

**CABINET – 12TH JUNE 2018****LEICESTERSHIRE AND RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
BOARD BUSINESS PLAN 2018/19****REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND
RUTLAND LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD****PART A****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to set out the Business Plan for the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) for 2018/19 for noting and comment by the Cabinet. This provides an opportunity for the Cabinet to reflect on whether the report identifies 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.

Recommendations

2. It is recommended that the Cabinet comments on the Business Plan 2018/19 for the LRLSCB, particularly in relation to the business of the County Council in 2018/19.

Reasons for Recommendations

3. It has been considered good practice in Leicestershire to submit both the Annual Report and Business Plan for the LRLSCB to the Cabinet and to the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee.
4. This report enables the Cabinet to comment on the Business Plan priorities and to consider whether they identify matters that it wishes to address in relation to the effectiveness of safeguarding within the work of the Authority.

Timetable for Decisions (including Scrutiny)

5. The LRLSCB Business Plan has been the subject of wide-ranging consultation between November 2017 and March 2018 by the partner organisations that form the Board.
6. The LRLSCB Business Plan will be considered by the Children and Families Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 June 2018 and its comments will be reported to the Cabinet.
7. The Business Plan will also be considered by the Leicestershire and Rutland Health and Wellbeing Boards. The Leicestershire Health and Wellbeing Board met on 24 May 2018 and supported the Plan.

8. Any proposed additions or amendments to the plan made by the Cabinet and other parties to the consultation will be considered by the Independent Chair and priority leads for incorporation into the plan and reported to the LRLSCB on 10 July 2018.

Policy Framework and Previous Decisions

9. The LRLSCB is a statutory body. Local authorities have a duty to ensure that the Board is enabled to operate effectively. It is a requirement of Working Together 2015 (Government guidance on inter-agency working on children's safeguarding) 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.
10. The LRLSCB Annual Report for 2016/17 was reported to the Cabinet in September 2017. The proposed Business Plan priorities for the Board for 2017/18 were submitted to the Cabinet in March 2017.

Resource Implications

11. There are no resource implications arising from the recommendation in this report. The LRLSCB operates with a budget to which partner agencies contribute.
12. 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.

Circulation under the Local Issues Alert Procedure

13. None.

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PART B

Background

Statutory Framework

14. 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 to do so.
15. 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 is published in Working Together 2018 guidance. Until multi-agency safeguarding arrangements are in place LSCBs will continue to function under current statutory guidance.

Formulation of the Business Plans for 2018/19

16. Unlike previous years, the 2018/19 LRLSCB Business Plan 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.
17. The future improvement priorities identified in the Annual Report 2016/17 have been built into the Business Plan for 2018/19. In addition to issues arising from the Annual Report the new Business Plan's priorities have been identified against a range of national and local drivers including:
 - a. national safeguarding policy initiatives and drivers;
 - b. recommendations from regulatory inspections across partner agencies;
 - c. the outcomes of serious case reviews, serious incident learning processes, domestic homicide reviews and other review processes both national and local;
 - d. evaluation of the business plans for 2017/18 including analysis of impact afforded by the quality assurance and performance management framework;
 - e. best practice reports issued at both national and local levels;
 - f. the views expressed by both service users and front-line staff through the Board's engagement and participation arrangements;
 - g. 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.
18. The new Business Plan has been informed by discussions that have taken place in a number of forums since the autumn of 2017. These include:
 - a. 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;
 - b. 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;
 - c. discussions within individual partner agencies.

19. 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.

Business Plans 2018/19

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

LRLSCB Development Priorities

Development Priority	Summary
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 Disabilities	Improve the approach to safeguarding children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

21. The Board's 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. As a result the LRLSCB has identified that this will be incorporated across the priorities rather than as its own 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.
22. 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 appended.
23. The Quality Assurance and Performance Management Framework for the Board will be revised to ensure that it reflects the new Business Plan and enable ongoing monitoring of performance of core business that is not covered in the Business Plan.

Consultation

24. All members of the Board and its Executive have had opportunities to contribute to and comment on the Business Plan. Young people have been consulted on the priorities.

Equality and Human Rights Implications

25. The LRLSCB seeks to ensure that a fair, effective and equitable service is discharged by the partnership to safeguard 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

26. 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.

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

Background Papers

Report to the Cabinet on 10 March 2017 "Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adult Board Business Plans 2017/18

<http://politics.leics.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=135&MId=4859&Ver=4>

Appendix

Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Development Plan 2018-19

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