

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD – 25th November 2015

Title of paper:	NCSCB and NCASPB Annual Reports 2014/15	
Director(s)/ Corporate Director(s):	Alison Michalska (Corporate Director, Children and Adults)	Wards affected: All
Report author(s) and contact details:	Paul Burnett (Independent Chair – Nottingham City Safeguarding Board and Adult Safeguarding Partnership Board)	
Other colleagues who have provided input:	Safeguarding Boards Business Office	
Date of consultation with Portfolio Holder(s) (if relevant)		
Relevant Council Plan Strategic Priority:		
Cutting unemployment by a quarter		<input type="checkbox"/>
Cut crime and anti-social behaviour		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ensure more school leavers get a job, training or further education than any other City		<input type="checkbox"/>
Your neighbourhood as clean as the City Centre		<input type="checkbox"/>
Help keep your energy bills down		<input type="checkbox"/>
Good access to public transport		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham has a good mix of housing		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham is a good place to do business, invest and create jobs		<input type="checkbox"/>
Nottingham offers a wide range of leisure activities, parks and sporting events		<input type="checkbox"/>
Support early intervention activities		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Deliver effective, value for money services to our citizens		<input type="checkbox"/>
Relevant Health and Wellbeing Strategy Priority:		
Healthy Nottingham: Preventing alcohol misuse		<input type="checkbox"/>
Integrated care: Supporting older people		<input type="checkbox"/>
Early Intervention: Improving Mental Health		<input type="checkbox"/>
Changing culture and systems: Priority Families		<input type="checkbox"/>
Summary of issues (including benefits to citizens/service users and contribution to improving health & wellbeing and reducing inequalities):		
<p>The Safeguarding Boards key purposes are to secure effective safeguarding arrangements for the citizens of Nottingham and to secure effective co-ordination between all agencies responsible for safeguarding.</p>		
Recommendation(s):		
1	To consider the annual report and identify any comments, proposed additions or amendments that the Board would wish to identify.	
2	Subject to any comments, proposed additions or amendments to agree the Annual Report	
3	To identify any issues arising from the Annual Report that will be built into the Strategic Commissioning Plan formulated by the Health and Well-Being Board.	

How will these recommendations champion mental health and wellbeing in line with the Health and Wellbeing Board aspiration to give equal value to mental health and physical health ('parity of esteem'):

Both safeguarding boards have included mental health and well-being as key priorities in their Business Plans since mental health can be a critical risk factor in safeguarding not just for individual children or adults but in the wider family and community context. The Boards are driving to secure stronger safeguarding practice in relation to mental health to reduce risk and to improve safeguarding outcomes.

1. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 1.1 It has been agreed that the Health and Well-Being Board will be a partnership board that receives the Safeguarding Boards' Annual Report as part of the annual consultative process. In addition, it has been agreed that the Health and Well-Being Board will consider how the key objectives in the Safeguarding Boards' Annual Business Plans will be built into their own Strategic Commissioning Plans.

2. BACKGROUND (INCLUDING OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION)

- 2.1 It is a statutory requirement that the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Board produce an Annual Report setting out its performance against key objectives and priorities for action in the Board Business Plan. On 1st April 2015, as a result of the Care Act 2014, it became a statutory responsibility to produce an Annual Report for the Safeguarding Adult Board though this requirement would apply to the year 2015/16. It has always been our practice in Nottingham City to produce an annual report for the Adult Safeguarding Board even though this has not been a statutory requirement.
- 2.2 The main purpose of the annual reports is to assess the impact of the work we have undertaken in 2014/15 on service quality and effectiveness and on outcomes for children, young people and adults in Nottingham City. Specifically the annual reports evaluate our performance against the priorities that we set in our Business Plans 2014/15 and other statutory functions that the LSCB must undertake.
- 2.3 Last year we combined the annual reports of the safeguarding boards into one report. This year we have reverted to presenting separate annual reports for the NCSCB and the NCASPB. The reasons are twofold. First there have been changes to the statutory frameworks within which both Boards work that underline the need for bespoke annual reports. Second, feedback from readers of last years' annual report suggested that the combined report was too complex and lengthy and risked diverting attention from key issues in the children and adult safeguarding arenas. For this reason two separate annual reports are being produced for presentation to the Health and Well-Being Board, the Scrutiny Committee, and the Children's Partnership Board. In addition there is an expectation that the Annual Reports will be presented to key strategic forums within those organisations that are members of the safeguarding boards.

