

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL**CABINET****DATE: 22 OCTOBER 2013****REPORT OF: 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 2012-2013****SUMMARY OF ISSUE:**

1. The Surrey Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) is a statutory, multi agency board, chaired by an independent chairman, Mrs Alex Walters.
2. The Annual Report 2012/2013 reports upon the effectiveness of safeguarding and child protection practice by partner organisations in Surrey and is presented to Cabinet for information.
3. Cabinet is asked to note the report (attached as annex 1) and the key messages arising from it.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

4. That Cabinet notes the attached SSCB Annual Report prior to it being published.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS:

5. 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.
6. 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.
7. Accepting the recommendation will provide evidence the council has fulfilled its obligations under Section 13 of the Children Act 2004.

DETAILS:

8. 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).
9. 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.
10. 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.
11. SSCB has a three year Business Plan that runs from 2012-2015

CONSULTATION:

12. The Annual Report was developed following consultation with the membership of SSCB sub groups. The draft report was presented to the Board in July 2013 for discussion and comment. The final report was approved at the September 2013 Board.
13. The Annual Report has been shared with Nick Wilson, Strategic Director of Children Schools and families and signed off by Alex Walters, Independent Chairman.
14. Mary Angell, Cabinet Member Children and Families has confirmed support for the Annual Report.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND IMPLICATIONS:

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

Financial and Value for Money Implications

16. 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

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

Legal Implications – Monitoring Officer

18. 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

19. 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.
20. 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

21. 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's Overview and Scrutiny Committee
- Available in hard copy for those unable to access Electronic formats

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 2014.

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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 2012-2013

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/about/dfes/statutory/g00213160/working-together-to-secure-children

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