



Luton Safeguarding Adults Board

Induction Pack for LSAB Board Members

Updated: August 2025

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Welcome letter from LSAB Independent Chair

Dear New Board Member

I was delighted to be appointed as the Independent Chair of the Luton Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) in April 2025, and I am pleased to be able to introduce you to the Induction Pack for Board Members.

The Induction Pack is designed primarily for new members of the Board and its subgroups, so that they are provided with information to enable them to feel welcome, to learn about the other people and organisations involved in Board business, and therefore to 'get up to speed', and become effective Board Members more quickly.

The Pack can serve a useful purpose for new members. The Board and its subgroups are made up of individuals and representatives of the many different organisations who all have a role in safeguarding adults with care and support needs at risk of abuse and neglect in the Borough. They work together across complex organisational and partnership structures at both Borough and local levels, to fulfil their statutory and partnership obligations, and it is therefore vital that they have an understanding of what each other does, and how they do it.

The Pack aids understanding by providing a broad range of useful information which can be used by anyone working on Board business, or to which they can refer others as a way of helping to explain the important role of the Board.

Finally, I hope that you find the document useful, but if you have any feedback or suggestions about how it might be improved, then please do not hesitate to contact either the Board Business and Development Manager or myself.

Best Wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie Cowland". The script is cursive and fluid, with the first letters of each word being capitalized and prominent.

Natalie Cowland
Independent Chair
Luton Safeguarding Adults Board

Chapter One: LSAB Background and Context

Functions of the SAB

The Care Act 2014 places a statutory requirement for each local authority to set up a multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) with its statutory partners. In Luton these are Luton Council, Bedfordshire Police and Bedfordshire Luton Milton Keynes integrated Care Board. The main objective of the SAB is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in its area who meet the criteria set out within the statutory guidance. This requires the local authority and their statutory partners to prevent abuse and neglect in adults with care and support needs.

Their key responsibilities include developing strategic plans, producing annual reports, commissioning safeguarding adults reviews (SARs), and ensuring collaboration to promote multi-agency cooperation, share learning, and coordinate local services. Partners must develop local policies, share information appropriately to prevent abuse, support individuals in making decisions, and hold each other accountable.

The SAB therefore has a strategic role that is greater than the sum of the operational duties of its core partners. It oversees and leads adult safeguarding across the locality and will be interested in a range of matters that contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect.

The SAB has 3 core duties:

- To publish a Strategic Plan that sets out what the board has achieved and what it aims to achieve for the next year
- To publish an Annual Report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and implement its strategic plan, and include learning from any Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Carry out Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR)

A Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) is a multi-agency process that identifies lessons from complex cases of serious abuse or neglect where a vulnerable adult dies or suffers serious harm. It is undertaken when an adult with care and support needs and living in the local area dies or suffers serious abuse and neglect and there are concerns about how agencies work

The purpose is to promote effective learning and improvement among all partner agencies to prevent future deaths or harm, rather than to assign blame. SARs help improve practice and services by understanding what went wrong and what could have been done differently by the agencies involved.

Each SAB should:

- 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
- establish ways of analysing and interrogating data on safeguarding notifications that increase the SAB's understanding of 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 its 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 its area
- 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 dealing 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 and determine any publication arrangements
- 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. Consider any scope to jointly commission some training with other partnerships, such as the Community Safety Partnership.

Who are the members of the Safeguarding Adults Board?

The LSAB is independently chaired and is comprised of senior representatives from its three statutory partners Luton Council, Bedfordshire Police and Bedfordshire Luton Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board. Other partners are also members of the SAB. Board members make decisions and hold partner agencies to account for safeguarding and their performance in Luton. Participant observers are also invited,

including Luton Council's Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care and the Director of Childrens Services, they do not have decision making responsibility.

