ROTHERHAM SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD STRATEGIC PLAN 2025-28

Rotherham Safeguarding Adults

OUR VISION

Our vision is to make Rotherham a place where adults feel safe, secure, and free from harm and abuse.

Our mission is to promote partnership working and to co-ordinate the effective delivery of safeguarding arrangements across the Borough.

WHO WE ARE

The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board (RSAB) is a multi-agency partnership with statutory functions under the Care Act 2014. RSAB's main focus is to ensure that safeguarding arrangements in Rotherham work effectively so that adults at risk can live their lives free from abuse or neglect.

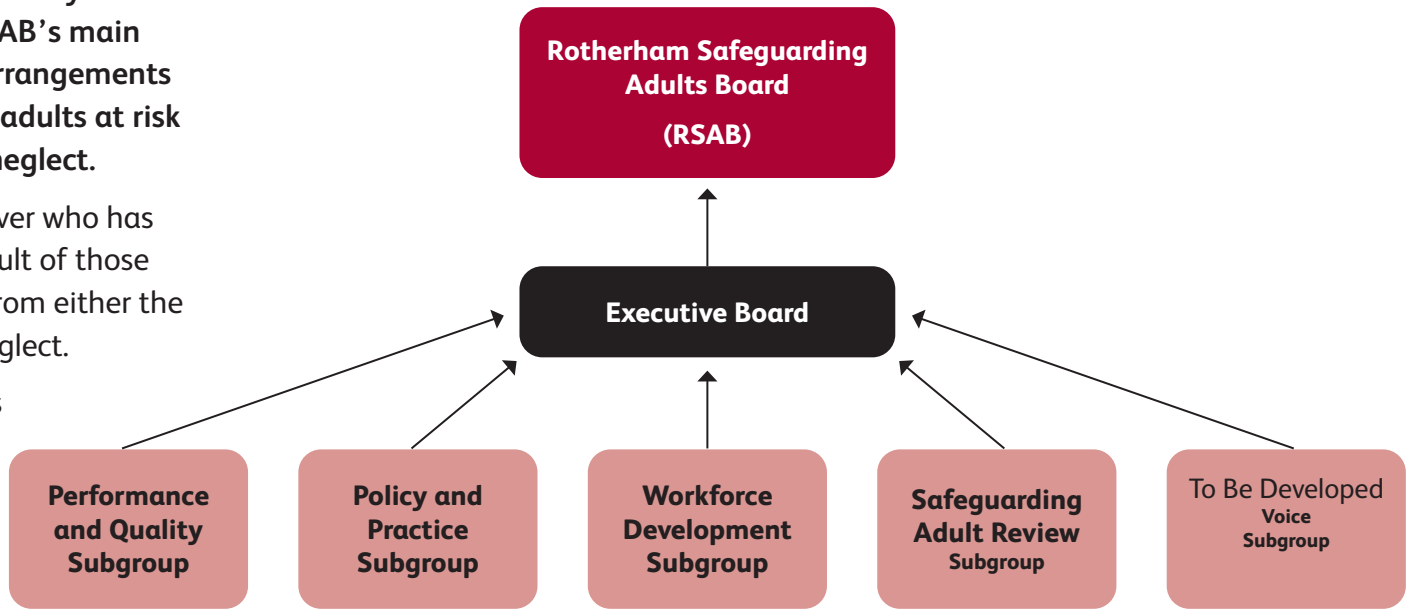
An adult at risk is a person aged 18 or over who has needs for care and support and, as a result of those needs, is unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of, abuse or neglect.

Unpaid carers such as partners, relatives or friends can also get help and support if they are being abused.

In this plan, we will call an adult at risk the 'Adult'.

