

<b>1 February 2012</b>		<b>ITEM 6</b>
<b>Children's Services Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)</b>		
Report of: Barbara Foster, Head of Care and Targeted Outcomes		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> non-key	
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Barbara Foster, Head of Care and Targeted Outcomes		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Jo Olsson, Director of People Services		
<b>This report is</b> public		
<b>Purpose of Report:</b> To advise Members of LSCB Annual Report		

Comment [s]: PLEASE CLICK THIS BOX ONCE and enter the date of the meeting (in font 16, not capitals)

Comment [s]: Please leave this for completion by Democratic Services

Comment [s]: PLEASE CLICK THIS BOX ONCE and enter the name of the Committee you are reporting to (in font 16, not capitals)

Comment [sj]: PLEASE CLICK THIS BOX ONCE and enter the title of your report (in font 16)

Comment [a j]: Please enter the name and job title of the person who will be presenting the report

Comment [s]: Please enter details of any Wards and Communities affected by the

Comment [s]: Yes/No/Not Applicable – a 'Key Decision' is generally one affecting more

Comment [sj]: Please state the Head of Service's name and job title

Comment [sj]: Please state Director's name and job title

Comment [sj]: State whether your report is Public or Exempt. If Exempt (i.e. not to be given to

Comment [sj]: Briefly set out the purpose of your report

Comment [sj]: Please provide a summary of the key points in your report

Comment [s]: The recommendations should be set out in bold in the form of the

Comment [s]: You should briefly explain why the report is on the agenda - See para. 5.3 and 5.4

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The LSCB is a statutory partnership body with specified duties and responsibilities. It must assess and report on the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard children. The report, which is attached at Appendix one, concludes its summary assessment; "From the evidence noted both internally and externally, the Thurrock LSCB is satisfied to report that safeguarding arrangements for children and young people continue to be effective in Thurrock".

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS:**

**1.1 That members note the content of the report and affirm the council's continuing commitment to providing strong and effective leadership of safeguarding in Thurrock.**

**2. INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND:**

**2.1** The council must satisfy itself, taking evidence from a range of sources that the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for children in the borough are effective. The independent chair of the LSCB prepares an annual report for this purpose.

3. **ISSUES:**

3.1 Safeguarding children including leading the multi-agency arrangements is a core statutory duty of the council. Professor Munro's recent review reminds us that risk to children cannot be eliminated but must be worked with and managed effectively. It is highly complex and specialist work that is not easy for a lay person to test and check with confidence. The independence of the LSCB chair, who is an acknowledged child protection expert is intended to give members assurance that appropriate scrutiny and challenge of local arrangements is in place and effective.

Comment [s]: Other headings may be appropriate. The report should outline the reasoning that leads to its recommendations and **must** include:

1. a brief summary of options considered;
2. consultation outcomes
3. a risk assessment.
4. Whether the responsible cabinet members have been consulted/contributed to the report (NB professional and political advice must be clearly distinguished)

- See para.5.5 of the report writing guidelines.

4. **CONSULTATION (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

4.1 Not applicable

Comment [jj]: This should include any consultation with Ward Members and Shadow Portfolio Holders, as well as any public or statutory consultation

5. **IMPACT ON CORPORATE POLICIES, PRIORITIES, PERFORMANCE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT**

5.1 Good evidence of delivery of councils responsibilities.

6. **IMPLICATIONS**

6.1 **Financial**

None

Implications verified by:  
Telephone and email:

Comment [a]: Please refer to Section 5.7 of the Report Writing Guidelines

Comment [sj]: This section should always be completed – if they are dealt with fully in another part of the report, they also need a brief cross reference here. The names and job titles of the officers providing

6.2 **Legal**

None

Implications verified by:  
Telephone and email:

Comment [sj]: See Guideline 6.2

Comment [sj]: See Guideline 6.3

Comment [sj]: See Guideline 6.4

6.3 **Diversity and Equality**

None

Implications verified by:  
Telephone and email:

6.4 **Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Section 17, Risk Assessment, Health Impact Assessment, Sustainability, IT, Environmental**

Comment [sj]: This should inform the recommendations in the report

7. **CONCLUSION**

Comment [sj]: See Guideline 8. If any Papers are to be placed in the Members room that relate to this report, you should also list them here

7.1 This report gives council some assurance in relation to its service areas that work with the highest risk to the most vulnerable. There can be no complacency as constant vigilant attention is required to sustain effectiveness in safeguarding.

Comment [sj]: List the Appendices referred to in the Report

**BACKGROUND PAPERS USED IN PREPARING THIS REPORT:**

- LSCB Annual Report

Comment [sj]: Insert the full contact details of the author of the report

**APPENDICES TO THIS REPORT:**

- Appendix 1 - LSCB Annual Report

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