Statutory Partners:

- Bedfordshire Police – Detective Chief Superintendent, Head of Crime Command and Public Protection Unit
- Bedfordshire, Luton and Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board – Deputy Chief Nurse Director of Nursing Safeguarding and Vulnerabilities
- Luton Borough Council – Director of Adult Services

Other Partners:

- Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Bedfordshire Hospitals Trust
- Borderforce
- Cambridgeshire Community Services
- Department of Work and Pensions
- East London Foundation Trust
- East of England Ambulance Service
- HealthWatch
- Hertfordshire Unity Trust (HUC)
- Luton Borough Council – Adult Social Care: Head of Service Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
- Luton Borough Council – Adult Social Care: Strategic Safeguarding Integration Manager
- Luton Borough Council – Director of Housing
- Luton Borough Council – Director of Public Health
- National Probation Service
- Representatives from the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise Sector

Participant observers

Luton Council's Portfolio Holder for Adult Social Care
Luton Director of Childrens Services

Professional Advisors

- LSAB/LSCP Strategic Business Manager
- Luton Borough Council – Head of Service Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
- Luton Borough Council – Strategic Safeguarding Integration Manager
- Luton Borough Council Finance Team
- Luton Borough Council Legal Team

Understanding Safeguarding Adults is everybody's responsibility

"Safeguarding adults is everyone's responsibility" is a core principle emphasising the collective effort required to prevent and stop the abuse or neglect of adults with care and support needs. Everyone, including the public, organisations, and health and care professionals, has a role in recognising signs of abuse, raising concerns, and working together to ensure adults are treated with dignity and can live free from

harm. They have a responsibility to respond to safeguarding concerns in line with [The Luton framework for shared understanding about safeguarding concerns](#)

When can information be shared about adults at risk?

Abuse thrives upon secrecy, a lack of transparency and closed lines of communication. Wherever possible, information should be shared on a need to know basis. The Care Act says that if a Safeguarding Board requests information from an organisation or individual who is likely to have information which is relevant to the Board's functions, then they must share it with the Board.

The Board is signed up to the Pan Bedfordshire Information Sharing Partnership Agreement (2022) and the LSAB has produced supplementary guidance in relation to Safeguarding and Information Sharing. Additionally, agencies should have drawn up a common agreement relating to confidentiality and the sharing of information between themselves based on the wellbeing of the adult at risk of abuse or neglect. It should also set out in what circumstances information will be shared without the agreement of the individual.

The multi-agency approach to safeguarding adults at risk means that, where it is lawful and ethical to do so, appropriate information should be exchanged between relevant agencies in order to ensure that support that is right for the individual can be provided at the earliest opportunity.

Wherever possible informed consent to share information should be obtained from the adult at risk, however there may be situations where:

- consent is withheld or
- the person is unable to give informed consent

Information may still be shared between professionals if consent is withheld **if** the person responsible believes that it is in the public interest where:

- there is a high risk of serious harm to the adult, or
- consent was withheld under duress, or
- other adults or children are at risk

OR

- when the courts have made an order, or
- to prevent or detect or prosecute a serious crime

Absolute assurances of confidentiality cannot be given, especially where other adults or children may be at risk.

If the person is **unable to give informed consent** and is assessed as lacking capacity to consent, but information needs to be shared in order to prevent or protect them from abuse, then the 'best interests' principle should be followed.

Health professionals can sometimes feel challenged when a competent adult refuses to agree to the sharing of information that would seem to be in their best interests. Where a health professional is in this position, and believes that information should be exchanged, the reasons for this should be carefully explained.

They should also detail the benefits that are likely to accrue, and the duty of confidentiality that the various agencies are subject to. The reasons for the refusal should also be sensitively explored, and, where appropriate, options that might prove more amenable to the person offered.

Chapter Two: Understanding the work of the LSAB

Members should ensure they have a good understanding of the key purposes, functions and tasks of the LSAB. This requires an understanding of the statutory requirements of the LSAB under sections 42-46 of the Care Act 2014 and the LSAB Memorandum of Understanding (Constitution) as set out below.

The role of Board members in safeguarding adults

Expectations of Board members include they will:

- carry out a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the independence, wellbeing and safety of adults at risk
- have the authority to speak on behalf of their organisation to represent its views and various duties
- refer back to their organisation to account on all matters relating to safeguarding adults at risk, and to recommend ways to implement necessary changes within their organisation
- be able to request that their organisation deploys resources to support safeguarding adults work by the allocation of financial or human resources to directly support the achievement of the Safeguarding Board's agreed objectives
- ensure that the safety and wellbeing of adults at risk is promoted within services provided by their organisation
- agree to undertake safeguarding training and develop their knowledge and understanding of safeguarding in order to keep up to date and to share this expertise within the Board and their own organisations
- ensure that agreed policies, procedures, findings and learning from Safeguarding Adults Reviews and other learning are appropriately cascaded through their organisations
- attend in full at all Board meetings by the partner or a suitable representative of sufficient seniority
- maintain confidentiality, understanding and respecting the sensitive nature of safeguarding issues and sign a memorandum of understanding regarding this
- ensure they actively participate within and between meetings to conclude actions
- use constructive challenge of their own and partner agencies' safeguarding practices.

