

Public Agenda Pack



Notice of Meeting of

SCRUTINY COMMITTEE - ADULTS AND HEALTH

Tuesday, 12 September 2023 at 10.00 am

Luttrell Room - County Hall, Taunton TA1 4DY

To: The members of the Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health

Chair: Councillor Gill Slocombe
Vice-chair: Councillor Graham Oakes

Councillor John Bailey	Councillor Hilary Bruce
Councillor Ben Ferguson	Councillor Andrew Govier
Councillor Christine Lawrence	Councillor Sue Osborne
Councillor Emily Pearlstone	Councillor Tony Robbins
Councillor Claire Sully	Councillor Mike Stanton
Councillor Rosemary Woods	

For further information about the meeting, including how to join the meeting virtually, please contact Democratic Services democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk.

All members of the public are welcome to attend our meetings and ask questions or make a statement **by giving advance notice** in writing or by e-mail to the Monitoring Officer at email: democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk by **5pm on Wednesday, 6 September 2023**.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under the Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12A: Access to Information.

The meeting will be webcast and an audio recording made.

Issued by (the Proper Officer) on Monday, 4 September 2023

AGENDA

**Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health - 10.00 am Tuesday, 12 September
2023**

Public Guidance Notes contained in Agenda Annexe (Pages 5 - 6)

Click here to join the online meeting

1 Apologies for Absence

To receive any apologies for absence.

2 Minutes of Previous Meeting (Pages 7 - 12)

To approve the minutes from the previous meeting.

3 Declarations of Interest

To receive and note any declarations of interests in respect of any matters included on the agenda for consideration at this meeting.

(The other registrable interests of Councillors of Somerset Council, arising from membership of City, Town or Parish Councils and other Local Authorities will automatically be recorded in the minutes: [City, Town & Parish Twin Hatters - Somerset Councillors 2023](#))

4 Public Question Time

The Chair to advise the Committee of any items on which members of the public have requested to speak and advise those members of the public present of the details of the Council's public participation scheme.

For those members of the public who have submitted any questions or statements, please note, a three minute time limit applies to each speaker and you will be asked to speak before Councillors debate the issue.

We are now live webcasting most of our committee meetings and you are welcome to view and listen to the discussion. The link to each webcast will be available on the meeting webpage, please see details under 'click here to join online meeting'.

5 Work Programme (Pages 13 - 16)

6 Adults Social Care Budget Report (Pages 17 - 28)

7 Recovering Access to Primary Care (Pages 29 - 36)

8 Safeguarding Adults- Annual report (Pages 37 - 44)

Guidance notes for the meeting

Council Public Meetings

The legislation that governs Council meetings requires that committee meetings are held face-to-face. The requirement is for members of the committee and key supporting officers (report authors and statutory officers) to attend in person, along with some provision for any public speakers. Provision will be made wherever possible for those who do not need to attend in person including the public and press who wish to view the meeting to be able to do so virtually.

Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the agenda should contact Democratic Services at democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk or telephone 01823 357628.

They can also be accessed via the council's website on [Committee structure - Modern Council \(somerset.gov.uk\)](#)

Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be viewed at: [Code of Conduct](#)

Minutes of the Meeting

Details of the issues discussed, and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

Public Question Time

If you wish to speak or ask a question about any matter on the Committee's agenda please contact Democratic Services by 5pm providing 3 clear working days before the meeting. (for example, for a meeting being held on a Wednesday, the deadline will be 5pm on the Thursday prior to the meeting) Email democraticserviceteam@somerset.gov.uk or telephone 01823 357628.

Members of public wishing to speak or ask a question will need to attend in person or if unable can submit their question or statement in writing for an officer to read out, or alternatively can attend the meeting online.

A 20-minute time slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been agreed. Each speaker will have 3 minutes to address the committee.

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take a direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish. If an item on the agenda is contentious, with many people wishing to attend the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

Meeting Etiquette for participants

Only speak when invited to do so by the Chair.

Mute your microphone when you are not talking.

Switch off video if you are not speaking.

Speak clearly (if you are not using video then please state your name)

If you're referring to a specific page, mention the page number.

There is a facility in Microsoft Teams under the ellipsis button called turn on live captions which provides subtitles on the screen.

Exclusion of Press & Public

If when considering an item on the agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

If there are members of the public and press listening to the open part of the meeting, then the Democratic Services Officer will, at the appropriate time, ask participants to leave the meeting when any exempt or confidential information is about to be discussed.

Recording of meetings

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording, and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting.



Minutes of a Meeting of the Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health held in the Luttrell Room - County Hall, Taunton TA1 4DY, on Thursday, 3 August 2023 at 10.00 am

Present:

Cllr Gill Slocombe (Chair)
Cllr Graham Oakes (Vice-Chair)

Cllr John Bailey	Cllr Hilary Bruce
Cllr Ben Ferguson	Cllr Emily Pearlstone
Cllr Claire Sully	Cllr Rosemary Woods

In attendance:

Cllr Bill Revans	Cllr Heather Shearer
Cllr Fran Smith	Cllr Andy Sully
Cllr Lucy Trimnell	Cllr Sarah Wakefield
Cllr Dean Ruddle	

Other Members present remotely:

Cllr Christine Lawrence	Cllr Sue Osborne
Cllr Tony Robbins	Cllr Mike Stanton
Cllr Peter Clayton	Cllr Leigh Redman
Cllr Norman Cavill	

10 Apologies for Absence - Agenda Item 1

Apologies were received from Councillors Christine Lawrence, Tony Robbins, Sue Osborne, Andrew Govier and Mike Stanton.

11 Minutes of Previous Meeting - Agenda Item 2

Resolved that the minutes of the Scrutiny Committee - Adults and Health held on 31 May 2023 be confirmed as a correct record.

12 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 3

There were no new Declarations of Interest.

13 Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4

There were no public questions.

14 Mental Health Workshop - Update - Agenda Item 5

The chair of the committee gave a verbal update on the workshop which had taken place on 21 July 2023. The workshop had been attended by 9 speakers and had very informative, although it was considered that it had been at a high level.

It was requested that a task and finish group be set up with specific areas to be agreed as it was such a large area of work, it was also requested that this subject be placed on the work programme for this committee so that further scrutiny can take place on a regular basis.

