

Central Bedfordshire
Health and Wellbeing Board

**Contains Confidential
or Exempt Information** No

Title of Report Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board: Annual Report 'The effectiveness of partner's work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Central Bedfordshire' from 31 March 2013 to 31 March 2014

Meeting Date: 2 October 2014

Responsible Officer(s) Richard Carr, Chief Executive; Sue Harrison, Director of Children's Services.

Presented by: Alan Caton OBE. Independent Chair of Central Bedfordshire Council Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Action Required:

1. To receive Central Bedfordshire Local Safeguarding Board's Annual Report 2013-2104 as required by the Working Together 2013 statutory guidance on interagency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
2. To note and comment on the achievements and areas for development described within the Annual Report 2013 – 14.

Executive Summary

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| 1. | Working Together 2013 guidance sets areas to be covered in the Annual Report. It should provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. It should identify areas of weakness, the causes of those weaknesses and the action being taken to address them as well as other proposals for action. The report should include lessons from reviews undertaken within the reporting period. |
| 2. | It should also list the contributions made to the LSCB by partner agencies and details of what the LSCB has spent, including on Child Death Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and other specific expenditure such as learning events or training. The Annual Report should be published on the local LSCBs website and is drawn to the attention of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner, the local authority Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council. This report is submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board for information. |

Background	
3.	Working Together 2013 states that the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area (this is a statutory requirement under section 14A of the Children Act 2004). The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing board.
4.	The Annual Report should provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. It should identify areas of weakness, the causes of those weaknesses and the action being taken to address them as well as other proposals for action. The report should include lessons from reviews undertaken within the reporting period.
5.	The report should also list the contributions made to the LSCB by partner agencies and details of what the LSCB has spent, including on Child Death Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and other specific expenditure such as learning events or training. All LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide LSCBs with reliable resources (including finance) that enable the LSCB to be strong and effective. Members should share the financial responsibility for the LSCB in such a way that a disproportionate burden does not fall on a small number of partner agencies.
6.	<p>This report therefore provides Health and Wellbeing Board Members with a view of the LSCBs achievements and challenges during 2013-2014. This report shows how LSCB partners have worked together and individually to keep children safe, deliver our agreed Board priorities and meet our statutory objectives to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and • ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.
7.	The foreword from the Independent Chair provides a summary of the key achievements and challenges.

Detailed Recommendation	
8.	For Board Members to note receipt of the LSCB's Annual Report 2013-2104 as required by the Working Together 2013 statutory guidance on interagency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
9.	For Board Members to note and comment on the achievements and areas for development described within the LSCB Annual Report 2013 – 14.

Issues		
Strategy Implications		
10.	<p>Health and Wellbeing Board Members may wish to consider the key challenges faced by the Board during the year, in particular the performance issues relating to domestic abuse and the impact that this is likely to have on the following Health and Wellbeing priorities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving the health of looked after children • Safeguarding and quality of care • Improving mental health for children and their parents • Improving mental health and wellbeing of adults. 	
Governance & Delivery		
11.	The governance of this report sits with the Central Bedfordshire Safeguarding Children Board.	
Management Responsibility		
12.	The annual report is the responsibility of the Independent Chair. At the time of the production of the annual report 2013-2014 the Independent Chair was Phil Picton. However, the Independent Chair is now Alan Caton OBE.	
Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED)		
13.	The PSED requires public bodies to consider all individuals when carrying out their day to day work – in shaping policy, in delivering services and in relation to their own employees. It requires public bodies to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation, advance equality of opportunity, and foster good relations between in respect of nine protected characteristics; age disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.	
	Are there any risks issues relating Public Sector Equality Duty	Yes/No
	No	<i>Please describe in risk analysis</i>

Risk Analysis

Briefly analyse the major risks associated with the proposal and explain how these risks will be managed. This information may be presented in the following table.

Identified Risk	Likelihood	Impact	Actions to Manage Risk
This is not a proposal so there are no risks that are attached to this report. The LSCB has a risk log to manage risks relating to its key priorities.			

Source Documents	Location (including url where possible)
LSCB Business Unit.	Watling House, Dunstable Will be published online at http://www.centralbedfordshirelscb.org/lscb-website/home-page

Presented by
 Alan Caton OBE. LSCB Independent Chair.