They must be senior enough to:

- be able to speak for their agency
- be able to hold their agency to account and challenge it
- be able to make decisions about safeguarding and allocate resources
- be confident to discuss a range of issues related to safeguarding adults

Your contribution

The following prompts may help you in preparing for a meeting:

- What do you want/need to get out of the meeting?
- What information do you need to bring to the meeting?
- Do you, and your fellow Board members, understand your responsibilities for safeguarding adults?
- How does safeguarding adults link to other wider agendas in your organisation? Are there clear links to other systems such as domestic violence, child protection, victim support and community safety and cohesion?
- Is there anything your organisation should be doing to safeguard adults?
- How can you influence the work of the Board to make it relevant to your organisation?
- Is the Board doing its job properly?

What is the role of the Independent Chair?

The LSAB Independent Chair *'has a critical role to lead collaboratively, give advice, support and encouragement but also to offer constructive challenge and hold main partner agencies to account and ensure that interfaces with other strategic functions are effective whilst also acting as a spokesperson for the SAB... LGA 2022.* Their key purpose is to:

- To provide independent leadership, scrutiny, challenge and strategic vision to the Safeguarding Adults agenda across Luton
- To Chair the Strategic Board
- To ensure the Board has an independent, objective and authoritative identity
- To support and challenge the Safeguarding partners to fulfil their statutory obligations and responsibilities as mandated in the Care Act 2014 and other related guidance and good practice

Safeguarding Principles

The work of the LSAB is underpinned by the six Key Principles of Adult Safeguarding identified in the Care Act (2014):

- **Empowerment** – People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent;
 - “I am asked what I want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and these directly inform what happens”
- **Prevention** – It is better to take action before harm occurs;
 - “I receive clear and simple information about what abuse is, how to recognise the signs and what I can do to seek help”
- **Proportionality** – The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented;
 - “I am sure that professionals will work in my interest, as I see them and they will only get involved as much as needed”
- **Protection** – Support and representation for those in greatest need;
 - “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”

- **Partnership** – Local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting and reporting neglect and abuse;
 - “I know that staff treat any personal and sensitive information in confidence,
 - only sharing what is helpful and necessary. I am confident that professionals will work together and with me to get the best result for me”
- **Accountability** – Accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding;
 - “I understand the role of everyone involved in my life and so do they”

The Key Aims of LSAB are based on the Local Government Association (LGA) Standards for Adult Safeguarding:

1. **Improved Outcomes** – ensuring adults with care and support needs are safeguarded in the community and in establishments such as care homes and hospitals through an approach across all Partners that is clearly focused on intervention and prevention to achieve outcomes;
2. **Improved Experiences of Safeguarding** – ensuring people experiencing safeguarding services are treated sensitively and with dignity and respect through the delivery of personalised safeguarding services;
3. **Effective Leadership** – ensuring recognised and active leadership across all Partners – this strengthens and raises the profile of safeguarding;
4. **Strategic Approach** – ensuring safeguarding is embedded and clearly evidenced in corporate and service strategies across all Partners;
5. **Commissioning for Quality** – ensuring safe and cost effective commissioning across all Partners, enabling people to manage risks and benefits of care and support services;
6. **Effective Delivery and Practice** – ensuring safeguarding is everybody’s business through effective service delivery and mechanisms that enable people to understand what abuse is and how to respond to it;
7. **Robust Performance and Resource Management** – ensuring services are accountable and quality measures are in place; with a learning culture that enables all Partners to learn from both best practice and things that do not go well;
8. **Working Together** – ensuring commitment from all Partners to safeguarding; working closely with other Strategic Partnerships to ensure safeguarding is effective at all levels (prevention and intervention).

LSAB Strategic Meetings

The **Statutory Partners Chairs and Safeguarding Assurance Group** meets three times per year with the Chief Officers of the three lead safeguarding agencies and is briefed on reserved matters that require Chief Officer oversight and decision making.

The **LSAB Strategic Board** meets four times per year to set out its vision and values and has a three year Strategic Business Plan, Delivery Plans for the subgroup and a Risk Register. The **Core Business Group** oversees the work of the subgroups and task and finish groups and ensures the LSAB Strategic Board receives appropriate high level exception reports at each of its Strategic Board meetings. The work of the subgroups informs the strategic direction of the Board and enables partners to identify priorities and emerging safeguarding themes.

