learning culture is promoted, but more needs to be done to celebrate success around safeguarding.

Annually the CSAB develops a Business Plan to support the delivery of learning and priorities. CSAB Members are involved in directing the business plan priorities and actions through development sessions, subgroups, and Board revision. The structure of the CSAB and its subgroups can be found in Appendix 1.



3. The Calderdale Response to COVID

3.1 Covid 19 | CSAB Response

The CSAB monitored and collated any service changes when social distancing was introduced and sought assurance about how professionals and subsequently how communities were responding to those changes. The secretariat distributed these changes weekly to professionals across the partnership, this has continued with a bi-monthly newsletter to update partners of changes across the spectrum of safeguarding.

The Secretariat produced a Contingency Plan, which determined priorities and included how messages about scamming, exploitation and online risks were best given. The secretariat uploaded safeguarding videos and leaflets to the website in response to COVID related concerns - from scamming, to hidden abuse. The SAB also held a Safeguarding Assurance and Risk Register which included evidence of change, assurance (about safeguarding) levels and any actions needed from the SAB. Examples included assurance about how adults identified as at risk were contacted despite daycentres being closed.

The Secretariat Training Officer provided virtual training for new volunteers who were supporting the most vulnerable residents in Calderdale with food parcels and medicine; this training was prioritised and fast tracked so access was immediate. Regular 'Resource Packs' were distributed to professionals to distribute to communities including topics on Domestic Abuse, Scams, online safety, mental health and suicide, etc.

The 'Tell Someone and Be Safe' form was produced by the SAB and promoted to adults and families to report safeguarding concerns themselves. One page 'Safeguarding Messages for the public' were produced alongside a YouTube video highlighting potential increased risks. Safeguarding messages were inserted by the CSAB and Children Safeguarding Partnership in the 'Go Local' magazine to all residents of Calderdale, in response to the concern that social distancing and isolation meant fewer opportunities for professionals to identify concerns. The website was updated with a COVID specific page highlighting risks and basic safeguarding referral details.

The response to the COVID-19 pandemic in Calderdale was swift and decisive. The Secretariat were able to progress statutory workstreams, introduced new software systems for training and engagement, continued SAR activity, and analysed safeguarding intelligence. The huge demand for e-learning meant we had to quickly renegotiate the number of licences held.

The CSAB sought and received assurance that statutory and voluntary providers were proactive in coordinating and providing targeted prevention to care homes and the community. Innovative practice was reported about a hotel supporting COVID-positive discharges from hospital before people were moved back to care homes; and about the breaks offered to carers where access to usual services had reduced.

3.2 Covid 19 | Discharge from Hospital to Care Homes n Calderdale

The Calderdale place-based support to care homes during COVID-19 was developed in March 2020 through emergency planning processes and a multi-agency Care Home Task Group chaired by the DASS as Senior Responsible Officer. The plan was to protect and reduce risk in care homes.

Adult Services and Wellbeing, alongside partners, were able to deploy council care staff and management support and the direct provision of PPE to ensure that homes were offered safe levels of care to residents. The provision of additional accommodation was crucial as a number of homes are based within Victorian buildings where isolation, safe care and management of infection prevention and control presented challenges.

Throughout the lockdown period, contact was made with all of Calderdale's residential and nursing services to quickly identify any difficulties they were experiencing with workforce and maintaining good levels of staffing to support the increasing dependency of people who are isolating or shielding.

This was an innovative development which attracted national media interest, - a partnership with a local hotel which was commissioned to offer support to people being discharged from hospital and those who required enhanced community support. The hotel staff worked alongside local authority day service staff to provide a person-centred service that also offered a break for carers where access to usual services and activities has reduced.

A separate short-term accommodation included 18 nursing care beds in a self-contained section of a local nursing home. This home supported Covid positive discharges and direct support was put in place within the home from CCG nurses.

