

9 January 2024

Agenda Item: 12

REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND RESOURCES

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING SERVICE: APRIL 2022 – MARCH 2023

Purpose of the Report

1. Members requested an annual report following high profile enquiries into child sexual exploitation and missing children in several local authorities. This report provides an update against the Council's 2022 - 23 priorities and analysis of the statistical data for 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.

Information

2. Child exploitation and children missing from home and care continue to be priority areas for the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP). Ofsted inspections of local authority children's services have a focus on local responses and resources to address child exploitation and it is a particular area of focus in the annual self-evaluation that the local authority provides to Ofsted.
3. The annual report, attached as **Appendix 1** and with **Appendix 2**, provides an outline of the progress and challenges within the work being undertaken by the Local Authority and relevant partner organisations to tackle child exploitation and children who go missing from home and care during the last year and the commitments for the following 12 months.

Other Options Considered

4. To not bring this report to the Panel: this option is discounted because this report provides information that forms an important part of the Panel's remit in assisting the Council in fulfilling its legal corporate parenting duties and acting as an effective corporate parent.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

5. The report provides an opportunity for the Panel to consider any further actions arising from the information contained within the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

6. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, data protection and information governance finance, human resources, human

rights, the NHS Constitution (public health services), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and adults at risk, service users, smarter working, sustainability and the environment and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

7. There are no financial implications arising from the report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That the Corporate Parenting Panel considers whether there is any feedback that it wishes to give and any actions that it recommends in relation to the information contained in the report.

Laurence Jones

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Constitutional Comments (LW 20/12/23)

8. The Corporate Parenting Panel is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report.

Financial Comments (CDS 19/12/23)

9. There are no financial implications arising directly from the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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