Councillor Pearlstone requested that consideration of the effect of the closure of St Andrews and the use of the bed spaces at Yeovil affecting transportation of clients, staffing and use of these facilities, Councillor Bruce seconded the proposal for this to be placed on the work programme. It was also requested that a list of the names of those officers at the workshop for reference.

Resolved:

To note the information from the Mental Health Workshop and the verbal update from the Chair. It was proposed that the committee receive information on the effects on services across Somerset including transportation, staffing and use of beds especially in Yeovil which has replaced St Andrews closure.

15 Committee Work Programme - Agenda Item 6

Members discussed the Forward work Programme and agreed the following areas of work to be included: Ambulance Service Performance and Stand bys, also that Suicide Prevention needed to return onto the plan. It was also noted that the Crime and Disorder report would come to this committee but the meeting would be open to any Councillor or public.

16 Primary Care Strategy - Agenda Item 7

Michael Bainbridge and Bernie Mardon from the NHS attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the Primary Care Strategy being put together. The committee

were informed that although there were 17 problems to address, the one central problem was capacity to demand mismatch. The intention was to provide a broad strategic framework and to build trusting relationships for sustainable improvement but with a set of detailed delivery plans.

The vision for GP services needs to be clarified, however the core value is continuity of care. It was noted that there was a wide programme of actions which included attraction and retaining GPs, including trainees, increasing nurse numbers and the number of wider primary care teams including moving from reception to care navigation.

Digital Innovation – co-ordination of services with other providers, patients and system. There will also be investment in services and providers therefore a new funding framework for practices will be a priority action.

The committee also noted that the Pharmacy, Optometry and Dental Services were taken on as from 1 April 2023 and have brought their own issues.

During discussion, Councillors made the following comments:

- Need to integrate services and access to medical facilities i.e. bus services and digital access as not everyone able to connect
- Need to be proactive rather reactive to issues so planning and managing of expectations
- Local Plan will highlight new developments and should therefore be able to predict pressure/demand on services, can also use S106/CIL funding but have a statutory duty for access to services
- Aware of major issues with NHS dentistry services in the County, especially in certain areas like Chard
- GP business models – need to include operation of models to be compared with others, lack of same day appointments, activities and clinics being stripped away, need to measure continuity of services.

The chair summarised the points of consideration for the committee's work programme as follows:

Wider implementation of access

Detail on workforce with facts and figures

Dentistry – on work programme for October/November

Business models

GP appointment systems

Activities being stripped away and reasons why

New funding programme

Pharmaceutical provision

Scrutiny process

It was suggested that Michael Bainbridge provide information for distribution to

committee and that the Chair and officers work through the issues to add to the work programme. It was also requested that the Primary Care Strategy be provided to the committee for information.

Resolved:

The committee noted the Primary Care Strategy and scrutinised delivery of the strategy to ensure that the changes proposed are delivered in a timely fashion and in a way that maximises the benefit to the people of Somerset. A number of areas to scrutinise were suggested and it was agreed that these would be agreed via the Chair and officers and added to the work programme.

17 Adult Social Care - Budget Report - Agenda Item 8

The committee received a presentation from the finance team who confirmed that the Outturn for 2022/2023 that the budget of £160.1m showed an overspend of £15.4m.

Pressures and challenges for 2023/24 included:

Newton project – projected to achieve £0.2m during 2023/24 instead of £5m as per the MTFP

Learning Disabilities – pressures within Supported Living and Day Care

Placements – increases in fees, with increased “Capital Drop” contacts and increased number of new placement requests.

A number of mitigations/actins undertaken in 2023/24 included the review of fees for next financial year, reduce the overreliance of bed placements, voids, review high cost or complex placements along with other funding.

In response to a question from Cllr Pearlstone, it was confirmed that the Discovery contract had reduced costs and changed their delivery model with the contract running the best ever.

Resolved:

To note the Adult Services outturn position for 2022/23.

18 Adult Social Care Assurance Report - Agenda Item 9

The committee were given a short presentation by Niki Shaw about the Adult Social Care Strategy 2023-2026 giving the priorities and commitments which was underpinned by a delivery plan.

Members of the committee congratulated Niki on the report and the work being undertaken.

Resolved:

The committee noted the key updates highlighted within the report in relation to Adult Social Care (ASC) especially in regard to the new Care Quality Commission assessment of adult social care at a local authority level.

19 Healthy Weston - Agenda Item 10

The Chair updated the committee as she had met with the Chief Executive of Weston Hospital and discussed the changes to their strategy and partnership with Bristol, the reports had been sent as supplementary items to the agenda with the full details.

It was noted that in February 2024, a report will come to this committee on the business case for care as 20% of the population in Somerset use the hospital at Weston.

Resolved:

To note the update received from the Chair in relation to Healthy Weston. The committee noted that a report will come forward in February 2024 with details of the business case.

(The meeting ended at 12.55 pm)

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CHAIR

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Scrutiny for Adults and Health Work Programme – 2023/24

	21 July 2023 - WORKSHOP	
Mental Health Services		Mel Lock
	03 August 2023 10am	
Adult Social Care Budget Report		Mel Lock
Healthy Weston – Update		Deborah El Syed /Helen Edelstyn
Primary Care Strategy GP Surgeries/ pharmacies/ophthalmology etc		Michael Bainbridge
Adult Social Care Assurance Report		Mel Lock/ Niki Shaw
	12th September – Formal Meeting	
Stroke Services Consultations results		Julie Jones
Primary Care Strategy Part 2		Michael Bainbridge/Dr Bernie Marden
Crime and Disorder Report		Lucy Macready/Joe Shaun
	05 October 2023 10am	
Adult Social Care Performance/ Budget Report/Winter Planning		Mel Lock/Alison Rowswell
Dentistry		Alison Henley

Scrutiny for Adults and Health Work Programme – 2023/24

Autism Strategy – ICB Performance Report		Andrew Keefe/ Emily Fulbrook Alison Henley
	Early November 2023 WORKSHOP	
	05 December 2023 10am	
Adult Social Care Performance/ Budget report SSAB Annual Report? Update Mental Health Response times		Mel Lock Jen Sharp Andrew Keefe/ Paul Coles
	08 February 2024 10am	
Adult Social Care Budget Report Musgrove Park Hospital – Development?		Mel Lock Phil Brice/Ian Boswall
	04 April 2024 10am	
Adult Social Care Performance Report		Mel Lock

Scrutiny for Adults and Health Work Programme – 2023/24

ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO AGENDA:

