



PROTOCOL TO SET OUT JOINT ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD (HWBB) AND THE LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB).

Purpose of the protocol

1. The purpose of this protocol is to set out the governance arrangements which will enable the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to assess whether they are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities to help (including early help), protect and care for children and young people. The aim is to identify jointly clear improvement priorities which will be incorporated into both boards delivery plans in order to improve outcomes for the most vulnerable children in Harrow.

Statutory framework

2. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 does not outline in detail how the relationship between LSCBs, Health and WellBeing Boards and other key partnership bodies should be secured. This is for local determination. However given LSCBs scrutiny and challenge roles and the fact that they themselves are not commissioning or direct delivery bodies there is a strong case for ensuring that the relationship between the LSCB and other key partnerships at local level is clearly articulated.
3. It is anticipated that, as the Local Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB) also gains a statutory footing during 2014/15, this protocol will be amended to include a “Think Family”ⁱⁱ approach for every item presented to the HWBB and the implications for the LSAB, LSCB and HWBB. However, in principle, there is an agreement already, that any item presented will be considered against implications for children and adults. This principle should extend to consideration of commissioning and reorganization plans, scrutiny of local and national inspections and audits, planned sector changes, and any other pertinent matters.

Roles and responsibilities

4. In Harrow the purpose of the Health and Wellbeing Board is to provide leadership and direction across agencies that deliver services to improve the health and wellbeing of the residents in Harrow.

5. The Health and Wellbeing Board is the executive body responsible for agreeing what the needs of the local population are, promoting integration, and supporting alignment and joint commissioning. The purpose of the Board is to improve health and wellbeing for the residents of Harrow and reduce inequalities in outcomes. The Board will hold partner agencies to account for delivering improvements to the provision of health, adult and children's services social care and housing services.
6. The LSCB is required to (a) 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 (b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Working together

7. The HWBB and the LSCB agree that strategic planning across partnerships will be coordinated to secure coherent delivery of business, to avoid duplication and gaps.
8. Working Together 2013 requires the LSCB Chair to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Harrow to be submitted to the Chair of the Health and WellBeing Board and to the local Police and Crime Commissioner. The report will give an assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. This assessment will be clearly reflected in and will form part of the strategic plan produced by the Health and Wellbeing Board in respect of services for children and their parents and carers.
9. Through this process the Health and Wellbeing Board and the LSCB will jointly identify areas for improvement in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and children and together will hold key partner agencies to account for the delivery of these improvements. This can take place in a number of ways:
 - The LSCB Executive Board and the LSCB have members in common who can feed in both directions, trends, concerns and action plans;
 - The LSCB Chair can at any time bring to HWBB or HWBB Members any matters which require attention, outside of LSCB opportunities to scrutinize the HWBB Strategy and JSNA;
10. The Health and Wellbeing Board will formally share with the LSCB the JSNA and the strategic HWBB plan, the commissioning intentions and progress against these. The LSCB will use the learning and improvement framework to provide relevant feedback on any key aspect of the HWBB plans as set out above, in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
11. The Independent Chair of the LSCB will attend the HWBB on an as and when basis but at least twice a year. This will be to consider HWBB plans, priorities and commissioning against the background of LSCB intelligence and its safeguarding assessment for Harrow. The lead member for health will be a member of the LSCB; if

this role were to be changed, this link between the HWBB and LSCB will be reviewed.

ⁱ “Think Family”. In November 2009 DCSF and its partners across Government published the first two sets of ‘Think Family’ guidance – for joint working between children’s and family services and, respectively, drug and alcohol treatment services and offender management services.