



**Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny
Committee**

19 September 2017

**Report from the Independent Chair of
Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board**

For Information

Wards Affected: ALL

**Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual
Report 2016-17**

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on LSCBs.
- 1.2 Chapter 3 of Working together to Safeguard Children 2015 outlines the statutory objectives and functions of LSCBs.
- 1.3 In order to provide effective scrutiny, the LSCB must be independent and every LSCB must have an independent chair who can hold all agencies to account.
- 1.4 It is important to note that LSCBs do not commission or deliver direct frontline services though Brent LSCB does provide training. While LSCBs do not have the power to direct other organisations they do have a role in making clear where improvement is needed. Each Board partner retains its own existing line of accountability for safeguarding.
- 1.5 The Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year.
- 1.6 The Brent LSCB annual report summarises the work of Brent LSCB during 2016/17.

2.0 Recommendations

- 2.1 The Community and Wellbeing Scrutiny Committee is asked to note this report and its content.

3.0 Detail

- 3.1 The achievements of LSCB business is detailed in the report including the challenges and proposed areas of work for 2017-18.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 All LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide the Board with resources to enable it to carry out its functions. These contributions can include money, staff time (representation at the Board and sub-groups) or 'in kind'. Queens Park Rangers Football Club, the FA, the College of North West London and Ark Elvin Academy provided meetings rooms and refreshments for the Board in 2016/17.
- 4.2 In 2016/17 the Board had a budget made up of contributions from our partners. The main contributor to the LSCB budget continues to be Brent Council, with Brent CCG being the next highest contributor.
- 4.3 All LSCBs, regardless of size, continue to receive the same level of contribution from the Metropolitan Police, CAF/CASS and Probation Services.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 Currently all local authority areas have a statutory responsibility to have a LSCB.

6.0 Equality Implications

- 6.1 The role of Brent LSCB is to co-ordinate and measure the effectiveness of the services provided to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Brent. In exercising its statutory functions Brent LSCB must be assured that the multi-agency services are accessible, inclusive and responsive to the diverse needs of Brent's children and young people, including those with additional needs and/or vulnerabilities. It also aims to ensure that services are culturally aware and skilled in identifying, assessing and meeting the individual needs of children and their families.

Contact Officers

Wendy Proctor
Strategic Partnership Officer
Brent Civic Centre
020 8937 4237
Wendy.Proctor@brent.gov.uk

MIKE HOWARD

Independent Chair Brent Local Safeguarding Children Board