

Safeguarding Partnership Board

*Working together to safeguard adults
and children in Jersey*



ANNUAL REPORT 2020

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FOREWORD BY SARAH ELLIOTT - PAN ISLAND INDEPENDENT CHAIR

My second year as Pan Island Independent Chair for the Safeguarding Partnership Boards has been marked by a period of unprecedented challenge for children, young people, families and vulnerable adults along with all those who support them and keep them safe. The COVID-19 pandemic meant that agencies needed to adapt their practice to ensure abuse and neglect could continue to be identified and



acted upon. Whilst bringing challenges, the pandemic has also brought opportunities to strengthen partnership working and find creative solutions to tackling problems- some of which will be maintained as a more flexible and responsive way of meeting needs going forward.

Front line staff, team leaders and managers have shown incredible commitment and tenacity - putting the needs of others before themselves and I would like to personally thank everyone who has played a part in this.

Despite the disruption of the pandemic, the SPB has continued to drive multi-agency action to address needs across a range of work programmes. This includes the development of a child neglect strategy and participating in a multi-agency audit to develop practice in identifying and addressing harmful sexual behaviours. Towards the end of 2020 the SPB introduced a Quality Assurance Framework to set out key performance measures and to demonstrate how we're making a difference to vulnerable children, young people and adults.

Developing our approach to learning and improvement took a big step forward in 2020 with the introduction of a Rapid Review process to learn from serious child and adult safeguarding incidents and the introduction of 7 minute briefings to ensure learning back into practice in a timely and flexible way.

Although meetings of the SPB largely took place remotely, this did not compromise planning arrangements to address current and future needs include an annual planning event held in October 2020 which reflected on the impact of the pandemic and recognised the need to update models of practice to support young people and adults presenting with more complex needs.

Looking forward, we already have a full work programme underway for 2021 which we hope will make a real difference to the lives of children, young people, families and vulnerable adults across the island. This includes development of new strategies for Domestic Abuse, Child Sexual Abuse and Child Exploitation and the roll out of a *Making Safeguarding Personal* programme-ensuring the inclusion and involvement of vulnerable adults in decisions about their life. We are strengthening our work with charitable and voluntary organisations who can help us hear directly from those at risk of harm and ensure our work is grounded in the reality of the daily lives of islanders.

Over the course of 2020, the SPB business support team maintained excellent multi-agency relationships, refreshed training programmes and brought new ideas to tackle stubborn challenges for which I'm very grateful.

I would also like to thank the SPB Board, practitioners and managers across all agencies for their energy, hard work and continuing support to ensure we have the best possible safeguarding arrangements for children, young people, families and vulnerable adults in Jersey.

FUNCTIONS OF THE SPB

- ✓ **Co-ordinate** what is done by each organisation participating in the boards for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in Jersey
- ✓ **Promote** understanding of the need and means to protect children and adults from harm; and
- ✓ **Monitor** and ensure the effectiveness of the safeguarding systems that are in place both within and between organisations in Jersey



2020 HIGHLIGHTS



2021 PRIORITIES

Safeguarding Adults

- ✓ Roll out of the Making Safeguarding Personal programme
- ✓ Quality Assurance outcome focussed performance data framework to be in place for 2021
- ✓ Foster an approach of whole family working and exploring an early help offer for vulnerable adults.
- ✓ Produce a new Domestic Abuse Strategy including a stronger focus on coercive control.
- ✓ Completion of the Adult Improvement Plan

Safeguarding Children

- ✓ Produce a new Child Sexual Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy
- ✓ Undertake a Missing Children Audit including children who are looked after
- ✓ Capture the voice of the child across SPB work programmes
- ✓ Improve outcomes for children who are at the transition stage and who may have experienced early trauma
- ✓ Development of performance frameworks for child safeguarding
- ✓ Update procedures for safeguarding children in line with amendments to the Children (Jersey) Law.
- ✓ Delivery of multi-agency competency frameworks for children

