

Wiltshire Council

Health and Wellbeing Board

December 15th

Subject: Wiltshire Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) Annual report 2015-2016

Executive Summary

I. During 2015-2016 WSCB has progressed key areas of work identified in last year's annual report:

- Established a Neglect Strategy to improve our response to this form of abuse.
- Early Help has remained firmly on the safeguarding agenda with continued improvements in practice.
- Identified revision needed within our quality assurance framework to provide robust data and context on safeguarding across partner agencies in Wiltshire.
- Continued to drive activity and improvements in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and missing children through the local action plan and in particular have improved our safeguarding and protection of children missing and those at risk of exploitation.

In addition we have:

- Improved the skills and knowledge of over 3,000 staff working with Wiltshire's children and young people through the delivery of our training programme and learning events.
- Increased our understanding and oversight of domestic abuse and its impact on children by establishing a Domestic Abuse Sub Group.
- Received an inspection from Ofsted which judged both the Council services for children and the work of the WSCB as 'Requiring Improvement'.

WSCB now needs to:

- Assess the impact of the implementation of the new Neglect Strategy across the partnership.
- Embed our new Quality Assurance Framework to deliver an improved understanding and scrutiny of safeguarding and child protection across partner agencies.
- Finalise the delivery of our responses to the recommendations from Ofsted and to monitor the responses from the Council to their recommendations.

- Ensure that the voice of children, young people and their families informs our learning from audits.
- Work with partners to build our local response to the Wood Review.

Proposal(s)

It is recommended that the Board:

- i) Note the report and give the content consideration when commissioning or providing services for children and young people across the partnership

Reason for Proposal

It is the requirement of all Safeguarding Children Boards to produce an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in their local area. The Board will submit a copy of this report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, who will be expected to respond by giving consideration when commissioning or providing services for children and young people across the partnership.

Mark Gurrey
Independent Chair
WSCB