The LSAB and Luton Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP) Strategic Boards will also meet twice per year to address cross cutting issues such as transitional safeguarding, whole family approaches, child and adolescent to parent violence and abuse (CAPVA). There is also an LSAB Development Day held once per year.

Board meetings are held both face to face and virtually, via MS Teams, depending on the agenda. Meetings are booked a year well in advance to enable members to attend. Board meeting papers are distributed by the Business Unit electronically approximately one week prior to the meeting. Any papers that are not received from the report author will be noted on the agenda and sent out as a late paper.

LSAB Sub Groups and functions

The Board is supported in fulfilling its responsibilities through the work undertaken by multi agency sub groups detailed below. Board members are expected to contribute to the work of one or more sub group, according to their interests and expertise. This may include:

- developing policies and procedures for safeguarding
- promoting the welfare of adults
- communication and raising awareness of safeguarding
- monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of safeguarding practice
- provision of data quantitative and qualitative as determined.

Each of the subgroups meet bi-monthly, quarterly or twice per year, depending on their area of work. Each group has its own Terms of Reference and is monitored regularly. A standing member from the Board or a representative chair each of the subgroups and maintains a continuous link between the Board and the sub groups' activities. The subgroups and task and finish groups are:

- **LSAB & LSCP Case Review Group** meets 6 times per year - Chaired by BLMK ICB
- **LSAB Multi-agency Audit Group** meets 4 times per year - Chaired by Luton Council ASC
- **LSAB Performance Task & Finish Group** meets 4 times per year - Chaired by Bedfordshire Police
- **LSAB Experts by Experience Engagement Task & Finish Group** meets 4 times per year – Chaired by Cambridgeshire Community Services

- **Pan Bedfordshire Policy & Procedures Group** meets twice per year -
Chaired by the SAB Business Managers



The above groups link to LSAB priorities but are not LSAB led

Statutory Partnership Chairs & Safeguarding Assurance meeting
(LSAB Executive and LSCP MASA meeting)

Luton
Safeguarding
Adults Board
X 4
Independent Chair

Luton
Safeguarding
Children
Partnership
Chaired by DSPs

Joint LSCP & LSCP
Strategic Board x2
Independent Chair / Independent Scrutineer

Core Business Group
X 4
Independent Chair

Pan Bedfordshire
Policy &
Procedures
Group x 2
Business
Managers

LSAB/LSCP
Case Review
Group
X 6
BLMK ICB

LSAB
Multi-agency
Audit Group
x 4
LBC ASC

LSAB
Training Group
x 4
TBC

LSAB
Performance
T & F Group x
4
TBC

LSAB Experts by
Experience
Engagement
T& F Group x4
TBC

Denotes a group for Luton Safeguarding
Adults Board only

Denotes a Joint Group with Luton Safeguarding
Children Partnership

Denotes a Pan Bedfordshire Group for the two
Bedfordshire Safeguarding Adults Boards

Further Information

Role of the LSAB Business and Development Manager

- To drive the business priorities, responsibilities and development of the Board through the multi layered work streams with the aim of ensuring the effectiveness of inter-agency working and arrangements across the local adult safeguarding system.
- Ensure the LSAB is an independent body that is well positioned to provide support and challenge to the safeguarding partners to fulfil their statutory obligations and responsibilities as mandated in the Care Act 2014 and other related guidance and good practice.
- Work closely with the Independent Chair to ensure business objectives operate in tandem for the achievement of the Board's strategic vision and improved outcomes for the people of Luton

Contact Details

Name: xxxxxxxxxx

01582 xxxxxx or email at LSAB@luton.gov.uk

LSAB Website

The LSAB website can be found below, this has information on all the LSAB key documents such as its Annual Report, Strategic Business Plan, Structure and Memorandum of Understanding (Constitution), Safeguarding Adult Reviews and other learning materials (such as 7-minute briefings) on a wide range of topics.

<https://safeguardingbedfordshire.org.uk/p/about-us/luton-safeguarding-adults-board>

Pan Beds Multi-agency Procedures

The Pan Beds Multi-agency Policy and Procedures are intended for use by all practitioners, volunteers, services and partner agencies in Bedfordshire (Central Bedfordshire, Bedford Borough and Luton).

The Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures includes the following sections:

- Safeguarding Adults Core Procedures;
- Safeguarding Adults Practice Guidance;
- Learning and Improvement.
- Contacts and Practice Resources

The Contacts and Practice Resources section contains all of the shared and place-based local processes, documents and internet/intranet links to support effective

implementation of the procedures. It also houses a range of national practice guidance for good safeguarding practice.

<https://panbedfordshiresabs.trixonline.co.uk/>

Chapter 3: Organisational Roles in Safeguarding

This section covers the roles and responsibilities of the statutory partners of the LSAB and other key roles in adult safeguarding including the Independent Chair.

The Local Authority

The Care Act 2014 sets out the Local Authority's responsibility for protecting adults with care and support needs from abuse or neglect as the primary legislation. Local Authorities, in this case Luton Borough Council, must make enquiries, or cause another agency to do so, whenever abuse or neglect is suspected in relation to an adult and the local authority thinks it necessary to enable it to decide what (if any) action is needed to help and protect the adult. This function cannot be delegated.

The Local Authority retains the responsibility for ensuring that the enquiry is referred to the right place and is acted upon. The Local Authority, in its lead and coordinating role, should assure itself that the enquiry satisfies its duty under section 42 to decide what action (if any) is necessary to help and protect the adult and by whom, and to ensure that such action is taken when necessary. In this role if the Local Authority has asked someone else to make enquiries, it is able to challenge the body making the enquiry if it considers that the process and/or outcome is unsatisfactory.

Director of Adult Social Services (DASS)

As chief officer for the lead adult safeguarding agency, the DASS has a particularly important leadership and challenge role to play in adult safeguarding.

Responsibility for promoting prevention, early intervention and partnership working is a key part of a DASS's role and also critical in the development of effective safeguarding. Taking a personalised approach to adult safeguarding requires the DASS to promote a culture that is person-centred, supports choice and control and aims to tackle inequalities.

Councillors and Lead Member

The Local Government Association identifies there are crucial roles for councillors in examining how safeguarding is experienced by local people, how people were consulted and involved in developing policies and monitoring services, and how they were involved in their own safeguarding plans and procedures.

Councillors as community leaders, championing the wellbeing of their constituents, are in a key position to raise awareness of adult safeguarding. They may also become aware of individual cases of abuse through their work with constituents and so have a duty to report it.

As part of their governance role, holding council executives and their partners to account, and accounting to their constituents for what has been done, all councillors have a responsibility to ask questions of the executive and other partner organisations about the safety of adults in their area, and about the outcomes of adult safeguarding. Local Authority Scrutiny Functions, such as their Overview and

Scrutiny Committee, Health and Wellbeing Boards (HWBs) and Community Safety Partnerships can play a valuable role in assuring local safeguarding measures and ensuring that Safeguarding Adults Boards are accountable to local communities.

Commissioners

Commissioners from the local authority, NHS and ICBs are all vital to promoting adult safeguarding. Commissioners have a responsibility to assure themselves of the quality and safety of the organisations they place contracts with and ensure that those contracts have explicit clauses that holds the providers to account for preventing and dealing promptly and appropriately with any example of abuse and neglect. Commissioners have a responsibility to:

- ensure that people who commission their own care are given the right information and support to do so from providers who engage with Adult Safeguarding principles and protocols
- ensure that agencies from whom services are commissioned know about and adhere to relevant registration requirements and guidance
- ensure that all documents such as service specifications, invitations to tender, service contracts and service-level agreements adhere to the Pan Beds and Luton Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures
- ensure that managers are clear about their leadership role in Adult Safeguarding in ensuring the quality of the service, the supervision and support of staff, and responding to and investigating a concern about an adult with care and support needs
- commission a workforce with the right skills to understand and implement Adult Safeguarding principles
- ensure staff have received induction and training appropriate to their levels of responsibility
- liaise with the local SAB and regulatory bodies and make regular assessments of the ability of service providers to effectively safeguard individuals
- ensure that services routinely provide individuals with information in an accessible form about how to make a complaint and how complaints will be dealt with
- ensure that commissioners (and regulators) regularly audit reports of risk of harm and require providers to address any issues identified

Bedfordshire Luton Milton Keynes Integrated Care Board (BLMK ICB)

BLMK Integrated Care Board is committed to ensuring that safe and effective Health Services are commissioned for everyone in Luton. There are robust commissioning standards in place which are reviewed through the System Quality Committee. The minutes of these meetings are provided as evidence of compliance at the BLMK ICB Board.