QUALITY ASSURANCE



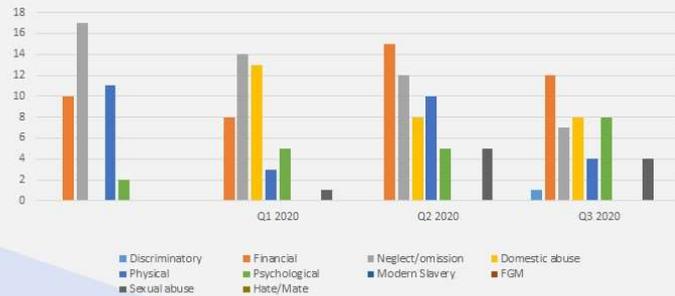
2020 Top 3 highest referrals by category of abuse/neglect (not including self neglect)

22% Neglect/Omission

21% Financial Abuse

20% Domestic Abuse

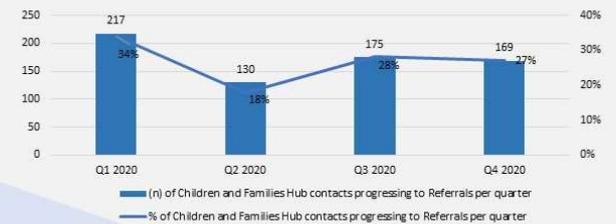
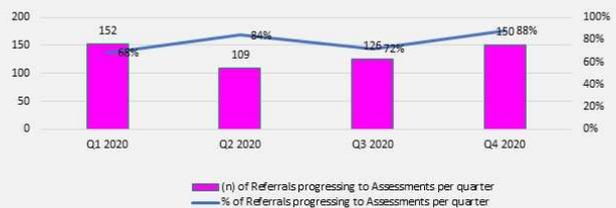
Categories of Abuse 2020



CASP Community Adult Support Panel

180 cases seen in 2020 compared to 15 cases brought to CASP between Q2-Q4 2019
 "CASP was replaced by the safeguarding cell in 2020 and the meeting chaired by the SAT Manager met 5 days a weeks at this time. This forum discussed individuals who were at risk at this time. The meeting linked in with the work to support the homeless over COVID. Meetings were curtailed according to the needs of the island at the time. CASP now meets fortnightly to discuss high risk cases."

Of the 307 alerts received in 2020
70% of alleged abuse took place in ones 'own home'



Categories of Registration 2020

	Q1 2020	Q2 2020	Q3 2020	Q4 2020
Neglect	45	46	30	36
Emotional Abuse	11	13	16	16
Physical Abuse	<5	<5	<5	<5
Sexual Abuse	<5	<5	<5	<5

According to the *Safelives Report 2020* the most common form of abuse that clients experienced was **jealous and controlling** behaviour



SUB-GROUPS

Domestic Abuse

Chair - Alison Fossey



1,228 recorded domestic abuse incidents and 432 domestic abuse crimes in 2020

102 children lived in families at high risk of domestic abuse and were referred to MARAC

96% of clients said they felt safer after IDVA intervention

According to the *Safelives Report 2020* - the most common form of abuse that clients experienced was *jealous and controlling* behaviour

2020 has been a challenging year for the Domestic Abuse Subgroup as they have responded to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on domestic abuse victims. The Covid-19 pandemic and resulting lockdown are unprecedented in recent history, and no-one knew what exactly to prepare for - would there be an increase? How large would the increase be? Would it happen immediately, or would it be delayed?

Police recorded crime data in Jersey did in fact show a decrease in offences flagged as domestic abuse-related during the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic whilst the number of incidents reported remained on par with previous years. Covid-19 restrictions and associated socioeconomic strains have made leaving abusive relationships more difficult and victims have been reluctant to tell police of the level of abuse they have been experiencing during lockdown.

There has, however, generally been an increase in demand for domestic abuse victim services during the coronavirus pandemic, particularly affecting the Jersey Women's Refuge helpline and Jersey Domestic Abuse Services' (JDAS) online chat facility. This does not necessarily indicate an increase in the number of victims, but perhaps an increase in the severity of abuse being experienced, and a lack of available coping mechanisms such as the ability to leave the home to escape the abuse, report to the police or attend counselling. The total number of cases discussed at multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs) also decreased in April to June 2020 compared with the previous quarter; however, this is comparative with 2019 data and therefore does not indicate that the lockdown prevented those experiencing high levels of domestic abuse from having access to support.

