

Decision Maker: CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND FAMILIES POLICY
DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date: 17th November 2022

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

Title: BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP
ANNUAL REPORT (2021-22)

Contact Officer: Kerry Davies, Joanna Gambhir, Bromley Safeguarding Children Board
Manager, Bromley Safeguarding Children Board Manager
Tel: 020 8461 7563, Tel: 020 8461 7041 E-mail:
Kerry.Davies@bromley.gov.uk, Joanna.Gambhir@bromley.gov.uk

Chief Officer: Director of Children, Education and Families

Ward: All Wards

1. Reason for report

- 1.1 The annual report of the Bromley Safeguarding Children's Partnership (BSCP) covers the period from April 2021 to March 2022. 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.
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2. **RECOMMENDATION(S)**

- 2.1 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
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Financial

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

1. Number of staff (current and additional): n/a
 2. If from existing staff resources, number of staff hours: n/a
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Legal

1. Legal Requirement: Statutory Requirement:
 2. Call-in: Not Applicable: No Executive decision.
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Procurement

1. Summary of Procurement Implications: n/a
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Customer Impact

1. Estimated number of users/beneficiaries (current and projected): n/a
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Ward Councillor Views

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

3. COMMENTARY

- 3.1 The annual report of the Bromley Safeguarding Children’s Partnership (BSCP) covers the period from April 2021 to March 2022. This report is a transparent assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding and the promotion of child welfare in Bromley.
- 3.2 The Bromley Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) was put in place in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018 and replaced Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). The partnership supports and enables local organisations and agencies to work together in a system where:
- Children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted.
 - Partner organisations and agencies collaborate, share and co-own the vision for how to achieve improved outcomes for vulnerable children.
 - Organisations and agencies challenge appropriately and hold one another to account effectively.
 - There is early identification and analysis of new safeguarding issues and emerging threats.
 - Learning is promoted and embedded in a way that local services for children and families can become more reflective and implement changes to practice.
 - Information is shared effectively to facilitate accurate and timely decision making for children and families.
- 3.3 This reporting year commenced in April 2021, shortly after children returned to school following the second extended period of national home learning (January - March 2021). This coincided with the launch of the national vaccination programme for COVID-19. The work of the partnership this year has therefore again been dominated by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- 3.4 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
 - 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.

Non-Applicable Sections:	Impact on Vulnerable Adults and Children and Policy/ Financial/Personnel/Legal and Procurement Implications
Background Documents: (Access via Contact Officer)	[Title of document and date]