Two new residential services were also established within vacant properties to support people who tested as Covid positive and negative but needed additional care before they could return to their normal place or residence including residential care homes. Both facilities were staffed by redeployed local authority staff and staff from a local care agency.

The Local Authority also offered enhanced support to care homes to enable them to safely support residents who are isolating or shielding. The SAB sought assurance about and was confident that services in Calderdale were not only meeting national minimum standards, but they were also going above and beyond care for the most vulnerable of Calderdale residents.



3.3 Covid 19 | Everyone In

At the beginning of the pandemic, the Government charged local authorities with getting 'everyone in' and supporting everyone sleeping rough to move into self-contained accommodation.

The focus for Calderdale MBC housing department was to work together to increase units of accommodation, with involvement from Public Health, the voluntary sector and housing providers. The work entailed providing suitable accommodation, which included housing for young people and people with multiple complex needs, which was self-contained where isolation could occur.

Risk, safeguarding and the clients' personal circumstances were all considered by the multi-disciplinary team when planning the range of accommodation options. Management of this project included flexibility and ability to respond to changing circumstances.

Calderdale's system-based approach received national recognition of good practice by the Homelessness Advisor at the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) as we are one of the few LA's not to have evicted any clients and ensured everyone on the streets has been offered accommodation.

3.4 Covid-19 | Section 11 Covid Audit

The CSAB undertook a COVID specific audit in Summer 2020, to formally assurance about how service changes were affecting adults safeguarding practice.

This focussed on five key areas:

- Service Changes
- Multi-Agency Working
- Learning & Improvement
- Engaging with Service Users
- Long Term Consequences

Responses demonstrated that safeguarding had remained a priority for all agencies and that positive changes had been made to improve the identification of those most at risk.

It was detailed that multi-agency working had actually improved in some areas with technological advances assisting this area.

Some challenges highlighted were the unpredictable demand and staff illness / absence which was hard to prepare for. Fewer face to face visits potentially made risks harder to identify however the technological advances mitigated for some of this. A concern for some service leaders was the reduced ability for staff to debrief, offload and reflect following traumatic case involvement and leaders responded that they would be improving levels of support for staff both formally and informally.

Examples of positive development included the speed of changes to IT provision, improving engagement with some service users and young people, better attendance at multi-agency meetings, less cost (in terms of both time and expense) for professionals attending meetings, an increased use of Clare's Law, and an increase of sharing data and intelligence.

4. Learning and Improvement

4.1 Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews

4.1.1 Burnt Bridges? Thematic Review into the deaths of five men who lived Street Based Lives

Following the deaths of five men who lived street-based lives over a short period of time, the CSAB commissioned a Thematic Review and the Burnt Bridges? report was published in December 2020.

Four areas of learning were identified in the review:

1. Multiple and Complex Needs
2. Access to Healthcare and other services
3. Access to suitable accommodation
4. Prevention

The analysis, learning and recommendations for each of these areas are described in detail in the full [report](#). The SAB Safeguarding Adult Review (SAR) Subgroup developed and are monitoring the action plan. The review process has already resulted in fundamental strategic, operational, and cultural changes across all partnership agencies.

Evidence of change following the report has included changed policies and practice, but most importantly it has influenced the culture of organisations and professionals across Calderdale to be kinder and more trauma informed.

Training and raising awareness to the workforce

Progress around developing a shared understanding across Calderdale of the cohort of people who have Multiple and complex needs who experience the greatest inequalities.

- 7-minute briefing produced and circulated
- Video version of the 7-minute briefing produced
- Expert in the Field delivering Calderdale Webinar
- Making Every Adult Matter training delivered on Multiple Complex Needs
- Burnt Bridges session delivered in Safeguarding Week (June 2021) by the report author
- Training on Trauma and Adversity developed
- Safeguarding Supervision Training with reflective practice repromoted
- Multiple Complex Needs Fatality Review Process developed
- Professor Michael Preston-Shoot raising issues of funding and stability nationally to seek solution to the short term and inconsistent funding for community workers.

