

30 November 2020

Agenda Item: 15

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2019/20

Purpose of the Report

1. The report informs Members of the content of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) Annual Report 2019/20, which is available as a Background Paper, and asks the Committee to consider whether there are any further actions it requires in relation to the information contained in the report.

Information

2. Under statutory guidance, *Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018*¹, the safeguarding partners (local authority, police and clinical commissioning groups) have a shared and equal duty to make arrangements to work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area.
3. The safeguarding partners must publish a report at least once in every 12-month period. The report must set out what they have done as a result of the arrangements, including on child safeguarding practice reviews, and how effective these arrangements have been in practice.
4. The NSCP Annual Report 2019/20 has therefore been prepared in accordance with the guidance and agreed by the NSCP Strategic Leadership Group (SLG). In line with local policy the annual report is being presented to the respective governance arrangements for each of the safeguarding partners. The report has also been published on the NSCP website and a copy provided to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care.
5. In January 2020 the Lead Representatives for the safeguarding partners appointed a new Independent Scrutineer following transitional measures whilst the new safeguarding arrangements were embedded. The Annual Report includes the Independent Scrutineer's assessment of the effectiveness of the leadership by the safeguarding partners.

¹ Published in June 2018

6. A Joint Strategic Leadership Group has been established with the Nottingham City Safeguarding Children Partnership and this meets annually to identify and coordinate any cross cutting issues for the Partnerships. This group has received assurances regarding the action being taken in response to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA), which published its report in relation to the Nottinghamshire Councils strand of the Inquiry during the year, and will be reflecting on the learning from the Inquiry and effectiveness of the response by relevant agencies at their next meeting.
7. The funding of the NSCP, which includes contributions by partner agencies, has been reviewed by the SLG and a breakdown of income and expenditure is included within the report.
8. A Safeguarding Assurance and Improvement Group (SAIG), with senior representation from across the partnership, has monitored safeguarding performance and coordinated a significant amount of improvement work which is detailed fully within the report.
9. During 2019/20 the NSCP has delivered a wide-ranging programme of multi-agency training courses and seminars. 57 training events have been delivered covering core safeguarding practice and specialist areas of practice with 2,346 practitioners attending from 38 different organisations across Nottinghamshire. A range of 21 different e-learning modules have been approved for use by members of the Partnership and over 8,060 e-learning modules were completed during the year. A new on-line booking system has also been introduced providing a better and easier way for delegates to book their training.
10. The NSCP continues to provide procedures and guidance on a wide range of safeguarding issues for practitioners to follow. During the year, three updates to the interagency safeguarding procedures were completed to ensure that the guidance remains current and up to date. Updated content included new chapters on child sexual exploitation and child sexual abuse.
11. A key responsibility for the NSCP is to commission and undertake case reviews according to national criteria. An initial Rapid Review is undertaken in relation to all serious child safeguarding cases and where necessary a more in-depth Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) is commissioned to identify any improvements to practice that are needed. During the reporting period, seven Rapid Reviews have been completed and submitted to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (NCSPRP) for their consideration. One CSPR (RN19) was commissioned and this has now been completed and published. A further CSPR was recommended and this has been pending to allow the conclusion of other proceedings. The NCSPRP has agreed with the findings and decisions from all the Rapid Reviews undertaken and the learning identified, and action taken in response, is detailed within the report.
12. The safeguarding partnership improvement priorities for 2020/23 are set out within the final section of the safeguarding arrangements annual report and focus on issues identified through the learning and improvement framework. The new safeguarding arrangements will also be reviewed, in line with statutory guidance.

Other Options Considered

13. No other options have been considered as the publication of an annual report is a statutory requirement.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

14. The report provides the opportunity for the Committee to consider any further actions arising from the information contained in the report.

Statutory and Policy Implications

15. 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

16. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any actions it requires in relation to the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report for the period 1st April 2019 to 31st March 2020.

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Constitutional Comments (CEH 12/11/20)

17. The report falls within the remit of the Children and Young People's Committee under their terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 14/11/20)

18. There are no financial implications arising directly from this 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.

Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report 2019/20 is available at: - <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/about-the-partnership>

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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