

18 June 2018**Agenda Item: 7****REPORT OF THE SERVICE DIRECTOR, COMMISSIONING AND
RESOURCES****SAFEGUARDING, ASSURANCE AND IMPROVEMENT GROUP - UPDATE****Purpose of the Report**

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to Committee following the establishment of the Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement group.

Information

2. At its meeting on 20th March 2017, the Children and Young People's Committee approved a new structure for the Children, Families and Cultural Services Department. This included the establishment of a new Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement Group. Subsequently, on 18th September 2017, Committee approved a detailed structure for this new group. Given this brought two existing groups together, with attached budget reductions, Committee asked for a brief update report to be presented following six months of operation to provide an assurance that particularly the children's safeguarding aspects of the group's work had not been adversely affected by the restructuring.
3. As previously reported, the key safeguarding functions of the new group are:
 - Strategic Safeguarding Services – providing a range of specialist professional services in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation, Children Missing, and investigating allegations against professionals / people in a position of trust
 - Independent Review – providing independent scrutiny of Looked After Children (LAC) and child protection cases
 - Partnerships Planning and Support - bringing together the support for the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB), including child death and Serious Case Reviews, with the coordination of the Children's Trust Board and the Children, Young People and Families Plan.
4. Committee can be reassured that these services have not been adversely affected by the restructuring. The Group Manager enabled into the new role had previously been responsible for these safeguarding functions, thus providing continuity. Staffing levels in these areas have not changed and the benefits (aside from financial, as outlined in the previous report) of bringing a wider group together is beginning to become evident though it is too early to quantify this.
5. Detailed reports regarding specific aspects of the group's work are routinely presented to Committee for scrutiny and are timetabled in as follows:

- Independent Reviewing Officer Service annual report - on the agenda of today's meeting
 - Child Sexual Exploitation and children who go missing - 17th September 2018.
6. The work of the group is also closely scrutinised by the NSCB. In addition to the above reports, the NSCB will receive annual reports covering the work of the Child Protection chairs service and the work undertaken by the Local Authority Designated officer (LADO) in relation to allegations against adults who work with children.
7. Work is ongoing with regard to a review of the role and function of the Children's Trust. There is also detailed work underway to consider Nottinghamshire agencies' responses to the Children and Social work Act 2017, requiring changes to the strategic safeguarding arrangements (currently delivered via the NSCB). Reports on both of these areas will be brought to the Committee in due course.

Other Options Considered

8. No other options have been considered.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

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

Statutory and Policy Implications

10. 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

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

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) That Committee considers whether there are any further actions it requires in relation to the information contained in the report.

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Constitutional Comments (LM 25/05/18)

12. The Children and Young People's Committee is the appropriate body to consider the contents of the report. Members should consider whether there are any actions they require in relation to the report.

Financial Comments (SAS 25/05/18)

13. 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.

Review of the senior management structure in Children, Families and Cultural Services report to Children & Young People's Committee on 20th March 2017.

Proposed structure for the Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement Group – report to Children & Young People's Committee on 18th September 2017.

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All.

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