Independent Scrutiny of the report

An experienced Clinical Research Director was commissioned by the CSAB to undertake independent scrutiny of the Burnt Bridges? report. This peer review suggested strengths, limitations, and recommendations for further editing which helped shape and influenced the [SAB Board Response](#).

Next Steps for Burnt Bridges? Learning

The CSAB Business Plan for 2021-2022 shows the increased focus on reducing health inequalities and how people who have multiple complex needs or significant disadvantage are safeguarded. The

CSAB links with the Anti-Poverty Strategy Group in Calderdale and is working with the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership to explore links between poverty, trauma, and abuse and neglect. The CSAB aligns these priorities with the Making Every Adult Matter coalition which supports design and delivery of better coordinated services for adults with multiple and complex needs, specifically in the four main HARM areas that are Homelessness, Addiction, Reoffending and Mental health.

Calderdale are active members of West Yorkshire Trauma, Adversity and Resilience Consortium who through the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Integrated Care System (ICS) are further developing how West Yorkshire is a Trauma informed and Responsive System by 2030 and a whole system approach to tackling multiple disadvantages.



4.1.2 Safeguarding Adult Review Learning from Mr A and Mr B

In late 2020, a series of interviews were held to establish what front line practitioners had learned from the Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR)s Mr A and Mr B. These two reports were published in preceding years, and the interviews challenged representatives of the key agencies for whom recommendations were made. The interviewer panel comprised CSAB members and the Independent Chair.

Questions based on the SAR recommendations were used to frame conversations to inquire into whether the actions had been implemented, what difference this had made to front line practice, if improvements had been sustained and to identify any areas for further development.

The interviews were well attended, and participants engaged well, being open and honest in their responses. It soon became apparent that a great deal of work had been undertaken by the various agencies to act upon the recommendations and embed the learning from the reviews. The passion for safeguarding adults and making a difference in improving their lives was apparent in all the interviews.

It was clear that the knowledge, understanding and therefore practice of front-line staff had improved. Notably all agencies reported that they felt both competent and confident in raising Safeguarding Concerns. The panel were reassured that Safeguarding Concerns were being effectively

triaged by staff in the Gateway to Care with most cases receiving an initial response within the target of 24 hours.

The Self Neglect Toolkit had been used to good effect and in several agencies this had accompanied specific Self Neglect Training Sessions. As a result, the number of referrals for Self-Neglect increased during the period 2020-2021 which further evidenced how this learning had been embedded.

The CSAB “Was Not Brought” guidance had been well received and widely circulated across all agencies to discourage ‘Did Not Attend’ attitudes. In addition, training had been delivered regarding “Disguised Compliance” as a result of the Mr B SAR.

Generally, the Mental Capacity Act was well understood across all agencies with evidence of training and guidance delivered. Consideration of mental capacity and best interest decision making had been further embedded since the SAR reviews. However, the concept of ‘executive functioning’ was not as well understood in practice and concern was raised about individuals who were self-neglecting, risk taking, or refusing to engage with services, but where there were no concerns about mental capacity. Practitioners reported feeling at a loss with how to effectively safeguard such individuals and suggest this may be an area for the CSAB to consider further.

The mental health legal team have developed a flow chart for frontline staff regarding the Mental Capacity Act which includes consideration of “Executive Capacity” including in cases where there may be duress involved and the impact this may have on Mental Capacity.

Most agencies have a policy and/or procedure for updating records following mortality, and alerting other agencies involved in providing care or services to the service user. However, it is unclear how systems automatically notify fatalities to other agencies. Whilst individual workers take responsibility for notifying other agencies, the panel felt this was an area where a policy/standard procedure would be worth considering.

