

	<p>London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p>HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD 08 September 2014</p>
TITLE OF REPORT	Working agreement between the local safeguarding children board and health and wellbeing board
Report of the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board	
Open Report	
Classification - For Decision & Comment Key Decision: No	
Wards Affected: All	
Accountable Executive Director: Andrew Christie, Executive Director for Tri-borough Children's Services	
Report Author: Tim Deacon, LSCB Manager	Contact Details: Tel: 0208 753 5140 E-mail: tim.deacon@lbhf.gov.uk

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report provides the Hammersmith & Fulham Health and Wellbeing Board (H&WB) with an overview of the role and responsibilities of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea, and Westminster, and its priorities for 2014/15.
- 1.2 The report proposes that the H&WB agree to a formal working agreement between the Hammersmith and Fulham H&WB and the LSCB, as set out in the protocol included in Appendix A, to maximise opportunities to safeguarding children in the local area.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Board is asked to consider:
 - a) The complementary but distinct roles the Health and Wellbeing Board (H&WB) and the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) have in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in Hammersmith and Fulham.

- b) The LSCB's current priority areas for focus during 2013/14-2014/15.
- c) The proposed protocol for joint working between the Hammersmith & Fulham H&WB and the LSCB.
- d) How else the two Boards might work together to promote 'safeguarding is everyone's business' and to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to strategic planning between the three H&WB's and the LSCB.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

- 3.1 The Board is asked to agree to a formal working agreement with the Local Safeguarding Children Board to ensure that opportunities to strengthen local safeguarding practice are identified and secured.

4. BACKGROUND

Statutory requirements of Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

- 4.1 Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires that every area establish a Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB). The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. The statutory responsibilities of the LSCB are:
 - a) to 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
- 4.2 The LSCB must include at least one representative of the local authority and include representation of: the Police; Local Probation Trust; Youth Offending Team; the NHS Commissioning Board and clinical commissioning groups; NHS Trusts and NHS Foundation Trusts all or most of whose hospitals, establishments and facilities are situated in the local authority area; CAFFCASS; and the governor or director of any secure training centre or prison in the area of the authority.
- 4.3 Members of an LSCB should be people with a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisation. They should be able to: speak for their organisation with authority; commit their organisation on policy and practice matters; and hold their own organisation to account and hold others to account.
- 4.4 The role of the LSCB is to scrutinise and challenge the work of agencies both individually and collectively. The LSCB does not commission services and is not operationally responsible for managers and staff in the constituent agencies.

Tri-borough Local Safeguarding Children Board

- 4.5 A Tri-borough Local Safeguarding Children Board for Hammersmith & Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster, replaced the previous three LSCBs in April 2012. The LSCB is chaired by an independent chair, Jean Daintith, and is supported by a single team, with an agreed set of subgroups and activities.
- 4.6 As a Tri-borough board there has been increased opportunity for challenge and comparison of key safeguarding activity and practice; better use of training opportunities; shared learning through audits, Serious Case Reviews and projects; and a streamlining of meetings and administration.
- 4.7 There are a number of LSCB subgroups which meet at least quarterly where much of the business of the Board is taken forward. These include:
- **Quality Assurance** - this group has been working on the development of a new multi-agency quality assurance framework for the LSCB which will capture key performance data, audit and survey findings and support the Board in its scrutiny and challenge role. Chair: Clare Chamberlain – Director of Family Services RBKC
 - **Learning and Development** - this group oversees the existing tri-borough LSCB multi-agency training programme ensuring that the local children's workforce is equipped to deliver sound safeguarding practice whilst responding to local priorities and national developments and learning. Chair: Liz Royle - CLCH Head of Safeguarding, CLCH
 - **Case Review** - this group considers how local agencies can learn from national and local case review findings and oversees the implementation of local action plans arising from case reviews. Chair: Steve Miley - Director of Family Service Hammersmith and Fulham
 - **Child Death Overview Panel** - this group has been operating as a tri-borough initiative for some time and considers the circumstances relating to the deaths of children from the three boroughs and relevant practice implications. Chair: Nicky Brownjohn - Associate Director for Safeguarding (CWHH)
 - **Chairs Group** - this group oversees the work of the subgroups, short life working groups and partnership groups of the Board and effectively steers the direction and progress of the Board's work, responding to key issues arising. Chair: Jean Daintith.
- 4.8 In addition to the standing subgroups the LSCB create short-life improvement groups which consider specific issues of concern to agencies; in 2013/14 the LSCB managed two groups on children missing from home and care and prevention of suicide amongst young people. In 2014/15 short-life improvement groups have been established to consider domestic violence, e-safety, and female genital mutilation.