- Ambulance Service Update report due –September/October update from March meeting
- Suicide Prevention Strategy –Update requested (interim report will be circulated prior to the August meeting.)
- Joint meeting with Childrens and Families – Mental Health –TBA
- Armed Forces Covenant
- Stroke Consultation August 2023?
- ~~Primary Care Strategy~~
- Quality Performance reports Alison Henly /Alison Rowswell
- Ambulance Service Performance - Steve Boucher
- Haematology Services -Yeovil/ Phil Brice
- ~~Workforce Planning~~
- ~~NHS Dentistry Services~~
- ~~Healthy Weston -Update~~
- Musgrove Park Hospital -redevelopment – Phil Brice **Relevant Update**
- Impact of Covid on health and care staff, oral health,
- ~~Deprivation of Liberty Safeguarding (awaiting legislation)~~

Note: Members of the Scrutiny Committee and all other Members of Somerset County Council are invited to contribute items for inclusion in the work programme. Please contact Democratic Services Team, who will assist you in submitting your item. Jamie.Jackson@somerset.gov.uk
01823 355059 or the Clerk Jennie Murphy on jennie.murphy@somerset.gov.uk

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Somerset Council
Adults & Health Scrutiny Committee
12 September 2023



23/24 Budget Monitoring Report – Month 3 – End of June 2023

Lead Officer: Jason Vaughan, Executive Director for Resource & Corporate (S151)

Author: Christian Evans, Strategic Manager

Contact Details: christian.evans@somerset.gov.uk

Executive Lead Member: Deputy Leader of the Council and Lead Member for Resources and Performance. Lead Member for Adults & Health

Division / Local Member:

1. Summary

- 1.1.** The Executive considered the Quarter 1 Budget Monitoring reports at its meeting on 6th September 2023 and the reports will be presented to the scrutiny committee to allow for scrutiny of them.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1.** Scrutiny is asked to consider:-
1. If there are any general comments or observations that they would wish to make to the Executive on the reports.
 2. If the actions set out in the report are appropriate and if there were any further actions, they would wish to see included.

3. Background

- 3.1.** The 2023/24 Budget is the first for the new Somerset Council and it brought together the budgets of the five predecessor councils adjusted for new assumptions and identified savings. It is well documented that there are significant delays in the auditing of local authority accounts and this national issue means that there are a number of statement of accounts from the predecessor councils for prior years that are still outstanding. This brings an amount of uncertainty, as well resourcing implications, and in practical terms means that some of the information for Somerset Council such as the 2022/23 outturn, reserves position, and capital position are still being finalised.
- 3.2.** The Full Council approved the 2023/24 Budget in February 2023. Budget

monitoring is delegated to Executive and Scrutiny and revenue service reports will be presented monthly with a full overview of revenue, capital, and reserves quarterly. This report outlines the forecast year-end position of services against the 2023/24 budget of £493.4m as at the end of June 2023.

4. Report

4.1 After taking into account all service expenditure and contingencies the projected outturn position is £522m against a net budget of £493.4m. This gives a £28.6m adverse variance which represents a variance of 5.8%.

- Adult Services has a £12.1m adverse variance against their budget (6.5% of service budget). This variance is mainly in the adult social care and Learning Disabilities budget areas.
- Children’s Services has a £8.8m adverse variance against their budget (7.2% of service budget). This variance is in External Placements.
- Climate and Place has a £5.1m adverse variance against their budget (5.8% of service budget). This adverse variance is seen in Waste Services, Infrastructure and Transport and Economy, Employment and Planning.
- Strategy, Workforce and Localities has a £1.5m adverse variance against their budget (7.4% of service budget). This variance is seen in Legal Services.

Resources and Corporate Services has a £1.4m adverse variance against their budget (6.5% of service budget). This variance is seen in Revenues, Housing Benefits, Property, and ICT.

Table 1a: 2023/24 Budget Monitoring Report as at the end of June 2023 (Month 3)

(Scrutiny Committee – Adults & Health)

Service Area	Original Budget	Current Budget	Full Year Projection	Month 3 Variance	A/(F)
	£m	£m	£m	£m	
Adult Services	186.6	185.5	197.6	12.1	A
Children & Family Services	123.1	123.1	131.9	8.8	A
Public Health	1.2	1.2	1.2	0.0	-
Communities Services	35.2	34.9	34.9	0.0	-
Climate & Place	87.1	87.6	92.7	5.1	A
Strategy, Workforce & Localities	20.2	20.2	21.7	1.5	A
Resources & Corporate Services	20.5	21.5	22.9	1.4	A
Accountable Bodies	3.7	3.7	3.7	0.0	-
Non-Service	9.8	9.8	9.3	(0.5)	(F)
Traded Services	0.0	0.0	0.2	0.2	A
Total Service Position	487.4	487.4	516.0	28.6	A
Corporate Contingency	6.0	6.0	6.0	0.0	-
Total after Contingencies	493.4	493.4	522.0	28.6	A
Reserves	(19.9)	(19.9)	(19.9)	0.0	-
Council Tax	(345.4)	(345.4)	(345.4)	0.0	-
Business Rates	(116.1)	(116.1)	(116.1)	0.0	-
Revenue Support Grant	(7.9)	(7.9)	(7.9)	0.0	-
Flexible Use of Capital Receipts	(4.0)	(4.0)	(4.0)	0.0	-
Total Month 3 Position	0.0	0.0	28.6	28.6	A

4. Adult Services Director Mel Lock, Lead Member Cllr Dean Ruddle

2

- 2023/24 net budget £185.5m, projected adverse variance £12.1m
- 2022/23 net budget £160.7m, outturn adverse variance £15.4m

Table 2: Adult Services as at the end of June 2023 (Month 3)

(Scrutiny Committee – Adults & Health)

