

Report of the Independent Chair of City of York Safeguarding Children Board

City of York Safeguarding Board Bi-annual Update

Summary

1. This report provides an update on the progress of City of York Safeguarding Children Board, highlighting the new safeguarding partnership arrangements to take the place of the Local Safeguarding Children Board in the context of Working Together 2018 and the Children & Social Work Act 2017.

Key Updates

Working Together 2018

2. Working Together 2018 sees the setting up of new safeguarding arrangements in each Local Authority to replace the Local Safeguarding Children Boards which were abolished by the Children and Social Work Act 2017. The details in the guidance relate to:
3. changes to the way serious cases are considered with new Safeguarding Practice Reviews at national and local level to replace local Serious Case Reviews;
4. changes to the process of reviewing child deaths. (City of York has arrangements jointly with North Yorkshire.);
5. and new local safeguarding partnership arrangements, including scrutiny and challenge, led by the three key partners described in the Act: the Local Authority, the Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group.

6. In York, lead officers from the key statutory partners have presented proposals for the new City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership to replace the Board and these have been agreed at the Board in October and by the Chief Officers Reference and Accountability Group (CORAG)
7. In July 2018, York was successful, along with 16 other areas, in a bid to the Department for Education to become an early adopter of the new arrangements.
8. York will therefore launch the new Partnership by January 2019, nine months before the rest of the country.
9. The opportunity has been taken to 'sharpen' the functioning of the Board/partnership and the Sub-groups but no changes made simply for changes' sake as the Board is already functioning well.
10. The funding which comes with the Early Adopter status will be used to enhance the, already strong, relationship with schools and colleges. Project leaders are working on engaging early years, schools and colleges in the new safeguarding arrangements.
11. The Interim Corporate Director of Children's Services, Education and Communities is representing the three statutory partners and the Independent Chair of CYSCB, at the Committee meeting today, to present the details of the new partnership arrangements.
12. These arrangements will be published, in accordance with the specific requirements in Chapter 3 of Working Together 2018, by the end of the year.

CYSCB Annual Report

13. The CYSCB Annual Report 2017/18 setting out the activities and achievements of the Safeguarding Board and its partners has now been published and is available at:
<http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/annual-reports-and-business-plan.htm>
14. A young people's version of the Annual Report is currently being developed.

Council Plan

15. The information included in this report is linked to the Council Plan priorities of “A focus on frontline services to ensure all residents, particularly the least advantaged, can access reliable services and community facilities” and “A council that listens to residents to ensure it delivers the services they want and works in partnership with local communities.”

Implications

16. There are no other direct implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

17. The recommendation is that the Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee note the new safeguarding partnership arrangements and the establishment of the City of York Safeguarding Children partnership (CYSCP) in January 2019.

18. Reason: To ensure that the Committee is aware of the transition to, and establishment of, the new arrangements.

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Report Approved



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Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Annexes

Annex 1 PART ONE: Summary of PART ONE - Summary - New Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements to replace CYSCB

Annex 2 PART TWO - Full Report: New Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements

Annex 3- CYSCB Annual Report Executive Summary

Abbreviations

CYSCB- City of York Safeguarding Children Board

CORAG -Chief Officers Reference and Accountability Group