# Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board
# Annual Report Summary 2025–2026

## OUR YEAR IN BRIEF

Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board is a statutory partnership responsible for overseeing the effectiveness of arrangements to support adults with care and support needs who may be experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect. It brings together the local authority, Integrated Care Board, police and wider partners to provide scrutiny, assurance and shared leadership.

### Our vision

People in Derbyshire are empowered to make choices to stay safe and live a life free from harm, abuse and exploitation.

### Our mission

Board members support and challenge one another to achieve the best possible outcomes by putting the person at the centre of every part of safeguarding.

## Three Statutory Functions

| ANNUAL REPORT | STRATEGIC PLAN | SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEWS |
|---|---|---|
| Publish an annual report on activity and impact. | Set priorities and monitor delivery. | Undertake Safeguarding Adult Reviews to drive learning and improvement. |

## Three Strategic Priorities

Strategic Plan 2025-2028

| PREVENTION | INCLUSION | PERFORMANCE |
|---|---|---|
| Strengthen early help, awareness and partnership action. | Help people, families and communities understand, access and influence safeguarding. | Use data, audit and assurance to identify risk and drive improvement. |



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# Making Safeguarding Personal

| | |
|---|---|
| **LISTEN**<br>**People's experiences shape improvement** | People with lived experience helped shape the Board's work. The Safeguarding Co-production Group influenced communications, resources and assurance. A new feedback survey, developed with Healthwatch Derbyshire and people with experience of safeguarding, will help people say whether they felt listened to, involved and supported. |

*"The way to learn is to listen to other people and take on board their life experiences."*
**Noel Mitchell, Safeguarding Co-production Group**

## Practical Resources and Improvements

**Inclusive information**

- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Charter
- easy read *What to Expect* leaflet
- Lasting Power of Attorney posters

**New resources**

- Learning Themes Library
- MARM podcast
- Rights of access briefing
- Prevention principles
- Board members information pack

**Practice guidance**

- Organisational Abuse Guide
- refreshed Persons in a Position of Trust guidance
- Seven guidance documents reviewed

**Communications**

- 5 newsletters
- website updates and social media posts
- event at Chesterfield FC to raise awareness of support available to unpaid carers

**Training**

- 9 webinars
- 363 attendees
- 13 agencies represented

**Quality Assurance**

- 5 multi agency audits completed
- 2 Safeguarding adult Reviews completed



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# Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews

Two Safeguarding Adult Reviews were completed during 2025–2026. Their purpose was to identify learning, positive practice and strengthen local safeguarding systems and processes.

| SAR23A 'Mary'<br>8 recommendations<br>6 completed • 2 in progress | SAR24A 'Bob'<br>5 recommendations<br>1 completed • 2 on track • 2 progressing |
|---|---|
| **Learning themes**<br>• Training<br>• Multi agency working<br>• Safeguarding processes<br>• Communication about Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards<br>**Impact**<br>Clearer organisational abuse guidance; stronger monitoring and intelligence sharing; improved communication between the DoLS team, care homes and hospitals; clearer Section 42 guidance and escalation routes; and audit-led improvements to provider enquiries. | **Learning themes**<br>• Support for people who holding a lasting power of attorney<br>• Family engagement<br>• Planning for co-existing conditions<br>• Multidisciplinary working<br>• Referral quality and feedback.<br>**Impact**<br>Stronger recording of carers' voices; draft Lasting Power of Attorney resources; improved communication about multi-agency meetings, transitions and contingency planning; revised referral documentation; increased use of the electronic referral form; and strengthened quality checks. |
| Learning **resources**<br>• Read the learning brief<br>• Read the learning on one page | **Learning resources**<br>• Read the learning brief<br>• Read the learning on one page |

# Safeguarding activity and performance

| Demand and outcomes |
|---|
| Safeguarding referrals increased by **19%** to **8,885** |
| There were **2,246** Section 42 enquiries |
| The risk to the person was reduced or removed in **90%** of cases |

| Who was referred? | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **63%**<br>aged 65 or over | **58%**<br>women | **37%**<br>lacked capacity at referral | **92%**<br>recorded as White British |



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| Local safeguarding themes | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Referral Source** | **Risk Type** | **Location** |
| Care homes remained the largest referral source. | Neglect and acts of omission, followed by physical abuse and self-neglect. | The person's own home was the largest single location; care settings were the largest combined setting. |

| 6 of 10 Key Performance Indicators were met or exceeded target | | |
|---|---|---|
| **99.3%** safety plan in place | **96.2%** outcomes achieved | **95.3%** views sought |
| **93.9%** risk reduced or removed | **91.9%** advocacy support | **87.8%** Mental capacity established |

## Partnership impact and next steps

Partner agencies provided leadership, specialist expertise, assurance and operational support. Across social care, health, police, fire and rescue, community safety, voluntary organisations, prisons and probation, partners strengthened early identification, referral pathways, workforce learning, quality assurance and co-ordinated responses to complex risk.

| Partnership Impact | | |
|---|---|---|
| **ASSURANCE** Build on use of performance information, audits and quality checks. | **LEARNING** More consistent learning from local and national reviews. | **CONNECTIONS** Better links across safeguarding, public health, community safety and children's partnerships. |
| **INVOLVEMENT** Wider care-sector and voluntary-sector involvement. | **WORKFORCE** Training and resources on key safeguarding risks. | **FEEDBACK** Clearer routes for people and families to influence improvement. |



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| Priorities for 2026–2027 | |
|---|---|
| 1. Embed feedback and show how people's experiences influence change. | 2. Strengthen referral quality, consent, decision making and data recording. |
| 3. Test whether learning from audits and reviews is improving practice and outcomes. | 4. Maintain strong partnership assurance during system change. |

| Financial Information | | |
|---|---|---|
| **£160,158.21** **statutory partner contributions** | **£162,161.96** total Board expenditure | **£8,655.25** separate SAR expenditure |

**Find out more**

Visit www.derbyshiresab.org.uk

Email DerbyshireSAB@derbyshire.gov.uk

This summary is based on the Derbyshire Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2025–2026. The full report provides detailed data, subgroup activity, partner assurance and appendices.



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