THE STRUCTURE OF THE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

How we will work



OUR STRATEGIC STATEMENT

What we plan to do

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

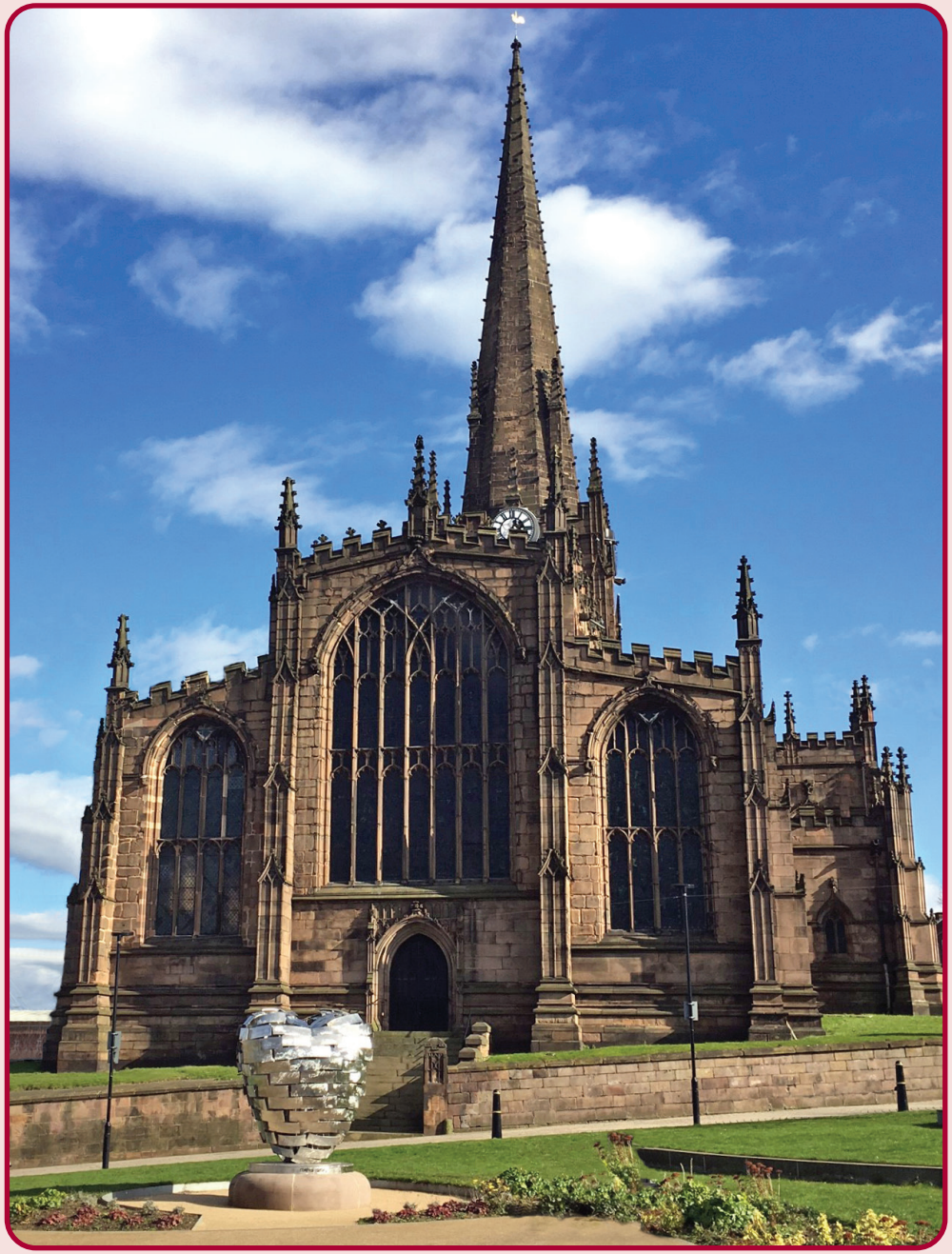
Our work will follow the six safeguarding principles, which are: **Empowerment; Protection; Proportionality; Prevention; Partnership and Accountability.**

The Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board has identified five strategic objectives that will ensure we can strengthen the current safeguarding offer for Rotherham residents.

The objectives are;

1. **Communication, Engagement and Voice**
2. **Prevention and Early Intervention**
3. **Leadership and Partnership**
4. **Making Safeguarding Personal**
5. **Learning and Development**





Strategic Objective 1:

Communication, Engagement, and Voice



Improving safeguarding awareness across all residents, communities, and partner organisations.

- We will work to ensure the residents of Rotherham are heard by the safeguarding partnership.
  - We will work closely with advocacy organisations/providers to ensure the voice of those they work with are heard by the RSAB.
  - We will use videos featuring experts by experience to tell the safeguarding story.
- We will work with communities across Rotherham to promote the work of the RSAB and raise awareness of safeguarding issues.
  - The annual Safeguarding Awareness Week will provide opportunities to interact with the public and the workforce of Rotherham.
  - We will develop easy-read safeguarding guides, co-produced with the Rotherham Adults Social Care Always Listening (RASCALs) Co-production Board.
- We will work to ensure that the voices of seldom heard people are heard by the RSAB. We will establish a customer voice subgroup including RASCALs, Healthwatch and Advocacy to support this aim.
  - People from minoritised groups.
  - People at risk of homelessness.
  - People with drug and alcohol issues.

Strategic Objective 2:

Prevention and Early Intervention



Developing tools to support practice that promotes open cultures and reduces the risk of abuse and neglect.

