



# STRATEGIC PLAN 2023 TO 2026

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## STRATEGIC STATEMENT

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We will work together with partner organisations and people in our communities so that Adults can live the best lives they can with their wellbeing and rights being supported, safe from abuse and neglect.

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## Introduction

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The Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi-agency partnership which has statutory functions under the Care Act 2014. The main responsibility of the Safeguarding Adults Board is to ensure that local safeguarding arrangements work effectively so that adults at risk due to health needs, social care needs or disabilities are able to live their lives free of abuse or neglect.

Our Strategic Plan sets out how the Board will work towards achieving its vision for the Bradford District.

**Our plan is based around three key ambitions that will guide our work and priorities:**

- 1. Improve Awareness of Adult Safeguarding Across All Communities and Partner Organisations**
- 2. Prevention of Abuse and Neglect**
- 3. Engagement and Making Safeguarding Personal**

## Statutory Requirements

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The Care Act 2014 sets out that the overarching objective of a Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect 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 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 the experience of abuse or neglect.

The Care Act 2014 also sets out the Board's specific functions. One of these functions is that it must publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its priorities and what the members will do to achieve these. The plan must be developed with local community involvement, and the Board must consult the Local Healthwatch organisation.

Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board has produced a strategic plan for the three years from 2023 - 2026. At the start of each financial year, a targeted action plan will be drawn up which sets out in more detail how it will meet the objectives of the three-year plan over the next twelve months.

The Care and Support Statutory Guidance gives more detail about how SABs should meet the requirements of the Care Act 2014.

Bradford Safeguarding Adults Board will meet these requirements through:

- Development of preventative strategies that aim to reduce instances of abuse and neglect in its area.
- Development of strategies to address the impact of abuse and neglect which take into account issues of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and gender orientation, sexual orientation, age, disadvantage and disability.
- Promoting multi-agency training and considering any specialist training that may be required. This includes considering opportunities to jointly commission some training with other partnerships, including the Tri Board work being undertaken across BSAB, Bradford District Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Community Safety Partnership
- Engaging with our communities and utilising opportunities to ensure that we capture and share the voice of those with lived experience.

## Priority One – Improve Awareness of Adult Safeguarding Across All Communities and Partner Organisations

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**Desired Outcome:** People have access to clear and simple information about abuse and neglect and they are confident to report it.

**People will say:** “I receive clear and simple information about what abuse and neglect is, how to recognise the signs that this occurring and what I can do to seek help.”

### **What we will do to deliver this priority:**

1. Renew and strengthen all communications materials, including web presence, social media, comms networks.
2. Gather evidence from our diverse communities to demonstrate that they understand what safeguarding is and how they can access support via focus groups, surveys.
3. Gather evidence of awareness and understanding of adult safeguarding duties amongst staff across the partnership, via focus groups and surveys.
4. Offer opportunities for multi-agency training, learning and development around safeguarding adults available to staff in all partner agencies, as appropriate to their role.
5. Publish an annual report that takes into account the work of partners and what people have said about their lived experiences of safeguarding services/processes.
6. Enhance our intelligence dashboard regarding adult safeguarding, with the aim to increase the SAB’s understanding of prevalence of abuse and neglect locally that builds up a picture over time – with actions flowing into our annual business plan and sub-groups, holding partners to account, and improving the outcomes for adults at risk in the Bradford District.

## Priority Two – Prevention of Abuse and Neglect

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**Desired Outcome:** Adults at risk are identified early and have their needs met promptly and effectively.

**People will say:** “I feel safe and am supported to understand and manage any risks.”

### **What we will do to deliver this priority:**

1. Publicise our local safeguarding plans, policies, and procedures, including multi agency policies – setting out the role, responsibility, and accountability for each agency and professional group.
2. Protect people from abuse and neglect by identifying the key risks to adults at risk and putting in place campaigns, processes, and policies to prevent abuse or neglect.
3. Identify the best ways to reach people for whom there may be blocks to accessing information about safeguarding.
4. Implementing a multi-agency training strategy and a revised training programme, informed by current and future training needs based on local and national learning from SARs, legal frameworks /changes and additions and the work of BSAB.
5. Show examples of working in partnership to reduce or eliminate abuse and neglect in housing, homelessness, adults at risk of exploitation, domestic abuse and PREVENT.
6. The new Independent Chair will review our governance with the Partnership Business Unit to ensure accountability for SAB compliance in relation to our Care Act duties.
7. Strengthen the assurance sought from SAB partners that they have put learning, resources, policies, and procedures into practice. This includes undertaking multi-agency audits and an external peer review.
8. Ensure our SAR process facilitates identification and application of key learning, including providing assurance to the board that learning from SARs by partners has occurred, evaluated and practice changed.

## Priority Three – Engagement and Making Safeguarding Personal

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**Desired Outcome:** Adults at risk and practitioners feel empowered for their voices to be heard in safeguarding practice and policy development.

**People will say:** “I am asked what I want as my outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens” and “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.”

**What we will do to deliver this priority:**

1. Gather feedback from people who have lived experience of the safeguarding process on whether they understood the safeguarding process, felt listened to, and their desired outcome has been reached (via outcomes-based questions based on [six safeguarding principles 'I statements'](#)) –.
2. Gather feedback from family, carers, advocates, and wider family members of the person at risk (with their consent) about whether they understood the safeguarding process, felt the person was listened to, and feel the person's desired outcome was reached (via outcomes-based questions)
3. Seek the voices of wider citizen groups/local communities so that voices of people in our communities are heard and inform our work and continue to support the Safeguarding Voice Group.
4. Demonstrate how data collated from safeguarding notifications is used to inform and improve practice e.g., response time, action, outcome, focus on diversity and inclusion, regular audits of practice and information sharing systems including feedback to partners – to improve our practice.

## Development of Strategy

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This strategy was developed by all Safeguarding Adults Board Partners in consultation with

- Members of the Board's Executive and its subgroups.
- This strategy was developed with contributions and oversight from members of the established Safeguarding Voice Group. The Safeguarding Voice Group membership is made up of those with lived experience of abuse and neglect or have a caring responsibility for those that have..

The strategy sets out how we intend to achieve each of the three key priorities and will be the Board's blueprint for the next three years. It follows on from a previous three-year strategic plan which concluded in March 2023. Some areas of work identified during the progression of this three-year plan have been incorporated into our new plan to ensure continued focus and development in these key areas.

## How the strategy will be delivered

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A new work-plan will be developed each year, in conjunction and collaboration with Board Members in order to achieve each of the agreed strategic priorities.

Our targeted aims for 2023-24 will be complemented by a more detailed action plan which will be monitored regularly by the Board and its relevant subgroups. This will also consider our responses to specific and thematic issues, such as modern slavery, domestic abuse, self-neglect, financial abuse, and adult safeguarding in the context of Covid-19.

The subgroups of the Board are pivotal in supporting BSAB to achieve its objectives and continue to deliver on campaigns and develop tools to support practitioners and citizens in understanding and responding to adult safeguarding concerns. Each subgroup has their own set of priorities and specific targets which complement the overarching priorities of the Board.

At the end of each year, BSAB will publish an annual report highlighting the Board's achievements and outline how the work plan has been delivered.