

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD	AGENDA ITEM No. 6
24 SEPTEMBER 2012	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Sheila Scott Children's Services Portfolio	
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PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (PSCB) ANNUAL REPORT AND BUSINESS PLAN

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Malcolm Newsam	Report was received by Scrutiny Committee on 11 September 2012
Members are requested to comment on and note the contents of the PSCB annual report and business plan.	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 This report is submitted to the Committee following a request from Malcolm Newsam, Executive Director Children's Services

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 In June 2010, the Secretary of State for Education commissioned a review of child protection from Professor Eileen Munro. The final report was published in May 2011. With regard to Local Safeguarding Children Board annual reports, Professor Munro has recommended that the legislation is amended to require the annual report be submitted to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, to the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.2 The Government's response to Munro was published in July 2011. The government has accepted the recommendation described above and is to identify an appropriate legislative vehicle 'as soon as practicable'.
- 2.3 This report is for the Committee to consider under its Terms of Reference No 3.8, to keep under consideration, the financial and organisational implications of joint and integrated working across health and social care services, and to make recommendations for ensuring that performance and quality standards for health and social care services to children, families and adults are met and represent value for money across the whole system.

3. BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) by 1 April 2006. The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.

- 3.2 In March 2010, the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 introduced a requirement for LSCBs to produce and publish an annual report. LSCB's were then required to send a copy of the annual report to the Children's Trust Board which, in turn, was expected to respond to the report through the local Children and Young People's Plan. Safeguarding boards were required to publish their first annual report under the new regulations by 1 April 2011.
- 3.3 Following the change of government in May 2010, the statutory basis of Children's Trusts and the requirement to produce a Children and Young People's plan was rescinded. However, the statutory requirement for every LSCB to produce and publish an annual report remains and as noted in 2.1, it was recommended that the report be presented to the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

4 CONSULTATION

- 4.1 This annual report has been prepared with contributions from all the partner agencies that form the safeguarding board and was presented to the board in draft form at their meeting on 12 July where it was agreed that, subject to minor changes, the report should be circulated to all partners.
- 4.2 All partner agencies have been requested to bring the annual report to the attention of the senior management team and governing body of their agency for consideration and that those considerations should be reported back to the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Board. The role of these bodies is to hold their organisation and its officers to account for their contribution to the effective safeguarding of children and the effective functioning of the safeguarding Board.

5 ANTICIPATED OUTCOMES

- 5.1 Any considerations reported to the Independent Chair which requires further action will form the basis of an action plan which will be monitored.

6 REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 6.1 As noted at 2.1 it is a statutory requirement to bring the report to the Health and Wellbeing Board for comment and to note its contents

7 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

- 7.1 There are no alternative options.

8 IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There are no implications related to this item

9 BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

Used to prepare this report, in accordance with the Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985)

The Children Act 2004

Working Together To Safeguard Children, March 2010.

The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report, May 2011

A child-centred system, The Government's response to the Munro review of child protection, July 2011