

6th December, 2016

**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	None

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1. This report informs the Panel of three particular aspects of the work of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board:
 - A) The arrangements for its consideration of the Doncaster Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report.
 - B) The Independent Chair of Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board’s (DSCB) updated assessment of the response to child sexual exploitation (CSE) in Doncaster. The Independent Chair’s first assessment was published in December 2014. This update report addresses the Chair’s ten key CSE assurance questions which have also been addressed in previous reports.
 - C) An outline of the functions of the Performance Accountability Board

EXEMPT INFORMATION

2. Not exempt.

RECOMMENDATIONS

3. The Panel notes the contents of the reports for their 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 the Doncaster Safeguarding Children Board will provide an update and present the Board's Annual Report. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children', (guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of Children), published in March 2015, 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 outline details of the Board's activities but more importantly it provides an opportunity to deliver a statement about the position of safeguarding in Doncaster. This is the third Annual Report presented to the Panel. The full report is provided as Appendix 1.
6. John Harris presented *Responding to CSE in Doncaster – an Assurance Report*' at the meeting of the Panel on 9th December 2014. Further updates were provided in March 2015 when the Council resolved to raise awareness about CSE and work in partnership with other organisations and the wider community to protect children and young people. It requested that regular reports about progress in responding to CSE be made available to elected members. Further reports have been provided biennially and the attached report provides an update on progress since April 2016. The latest update report is provided at Appendix 2.
7. The Performance Accountability Board (PAB) was established in January 2016. It is chaired by John Harris, the Independent Chair of the DSCB and attended at chief executive level by the key safeguarding partner agencies: DMBC, DCST, SYP, CCG, RDASH and DBHFT. It provides a high level forum to address safeguarding issues which are causing particular concern across the partnership. The attached report provides the panel with an overview of the work of the PAB and some of the achievements it has made so far. The update report is provided at Appendix 3.

OPTIONS CONSIDERED

8. There are no specific options to consider within this report as it provides an opportunity for the Panel to discuss the Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report, progress on CSE and the work of the Performance Accountability Board.

REASONS FOR RECOMMENDED OPTION

9. These reports enhance the accountability 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 position of safeguarding in Doncaster.

IMPACT ON COUNCIL'S KEY OBJECTIVES

10.

	Priority	Implications
1	<p>We will support a strong economy where businesses can locate, grow and employ local people.</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>This issue has a direct impact on helping children live safe, healthily and active in a safe environment whilst ensure the governance between the Children's Board, Scrutiny and partners is working effectively.</p>
2	<p>We will help people to 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> 	
3	<p>We will make Doncaster a better place to live, with cleaner, more sustainable communities.</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> 	
4	<p>We will support all families to thrive.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mayoral Priority: Protecting Doncaster's vital services</i> 	
5	<p>We will deliver modern value for money services.</p>	
6	<p>We will provide strong leadership and governance, working in partnership.</p>	

RISK AND ASSUMPTIONS

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

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

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

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

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

EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

14. 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.
15. 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.
16. The DSCB Business Plan and its CSE Action Plan both address equalities issues in respect of safeguarding policy and practice.

CONSULTATION

17. There are no consultation requirements in respect of this report.

CONTACT OFFICER AND REPORT AUTHOR

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

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Background Papers:

LGA Safeguarding Peer Review – July 2016
OFSTED Monitoring Report – August 2016

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