

**CHILDREN AND FAMILIES OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:**  
**4 JUNE 2018**

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND  
RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LRLSCB)**

**LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD BUSINESS PLAN 2018/19**

**Purpose of report**

1. The purpose of this report is to present for consideration and comment the Business Plan for 2018/19 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB).
2. The Business Plan was approved by the LRLSCB at its meeting on 23 March 2018. Comments from the Scrutiny Committee will be considered for incorporation into the Plan.

**Policy Framework and Previous Decisions**

3. The LRLSCB is a statutory body established by Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 and currently operates under statutory guidance issued in Working Together 2015. There is no statutory requirement to report the annual Business Plan to Overview and Scrutiny Committees, but locally it is considered best practice to do so.
4. Under the Children and Social Work Act 2017, LSCBs are due to cease and local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements will be established. The detail of the requirements for these new arrangements will be published in Working Together 2018 guidance due in Spring 2018. Until multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are in place LSCBs will continue to function under current statutory guidance.
5. The Annual Report of the LRLSCB was considered by the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 11 September 2017 and emerging priorities for the new Business Plan for 2018/19 were discussed at that meeting. The views expressed by the Committee at that stage were fed into the formative process for the Plan and are reflected in the priorities.

**Background**

6. Unlike previous years, the LRLSCB Business Plan for 2018/19 is not supplemented by a plan incorporating shared priorities with the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB) as no areas of joint priority have been identified this year.
7. The future improvement priorities identified in the Annual Report 2016/17 have been built into the Business Plans for 2018/19. 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 2017/18 including analysis of impact afforded by the 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 13 February 2017 and the recommendations in the Ofsted inspections of Leicestershire and Rutland Councils published on the same date.

8. The new Business Plan has been informed by discussions that have taken place in several forums since the autumn of 2017. These include:

- meetings of the Scrutiny bodies in both Leicestershire and Rutland at which both the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports 2016/17 and future priorities for action have been debated;
- meetings of the Leicestershire and Rutland Health and Wellbeing Boards at which both the LRLSCB and LRSAB Annual Reports 2016/17 and future priorities for action have been debated;
- discussions within individual partner agencies.

9. The proposed strategic priorities were formulated through the annual development session of the two Safeguarding Boards held on 14 November 2017 and subsequent development and Board meetings.

### **Proposed Business Plans 2018/19**

10. The proposed LRLSCB Business Plan Priorities for 2018/19 being developed are outlined in the table below.

#### **LRLSCB Development Priorities**

<b>Development Priority</b>	<b>Summary</b>
1. Partnership Transition	Influence the development of new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.
2. Multiple Risk Factors	The impact of multiple risk factors on children is recognised, understood and responded to across agencies.
3. Safeguarding Children – Access to Services	Ensure the pathways for access to services for safeguarding children are robust and effective
4. Child Exploitation - (Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking, Missing and Gangs)	Children at risk of exploitation are effectively safeguarded.
5. Safeguarding Children with	Improve the approach to safeguarding

Disabilities	children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.
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11. The Board office has consulted with young people in Leicestershire and Rutland regarding the priorities of the Board. Young people have identified hearing and responding to the voice of young people to be considered as a priority in the Business Plan. The LRLSCB has identified that this will be incorporated across the priorities rather than included as a stand-alone priority. The LRLSCB has also instigated ongoing input from children and young people through a specific advisory group that will lead parts of Board meetings and contribute to the development of priorities and work of the LSCB.
12. Key outcomes for improvement and the actions that will need to be taken over the next year to achieve these improved outcomes are included in the Business Development Plan (attached as Appendix A to the report).
13. The Quality Assurance and Performance Management Framework for the Board will be revised to ensure that it reflects the new Business Plan and enables ongoing monitoring of performance of core business that is not covered in the Business Plan.

### **Proposals/Options**

14. The Committee is asked to consider the Business Plan and to make any comments or proposed additions or amendments. These will then be considered by the Independent Chair and lead officers for the priorities for incorporation into the plan.

### **Consultation**

15. All members of the LSCB and the Executive have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on the Business Plan. Young people have been consulted on the priorities.
16. The views of a range of forums are being sought on the Business Plans. This includes the Cabinets, Children and Adults Scrutiny Committees and the Health and Wellbeing Boards in both local authority areas

### **Resource Implications**

17. There are no resource implications arising in the report. The LRLSCB operates with a budget to which partner agencies contribute to.
18. Leicestershire County Council contributes £83,415 to the costs of the LRLSCB, 35% of the total budget of £240,263 in 2017/18, and hosts the Safeguarding Boards' Business Office.

### **Conclusions**

19. The Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee should consider and comment on the LRLSCB Business Plan for 2018/19.

**Officer to Contact**

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**Relevant Impact Assessments****Equality and Human Rights Implications**

20. The LRLSCB seeks to ensure that a fair, effective and equitable service is discharged by the partnership to safeguard vulnerable children and young people. At the heart of the Board's 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.

**Partnership Working and associated issues**

21. 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.
22. The Children and Social Work Act sets out the cessation of LSCBs and the establishment of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. Working Together 2018, expected to be published in Spring 2018, will govern the new arrangements and the transition to these arrangements. New arrangements are expected to be required by September 2019.