Despite the challenges the DASG has continued to deliver and make good progress on many of the actions underpinning the 3-year strategy as well as delivering on new initiatives specifically to respond to the coronavirus pandemic, such as the "Ask for ANN" initiative. The Ask for ANN (Action Needed Now) codeword scheme has been developed to allow victims of domestic abuse to access support from the safety of their local pharmacy and other participating retailers.

Plans for 2021 include delivering on the outstanding actions under the 3-year strategy and producing a new strategy for 2022-2025. We would expect that new strategy to address the longer-term impact of Covid 19 restrictions on abusive relationships, however, the full extent of the impact will undoubtedly continue to emerge, and our strategy and plans will need to be flexible to respond.

Like all Safeguarding business throughout 2020, the work of the of the CSA/CSE sub-group has been dominated by Covid.

The group have worked hard throughout the year on key public messaging throughout the year at measures young people, families and local communities can employ at keeping children safe.

Despite limitations, the group have continued to advance the overarching 2018/20 CSA/CSE Strategy with 14 of the 24 programmes complete and the remainder well advanced.

The group oversaw an effective CSE National awareness day on 18 March 2020, just prior to Covid lockdown - engaging children and young people through education and public social media messaging.

In partnership with Guernsey and the NSPCC, the group have begun an audit in respect of sexually harmful behaviour (HSB) with a view to developing and enhancing local provision.

Having led this work on behalf of the SPB since 2013, I now handover leadership to the Health Lead for Safeguarding, Pat Marius, and I wish her and the group every continued success and thanks for their support throughout the last 8 years.

Joint CSE & CSA Sub-group

Chair - Stewart Gull



**41 CSE risk
assessments
completed in 2020**

**2020 saw 761
Missing Person
reported - accounting
for a total of 100
children**

Quality & Assurance Children

Chair - Jenny Querns



77 children were Looked After on the 31st December 2020 compared to 83 on the 31st December 2019

Number of Children Looked After who are placed off-island has reduced from 23 at the end of 2019 to 19 at the end of 2020

2020 saw 367 children subject to an Article 42 Enquiry (Child Protection Enquiry under the Ministers Duty to Investigate)

The Quality and Assurance Children's Sub-Group (QAC) have been really busy this year, whilst living through the unprecedented times of a global pandemic. The outcomes of the pandemic are as yet unknown around the legacy that there may be around mental health, the impact of increased poverty/neglect and concerns around hidden harm with a fear that COVID-19 may become an adverse childhood experience for children and young people in the future. Partnership working has become "the silver lining" and this has brought multi-agencies together in a positive way which is hoped will continue long after our worlds open up again.

The QAC took a strategic overview of the quality of safeguarding activity across the island and in doing so, worked to ensure there was effective and accountable safeguarding performance and monitoring in place, including prevention and early intervention.

The SPB Board developed its values base in 2020 supporting open and transparent working together to safeguard children. The QA Children's Group developed a multi-agency outcomes focused performance framework, (mirroring the work being carried out in the QA Adults Subgroup). Other supportive actions were taken to form one virtual front door for safeguarding children and adults, at the beginning of 2021.

This year the QAC addressed the following priorities:

- The repeal of Article 79 in April 2020 ended the defence of "reasonable corporal punishment" as a justification for physical punishment. The law was amended to protect the rights of children in line with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The QAC worked in partnership with the communications team to ensure islanders and practitioners understood this reflection on effective modern parenting practice and what this law change meant for them.
- The QAC are developing a Neglect Strategy, to include toolkits to support practitioners working with families to reduce and remove the pervasive impact that poverty and neglect can have on a child, young person and family's health and wellbeing.
- The Professional Differences/Escalation Policy was ratified with 7 Minute Briefings, and training in professional curiosity and trauma-based practice seen as a priority.
- QAC members participated in an audit with the NSPCC on harmful sexual behaviours with plans to progress a harmful sexual behaviours framework.

The Adult's Quality Assurance Subgroup is responsible on behalf of the Safeguarding Board for co-ordinating multi-agency work in Jersey to safeguard adults and continuously monitor the effectiveness of safeguarding strategies, working across voluntary, private and Government of Jersey services.

In doing so, the Quality Assurance group ensures there are effective and accountable safeguarding adult's performance and monitoring in place, including prevention and early intervention, through the delivery of an annual work plan.

