

REPORT FOR: HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

Date of Meeting: 11 September 2014

Subject: **INFORMATION REPORT – Harrow LSCB Annual Report 2013-14.**

Responsible Officer: Deborah Lightfoot, Independent Chair, Harrow LSCB

Exempt: No

Wards affected: All Wards.

Enclosures: Harrow LSCB Annual Report

Section 1 – Summary

This report accompanies Harrow LSCB's (Local Safeguarding Children Board) public statutory Annual Report for the financial year 2013-14.

The LSCB Annual Report sets out the safeguarding children assessment for Harrow by the Independent Chair, Deborah Lightfoot. There is a statutory requirement for this report to be submitted to the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

FOR INFORMATION

Section 2 – Report

The report sets out the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Harrow. It summarises the LSCB work in 2013/14 and based upon this, sets out a safeguarding assessment of children in Harrow to prioritise our work for the forthcoming year.

Despite it being a challenging year for all agencies, the LSCB can demonstrate that it has been proactive in driving forward improvements to the safeguarding of children in Harrow.

The LSCB can evidence the following key achievements:

Keeping focussed on our priorities which are rooted in our local issues;
Strengthening of strategic independence and influence;
Setting standards in safeguarding for the partnership; and developing protocols, policies and procedures; raising the LSCB profile with partner agencies and the local community; development of professional networks and improvements in communication; increased attendance at our provision of high quality training, and beginning to evaluate its impact; improved engagement of our local community and effectiveness of our Lay Members; effective learning and improvement case reviews; and the use of case file audits to improve practice.

Areas for improvement are:

Encouraging consistent multi agency good practice; strengthening the multi agency dataset; helping local professionals understand diversity implications for children and their families; refining the quality assurance framework; building on our safeguarding links with the voluntary, community and faith groups in Harrow; and developing systematic participation of children and young people in all we do.

Section 3 – Further Information

Further information will be found within the Annual Report.

Section 4 – Financial Implications

There are no financial implications.

Section 5 - Equalities implications

Was an Equality Impact Assessment carried out? No

If yes, summarise findings, any adverse impact and proposed actions to mitigate / remove these below:

If no, state why an EqlA was not carried out below:

This was the LSCB Annual Report.

Section 6 – Council Priorities

The Council's vision:

Working Together to Make a Difference for Harrow

Please identify how the report incorporates the administration's priorities. The report relates to:

- Making a difference for the vulnerable
- Making a difference for communities
- Making a difference for families

STATUTORY OFFICER CLEARANCE (Council and Joint Reports)

Name: Simon George

Chief Financial Officer

Date: 19 August 2014.

Ward Councillors notified:

NO

Section 7 - Contact Details and Background Papers

Contact: Deborah Lightfoot Harrow LSCB Independent Chair

Elisabeth Major Harrow LSCB Senior Professional 0208 420 9225

Background Papers: None