

**CABINET – 10TH MARCH 2017****LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
BOARD AND SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD BUSINESS PLANS
2017/18****REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND
RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LRLSCB) AND
SAFEGUARDING ADULT BOARD (LRSAB)****PART A****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the draft proposed Business Plan priorities for the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) and the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB) for 2017/18 for noting and comment by the Cabinet. This provides an opportunity for the Cabinet to reflect on whether matters identified are those 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.
2. Previously the draft Business Plans have been presented in full to the Cabinet and the Overview and Scrutiny Committees but the business planning process has been delayed this year in order to incorporate the outcome of the Ofsted inspections. At this time the detail of the plans is still being developed and therefore this report just incorporates the Business Plan priorities.

Recommendations

3. It is recommended that the Cabinet comments on the proposed Business Plan priorities 2017/18 for the LRLSCB and LRSAB, particularly in relation to the business of the County Council in 2017/18.

Reasons for Recommendations

4. It has been considered good practice in Leicestershire to submit both the Annual Reports and Business Plans to the Cabinet and to the Overview and Scrutiny Committees for the LRSAB as well as the LRLSCB.
5. This report enables the Cabinet to comment on the draft Business Plan Priorities and to consider whether these priorities identify matters that it wishes to address in relation to the effectiveness of safeguarding within the work of the Authority.
6. The Annual Report of the LRLSCB and LRSAB was considered by the Cabinet on 16th September 2016 and emerging priorities for the new Business Plan for 2017/18 were discussed at that meeting. The views expressed by the Cabinet at that stage

were fed into the formative process for the Plan and are reflected in the priorities included in this paper. It is important to note that Ofsted has since undertaken its inspections of both Leicestershire and Rutland services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers which included a review of the LRLSCB. Recommendations arising from these inspections have been incorporated into the Business Plans for 2017/18.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

7. The LRLSCB and LRSAB Business Plans will be the subject of wide-ranging consultation between January and March 2017 by the partner organisations that form the two Boards.
8. The LRLSCB Business Plan priorities will be considered by the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 6th March 2017 and the LRSAB Business Plan priorities will be considered by the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 7th March. Both Committees will also receive the LRLSCB/LRSAB Joint Business Plan priorities. Comments of the Committees will be reported to the Cabinet.
9. The Business Plan priorities will also be considered by the Leicestershire and Rutland Health and Wellbeing Boards. The Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board meets on 16 March 2017.
10. Any proposed additions or amendments to the draft priorities made by the Cabinet and other parties to the consultation will be reported to the Boards on 31st March 2017 when the final Plans will be submitted for approval.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

11. The LRLSCB and LRSAB are statutory bodies. Local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Boards are enabled to operate effectively. It is a requirement of Working Together 2015 (Government guidance on inter-agency working on children's safeguarding) and the Care Act 2014 to submit the Annual Reports to the Leader of the Council, and it has been deemed good practice to consult on the Business Plans since these form the core of the annual reporting process. In addition the Cabinet has always been included in this reporting.
12. The LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports for 2015/16 were reported to the Cabinet in September 2016. The proposed Business Plans for the respective Boards for 2016/17 were submitted to the Cabinet in March 2016.

Resource Implications

13. There are no resource implications arising from the recommendation in 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.
14. The total budget within which the Boards operate in 2017/18 will be £346,090. The LRLSCB has a budget of £241,692 and the LRSAB a budget of £104,478, added to

which the Boards receive £40,500 from the community safety partnerships to support the undertaking of Domestic Homicide Reviews.

15. In 2017/18 Leicestershire County Council will contribute £83,415 to the LRLSCB and £52,798 to the LRSAB and in addition hosts the Safeguarding Business Office.
16. The contribution from the County Council's Children and Family Services Department is a reduction of £40,000 compared to 2016/17. This reduction is part of the Council's Medium Term Financial Strategy savings to 2020/21. Steps have been taken to match projected spend accordingly.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

17. None.

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PART B

Background

Statutory Framework

18. The LRLSCB is a statutory body established as a result of Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 and currently operates under statutory guidance issued in Working Together 2015. Whilst there is no statutory requirement to report the annual business plan to the Cabinet it has been considered best practice in the past so to do.
19. The LRSAB became a statutory body on 1st April 2015 as result of the Care Act 2014. The Act requires that it must lead adult safeguarding arrangements across its locality and oversee and coordinate the effectiveness of the safeguarding work of its member and partner agencies. It requires the LRSAB to develop and actively promote a culture with its members, partners and the local community that recognises the values and principles contained in 'Making Safeguarding Personal'. It should also concern itself with a range of issues which can contribute to the wellbeing of its community and the prevention of abuse and neglect, such as:
 - the safety of people who use services in local health settings, including mental health
 - the safety of adults with care and support needs living in social housing
 - effective interventions with adults who self-neglect, for whatever reason
 - the quality of local care and support services
 - the effectiveness of prisons in safeguarding offenders
 - making connections between adult safeguarding and domestic abuse.