The panel received good evidence that the quality of multi-agency meetings had improved, with information being shared effectively and risk management plans having a positive impact. The Complex Case Panel was cited as good practice. However, some organisations commented that they were not always invited to meetings where they felt they could play an important part in a Multi-Agency Risk Management Plan. It was suggested that some guidance as to who should call/lead a Multi-Agency meeting would be helpful.

All agencies felt that effectively managing the transition from Childhood to Adulthood was an area that required improvement. Good practice was cited in relation to Children with Learning Disabilities where Adults Services and Wellbeing are routinely invited to meetings as soon as the Children reach 16 years. Similarly, the specialist ‘Transitions’ workers in the All-Age Disability Team, and the appointment of a Children’s Nurse in Continuing Care were felt to have improved practice in this area. The panel heard that transition work needs to start as early as 14 years for Children requiring Continuing Care. Housing again felt this was an area they could support, particularly with supported tenancy.



4.1.3 How the CSAB ensures learning from SAR and Review Activity is disseminated and embedded

Challenge Events

Front line practitioners, line managers and organisational leads are involved in challenge events which will directly ask how the learning from reviews has had impact on practice, people and communities.

At the same time, experts by experience who have, or have had multiple complex needs and who may be at risk of living street-based lives will be consulted as to their experience of services and whether this has been affected by the Burnt Bridges? report. This will be triangulated with the feedback from professionals and associated performance management data and audit findings to provide assurance to the SAB that this review has made the intended difference and that progress has been made.

4.2 Training

Safeguarding 'face to face' training was stood down in line with national requirements from March 2020. Initially, online sessions to raise awareness about Safeguarding Children and Adults were held, aimed at Calderdale Covid-19 volunteers. These sessions were attended by over 150 people and provided an opportunity for volunteers to ask questions and to clarify safeguarding responsibilities.

A total of **5106** e-learning licences were allocated during the first quarter alone (April to June 2020). A total of 4095 eLearning licences were used in the last 3 quarters of 2020-21. There were 4557 licenses used in the 4 quarters of 2019-2020. This huge spike when lockdown began reflects the need and ability of professionals to proactively seek professional development during the first lockdown.

In 2020 Calderdale purchased a new Learning Management System, this went live in July 2020. The Learning Improvement Officer and others from across the partnership began re-writing face to face training to be delivered online: by quarter 4 (Jan to March 2021) 11 courses were delivered online and attended by 179 people. A full multi-agency safeguarding training program is now being delivered online, face to face, and by e-learning.

94% of attendees were satisfied with their learning experience during 2020, with 86% claiming that their skills and knowledge had improved a lot, and the remaining 14% stating their skills and knowledge had improved 'a bit'.

Some comments from training this year include:

I found it helpful listening to others sharing their experiences of working with people who are or are at risk of self-neglecting. It enabled me to further my knowledge about the challenges other services can find when working with people and families at risk.

I know more places to seek out information and advice for concerns

I feel that I will now be better at supporting the adults and not just the children that access the organisation.





4.3 Safeguarding Week

Calderdale held its first ever virtual safeguarding week in 2020; this was due to the Covid-19 outbreak. It was agreed to focus on a 'topic per day', which included:

- Monday: Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility; Kindness
- Tuesday: Domestic Abuse and impact on children; Peer on peer abuse; Controlling and Coercive Behaviour; Reducing Parental Conflict
- Wednesday: Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE's); Transitions in Safeguarding
- Thursday: Online Safety; Scams and Exploitation
- Friday: Resilience; Promoting Emotional Health and Well-being

The virtual programme included online learning sessions, live chats, podcasts, research reports, academic articles, resources, links, and videos aimed at practitioners and managers and was available via Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership and Safeguarding Adult Board website. Contributions were received from across the multi-agency partnership and included a good mix of resources for practitioners who work with Children and/or Adults.

The CSCP/CSAB website was viewed 2478 times throughout the week, with Monday being the most popular day, with almost 1250 hits. The most popular method of learning was through videos.

