

SLOUGH BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Slough Wellbeing Board **DATE:** 16 November 2016

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PART I

FOR COMMENT & CONSIDERATION

SLOUGH LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD (SLSCB) ANNUAL REPORT 2015 – 2016

1. Purpose of Report

To make the Slough Wellbeing Board (SWB) aware of the work of Slough's Local Safeguarding Children's Board (SLSCB) during 2015 -16 and highlight key issues.

2. Recommendation(s)/Proposed Action

The Panel is requested to note and comment on the draft annual report.

3. The Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy, the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment and the Five Year Plan

3a. Slough Joint Wellbeing Strategy Priorities

The work of the SLSCB directly contributes to the following priorities in the Slough Wellbeing Strategy 2016 - 20

1 - Protecting vulnerable children

3b. Five Year Plan Outcomes

The work of the SLSCB directly contributes to the following outcomes in the Council's Five Year plan:

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.

4. Other Implications

(a) **Financial** - There are no financial implications directly resulting from the recommendation of this report. However, Ofsted's recent review of the SLSCB (in December 2015) identified the need for the SLSCB to develop and implement a funding agreement to ensure that it has sufficient resources to undertake its core business. A new Chair of the LSCB took up the role in September 2016 with scope for more engagement than at the time of the Ofsted criticism.

(b) **Risk Management** – The Annual Report explains how each of the specific threats /risks identified by Ofsted during their recent review of the work of the SLSCB

are being tackled/addressed through its 2016 – 17 Business Plan (see section 6 below).

(c) Human Rights Act and Other Legal Implications - There are no Human Rights Implications associated with the proposed action - although the work of the SLSCB contributes to a number of Human Rights such as the right to family life.

Equalities Impact Assessment (EIA) –While and EIA is not required for SLSCB's Annual Report, they will be undertaken for specific programmes of work as directed by the SLSCB where appropriate.

5. **Summary**

Slough Wellbeing Board is asked to consider and note the Annual Report of the SLSCB which evaluates the effectiveness of the borough's safeguarding arrangements for children and young people during 2015 – 16.

6. **The Slough Local Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report**

This report focuses on the key areas of work identified by the SLSCB'S current business plan for 2016/17 which came out of a result Ofsted inspection of the borough's safeguarding arrangements in December 2015 as well as other work areas identified by board members.

It focuses on the work undertaken by the Board in regard to six specific themes which are as follows:-

- Theme 1: Revising and implementing multi-agency threshold guidance.
- Theme 2: Establishing a programme of effective monitoring and quality assurance of multi-agency safeguarding practice.
- Theme 3: Taking action to strengthen the LSCB's oversight and scrutiny of the effectiveness of the local multi-agency response to children at risk of exploitation including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and missing children.
- Theme 4: Developing and implementing a funding agreement to ensure the SLSCB has sufficient resources to undertake its core business.
- Theme 5: Undertaking a training needs analysis and regularly evaluating the quality and impact of training (including E-Learning).
- Theme 6: Engaging the wider community in the work of the SLSCB by ensuring that the Board has lay member representation and through engagement with local faith groups.

7. **Issues in the Annual Report of specific relevance to the Slough Wellbeing Board**

- The Board has recently agreed new arrangements for partnership working in this area which will replace the SLSCB current structure with that of a Slough Safeguarding Children's Partnership. This is in direct response to recommendations made by Government during its recent national review of LSCBs and should enable a much stronger focus on operational safeguarding across Slough.
- This provides the Chair of the revised LSCB Partnership with greater opportunity to work more closely with professionals and the various partnerships and boards

that have a direct and indirect role in the safeguarding of children and young people in Slough.

- These changes are now in effect and are intended to reinvigorate the work of the LSCB's subgroups in terms of their focus, leadership and engagement of partners.

8. **Comments of Other Committees**

The SLSCB will consider (and is expected to endorse) its Annual Report at its meeting on 10 November. Partner agencies of the SLSCB will be presenting it to their respective organisations over the next few weeks. It will also be presented to the Council's Chief Executive, the Leader of the Council and the Police & Crime Commissioner shortly.

9. **Conclusion**

Slough Wellbeing Board is asked to consider and note the Annual Report of the SLSCB.

10. **Appendices attached**

'A' Slough Local Safeguarding Children's Board – Annual Report 2015 – 16.

11. **Background Papers**

None