



Report to:	People Committee	Date:	6 December 2018
Report title:	Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board Update and Annual Report 2017-18		
Report from:	Nick Ireland, Acting Strategic Director of People Directorate		
Ward/Areas affected:	Borough Wide		
Chair of Committee/Lead Member:	Councillor Marian James		
Author(s)/Contact Number(s):	Camilla Webster, LSCB and Learning and Development Manager 8770 4879		
Corporate Plan Priorities:	Keeping People Safe		
Open/Exempt:	Open		
Signed:		Date:	26 November 2018

1. Summary

- 1.1. This report provides an update on the implementation of Working Together 2018, the Local Plan, and the annual progress made by Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The Annual Report is a statutory requirement under Working Together 2015 and covers function, membership, strategic objectives, and achievements between April 2017 to March 2018. The Annual Report also includes the priorities for action during 2018-19 arising from the annual review and the LSCB Business plan is provided in the appendix. It is published on the LSCB website (suttonlscb.org.uk) to be available to children and families in the local area as set out in statutory guidance.

2. Recommendations

The People Committee is recommended to:

- 2.1. Note the changes under Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, (statutory guidance published by the Department for Education), that the responsibility for joined-up locally rests with the three safeguarding partners (Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Group, and Police) who have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in a local area.



- 2.2. Consider and comment on the achievements of the Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in 2017-18 and the priorities set by the local safeguarding partnership for 2018-19, as the partnership prepares to submit the Local Plan.

3. Background

- 3.1. This report provides a brief update on the implementation of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018. It is important to note that the LSCB continues to function under Working Together 2015 until the Local Authority has submitted the Local Plan for multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. From 29 June 2018, safeguarding partners have up to 12 months to agree their local arrangements, including which relevant agencies they consider appropriate to work with them to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area. By September 2019, all areas should have implemented their plans.
- 3.2. There is a statutory requirement for the Independent LSCB Chair to publish an annual report of the activities of the Local Safeguarding Children Board in the previous year.

4. Issues

- 4.1. Working Together 2018 implementation: in February 2018, the LSCB held a business planning event with partners to consider the draft Working Together 2018 guidance and local implications of the revised guidance. The outcome of the event was to maintain strong governance arrangements to ensure compliance with statutory duties and Serious Case Review regulations. The new guidance also retains duties for independent scrutiny and challenge of individual agencies under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and Keeping Children Safe in Education (2018) guidance under the Education Act 2002. There is also an increased recognition that the partnership has to respond effectively to safeguarding concerns that go beyond the family, relating to different forms of child exploitation including sexual exploitation, online grooming, and drug dealing/county lines. These extra familial threats require a different approach to the established child protection processes as they need to be assessed to understand the impact of contextual issues on their safety and welfare.
- 4.2. In September 2018, the LSCB considered the published Working Together guidance for the first time in respect of the new duties for the three equal partners; it was agreed that the LSCB will host a meeting with senior leaders at the end of January 2019 to take forward the Local Plan as set out in the transitional guidance issued in June 2018.
- 4.3. The Government have also recently published the Child Death Statutory and Operational Guidance for clinical commissioning groups and local authorities as child death review partners. This guidance sets out the full process that follows the death of a child who is normally resident in England. It builds on the statutory requirements set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children and clarifies how individual professionals and organisations across all sectors involved in the child death review should contribute to reviews.
- 4.4. From 29 June 2018, child death review partners have up to 12 months to agree arrangements for the review of each death of a child normally resident in their area, including arrangements for the analysis of information about deaths reviewed. Under the new Working Together 2018 guidance, the



statutory child death review partners are the Clinical Commissioning Group and the Local Authority. In the last year, the LSCB has transferred the governance for the management of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) to the Clinical Commissioning Group. The operational arrangements are now with the NHS Epsom and St Helier University Hospitals Trust and Queen Mary's Hospital for Children.

