

To:	Health & Wellbeing Board
Chair/Author:	Rachael Strutz- Safeguarding Partnership Manager
Date:	4 th November 2025

This report provides an overview of the SAB Annual Report 2024/25

Annual Report 2024–2025

Our Purpose and Strategic Role

At the heart of BSAB's work is our commitment to protecting adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse or neglect. We aim to promote their well-being, dignity, and safety through strong strategic leadership, oversight, and challenge. Our work is underpinned by a person-centred approach and a drive for continuous improvement.

Case Spotlight: Operation Vardar

A key highlight this year was **Operation Vardar**, which successfully disrupted organised crime groups, safeguarded seven vulnerable tenants, and contributed to a reduction in local crime. This case exemplifies the power of multi-agency collaboration and proactive safeguarding.

Partner Highlights

Our partners have made significant contributions:

- **Adult Social Care** advanced its **Transformation Plan**.
- **Health** introduced **IDVAs** (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors) and improved data dashboards.
- **Probation** embedded trauma-informed practices.
- **Housing** focused on safer accommodation.
- **Greater Manchester Police (GMP)** led impactful joint operations.

National and Regional Engagement

BSAB continues to influence and learn from broader networks:

- Our **Independent Chair** plays a national leadership role through the **National Chairs Network** and as **Vice Chair of SARN**.
- The **Business Manager** is actively engaged in both **Greater Manchester and national safeguarding networks**, ensuring Bury's voice is heard and best practices are shared.

Key Statistics

- **10 Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) referrals** were received; 3 were commissioned, and 7 did not meet the threshold.
- **161 SAR actions** were tracked, with **68% discharged**.
- In Adult Social Care, **93% of risks were reduced or removed**, and **89% of outcomes were achieved**, reflecting strong safeguarding effectiveness.

Strategic Priorities

Our work is guided by three strategic priorities:

1. **People and Outcomes**
2. **Safeguarding Effectiveness**
3. **Lessons and Future Practice**

Subgroups and Governance

BSAB's work is driven by four key subgroups:

- **Learning and Development**
- **Multi-Agency Working Group**
- **Adult Case Review Group**
- **Multi-Agency Risk Management Strategic Risk Panel**

These groups ensure robust oversight, learning, and coordinated responses to complex safeguarding issues.

Themes from Safeguarding Adults Reviews

Recurring themes include:

- Self-neglect and complex risk management
- Domestic abuse and coercive control
- Professional curiosity and escalation
- Inter-agency communication and coordination
- Involving families and carers to strengthen **Making Safeguarding Personal**

Training and Protocols

We've delivered a wide range of training, including:

- **Mental Capacity Act (MCA)**
- **Domestic Abuse**

- **Professional Curiosity**
- **Neglect and Acts of Omission**
- **Multi-Agency Safeguarding**
- **MARM (Multi-Agency Risk Management)**
- **Dual Diagnosis**
- **Hidden Harm**

Updated protocols include:

- MCA and DoLS
- Pressure Ulcers
- Domestic Abuse
- PIPOT (Person in a Position of Trust)