- 4.9 In order to secure the effective engagement of and communication with local partners, a multi-agency Partnership Group has been maintained in each of the three local authorities. The focus of these partnership groups is primarily early help/prevention of harm. In the past year Hammersmith and Fulham's partnership group has developed a local strategy to reduce female genital mutilation.

LSCB priority areas for 2014/15

- 4.10 The Tri-borough LSCB has four priority areas for focus during 2014/15:
- i) Early help and prevention of harm
 - ii) Better outcomes for children subject to child protection plans and those looked after
 - iii) Practice areas to compare, contrast and improve together
 - iv) Continuous improvement in a changing landscape
- 4.11 Going forward into 2014/15 the Board has agreed that neglect is a cross-cutting theme that needs to be highlighted across all the other priorities. Responding to national issues at a local level, such as female genital mutilation, will also be high on the LSCB's agenda as will getting the local multi-agency response right regarding child sexual exploitation, gangs, missing young people, and suicide risk.
- 4.12 There are many opportunities for the H&WB to add value to the work of the LSCB; in particular on areas of national focus and where the contribution of services outside of the membership of the LSCB – such as Adult Services - is critical to ensuring progress in priority areas of work. Examples include priority areas such as child sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation, and missing children; and services for adults who are parents and dealing with issues such as poor mental health and domestic violence.

5. JOINT WORKING AND GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD AND TRI-BOROUGH LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

- 5.1. Health and Wellbeing Boards have a unique role in providing a forum where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. H&WBs are the executive body responsible for agreeing what the needs of the local population are, promoting integration, and supporting alignment and joint commissioning.
- 5.2. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 does not outline in detail how the relationship between LSCBs and H&WBs, and other key partnership bodies, should be secured; this is for local determination. The

two partnerships are separate and there are no requirements for the boards to report to each other. However, given the important role that both Boards have to help, protect and care for children and young people this relationship should be clearly articulated.

- 5.3. A draft protocol outlining a proposed joint working arrangement between the two boards is included in Appendix A. The aim of this protocol is to promote ‘safeguarding is everyone’s business’ and to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to strategic planning between the three H&WBs and the LSCB.
- 5.4. The protocol also sets out the proposed governance arrangements which will enable the three boroughs’ Health and Wellbeing Boards (H&WB), and the Tri-borough 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.
- 5.5. As part of the new Ofsted inspection framework, a review of the effectiveness of the LSCB will be undertaken at the same time as the inspection of the local authority. Such an inspection can be announced at any time and it is anticipated that Ofsted will carry out a simultaneous inspection of Hammersmith & Fulham and the other two Tri-borough authorities. This protocol will help explain to Ofsted Inspectors the relationship between the two boards and be used to judge how well the LSCB uses its scrutiny role and statutory powers to influence priority setting across other local strategic partnerships.
- 5.6. In order to deliver the draft protocol, it is proposed that the following arrangements would be put in place to ensure effective co-ordination and coherence in the work of the H&WBs and the LSCB:
 - a) Between September and November each year, the Independent Chair of the LSCB would present to the H&WB its Annual Report outlining performance against business plan objectives in the previous financial year. This would be supplemented by a position statement on the Board’s performance in the current financial year. This would provide the opportunity for the Health and Wellbeing Boards to understand where it may be able to support the performance of the LSCB, to draw across data to be included in the JSNA and to reflect on key issues that may need to be incorporated in the refresh of the Health and Wellbeing Strategies.
 - b) Between October and February the Health and Wellbeing Boards to present to the LSCB the review of the Health and Wellbeing Strategies, updates on the JSNA with the proposed priorities and objectives to enable the LSCB to consider whether it may be able to support the Health and Wellbeing Board drive delivery of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy.
 - c) Between March and May, the LSCB will share their proposed business plans with the HWBBs to identify areas for partnership working across the year.

6. CONSULTATION

- 6.1. Consultation is not relevant to this report

7. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 Health and Wellbeing Boards have a unique role in improving the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. *The LSCB has a statutory requirement to 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.* Together, the two boards are well placed to promote the health and wellbeing of children and reduce inequalities.

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1. No legal implications identified through this report.

9. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1. No financial and resources implications identified through this report.

