

## **Health and Wellbeing Board**

23 November 2016

### **Report of the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board**

## **Strengthening Safeguarding Arrangements through an Inter Board Protocol**

### **Summary**

1. Over recent months work has taken place to produce an inter board protocol to strengthen safeguarding arrangements. The final version is at Annex A to this report and Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to sign up to these working arrangements.

### **Background**

2. Having established a protocol in 2014 with the Health and Wellbeing Board and YorOK, the Independent Chair of the City of York Council Safeguarding Children Board initiated work, with the approval of the Chief Officer Reference and Accountability Group (CORAG), to develop this further to include the Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer York Partnership.
3. The draft new Inter-board protocol was considered at a meeting of the Chairs of these Boards in June and consultation followed. The final draft protocol was agreed at a meeting of the Chairs on 15th September 2016. The draft protocol, attached, sets out the strategic leads for key safeguarding issues, identified the supporting boards and working arrangements for challenge, oversight and reporting between the Boards.
4. The protocol has already been agreed and endorsed at the YorOk Board, the Safer York Partnership, the Safeguarding Adults Board and the City of York Safeguarding Children's Board.

### **Main/Key Issues to be Considered**

5. The inter board protocol sets out the expectations of the relationship and working arrangements between City of York Health and Wellbeing Board; its children's sub-board YorOK; the

Safeguarding Children Board; the Safeguarding Adults Board and the Safer York Partnership. It covers their respective roles and functions, membership of the boards, arrangements for challenge, oversight and scrutiny and performance management.

6. The protocol sets out a number of key principles namely:
- Safeguarding is the business of all Boards.
  - The Boards will know each other's business.
  - A culture of scrutiny and challenge will exist across the Boards.
  - The Boards will work together to avoid duplication and ensure consistency.
  - At the heart of their decision making, the Boards will remain focused on delivery that benefits people in York
  - The Boards share a commitment to a strategic approach to understanding needs including analysis of data and engagement with stakeholders.
  - The Boards are committed to developing a joined up approach to assessing the effectiveness of services and identifying priorities for change, including where services need to be commissioned, improved, reshaped or developed.

### **Consultation**

7. The Chairs of all the Boards referenced in paragraph 2 of this report have been involved in producing this document. Senior officers have also had input into this piece of work.

### **Options**

8. The Board can:
- a. agree to the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board signing the inter board protocol and adopting its principles
  - or
  - b. not agree to Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board signing the inter board protocol and adopting its principles

## Analysis

9. Much work has gone into the preparation of the inter board protocol and to date it has been signed by 3 of the 4 board Chairs.

## Strategic/Operational Plans

10. This report relates to the “protect vulnerable people” theme of the City of York Council’s Council Plan

## Implications

11. There are no known implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

## Risk Management

12. The Boards have a common purpose – to promote joint working and co-operation between partners to improve safeguarding and wellbeing in the City of York. Should the Boards not work together in a coherent and effective way there is a risk that this will not happen

## Recommendations

13. Health and Wellbeing Board are asked to agree to the Chair signing the inter board protocol.

Reason: To ensure an effective working relationship between the Boards.

## Contact Details

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**Specialist Implications Officer(s)** None

### Chief Officer Responsible for the report:

Sharon Stoltz  
Director of Public Health

**Report  
Approved**



**Date** 10.11.2016

**Wards Affected:**

All

**For further information please contact the author of the report**

**Background Papers:**

None

**Annexes**

**Annex A – Inter Board Protocol**

**Glossary**

CORAG - Chief Officer Reference and Accountability Group