

COMMUNITY & SOCIAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

21 SEPTEMBER 2011

HEAD OF COMMUNITIES & NEIGHBOURHOODS

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT

1 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report is to provide an outline of the LSCB's main activity and achievements during 2010-11, provide an assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding activity in Leicestershire and Rutland and to provide the general public, practitioners and main stakeholders with an overview of how well children in Leicestershire and Rutland are protected.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **Members comment and approve the LSCB annual report.**

3.0 KEY ISSUES

- 3.1 Local safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCB's) were made statute by the Children Act 2004. The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children in that locality, and ensuring effectiveness of what they do.
- 3.2 This is the second annual report of the LSCB and is attached as appendix A.
- 3.3 The Board has worked together to identify priorities for the next 12 months and these are:

- To ensure the safety of children in need of safeguarding through effective monitoring systems
- Establish a one year project to focus on the safety of babies and infants.
- Think Family/Think Community- Strengthen multi agency working to prevent harm and abuse

- 3.3 In preparation of an impending countywide Section 11 inspection, officers developed a self assessed action plan based on how compliant we are; members will note that there are a couple of areas that require further work and officers will complete these and be fully compliant by the end of September. The action plan is attached as Appendix B

4.0 POLICY AND CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 To respond to requests from the LSCB as and when they arise

5.0 FINANCIAL AND OTHER RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 No direct financial implications have been identified in this report.

6.0 LEGAL IMPLICATIONS/POWERS

6.1 The legal obligation concerning children and young people is underpinned by The Children Act 1989, Section 17 and 47 and Section 11 of the Children Act 2004.

Children Act 1989

Section 17 (1989) States that local authorities have a duty to safeguard the welfare of children who are in need. Local authorities must provide a range and level of services appropriate to those children's needs.

Section 47 (1989) places a duty on local authority social services departments to make inquiries where they have reasonable cause to suspect that a child in their area is likely to be or is suffering significant harm.

Children Act 2004

The Children Act 2004 legislates for children in England and Wales and underpins a national framework of change for children and young people. Its implementation needs to be part of a wider process of change for children focusing on the five elements in the Every Child Matters framework.

Section 10 establishes a duty on local authorities to make suitable arrangements to promote co-operation between agencies in order to promote children's well being.

Section 11 Creates a duty for key agencies who work with children to put in place arrangements to make sure they take account of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

There are no other legal implications directly arising from this report.

7.0 COMMUNITY SAFETY

7.1 No direct links to community safety in the recommendations, however, clear links to actions within the report and action plan.

8.0 EQUALITIES

8.1 No direct links identified to the recommendations in this report..

9.0 RISKS

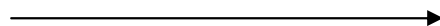
9.1 The risks are considered in the table below:

Probability



Very High A				
High B				
Significant C				
Low D			1	
Very Low E				
Almost Impossible F				
	IV Neg- ligible	III Marg- inal	II Critical	I Catast- rophic

Impact



Risk No.	Description
1	MBC is not being fully compliant
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	

10.0 CLIMATE CHANGE

10.1 There are no climate change issues directly arising from this report.

11.0 CONSULTATIONS

11.1 The priorities LSCB is made up of a number of partners who have all contributed into the development of the report and the emerging priorities.

12.0 WARDS AFFECTED

12.1 All wards are affected.

Contact Officer: L Keeley

Date: 5 September 2011

Appendices: A – LSCB Annual Report 2010/11
B – LSCB Action Plan

Background Papers: None

Reference: X: C'tees, Council & Sub-C'tees/CSA/210911/HR – LSCB Annual report