Service Area	Current Budget	Full Year Projection	Month 3 Variance	A/(F)
	£m	£m	£m	
Adult Social Care Operations - Physical Disability/Sensory Loss/65 Plus				
Residential & Nursing	54.0	54.7	0.7	A
Home Care	28.1	30.3	2.2	A
Direct Payments	11.9	12.8	0.9	A
Staffing Costs	11.6	11.6	0.0	-
Transport & Daycare	7.6	7.6	0.0	-
sub total	113.2	117.0	3.8	A
Adult Social Care Operations - Mental Health				
Residential & Nursing	13.9	13.9	0.0	-
Home Care/Supported Living	5.7	5.9	0.2	A
Staffing/Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards	2.6	2.6	0.0	-
Direct Payments, Day Care & Transport	2.6	2.5	(0.1)	(F)
sub total	24.8	24.9	0.1	A
Adult Social Care Operations - Learning Disabilities				
Residential & Nursing	23.8	25.7	1.9	A
Home Care/Supported Living	30.6	35.4	4.8	A
Direct Payments/In Control	10.7	10.3	(0.4)	(F)
Day Care	5.8	6.3	0.5	A
Transport & Shared Lives	2.4	2.7	0.3	A
Central & Salaries	6.0	6.2	0.2	A
Discovery	30.5	30.1	(0.4)	(F)
sub total	109.8	116.7	6.9	A
Commissioning				
Commissioning	2.9	5.7	2.8	A
Better Care Fund	(37.3)	(37.3)	0.0	-
LD Pooled Budget Income	(27.9)	(29.4)	(1.5)	(F)
sub total	(62.3)	(61.0)	1.3	A
Adult Services Total	185.5	197.6	12.1	A

4. Adult Services - key explanations, actions & mitigating controls

3

Adult Social Care - Physical Disability/Sensory Loss/65 Plus

This area of adults is currently projecting to be £3.8m overspent. As in previous years, we continue to see pressure within residential and nursing placements, with pressure on the weekly costs, as well as the number of people receiving support. Historically the authority has paid low fee rates within this sector. The increase in fee levels for 23/24 are still not stabilising the market, due to the increase in inflation and cost of living.

There continue to be a number of interim placements as the service works with the NHS trusts to ensure a timely discharge for people from hospital. These placements are currently projected to cost £2.5m.

We continue to deliver more homecare, to allow people to remain in their own homes for as long as possible to help reduce the overreliance on beds, as well as it being the best place for them. This has led to reported overspends of £2.2m for home care.

As we continue to offer choice and have a varied market that includes micro-providers, we have seen an increase in the use of direct payments, resulting in a projected overspend of £0.9m.

Mental Health

This budget includes individuals who have a diagnosis of dementia. The budget continues to be an area of growth for the past few years, and this has continued in 2023/24. We are currently projecting an overspend of £0.1m mainly within home care and supported living. Residential and nursing continues to be a pressure for the service due to a combination of increasing numbers and high unit costs.

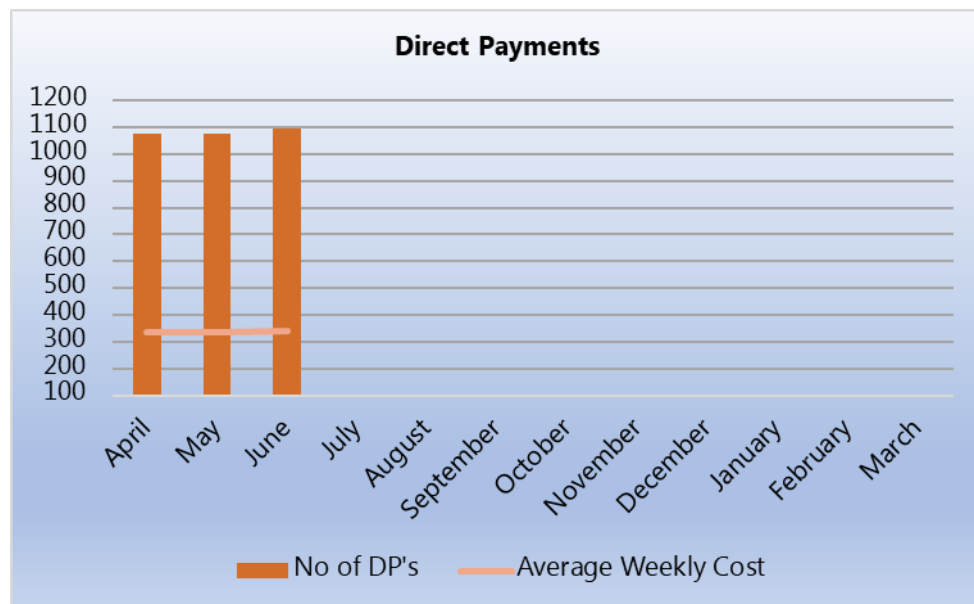
Learning Disabilities

Overall, the cost of Learning Disabilities is projected to overspend by £6.9m. Since outturn we have seen a number of high costs placements come through, either via transitions or due to other forms of funding coming to an end. The four main pressure areas continue to be residential & nursing £1.9m, supported living and homecare £4.8m and day care £0.5m due to market sustainability. Supported Living is in the best interest of people but is an area where unit costs can be high.

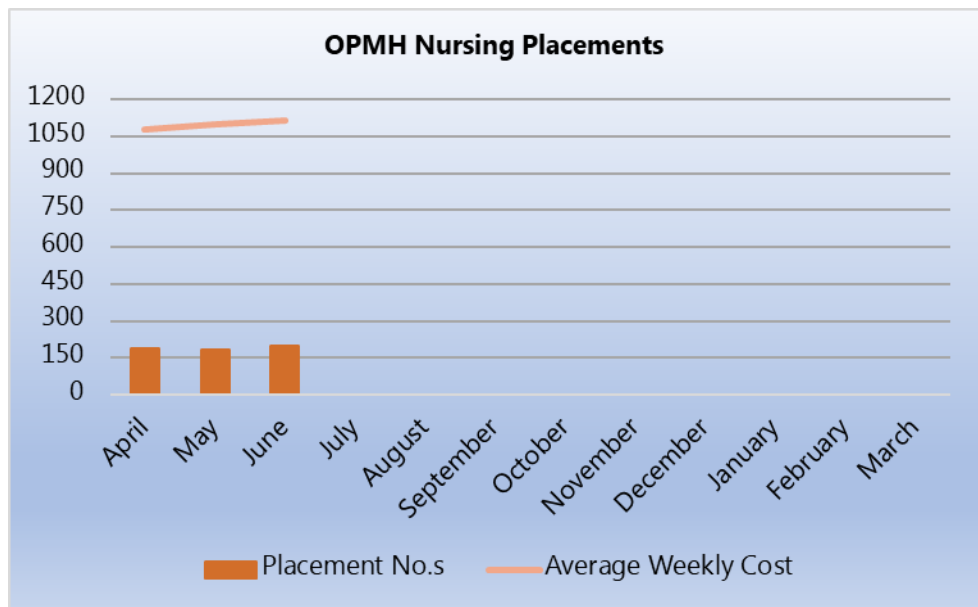
Commissioning

Commissioning is currently projecting to overspend by £1.3m, as the Adults transformation ‘my life, my future’ will not achieve the full £5m saving.