Looking Ahead: 2025–2026 Focus

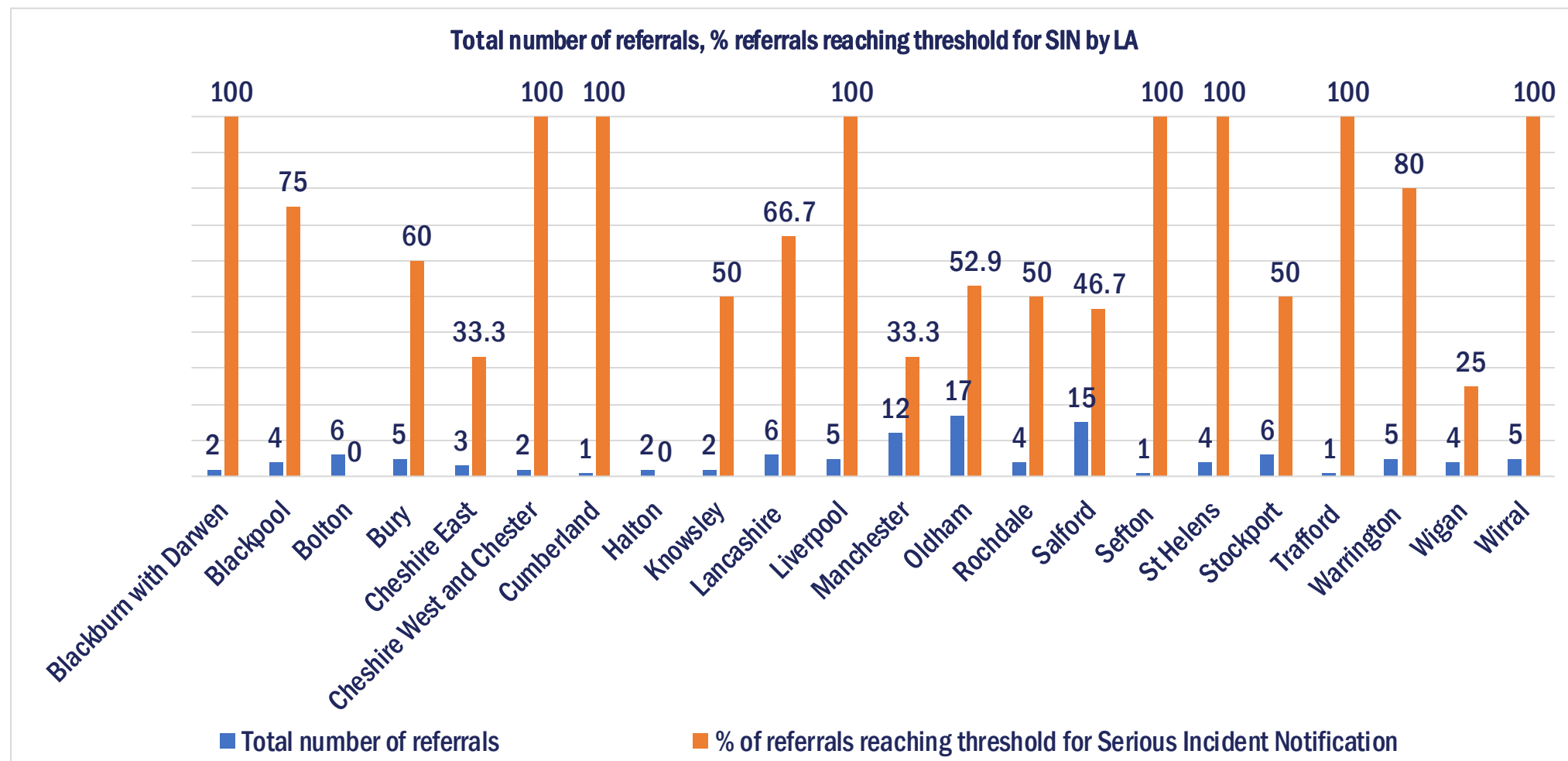
Our focus for the coming year is to:

- **Strengthen safeguarding culture and embed the voice of communities**
- **Promote a culture of learning, improvement, and assurance**
- **Strengthen accountability, governance, and use of data**

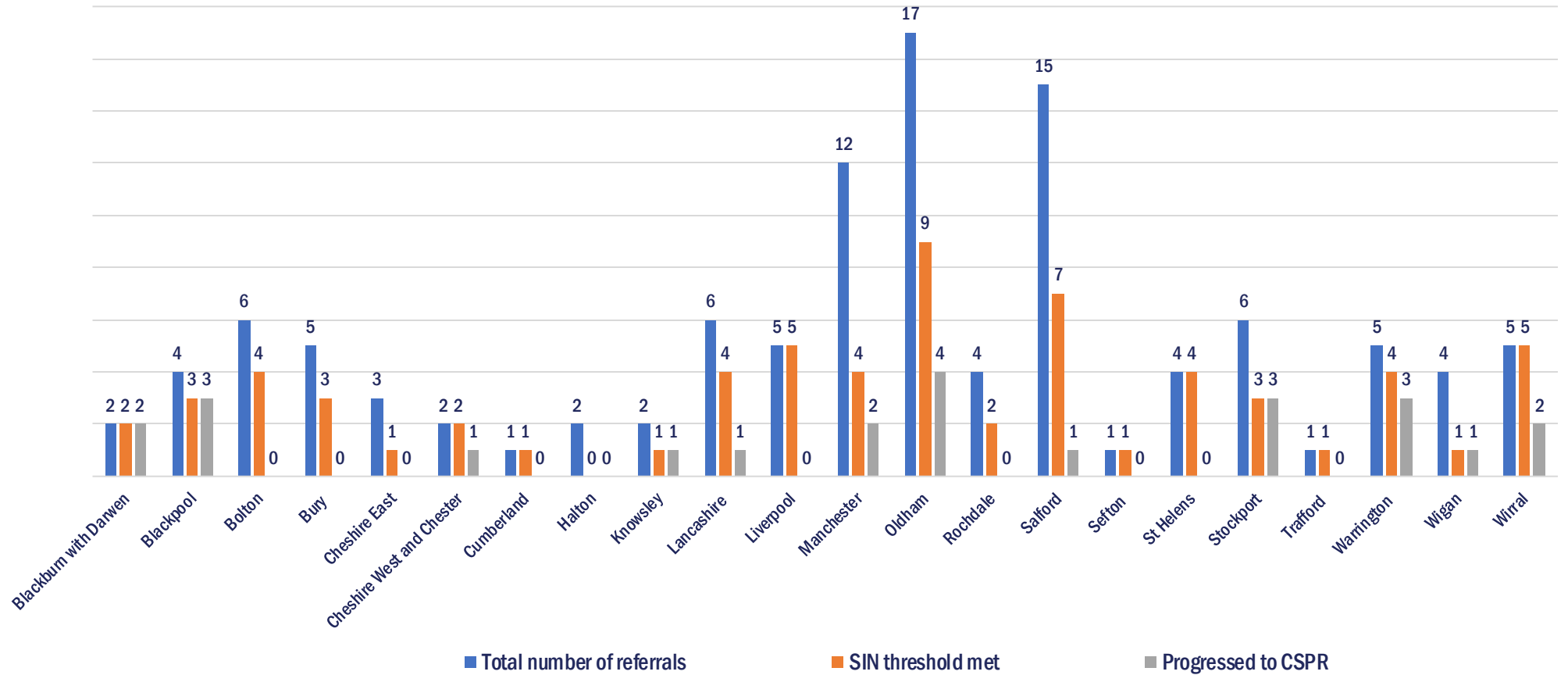
Overall referrals meeting threshold for SIN notification 2023/2024 – North West

