

Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee

12th January 2015



Safeguarding Framework

Report of Racheal Shimmin, Corporate Director, Children and Adults Services

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present the Overview and Scrutiny Committee with information on the Safeguarding Framework which outlines the joint working arrangements between the Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) with the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Families Partnership and the Safe Durham Partnership. The Safeguarding Framework is attached at Appendix 2.

Background

2. A Safeguarding Framework was developed initially in 2012 to provide assurance during a period of transition in the NHS. It set out the transitional arrangements with the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board, Local Safeguarding Children's Board and Safeguarding Adults Board. It was agreed at the Shadow Health and Wellbeing Board on 8th November 2012.
3. Following the Health and Wellbeing Board becoming a committee of Durham County Council and the establishment of Clinical Commissioning Groups in April 2013, a review of the Safeguarding Framework was undertaken to ensure that, post-transition, robust arrangements are in place across the partnership boards who have a priority to protect children and adults from abuse and harm. It is important that the Safeguarding Framework sets out the shared agenda to ensure all partners have a joined up approach which adopts a "Think Family" approach.

Safeguarding Framework

4. The Safeguarding Framework outlines the statutory responsibilities of the LSCB and SAB, and how their work interfaces and complements the work of the Partnership Boards and has been updated to reflect recent legislation and guidance including the Health and Social Care Act 2012 and the Care Act 2014.
5. The Care Act 2014 places the Safeguarding Adults Boards on the same statutory footing as the Local Safeguarding Children's Board. This will

give the SAB a clear basis in law for the first time and will strengthen the existing arrangements that are in place.

6. In addition to the statutory requirements, the Safeguarding Framework details the functions of the safeguarding boards and outlines the governance, chairing and membership arrangements.
7. The Safeguarding Framework demonstrates that there are close working arrangements in place and documents the commitments from the partnership boards and the LSCB and SAB to work together in protecting vulnerable children and adults from harm.

Next Steps

8. The Safeguarding Framework has been presented to the following partnership boards and has been agreed:
 - Safeguarding Adults Board 24th July 2014
 - Local Safeguarding Children Board 21st August 2014
 - Health and Wellbeing Board 3rd September 2014
 - Children and Families Partnership 22nd September 2014
 - Safe Durham Partnership 30th September 2014
9. The Safeguarding Framework has been shared with relevant staff and organisations, to ensure there is an awareness and understanding of the joint working arrangements between the Partnership Boards and the LSCB and SAB.

Recommendations

10. The Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Committee are recommended to:
 - Note the content of this report and the partnership arrangements in place which are outlined in the Safeguarding Framework.

Contact: Andrea Petty; Strategic Manager; Policy, Planning and Partnerships. Tel 03000 267312

Appendix 1: Implications

Finance – No direct implications.

Staffing - No direct implications.

Risk - No direct implications.

Equality and Diversity / Public Sector Equality Duty - No direct implications.

Accommodation - No direct implications.

Crime and Disorder – No direct implications.

Human Rights - No direct implications.

Consultation – The Safeguarding Framework has been completed in consultation with LSCB and SAB partners. It was shared with partnership boards for agreement prior to circulation.

Procurement - No direct implications.

Disability Issues – No direct implications.

Legal Implications – Legal implications are considered in the Safeguarding Framework