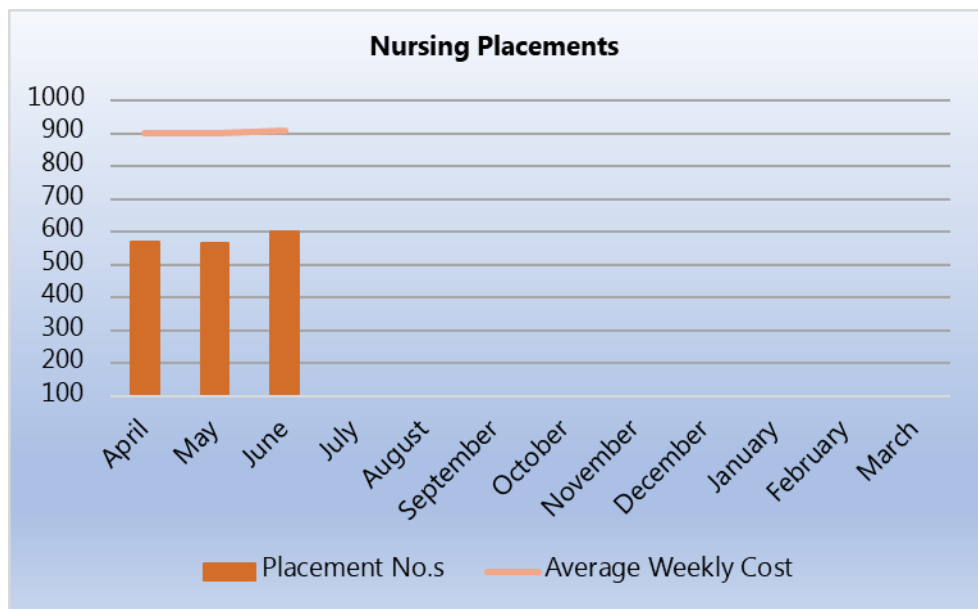
Adult Services - key performance cost drivers



Since the beginning of the financial year, we have seen the number of people receiving a Direct Payment within ASC increased from 1,077 to 1093 packages. The current weekly average cost of an ASC Direct Payment is £338 per package.



The number of Older People Mental Health (OPMH) Nursing placements has increased by ten placements since April, from 188 to 198. The current weekly average cost for OPMH Nursing is £1,112 per placement.



Nursing placements increased by thirty-one since April from 569 to 600. The current weekly average cost for Nursing is £910 per placement.

4. Adult Services - key risks, future issues & opportunities

4

90% of the ASC budget is spent on individual placements purchased through the market via block and spot placements. Therefore, there is a significant risk that this budget will continue to overspend. This is due to increased demand, the cost-of-living rise,

particularly the increases in petrol, gas, electric, and food.

We have a number of mitigations that are not currently reflected in the financial position above but across the financial year we will start to see the impact:

- Enhanced Peer Forum – Robust financial and operating challenge
- Reviewing Interim Placements – This review will identify those who should be self-funding/contributing towards their long-term care.
- My life, my future – reduce the overreliance on bed placements and redesign the reablement service.
- Review all high cost/complex placements.
- Review void costs.

5. Implications

- 5.1.** There are no implications from this report. Scrutiny Members are asked to note the information and recommend any actions to Executive Committee.

6. Background papers

- 6.1.** The information within this paper has been taken from the Executive Committee 6th September, budget monitoring report for Month 3.

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Adults Budget Monitoring Month 3

Page 25



Somerset
Council

Month 3 2023/24

Net budget of £185.5m

Overspend of £12.1m (6.5%)

- ASC:
 - Residential/Nursing – Cost of beds higher than budgeted.
 - Increased delivery in home care
 - Mental Health:
 - High-cost placements
 - Learning Disabilities:
 - Supported Living – market sustainability
 - Day Care – increased need to allow carer's break/respite
 - Commissioning:
 - My Life, My Future
- Further ongoing risks:
- Increase in demand
 - Market Sustainability

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LD Pooled Budget Income	(27.9)	(29.4)	(1.5)	(F)
sub total	(62.3)	(61.0)	1.3	A
Adult Services Total	185.5	197.6	12.1	A

Mitigations/Actions Taken 23/24

- Providers charging VAT
- Medium Term Financial Planning – Review fees for 24/25
- Reduce overreliance of bed placements
- Reablement Service
- Voids
- Review high cost/complex placements – re Continuing Health Care/Joint Funding
- Any additional funding from Integrated Care Board – System Solution
- Review all interim placements – no longer commission
- Effective use of Disabled Facilities Grant

Medium Term Financial Plan – Tracking 23/24

Year Approved	Ref	Directorate	Proposal Title	Saving Amount	Achieved	On-track	Unachievable
2023/24	AD-2324-LTSIGP-02	Adults Services	Newton Europe - estimated savings in Adult services	(5,000,000)		(200,000)	(4,800,000)
2023/24	AD-2324-LTSIGP-01	Adults Services	Community-focused redesign of traditional service in Adults Services	(25,000)	(25,000)		
2023/24	AD-2324-LTSIGP-03	Adults Services	One-Off Use of DFG to Fund Equipment	(3,500,000)		(3,500,000)	

Page 28

- My Life, My Future - £0.2m to be achieved 23/24 due to longer rollout than originally anticipated to achieve savings, will be achieved 24/25
- Use of DFG to Fund Equipment – On track
- Community focused redesign – Achieved

Somerset Council
Scrutiny Committee
– 31 August 2023



[Click here and type Report Title]

Lead Officer: Luke Best, Primary Care Development Manager

Author: Luke Best

Contact Details: luke.best@nhs.net / Sukeina.kassam2@nhs.net

Executive Lead Member: Sukeina Kassam, Deputy Director of Primary Care and Contracting

Division / Local Member:

1. Summary

- 1.1.** The Recovering Access to Primary Care Delivery plan, as published by NHS England seeks to address the downward trajectory in patient satisfaction and overall access concerns since before Covid-19.

