

To:	Health & Wellbeing Board
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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**

