

Subject: Report by the Independent Chair of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB)

Presented by: John Harris

Purpose of bringing this report to the Board

1. The Independent Chair of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) prepares and publishes an Annual Report, reviewing the work of the Board in the previous year and setting out its view about the effectiveness of safeguarding in Doncaster. The Chair presents the report to the Health and Well-Being Board (HWB). The purposes of the report to HWB are to:
 - Inform the commissioning priorities for children and young people (particularly in respect of safeguarding);
 - Challenge the work of the HWB partners in order to ensure that children are properly safeguarded.
2. The DSCB Annual Report 2013-14 will be published on September 9th 2014. At the meeting of HWB the Chair will make a short presentation, setting out the key findings from the draft report.
3. As part of the development programme to improve the effectiveness of DSCB, the Board has reviewed its constitution and membership, and has drawn up a draft protocol to cover its relationship with the HWB and other partnerships in Doncaster. A copy of the draft protocol is attached at Appendix 1. The HWB is asked to comment on and agree the draft protocol.

Decision	Yes
Recommendation to Full Council	
Endorsement	
Information	Yes

Implications		Applicable Yes/No
DHWB Strategy Areas of Focus	Alcohol	
	Mental Health & Dementia	
	Obesity	
	Family	Yes
	Personal Responsibility	
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment		Yes
Finance		
Legal		

Equalities	
Other Implications (please list)	

How will this contribute to improving health and wellbeing in Doncaster?

Drawing on the findings from the DSCB Annual Report 2013-14, HWB partners will take the required action to improve the effectiveness of safeguarding, particularly ensuring that the commissioning of services for children and young people addresses the key priorities to improve safeguarding.

Recommendations

The Board is asked to:-

1. To agree the draft protocol between Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board and the Doncaster Health and Well-Being Board, as set out at Appendix 1.
2. To receive the Chair's presentation on the DSCB Annual Report 2013-14 and note the key implications for children and young people's commissioning.

A protocol between Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board and Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel

1 AIM

- 1.1 To clarify the relationship between Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board and the
- Health and Well-Being Board,
 - Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board,
 - Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board,
 - Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel

2 OBJECTIVE

- 2.1 This protocol will:
- Confirm the functions, responsibilities and organisation of the Children's Strategic planning forums – Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board, The Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board and Schools Children Services and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel and then describe the inter-relationship between them
 - Articulate the link between these boards and the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Doncaster's Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) is a statutory Board and The Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board and the Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel are a strategic leadership forum. All have important but distinctive roles in ensuring that the strategic planning needs for children and young people in the borough are met. This includes keeping children safe.
- 3.2 There is not a hierarchical relationship between the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board and the Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel but a joint responsibility to ensure the needs of children and young people in Doncaster are addressed and prioritised.
- 3.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board is accountable for the Children and Young People's Commissioning Plan (which is the Doncaster Children and Young People's Plan). In

progressing this plan, the Board is accountable for ensuring all services which are commissioned or provided improve outcomes for children and young people in line with the agreed priorities.

4 THE DONCASTER SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (DSCB)

4.1 The core objectives of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board which are prescribed in Working Together are to:

- Co-ordinate what is done by each agency to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the area
- Ensure the effectiveness of that work.

4.2 The DSCB is the decision making body for multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding of children within Doncaster. It is a statutory partnership and its work is directed by statutory guidance. This guidance dictates the functions to be undertaken by Safeguarding Children Boards and the criteria/functions against which they will be measured during Ofsted Safeguarding Inspections.

4.3 The Chief Executive of the Council has the statutory responsibility for ensuring that an effective Safeguarding Children Board is in place for the Local Authority area.

4.4 The Safeguarding Children Board is supported in discharging its functions by thematic sub-groups.

4.5 The Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) is responsible for challenging each relevant partner, as defined by the Children Act (2006)¹ on their success in safeguarding children and ensuring their welfare. The statutory guidance² covering its work determines its role to ‘...provide robust challenge to the work of the Health and Wellbeing Board partners in order to ensure that children are properly safeguarded.’ (para 3.40)

5 THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board is the local partnership that brings together the organisations responsible for services for children, young people and families with a shared commitment to improving children’s lives.

5.2 The functions are to

- develop and promote a local vision – set out in the CYP Strategic Framework – to drive improved outcomes for local children, young people and their families
- have in place robust arrangements for inter-agency co-operation

¹ The Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 (Statutory Instrument 2006 No.90)

² Statutory Guidance ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children March 2013

- develop integrated strategies such as commissioning with pooled or aligned budgets, shared data and workforce development
- support those strategies via more integrated processes, including effective joint working
- Develop and promote integrated front line delivery, organised around the child in a setting which supports family life rather than professional or institutional barriers.
- develop and publish the Commissioning Plan, keeping it under review and revising it as necessary
- monitor progress and produce a report on the extent to which the Health and Wellbeing Board partners are delivering their commitments in the Strategic Framework and Commissioning Plan
- lead on the CYP elements of the Wellbeing Strategy and update the Health and Wellbeing Board as appropriate

6 THE SAFER AND STRONGER DONCASTER PARTNERSHIP BOARD

6.1 Role:

The SSDP has been established to function as Doncaster's Community Safety Partnership \ Crime and Disorder Reduction Partnership and to build strong and resilient communities. Its primary role is to set the strategic direction of work to reduce crime, disorder, the fear of crime, drug and alcohol misuse and to build strong and resilient communities and families in Doncaster. The partnership is responsible for carrying out all the functions allocated to Responsible Authorities under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, the Police Reform Act 2002 and other relevant legislation.