There is a clear line of accountability set out in the management structure. The Chief Nurse is the Executive Safeguarding Adult Lead, supported by the Deputy Chief

Nurse who is Director of Nursing Safeguarding and Vulnerabilities and also by the Safeguarding Adult Lead Nurse. BLMK ICB works closely with the LA and CQC to ensure that any safeguarding concern raised in relation to care homes in Luton is robustly investigated in a timely way, and the welfare of the residents remains paramount.

Bedfordshire Police

As a lead safeguarding partner Bedfordshire Police is a fundamental member of the Luton Safeguarding Adults Board and works together with other partner agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of all adults at risk.

Living a life that is free from harm and abuse is a fundamental right of every person. Bedfordshire Police are committed to assisting adults who may be at risk of harm within the community by helping to identify them, working in partnership with other agencies to ensure they receive the help and support they need, protecting them from anti-social behaviour and investigating allegations of abuse against them.

Bedfordshire Police recognises that the police are responsible for carrying out completely and exclusively any criminal investigation in a case of suspected injury or harm to an adult with care and support needs. Such investigations are as important as any other serious investigation and we shall treat it as such.

The responsibility to investigate suspected abuse of adults with care and support needs is held within the Public Protection Unit and designated investigation teams. Allegations of assaults committed towards adults in care settings or by those in a position of trust or with a responsibility of care towards the adult will be dealt with by officers committed to the investigation and safeguarding of adults. Bedfordshire Police will ensure that officers investigating the abuse of adults with care and support needs are sufficiently trained to do so and thereby can make good decisions to keep them safe from harm.

It is the policy of Bedfordshire Police to work in partnership with other agencies to:

- identify adults at risk within the community and accurately assess the risks to them, making appropriate referrals to partner agencies
- take any immediate action necessary to intervene and effectively safeguard adults at risk
- share information and participate in multi-agency decision making meetings to provide the best outcome for the adult
- fully investigate criminal offences and hold offenders to account through the criminal justice system

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service

Bedfordshire Fire and Rescue Service carry out Safe and Well checks to targeted groups, many of whom access care and support services. Staff are trained to recognise and report concerns that an adult may be at risk, in line with

Pan Beds and Luton's Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures. All safeguarding concerns raised are passed to the Service's Safeguarding Officer who liaises with LBC Safeguarding Team via Luton Council's Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub MASH.

Bedfordshire Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust (BHNHSFT)

BHNHSFT is a Regulated Provider of NHS Acute Health Care, and serves the population of Bedfordshire, within Luton the local hospital is the Luton and Dunstable Hospital. The Trust's Vision is to deliver safe, effective and personalised care: every patient, every time, all the time.

It is the aim of BHNHSFT staff to provide safe, effective, responsive, harm free care and to be transparent, to learn from feedback and to improve their service in light of feedback on experience. Safeguarding those in their care is a core Trust Strategic Objective for all Trust staff.

BHNHSFT is a partner member of LSAB and a partner signatory to all Pan Beds and Luton specific Multi Agency Adult Safeguarding Policies and Procedures.

Roles and responsibilities include:

- ensuring that as a regulated provider they comply with all CQC requirements relating to safeguarding
- ensuring they meet the legislative requirements of the Care Act and Safeguarding (2015), the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS)
- operationalising Pan Beds and Luton Multi Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures as relevant to staff roles
- ensuring Safer Recruitment
- provision of training to ensure staff are equipped with the knowledge and skills to undertake their safeguarding adult role
- monitoring of standards in practice and taking action where indicated
- responding to and reporting concerns
- ensuring that all staff are aware of BHNHSFT "Raising Concerns" policy and process
- partnership working to safeguarding those in their care and their commitment to LSAB
- appropriate information sharing as part of Luton's - A Shared Framework for safeguarding adults with care and support needs.

Cambridgeshire Community Services

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust provides a wide range of community-based health and care services across the East of England. These services include children's services, school-age immunizations, dental care, and specialist physiotherapy, among others. They also offer integrated contraception and sexual health services (iCaSH) and neuropsychological rehabilitation. Additionally, they provide children and adults' community health services for residents of Luton and Bedfordshire.

‘Quality is at the heart of all we do and we are proud to provide high quality services that enable people to live healthier lives and receive care closer to home. We believe that community based health services are fundamental to the success of an NHS that gives people more choice and control over their health’.

