

<u>KEY DECISION</u> <i>No</i>
<u>DATE FIRST PUBLISHED</u>

ST HELENS SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2015/16

WARDS AFFECTED

All

EXEMPT/CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

No

1. PROPOSED DECISION

To note the Annual Report of St Helens Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) attached at Appendix 1.

2. RATIONALE FOR THE DECISION

2.1 The St Helens Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a statutory partnership body which brings together key agencies involved in safeguarding children activity in the Borough. The LSCB is responsible for:

- a) Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in our area in relation to,
- b) The action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds of intervention.
- c) Training of persons who work with children or in services affecting safety and welfare of children.
- d) Recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children
- e) Investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children
- f) Safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered.
- g) Co-operation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners

- h) Communicating to persons and bodies in the area of the authority the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so
 - i) Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve.
 - j) Participating in the planning of services for children in the authority and
 - k) Undertaking reviews of Serious Cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned
 - l) Producing and promoting a Local Learning Framework
 - m) Undertaking multi agency audits,
 - n) Ensuring that children have a voice,
 - o) Implement procedures to ensure a coordinated response to an unexpected child death and the collection and analysis of information from each death.
- 2.12 The overarching objective of the LSCB, as set out in Section 14 of the Children Act 2014; is to co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for;
- the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and,
 - to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

3. FACTS SUPPORTING THE PROPOSED DECISION

- 3.1 Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 requires the Independent Chair of the Board to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area.
- 3.2 The report for 2015/16 has been produced by the LSCB Business Manager and comprises of contributions drawn from the range of statutory partners working through LSCB.
- 3.3 The report covers the financial year 2015/16 and provides an overview of Board achievements, key developments in partnership working and broad performance measures.
- 3.4 The LSCB also has an ongoing cycle of business planning and the 2016/17 plan recently approved by the LSCB is attached at Appendix 2.

4. IMPLICATIONS / RELEVANCE TO MEETING SAVINGS TARGET / PLANNING FOR 2020

Not applicable

5. RISKS

None

6. Risks Associated with the Proposed Decision

None

7. Should this Risk be added to the Corporate Risk Register?

No

8. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal - None arising directly from the report
Financial - None arising directly from the report
Human Resources - None arising directly from the report
Land and Property (Asset) - None
Anti-Poverty - None
Effects on existing Council Policy - None
Effects on other Council Activities - None
Human Rights - None
Equalities - None
Asset Management - None
Health - None

9. PREVIOUS APPROVAL/CONSULTATION

None

10. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS AND IMPLICATIONS THEREOF

None

11. APPENDICES

Appendix 1 – St Helens Safeguarding Children Annual Report 2015/16

Appendix 2 – St Helens Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Plan 2016/2017

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BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following list of documents was used to complete this report and they are available for public inspection for four years from the date of the meeting, from the Contact Officer named above:

None