

Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date of Meeting: 25th November 2019

Report Title: Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report

Portfolio Holder: Cllr Dorothy Flude, Portfolio Holder for Children and Families

Senior Officer: Mark Palethorpe, Acting Executive Director for People

1. Report Summary

- 1.1. This report provides the Committee with a copy of the 2018-19 Annual Report from Cheshire East's Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The Annual Report provides the Committee with a detailed account of the work undertaken by the LSCB throughout the year, progress made against the priorities contained within the LSCB Business Plan and the outcomes achieved.

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. The Committee is recommended to note the report.

3. Reasons for Recommendations

- 3.1. The local authority has a key duty to work together, and with other partners locally, to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area. Receiving the annual report from the LSCB provides an overview of the effectiveness of these arrangements.

4. Other Options Considered

- 4.1. The Committee could consider scrutinising this activity on a more frequent basis, but that would not provide the broader performance and themes provided by an annual report.

5. Background

- 5.1. The statutory guidance, *Working Together 2018 (WT18)*, requires each area to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of the arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in their local area. This report sets out what the LSCB has done over the past year, along with plans for next year to make Cheshire East a safer place for children and young people.
- 5.2. *Working Together 2018 (WT18)* established that LSCB's be replaced by new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in local areas established by three statutory safeguarding partners (the Local authority, the Police and the local Clinical Commissioning Group). In 2018-19, the LSCB worked towards meeting and publishing new partnership arrangements. These were published in June 2019 and implemented in September 2019. The LSCB is now known as Cheshire East Safeguarding Children Partnership (CESCP).

6. Implications of the Recommendations

6.1. Legal Implications

- 6.1.1. Under Section 10 of the Children Act 2004, the local authority is under a duty to make arrangements to promote co-operation between itself and organisations and agencies to improve the wellbeing of local children. This co-operation should exist and be effective at all levels of an organisation, from strategic level through to operational delivery.
- 6.1.2. The Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, strengthens this already important relationship by placing new duties on key agencies in a local area. Specifically the police, clinical commissioning groups and the local authority are under a duty to make arrangements to work together, and with other partners locally, to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in their area.
- 6.1.3. The LSCB, now the CESCP, works within the extensive legislative framework around safeguarding children. *Working Together 2018 (WT18)* is the statutory document that provides a detailed guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

6.2. Finance Implications

- 6.2.1. The annual report sets out the financial position of the board.

6.3. Policy Implications

- 6.3.1. There are no current policy implications.

6.4. Equality Implications

6.4.1. There are no current equality implications.

6.5. Human Resources Implications

6.5.1. There are no current HR implications.

6.6. Risk Management Implications

6.6.1. It is essential to identify, analyse and priorities risks to ensure that these are managed effectively and do not impact adversely on the Board/Partnership's plans. The Board/Partnership maintains a risk register. This is reviewed and updated bi-monthly with action updates at the Executive Group. The Annual Report sets out a number of 'open' risks and the actions in place to mitigate against these.

6.7. Rural Communities Implications

6.7.1. There are no direct implications for rural communities.

6.8. Implications for Children & Young People/Cared for Children

6.9. The overall role of the LSCB/CESCP is to coordinate local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and to ensure the effectiveness of what the member organisations do individually and together.

6.10. Public Health Implications

6.10.1. There are no direct implications for public health.

6.11. Climate Change Implications

6.11.1. There are no direct implications for climate change.

7. Ward Members Affected

7.1.1. The LSCB works across all wards in Cheshire East.

8. Consultation & Engagement

8.1. The Annual Report contains information on the LSCB's consultation and engagement activity.

9. Access to Information

9.1. The following information supports this report:

9.1.1. Appendix 1 – LSCB Annual Report 2018-19

10. Contact Information

10.1. Any questions relating to this report should be directed to the following officer:

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