



# Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Strategic Plan 2024-25



**BARNSLEY  
SAFEGUARDING**  
ADULTS BOARD



**SAFEGUARDING  
BARNSLEY  
TOGETHER**

# Introduction

Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) is the statutory body that brings together organisations like Health, including GPs, Housing, Adult Social Care, Education, Barnsley Council and the Police to promote wellbeing and reduce the risk of harm for people with care and support needs. The Board is responsible for leading safeguarding arrangements across the borough and for overseeing, co-ordinating and challenging the effectiveness of the work of our members and partner agencies.

We also have a responsibility to develop and actively promote a culture among our members, partners and communities that recognises the values and principles contained in Making Safeguarding Personal.

Together, we have a duty of care to make sure that procedures are in place to encourage the reporting of suspected abuse, and to act to stop it.

The Board's role is to make sure that those who work to safeguard adults use a joined up and consistent approach to referral, assessment, planning, intervention and case review of services to people who've been, or who are at risk of, being abused.



Under the Care Act 2014, we must:

- Develop and publish a Strategic Plan, setting out how we'll meet our objectives and how our members and partner agencies will contribute.
- Publish an Annual Report detailing how effective our work has been.
- Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) for cases where an adult dies or is seriously harmed as a result of abuse or neglect.



# 1. Our vision is to ensure that Barnsley is a safe place for all adults

To achieve this, we will work together to:

- Prevent harm and abuse by promoting dignity and respect and delivering high-quality services.
- Empower adults and the community to prevent abuse and be part of the solution if abuse or harm does occur.
- Protect adults by working with them to reduce the risks and establishing a culture in all services that does not tolerate abuse.
- Deliver proportionate responses to abuse and harm, working with the adult.
- Deliver high-quality partnership working to prevent and respond to abuse and harm.
- Hold each other to account about the quality of our safeguarding work and report this to the citizens of Barnsley.

The purpose of this Strategic Plan is to identify the main priorities in order that the Board, and its members, can focus on those issues that will have the biggest impact on improving the safety of adults at risk in Barnsley.





## 2. Our ambitions

### 2.1. To ensure that collectively, we all work hard to prevent harm and abuse across Barnsley.

Safeguarding really is everyone's business. We know that prevention is better than the cure – this means that we must use all our skills, assets and knowledge so that, as a community, we become the eyes and ears, spot the signs early on and act to address the risks with the adult.

### 2.2. To develop citizen-led approaches to safeguarding

Our practices and approaches to safeguarding should be informed by those people who we are here to protect. In doing so, we can all strengthen our efforts and refine our actions based upon lived experiences and insights. Supporting the community to identify and report concerns about harm and abuse about family, friends and neighbours will increase their confidence that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility.

## 2.3. To deliver proportionate, timely, outcome-focused responses to safeguarding

It is essential we can evidence that referrals from workers and volunteers are of a high quality and include the adult's consent where appropriate. This will show that we are all working with the Making Safeguarding Personal principles and will increase the number of referrals that require a safeguarding response, reducing the number that don't need any further action. We will evaluate people's experiences of safeguarding to evidence how we're helping them to feel safer, reducing the risk of further harm and making any changes to training and guidance to deliver this ambition.

## 2.4. To learn together and continually improve

It is essential that we can evidence that the actions we are taking are making a positive difference to adults in Barnsley and that they are safer as a result. Reflecting on experiences, both from practitioners and citizens, will shape our thinking and plans. We will work with sub-regional, regional and national colleagues to share good practice and learning.



# Our Plan for 2024/2025

The Strategic Plan details the actions that we will take in working towards our ambitions. The plan will be reviewed annually through the Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB).

## **Ambition 1: To ensure that collectively, we all work hard to prevent harm and abuse across Barnsley**

The Board will ensure that:

- High-quality, safe services are available for adults in Barnsley.
- All partners empower adults to prevent abuse and equip them with the skills and knowledge to support their family, friends and neighbours.
- All partners and the Board identify risks and trends, and take measures to reduce these.
- All partners equip workers and volunteers with the skills and knowledge to recognise and respond to abuse risks in a timely manner.
- All partners and the Board improve access to early help and other support services to prevent harm and abuse or to offer timely support.



