

Relationship between Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)

Protocol agreement between Brent LSCB and Brent Health and Wellbeing Board

June 2014

Brent Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)

Function

Brent LSCB key objectives are compliant with those set out in Working together to Safeguard children 2013, these are ;

- To co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Brent,
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes (s14(1) Children Act 2004).

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health or development
- Ensuring children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

The Board is required to develop policies and procedures for Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in its area. These include:

- Thresholds for intervention
- Training for people who work with children
- Recruitment and supervision of people who work with children
- Investigations of allegations against people who work with children
- Safety and welfare of children in private fostering
- Cooperation with neighbouring authorities

The Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) role is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Brent and reduce health inequalities; Health and Wellbeing Boards were established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Their responsibilities include:

- Assessing the needs of the local population and lead the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the development of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Promoting integration and partnership working between the NHS, social care, education and public health ensuring the best use of resources including pooled budgets and joint commissioning arrangements
- Maintaining an overview of account for improvement in and attainment of key public health outcomes in the NHS, Public Health (Local Authority), and Adult Social Care Outcome Frameworks.
- Considering the wider determinants of health, including housing, education and the environment and the existing public health functions within the local authority to ensure an integrated response to tackling health and wellbeing priorities and inequalities.
- The (H&WB) have a formal role in authorising Clinical Commissioning Groups and in their annual assessment.

It will also:

- Ensure that the JSNA and JHWS inform and underpin the Corporate Plan in Brent, and wider Council strategies

Relationship

Brent Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)

Brent LSCB will:

- Take responsibility for monitoring actions to improve safeguarding including action plans arising from Serious Case Reviews and Management Reviews.
- Not be accountable for the operational work of local individuals and organisations. Each LSCB partner retains their own existing lines of accountability for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children by their services
- Hold partner organisations to account on matters of safeguarding in all its activities, ensuring appropriate challenge if there are concerns regarding performance or emerging from management information
- Undertake audits and feedback results to the HWB, advising on what is working, what we are worried about and what we can do to address concerns.
- Cascade learning from Serious Case Reviews and Management Reviews and monitor impact on outcomes for children.
- Identify gaps in service for health and social care commissioners to consider as part of its commissioning process
- Present the Brent LSCB Annual Report to the Brent HWB.

The HWB has an important role in the support of the work of existing and new commissioning structures. These groups may have existing reporting lines into other bodies (e.g. The CCG Governing Body) but the HWB should be an avenue of consultation, engagement and oversight where appropriate.

The HWB will ensure joint working across partners by;

- Consulting Brent LSCB on issues which affect how children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted
- Taking note of recommendations and identified areas for improvement made by Brent LSCB and report back to Brent LSCB on subsequent progress
- Inviting the Chair of Brent LSCB to attend the HWB Board meetings, as needed
- Ensuring that messages and information provided by Brent LSCB are appropriately disseminated within organisations commissioning and providing health and social care services.
- Taking an overview of the Brent LSCB's activities as part of its monitoring arrangements, where the work of Brent LSCB falls within its framework_including presentations of the Brent LSCB Business Plan and Annual Report and that of the Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report.

Both bodies will

- **Have an on-going and direct relationship, communicating regularly Work together to ensure that where action is taken there is no duplication of work**
- **Ensure they are committed to working together to ensure there are no unhelpful strategic or operational gaps in policies, protocols, services or practice**

Brent Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)**Brent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)****Implementation**

- The chair of Brent HWB and Brent LSCB will attend respective Board meetings as necessary. They will receive all written reports as appropriate. When attending respective meetings they will engage in discussions, seek clarity and ask questions, but will not be part of the decision making process
- Brent LSCB will be involved in the development of the HWB strategy. It will be consulted about the needs assessment and contribute to the setting of priorities. Brent LSCB will take responsibility for the oversight and evaluation of the multi-agency safeguarding elements of the strategy
- At each review of the HWB strategy, both Boards will receive a formal report of progress against targets
- Relevant issues arising from Brent LSCB meetings will be considered within the agenda-setting process for the HWBB and vice versa
- 4 monthly meetings will be held between respective business unit managers to ensure on-going communication between, and connectivity of, relevant areas of business progressing through Boards. This will also help to avoid duplication of work and gaps in policies and services and ensure an aligned agenda-setting process between Boards. Minutes of Board meetings will be shared to assist this process

**Leader &
Chief
Executive**

The Leader of the Council and Chief Executive have a responsibility to ensure that both bodies are well led, managed and effective. As part of this role, the Leader and Chief Executive will consider the Brent LSCB annual report regarding the effectiveness of arrangements for safeguarding children in Brent, including the effectiveness of governance and partnership arrangements in this regard.

Families

The primary function of the HWB relates to commissioning, joint planning and collaborative working and both boards will develop and monitor an agreed suite of performance information, including national and local, and quantitative and qualitative indicators

In addition the following options may be initiated when required:

- Either Chair making a formal written request of the other for information or consideration of an area of concern
- Either Chair making a request of the other for an item to be placed on either Board meeting agenda to address a particular area of concern
- Either Chair requesting of the other a meeting between Board Chairs (and other relevant representatives) to consider and agree a way forward regarding issues that have not been resolved by the above
- Where an area of concern cannot be resolved within the above framework, a resolution meeting will be held between Board Chairs, the Director of Children's Services and Brent Council's Chief Executive.

Brent LSCB Chair Signature:



Brent HWB Chair Signature:

Date: 11th July 2014