

	<p align="center">London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham</p> <p align="center">HEALTH & WELLBEING BOARD 10 November 2014</p>
<p align="center">LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD'S ANNUAL REPORT 2013-2014</p>	
<p align="center">Report of the Independent Chair of the LSCB</p>	
<p>Open Report</p>	
<p>Classification – For Review & Comment Key Decision: No</p>	
<p>Wards Affected: All</p>	
<p>Accountable Executive Director: Andrew Christie, Tri Borough Executive Director of Children's Services</p>	
<p>Report Author: (name and title) Tim Deacon (LSCB Manager) Victoria Jones (Policy Officer, Triborough Children's Services)</p>	<p>Contact Details: Tel: 020 8753 5140 E-mail: tim.deacon@lbhf.gov.uk</p>

1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Working Together (2013) places a requirement on the Local Safeguarding Children Board to send its Annual Report to the Chairman of the local Health and Well Being Board. The report sets out the achievements of the LSCB (2013/2014) against its four key priorities, evaluates the effectiveness of the LSCB overall, describes its activities, and future priorities and comments on the linkage to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1. That the Health and Wellbeing Board considers the report and makes recommendations to the Independent LSCB Chair as appropriate.

3. REASONS FOR DECISION

The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to consider the LSCB Annual Report. The Independent Chair of the LSCB would welcome any response/comment that will help the work of the LSCB and the HWBB.

4. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

- 4.1 Local Safeguarding Children Boards have a statutory obligation to compile and publish an Annual Report. This report provides an assessment of the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It recognises the achievements and progress that has been made in the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) covering the areas of Hammersmith and Fulham, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea and the City of Westminster as well as providing a realistic assessment of the challenges that lie ahead. The report illustrates the extent to which the functions of the LSCB as set out in Working Together 2013 are being effectively discharged.
- 4.2 The Annual Report details both the core functions of the LSCB as well as the priorities that were established in April 2012. In order to establish the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements and of the LSCB itself, the report evaluates standing work of the Board such as training, case reviews and the safeguarding of priority groups. It also measures progress against the LSCB priorities for 2013-14: early help and prevention of harm; better outcomes for children subject to child protection plans and those looked after; practice areas to compare, contrast and improve together; continuous improvement in a changing landscape.
- 4.3 Safeguarding children requires all agencies working with children and their families to work together – by identifying children who may be at risk of harm, by pooling information to ensure that the clearest possible picture of family functioning and risk to children is obtained, by providing services to reduce the risk of harm to children and by monitoring children to ensure that the risks are reducing. The LSCB key functions are to ensure that the work of key agencies is coordinated and effective and to hold all agencies to account for the quality of their work to safeguard children.
- 4.4 The commitment to ensure that local as well as national priorities are addressed has shaped the work of the LSCB in the past year. The agenda has been progressed successfully through active short life improvement groups and sub groups of the Board. Borough-based partnerships have included a proper focus on local activities and there are developing relationships with the Children's Trust and each of the Health and Well-Being Boards. Increasingly there is a linkage to the Health and Well-Being Boards' priority themes for children, and duplication is avoided, whilst shared priorities are acknowledged. This linkage is key to the LSCB being seen as effective in both governance and partnership.
- 4.5 This Annual Report was presented to the Hammersmith and Fulham Children and Education Policy and Accountability Committee on the 3rd September .

5. PROPOSAL AND ISSUES

5.1 The report considers the local safeguarding needs of children and how these are met by agencies working together, across the areas of Hammersmith and Fulham, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, and the City of Westminster. Agency representation at the LSCB includes several members of the Health and Well-Being Board.

6. OPTIONS AND ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS

6.1 This does not apply

7. CONSULTATION

7.1 All member agencies of the LSCB have contributed to the report which is now a public document.

8. EQUALITY IMPLICATIONS

8.1 No Comment

9. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 No Comment

10. FINANCIAL AND RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS

10.1 No Comment

11. RISK MANAGEMENT

11.1 [Section 13 of the Children Act 2004](#) requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on LSCBs. An LSCB must be established for every local authority area. The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. The Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area (this is a statutory requirement under [section 14A of the Children Act 2004](#)). The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chair of the health and wellbeing board. In producing this report this meets the following risks identified on the Strategic Tri-borough Risk Register, risk number 5 managing statutory duty, risk number 6 standards and delivery of care and 8 maintaining reputation and service standards.

Comments provided by Michael Sloniowski, Bi-borough Risk Manager ext 2587.

12. PROCUREMENT AND IT STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

12.1 No Comment

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

No.	Description of Background Papers	Name/Ext of holder of file/copy	Department/ Location
1.	None		

LIST OF APPENDICES:

Appendix 1 – the Annual Report of the Local Safeguarding Children Board