

CABINET

7th April 2015

Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013/14

Report of the Independent Chair of the LRLSCB and LRSAB

STRATEGIC AIM:	This contributes to the corporate objective of 'Creating a brighter future for all'.		
KEY DECISION	NO	DATE ITEM FIRST APPEARED ON FORWARD PLAN	21 November 2014

1. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 1.1 To present to the Cabinet the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB and SAB annual report 2013/14

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That Cabinet note the Annual Report of the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) and the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB) and comment on issues arising from the Report that they wish the Board to consider, or to feed into their own future planning.**

3. REASONS FOR THE RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is a requirement of Working Together 2013 that the Annual Report of the LSCB is presented to the Leader of the Council. It has been our practice in Rutland to secure this through presentation to the full Cabinet. It was similarly agreed that the practice of presenting the LSCB annual report should be matched for the Safeguarding Adult Board.
- 3.2 The key purpose in presenting these reports is to ensure that the Cabinet is informed about the performance of the Boards, can hold the Boards to account for their performance and identify any issues specifically relating to the County Council that they determine require action by the executive.

4. BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

- 4.1 The LSCB annual report is a statutory requirement as set out in Working Together 2013. It has been agreed practice for some time in Leicestershire and Rutland also to produce an annual report for the Safeguarding Adults Board. For the first time the two annual reports have been combined into one document to reflect the alignment of the two Boards under one Independent Chair.

4.2 The key purpose of the Annual Report is to assess the impact of the work we have undertaken in 2013/14 on service quality and on safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and adults in Leicestershire and Rutland. Specifically it evaluates our performance against the priorities that we set in our Business Plan 2013/14 and against other statutory functions that the LSCB in particular must undertake.

4.3 In addition to the Business Plan priorities the LRLSCB witnessed some significant changes in the national frameworks governing its operation. First, the Department for Education issued a revised version of Working Together 2013 in March 2013 that has required the Board to review its governance arrangements and to formulate a number of new safeguarding arrangements including a new Threshold Protocol and a Learning and Improvement Framework. Second, a new Ofsted inspection framework was introduced in November 2013 that incorporate a specific review of the LSCBs. Neither Rutland nor Leicestershire have yet experienced this new inspection (although Leicester City now have) The LSCB has carried out a self-assessment of its performance against the new framework which has been kept regularly updated in readiness for inspection.

4.4 The Annual Report 2013/14 includes:

- a) A brief overview of the local area safeguarding context with some key context data;
- b) An overview of the Boards' governance and accountability arrangements;
- c) Analysis of performance against the three key priorities in the 2013/14 Business Plan which were to:
 - i. Improve the effectiveness and impact of the Boards;
 - ii. Secure confidence in the operational effectiveness of partner agencies safeguarding services, both individually and collectively, supported by a more robust quality assurance and performance management framework;
 - iii. Improve the effectiveness of communication and engagement.
- d) An overview of performance in key statutory functions notably the Serious Case Review Sub-Group and Child Death Overview Panel – both of which are statutorily required in the children's safeguarding arena.
- e) The Executive Summary produced to accompany the Annual Report draws out the headlines in terms of performance. The full report and The Executive Summary are attached for your information. Both documents are also available at www.LRSB.org.uk.

5. SPECIFIC ISSUES

5.1 The LRLSCB is a statutory body required by Working Together 2013 and the Children Act 2004. The County Council has a duty to ensure the effective delivery of an LSCB. The County Council has an agreement with Leicestershire County Council to collaborate in the delivery of both the LRLSCB and LRSAB.

- 5.2 The safeguarding boards have a budget built through the contributions of partner agencies. The total budget for the LRLSCB is £329,370. The total budget for the LRSAB is £102,610. The Rutland County Council contributions to the Boards totals £52,250 (LRLSCB) and £8,240 (LRSAB).

6. RISK MANAGEMENT

RISK	IMPACT	COMMENTS
Time	M	Progress on all elements of Board Business Plans reported in the Annual Report is carefully monitored by relevant sub-groups, the LSCB/SAB Executive and by the Boards themselves on a quarterly basis as set out in the Plan. This includes not only checking that actions are completed to timescale but also that impact is secured through the quality assurance and performance management framework operated by the Boards.
Viability	L	The actions required in the Business Plan 2013/14 were tested against the resources available to ensure that the Plan could be delivered from within the LSCB and SAB budgets.
Finance	L	The LSCB and SAB have budgets to which statutory partner agencies contribute. The resources for 2013/14 are agreed and secure.
Profile	M	The Business Plan includes actions to raise the profile of the two Boards. Clearly their profile is often raised following the publication of serious case reviews and other reviews following child deaths or serious injuries. There is a well developed communications strategy to respond to these incidents but such incidents can lead to negative press and media coverage and can impact on organisational reputation.
Equality and Diversity	M	The focus of the work of both Boards includes Revised Template 2011-12-13 those groups that are deemed most vulnerable from a safeguarding perspective. All safeguarding performance data is collected in such a way as to identify gender, ethnicity and disability so that impact on specific groups can be monitored.

7. CONCLUSIONS

- 7.1 The Annual Report illustrates a range of improvements that have been secured in the delivery of safeguarding across Rutland and Leicestershire. It also identifies a range of improvements that are required in the future and these were reflected in the Business Plan for 2014/15 and have similarly featured in the formulation of the new Business Plans 2015/16 that are the subject of a separate report to Cabinet.
- 7.2 Cabinet is requested to note the Annual Report and to comment on any issues that the Boards need to address in the future, particularly in the context of the new Business Plans. In addition the Cabinet will wish to

consider whether any of the finding in the annual report should be reflected in their own strategic planning for the County Council.

8. APPENDICES

- 8.1** Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013/14 – Appendix 1.
- 8.2** Local Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013/14 Executive Summary – Appendix 2.

Background Papers

None

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A Large Print or Braille Version of this Report is available upon request – Contact 01572 722577.