

Slough Borough Council

Report To:	Slough Well Being Board
Date:	12 th March 2024
Subject:	Safeguarding partnership, emerging issues
Chief Officer:	Betty Lynch (Sue Butcher and Marc Gadsby)
Contact Officer:	Betty Lynch
Ward(s):	All
Exempt:	NO –
Appendices:	NONE

1. Summary and Recommendations

This report sets out emerging issues from the Safeguarding Partnership for the attention of the well-being board in relation to:

Substance misuse: reflecting on progress made in relation to the substance misuse strategy.

Trauma informed practice: The need to raise awareness, training and support for professionals, managers and leaders to apply trauma informed methodology in leading and developing services as well as expecting front line staff to apply it to direct work.

Neuro divergence and parenting: 2 rapid reviews involved neuro divergent parents and there is a need to explore the skills needed to assess parenting capacity and provide skilled support to parents. Both also involved families living in poverty.

Recommendations:

Council/Committee is recommended to:

Consider the role of the Well Being board in relation to the above 3 themes.

Reason: To ensure the well-being board is aware of emerging issues and how they impact on safeguarding and to contribute to local solutions.

2. Report

Introductory paragraph

Working together 2023 stipulates the importance of ensuring the safeguarding partnership connects with other partnerships including the Well Being Board. Historically, this has been done by presenting the safeguarding partnership annual report in full. However, in 2023 it was agreed that themes from the annual report that relate to the well-being board should be identified in advance and summarised for discussion at the board meeting. This report summarises such themes and suggests that the well-being board considers how it can support or bring solutions to some of the challenges identified.

2.1 Background

The safeguarding partnerships main functions can be summarised as follows;

- to foster collaboration,
- provide scrutiny and challenge and
- to communicate safeguarding messages to the professional and general community.

These are statutory functions as laid out in Working Together 2023.

Part of the scrutiny role is to carry out statutory reviews. Each year, the two sub-groups responsible for carrying out reviews, collate learning and ensure it is applied in practice, through policy development, training and audit and incorporating it into the partnership strategic plan. The themes above have been drawn from the annual report 2022-2023 and link to the well-being board and are for discussion at the meeting.

3. Implications of the Recommendation

3.1 *Financial implications*

No financial implications.

3.2 *Legal implications*

Statutory framework described above, no legal implications.

3.3 *Risk management implications*

No immediate decisions about risk are being made.

3.4 *Environmental implications [Mandatory]*

No environmental implications.

3.5 *Equality implications [Mandatory]*

No equality implications identified.

4. Background Papers

The Safeguarding Partnership annual report can be found on the link below;
[Slough Safeguarding Children Partnership - Annual Report 2022-2023 \(sloughsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk\)](https://sloughsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk)