

REPORT FOR DECISION

Agenda Item	
--------------------	--

DECISION OF:	Health & Wellbeing Board
DATE:	9 th June 2014
SUBJECT:	Protocol between Bury Safeguarding Children Board and the Health and Wellbeing Board
REPORT FROM:	Donna Green & Julie Gallagher
CONTACT OFFICER:	Donna Green BSCB Board Manager
TYPE OF DECISION:	For Decision by the Committee
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/STATUS:	This paper is within the public domain
SUMMARY:	
OPTIONS & RECOMMENDED OPTION	That the Health and Wellbeing Board: Endorses the protocol
IMPLICATIONS:	
Corporate Aims/Policy Framework:	Do the proposals accord with the Policy Framework?
Statement by the S151 Officer: Financial Implications and Risk Considerations:	Executive Director of Resources to advise regarding risk management
Statement by Executive Director of Resources:	
Equality/Diversity implications:	
Considered by Monitoring Officer:	Yes JH Appropriate governance arrangements are required to ensure any statutory responsibilities are complied with.

Wards Affected:	All
Scrutiny Interest:	

TRACKING/PROCESS

DIRECTOR:

Chief Executive/ Strategic Leadership Team	Executive Member/Chair	Ward Members	Partners
Scrutiny Committee	Committee	Council	

1.0 Purpose of the Report

The protocol aims to ensure that governance arrangements enable the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Bury Safeguarding Children Board to assess whether they are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities to help (including early help), protect and care for children and young people.

2.0 Background

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 (chapter 3) provides the statutory framework for the governance arrangements between the LSCB and other partnership boards.

LSCB Chair, accountability and resourcing

'In order to provide effective scrutiny, the LSCB should be independent. It should not be subordinate to, nor subsumed within, other local structures.

Every LSCB should have an independent chair who can hold all agencies to account.

It is the responsibility of the Chief Executive (Head of Paid Service) to appoint or remove the LSCB chair with the agreement of a panel including LSCB partners and lay members. The Chief Executive, drawing on other LSCB partners and, where appropriate, the Lead Member will hold the Chair to account for the effective working of the LSCB.

The LSCB Chair should work closely with all LSCB partners and particularly with the Director of Children's Services. The Director of Children's Services has the responsibility within the local authority, under section 18 of the Children Act 2004, for improving outcomes for children, local authority children's social care functions and local cooperation arrangements for children's services.

The Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. 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.

The 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 (see chapters 4 and 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'.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2013)

The LSCB is likely to be judged good if:

'The governance arrangements enable LSCB partners (including the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Children's Trust) to assess whether they are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities to help (including early help), protect and care for children and young people. The LSCB effectively priorities according to local issues and demands and there is evidence of clear improvement priorities identified that are incorporated into a delivery plan to improve outcomes'.

Ofsted (2013)

3.0 Issues

At present there is no agreed protocol between the BSCB and the Bury HWB that clarifies how the two partnership boards will work together. This protocol aims to address this by setting out expectations of the relationship and working arrangements. It covers the respective roles and functions, arrangements for challenge, oversight, scrutiny and performance management.

4.0 Conclusion

It is recommended that the HWB endorses the protocol.

List of Background Papers:-



HWB.doc

Contact Details:-

Donna Green
BSCB Board Manager
18/20 St Mary's Place

Bury
BL90DZ
0161 253 7329