

Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board responsibilities, principles and values

Responsibilities

- identify the role, responsibility, authority and accountability with regard to the action each agency and professional group should take to ensure the protection of adults, by publishing agreed multi-agency policy, protocols and guidance
- establish ways of analysing and interrogating data on safeguarding notifications that increase the SAB's understanding or prevalence of abuse and neglect locally that builds up a picture over time
- establish how it will hold partners to account and gain assurance of the effectiveness of arrangements
- determine its arrangements for peer review and self-audit
- establish mechanisms for developing policies and strategies for protecting adults which should be formulated, not only in collaboration and consultation with all relevant agencies, but also take account of the views of adults who have needs for care and support, their families, advocates and carer representatives
- develop preventative strategies that aim to reduce instances of abuse and neglect in Kent and Medway
- identify types of circumstances giving grounds for concern and when they should be considered as a referral to the local authority as an enquiry
- formulate guidance about the arrangements for managing adult safeguarding, and deal with complaints, grievances and professional and administrative malpractice in relation to safeguarding adults
- develop strategies to deal with the impact of issues of race, ethnicity, religion, gender and gender orientation, sexual orientation, age, disadvantage and disability on abuse and neglect
- balance the requirements of confidentiality with the consideration that, to protect adults, it may be necessary to share information on a 'need-to-know' basis
- identify mechanisms for monitoring and reviewing the implementation and impact of policy and training
- carry out safeguarding adult reviews
- produce a Strategic Plan and an Annual Report
- evidence how SAB members have challenged one another and held other boards to account
- promote multi-agency training and consider any specialist training that may be required . The Board must consider any scope to jointly commission some training with other partnerships, such as the Community Safety Partnership

Principles and values

The Kent and Medway Safeguarding Adults Board multi-agency partnership is supported by the following principles and values:

- It is every adult's right to live free from abuse in accordance with the principles of respect, dignity, autonomy, privacy and equity
- All agencies and services should ensure that their own policies and procedures make it clear that they have a zero tolerance of abuse
- Priority will be given to the prevention of abuse by raising the awareness of adult protection issues and by fostering a culture of good practice through support and care provision, commissioning and contracting
- Adults who are susceptible or subjected to abuse or mistreatment will receive the highest priority for assessment and support services.

- All agencies will respond to adult protection concerns with prompt, timely and appropriate action in line with agreed protocols
- These principles are applicable to all adults whether living in a domestic setting, care home, social services or health setting or any community setting
- Protection of adults experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, is a multi-agency responsibility and all agencies and services should actively work together to address the abuse of adults
- Interventions should be based on the concept of empowerment and participation of the individual at risk
- These principles should constitute an integral part of the philosophy and working practices of all agencies involved with adults experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and should not be seen in isolation
- It is the responsibility of all agencies to take steps to ensure that adults experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, are discharged from their care to a safe and appropriate setting
- The need to provide support for the carers must be taken into account when planning services for adults experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and a carer's assessment should be offered
- These principles are based upon a commitment to equal opportunities and practice in respect of race, culture, religion, disability, gender, age or sexual orientation.