

CREATING OPPORTUNITIES AND TACKLING INEQUALITIES SCRUTINY COMMITTEE	Agenda Item No. 5
9 SEPTEMBER 2013	Public Report

Report of the Independent Chair of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board

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PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012/13 AND BUSINESS PLAN 2013/14

1. PURPOSE

- 1.1 To provide the Scrutiny Committee with an update of progress with respect to the Peterborough Safeguarding Children’s Board (PSCB).

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Committee members are requested to comment on and note the contents and to consider if there are any matters they may wish to scrutinise in the future

3. LINKS TO THE SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

- 3.1 Creating Opportunities – tackling inequalities.
- Supporting vulnerable people.

Creating strong and supportive communities.

- Making Peterborough safer.

4. BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The PSCB statutory purpose is to coordinate and to ensure the effectiveness of local arrangements and services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children across all agencies in Peterborough.
- 4.2 This report presents the Board Annual Report for 2012/13 and the business plan for 2013/14.
- 4.3 In February 2013 the board appointed a new Independent chair Russell Wate, who has an extensive police background, but for the last three years has been an Independent chair of an LSCB in London, worked as a member of the team for Government that brought out ‘Working together 2010 and the ‘Munro review’.

5. KEY ISSUES

- 5.1 The Ofsted Inspection into the arrangements’ for the protection of children included three actions for the board to take forward.
- a) Ensure the PSCB has sufficient high quality information to enable them to monitor and challenge practice across all agencies.
 - b) Ensure that PSCB reviews the attendance of relevant agencies at CP

Conferences along with the timeliness of reports being available.

- c) Ensure that PSCB develops a robust auditing programme that includes a focus of the experience of the child and the impact of and outcomes of service provision and that leads to identification of themes and plans for improvement which are robustly implemented and monitored.

All three of these actions are seen as priorities for the board and actions are included in the board annual business plan. In addition there are other actions arising from the plan that the PSCB need to actively support/assist and challenge activity.

- 5.2 The annual report highlights the significant events during the last year, summarises the work of the sub committees, highlights some areas of good practice and presents some statistical information about safeguarding performance.

6. IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1 The business unit which supports the board and the role of the Independent Chair are funded by the partners of the board (Children Services/Police/Health /Probation and CAFCASS). There continues to be good engagement from all partners and the funding is considered secure. The board has undertaken a review of the staffing of the business unit and by rationalising posts and this will deliver efficiencies in forthcoming years.

7. CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The annual report and business plan has been developed with partners who submitted information for inclusion. They have had the opportunity to contribute to the priorities through discussion at PSCB meetings and received a presentation of the document for final comment at the meeting on 18th July.

8. NEXT STEPS

- 8.1 The annual report will be published on our web site and circulated widely. It will also be presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board. It is being presented to the Police and Crime Commissioner in October 2013.

The business plan is being implemented and will be monitored through the PSCB Chairs meeting.

9. BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 9.1 PSCB Annual report

10. APPENDICES

- 10.1 PSCB Annual Report
PSCB Annual Business plan
Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report