These points have been addressed in drawing up our Business Plan for 2017/18.

20. Safeguarding Adult Boards have three core duties. They must:
 1. Develop and publish a strategic plan setting out how they will meet their objectives and how their member and partner agencies will contribute.
 2. Publish an annual report detailing how effective their work has been.
 3. Commission safeguarding adults reviews (SARs) for any cases which meet the criteria for these.

It is the first of these duties to which the Business Plan relates since this Plan essentially outlines our strategy for improvement.

Formulation of the Business Plans for 2017/18

21. As in 2016/17 the LRLSCB and LRSAB have formulated individual business plans supplemented by a joint plan that addresses priorities they will share. This is intended to secure a balance between achieving a strong focus on both children's and adult safeguarding issues and recognising that some safeguarding matters require approaches that involve both children and adult services and focus on whole family issues.
22. The future improvement priorities identified in the Annual Reports for 2015/16 have been built into the Business Plans for 2017/18. In addition to issues arising from the

Annual Report the new Business Plans' priorities have been identified against a range of national and local drivers including:

- national safeguarding policy initiatives and drivers;
- recommendations from regulatory inspections across partner agencies;
- the outcomes of serious case reviews, serious incident learning processes, domestic homicide reviews and other review processes both national and local;
- evaluation of the business plans for 2015/16 including analysis of impact afforded by our quality assurance and performance management framework;
- best practice reports issued at both national and local levels;
- the views expressed by both service users and front-line staff through the Boards' engagement and participation arrangements;
- recommendations contained in the Ofsted review of the LRLSCB (published on 13th February 2017) and the recommendations in the Ofsted inspections of Leicestershire and Rutland published on the same date.

23. The new Business Plans have been informed by discussions at number of forums since the autumn of 2016, including:

- a. the annual Safeguarding Summit of chief officers from partner agencies held on 23rd November 2016
- b. meetings of the Scrutiny bodies in Leicestershire and Rutland at which both the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports 2015/16 and future priorities for action have been debated;
- c. meetings of the Leicestershire and Rutland Health and Wellbeing Boards at which both the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports 2015/16 and future priorities for action have been debated;
- d. discussions within individual partner agencies.

24. Business Plan priorities were debated at the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee and the Adults and Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee in September 2016 and the issues raised have been incorporated into the draft Business Plan priorities which will also be considered by the Committees.

25. The proposed strategic priorities were formulated through the annual Development Session of the two Safeguarding Boards held on 2 December 2016.

Business Plans 2017/18

26. We have continued our approach from 2016/17 focusing on areas that we have identified as priorities for development and improvement. Alongside these we have priorities for which we will continue to seek assurance in terms of performance. At the Development Day in December the Boards identified areas in which we had reached good levels of performance and agreed that these would not be included in the Business Plans but rather monitored through a core quality assurance and performance management framework to ensure performance remained at levels judged to be good or better. By focusing the Business Plans on areas identified for improvement we also hope better to target work on a reduced number of priorities in recognition of the need to be SMART (Specific, Measurable, Assignable, Realistic, and Time-related) at a time of increasing pressures on capacity.

27. The priorities below incorporate the specific recommendations from Ofsted report to improve LRLSCB performance:

- Evaluating the quality and effectiveness of return home interviews and risk management when children go missing;
- Strengthening the Section 11 audit process to ensure this is more probing and robust;
- Enabling children more fully to influence the LSCBs priorities and their delivery
- Improve awareness raising of private fostering across the partnership and wider community.

28. The LRLSCB will be seeking assurance and monitoring performance on the areas of improvement identified in the Ofsted Inspection Reports for the two local authorities, and would expect to do this in collaboration with the relevant scrutiny bodies in Leicestershire and Rutland.

29. The specific priorities that have arisen are as follows:

LRLSCB Development Priorities

Development Priority	Summary
1. CSE, Trafficking and Missing (Missing and online safety)	Developing assurance regarding missing children process and intervention and developing online safety responses.
2. Children with Disabilities	Assessing organisational responses and safeguarding risk understanding with regard to these children and their families.
3. Signs of Safety	Further embedding this across the partnership, particularly schools.

LRSAB Development Priorities

Development Priority	Summary
1. Prevention	Assurance regarding safeguarding elements of local prevention strategies.
2. Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP)	Continuing development of MSP across partners.
3. Thresholds	Identifying and addressing gaps re: over and under-reporting.
4. Self-Neglect	Establishing and embedding a robust process for practitioners.

