

Subject:	Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Annual Report for 2009-10		
Date of Meeting:	21st March 2011		
Report of:	Local Safeguarding Children Board		
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Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT

- 1.1 The Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 introduced a requirement for Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCBs) to produce and publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 (the statutory guidance) says "It should recognise achievements and progress as well as providing a realistic assessment of the challenges that still remain." They are to be submitted to the Children's Trust which in turn needs to take it into account in any new or updated Children and Young People's Plan.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 The Board should consider the report, and take it into account in its future work.
- 2.2 As a report for 2010-11 will be presented to the Board in the autumn of 2011, the LSCB would welcome advice on the format and content for the next report.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION/CHRONOLOGY OF KEY EVENTS:

- 3.1 The Children and Young People's Trust (CYPT) and LSCB work closely together and a protocol for that joint work has been agreed. The CYPT chair attends the LSCB and several CYPT board members, including the Strategic Director People / Director of Children's Services and Chair, sit on the new LSCB Executive. The LSCB chair has attended and presented at the LSCB. This report particularly describes work to get the structure and ways of working in place. The key task going forward and which will be covered more in the 2010-11 Annual Report, is to ensure very robust processes are in place to identify and improve the quality of local performance.

- 3.2 As the report is produced late in the year following 2009-10 it gives brief updates on progress in 2010-11.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 A preview of the format and content of the 2009-10 report was given to the CYPT board on 1.11.10. The draft was shared with the LSCB board on 28.2.11 and approved subject to comments made at the meeting. Organisations represented on the CYPT therefore had an opportunity to contribute to the final report.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 There are no financial implications directly resulting from the recommendations of this report. The financial information presented in the LSCB Annual report is accurate and a true reflection of the LSCB financial position within Brighton & Hove City Council's accounts.

Finance Officer Consulted: David Ellis

Date: 3 March 2011

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The report must be considered in compliance with the requirement of the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 as set out in the body of the report. In considering the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area the members to the Board will have a better understanding as to the extent to which they are meeting their statutory safeguarding duties.

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 7 March 2011

Equalities Implications:

- 5.3 The LSCB annual report is very important to the implementation of Brighton & Hove Council's Equalities Policy and to the achievement of the priorities set out in its annual business plan. The board champions our most vulnerable young people and as such the board needs to ensure that every child irrespective of their age, disability, race, ethnicity or sexual orientation is safeguarded in the city. One of the key objectives of the LSCB is to improve outcomes for children and young people from diverse communities and groups, and for those who live in deprived geographical communities.

Sustainability Implications:

5.4 This report does not directly address sustainability issues but it is linked to the priorities in the CYPP which supports the council's sustainability strategy.
Crime & Disorder Implications:

5.5 The LSCB aims to support young people to engage in law abiding and socially acceptable activity and behaviour. There are no specific implications in the report in relation to crime and disorder but as the board is concerned with children who are at most at risk in Brighton and Hove they may be at increased risk of becoming known to the criminal justice system.

Risk and Opportunity Management Implications:

5.6 The LSCB will assist the partners of the CT in understanding safeguarding and child protection in Brighton and Hove and assist in meeting their duties to children in need of protection.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

5.7 The LSCB annual report describes the collective responsibilities that members and officers of Brighton & Hove City Council and its partner organisations have towards safeguarding children and young people.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. LSCB Annual Report 2009-10.

Documents In Members' Rooms

1. None.

Background Documents

1. None.