The group is responsible for an audit program, performance data, and ensuring that the multi-agency policies and procedures reflect a consistent value base.

Key achievements in 2020:

- Completion of the revised Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults policy. This policy brings us in line with UK best practice, the Care Act (21014) and ensures that Making Safeguarding Personal is enshrined in the new policy
- Completion and implementation of the Managing Allegations policy. This policy is now live and being used by both professionals and the public
- The Adults Strategy and an Easy Read version of this is now in place
- CASP was replaced by the Safeguarding Cell and increased to 5 times a week to protect vulnerable islanders through the height of COVID-19 lockdown arrangements. CASP has now returned to regular fortnightly meetings.
- The Resolving Professional Differences/Escalation Policy has been agreed across children and adult's subgroups and is now fully operational
- The chair of the QA group supported a campaign about self-neglect with BBC TV and radio

There was a dip in safeguarding referrals which occurred when the pandemic situation was at its height and lockdown measures were put in place. A publicity campaign took place which encouraged islanders to look out for their neighbours and call social services if they were concerned.

Quality & Assurance Adults

Chair - Mary Munns



Of the 307 alerts into safeguarding in 2020, 70% of alleged abuse took place in ones 'own home'

2020 Top 3 referrals by category of abuse showed 21% for Neglect/Omission, 21% Financial Abuse and 20% Domestic Abuse

The Community Adult Support Panel (CASP) oversaw 180 cases in 2020 compared to 15 cases between Q2 and Q4 of 2019

Training Strategy Group

Chair - Dr Kate Wilson



The Safeguarding Partnership Board is committed to providing high quality multi-agency training programmes, so that everyone working or volunteering in local, private, voluntary and independent sectors is confident and competent to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children, young people and adults at risk.

Despite the impact of Covid-19, the provision of an annual work programme that delivers the Board's Business Plan continued throughout 2020. The enforced cancellation of training for several months provided the team with an opportunity to redesign the training offer to match the competency frameworks for the children and adults workforces which had been developed by a multi-agency group of professionals in 2019.

The training courses have now been split into smaller modules so that professionals can tailor their learning to meet individual and organisational needs. In addition, the team created online versions of all the new modules. The result is a blended learning offer where delegates are provided with a workbook and module content which they complete in approximately 2 hours before attending a live online seminar.

