

Subject:	Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) Annual Report for 2010-11		
Date of Meeting:	17 October 2011		
Report of:	Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Sharon Healy	Tel: 29--0728
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Key Decision:	No		
Ward(s) 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." The requirement for there to be a Children's' Trust has been removed, but the future recipient of the LSCB annual report not determined. The report is being submitted to the CYPT Board again this year as replacement arrangements are not yet in place.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That The Board should consider the report, and take it into account in its future work (or that of successor bodies such as any Health and Wellbeing Board.)

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 LSCB Executive. There is an agreed protocol between the Children's Trust Board and the LSCB

4. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND CONSULTATION

- 4.1 A final draft of the 2010-11 report was given to the LSCB board on 13.9.11 and approved subject to comments made at the meeting which were subsequently taken into consideration. Organisations represented on the CYPT therefore had an opportunity to contribute to the final report, and the DCS was consulted on drafts.

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: 9 September 2011

Legal Implications:

- 5.2 The Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). There is a requirement under the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009) that at least once in every 12 month period, a LSCB must prepare and publish a report about safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in its local area, and submit a copy of the report to the local Children's Trust Board. Section 14(1) of the Act defines the objective of an LSCB as (a) to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority by which it is established, and (b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes. Whilst the LSCB has a role in coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of local individuals' and organisations' work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, it is not accountable for their operational work. Each Board partner retains its own existing lines of accountability for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children by their services. The Board will be assisted by the report in understanding the operational effectiveness of each agency

Lawyer Consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 13 September 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. Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2010-11

Documents in Members' Rooms

1. None

Background Documents

1. None