2.4 The Annual Report covers a range of issues including:

- An outline of the local area safeguarding context setting out some core statistical and socio-economic profile information;
- The governance and accountability frameworks within which the Boards operate including the relationship between the two safeguarding boards and the Health and Well-Being Board and steps that have been taken to clarify inter-relationships between the safeguarding boards and the wider partnership geography in the city, such as the Children's Partnership Board and the Community Safety Partnership; this part of the annual report also sets out attendance at the board, an account of our annual expenditure and an analysis of the effectiveness of the Boards;
- Performance against the Business Plans for 2014/15 that analyses what we did and its impact on outcomes in relation to service effectiveness and outcomes for service users; this includes outlines of key work undertaken in safeguarding priority areas such as: sexual abuse; domestic violence (including the launch of DART); Missing Children; Child Sexual Exploitation Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, Allegations Management; safeguarding policies and procedures; safeguarding training and development activity; safeguarding in childcare and early years settings; safeguarding in schools and education settings;
- Specific reports from the Serious Case Review and Child Death Overview sub-groups of the Children's Safeguarding Board;
- An outline of individual partner agency safeguarding performance during 2014/15;
- A digest of the future challenges facing the Boards including our Business Plan for 2015/16.
- Analysis of the Board's quality assurance and performance management work in 2014/15 is set out in relevant sections of the report

2.5 Each report recognises much positive progress in relation to priorities set in the Business Plans 2014/15. In addition the reports identify areas for development and improvement. Headlines include:

In relation to children and young people:

Strengths

- Continued commitment and engagement from the majority of partners on the Board and its constituent committees – including sharing of the chairing of sub-groups across agencies;
- Effective interfaces between NCSCB and the Children's Partnership Board and with the wider partnership geography through the Safeguarding Assurance Forum;
- Formulation and revision of practice guidance to ensure effective safeguarding and reflect national and local learning from reviews including serious case reviews;
- Significant focus on areas of improvement identified in the Ofsted inspection 2014 with some measure of success in many areas:
 - Further embedding of 'Signs of Safety'
 - Remodelled structures and organisational arrangements including review 'Front Door' arrangements and co-location of early help, targeted support/youth

offending service and children's social care in one Directorate better to promote co-ordination of delivery and processes;

- CSE strategy and action plans have been health checked against the learning from national reviews in Rotherham, Oxfordshire and through Ofsted and action taken to address any areas of improvement that need to be applied in Nottingham City;
- A range of CSE training and awareness including the Pint Sized Theatre production LUVU2 in schools;
- The Concerns Network has supported the development of cross-agency co-ordination and collaboration in relation to CSE;
- Work with schools in relation to domestic violence including the Great programmes and the implementation of the early alert system;
- Work of the Domestic Abuse Response Team which received positive evaluation from Ofsted;
- Major review and revision of cross-authority multi-agency safeguarding procedures to ensure that they are Working Together 2013/2015 with positive reviews of impact from subsequent audit processes;
- Creation of a Communication and Engagement Sub-Group, launch of new NCSCB bulletin and identification of engagement initiatives across the partnership that can provide the basis for wider engagement of children and young people;
- Extensive programme of training and development from which 'end of course' evaluation evidence high levels of satisfaction;
- Publication of two serious case reviews and the implementation of recommendations for these and four learning reviews – the impact of which will be tested through the Quality Assurance Framework in 2015/16;
- Effective CDOP arrangements that have led to improvements in services and impact on 'avoidable' deaths.

