



CABINET – 16TH SEPTEMBER 2016

**LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
BOARD AND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD ANNUAL REPORTS
2015/2016**

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND
RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD AND
SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD**

PART A

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to advise the Cabinet of the key findings of the Annual Reports of the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) and the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB) for 2015/16. It provides the Cabinet with the opportunity for consultation and comment.
2. The Annual Reports will be presented for approval to a joint meeting of the Boards on 28th October 2016. Any comments or proposed additions and amendments made by the Cabinet will be addressed in the final reports before they are presented to the Board and subsequently published.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Cabinet notes and comments on the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports for 2015/16.

Reasons for Recommendation

4. The LRLSCB and LRSAB are statutory bodies and local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Boards are enabled to operate effectively.
5. It is a requirement of (the statutory guidance) Working Together 2015 that the LRLSCB Annual Report be reported to the Leader of the Council together with the Chief Executive of the local authority, the Chairman of the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Police and Crime Commissioner. It is a requirement of the Care Act 2014 statutory guidance that the LRSAB Annual Report is also reported to these individuals as well as the Chief Constable and Healthwatch.
6. It has been considered good practice in Leicestershire to submit both the Annual Report and Business Plans to the Cabinet and the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the LRSAB and the LRLSCB.

7. The purpose of presenting the Annual Reports and the Business Plans (this year's business plan actions are shown as appendix 1 and 2 within the annual reports) is to enable the Cabinet to comment on their content and propose any changes or amendments it wishes to be considered and to reflect on whether the reports identify matters that it, as the Executive for the County Council, wishes to address in relation to the effectiveness of safeguarding within the work of the Authority.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

8. The Annual Reports have been considered by the Children and Families and the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committees at their meetings on 5 and 6 September 2016 respectively, and the comments of the committees will be reported to the Cabinet. (The Business Plans of the LRLSCB and LRSAB will be reported to the same bodies between January and March of each year).
9. Any proposed additions or amendments to the Plans made by the Cabinet will be considered and incorporated into the reports, prior to submission to the Boards at their meeting on 28 October 2016.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

10. As stated above the LRLSCB and LRSAB are statutory bodies; the former established under Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 and the latter becoming a statutory body from 2014 under the Care Act. Local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Boards are enabled to operate effectively.
11. The previous Annual Reports (2014/15) of the LRLSCB and LRSAB were submitted to the Cabinet on 11 September 2015.

Resources Implications

12. There are no additional resource implications arising from this report. Both the LRLSCB and LRSAB operate with a budget to which partner agencies contribute under an agreed formula that reflects their size, operating budgets, and legal safeguarding responsibilities.
13. The total budget within which the Boards are operating in 2016/17 is £465,112. The LRLSCB has a budget of £328,650 and the LRSAB a budget of £95,962. In addition the Boards receive £40,500 from the community safety partnerships to support the undertaking of Domestic Homicide Reviews. Leicestershire County Council contributes £123,390 to the LRLSCB and £52,830 to the LRSAB per annum, and in addition hosts the Safeguarding Business Office and supports the Board and Executive meetings.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

14. None.

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PART B

Background

Annual Reports 2015/16

15. The LRLSCB and LRSAB aligned their work four years ago to ensure effective and efficient safeguarding services operating in an integrated manner. This has supported a focus on vulnerable children, adults and families. Since 2014/15 the Boards have agreed to produce two separate annual reports.
16. The LRLSCB Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance that will be a key consideration when Ofsted carries out its 'Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers' alongside which a review of the effectiveness of the LSCB will be undertaken. Working Together 2015 requires the Annual Report to be produced and identifies a range of issues that must be covered.
17. The LRSAB Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance on the local approach to safeguarding adults in line with the requirements of the Care Act 2014.
18. The key purpose of the two Annual Reports is to assess the impact of the work undertaken in 2015/16 on service quality and on safeguarding outcomes for children, young people, and for adults in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically they evaluate performance against the priorities set in the Business Plans for 2015/16 and against other statutory functions that the LRLSCB in particular must undertake. Full copies of both Annual Reports are attached as Appendices 1 and 2 to this report.
19. These are, necessarily, detailed reports, but an Executive Summary for each report is included (Appendices 3 and 4) to assist readers in gauging the key achievements and development needs arising from the assessment of the performance of the Boards across 2015/16.
20. Both the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports 2015/16 include:
 - (i) A foreword from the Independent Chair;
 - (ii) A brief overview of the local area safeguarding context with some key context data;
 - (iii) An overview of the Boards' governance and accountability arrangements;
 - (iv) Analysis of performance against the key priorities in the 2015/16 Business Plan which were to be assured that:-
 - "Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility";
 - Adults in need of safeguarding are safe, including assurance of the quality of care for any adult supported by registered providers (SAB);
 - Children and young people are safe, including assurance of the quality of care for any child not living with a parent or someone with parental responsibility (LSCB);
 - Services for children, services for adults and services for families are effectively coordinated to ensure children and adults are safe;

