

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Slough Wellbeing Board **DATE:** 15 July 2015

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WARD(S): All

PART I **FOR DECISION**

SLOUGH WELLBEING BOARD (SWB), LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB) AND ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD (ASB) PROTOCOL

1. **Purpose of Report**

The purpose of this report is to present the SWB, LSCB and ASB protocol, and to request the agreement of the board to the adoption of this joint protocol.

2. **Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action**

The Committee is requested the approve adoption of this protocol.

3. **The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the JSNA and the Five Year Plan**

3a. **Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities**

This protocol will support delivery of the current Joint Wellbeing Strategy priorities, through more effective joint working:

- Economy and skills
- Health
- Regeneration and the environment
- Housing
- Safer communities

3b. **Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)**

The protocol recommends that the SWB will consult with the LSCB and ASB on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment as part of its annual update.

3c. **Five Year Plan Outcomes**

Improved joint working between the SWB, LSCB and ASB will support delivery against each of the following Five Year Plan outcomes:

- 1 - Slough will be the premier location in the south east for businesses of all sizes to locate, start, grow and stay.
- 2 - There will be more homes in the borough, with quality improving across all tenures to support our ambitions for Slough.
- 4 - Slough will be one of the safest places in the Thames Valley.
- 5 - Children and young people will be healthy, resilient and have positive life chances.
- 6 - More people take responsibility and manage their own health care and support needs.

4. **Other Implications**

- (a) **Financial** - There are no financial implications directly resulting from the recommendation of this report.
- (b) **Risk Management** - No risk management implications associated with this report.
- (c) **Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications** - There are no Human Rights Act implications associated with the proposed action.
- (d) **Equalities Impact Assessment** – An EIA is not required for this protocol.

5. **Supporting Information**

5.1 In May 2015 a joint protocol between the SWB, LSCB and ASB was drafted.

5.2 The purpose of this protocol is to define how the Slough Wellbeing Board (SWB), Adults Safeguarding Board (ASB) and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) work together in the pursuit of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults in Slough.

5.3 The protocol states that:

- The SWB will consult with the LSCB and ASB on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- The SWB will present to the safeguarding boards the updated JSNA and performance against priorities and outcomes in the Slough Wellbeing Strategy at least annually
- The SWB will provide information to the LSCB and ASB, in respect of the health and well-being of children, young people and their parents/carers on at least an annual basis by means of updates to the JSNA
- The LSCB and ASB will present their annual reports to the SWB and the SWB will provide a formal response to the LSCB and ASB.
- All Boards will ensure that messages and information about keeping children and adults with needs for care and support safe are disseminated within partner organisations
- All Boards will ensure that action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another

5.4 The full protocol can be found at appendix A

5.5 This protocol was been agreed by the LSCB on 11th June 2015 and the ASB on 5th June 2015.

5.3 The SWB are requested to formally approve adoption of this joint protocol.

6. **Conclusion**

6.1 The proposed joint protocol between the SWB, LSCB and ASB will improve the flow of information between the three boards and ensure good governance systems are in place across these three statutory bodies.

7. **Appendices Attached**

'A' – SWB, LSCB, ASB protocol

APPENDIX A

PROTOCOL BETWEEN THE SLOUGH LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD, SLOUGH ADULTS SAFEGUARDING BOARD AND SLOUGH WELLBEING BOARD

1. AIM

1.1 The aim of this Protocol is to define how the Slough Wellbeing Board (SWB), Adults Safeguarding Board (ASB) and Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) work together in the pursuit of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults.

2. INTRODUCTION

2.1 The LSCB is a statutory body created under the Children Act 2004. It is responsible for challenging all relevant organisations on their performance in ensuring that children and young people are kept safe.

2.2 The LSCB is not a delivery body: it is a scrutiny and assurance body. However, it would expect to initiate activities which investigate and improve practice in safeguarding. It has the authority to call any local agency representatives to account for its safeguarding activity.

2.3 The work of the LSCB contributes to the wider goal of improving the wellbeing of all children and young people. Within its wider governance arrangements, its role is to assess the effectiveness of the arrangements made by the individual agencies and the wider partnership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people

2.4 The SWB is a statutory committee of the Council. The Health and Social Care Act 2012 established health and wellbeing boards as a forum where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. Its overall aim is to improve the health and wellbeing of the population of Slough from pre-birth to end of life, reduce inequalities and improve the quality of health and social care services. It will do this by promoting the Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy; a strategy of prevention, early intervention, and rehabilitation; supported wherever possible by community based public health programmes, education, health care and social care.

2.5 The multi agency Adults Safeguarding Board (ASB) is established in accordance with the Care Act (2014). It makes strategic decisions in response to national and local policy developments, and works to ensure the safety and wellbeing of adults at risk of abuse and neglect in Slough through the work of the Board, its sub groups and partner agencies

2.6 The main objective of an ASB is to assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help and protect adults in Slough who meet the criteria as set out in the Care Act (2014).

3. ROLE OF THE SLOUGH LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (SLSCB)

The statutory objectives and functions of the SLSCB as set out in section 14 of the Children Act 2004 are:

To co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and

To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 sets out the functions of the LSCB, in relation to the above objectives under section 14 of the Children Act 2004, as follows:

Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area including policies and procedures in relation to:

- i) The action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention
 - ii) Training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children
 - iii) Recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children
 - iv) Investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children
 - v) Safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered
 - vi) Cooperation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners
- b) Communicating to persons or bodies in the area the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so
 - c) Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve
 - d) Participating in the planning of services for children in the area
 - e) Undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the Board partners of on lessons to be learned

In order to fulfil its statutory functions under regulation 5 an LSCB should use data and, as a minimum, should:

- assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help;
- assess whether LSCB partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations
- quality assure practice, including through joint audits of case files involving practitioners and identifying lessons to be learned; and
- monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Working Together 2015 sets out additional responsibilities as follows:

LSCBs should conduct regular assessments on the effectiveness of Board partners' responses to child sexual exploitation and include in the [annual] report information on the outcome of these assessments.

