

# Health and Wellbeing Report (For information)

**MEETING:** Health and Wellbeing Board

**DATE:** 18.09.14

**SUBJECT:** BSCB Annual Report (2013-2014)

**REPORT FROM:** Bury Safeguarding Children Board

**CONTACT OFFICER:** Donna Green, BSCB Board Manager

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## 1.0 Purpose of the Report

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 requires that the LSCB Chair 'should publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area...'

*'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'.*

## 2.0 Issues

Areas for the HWB to note:

The BSCB has played an important role in 2013/14 in the development of specialist services to address child sexual exploitation. A bid by members of the BSCB to secure funding from the Local Authority was successful and a local multi-agency specialist team has been established through participation in the Greater Manchester 'Project Phoenix' Team. The team is now fully operational with a Greater Manchester wide publicity campaign and launch planned for

18<sup>th</sup> September 2014. A request for Public Health funding for a specialist sexual health worker is still being considered (page 25).

Recommendation 7 of the Health Working Group Report on Child Sexual Exploitation states:

'to support appropriate local prioritisation, commissioning and local 'health scrutiny', health and wellbeing boards (HWBs) should ensure that the local joint strategic needs assessment (JSNA) and the joint health and wellbeing strategy (JHWS), reflect the impact of different forms of violence and abuse including child sexual exploitation; the JSNA being informed by evidence from a range of local sources including the local safeguarding children board and the community safety partnership'.

Appendix 4 of the annual report contains a report on activity of the SEAM (Sexual Exploitation & Missing) operational group.

The BSCB Business Plan 2014/14 identifies children who are emotionally vulnerable as a vulnerable groups warranting higher priority for scrutiny. Data supplied by the local CAMHs Team for inclusion in the BSCB annual report (page 48) notes a 55% increase in referrals in 2013/14 in respect of children presenting with self harming behaviours. The largest increase in referrals has come from schools.

This increase has coincided with capacity issues being identified in the school nursing service. School nurses provide a valuable service to those vulnerable children who may not meet the eligibility criteria to receive a service from other services such as CAMHS or Children's Social Care. They also play a key role in effective Common Assessment Framework processes often fulfilling the role of designated lead professional.

This year the BSCB has raised challenges with school nurse providers (Pennine Care NHS Foundation Trust) and commissioners within Public Health. School nurse capacity remains a standing item on the BSCB agenda.

The BSCB Business Plan 2014/14 also includes targeted work to support school staff who are working with young people who self-harm. This action will be led by the BSCB Safeguarding Schools and Colleges sub group.

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## List of Background Papers:-

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### CONTACT DETAILS:

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**Date:** 11 September 2014