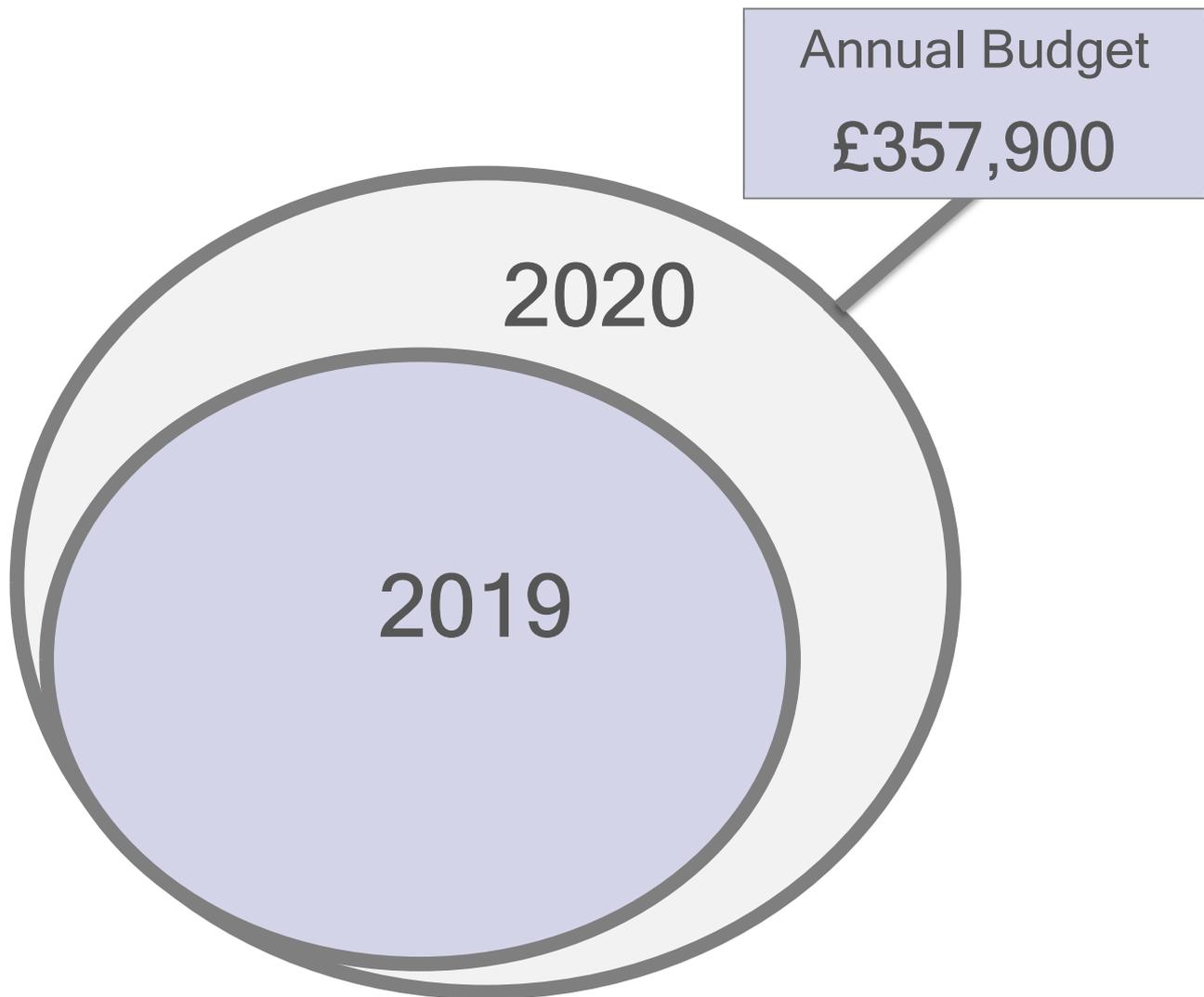
This has not been without its challenges due to the need to upskill the team very quickly, a lack of resourcing such as software, staff redeployment to help the Government's Covid-19 efforts and a deficiency of delegates due to their own agency commitments due to the pandemic. However, feedback received from delegates has been excellent with many preferring the new online delivery as they could complete the independent study at a time to suit them, they had an opportunity for deeper reflection and/or research and they didn't need to be out of work for a whole day. A small number of delegates found it difficult to be released for the shorter period of time and wanted full day face-to-face training. Going forward it is likely that we will offer both online and face-to-face options for training.

MEMBERSHIP AND ATTENDANCE

Sarah Elliott	Independent Chair	5 out of 5
Rose Naylor (Vice Chair SAPB)	Chief Nurse	4 out of 5
Stewart Gull (Vice Chair SCPB)	SoJ Police/CSE/CSA Sub-Group Chair	5 out of 5
Jenny Querns	FNHC/QAC Sub-Group Chair	5 out of 5
John Hodge	Shelter Trust	0 out of 5
Chris Beechey	SoJ Police (Jan-Oct)	2 out of 4
Mike Cutland	Probation Service	5 out of 5
Nick Watkins	Prison Service	4 out of 5
Dr Peter Green	Designated Doctor	2 out of 5
Jo Driver	Safeguarding Nurse - Children (Oct-Dec)	1 out of 1
Pat Marius	Designated Nurse	4 out of 5
Joao Camara	Honorary Police	0 out of 5
David Rose	Jersey Employment Trust	3 out of 5
Steve Jackson	Customer & Local Services	4 out of 5
Alison Fossey	SoJ Police/DA Sub-Group Chair (Oct-Dec)	1 out of 1
Jacky Moon	NSPCC	5 out of 5
Isabel Watson	Adult Service & Mental Health	3 out of 5
Mark Capern	CYPES (Jersey Youth Service)	4 out of 5
Dr Kate Wilson/Dr Penny Le Bas	Named GP's - Children and Adults	1 out of 5
Mary Munns	Adult Social Care	4 out of 5
Mark Owers	CYPES - Children's Social Care	5 out of 5

Associate Members	
Sarah Brace	Legal Advisor
Andrew Heaven	Strategic Policy, Planning & Performance
Richard Jouault	Strategic Housing Unit
Andy Allen	Customs & Immigration
Rob Sainsbury	Health and Community Services
Susan Turnbull	Medical Officer of Health

ANNUAL BUDGET



Annual Budget

The Safeguarding Partnership Boards' annual budget for 2020 was £357,900. This was a small increase on 2019. The majority of the overall budget was allocated to staff costs and the Independent Chair. The SPB has also been allocated £180,000 in the 2021-2024 Government Plan to increase capacity for training and public awareness of safeguarding.