There are twelve key requirements of the plan which require a system-wide response across the Somerset Integrated Care System. NHS Somerset has developed a localised plan that sets out how we seek to address each of the twelve requirements with a series of key, accountable deliverables that NHS England seek progress assurance on.

NHS Somerset is working directly with the GP Provider Board and has established a collaborative approach that puts primary care in the driving seat to create a meaningful difference for patients when accessing primary care.

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

- 2.1.** Members are asked to note the update on primary care access recovery and provide any feedback or input that may support the on-going direction of travel for the project.

3. Background

- 3.1.** Primary care access has long been an area of contention; our Somerset plan seeks to address patient satisfaction and improve overall access to services.

4. Consultations undertaken

- 4.1.** We are in a period of engagement with all relevant stakeholders to ensure a

(Scrutiny Committee – [Click **here** and type date]

system-wide, collaborative response.

5. Implications

5.1. N/a

6. Background papers

6.1. Please find the attached presentation which will accompany a verbal update.

Note For sight of individual background papers please contact the report author

Recovering Access to Primary Care

Sukeina Kassam
Deputy Director of Primary Care and Contracting

Luke Best
Primary Care Development Manager



The national access recovery plan

Nationally published with tight and comprehensive deadlines

Seeks to address the significant downward trend in patient satisfaction since 2019/20

Page 32

Focuses on two key metrics: same day disposition, and appointments within 14 days

12 key areas of focus – upcoming slide

Winter resilience planning – emergency admission reduction & protecting primary care access

People in Somerset will experience primary care services that give them a warm welcome and are caring

People working in our primary care services will have the time and space to do a professional job, responding to what matters to patients

Page 33
Primary care services will be local, effective, and comprehensive

People will be able to access care when they need it – access is 1 of 3 priority areas in our strategy

Provider collaboration – GP Provider Board/PCN Investment & Impact (IIF)

Primary Care Access Delivery Group established

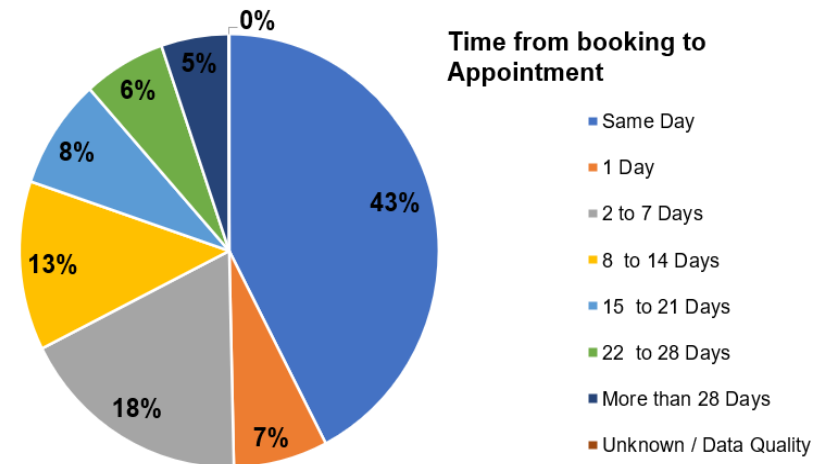
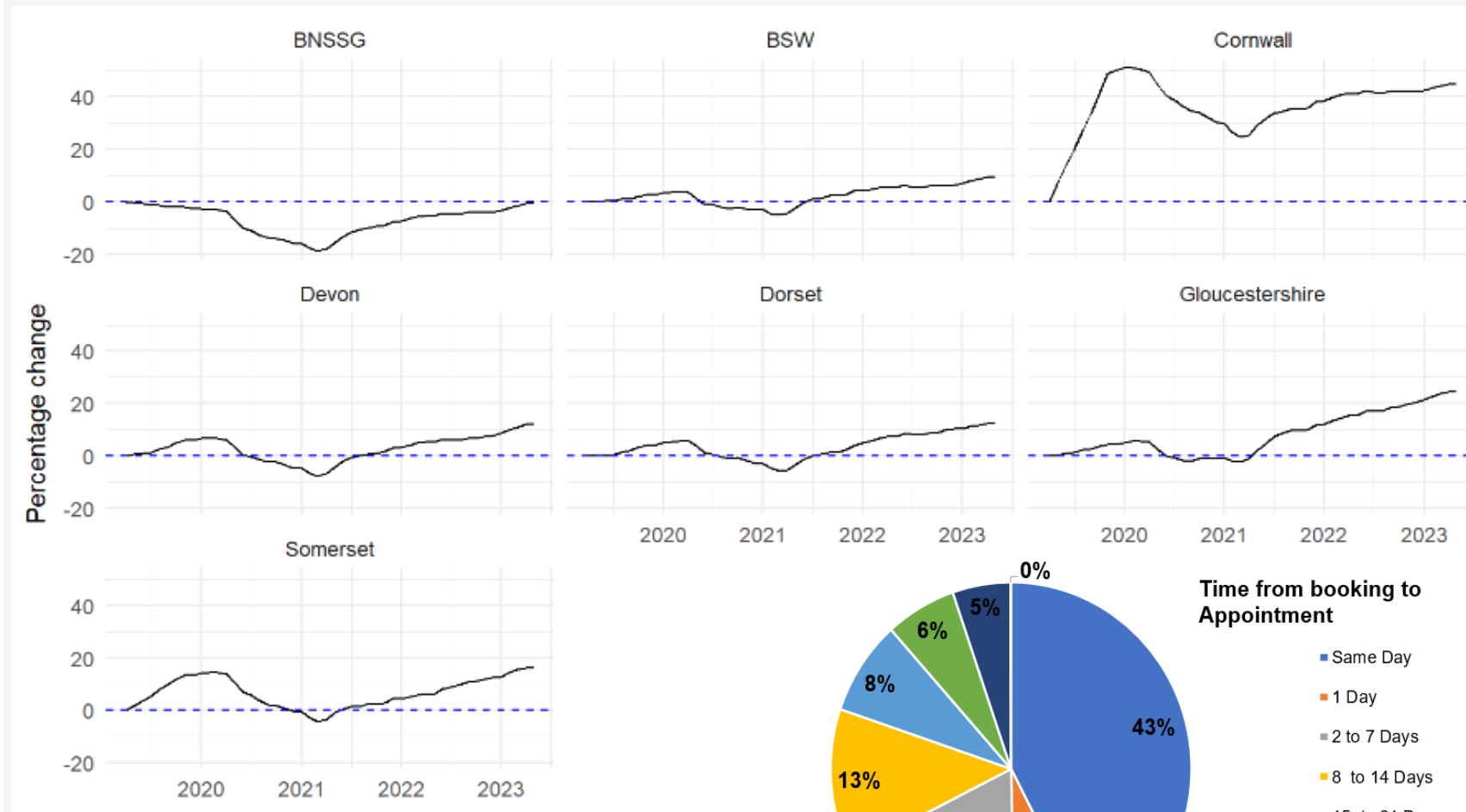
Somerset system plan submission – 31st July