This is what we will do in 2024/25:

- Produce high-quality policies, guidance and practice tools, and manage their rollout to all workers.
- Work with the Barnsley Safeguarding Children's Partnership to support young people to become safe, empowered adults. We will monitor the work of our Preparing for Adulthood team, using their case examples to inform training and public messages.
- Review our communications plan regularly to evaluate its impact on the ability of adults to identify and respond to abuse, including delivery of an annual Safeguarding Awareness Week.
- Identify and respond to new issues affecting the safety of adults.
- Create a diverse range of learning and development opportunities to maximise access for all staff and volunteers and evaluate its impact.
- Complete Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) in line with the Care Act requirements and oversee the completion of action plans by all BSAB partners.
- Hold a care providers conference to share guidance and best practice with those working in the sector.
- Explore what safeguarding support adults who are homeless or insecurely housed may need to stay safe.
- Encourage reflective practice to support learning based on the voice of the adult, including reviews of cases that do not meet the threshold for a Safeguarding Adults Review.





## Ambition 2: To develop citizen-led approaches to safeguarding

The Board will:

- Identify opportunities to create safeguarding knowledge within local communities, working in partnership with the Safeguarding Engagement Post at Healthwatch Barnsley to maximise their options and confidence to raise concerns.
- Deliver a robust media campaign, supporting adults to keep themselves and others safe by using people's lived experiences.
- Make sure that the adult or their advocate are at the centre of all safeguarding, in line with Making Safeguarding Personal, and use these examples in training and publicity.
- Work with adults with lived experience of safeguarding, using their expertise to enhance our training materials and courses.
- Involve communities in our Safeguarding Awareness Week.

This is what we will do in 2024/25:

- Support the Safeguarding Adults Forum by Experience (SAFE) sub-group to share safeguarding messages on social media and to make links with other customer groups in South Yorkshire.
- Establish strong links with other customer groups to embed safeguarding as a core business of all groups. We will do this by sharing public-facing minutes and encouraging them to become Safeguarding Champions, affiliated to the Board.
- Evaluate approaches by other Safeguarding Adults Boards and implement best practice.
- Use data on adult's experiences of safeguarding to inform our messaging to increase people's confidence to request help.
- Produce public messages after each Board meeting to demonstrate our commitment to keeping adults safe.
- Work with adults and customers to identify how to increase knowledge of safeguarding, including the use of radio adverts, leaflets, posters and meetings with local groups.

## **Ambition 3: To deliver proportionate, timely, outcome-focused responses to safeguarding.**

The Board will:

- Work with all partners to continuously improve the quality of referrals to make sure that the views of adults are heard and, as appropriate, included in all referrals.
- Evaluate safeguarding cases to demonstrate that all partners are working with the Making Safeguarding Personal principles, actively involving adults or their advocate in the safeguarding journey.
- Compare ourselves with other local authorities to identify areas for improvement and share best practice through our involvement in regional and national forums.
- Demonstrate our ability to respond to allegations of harm or abuse by workers and volunteers (People in Positions of Trust responsibilities).
- Measure people's views of safeguarding to support any changes to practice, training and guidance.



This is what we will do in 2024/25:

- Every quarter, we will require all partners to evidence how they are delivering safeguarding in their organisations. This will include their number of referrals, the amount and types of training delivered and any quality assurance work.
- Share safeguarding data with customer groups to help them feel more confident in telling us about any harm or abuse they or their families are experiencing.
- Evaluate the safeguarding data held by Barnsley Council to identify areas of best practice or new trends, working across the Board and sub-groups to address these.
- Use learnings from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs), completed locally and nationally, to critically evaluate our ability to protect adults in Barnsley. We will complete audits of individual organisations to test their ability to keep adults safe.

## **Ambition 4: Learning together and continually improving**

The Board will:

