

Health and Wellbeing Board

20 September 2017

Report title	Wolverhampton Safeguarding Boards Draft Annual Reports		
Cabinet member with lead responsibility	Councillor Val Gibson (Children) Sandra Samuels (Adults)		
Wards affected	All		
Accountable director	Mark Taylor, Strategic Director People		
Originating service	Safeguarding		
Accountable employee(s)	Dawn Williams	Head of Safeguarding	
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Report to be/has been considered by	List any meetings at which the report has been or will be considered, e.g.		
	WSCB	12 September 2017	
	WSAB	14 September 2017	
	Cabinet	29 November 2017	

Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Receive and note the content of the Draft Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult (WSAB) and Children Board (WSCB) Annual Reports.

1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The Independent Chair of the Local Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards is required to publish an annual report, which should provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services in safeguarding children and adults (with care and support needs); and promoting the welfare of children and wellbeing of adults.
- 1.2 Working Together 2015 outlines a number of forums to which the Local Safeguarding Children Board must present their annual report; one of which is the Health and Wellbeing Board. Although there is no statutory responsibility for the Safeguarding Adults Board to present to the Health and Wellbeing Board Wolverhampton has recognised that best practice is to share the Annual report to ensure clarity regarding safeguarding activity, outcomes and responsibilities across the piste.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) are statutory bodies set up in accordance with the Children Act 2004, and Care Act 2015, respectively. The Boards are a partnership of enthusiastic members, dedicated to the improvement of practice and services that safeguard children and adults in Wolverhampton.
- 2.2 They work closely with other strategic boards including the Health and Wellbeing Board, and the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership.
- 2.3 The Annual Reports are a summary of WSCB work during 2016-17.

Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB)

- 2.4 This report is formally the responsibility of the independent Chair, Alan Coe. Its contents have been accepted by the WSCB. In line with statutory guidance in Working Together 2015, it will be submitted to the Managing Director of the Council, the Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.5 Overall, the WSCB believes that arrangements for safeguarding children in Wolverhampton during this period were effective; that there is a strong commitment to safeguarding children across the Wolverhampton partnership; and that frontline practice continues to improve.

In reaching this conclusion, we have:

- **Acknowledged** the findings of the Ofsted Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and the Review of the effectiveness of the Local Safeguarding Children Board that concluded that

Children's Services in Wolverhampton are 'good'¹. Chapter 1 tells you more about this;

- Continued to invest in the B-Safe Team to strengthen our **engagement with children and young people**. Chapter 2 tells you what the team have been doing during the year;
 - **Monitored** data and information on a regular basis. Chapter 3 tells you about this;
 - **Created** a new **Quality Assurance Committee** to enhance our capacity to scrutinise front line practice;
 - **Invited** our partners to contribute accounts of the work they have carried out over the last year to safeguard children. These are summarised in Chapter 4;
 - **Conducted** an audit (a "**Section 11**" audit process [Children Act 2004]) of our safeguarding arrangements;
 - **Undertaken** a series of **MACFAs** (multi-agency case file audits) of frontline practice which have included themes such as: Implementation of WSCB Pre-birth checklist, Child Sexual Exploitation, Children whose parents have mental ill-health;
 - We **published** two **Serious Case Reviews** in 2016 – 17 and promoted the learning that came from them.
 - **Updated** our guidance in relation to: What is the Wolverhampton Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Inter-agency Protocol for Unborn Children and Young Children, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Screening Tool, CSE Pathway and associated guidance, Multi-Agency Referral Form (MARF), Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children's Board Dispute Resolution Policy, and information for staff facing allegations.
 - **Overseen** the implementation of the Wolverhampton combined **MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub)**. Wolverhampton Children's MASH was created in January 2016 and the introduction of the Adult MASH followed in late August 2016 to start to create a Whole Family MASH approach to Safeguarding both adults and children.
 - **Initiated and carried out successful communication and engagement activity** with the public and the workforce by: developing our new website; making engagement with faith groups a priority; undertaking a city-wide campaign 'Orange Wolverhampton' to raise awareness of violence against women and girls; and establishing a multi-agency forum for front-line staff to influence operational and strategic developments;
 - **Provided training**. Our training programmes are described in Chapter 6;
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Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board

- 2.6 This report is formally the responsibility of the independent Chair, Alan Coe. Its contents have been accepted by the WSAB. In line with statutory guidance aligned to the Care Act 2014, it will be submitted to the Managing Director of the Council, the Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner, and the Chair of the Health and Well-being Board
- 2.7 **Overall, WSAB believes that arrangements for safeguarding adults in Wolverhampton during this period were effective; that there is a strong commitment to safeguarding adults across the Wolverhampton partnership; and that frontline practice continues to improve.**

In reaching this conclusion, we have:

- Continued to invest in Health Watch to strengthen our **engagement with service users**. Chapter 1 tells you what the team have been doing during the year;
- **Monitored** data and information on a regular basis. Chapter 2 tells you about this;
- **Invited** our partners to contribute accounts of the work they have carried out over the last year to safeguard children. These are summarised in Chapter 3;
- **Provided training**. Chapter 4 tells you about this;
- **Updated our guidance** in relation to Position of Trust Regional Policy. WSAB agreed to adopt the framework of the West Midlands Regional Safeguarding Network.
- **Overseen** the implementation of the Wolverhampton **combined MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub)**. Wolverhampton Children's MASH was created in January 2016 and the introduction of the Adult MASH followed in late August 2016 to start to create a Whole Family MASH approach to Safeguarding both adults and children.
- **Initiated and carried out successful communication and engagement activity** with the public and the workforce by: developing our new website; making engagement with faith groups a priority; undertaking a city-wide campaign 'Orange Wolverhampton' to raise awareness of violence against women and girls; and establishing a multi-agency forum for front-line staff to influence operational and strategic developments;
- **Re-invigorated** our **Quality and Performance** Committee to enhance our capacity to oversee front line practice;
- Conducted an **audit** (an "assurance statement" process) of our safeguarding arrangements;
- We **published** one Safeguarding Adult Review in 2016 – 17 and initiated a number of alternative learning reviews.

3.0 Financial implications

- 3.1 There are no direct financial implications arising from this report. The Boards are funded from contributions from partner agencies.
[AS/19092017/E]

4.0 Legal implications

- 4.1 The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB) are statutory bodies set up in accordance with the Children Act 2004, and Care Act 2015, respectively.
[RB/19092017/S]

5.0 Equalities implications

- 5.1 The annual reports serve to demonstrate that Safeguarding impacts across racial, gender, cultural and ability.

6.0 Environmental implications

None

7.0 Human resources implications

- 7.1 None

8.0 Corporate landlord implications

- 8.1 None

9.0 Schedule of background papers

- 9.1 None