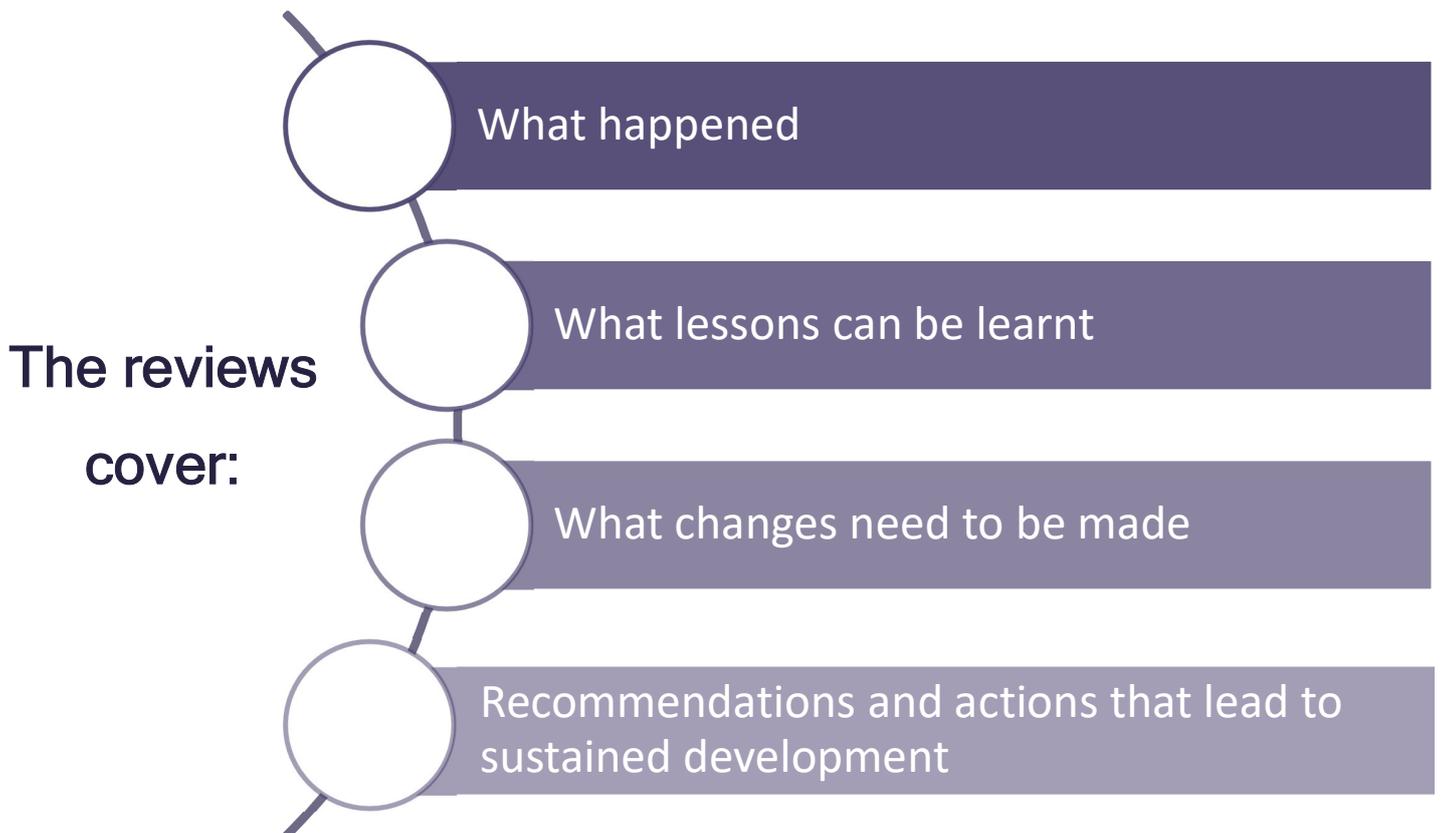
SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS

Serious Case Reviews are conducted to identify ways that professionals from all agencies can continue to improve the way they work together to safeguard children and vulnerable adults. The Safeguarding Partnership Boards are responsible for ensuring that these actions are implemented.

