



**Children and Young People Overview
and Scrutiny Committee**
17 July 2013

**Report from the Director of Children and
Families**

Wards Affected:
ALL

Brent Local Safeguarding Children's Board Annual report

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) annual report to members.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 That the Scrutiny Committee notes the contents of the annual report.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013" is the statutory guidance issued by the Government with regards to effective multi-agency working to safeguard children. It addresses the legislative requirements and expectations on individual services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and provides a framework for Local Safeguarding children Boards (LSCB's) to monitor the effectiveness of local services. It was published in March 2013 and came into force in April 2013.
- 3.2 The Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board must publish "an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area". The report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year. This report covers the period April 2012 to March 2013.

- 3.3 The guidance states that the report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and copies will be circulated in line with the 2013 guidance.
- 3.4 A new Chair joined the Board in May 2012 who restructured the Board, creating an Executive group, drafting a new constitution and a revised three year business plan.
- 3.5 This report covers year 1 of the three year business plan
- 3.6 The business plan was agreed by LSCB partners in September 2012 with sub groups becoming fully operational in January 2013. All sub groups are chaired by members of the Executive group.
- 3.7 The report reviews the progress of the Boards priorities addressed through five sub groups, these are;
- Quality Audit and Outcomes;
This group encompasses the monitoring and evaluation function of the Board.
 - Vulnerable Groups;
This group focusses on ensuring the Board is aware of specific vulnerable groups of children and young people in the borough and having oversight of what safeguarding activities are taking place, working collaboratively with the Safer Brent Partnership.
 - The Voice of the Child:
The group is set up to ensure the voices of children and young people are listened to and inform the Board in considering safeguarding.
 - Developing a Learning Culture;
This group is the learning, development and communication arm of the Board.
 - Governance, Accountability and Business Processes;
This group encompasses all governance aspects, including Policies and Procedures, Serious Case Reviews, Child Death Overview Panel and ensuring the Board and its sub groups are fit for purpose.
- 3.8 The report addresses the relationship with Brent Children's Partnership and the important strategic safeguarding links.
- 3.9 The report addresses the finances of the Board and how the budget is committed.
- 3.10 Future challenges facing the Board are identified with a view to identifying work to be addressed within the next year of the three year plan.

4.0 Financial Implications

4.1 None

5.0 Legal Implications

5.1 None

6.0 Diversity Implications

6.1 None

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications (if appropriate)

7.1 None

8.0 Child Poverty Implications (required by Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Committee)

8.1 None.

Contact Officers.

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