

Safeguarding

November 2024



Cherwell

DISTRICT COUNCIL
NORTH OXFORDSHIRE

Self-Assessment / Section 11

- 2024 Self-Assessment on hold while changes to Safeguarding Partnership is agreed, the boards will be replaced by a Designated Safeguarding Partnership & Lead Safeguarding Partnership.
- Peer review Feedback for 2023 examples of good practice.
- **New Domestic Abuse Champions in housing services. This has led to an increase of 60% in Domestic Abuse referrals since information and training sessions have taken place**
- **Safeguarding Champion meetings with Senior Managers every month and drop into team sessions**
- **Training and development has become more interactive i.e. quizzes within safeguarding bulletins and on Viva Engage**
- **Over this last year, there has been an increase in the staff making referrals and positive feedback from safeguarding cases**

OSAB Annual Report 2023-24

What the Board partners did towards the priorities Cherwell District Council

Working in Partnership

As a Board Partnership member, we have an understanding of our accountability as the appropriate representative for Cherwell in each forum.

Good practice is evidenced through the joint district safeguarding partnership group, whereby Cherwell district council works with the other districts on responses changing themes and concerns.

Some themes have relevance across a number of partnerships and in these cases the Boards/Partnerships will work together and take a pragmatic approach to achieve the best outcomes for people and ensure that there is no duplication of effort.

In practice this means that each Board/Partnership has the opportunity to input into an area of work where it carries a responsibility and/or has relevant knowledge, expertise and experience.

Preventing Harm Occurring

Recruited new domestic coordinator to post supporting victims of domestic abuse alongside our housing team. Increased number of staff training offered on domestic abuse pathways and referrals.

Identifying trends across Cherwell locally or nationally, reviewing and updating training when needed. Bespoke training from external parties when needed. Districts meeting reviewing themes that can be highlighting concerns across the county or rural locations.

Awareness campaign and signposting to service are best practice through Cherwell's services, internal and external media platforms used to communicate to staff and community.

Responding Swiftly When Harm Occurs

Internal safeguarding reports are monitored, reviewed and patterns or themes are identified and discussed with relevant services, OSCB/OSCB/ DSL/ DA partnership/ Neglect Panel.

Any concerns are discussed in the contract monitoring meetings, we also ensured that the provider was involved in the Cherwell Operations Group meetings.

Where they are connected to the multi-agency discussions about concerns and could report into this forum, their interactions with the clients they meet during the outreach.

All front-line staff have completed compulsory safeguarding training and additional bespoke training such as handling suicidal calls.

Engaging Effectively with People at Risk

Cherwell district council frontline service have safeguarding champions who can triage concerns at point of contact. Informed experienced designated safeguarding leads in place, with continued improvement and training plans implemented across the teams.

People of risk often present in various ways however, the majority of these can be by phone call to housing & customer service. There is a percentage of these who will present as homeless, all staff are trained on dealing with making referrals and signposting to services for people at risk or in crisis.

Food poverty has been recognised as a risk in Cherwell and there are various programs and mechanisms to support those most in need.

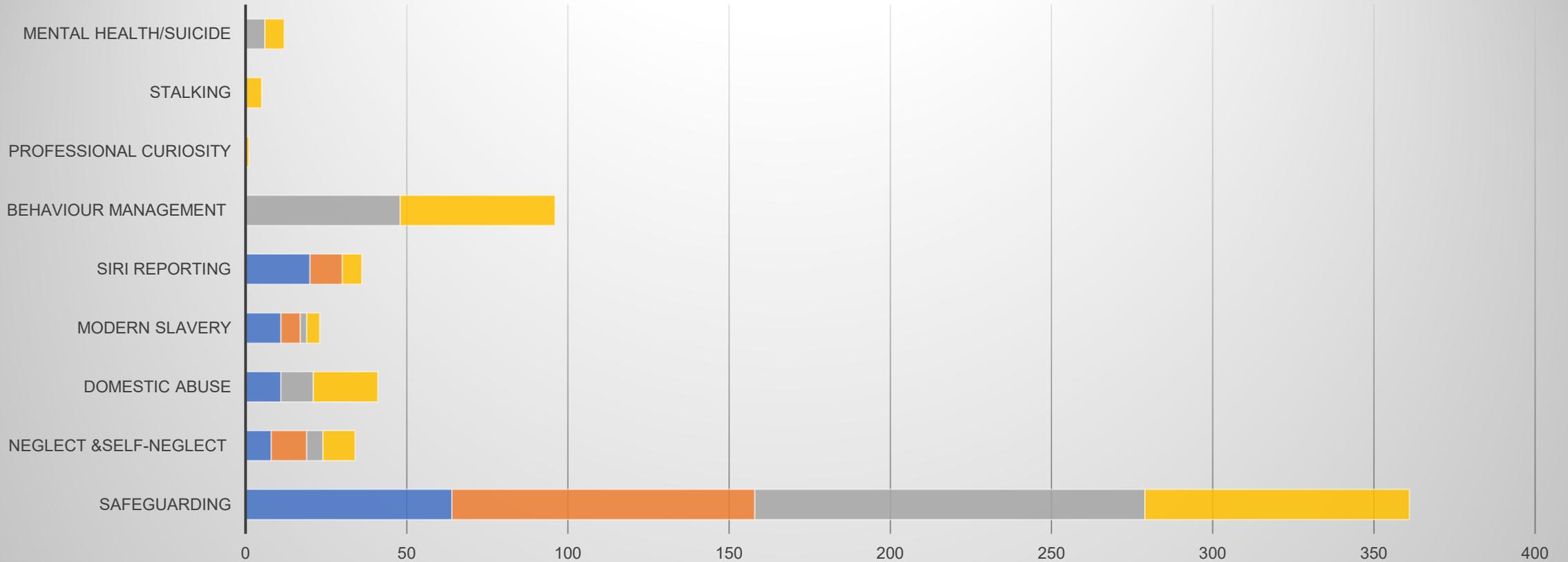
Reporting Safeguarding Concerns

REPORTED CASES TO DATE



Internal 'See it Report it' (SIRI)

Internal Safeguarding Training Jan -Dec 24



	Safeguarding	Neglect & Self-Neglect	Domestic Abuse	Modern Slavery	SIRI reporting	Behaviour Management	Professional Curiosity	Stalking	Mental Health/Suicide
■ 2021	64	8	11	11	20	0	0	0	0
■ 2022	94	11	0	6	10	0	0	0	0
■ 2023	121	5	10	2	0	48	0	0	6
■ 2024	82	10	20	4	6	48	1	5	6