Key areas for development and improvement

- Improved attendance and engagement from NHS England and from schools
- Recruitment of new lay members
- Consistency of attendance at subgroups most importantly the Quality Assurance Subgroup which has failed to secure quoracy on a number of occasions during 2014/15;
- Secure full compliance with the new budget contribution formula which requires either a reduction in overall budget or an increase in the level of contribution from the City Council;
- Further test the impact and effectiveness of the assessment framework, threshold protocol (Family Support Pathway) and Learning and Improvement Framework that was introduced post-Working Together 2013;
- Improved engagement of partners in the provision of quality assurance and performance management information for the Board to ensure that it is effectively able to test its impact;

- Extension of the Board's engagement with children and young people to ensure that their views and opinions shape the work of the NCSCB;
- Improvements in the provision of data for CSE and a greater emphasis on prosecutions of CSE perpetrators
- The appointment of a CSE Co-ordinator
- Greater interaction between the NCSCB and the Priority Families Programme;
- Finalise the safeguarding competency framework against which the longer term impact of training and development activities are evaluated;
- Act on the areas of improvement identified in SCRs and other learning reviews including: the impact of emotional health and well-being/emotional abuse on safeguarding risk; escalation; children places on special guardianship orders; quality of assessments; responses to families out of hours. Further factors are also touched on in the main report;

These and other priorities for action are set out in the Business Plan 2015/16 which features as an appendix to the Annual Report

In relation to adults:

Strengths

- Continued commitment and engagement from the majority of partners on the Board and its constituent committees including those that now have a statutory duty to attend safeguarding adult boards – the City Council, Nottinghamshire Police and the CCG;
- Sharing of subgroup chairing responsibilities across the adult safeguarding partnership
- Effective interfaces between the NCASPB and other strategic partnership forums driven through the Safeguarding Assurance Forum and through regular reporting between NCASPB and the Health and Well-Being Board;
- Planned for and secured compliance with the new statutory requirements for Safeguarding Adults Boards created through the Care Act 2014 supported by the Care Act Task and Finish Group;
- In support of the expectations of the Care Act the NCASPB has supported: revision of cross-authority multi-agency procedures; development of Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) procedures; formulated a training strategy; identified Designated Adult Safeguarding Managements in relevant partner agencies; secured assurance that contracts with providers have robust safeguarding clauses including the duty to share information; partners have secured Care Act compliance;
- Updated the Safeguarding Audit Framework to reflect Care Act expectations – next SAF will be completed during 2015/16;
- The Domestic Abuse Stalking Harassment and Honour Based Violence(DASH) and Risk Identification Checklist (RIC) has been revised;
- Learning from national Safeguarding Adult Reviews was used to support improvement in Nottingham City included learning from the SAR on Orchid View in East Sussex

- A communication and engagement subgroup has begun to support the NCASPB objective of hearing the voice of the service user in both planning, delivering and evaluating safeguarding arrangements. This included the formulation of a new communication and engagement strategy;
- An adult safeguarding Learning and Improvement framework was developed and agreed;
- All Board training materials and quality assurance arrangements were updated including revisions to secure compliance with Care Act expectations;
- The SAF evidenced that all agencies have safe recruitment processes in place
- Evaluations of training provision were positive

Key areas for development and improvement

- Continued implementation of the expectations of the Care Act in respect of the Safeguarding Adults Board;
- Effective scrutiny, challenge, quality assurance and performance management of the safeguarding implications of the Care Act on constituent organisations both individually and collectively;
- Integrate quality assurance and performance management arrangements into core subgroup activity rather than operating a separate Quality Assurance Subgroup;
- Establish a data and reporting group for Domestic Violence data to support Board strategic decision making in a more meaningful including the identification of key themes and trends;
- Further extend the engagement of service users in the work of the Board;

These and other priorities for action are set out in the Business Plan 2015/16 which features as an appendix to the Annual Report

Across the boards:

Strengths

- Steps taken to improve cross-reporting between children and adult services where each identifies safeguarding concerns in relation to service users in the other;
- A transitions document has been formulated with the County Council supported by a good practice guidance document – this is now being reviewed in the light of the Care Act
- Targets met through the Priority Families programme have supported the reduction in safeguarding risk for some families in the City

Key areas for development and improvement

- Ensure that the new Board arrangements with two Independent Chairs secure improved focus on children and adult safeguarding whilst continuing to ensure cohesion and co-ordination across the safeguarding agenda as a whole;

- Improve the interface between the two safeguarding boards and the Priority Families Programme to maximise improved performance that might have mutual benefit;

2.6 **Safeguarding performance** as evidenced through the quality assurance framework employed by the two Boards presents a mixed picture. Set out below are some of the headlines in relation to both children and adult safeguarding:

Safeguarding of Children and Young People – Performance across the Child’s Journey

