

CYPS Overview and Scrutiny

26 September 2018



Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2017/18 and Young People's Annual Report 2017/18

Report of Michael Banks, Independent Chair, Durham LSCB

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to present CYPS Overview and Scrutiny with the Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report 2017/18 (Appendix 2) and Young People's Annual Report 2017/18 (Appendix 3) for information.

Background

2. Durham LSCB is a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. It is independently chaired and consists of senior representatives of all the principle stakeholders working together to safeguard children and young people in County Durham.
3. The LSCB's primary responsibility is to provide a way for local organisations that have a responsibility in respect of child welfare, to agree how they will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in County Durham and to ensure that they do so effectively.
4. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 requires each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.
5. Throughout April and May 2018 both draft versions of the Annual Report have been circulated to the LSCB Board; partner agencies and stakeholders and Corporate Management Team for consultation and comment. The feedback received has been incorporated into the final document.

Durham LSCB Annual Report and Young People's Annual Report

6. The Durham LSCB Annual Report 2017/18 sets out the work of the LSCB to ensure effective arrangements are in place to safeguard and protect vulnerable children and young people from abuse and neglect.
7. The report describes the work undertaken against the 2017/18 priorities and sets out the future priorities for 2018/19. It describes the local governance arrangements and structure of Durham LSCB and provides a summary of the use of restraint in secure centres, Serious Case Reviews, and the LSCB multi-agency training provision.

8. The report also provides an overview of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 in respect of the forthcoming changes to new Safeguarding Arrangements that will be developed in 2018.
9. The Young People's Annual Report refreshes the work previously done with Durham Constabulary's Police Cadets (spanning key stages 3-5) and various secondary schools identified by the Education Development Service. Written in clear language, it provides general safeguarding information from a young person's perspective.

Achievements and Progress Highlights

10. Below are some examples of achievements and progress made by the LSCB in 2017/18:

- Revised the Children's Services Referral Form improving the quality of information submitted to First Contact.
- New learning materials for Serious Case Reviews to support managers with wider dissemination of learning, contributing to improved professional development and understanding of local safeguarding themes.
- Engaged with dental practices and Dental Network Group to improve multi-agency work to reduce the effect of Neglect and its hidden harms.
- Published our second Annual Report for Young People that provides general safeguarding information from a young person's perspective.
- Launched a series of Safeguarding Factsheets covering subjects such as Child Sexual Exploitation, Alcohol Licensing, Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements and Hackney Carriage and Private Hire (Taxis).
- Delivered a range of events for Safeguarding Week 2017 that were attended by over 860 staff from partner agencies raising the profile of safeguarding and promoting the key message of 'Safeguarding is Everyone Responsibility'.
- Introduced a new web-based multi-agency auditing programme, providing inspection ready audits and processes whilst reducing demands on partner agencies administration during audit participation.
- Supported a considerable programme of specialist training improving practitioners understanding, interventions and assessment skills.

LSCB Priorities 2018-19

11. Durham LSCB has agreed the following priorities for 2018-19:

- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Neglect
- Empowering Young People
- Working Together

Sign off and Publication

12. The Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2017/18 and Young People's Annual Report 2017/18 was agreed by the LSCB Board on the 04 June 2018.
13. The Annual Reports are available to download from the LSCB website - www.durham-lscb.org.uk and will be disseminated through partners organisational governance structures throughout Summer and Autumn 2018

Recommendations

14. CYPS Overview and Scrutiny is recommended to:
 - Note the content of the report
 - Accept the LSCB Annual Reports for information as an overview of the work undertaken in 2017/18 and priorities for action in 2018/19.

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Appendix 1: Implications

Finance

Yearly financial contributions to Durham LSCB are received from partner agencies and are detailed in the LSCB Annual Report.

Staffing

The priorities identified in the LSCB Annual Report will be delivered using existing resources. Durham County Council will contribute to the delivery of the priorities in partnership with other responsible authorities.

Risk

No adverse implications.

Equality and Diversity/ Public Sector Equality Duty

The LSCB Annual Report identifies the actions to safeguard the needs of vulnerable children and young people.

Accommodation

No adverse implications.

Crime and disorder

The LSCB Annual Report reflects priorities and action that impact positively on crime and disorder in County Durham. The report shows effective partnership working with the Safe Durham Partnership.

Human rights

No adverse implications.

Consultation

Consultation with partner agencies and stakeholders will be undertaken as part of the development of the LSCB Annual Report.

Procurement

No adverse implications.

Disability Issues

No adverse implications.

Legal Implications

Durham Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. Working Together to Safeguard Children (Statutory Guidance) requires each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area.

Appendix 2 – Durham LSCB Annual Report 2017/18

Attached as a separate file

Appendix 3 – Durham LSCB Young People’s Annual Report 2017/18

Attached as a separate file