This should include an analysis of how the LSCB partners have used their data to promote service improvement for vulnerable children and families, including in respect of sexual abuse. The report should also include appropriate data on children missing from care, and how the LSCB is addressing the issue.

4. ROLE OF THE ADULT SAFEGUARDING BOARD (ASB)

The ASB has a strategic role that is greater than the sum of the operational duties of the core partners. It oversees and leads adult safeguarding across the locality and will be interested in a range of matters that contribute to the prevention of abuse and neglect.

These will include the safety of patients in local health services, quality of local care and support services, effectiveness of prisons and approved premises in safeguarding offenders and awareness and responsiveness of further education services. It is important that ASB partners feel able to challenge each other and other organisations where it believes that their actions or inactions are increasing the risk of abuse or neglect. This will include commissioners as well as providers of services.

In particular, the Board will:

- Oversee the development of effective interagency policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of vulnerable adults within the borough of Slough.
- Provide support and guidance to communities and organisations to ensure that in Slough we are actively identifying and preventing the circumstances in

which neglect and abuse occurs, promoting the welfare and interests of vulnerable adults.

- Develop a robust overarching strategy for Safeguarding in Slough, within which all agencies set their own strategy and operational policy.
- Raise awareness, knowledge and understanding of abuse and neglect in order that communities and organisations know how to respond effectively and coherently where issues arise.
- Engage and encourage dialogue with local partnerships (within Slough and where appropriate across Berkshire) with responsibilities for the safety and welfare of all adults so that we are all able to respond effectively to vulnerable adults.
- Ensure that vulnerable adults who use the services we provide or commission are safe and their care and treatment is appropriate to their needs

5. SLOUGH WELLBEING BOARD (SWB)

The Slough Wellbeing Board takes the lead in promoting health and wellbeing in Slough.

It is a focused decision-making committee of Slough Borough Council, set up in April 2013 in line with the requirements of the Health and Social Care Act 2012, in order to:

- deliver the statutory functions placed on Health and Wellbeing Boards under the Health and Social Care Act (2012)
- act as a high level strategic partnership for the borough
- develop and publish a [Joint Strategic Needs Assessment](#) for the borough following consultation with Slough's residents, health and social care professionals and the voluntary and community sector
- agree the priorities to improve the health and wellbeing and reduce the inequalities of Slough residents
- oversee the delivery of the [Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy](#)

In particular, it has the responsibility;

- To encourage persons who arrange for the provision of any health or social services in the area to work in an integrated manner for the purpose of advancing the health and wellbeing of the area.
- To encourage persons who arrange for the provision of health-related services in its area to work closely with the Board.
- To give its opinion to the Slough Clinical Commissioning Group (the CCG) as to whether their Commissioning Plans adequately reflect the current JSNA and SWS.
- To comment on the sections of the CCG's Annual Report which describe the extent of the CCG's contribution to the delivery of the SWS.

- To give an opinion as requested by the NHS Commissioning Board on the CCG's level of engagement with the Board, the JSNA and the SWS.
- To give its opinion to the Council on whether the council is discharging its duty to have regard to the JSNA and SWS in the exercise of its functions.
- To exercise any council function which the Council delegates.

In addition, the Board has the following locally-agreed objectives:

- To act as the umbrella high level strategic partnership for the Borough, working to agree on the priorities that will improve the health and wellbeing and reduce the inequalities of the residents of Slough.
- To deliver the Board's duty to promote joint commissioning and integrated provision, by bringing together a wider range of resources across NHS, social care, public health and other related services;
- To give the public a voice in shaping health and wellbeing services in Slough, and provide a key forum for public accountability of the NHS, public health, social care and other commissioned services that are related to health and wellbeing in Slough.

6. ARRANGEMENTS TO SECURE COORDINATION BETWEEN THE BOARDS

The three Boards will work together by the following means:

The SWB will consult with the LSCB and ASB on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.

The SWB will present to the safeguarding boards the updated JSNA and performance against priorities and outcomes in the Slough Wellbeing Strategy at least annually

The SWB will provide information to the LSCB and ASB, in respect of the health and well-being of children, young people and their parents/carers on at least an annual basis by means of updates to the JSNA

The LSCB and ASB will present their annual reports to the SWB and the SWB will provide a formal response to the LSCB and ASB.

All Boards will ensure that messages and information about keeping children and adults with needs for care and support safe are disseminated within partner organisations

All Boards will ensure that action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another

7. OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The SWB, ASB and LSCB will share their Board Minutes.

This Protocol will be reviewed on an annual basis or when national guidance or legislation affecting any of the Boards is revised or introduced.

8. RESOLUTION PROCESS

Where any of the Boards are concerned that this protocol is not succeeding in ensuring strong partnership working to keep children and adults who are vulnerable safe and healthy, resolution should be sought through communication between the Chairs of the Boards, the Lead Members and the Directors of Children’s Services, Adult Social Care and Public Health.

9. SIGNATORIES

This protocol is agreed by the undersigned on behalf of the Slough Local Safeguarding Children Board, Slough Adult Safeguarding Board and Slough Wellbeing Board:

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Phil Picton, Independent Chair. Slough LSCB

..... Nick Georgiou,
Independent Chair, Slough ASB.

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Cllr R Anderson. Chair. Slough Wellbeing Board