- Reduction in number of contacts – targets met;
- Assessments undertaken within 45 days (85%) which is above target and average for statistical neighbours;
- Reduction in the number of CAFs has caused a concern though we witnessed an increase in the last quarter of the year;
- 80% of CAFs record positive outcomes but there has been an increase in the number of cases escalating to social care which will be something that requires careful monitoring during 2015/16;
- The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan has risen;
- 99% of child protection cases have been reviewed within timescale;
- The number of children in care has reduced slightly – and performance on key indicators is better than statistical neighbours
- The % of care leavers in suitable accommodation has reduced from 89.6% to 84.9%. The number of care leavers in suitable education, employment and training presents a challenge but does match statistical neighbours and is a 7% improvement on the previous year.

During the year two Serious Case Reviews were published, two were commissioned and one learning review was commissioned. There is strong evidence to show that learning from these reviews has been implemented and impact will be tested through the quality assurance framework

Safeguarding Adults

- the number of safeguarding investigations has remained similar to that recorded in 2013/15 – though the distribution of investigations across the four quarters of the year is more even;
- Over 75% of citizens against which alleged abuse took place were over 61 and there was an increase in the proportion over 81:
- The most common form of abuse cited in investigations is neglect or omission (44% of investigations) but financial abuse is a growing area of concern. Physical and psychological abuse also account for a significant proportion of investigations
- 37% of investigations related to abuse in the citizens own home and 39% are in residential or nursing home provision. Proportionately this is similar to last year. The proportion of ‘unknowns’ is a concern and we will need to seek more robust recording to ensure our knowledge of location is clear.
- 49.3% of investigations were substantiated – this is similar to the rate recorded in 2013/14 but higher than in previous years. 5% were partially substantiated.
- The significant increase in DoLS (deprivation of liberty safeguards) referrals is continued placing considerable pressure on resources and on responding to referrals within expected timescales.

It is important to note that the programme of audits to test the quality of service relating to the data above did not proceed as planned due to service pressures created by the Care Act. This work has been remitted to the Business Plan 2015/16 and will be an important improvement to the quality assurance and performance management role of the NCASPB next year.

- 2.7 Both Annual Reports set out the priorities for action in the current year (2015/16) and these have been incorporated into the business plans for 2015/16. Clearly the areas for improvement for the Board itself that are reported on within the annual reports are key priorities in the current year. In addition the NCSCB will take a role in monitoring and evaluating the performance of the local authority and its partners in response to the Ofsted inspection of 2014 and, indeed, inspection undertaken by other inspectorates such as CQC and HMIC. There is an expectation that an integrated inspection regime will be introduced in the near future in the children's services arena.
- 2.8 The Business Plan for 2015/16 has already been considered by the Health and Well Being Board. It sets out priorities for action for the current year and sets out both the quality assurance and performance management indicators that will be applied to assess impact against each of the priorities and the actions that will be undertaken to support the achievement of these impacts and outcomes.

3. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED IN MAKING RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 There are no other options presented.

4. FINANCE COMMENTS (INCLUDING IMPLICATIONS AND VALUE FOR MONEY/VAT)

- 4.1 Both the NCSCB and NCASPB are funded through a budget to which all statutory partners contribute through a formula agreed by the Board. These contributions have been agreed and there are no financial implications specifically for the Health and Well-Being Board.

5. LEGAL AND PROCUREMENT COMMENTS (INCLUDING RISK MANAGEMENT ISSUES, AND LEGAL CRIME AND DISORDER ACT AND PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS)

- 5.1 The NCSCB and NCASPB operate their own risk registers that are monitored by both the Quality Assurance Sub-Group and the Operational Management Group.

6. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- Has the equality impact been assessed?
- Not needed (report does not contain proposals or financial decisions)
- No
- Yes – Equality Impact Assessment attached

Due regard should be given to the equality implications identified in the EIA.

7. LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS OTHER THAN PUBLISHED WORKS OR THOSE DISCLOSING CONFIDENTIAL OR EXEMPT INFORMATION

- 7.1 The NCSCB Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1. The NCASPB Annual Report is attached as Appendix 2.

8. PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 7.1 The NCSCB Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1. The NCASPB Annual Report is attached as Appendix 2.