

**SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL****CABINET****DATE: 21 OCTOBER 2014****REPORT OF: MRS MARY ANGELL, CABINET MEMBER CHILDREN AND FAMILIES****LEAD OFFICER: NICK WILSON, STRATEGIC DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN SCHOOLS AND FAMILIES****SUBJECT: SURREY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (SSCB) ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

The Surrey Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) is a statutory, multi agency board, chaired by an independent chair, Mrs Alex Walters.

The Annual Report 2013/2014 reports upon the effectiveness of safeguarding and child protection practice by partner organisations in Surrey and is presented to Cabinet for information.

The Cabinet is asked to note the report (attached as Annex 1) and the key messages arising from it.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

It is recommended that Cabinet:

1. Notes the attached Surrey Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report prior to it being published.
2. Agrees to the provision of paper copies of the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report to Surrey libraries.

**REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:**

The Board is constituted Under Section 13 of the Children Act 2004; its objectives are set out in Section 14 of the Children Act 2004. Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Regulations 2006 sets out the statutory functions of the LSCB.

Section 14a of the Children Act 2004 requires that the independent Chairman publishes an Annual Report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area.

Accepting the recommendation will provide evidence the council has fulfilled its obligations under Section 13 of the Children Act 2004.

#### **DETAILS:**

1. Working Together to Safeguard Children (2010) and (2013) provides the statutory framework for the safeguarding responsibilities of those working with children and young people, including the responsibilities of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).
2. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 requires that the Annual Report covers the preceding financial year and should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
3. The SSCB has a broad membership from both statutory and voluntary sectors as required by Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 and subsequent amendments.
4. SSCB has a three year Business Plan that runs from 2012-2015.

#### **CONSULTATION:**

5. The Annual Report was developed following consultation with the membership of SSCB sub groups. The draft report was presented to the Board in July 2014 for discussion and comment. The final report was approved at the September 2014 Board.

#### **RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:**

6. There are no implications for risk management in the recommendation that Cabinet is being asked to accept.

#### **Financial and Value for Money Implications**

7. The activities of the Board are funded through a pooled budget which is contributed to by Statutory Partners which includes contributions from Surrey County Council. The pooled budget for the Surrey Safeguarding Board is £310,777.

#### **Section 151 Officer Commentary**

8. The Section 151 Officer confirms there are no material financial or business implications in this report.

#### **Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer**

9. It is a statutory requirement under Section 14a of the Children Act 2004 that the Chair of the SSCB must publish an annual report providing a rigorous and transparent report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area.

### **Equalities and Diversity**

10. The recommendations will have a positive impact upon the residents with different protected characteristics by making the activities of the Board more transparent and improving outcomes for Surrey children.
11. No Equalities Impact Assessment has been carried out as this is not necessary in relation to an Annual Report.

### **Safeguarding responsibilities for vulnerable children and adults implications**

12. This Annual Report supports safeguarding children and young people as it provides information on performance in Surrey

### **WHAT HAPPENS NEXT:**

The SSCB Annual Report will be:

- Published on the SSCB /SCC website
- Be sent electronically to all Board members for them to cascade to their own agencies
- Sent electronically to the Chief Executive; the Leader of the Council; the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board
- Presented to the Children's Operational Partnership; the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Children and Education Select Committee
- Available in hard copy for those unable to access Electronic formats
- Copies will be available in all Surrey Libraries

Actions contained in the report will be reported upon as part of the Business Plan Review and Annual Report for the year ending 31 March 2015.

#### **Contact Officer:**

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#### **Consulted:**

Mary Angell, Cabinet Member for Children and Families  
Nick Wilson, Strategic Director Children Schools and Families  
Statutory Partners of the Surrey Safeguarding Children Board.

#### **Annexes:**

SSCB Annual Report 2013-2014

#### **Sources/background papers:**

- Working Together to safeguard Children; A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; DFE March 2013  
[www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-secure-children](http://www.education.gov.uk/aboutdfe/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-secure-children)

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