



Although a formal committee of Brighton & Hove City Council, the Health & Wellbeing Board has a remit which includes matters relating to the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), the Local Safeguarding Board for Children and Adults and Healthwatch.

Title:	Transition to new children's safeguarding arrangements	
Date of Meeting:	23 rd July 2019	
Report of:	Pinaki Ghoshal, Executive Director, Families, Children and Learning.	
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Wards Affected:	All	

FOR GENERAL RELEASE

Executive Summary

This paper summarises proposed changes to children's safeguarding arrangements in line with new legislation under the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and subsequent revision to Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2018.

The report is submitted as a collaborative paper between the three statutory partners: Local Authority, CCG and Police and follows consultation with existing LSCB members. It seeks to set out the governance, strategic aims, scrutiny and structure that will satisfy statutory requirements, delivering the best possible safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

Significant timescales have been set out by the DfE. Details of new arrangements must be submitted to them for QA no later than 29th June 2019 and those arrangements should then be live no more than 3 months later.

Under the drive to increase awareness and ensure that safeguarding children is



'everyone's responsibility', this paper will impact on all residents and professionals in Brighton and Hove. There will be some important changes for professionals and existing partners who are involved in safeguarding, but of greatest significance is the impact this will have on our children and young people.

Glossary of Terms

BHSCP – Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Children Partnership
CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group
LSCB – Local Safeguarding Children Board
DfE - Department for Education
QA – Quality Assure

1. Decisions, recommendations and any options

1. This paper is submitted to the Health and Wellbeing Board for comment and noting.

Or

2. The Health and Wellbeing Board as asked to approve the New Safeguarding Arrangements and reporting structure.

2. Relevant information

This paper outlines changes to local children's safeguarding arrangements, as required by new legislation detailed in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and subsequent changes to Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

Until the new legislation comes into effect the safeguarding arrangements are undertaken by the LSCB which provides the strategic and operational direction of safeguarding and continuous monitoring of performance in Brighton & Hove using a board structure with an independent chair.

The new primary responsibility for safeguarding children is now placed with three named 'safeguarding partners', Local Authority, CCG and police. The LSCB will cease to exist but there is an expectation that local partners will continue to contribute to safeguarding and may be named as 'relevant agencies' (list of proposed agencies are contained within the report). The new arrangements must include a provision for independent scrutiny (this is not the role of the Health and Wellbeing Board to undertake).

The paper explains the new structure that will take over from the existing arrangements with a strategic steering group, led by the safeguarding partners

overseeing delivery via an operational board and subject specific sub-groups. These groups will ensure strategy and policy are delivered in key areas.

The report sets out timescales for implementation and deals with the requirement for the new partnership to produce an annual report that will detail new arrangements and how effective the arrangements have been in practice.

3. Important considerations and implications

3.1 Legal:

Under the Children Act 2004, as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017, LSCBs, set up by local authorities, must be replaced. Under the new legislation, the three safeguarding partners (local authorities, chief officers of police, and clinical commissioning groups) must make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies (as they consider appropriate) to safeguard and protect the welfare of children in the area. The child death review partners (local authorities and clinical commissioning groups) must set up child death review arrangements.

The report details the proposals for arrangements for oversight of safeguarding children in the city per the requirements of the Children and Social Work Act (2017). The report details how the current LSCB will be replaced by the Brighton and Hove Safeguarding Children Partnership (BHSCP). The Partnership will need to provide a critical oversight function of the partners effectiveness in safeguarding the children of the city, and so meeting a range of statutory duties to promote the wellbeing of children- both as it relates to individual agencies and in terms of multi-agency working.

Under statutory guidance LSCBs must continue to carry out all of their statutory functions, including commissioning SCRs where the criteria are met, until the point at which safeguarding partner arrangements begin to operate in a local area. Safeguarding partners must publish their arrangements by 29 June 2019. Following publication of their arrangements, safeguarding partners have up to three months from the date of publication to implement the arrangements. The implementation date should be made clear in the published arrangements. Once the arrangements have been published and implemented, the LSCB for the local area will cease to exist.

The arrangements proposed meet the requirements of 'Working Together: transitional guidance' (2018)

Lawyer consulted: Natasha Watson

Date: 21.6.19

Finance: Financial contributions are detailed in the report.

Sustainability: This is a joint paper that details changes across the current safeguarding partnership. There are no significant changes to commissioning anticipated at this time.

Health, social care, children's services and public health: Detailed in the paper

Supporting documents and information

Appendix1: Report for HWB on transition into new safeguarding arrangements.