- We will continue to work closely with the Rotherham Safeguarding Children's Partnership to build on and develop support for young people in transition.
  - There will be a focus on Transitional Safeguarding, working with the Principal Social Workers to promote strong working arrangements.
- We will continue to work with the Safer Rotherham Partnership, partners and communities to protect vulnerable adults from issues that include cuckooing, modern-day slavery, hate and mate crime and repeat victims of crime to improve reporting and strengthen joint working to tackle crime.
  - We will form a task andfinish group to look at protecting vulnerable adults in Rotherham.
  - We will use our findings to develop an awareness campaign to inform the public.
- We will embed a robust Vulnerable Adults Pathway to support people who may be at risk of harm and abuse who do not meet the safeguarding thresholds.
  - We will embed a Vulnerable Adults Pathway (VAP) based around Making Safeguarding Personal.
  - We will further embed the Community Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (CMARAC) and the Vulnerable Adults Risk Management Meeting (VARMM).
  - We will enhance our partnership approach to supporting complex, vulnerable people.
  - We will develop a suite of information, referral criteria and access routes to support CMARAC, VARMM and VAP.
- We will further strengthen our safeguarding practices relating to neglect, self-neglect and hoarding.
  - We will ensure the Self-Neglect and Hoarding Policy is embedded in safeguarding practice.
  - We will develop a self-neglect pathway that is easy to navigate.
  - We will work with people who are at risk of neglect, self-neglect and hoarding to prevent significant harm from occurring.
  - We will ensure learning from SARs and reviews is shared across the partnership to strengthen practice.
  - We will develop a partnership approach to supporting neglect.

Strategic Objective 3:

Leadership and Partnership



Promote effective leadership, partnership working and governance for safeguarding adults, which hold partners and agencies to account.

- We will explore the benefits of an Adult Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub.
  - We will work to look at co-location and develop protocols for effective referrals.
  - Further strengthen our adult social care front door to include agencies, which will strengthen our multi-agency response to safeguarding.
- We will continue to develop the RSAB website to provide timely and accurate information and guidance from across the Partnership for the public and professionals.
  - We will work with all partners to ensure the RSAB website is providing quality and useful information.
  - We will update and maintain the RSAB website.
- The RSAB and its partners will continue to work together across the Adult, Children's and Safer Rotherham Partnership Boards.
  - We will explore the benefit of a Learning Hub to share good practice and learning relating to Safeguarding Adult Reviews, Domestic Abuse Related Death Reviews and Children's Serious Case Reviews.
  - We will arrange an annual joint safeguarding conference to share work and learning.
  - We will continue to hold a Safeguarding Partners Self-Assessment every two years.
- Adopting a Think Family approach, we will work together across the partnership to fully embed a Think Family approach to safeguarding.

Strategic Objective 4:

Making Safeguarding Personal



Ensure that safeguarding practice places the adult at the centre of everything we do and supports them in making their own decisions and outcomes.

- We will review and refresh Making Safeguarding Personal across the safeguarding partnership.
  - We will undertake a Making Safeguarding Personal audit using the Local Government Association toolkit.
- All work will be done with the "so what?" question in mind to understand the difference we are making.
  - Safeguarding will ensure that achievable and proportionate person-centred outcomes are agreed with the person.
- We will strengthen our approach to the application of the Mental Capacity Act and use of Advocacy in safeguarding practices.
  - We will seek assurance through auditing of practice that the legal requirements for completing mental capacity assessments are adhered to in safeguarding.
  - We will seek assurance through auditing practice that advocacy is being used to support adults who require support and captures the voice of the person within their safeguarding experiences.
  - We will develop a suite of information around Deprivation of Liberty information that will inform the RSAB.

Strategic Objective 5:

Learning and Development



Identify and share learning to drive practice development and improvement.

- Deliver training to staff across the partnership to make sure safeguarding is person-centred and outcome-focused.
  - Commission a 3-year training package to ensure the workforce is appropriately skilled.
  - We will ensure training evaluation is robust and consider using mystery shoppers to provide feedback.
- Undertake Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) to identify learning, improve practice and prevent similar mistakes from happening again.
  - Embed the Multi-agency Learning Review process.
  - Use thematic reviews to gain learning from Safeguarding.
  - Embed learning from single-agency reviews.
- We will develop a RSAB multi-agency audit process.
  - We will agree an audit tool and schedule a diary of audits each year.
  - We will develop a methodology for partner agencies reporting into the RSAB on audits relevant to safeguarding.
- We will use the professional website page to share the outcomes from learning reviews.
  - We will develop easy-read guides, 7-minute briefings and videos to share learning to ensure it influences and shapes practice.

HOW ARE WE GOING TO DO THIS?

We will continue to work with our partners to make sure that by 2028 these priorities are achieved. We will develop an action plan that will be monitored by the Safeguarding Adults Board Executive Group and reported to the RSAB for assurance.