- Our Learning and Improvement Framework is raising service quality and outcomes for adults;
 - The workforce is fit for purpose.
- (v) An overview of the work of the Serious Case Review Sub-Group and Domestic Homicide Review group;
- (vi) The challenges ahead including our Business Development Plan 2016/17.

Key Messages

21. Both Annual Reports identify that further evidence is required from Leicestershire County Council on the embedding of adults and children's safeguarding competence frameworks within the workforce.
22. The key messages from the Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report for Leicestershire County Council's Cabinet are:
- a. The Care Act has made a notable positive impact on practice and culture across most areas of adult social care including Making Safeguarding Personal;
 - b. There has been a better balance of adult safeguarding referrals between individuals in care and in the community, however further work on community awareness is required;
 - c. Demand for Mental Capacity Act (MCA) Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) assessments continued to be greater than the resources available to carry them out. The impact of investment by the local authorities in increased resource for Best Interests Assessors (BIA) to address this will be monitored.
23. The key messages from the Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report for Leicestershire County Council's Cabinet are:
- a. Early Help work in Leicestershire appears to be having a positive impact on the safety of children;
 - b. Timeliness of Children's Social Care referrals of children for Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) remains a concern. The impact of work by the Local Authority to address this will continue to be monitored;
 - c. The high proportion of repeat child protection plans in Leicestershire is a concern for the Board that is being investigated further in 2016/17.

Consultations

24. All members of the LRLSCB and LRSAB and their Executives have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Annual Reports.
25. As stated above, the Annual Reports have also been considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committees and issues raised at these meetings will be considered for inclusion in the version which will be presented to the joint meeting of the Boards on 28th October 2016.

Background Papers

Report to the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6 September 2016 - Leicestershire and Rutland /Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2015/16

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s122029/Leicestershire%20and%20Rutland%20Safeguarding%20Adult%20Board%20Annual%20Report%202015-16.pdf>

Report to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 5 September 2016 - Leicestershire and Rutland /Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2015/16

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s122004/Annual%20Report%20of%20the%20Leicestershire%20and%20Rutland%20Safeguarding%20Children%20Board%20201516%20-%20Covering%20Repor.pdf>

Report to the Cabinet on 11 September 2015 - Leicestershire and Rutland /Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/15

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/documents/s111560/9%20local%20safeguarding%20boards%20annual%20reports%202014-2015.pdf>

Appendices

Appendix 1 – LRLSCB annual report – 2015/16

Appendix 2 – LRSAB annual report – 2015/16

Appendix 3 – LRLSCB executive summary 2015/16

Appendix 4 – LRSAB executive summary 2015/16

Relevant Impact Assessments

Equality and Human Rights Implications

26. Safeguarding children, young people and adults concerns individuals who are likely to be disadvantaged in a number of ways. Information on differing needs of, and impacts on different groups of individuals with regards to safeguarding is considered as part of the process to develop the Board's Business Plan. Specific impacts on or views of different groups is also considered in the work of the LRLSCB and LRSAB Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG) in assessing performance and effectiveness with regard to safeguarding.

Crime and Disorder Implications

27. There is a close connection between the work of the LRSAB and that of community safety partnerships in Leicestershire. For example the SAB works closely with community safety partnerships to scrutinise and challenge performance in community safety issues that affect the safeguarding and well-being of individuals and groups e.g. domestic abuse and Prevent. The LSCB also supports community safety partnerships in carrying out Domestic Homicide Reviews and acting on their recommendations.
28. The LRSAB Annual Report includes analysis of performance in a range of areas relevant to the community safety agenda and the evaluation of performance will be shared with these partnership forums to ensure that both strengths and development needs are recognised and acted on.

Environmental Implications

29. The published LRSAB and LRLSCB Annual Reports will primarily be made available on-line in electronic form, rather than paper. There are no other environmental implications.

Partnership Working and associated issues

30. Safeguarding is dependent on the effective work of the partnership as set out in national regulation, Working Together 2015, published by the Department for Education and the Care Act 2014.

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