

Decision Maker: CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND FAMILIES PDS COMMITTEE

Date: Tuesday 9 November 2021

Decision Type: Non-Urgent

Title: BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT (2020/21)

Contact Officer: Joanna Gambhir, Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership Manager
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Chief Officer: Assistant Director of Children's Social Care

Ward: (All Wards);

1. Reason for report

The annual report of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP) covers the period from April 2020 to March 2021. It is a statutory requirement for safeguarding partnerships to publish this report under Working Together 2018. In line with statutory guidance and best practice, 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, the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care.

2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

That the PDS Committee notes the content of this report and in particular the BSCP'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:
-

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): n/a
-

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 Partnership (BSCP) covers the period from April 2020 to March 2021. This report is a transparent assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding and the promotion of child welfare in Bromley.

This year has been the first full year of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) under new multi-agency partnership arrangements. This was put in place in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018 and replaced Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB). Our safeguarding partnership arrangements have been improved to form the BSCP and its subgroups.

The work of the partnership this year has inevitably been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Since March 2020, Partnership Board and Executive meetings have concentrated on the direct and indirect safeguarding impact of the pandemic. In order to do so they have focused on the health and wellbeing of children and young people, their families and the partnership workforce, as well as emerging safeguarding themes, individual and collective practice and how to develop and support innovative responses.

The Chair's Foreword highlights the achievements and challenges of the year. The detail of the report sets out:

- the governance and accountability arrangements for the BSCP. This provides information about the structures in place that support the BSCP 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. It highlights progress made by the partnership across a range of areas (e.g. Early Help, Private Fostering, child exploitation and the work of the Local Authority Designated Officer), as well as the challenges going forward.
- the lessons that the BSCP has identified through its Learning & Improvement Framework, including Learning Reviews and multi agency audits. 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 BSCP (this year all virtual training due to the pandemic)
- progress against the BSCP pledge four key area: health and wellbeing of the workforce; understanding vulnerability; a focus on getting the basics right; continuous improvement.

4. IMPACT ON VULNERABLE ADULTS AND CHILDREN

n/a

5. POLICY IMPLICATIONS

n/a

6. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

n/a

7. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

n/a

8. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

n/a

9. PROCUREMENT IMPLICATIONS

n/a

Non-Applicable Sections:	[List non-applicable sections here]
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[Title of document and date]