12 key requirements

1. Increase self-care and self-directed care – 7 self-referral pathways by 30 September
 - falls response, MSK, audiology, weight management, community podiatry, and wheelchair & community equipment services
2. Expanding community pharmacy services – winter resilience link
3. Improving digital telephony
4. Simpler online request/access process – online consultations, messaging, appt. booking
5. NHS App usage increased – all functions of NHS app enabled by 31 October 2023
6. Navigation, assessment and response – care navigation, quality of appointment data
7. Larger multi-disciplinary teams
8. More new doctors
9. Retention and return of experienced GPs
10. Higher priority for primary care in housing developments
11. Improving primary/secondary care interface – winter resilience link
12. Reducing administration

Baseline position – no. of appointments offered

SW Systems Overview - Percentage change from 2019 baseline



Support level framework (SLF) conversations – identifying practices

General Practice Improvement Programme

- Intermediate, intensive, PCN offer, quality leads, universal offer, digital & transformation leads

Page
36

GP Provider Board/PCN collaboration

Facilitation vehicle of Primary Care Access Recovery in supporting winter resilience

Public Board Meeting – October/November 2023

Monitoring/evaluation – measurement of success – GP patient survey

Involvement always welcome!

Somerset Council
Scrutiny Committee
– 12 September 2023



Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board - Annual Report 2022/23

Lead Officer: Michael Preston-Shoot

Author: Natalie Green, Business Manager, SSAB

Contact Details: natalie.green@somerset.gov.uk

Executive Lead Member: Cllr Dean Ruddle

Division / Local Member: All

1. Summary

1.1. Adult safeguarding is everyone's responsibility. Safeguarding means protecting people's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. The Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report (see attached appendices) outlines adult safeguarding activity and performance across the county between April 2022 and March

2023.[Click here and type summary - no more than 1 - 2 paragraph(s)]

1.2. The Annual Report is presented each year to the Scrutiny Committee in the interests of promotion, transparency and accountability, as well as being shared with the Chief Executive and Lead Member of the Local Authority, the Police and Crime Commissioner and Chief Constable, Healthwatch Somerset, and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board (as is legislatively required). It is also shared with NHS Somerset leads."[Click here and type text linking item to Council Plan]"

2. Issues for consideration / Recommendations

2 Scrutiny Committee to receive and consider the 2022/23 SSAB Annual Report.[Click here and summarise key issues/questions that members need to address]

2 Scrutiny Committee to continue to encourage all elected councillors to actively support adult safeguarding across the Local Authority and Somerset's local communities, promoting awareness of the resources and support available via the SSAB website: [Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board – Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board \(safeguardingsomerset.org.uk\)](https://safeguardingsomerset.org.uk)

3. Background

3.1. The Somerset Safeguarding Adults Board (SSAB) is a statutory body established by the Care Act 2014. It is made up of senior people from organisations who have a role in preventing the neglect and abuse of adults. The main objective of the Board is to seek assurance that local safeguarding arrangements and partner organisations act to help and protect people aged 18 and over who:

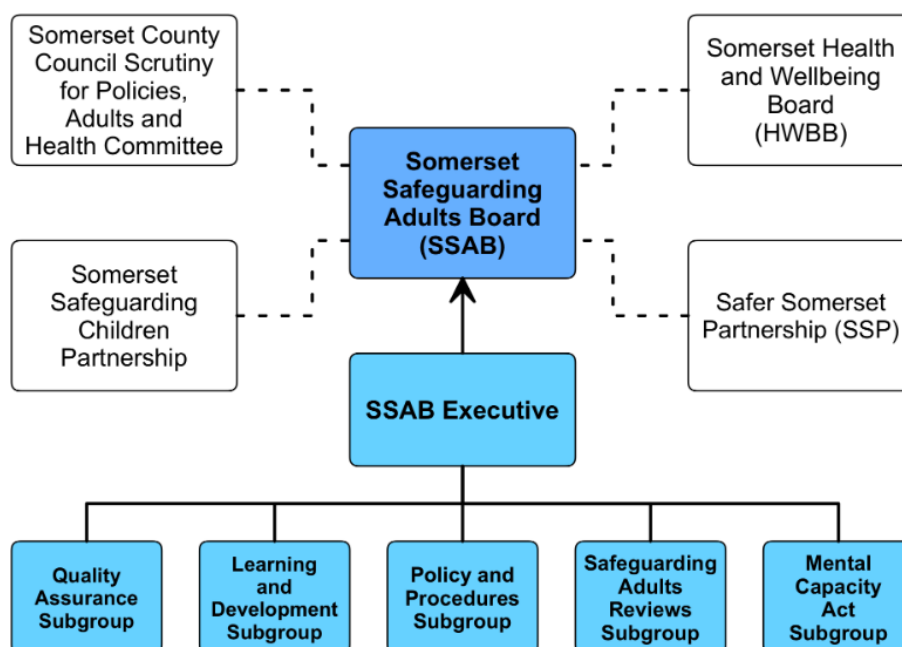
- have needs for care and support; *and*
- are experiencing, or at risk of, abuse, neglect or exploitation; *and*
- are unable to protect themselves from the risk of, or experience of abuse or neglect as a result of their care and support needs[Click here and type brief background]

3.2. SABs have 3 statutory functions:

- To develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how it will meet its objectives and how members will contribute to these;
- To publish an annual report detailing how effective its work has been;
- To commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) for any cases meeting the criteria for these.

3.3. Somerset’s SAB is independently Chaired by Michael Preston-Shoot, who took up post in January 2023. His role is to support and challenge the commitment and vision of the Board and its partners, with a main focus on how agencies effectively work together to safeguard, prevent and reduce the risk of abuse and neglect. The Board also has a Business Manager and some administrative support available to it to help facilitate the effective work of the Board and its subgroups.

