Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership

Our Approach to Information Management

Underpinning all activities, strategy, operational delivery and monitoring of deliverables, performance and outcomes, is the accurate and timely collation of relevant metrics from reliable sources. The Partnership will collect and use data to inform its strategic plan and priorities.

This document explains how we will define what should be included in a Minimum Data Set for each strategic priority and system (business as usual) areas of Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership.

The Partnership is committed to only collecting data that passes the 'litmus test' as described below. Each group will be expected to use this document in development of their final proposed Minimum Data Sets.

Primary Questions – *The Litmus Test*

1. Collection and publication will improve the service / help to improve outcomes and

2. Collection and publication will help us monitor the effectiveness of interventions / provide assurance to the Partnership and

The Bottom Line

3. For every data item collected we can define the drivers / explain why we want the relevant data items and

4. The data items (and ratios / measures from combined data sources etc.) will help to determine trends and/or

5. We have a statutory requirement to collect or report certain data items, or have agreed that we will support government, regulators or other bodies in data collation that will add value in shaping future services

Principles behind our Minimum Data Sets

The development of Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership's Minimum Data Sets will be developed based on what is required to assist the Partnership to implement its strategic plan and priorities, not purely on what is available.

We will identify the best visualisation for the data once collected and use colour and shape to improve our interpretation of the information and help to develop insight when accessing reporting.

Where possible, we will use comparable statistics. For example:

      a. Number of cases…. per 100,000 population (comparable with others)
      b. Number of interventions….. per FTE – productivity level – not just a quantum

We will compare ourselves to other local authority areas to better understand our performance.

We will seek to understand what professional bodies or umbrella organisations exist to advise on performance improvement in community safeguarding and whether they can provide benchmarking opportunities.

We will protect people's personal and sensitive data and consider GDPR issues as part of our development of our Minimum Data Sets by the anonymisation of data.

The frequency of the data requests made to partners will take account of the pressures that frontline services experience and will aim to minimise burden on them.

Building our Minimum Data Sets over time

Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership recognises the that the development of the Minimum Data Sets will take time. The following questions will be used to prioritise the data items that are collected first:

- Does the raw data already exist? Is it currently being collected / recorded?

- What is the source of each data item? How reliable / accurate is the source?

- Will the requirement mean having to collect NEW data using resources yet to be identified?

Other considerations

The work associated with developing effective Minimum Data Sets is considerable. In the near future, Shropshire Safeguarding Community Partnership will need to consider the following questions:

- Who is going to do the work of gathering, testing, cleansing and combining raw data?
- Who is going to do the work of Reporting?
- How will the information side of the Partnership's work be paid for?