

## **Safeguarding and Education Overview and Scrutiny Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> September 2024**

### **Adult Safeguarding Update**

#### **Recommendation**

I recommend that the Committee:

- a. Notes the latest position adult safeguarding response in Staffordshire.

#### **Local Member Interest:**

N/A.

#### **Report of the Cabinet Member for Health and Care and the Cabinet Support Member for Public Health and Integrated Care.**

### **Summary**

#### **What is the Overview and Scrutiny Committee being asked to do and why?**

1. Consider the update relating to Staffordshire County Council's response to Adult Safeguarding concerns.

### **Report**

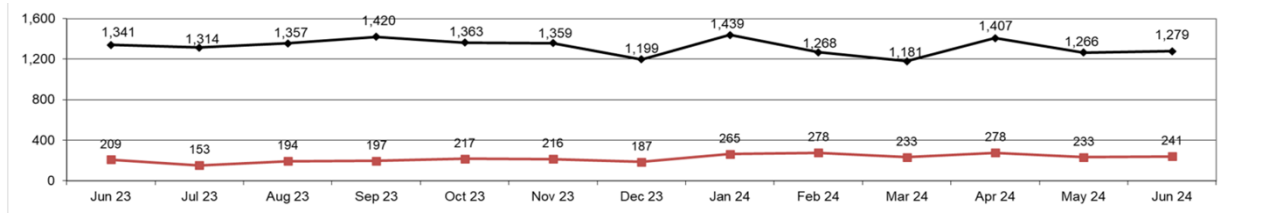
#### **Background**

2. Previously the Committee has received updates about the Adult Safeguarding transformation project. The transformation was completed last year, and in February this year the committee was updated regarding the early response to adult safeguarding. This report is to provide a subsequent update on the performance of the adult safeguarding service.
3. The number of Safeguarding concerns managed each month is shown in Figure 1. Our target is to complete 80% of Safeguarding concerns within 5 days. Performance has improved since autumn 2023 although there has been a dip in recent months. Overall at July 2024:
  - a. 38% of concerns were completed within 2 working days.
  - b. 75% of concerns were completed within 5 working days.
  - c. 99% of concerns identified as "Critical" were completed within 5 working days.

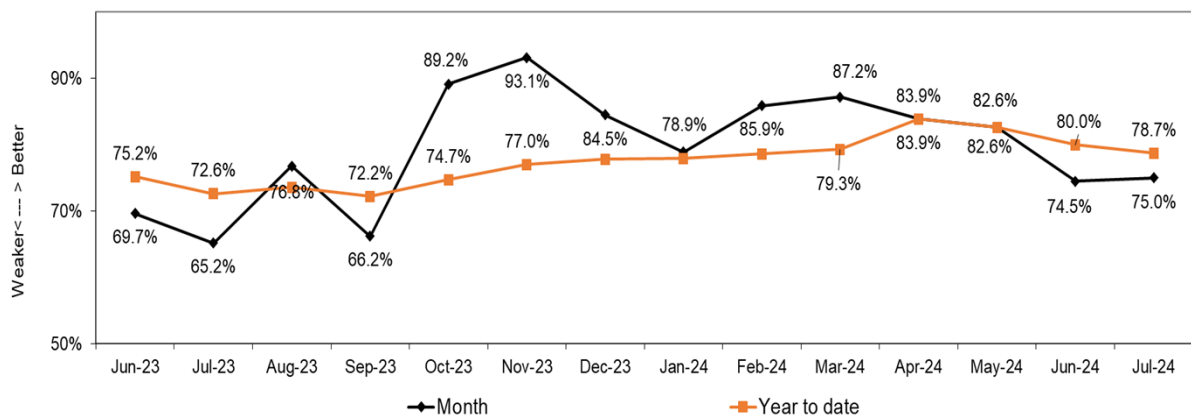
d. 95% of concerns were completed within 2 weeks.

4. The number of concerns open and awaiting decision remains consistently under 300, equivalent to less than one week's work.

**Figure 1: number of Safeguarding concerns**



**Figure 2: proportion of Safeguarding concerns completed within 5 days**



### Update on improvement work.

5. Redesigned Safeguarding forms have been produced and have been in place since March with practice forums completed. These ensure that enquiries are completed proportionately and in line with the quality assurance framework.

6. The online Safeguarding portal has been developed and will be going out for trial with a select group of providers in September to ensure that this is user friendly and provides adequate information to inform decision making for Staffordshire Adult Safeguarding Team (SAST).

7. We have moved to the new MASH arrangements, where we remain co-located with Staffordshire Children and Families Services but have separate Police arrangements. This means there is a dedicated and specialist adult safeguarding service from Staffordshire police enabling us to work more effectively to assess risk and respond to adult

safeguarding concerns. At the last Committee it was reported that Stoke-on-Trent adult services were going to have a separate arrangement, this has now changed, and they have decided to remain joint with Staffordshire.

8. We have strategic meetings monthly and we are now developing the performance report and have set up a joint audit cycle to ensure we can monitor the effectiveness of the new arrangements.

### **Link to Strategic Plan**

9. Encourage good health wellbeing, resilience and independence.

### **Community Impact**

10. N/A.

### **Contact Details**

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