3.4. Board structure as at 31/03/2023:



3.5. The SSAB’s role is to have an oversight of safeguarding arrangements within the County, not to deliver services or become involved in the day-to-day operations of individual organisations, including those of Somerset Council. *As such, any questions from committee members regarding operational matters, including individual safeguarding enquiries, are best directed to the representative of the organisation that has the lead for this work.*

4. Key SSAB Updates and Highlights

4.1. Like many areas across the Country, we have seen first-hand how health and social care systems have had to cope with unprecedented demand, increasing complexity and, at the same time, manage the repercussions of the COVID pandemic, and workforce recruitment and retention pressures. The SAB itself

maintained its focus on a virtual basis and continued to deliver the objectives of its 3-year strategic plan and improving the effectiveness of the Board. The Board is keen to highlight the following information for Scrutiny awareness:

- a) There was a **decrease of 81 (3.6%) safeguarding concerns compared to the previous year; a continued downward trend**. Of the 2,184 concerns, 4 were raised by the adult themselves, which was also the number in 2021/22.
- b) The majority of individuals involved in a safeguarding enquiry are **over 65 and male**. The **most common risk type was 'neglect and acts of omission'**, followed by financial or material abuse and physical abuse. The **most common location where people were identified as being at risk continues to be a person's own home**, followed by a residential care home.
- c) Somerset has continued its commitment to 'Making Safeguarding Personal' and as of end of March 2023, 100% of cases where desired outcomes were stated, were fully achieved.
- d) The SSAB continues to raise the profile of adult safeguarding and share best practice via its website, social media channels and internal/external newsletters and briefings. The Board led a regional webinar on 'Elder Abuse' during National Safeguarding Adults Week in November 2022 and hosted its first Conference since the Pandemic in March 2023, which welcomed people from all organisations to a day of presentations and interactive sessions themed 'Making Safeguarding Personal'.
- e) To support the Board's continuous improvement, the SSAB conducted a **SSAB Effectiveness Survey** to assist the subgroup in benchmarking current Board performance and to determine any areas requiring further development. This work was especially beneficial given the Board has recently appointed a new Independent Chair and allowed the feedback to serve as a both a baseline at the start of his tenure as well as inform Board development plans. The survey identified a range of strengths (including multi-agency collaboration, engagement and commitment, knowledgeable and experienced Chair, efficient business unit, SSAB Comms and profile and activity and guidance for policy and procedures) as well as some opportunities for future development and continued attention (including focus on transitional safeguarding, developing further links, more engagement with partners in subgroups and combining resources for training).
- f) Two **Safeguarding Adults Review** were published during 2022-23 ('[Robert](#)' and '[Susan](#)'), we also published a practice briefing and a death review. Somerset has seen a significant rise in SAR referrals and is progressing a number of reviews.

[Click here and type details of consultation outcomes}

5. Looking to the Future

- 5.1. The SSAB published its 2023-2026 Strategic Plan in June 2023. The Plan is publicly available on its website and can be accessed via this link: [SSAB-Strategic-Plan-2023-26](https://safeguardingsomerset.org.uk)(safeguardingsomerset.org.uk). The most recent summary page of the SSAB's Performance & Quality Report is shared (Appendix D) highlighting current performance against each Strategic Plan strand.
[Click here and insert relevant implications paragraphs]

6. Implications

- 6.1 **Financial Implications:** The majority of the SSAB's funding is provided by Somerset Council, with contributions from Avon & Somerset Constabulary and Somerset NHS ICB. Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) are resourced by the partnership as and when required and an agreement is in place between the three statutory partners to resource all SARs equally from outside the SSAB's core budget. All reports are publicly available on the website.
- 6.2 **Legal implications:** The Care Act 2014 represented the most significant change to adult social care in more than 60 years, putting people and their carers in control of their care and support. For the first time the Act placed Safeguarding Adults, and the role and functions of a Safeguarding Adults Board, onto a statutory framework from 1st April 2015.
- 6.3 The Health and Care Act 2022 gave the Care Quality Commission (CQC) new powers to provide a meaningful and independent assessment of care at a local authority (LA) level. These commenced from April 2023. Together with assessments of Integrated Care Systems, these are intended to support greater understanding of the quality of care in a local area/system and provide independent assurance to the public.
- 6.4 The CQC has commenced a limited number of pilot assessments within (volunteer) LAs from April 2023 (covering up to 5 nationally through to September 2023). They aim to commence formal assessments in September 2023, and to carry out up to 20 between September and December.
- 6.5 **Risk implications:** Safeguarding activity by its nature carries inherent risk and has the potential to bring a Council's reputation, and the wider safeguarding system, into question when failings occur/are identified. The Annual Plan and Report, both a legal requirement by the Care Act 2014, provide partner organisations and the public with assurances that adult safeguarding is being monitored and scrutinised in Somerset. The Board also maintains and monitors its own risk register.

Appendices

[Click here and list background papers used when preparing the report]

[Appendix A – SSAB Annual Report, 2022-23](#)

[Appendix B – SSAB Annual Report Appendix \(The Work of Our Members\)](#)

[Appendix C – SSAB Annual Report One Page Summary](#)

SSAB Annual Report - Points to Consider for the Scrutiny Committee

Michael Preston-Shoot joined the SSAB in Jan 2023 and has brought his immense knowledge to the Board.

The Annual Report details the statistics for the year, but of note is that there has been a decrease in the number of safeguarding concerns and 4 were reported by the individuals themselves. The SSAB is planning a publicity campaign to take place in November to highlight safeguarding adults and encourage those who are experiencing neglect and abuse to contact ASC.

The most common type of abuse was neglect and acts of omission with the most common location for being at risk continuing to be a person's own home.

The SSAB conducted an effectiveness survey to benchmark where we feel we are, which has been used to develop our strategic plan, for which there is link in the report.

The Board had a very productive development day, which we used to discuss the priorities for the forthcoming and subsequent 2 years. We have a very relevant plan for which many areas are already being addressed through subgroups and task and finish groups.

Members may wish to note the priorities in the Strategic Plan: Community Engagement; Understand and Manage Self-neglect; Promotion of the SSAB and Transitional Safeguarding and Exploitation.

We now have a very active Safeguarding Adults Board in Somerset, with members who are proactive and enthusiastic in taking forward our aims.

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