



Safeguarding Adults Board Living Strategic Board

Using this approach we are able to continually review and refine our strategy based on data to respond to emerging risks within our communities.

2024-2027



Contents

Our Telford and Wrekin

3

Who we are

4

What we do

6

How we do it

6

Our pledge

7

Our priorities

8

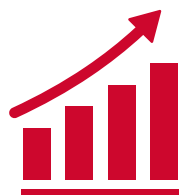
Our Telford and Wrekin

The borough which the Safeguarding Adults Board serves is a place of contrasts. Central to the borough is the new town of Telford which was commissioned in 1968, and grew rapidly around existing communities including Wellington, Oakengates, Dawley and Madeley. Along the banks of the River Severn is Ironbridge, the birthplace of the industrial revolution and now a World Heritage site. Outside of our communities, Telford is surrounded by a rural environment which accounts for more than two thirds of the borough's area..

The 2021 Census estimated the population of the borough to be 185,842 people. A quarter (45,504 people) are aged 0 to 19. From the 2011 to 2021 Census, the borough's overall population increased by 19,000 people – an increase of 11% - making it the fastest growing area in the West Midlands. As the population grows it is becoming more diverse and ageing, between 2011 and 2021, the number of people aged 65+ grew by 36% which is twice the regional rate of 18%.



185,842
POPULATION



11%
POPULATION INCREASE
FROM 2011 TO 2021



36%
AGED 65+ POPULATION
INCREASE

Telford offers exceptional employment and housing opportunities. We also have many schools, beautiful rural retreats, museums, activities, a flourishing shopping centre as well as local hubs, and the additional bonus of excellent commutability to all areas of the United Kingdom with our extensive rail and road networks. However, the Index of Multiple Deprivation shows that there are 18 neighbourhood areas in the borough which are ranked amongst the 10% of the most deprived in England. This may impact upon life experiences of these residents in terms of poorer outcomes with regards to health for example. Such challenges have undoubtedly increased due to the current cost of living crisis. This impact can be evidenced with increased requests for support from adult social care across the borough:

- The number of safeguarding concerns raised in 2023/2024 showed a slight increase for a second year running with 477 logged this year. This is a 7% increase from two years ago.
- During 2023/2024 – 54% of safeguarding enquiries were to protect females with males being at risk in 46% of cases.
- 2023/2024 – saw a 59/41 split between females and males at the centre of concerns respectively.



Who we are

Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Partnership (TWSP) is a statutory and multi-agency partnership. We are determined to ensure that people rather than policies or processes are at the heart of our work and drive what we do. Telford & Wrekin Council, West Mercia Police and Telford & Wrekin ICS (health partners) have a statutory duty to put in place multi-agency safeguarding arrangements to protect and safeguard adults at risk due to their care and support needs. This responsibility is delivered by the Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Adults Board which is equally funded, by the three statutory partners

We believe that the voice of Telford and Wrekin people is crucial in understanding how well the Safeguarding Adults Board is meeting their statutory duties and whether services are meeting the needs of Telford people.

Additional membership of the Safeguarding Adults Board is drawn from:

- Shropshire Community Health NHS Trust
- Making It Real Board
- Shrewsbury and Telford NHS Hospital Trust
- Healthwatch
- Midlands Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
- Chief Officers Group
- Partners in Care.

Together we hold each other to account and learn through identifying best practice and areas which need development to improve the quality of life of residents within Telford and Wrekin and to ensure continued freedom from harm.

In addition to our local partners Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Partnership is in regular contact with our counterparts up and down the country. We all proactively share learning and good practice.



The work of the Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Partnership is based upon the following Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) principles:



What we do

Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Adults Board has the following core functions within the Care Act 2014:

- **To develop and publish a strategic plan.** This plan sets out our safeguarding priorities, evidencing what we need to do to achieve these, and how we plan to do it.
- **To carry out and publish Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs).** These reviews help us to identify learning which we then use to implement and embed improvements across the Partnership
- **To publish an annual report** which details the work we have accomplished over the previous 12 months, the number of Safeguarding Adult Reviews which we have undertaken and the changes that have been implemented as a result. The Safeguarding Adult Board also have a commitment to publish a version of all completed Safeguarding Adult Reviews to aid transparency and maximise learning opportunities.

How we do it

The Safeguarding Adults Board is led by an independent chair appointed by the three statutory partners with the objective of providing independent challenge and scrutiny. As part of our arrangements for external challenge, The Chair presents the Safeguarding Adults Board’s annual report to the Health & Wellbeing Board.

To drive delivery of its objectives, the Safeguarding Adults Board has a series of sub-groups as set out below:



Our pledge

The Safeguarding Adult Board places people at the heart of everything we do, to enable people to take control of their lives and decisions and to remain as independent and healthy as possible, for as long as possible. The board recognises its responsibility to protect adults from abuse and neglect, to reduce the risk of abuse and to support adults in our area to stop abuse with effective responses where it happens.

We will work with, coproduce and listen to, our diverse community to create a positive, inclusive safeguarding culture which does not tolerate abuse and continue to take proactive steps together to prevent harm from occurring to the people of Telford and Wrekin. We seek to ensure that our safeguarding partners work to the principles of 'Making Safeguarding Personal' guided by people recognising their "preferences, histories, circumstances and life-styles."

For further information on all aspects of the work of the TWSP please access www.telfordsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/site/index.php



Our priorities

SAB Priority (prevention being a thread throughout)	Why do we believe this is important for Telford and Wrekin?	Timeframe (short/medium/long)
Understand better the levels of exploitation amongst our communities and ensure the right action is taken.	By enhancing the way we gather evidence, we will be able to tailor support and intervention, in the right places, for the right people in our communities. A 'one size fits all' approach does not allow for changes to be made to meet the ever changing risks in the world today	Medium
Understand better the levels of intra familial abuse of older people in our community and ensure the right action is taken.	Tackling domestic abuse in all its forms is a key focus within Telford and Wrekin and we are committed to also ensure those experiencing abuse later in life are protected. By gaining greater knowledge of the forms this abuse is taking, both practitioners and members of our communities are better prepared to identify abusive behaviours from loved ones and are enabled to protect against it	Medium
Understand better the levels of self-neglect in our communities and ensure the right action is taken.	It is vital that all partner agencies recognise that the impact of self-neglect and the risk this poses to individuals. This solid foundation will result in a shared approach being adopted to work supportively with individuals to help promote change and reduce risk	Medium
Improve the experience of people needing to transition between the services in our community.	It is crucial that transitions between services, locations and practitioners is smooth and accountable to avoid people being lost in the system and therefore more at risk.	Medium
Reduce the time it takes to complete a s.42 (safeguarding) enquiry	Speedier investigations allow for improvements to be made to the safeguarding journey for people in need of support ensuring needs are met and people feel safe and confident in the agencies supporting them.	Completed – full details will be included in the SAB annual report for 2024-25
Improve the way we work with and listen to people representative of all our communities to ensure our work is fully inclusive and reflective of their views and experiences.	Embedding lived experience into the design of our safeguarding work will ensure all our communities are aware of, and feel able to make contact with support services, if they need to.	Long term
Ensure we are using data to its full potential to inform our decisions and target support.	Improving how data and intelligence is used is part of the Board's assurance framework for the development of its strategic priorities and targeted service provision.	Long term
Learn from local and national Safeguarding Adults Reviews to inform local actions and ensure lessons are learnt the first time.	Continuing to learn from past experiences allows us to improve future practice and prevent abuse and neglect. We are able to develop more skilled approaches and reduce harm owing to abuse and neglect.	Long term