

14 October 2019

Agenda Item: 11

REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR, CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2018/19

Purpose of the Report

1. The report informs Members of the content of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) Annual Report 2018/19, 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. National statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018¹, required the safeguarding partners (local authority, police and clinical commissioning groups) to introduce safeguarding arrangements to replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). Accompanying transitional guidance set out the timeframe for this work to be completed and interim arrangements to deal with ongoing issues during the transition.
3. New safeguarding arrangements have been developed in Nottinghamshire and approved by Policy Committee on 17th October 2018. The safeguarding arrangements for Nottinghamshire were published on 27th December 2018, and a three-month implementation phase began on 1st January 2019. The implementation period successfully concluded on 31st March 2019 at which point the LSCB for Nottinghamshire was disestablished.
4. This annual report therefore satisfies the requirement for an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding from the Independent Chair of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and the new requirement for the safeguarding partners, under the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP), to publish a 'yearly report'.
5. The annual report is being presented to the respective governance arrangements of each of the safeguarding partners. The report has 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.

¹ Published in June 2018

6. In addition to describing the development and implementation of the new arrangements the report provides information about the activities of the safeguarding partnership.
7. The NSCB/NSCP is funded, in part, through contributions from partner agencies. A breakdown is included within the annual report.
8. The safeguarding partnership has undertaken a great deal of work aimed at improving safeguarding practice and these are detailed fully within the report.
9. A review of the arrangements in place to respond to contextual safeguarding, or extra familial threats, has been carried out to identify potential gaps or areas for improvement and a Youth Violence and Child Exploitation Panel has been established to consider complex cases requiring more intensive intervention.
10. Work has continued to develop and improve practice when responding to harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) following an audit in January 2018. Training has been commissioned and attended by practitioners across the partnership. A multi-agency steering group has been established to develop a Harmful Sexual Behaviour panel which has resulted in greater awareness of HSB and more cases being identified and assessed.
11. Through a Strategic Management Group, the partnership has overseen the response to concerns and disclosures of non-recent abuse made by previously Looked After Children. The NSCB/NSCP has contributed to the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse (IICSA) and the NSCP is now overseeing the response of organisations to the findings emerging from all aspects of the Inquiry. Learning from the Inquiry has been disseminated through multi-agency training events. A key area has been the support of victims and survivors and the County Council, police and health colleagues have been committed to supporting the local support group. Multi-agency funding has been provided to establish discrete posts to provide for victims and survivors and work is ongoing to strengthen services. The NSCB/NSCP has also overseen the work to maintain and improve the children in care health pathway.
12. During 2018/19 the NSCB/NSCP has delivered a wide-ranging programme of multi-agency training courses and seminars. Forty five training events have been delivered covering core safeguarding practice and specialist areas of practice with 2,197 practitioners attending in total. A new e-learning provider has been commissioned to provide safeguarding e-learning modules across the partnership with 20 approved courses being made available. The new provider also provides the capability to develop bespoke modules and two have been created to date: Safe Sleeping for Babies, and Trauma, Toxic Stress and Adverse Childhood Experiences. Over 5,500 e-learning modules were completed during the year. An assessment has also been undertaken of the multi-agency and single agency training available in relation to contextual safeguarding issues. The NSCP training programme for 2019/20 will respond to any training needs identified in relation to these extra familial risks.
13. The NSCB/NSCP continues to provide procedures and guidance on a wide range of safeguarding issues for practitioners to follow. During the year, two updates to the interagency safeguarding procedures were completed to ensure that the guidance remains current and up to date.

14. A key responsibility for the NSCB/NSCP is to commission and undertake case reviews according to the criteria set out in national statutory guidance. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 also introduced a new requirement to undertake 'Rapid Reviews' and a new process was developed to respond to this expectation. Six 'Rapid Reviews' have been completed and submitted to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel (NCSPRP) for their consideration. The NCSPRP endorsed the decisions made within those reviews. During the reporting period no new serious case reviews or child safeguarding practice reviews were commissioned. Three serious case reviews, carried forward from the previous year, were finalised and published following the conclusion of other processes and the learning from those reviews is detailed within the report.
15. The safeguarding partnership improvement priorities for 2019/20 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, and the findings from IICSA will continue to be monitored and acted upon.
16. Revised statutory guidance and legislation² has moved responsibility for the review of all child deaths away from the Independent Chairs of LSCBs to the 'child death review partners' (local authority and clinical commissioning group). In addition, the guidance requires the geographic footprint of the child death review arrangements to cover an area such that they typically review at least 60 deaths per year. Nottinghamshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) has therefore combined with Nottingham City and a new joint CDOP has been established. During 2018/19, 47 children died in Nottinghamshire and 48 child death reviews were undertaken by the panel in relation to children who resided in Nottinghamshire. Work to prevent future deaths has continued, including the promotion of safe sleeping for babies for example. A new case management system has also been introduced which will enable data to be provided directly to the National Child Mortality Database improving analytical capability and identification of themes for the prevention of future deaths.

Other Options Considered

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

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

18. 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

19. 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

² Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, Child Death Review: Statutory and Operational Guidance (England) and the Children and Social Work Act 2017

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

20. 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 2018 to 31st March 2019.

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Constitutional Comments (EP 20/09/19)

21. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the content of the report. If Committee resolves that any actions are required, it must be satisfied that such actions are within the Committee's terms of reference.

Financial Comments (SAS 27/09/19)

22. 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 2018/19 is available at: - <https://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/nscp/about-the-partnership>

[New Safeguarding Children Arrangements](#) - report to Policy Committee on 17th October 2018

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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