In 2023/2024, 3 (incl. one for another area) out of 5 referrals met the threshold for rapid review / SIN

In 2024/2025 (to date), 3 (incl. one for another area) out of 5 referrals met threshold for SIN



Numbers of referrals progressing to SIN and CSPR by LA 2023/2024

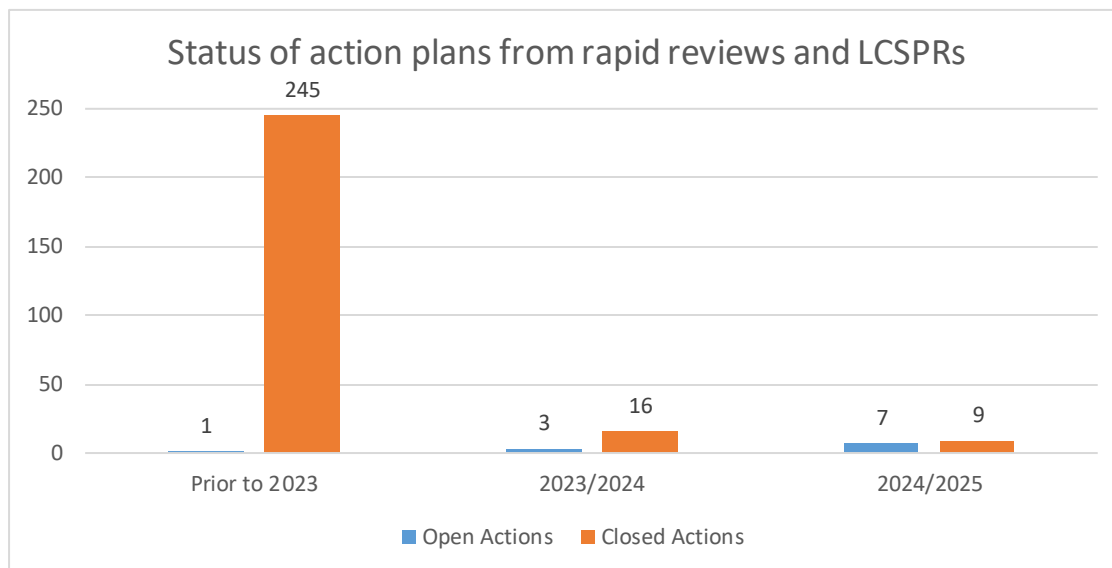


Action Tracking

Prior to 2023 – 1 further action closed since the last report

2023/2024 - No change since last report

2024/2025 – 6 new actions added (J22); 2 actions closed since the last report



1. What we are worried about / not achieved

Summary of areas where performance requires improvement, there are risks or other factors or emerging issues which impact on undertaking planned activities and/or achieving good outcomes.

There are no concerns from the subgroup for escalation.

2. Actions in progress and planned in the next period (from workplan)

List any current improvement plans or actions in place or planned to address the above by when. Ensure actions are SMART. Attach / cut and paste table from workplan below as an appendix if helpful.

Action	By Whom, When	What difference will it make?
Finalise the LCSPR report for E24	Ind. Reviewer Case Review Subgroup February 2025	To improve the safety of children by identifying ways to improve how agencies work together
Progress panel stages for F24 and practitioner event	Case Review Subgroup Jan-March	

3. How can we help as a partnership, or areas that may impact on other partners? (Recommendations to the Partnership)

Include any recommendations, requests or 'offers' to the partnership as a whole, as bullets. No matters to raise.