10. RISK MANAGEMENT

- 10.1. Risk of reputational damage if the H&WB and LSCB are seen to not work together to promote the wellbeing and safety of children in the borough.

11. PROCUREMENT AND IT STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

- 11.1. No procurement and IT strategy implications identified.

**JEAN DAINTITH
INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF THE TRI-BOROUGH LOCAL SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN BOARD**

**ANDREW CHRISTIE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF TRI-BOROUGH CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

Contact officer: Tim Deacon, LSCB Manager **Tel:** 020 8753 5140 **E-mail:** tim.deacon@lbhf.gov.uk

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT

None that are not in the public domain.

APPENDIX A

Protocol to set out governance arrangements between the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Tri-borough Local Safeguarding Children Board

Purpose of the Protocol

1. The purpose of this protocol is to set out the governance arrangements which will enable the three borough's Health and Wellbeing Boards (H&WB), and the Tri-borough 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.
2. The aim of this protocol is to promote 'safeguarding is everyone's business' and to ensure that there is a coordinated approach to strategic planning between the three H&WB's and the LSCB.

Statutory framework

3. H&WB's were established by the Health and Social Care Act 2012. They are intended to be a forum where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities.
4. The Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). It is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to ensure that these agencies are effective.
5. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 does not outline in detail how the relationship between LSCB's and H&WB's, and other key partnership bodies, should be secured; this is for local determination. However, given the LSCB's scrutiny and challenge role, and the fact that they do not commission or directly delivery services, there is a strong case that the relationship between them is clearly articulated.

Role and responsibilities

6. The three borough's H&WBs have strategic influence over commissioning decisions across health, public health and social care through their Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the development of their Health and Wellbeing strategies.
7. The H&WB Board is the executive body responsible for agreeing what the needs of the local population are, promoting integration, and supporting alignment of and joint commissioning. The purpose of the Board is to provide strong and effective leadership across the local authority and NHS partners to improve the health and wellbeing of local residents and reduce inequalities in outcomes. The Board sets a clear direction, across

traditional boundaries, to deliver change and fresh thinking in the provision of health, adult and children's services social care and housing services.

8. 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 these purposes.

Working together

9. The H&WB and the LSCB agree that strategic planning across partnerships will be coordinated to secure coherent delivery of business, to avoid duplication and gaps.
10. The H&WB and LSCB will take an integrated approach to the JSNA and ensure comprehensive safeguarding data analysis is included. The JSNA will drive the formulation of the Health and Wellbeing Strategies and the LSCB's Business Plan.
11. The Independent Chair of the LSCB will present an annual report, on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children across the three boroughs, to the Chair of the H&WB. The report will provide the H&WB with an assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. This assessment will be clearly reflected in, and will form part of, the H&WB strategy in respect of services for children and families.
12. The H&WBs will formally share with the Tri-borough LSCB the JSNA, the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, the commissioning intentions and progress against these. The LSCB will provide relevant feedback on any key aspect of the H&WB plans as set out above, in respect of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
13. This process will provide opportunity for sharing learning and expertise and to enable Boards to feed any improvement and development needs into the planning process for future years' strategies and plans.
14. In addition to the above the Tri-borough LSCB and H&WB will have members in common who can ensure that key information in relation to trends, concerns and action plans are communicated to relevant Boards in a coordinated way. The LSCB Chair will also, at any time necessary, bring to the H&WB or its members, any matters which require their attention outside of the opportunities outlined above.
15. The H&WB and LSCB will work together to ensure that they include the views of young people in their development of key strategies.

Outcomes of joint working

16. The role of the LSCB in relation to the HWBB would be one of equal partners underpinned by this protocol. The LSCB has a statutory responsibility to challenge and hold agencies to account for the safety of local children and young people. This protocol is designed to ensure these functions are discharged effectively in the three boroughs without duplicating functions or creating additional structures. Other outcomes include:
- a. Ensuring safeguarding is “everyone’s business” and is reflected in the public health agenda;
 - b. Supporting the Health and Wellbeing Board to drive delivery of safeguarding outcomes through the Health and Wellbeing Strategy, and of safeguarding on wider determinants of health outcomes (such as domestic abuse);
 - c. Cross-Board partnership working to embed safeguarding across the health and wellbeing sector.

Signed

Chair of Hammersmith & Fulham
Health and Wellbeing Board

Independent Chair of the Tri-
borough Local Safeguarding
Children Board