

**To the Chair and Members of the
CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE’S OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY PANEL**

Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report

Relevant Cabinet Member(s)	Wards Affected	Key Decision
Councillor Nuala Fennelly lead Member for Children, Young People and Schools	All	N/A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report informs the Panel of the arrangements for its consideration of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) Annual Report 2014-15.

EXEMPT INFORMATION

2. Not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Panel receives the DSCB Annual Report 2014-15 for consideration and comment.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN FOR THE CITIZENS OF DONCASTER?

4. The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the Council’s key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy. This is achieved through making robust recommendations, monitoring performance of Council and external partners and reviewing issues outside the remit of the Council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.

BACKGROUND

5. John Harris the independent Chair of DSCB will provide an update and present the Board’s Annual Report 2014-15. Owing to the timeline in approving the

Annual Report, it is anticipated that this report will be made available to the Panel on the 11th September 2015.

6. *'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'* (guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children), requires the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding in the area served by the Board. The report outlines details of the Board's activities but, more importantly, it provides an overview of the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements in Doncaster.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to discuss the DSCB Annual Report 2014-15.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION.

8. The Annual Report enhances the challenge role of Overview and Scrutiny by allowing Members of the Panel to question and comment on the work undertaken by the DCSB during the previous year and the effectiveness of safeguarding in Doncaster.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

	Outcomes	Implications
	<p>All people in Doncaster benefit from a thriving and resilient economy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Be a strong voice for our veterans</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	<p>The Overview and Scrutiny function has the potential to impact upon all of the council's key objectives by holding decision makers to account, reviewing performance and developing policy through robust recommendations, monitoring performance of council and external partners services and reviewing issues outside the remit of the council that have an impact on the residents of the borough.</p>
	<p>People live safe, healthy, active and independent lives.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	<p>This issue has a direct impact on helping children live safe, healthy and active in a safe environment whilst ensure the governance between the Children's Board, Scrutiny and partners is working</p>

	<p>People in Doncaster benefit from a high quality built and natural environment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Creating Jobs and Housing</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Safeguarding our Communities</i> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Bringing down the cost of living</i> 	effectively.
	<p>All families thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
	<p>Council services are modern and value for money.</p>	
	<p>Working with our partners we will provide strong leadership and governance.</p>	

RISK AND ASSUMPTIONS

9. There are no risks and assumptions relevant to this report

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

10. There are no specific legal implications arising from this report.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

11. There are no specific financial implications arising from this report.

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

12. Section 149 Equality Act 2010 contains the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED). This obliges public authorities, when exercising their functions, to have ‘due regard’ to the need to:
- a. Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct which the Act prohibits;
 - b. Advance equality of opportunity;
 - c. Foster good relations between people who share relevant protected characteristics and those who do not.

13. The relevant protected characteristics under the Equality Act are age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation. The duty also covers marriage and civil partnerships, but only in respect of eliminating unlawful discrimination. The relevant characteristics in to the issues in this report are sex, age and race.
14. The DSCB Annual Report gives consideration to the extent to which safeguarding strategy, policy and practice in Doncaster take into account the impact of ethnicity and cultural background. It also evaluates the extent to which the Board is engaging effectively to minority ethnic and faith communities.

CONSULTATION

15. There are no formal requirements to consult about the content of the DSCB Annual Report. The Independent Chair has taken into account the views of the DSCB Chairs' Group and of wider Board members in preparing the report.

CONTACT OFFICER AND REPORT AUTHOR

16. John Harris, Independent Chair, Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board

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Background Papers:

Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report – To Follow.

**Damian Allen,
Director of Learning, Opportunities and Skills**