

Decision Maker: Children Education and Families PDS

Date: 30th January 2020

Decision Type: Non-Urgent Non-Executive Non-Key

Title: **BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19**

Contact Officer: Joanna Gambhir or Kerry Davies, BSCB Business Manager
Tel: 020 8461 7041 E-mail: Joanna.Gambhir@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Jim Gamble, Independent Chair, BSCB

Ward: n/a

1. Reason for report

The annual report of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Board (BSCB) covers the period from April 2018 to March 2019. It is a statutory requirement for safeguarding partnerships to publish this report under section 14A of the Children Act 2014. In line with statutory guidance, this report will 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.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the PDS Committee note the content of this report and in particular the BSCB's focus on co-ordinating the safeguarding work of agencies and to ensuring that this work is effective

Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children

1. Summary of Impact: n/a
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Corporate Policy

1. Policy Status: Not Applicable:
 2. BBB Priority: Children and Young People:
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Financial

1. Cost of proposal: Not Applicable:
 2. Ongoing costs: Not Applicable:
 3. Budget head/performance centre:
 4. Total current budget for this head: £
 5. Source of funding:
-

Personnel

1. Number of staff (current and additional):
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours:
-

Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable:
-

Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: n/a
-

Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected):
-

Ward Councillor Views

1. Have Ward Councillors been asked for comments? Not Applicable
2. Summary of Ward Councillors comments:

3. COMMENTARY

The annual report of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Board (BSCB) covers the period from April 2018 to March 2019. It is a statutory requirement for safeguarding partnerships to publish this report under section 14A of the Children Act 2014. In line with statutory guidance, this report will 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 2018-19, the BSCB oversaw multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements across Bromley and was comprised of senior leaders from a range of different organisations. Its two basic objectives were to co-ordinate the safeguarding work of agencies and to ensure that this work is effective.

The Children and Social Work Act 2017 legislated that Local Safeguarding Children Boards were to be replaced and transitioned into new safeguarding children partnerships by September 2019. Under the new legislation, the three safeguarding partners (local authorities, police, and clinical commissioning groups) must make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies (as they consider appropriate) to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in the area. At the time of publication, this transition is at an advanced stage; the new structures are bedding in and the BSCB has been replaced by the BSCP (Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership). The report itself, however, focusses on the BSCB's work undertaken up to April 2019.

This report is a transparent assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding and the promotion of child welfare in Bromley. It sets out:

- the governance and accountability arrangements for the BSCB. This provides information about the structures in place that support the BSCB to do its work effectively, as well as the roles of our partners, including Designated Professionals and lay members.
- the context for safeguarding children and young people in Bromley, including the Ofsted improvement journey and re-inspection during this reporting year. It highlights progress made by the partnership across a range of areas (e.g. Early Help, Private Fostering, CSE, Missing and Gangs and the work of the Local Authority Designated Officer), as well as the challenges going forward.
- the lessons that the BSCB has identified through its Learning & Improvement Framework, including Learning Reviews, the BSCB's Practitioners Survey and multi agency audits on early years, drug and alcohol misuse and vulnerable adolescents. This section also details the actions taken to improve child safeguarding and welfare as a result of this activity.
- the range and impact of the multi-agency safeguarding training delivered by the BSCB, including e-learning, face-to-face, briefings (such as lessons from local learning reviews) and the BSCB annual conference.
- the priorities going forward: The Local Safeguarding Context; Early Help and Early Intervention; Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership; and a Healthy Workforce. There are also important messages from the Independent Chair of the BSCB to key people involved in the safeguarding of children and young people.