From the 22 Facebook and Twitter social media posts through the week, this generated a total of:

- 64,456 impressions (*Impressions: The social media post has been delivered to someone's social media feed*)
- 899 engagements (*Engagements: a measure of the number of public shares, likes and comments on the social media post*)

A particular Facebook post highlighting the contacts details of the Gateway to Care and the Multi Agency Screening Team (MAST) created the largest impression (9241). The Halifax Courier also covered the story [online](#).

Contributions to the programme came from over 60 local and national organisations. Some examples of Youtube 'hits' include a keynote speech video 'Working Together in Challenging Times (change, challenge and innovation)' received 96 unique viewers. A Video Message from the Police Lead for Partnerships and Early Action in Calderdale received 145 unique viewers.

CSAB evaluation received 114 responses. Overall, the virtual week evaluated positively; practitioner knowledge increased, and practitioners said it would enhance their practice. Evaluation also revealed that early preparation was key to ensure practitioners can book time out to access the resources, and work is needed to be done by all contributors around accessibility standards to ensure resources are available past safeguarding week.



4.4 Learning and Improvement: Socio-Economic contexts

The CSAB, together with the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership, hosted a virtual 'Austerity, Poverty and the Implications on Safeguarding' conference in December 2020. The event was based on a thesis written by a Social Work Masters Student who was commissioned by Calderdale CCG to undertake the piece of work. The thesis received one of the highest grades recorded by Leeds Beckett University.

The conference detailed research on the implications of austerity and poverty on safeguarding in Calderdale which was especially important due to COVID and the impact on poverty.

The links to our Calderdale Vision 2024 and especially being 'Kind and Resilient' were clear. And the presentation gave an evidenced based view on the following issues:

- What, if any, are the impacts of poverty, deprivation and inequality on maltreatment and abuse of both children and adults?
- Has austerity affected the prevalence of poverty in the United Kingdom?
- Have austerity policies contributed to the rate of abuse and maltreatment and the types of abuse that are recorded?
- If there is a connection between poverty and abuse, what are the causes of this connection?
- Is there any evidence of systematic oppression and prejudice within professional practice?

The virtual conference was attended by over 120 professionals from Calderdale and West Yorkshire and included an online facilitated discussion. They focused on actions and the 'So What?' question for Calderdale. The participants captured what they could implement and influence based on this new awareness and considered:

- How they can place poverty more centrally on agendas
- Any implications for multi-disciplinary working
- What a post-COVID-19 era might look like – how to prepare
- The differences and shared features of the children's and adult's agendas
- How to do more to empower poorer children, families and adults at risk and their carers
- The impact of the power imbalance in relationships with people who require services
- How to ensure local data is sufficient in terms of poverty and inequality

The impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences, use of language, and shared opportunities between children and adult services were looked at along with digital poverty, and the existing services looking at poverty and social inequalities. The links to the Burnt Bridges? review were clear.

The awareness and ideas were shared with the Calderdale Anti-Poverty Strategic Group, and the regional work looking at Trauma, Adversity and Resilience in West Yorkshire. Specifically, the CSAB adjusted the Business Plan as a result and now records indices of multiple deprivation alongside other indicators to inform our picture of safeguarding and peoples individual needs.



5. Performance and Quality Assurance

A multi agency Performance and Quality Assurance Group met during the pandemic through virtual platforms and had several objectives at the start of the year. Despite the COVID Pandemic and crisis on front line staff and managers, the group managed to achieve a lot.

The Performance Indicator dataset was revised to ensure a multi-agency / system focus and opportunities were sought to collaborate with other local authorities to identify data that can be used for comparison / benchmarking.

Following a CSAB workshop on Poverty / austerity / inequalities and safeguarding, the group now collects data on the safeguarding referrals by areas of deprivation. This has helped build a greater understanding of relationship between deprivation and safeguarding in Calderdale.

