

Report to Rutland Health and Wellbeing Board

Subject:	Annual Report of the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) and Safeguarding Adult Board (LRSAB)
Meeting Date:	30th September 2014
Report Author:	Paul Burnett, Independent Chair
Presented by:	Paul Burnett, Independent Chair
Paper for:	Comment

Context, including links to strategic objectives and/or strategic plans:

The LRLSCB is a partnership that is required by regulation. The main purpose of the LSCB is to ensure, effective, co-ordinated multi-agency arrangements for the safeguarding of children and young people.

The LRSAB is not at present a partnership required by regulation; however it will become a partnership required by regulation from March 2015 as a result of the Care Act 2014. For some years now we have produced, by choice, an Annual Report for the LRSAB. This is the second combined Annual Report covering both the adult and children's safeguarding boards.

The purpose of this report is to bring to the attention of the Rutland Health and Well-Being Board the draft Annual Report 2013/14 for the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) and Safeguarding Adults Board (LRSAB) for consultation and comment.

The report will be presented for final approval to a joint meeting of the Boards at their meeting on 31st October 2014. Any comments or proposed additions and amendments made by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee will be considered before the final report is presented to the LRLSCB and LRSAB.

Background

Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB/SAB became a conjoined board two years ago with the intention of ensuring that there are effective and efficient safeguarding services in an integrated manner. This has supported a focus on vulnerable children, adults and families.

The Independent Chair of the LRLSCB is required to complete an annual report and submit this to the Chief Executive, the Leader of the County Council and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board. It is considered good practice also to present the Annual Report to the local authority's scrutiny committees primarily for them to consider whether the local authority is effectively carrying out its functions in relation to safeguarding which include ensuring that the Boards themselves are effective bodies. Whilst these statutory requirements do not apply to the LRSAB we have opted to adopt the same arrangements in reporting from this Board.

The LRLSCB/LRSAB Business Plan for 2014/15 to the Health and Well-Being Board

earlier this year. The Board will, therefore, be aware of some of the strengths and areas for development that arose from the assessment of performance in 2013/14 since this informed the framing of that Business Plan. However, the Annual Report provides a full assessment of performance. It is, necessarily, a detailed report given that it covers two safeguarding boards and performance in two local authority areas. In addition there is some information that must be included in the LRLSCB report as required by Working Together 2013. We have included an Executive Summary to assist readers in gauging the key achievements and development needs arising from the assessment of the Boards' performance across 2013/14.

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.

In addition to the Business Plan priorities the LRLSCB and LRSAB witnessed some significant influences on its work during 2013/14. For the LRLSCB 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. In addition Ofsted introduced a new inspection framework that includes a formal review of the performance of the LSCB. For the LRSAB there has been the passage of the Care Act 2014 which includes a requirement that Safeguarding Adults Boards become statutory entities from March 2015. Throughout the year the LRSAB has kept under close scrutiny the proposed intentions of the new legislation and its impact on the Board's governance and accountability arrangements. In addition, there has been a number of key national reports such as those relating to Winterbourne View and Mid-Staffordshire NHS Hospital Trust that have required the partnership to reflect on local practice and performance to secure assurance that learning and related action arising from these reviews has been understood and implemented. All these issues will continue to be a focus in the coming year.

The Annual Report 2013/14 includes:

- A brief overview of the local area safeguarding context with some key context data;
- An overview of the Boards' governance and accountability arrangements;
- Analysis of performance against the three key priorities in the 2013/14 Business Plan which were to:
 - Improve the effectiveness and impact of the Boards;
 - 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;
 - Improve the effectiveness of communication and engagement
- 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.

A copy of the report is attached is available by clicking on the following link
http://www.rutland.gov.uk/council_meetings/health_and_wellbeing_board/30_september_2014_hwb.aspx

The Executive Summary to the report highlights key achievements and areas for development that have been drawn into the Business Plan for 2014/15. This is attached as appendix 1 to this report.

Financial implications:

Rutland County Council contributes £52, 250 to the costs of the LRLSCB (of a total budget of £335,525) and £8,240 to the costs of the LRSAB (of a total budget of £102,610).

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Health and Wellbeing Board:

consider the Annual Report and make any comments or proposed additions or amendments to the report that will be considered prior to the final version of the Annual Report being presented to a joint meeting of the Boards in October 2014.

Strategic Lead:

Paul Burnett, Independent Chair

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. Resources for 2014-16 will be the subject of discussion during budget planning processes preceding those financial years.
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 & Diversity	M	The focus of the work of both Boards includes 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.