LRLSCB and LRSAB Joint Development Priorities

Development Priority	Summary
1. The 'Toxic Trio'	Assessing and developing approaches to safeguarding adults and children where domestic abuse, substance misuse and mental health issues are present.
2. Participation and Engagement	Establishing visible effective participation by children and vulnerable adults at Board level.
3. Emotional Health and Wellbeing	Develop understanding of emotional health and well-being across the partnership and gain assurance regarding BCT and STP that work is addressing safeguarding issues, particularly regarding mental health.
4. Multi-Agency risk management / Supervision	Develop a multi-agency supervision approach for risk management in safeguarding adults and children.

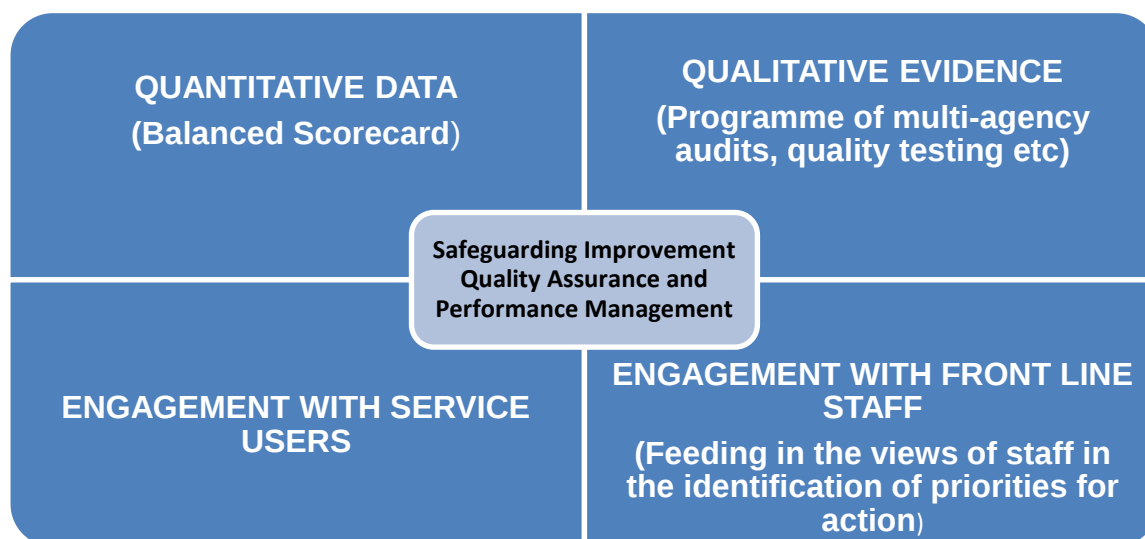
30. The following are the identified assurance priorities arising from current priorities and the considerations from the development day. Seeking assurance on these would be built into the work of the Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG) and the LRLSCB and LRSAB Multi-Agency Audit Groups as appropriate.

Assurance Priorities

LRSAB	1. Thresholds 2. Mental Capacity Act Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards 3. Harm Caused by paid staff/ professionals (watching brief)
Joint LRLSCB and LRSAB	1. Domestic Abuse 2. Information Sharing
LRLSCB	1. Early Help 2. Sports and other independent settings 3. Thresholds 4. Supervision 5. Initial health assessments 6. Young People's mental health

31. Against each of these priorities the Boards are in the process of identifying key outcomes for improvement and the actions that will need to be taken over the next year to achieve these improved outcomes.
32. The Quality Assurance and Performance Management Framework for the Boards will be revised to ensure that they reflect the new Business Plans and enable ongoing monitoring of performance of core business that is not covered in the business plan. The final framework will be signed off by the Boards at their meetings on 31st March 2017 but the Cabinet may wish to comment on specific

indicators and evidence it would wish to include. Quality Assurance and Performance Management will continue to be framed around our 'four-quadrant' model as set out below:



Consultations

33. All members of the Boards and their organisational Executive bodies have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on earlier drafts of the Business Plans and discussions have been held with service users in both local authority areas to enable them to contribute their views.

Background Papers

Report to the Cabinet on 1 March 2016 "Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plans 2016/17

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MId=4600>

Equality and Human Rights Implications

34. The LRLSCB and LRSAB seek to ensure that a fair, effective and equitable service is discharged by the partnership to safeguard vulnerable children, young people and adults. At the heart of their work is a focus on any individual or group that may be at greater risk of safeguarding vulnerability and the performance framework tests whether specific groups are at higher levels of risk. The Business Plans for 2017/18 will set out how the partnership will seek to engage with all parts of the community in the coming year.

Partnership Working and associated issues

35. 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 by the Care Act 2014.