In 2020, 1 new Serious Case Review was commissioned.

In 2020, three Serious Case Review were completed and two have been delayed due to Covid-19. Learning from these reviews have been incorporated into training. The remaining serious case review is due to be completed in the first quarter of 2021.

In 2020, the Safeguarding Partnership Board implemented Rapid Reviews which enable a more efficient way to distribute learning in a timelier manner. 10 Rapid Reviews were held with one of these being referred onto Serious Case Review.



Training Courses offered by the SPB in 2020

The Safeguarding Partnership Board was unable to deliver training in person for six months in 2020 due to the restrictions in place regarding working from home and social distancing. During this time the trainers reviewed all the course material and were able to design modules for online training. Despite the challenges, we were still able to deliver a number of training courses and we will be continuing a hybrid of online and face to face training courses going forward.

Children's Courses

- Foundation Training
- Essential Safeguarding Knowledge and Skills
- Designated Leads
- Adolescent Neglect
- Developing Professional Curiosity
- Child Protection Case Conference
- Learning from Serious Case Reviews
- Trauma Informed Practice
- Child Neglect

Bitesize Courses

- Modern Slavery
- FGM

Adult Courses

- Foundation Safeguarding
- Essential Safeguarding Knowledge and Skills
- Designated Leads
- Controlling and Coercive Behaviour
- Developing Professional Curiosity

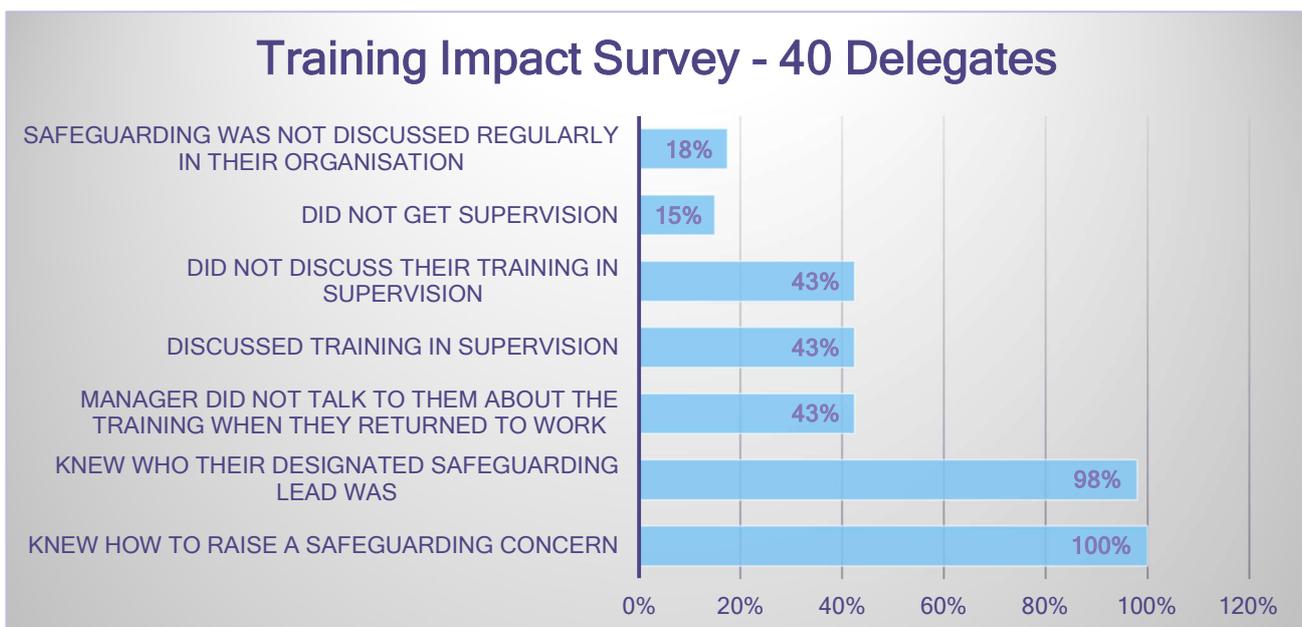
Courses for Both Adults and Children

- Protecting Families from Domestic Abuse
- Train the Trainer
- Sexual Offences (Jersey) Law 2018