The group provided assurance to the CSAB in relation to the changing patterns of abuse and neglect during the Covid pandemic including providing comparative data from other areas. Members undertook deeper dives into areas where data indicated possible changing patterns of abuse and neglect during the Covid pandemic and provided assurance that the safeguarding response was appropriate. Bulletins on this were produced which were distributed widely.

An audit examining the effectiveness of safeguarding supervision demonstrated variable practice across services, resulting in recommendations for improvement and repromotion of safeguarding supervision training.

Discussions about developing a West Yorkshire wide online version of the Safeguarding Adult Audit /Section 11 tool have advanced, but progress was impacted by the pandemic, and this has been delayed.

Due to the pandemic, the reduced capacity of partners and focus on immediate safeguarding, many multi-agency audits were not undertaken, and whilst we have been able to collate some nationally available comparator data (and opportunities increased for this during COVID) comparator data for some key areas have not been available.

The group had also wanted to trial a new detailed multi-agency audit approach on an individual with multiple complex needs, but due to Covid pressures this has also been delayed. In addition, a planned review of safeguarding thresholds was not achieved either.

The data on safeguarding and indices of deprivation has contributed to the focus of the CSAB to reduce inequalities, however, it is anticipated that a widening of health inequalities and social poverty further exacerbated by the Covid pandemic will have an impact on the safeguarding adults at risk.

The numbers of people who have been referred as 'self-neglecting' have risen significantly this year, showing how the SAB training, and raising awareness has impacted on adults at risk in Calderdale and organisations' ability to recognise self-neglect.

6. Ambitions for the Calderdale Safeguarding Adult Board

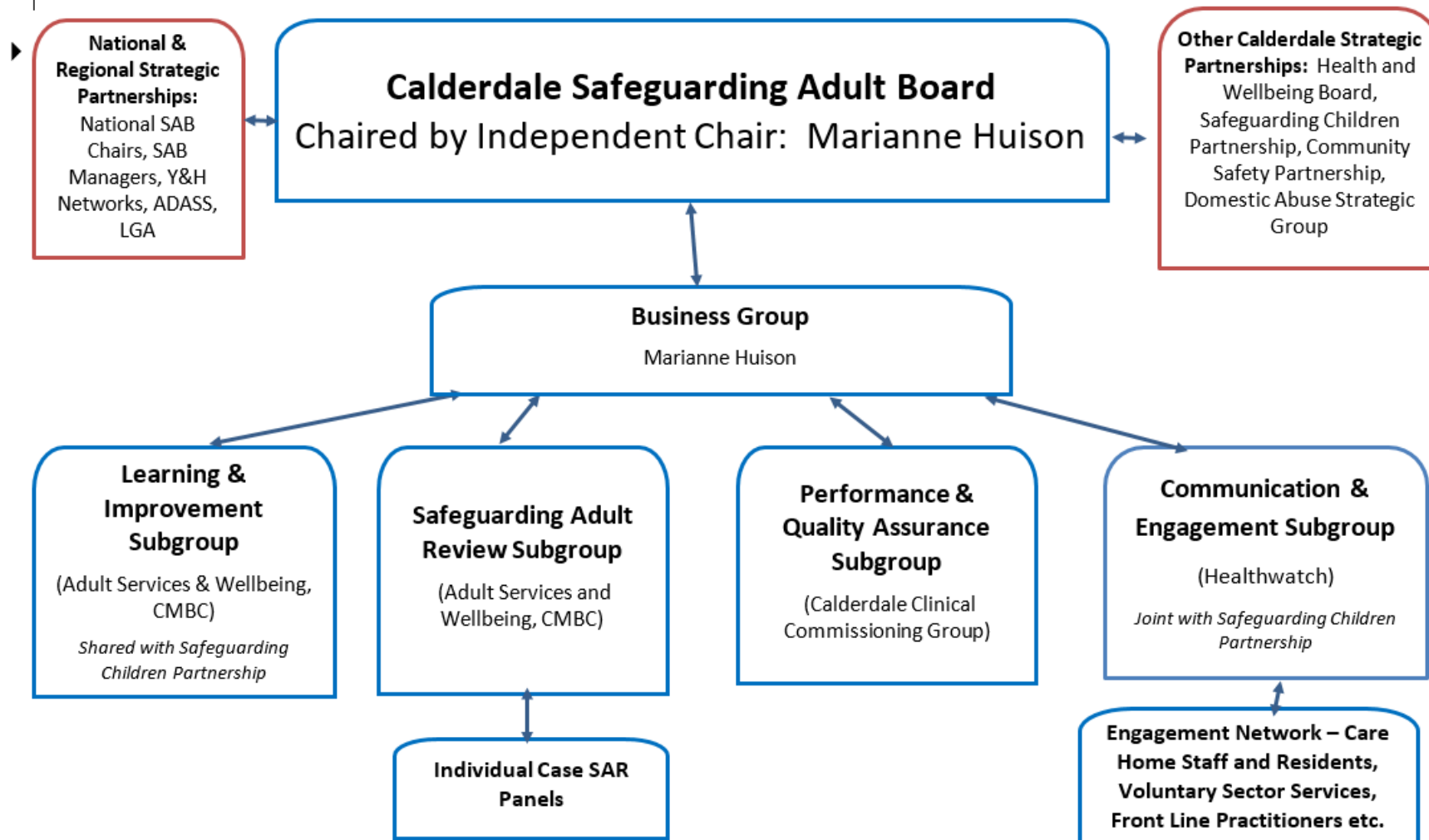
The ambition for the CSAB and its partners is to influence changes to multi-agency safeguarding in Calderdale, driving the goal to have a kind and trauma informed workforce. Delivering on the learning from the Burnt Bridges? report will continue to be a priority of the CSAB, in conjunction with supporting Calderdale residents to be safe and resilient.