- 4.5. Key achievements for the LSCB in 2017-18 include:
- 4.5.1. Safeguarding leadership and management: In the last year the LSCB has hosted a number of events to raise awareness and disseminate learning relating to policy priorities and activities undertaken locally to extract learning from case reviews and practice audits. The focus in the last year has been on the management of Self-Harm, Neglect, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Parental Substance Misuse, alongside the comprehensive LSCB Learning and Development programme.
 - 4.5.2. Scrutiny and challenge: The LSCB has undertaken a Domestic Violence themed 'mock' Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) followed by a self-assessment to take forward areas of developments for the partnership and individually for each agency. Over 25 agencies were requested to undertake an audit against S.11 standards to provide assurance about child protection lead arrangements and responses, safe recruitment and employment, and child protection awareness raising and training.
 - 4.5.3. Awareness raising: A Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) awareness week was held in March 2018, which involved promotion of safety messages to the public and a range of activities targeted to professionals and volunteers. It also covered information and responses to children going missing. The LSCB has also expanded the online e-learning offer to promote awareness on key safeguarding topics which is available for free to those who work with Sutton residents.
 - 4.5.4. Children and Young People Participation and Engagement: The annual report contains a specific section on 'Knowing Our Children' which includes the participation and engagement of children and young people. This involved taking an annual thematic survey to Sutton schools, which last year covered 'What makes young people feel unsafe in Sutton'. This year, the LSCB has worked closely with secondary schools to deliver the first Youth Summit which was hosted by St Philomena's Catholic High School for Girls and attended by pupils from mainstream and special schools across Sutton. It focused on five workshop themes facilitated by the Borough Police, Children's Social Care, Community Safety Team and the Voluntary Sector: Safety in public places in Sutton, Knife crime, Online crime, Hate crime, and Domestic abuse.
 - 4.5.5. The LSCB has also provided support to secondary schools by developing guidance and rolling out the Safeguarding Ambassador Programme; this is a peer-education programme where sixth form students are trained and supported to promote learning about child wellbeing and safety topics. The guidance is available to download on the LSCB website and the LSCB has provided support directly to the school to implement the guidance from the beginning of this academic year.
- 4.6. The priorities for the LSCB in 2018-19 are:



- 4.6.1. To implement the new arrangements under Working Together 2018 and transitional guidance.
- 4.6.2. To improve submission of reports and attendance at multi-agency child protection conferences.
- 4.6.3. To build on the work of the first 'mock JTAI' and undertake a second exercise on the theme of children living with neglect.
- 4.6.4. To develop a multi-agency Complex Safeguarding protocol and start the work to roll out a Contextual Safeguarding approach to safeguarding vulnerable children and adolescents. This will involve engagement with the local school community.
- 4.6.5. To update and launch the LSCB Threshold for Referral and Assessment guidance, including Early Help pathways.
- 4.6.6. To roll out the Safeguarding Ambassador programme in local secondary schools alongside engagement and participation activities focused on Domestic Abuse to feed into the Council's Domestic Violence Transformation programme.
- 4.6.7. To continue to embed learning from Serious Case Reviews and other learning arising from the programme of multi-agency scrutiny and challenge activities.

5. Options Considered

- 5.1. To not make any changes to the current governance for the multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements.

6. Impacts and Implications

Financial

- 6.1. There is a statutory duty under Working Together to Safeguard Children guidance for the three equal partners to fund the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and make this transparent to children and families in the area. The Local Plan will also need to set out the relevant partners who provide additional financial support to the partnership.

Legal

- 6.2. There are no further comments from Legal regarding legal implications in addition to what is already outlined in the report.

Equality and Impact Assessment

- 6.3. All partners on the Sutton Local Safeguarding Children Board are under a statutory requirement to protect vulnerable children from neglect, abuse, and child exploitation. There are no negative effects envisaged for any specific group given the role and function of the safeguarding partnership.



- 6.4. Risk: The risks for the safeguarding partnership are mitigated by strong governance arrangements, independent scrutiny of the partnership and individual agencies, and effective partnership working in frontline practice as described in the Annual Report.
- 6.5. Consultation: The LSCB has held a consultation event with statutory and voluntary partners to consider new statutory guidance for multi-agency partnership working which has been taken forward through the governance of the LSCB. The LSCB Business plan covers priorities to engage with children and young people to ensure that the Board understand their needs and the outcome of this work is covered in the Annual Report.

7. Appendices and Background Documents

Appendix letter	Title
A	Working Together: transitional guidance
B	Sutton LSCB Annual Report 2017-18

Background documents
None

Audit Trail		
Version	Final	Date: 26 November 2018
Consultation with other officers		
Finance	Yes	Matt Tizzard
Legal	Yes	Lucy Craig
Other Officers: LSCB Partnership	Yes	LSCB Membership
Equality Impact Assessment required?	No	N/A

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