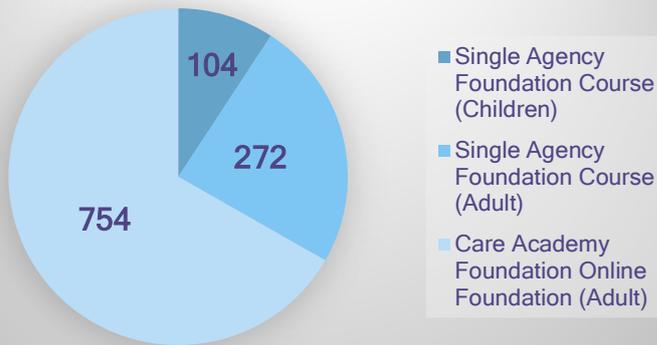
TRAINING STATISTICS FOR 2020

In 2020, a three-month post training survey was sent to all delegates to ask about the impact of training from a delegate perspective. It is intended this survey alongside organisational data should start to give a picture of the impact of training.

To support organisations to keep safeguarding on the agenda, 7 Minute Briefings were developed to use in team meetings. The briefings are based around new and existing topics. 24 were published in 2020.



SPB Foundation Training



Finally, the delivery of foundation training by our pool trainers was significantly impacted due to the pandemic. We were delighted to work with the Care Academy to put the Adult Foundation Training online for anyone to access and this resulted in an extraordinary 754 successful completions of the course.

Where has training improved your practice?

"I am able to make those in my workplace aware of the safeguarding procedures"

"Having this training gave us the confidence to refer children, to discuss our concerns with parents and carers and improve our level of recording amongst the staff"

"I wouldn't say it has improved my practice. It supported us in having an open discussion about the difficulties we face when working with families who face poverty and neglect in what is known to be an affluent island"

"Acknowledging and understanding that this can and is happening everywhere including our small island"

"Improving communication within the team, improved reporting and recording"

"It led me to analyse more if the case was a safeguarding issue or just a social care referral"



Priorities for Addressing Safeguarding Needs and Risks in 2021

Addressing Needs and Risks for Children and Adults at Risk

- Refresh of Domestic Abuse Strategy
- Refresh of CSA/CE Strategy
- Child Neglect Strategy
- Making Safeguarding Personal
- Developing practice models based on:
 - * Think Family
 - * Transitional Safeguarding
 - * Trauma Informed Approach

Strengthening Engagement

- Working with third sector/charitable organisations
- Communication campaigns
- Development of Engagement and Communication Plan
- New website
- Annual Conference
- Developing joint working on a pan island basis and with other jurisdictions

Strengthening Understanding of Practice Challenges

- Learning and improvement including Rapid Reviews
- Multi-agency audit including children going missing, harmful sexual behaviours
- Development of reflective supervision
- Measuring the impact of training and seeking feedback

Strengthening Accountability

- Implementation of the Quality Assurance framework
- Organisational Standards audit
- Developing CDOP arrangements
- Consideration of future of the safeguarding system



FINAL COMMENTS

The Annual Report summarises a range of activities of the Safeguarding Partnership Board but can't possibly reflect on all of the excellent safeguarding practice that takes place through individuals and organisations on a daily basis.

The safeguarding agenda for children, families and vulnerable adults is constantly evolving and the Safeguarding Partnership needs to lead and shape multi-agency safeguarding arrangements so they can continue to meet the needs of islanders.

By improving the way we listen to the voice of people who feel at risk or have been harmed along with hearing the challenges of front line staff we will ensure our safeguarding arrangements are responding to current and emerging needs.

I look forward to working with the Safeguarding Partnership as we continue to learn together to further strengthen multi-agency safeguarding in 2021 and beyond.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sarah Elliott'. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Sarah Elliott, Pan-Island Independent Chair