Cambridgeshire Community Services NHS Trust (CCS) is committed to safeguarding adults, which involves protecting them from abuse, neglect, and harm, while also promoting their health and well-being. They have a responsibility to safeguard service users and their carers from these threats. CCS ensures all staff consider the whole family during assessments.

East Luton Foundation Trust (ELFT)

ELFT provides specialist mental health to people (adults and children) of Luton. The organisation’s core purpose is to improve the lives of people in their care and the carers who support them. ELFT is fully committed to partnership working within Luton and is a member of Luton Safeguarding Adults Board.

ELFT will continue to work and cooperate with partners to promote the wellbeing of adults with care and support needs; strive to improve quality of service provision and outcomes; promote a smooth transition from children to adult services; protect those adults (with care and support needs) who are experiencing or at risk of abuse and/or neglect and identify and learn from Safeguarding Adults Reviews.

Our roles and responsibilities include:

- Ensuring ELFT complies with all CQC requirements relating to safeguarding.
- Meeting the legislative requirements of the Care Act 2014, as it delivers social care on behalf of Luton Borough Council.
- Ensuring that the Pan Beds and Luton specific Multi Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures are embedded within the organisation.
- Confirming Safe Recruitment procedures are followed.
- Ensuring ELFT staff have the knowledge and skills to undertake their safeguarding responsibilities through the provision of training (single and multi-agency).
- Monitoring the standards of care and practice through audit and act upon recommendations.
- Actively participating in all Safeguarding activity, from attendance at Board meetings and sub groups, to full involvement with safeguarding procedures.

East of England Ambulance Service Trust (EEAST)

There are a number of ways in which EEAST staff may receive information or make observations which suggest that an adult with care and support needs is experiencing, or is at risk of, abuse or neglect. Ambulance staff will often be the first professionals on the scene and their actions and recording of information may be crucial to subsequent enquiries.

Ambulance staff will not investigate suspicions of abuse or neglect but will make referrals. If the patient is conveyed to hospital, the staff will inform a senior member of the Emergency Department staff, or nursing staff if conveying to another department, of any concerns about possible abuse or the risk of harm. Ambulance staff will raise any adult safeguarding concerns with the MASH.

Healthwatch

Healthwatch is the national consumer champion in health and social care with significant statutory powers to ensure the voice of the consumer is strengthened and heard by those who commission, deliver and regulate health and care services.

Healthwatch has potentially a central role to play, not least in empowering people to speak out on their own behalf and wherever they see signs that others' right to safety and protection are being breached.

Healthwatch representatives may participate in announced and unannounced 'enter and view' visits in services that deliver publicly funded health or social care services. Healthwatch representatives need to be able to recognise and report safeguarding concerns in line with the local safeguarding procedures.

Luton Borough Council Housing Department

Housing has a key role in adult safeguarding, particularly as housing staff may be in the best position to spot signs of abuse or neglect at an early stage, especially if health and care services are not involved. Often people with safeguarding needs may need changes to their housing arrangements to keep them safe.

Social Landlords

Luton Borough Council Housing Department has strong links with the social landlords that provide housing for adults with care and support needs. The majority of this accommodation is most suitable for general needs and includes shared ownership accommodation, leasehold flats and maisonettes. They also manage sheltered schemes as well as low support housing for adults with specific care and support needs including mental health and drug and alcohol use.

Social Landlords are responsible for the letting of properties, collection of rents and other charges, repairs and maintenance, dealing with anti-social behaviour and general tenancy management. They are well placed to identify and recognise safeguarding concerns which are reported to relevant statutory bodies. They work in partnership with key agencies both at a strategic and local level to ensure that awareness of safeguarding is maintained with their staff and contractors.

The National Probation Service

The National Probation Service (NPS) is a statutory criminal justice service that supervises offenders released into the community, while protecting the public. In June 2021, the Probation Service returned to public control in England and Wales. Reforms have been made to deliver a stronger, more stable probation system that seeks to

reduce reoffending, support victims of crime, and keep the public safe, while helping offenders to make positive change to their live.

The local Probation Service works in partnership with other agencies through MAPPA. They have a remit to be involved with victims of serious sexual and other violent crimes and are in a position to identify and help offenders who are at risk of abuse. They aim to reduce the re-offending behaviour of sexual and violent offenders in order to protect the public and previous victims from serious harm.