

**The Protection of Children in England:
A Progress Report
The Lord Laming
Implications for the CYPT Board**

**Di Smith,
Director of Children's Services**

20th April 2009



Laming

Report was asked to address 3 key questions relating to :

- Good practice
- Key barriers
- Specific actions to be taken by Government and national and local agencies to overcome barriers and accelerate improvements in safeguarding practice across the country.

Laming calls for.....

‘a sustained commitment to child protection and promoting the welfare of children at every level of government and in every one of the local services’

Main Chapter Headings

- Leadership and accountability
- Support for children
- Inter-agency working
- Children's workforce
- Improvement and challenge
- Organisation and finance
- Legal considerations

Recommendations

(58 recommendations in all)

Three key recommendations for CYPT Board and LSCB:

- 51** The Children's Trust and the Local Safeguarding Children Board should not be chaired by the same person. The Local Safeguarding Children Board Chair should be selected with the agreement of a group of multi-agency partners and should have training to support them in their role.

52 Local Safeguarding Children Boards should include membership from the senior decision makers from all safeguarding partners, who should attend regularly and be fully involved as equal partners in Local Safeguarding Children Board decision making.

53 Local Safeguarding Children Boards should report to the Children's Trust Board and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. Local Safeguarding Children Boards should provide robust challenge to the work of the Children's Trust and its partners in order to ensure that the right systems and quality of services and practice are in place so that children are properly safeguarded.

CYPT Response to Laming Report

- Response to Laming will build on 'stock take' previously reported to CYPT Board
- Form part of our drive to ensure best quality care and protection for every child
- All second and third tier officers across CYPT have had session considering the implications of Laming's recommendations and next steps.

Response from Government

- Government has accepted all of the recommendations
- Government will produce a detailed action plan in response to the recommendations by the end of April
- Sir Roger Singleton appointed to new role of Chief Adviser on the Safety of Children
- Across-Government National Safeguarding Delivery Unit will be established
- Legislation already developed to ensure every local authority has a statutory Children's Trust Board to improve all outcomes for children

Next Steps in Brighton & Hove

- Only around a quarter of the 58 recommendations are, initially, for local implementation.
- The remainder are for national government and agencies.
- It will be down to the local authority and partners to ensure that change is delivered on the ground.
- Each agency will need to determine individually and collectively an appropriate response to Laming.

The CYPT Board and the LSCB will be central to ensuring a coherent response that promotes the welfare of children and young people in Brighton and Hove.