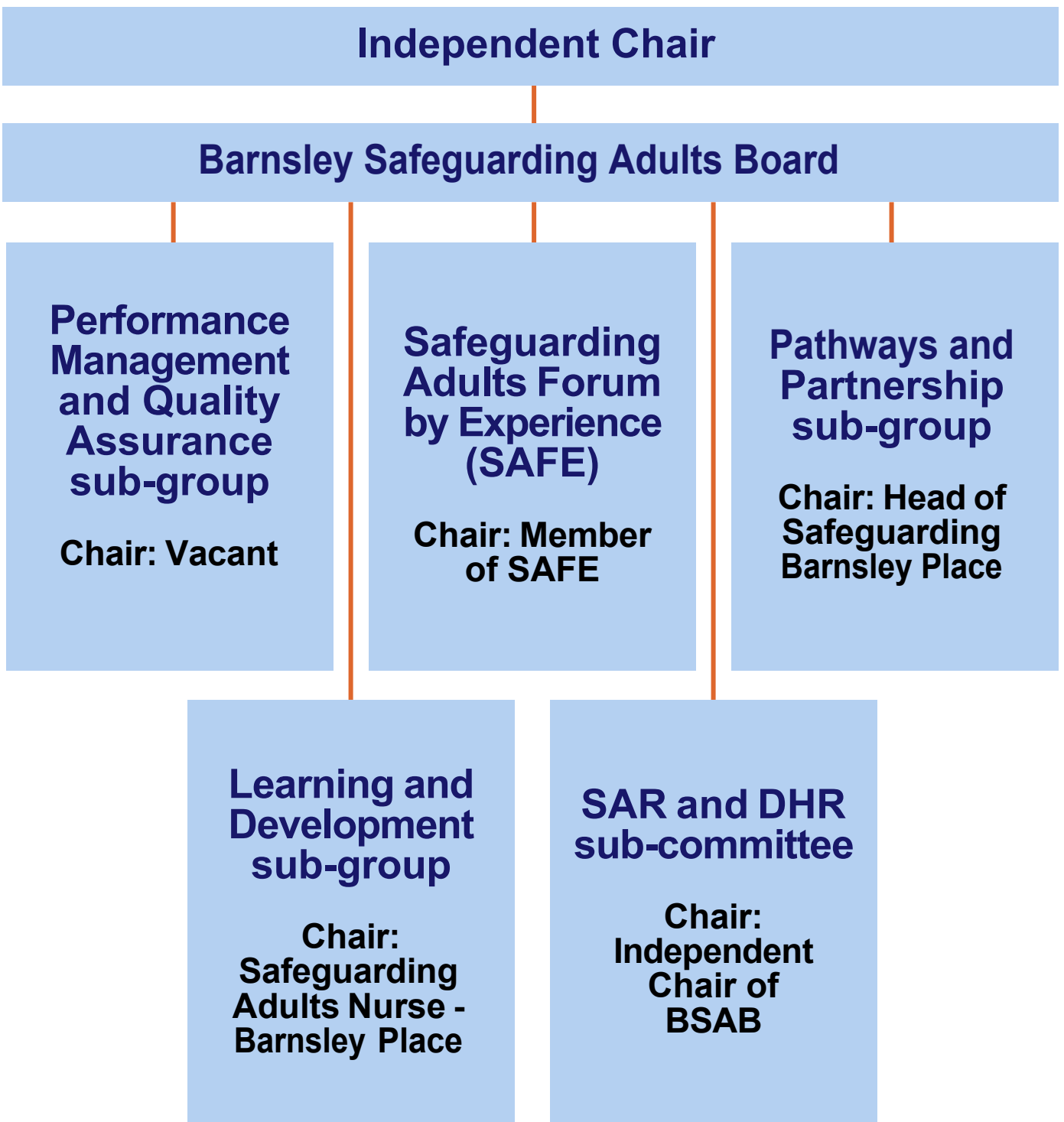
- Review data and practice audits to inform priorities.
- Learn lessons from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs), both locally and nationally.
- Use data from practice reviews and SARs to inform the development and content of our training and development programme.
- Evaluate the impact of learning and development on practice, continuously striving to deliver a high-quality programme of learning.
- Engage with research opportunities.

This is what we will do in 2024/25:

- Produce a dashboard (based on a traffic light system) and overview report to support the Board in evaluating performance and identifying areas of risk to support our aim to keep all adults safe, including evaluation with regional and national data.
- Complete single-agency and multi-agency audits to assess the quality of practice and evaluate any improvement needs, reflecting learnings from Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).
- Lead on and support the design and delivery of development and training opportunities, in collaboration with adults with lived experiences of safeguarding.
- Work in partnership with the South Yorkshire and Yorkshire and Humberside Safeguarding Adults Boards and local authorities, sharing learning and developing joint initiatives.
- Share learning in newsletters and bi-annual learning events and contribute to the national Safeguarding Adults Review library.
- Work with other safeguarding customer groups regionally to share best practice.



# Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board Structure





**BARNSELY  
SAFEGUARDING**  
ADULTS BOARD

# Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board partners

## Strategic Plan 2024-25



**South Yorkshire  
FIRE & RESCUE**

