

Interim Adult Protection Board NI

Data and Performance Sub Group

Terms of Reference

Background

The Health Minister has undertaken to bring forward a new Adult Protection Bill for Northern Ireland, to help protect care home residents and other vulnerable members of society. This is in response to the first report from an independent review commissioned to examine the health and social care system's response to care failings at Dunmurry Manor Care Home. This review, by CPEA, was commissioned by the Department of Health (DoH) following the Commissioner for Older People's 2018 'Home Truths' report on Dunmurry Manor. CPEA concluded that adult safeguarding practice 'did not actively contribute' to keeping residents safe at Dunmurry Manor and that family's voices were repeatedly unheard. It also found divergent safeguarding practices across the HSC Trusts. These findings along with other inquiries, including Muckamore Abbey, have driven these developments. The CPEA report proposes establishing an Adult Safeguarding/Adult Protection Change programme and an Adult Safeguarding/Protection Bill.

1.1 In line with the Review's recommendations, the Minister stood down the Northern Ireland Adult Safeguarding Partnership (NIASP) in a move towards the establishment of an Independent Adult Safeguarding/Protection Board at arms-length from the DoH. In the interim the HSCB established an Adult Protection Board. The terms of reference for the IAPB are based on the following planning assumptions:

The move to an independent structure will require a statutory footing. The development and commencement of legislation (primary and secondary) and the establishment of the Board is likely to take at least 2 years, under review.

The Interim APBNI arrangements will remain in place until the necessary legislation has been passed and commenced.

The interim APBNI arrangements will enable the Board to test new ways of working, underpinned by Human Rights considerations, which will inform the new legislation and adult protection arrangements.

The interim APBNI will be hosted by the SPPG (HSCB) and Chaired by the Director of Hospital and Community Care.

2. Data & Performance Group

A key responsibility of the IAPB is:

Establish a Data & Performance Sub Group

3. Purpose of Group

To achieve a more standardised approach across HSC Trusts in terms of best practice and procedures.

To scope out and identify the key activity data required to develop robust governance of Adult Protection across the region

To develop a data set to capture the Serious Case Review activity across Adult protection

To scope out and identify performance data which reflects good outcomes for those we work to protect.

Establish systems that assist the Board hold partner agencies to account and have a stronger focus on quality of adult Protection (AP) practice on the ground

4. Objectives:

1. To complete,
 - (a) desktop audit of: current information collected, and
 - (b) current reporting requirements
2. Agree the data required for IAPB
3. Scope opportunity for standardisation, development and improvement.

4. Devise plan for improving future accountability arrangements, performance, monitoring and standardising practice in Adult Protection.

5. Develop a reporting and accountability framework for Adult protection

6. Develop a plan to test any new initiatives connected to the objectives

5. Membership

Training & development group will be composed of the membership of the IAPB, to include the following:

Public Health Agency (PHA)

Strategic Planning & Performance Group SPPG

Health & Social Care Trust (Trusts)

Regional Trainers

Northern Ireland Ambulance Service (NIAS)

Police Service Northern Ireland (PSNI)

Regulation & Quality Improvement Authority (RQIA)

Community & Voluntary Sector

Engagement Platform

User involvement

Academia

The subgroup will have membership that ensures that all key interests are represented. It is particularly important that the subgroup is able to represent the views of Service Users and those that care for them. The Panel will review its membership as required and may co-opt others as necessary.

Members are expected to attend all meetings or delegate attendance through IAPB admin.

Members are expected to read papers and contribute and engage with action plans.

Members are expected to table any items for discussion in writing with IAPB admin.

Members are expected to sign the members agreement (Appendix 1).

* Individual members will be nominated as the sub group representatives on the Engagement Hub.

6. Process

The data & performance group will meet on a monthly basis for 6 months and reviewed thereafter

Support will be provided by the IAPB secretariat.

The chair will undertake to circulate papers at least 5 working days prior to the meeting

Members of the group, where appropriate, will nominate staff from their organisations to sit on task and finish groups, as and when required, to develop, work plan activity

7. Governance

The Chair of the committee will report directly to the Chair of the IAPB.

The Chair of the committee will provide an annual report of activity to the IAPB.

This report may be used to inform the annual report.

Attendance will be monitored and any issues will be shared with the Chair of IAPB