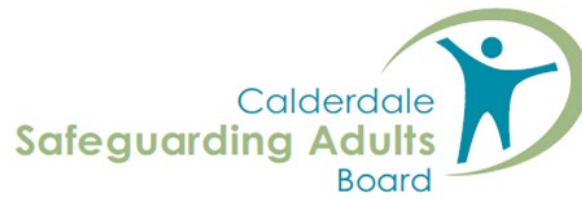
This report demonstrates that partners in Calderdale remain committed to safeguarding adults. The contribution, engagement, analysis, scrutiny and challenge is evident and is strengthening year on year. There are some specific priorities for the CSAB which are highlighted below, and which have been agreed across the multi-agency partnership.

1. Engage, support, inform and develop professionals from across the wider partnership, including voluntary sector, care homes, home care and community organisations.
2. Establish and advance trauma informed practice in Calderdale.
3. Review and refine Safeguarding Adult Review processes.
4. Contribute to the streamlining of governance arrangements.
5. Address new and emerging vulnerabilities and safeguarding issues.
6. Influence and strengthen multi-agency safeguarding work and the approach to thresholds.
7. Scrutinising changes to the Adult Services and Wellbeing provision and the parallel changes to the management information and recording systems.
8. Lead the progress and response to the Thematic Review; Burnt Bridges?
9. Support partners to demonstrate how Making Safeguarding Personal is impacting on Calderdale residents.



Appendix 1: Safeguarding Adult Board Structure Chart





This report will be published on the [Calderdale SAB website](#).

For further information about this report contact Julia Caldwell,

julia.caldwell@calderdale.gov.uk

www.calderdale-safeguarding.co.uk

If you need safeguarding guidance or advice, call Gateway to Care on 01422 393000

To report adult abuse or neglect, call Gateway to Care on 01422 393000

To contact out of office hours, call the Emergency Duty Team on 01422 288000

[Guidance on making a referral](#) can be accessed from the [Safeguarding Board Website](#)