6.2 Functions of the Partnership:

- Identify ethical, statutory and other requirements relating to crime, offender management, anti-social behaviour, drugs, alcohol and other community safety issues.
- Maintain strategic overview of occurrences and trends in relation to these issues in the borough.
- Regularly receive performance management information and exception reports on performance.
- Challenge on areas of under-performance as well as understanding and identifying best practice where performance is good.
- Ensure that the work is consistent with and complementary to the Borough Strategy, Health and Well Being Strategy, Youth Justice Plan and other relevant agencies plans and strategies.

- Maintain clear and positive relationships with other related partnerships, forums and groups; reporting to the Local Strategic Partnership Doncaster Chief Officer Group.
- Ensure that effective mechanisms are in place and are being used to consult and engage local communities and businesses.
- Ensure that due account is taken of social cohesion and diversity issues including those related to priority groups, neighbourhoods and communities.
- Publicise its work to encourage greater community confidence.
- Ensure funding, particularly targeted funding is prioritised against local targets and concerns.
- Be accountable for building strong and resilient communities and effective partnership community engagement and involvement plans and strategies.
- Oversee the delivery of the Stronger Families Programme.

7 CHILDREN AND FAMILY STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP BOARD

The Board has the senior partnership responsibility for policy, strategy and achievement in services for children, young people and their families. It is a theme board within the Team Doncaster Strategic Partnership.

Key functions:

- Determine Children & Families strategy – establishing a vision, and prioritising issues that have not progressed and can only be addressed in partnership
- Oversee the Children and Young Peoples Service Improvement Plan Theme 1 and delivery against the agreed priorities
- Commission and sign-off an annual children, young people and family's needs assessment, and associated research as appropriate, to inform priorities
- Ensure the voice of children and young people is represented in both strategic planning and service delivery across partnership
- Review and reflect on opportunities for alignment of resources
- Promote success, stimulate innovation and engage with evidence around what works
- Challenge and act as a critical friend around performance
- Interact with other strategic theme boards, the Team Doncaster Strategic Partnership and Overview and Scrutiny
- Respond to challenges about safeguarding identified by Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB)

8 SCHOOLS, CHILDRENS AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

This Panel is a Sub-Committee of the Council constituted under Sections 101 and 102 of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Panel will conduct enquiries and investigations, in relation to those functions of the Council (and other matters of local interest), referred to them in the Annual Work Plan and any additional issues referred by the Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.

The work of the Panel will be undertaken in accordance with the requirements of the Council's Constitution including the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules and any Overview and Scrutiny protocols.

The Panel is empowered to establish ad hoc Working Groups from within its membership, to undertake project and policy development work, to meet the objectives and targets of its annual Work Plan.

The Panel will review and scrutinise relevant public bodies and partners in the Borough, including the Council's contribution and relationship with them and, where necessary, request them to address overview and scrutiny and local people about their activities and performance or particular decisions, Initiatives or projects.

To ensure there are opportunities for effective Overview and Scrutiny of the DSCB the SCYP Scrutiny Panel:

- Will receive the DSCB Annual Report
- May consider and agree with the DSCB Chair and Board Manager thematic areas of work and audit
- May undertake focussed scrutiny which links into the boards priorities and the councils political arrangements
- Make recommendations or suggestions to the DSCB Chair and Board Manager of areas of improvement and challenge

9 THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN DONCASTER HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD, CHILDREN AND FAMILY STRATEGIC PARTNER BOARD, SAFER STRONGER DONCASTER PARTNERSHIP BOARD AND SCHOOLS CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL

9.1 The DSCB will provide reports as agreed to:

- Doncaster Health and Wellbeing Board
- Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board
- Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board
- Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel

9.2 The Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board, Schools Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel will ensure that:

- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and Joint Wellbeing Strategy recognise and take account of children's' safeguarding issues, including the priorities set

out in the DSCB Business Plan; and

- The relationship with the DSCB through the reporting outlined above is referenced in the Health and Wellbeing Board governance arrangements.

9.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board and Schools Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel may request the DSCB to consider issue for development, action or scrutiny.

9.4 The DSCB may request the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children and Family Strategic Partnership Board, Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board and Schools and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel may request the DSCB to consider issues for development, action or scrutiny.

10. SIGNATURES

Name..... Date.....

Independent Chair Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board

Name..... Date.....

Chair Doncaster Health & Wellbeing Board

Name..... Date.....

Chair Children & Family Strategic Partnership Board

Name..... Date.....

Chair Safer Stronger Doncaster Partnership Board

Name..... Date.....

Chair Schools Children and Young People’s Overview and Scrutiny Panel