

<b>10 February 2015</b>		<b>ITEM: 6</b>
<b>Children's Services Overview &amp; Scrutiny Committee</b>		
<b>Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2013-2014</b>		
<b>Wards and communities affected:</b> All	<b>Key Decision:</b> Not applicable	
<b>Report of: Report of: David Peplow , Independent Chair Thurrock LSCB</b>		
<b>Accountable Head of Service:</b> Andrew Carter, Head of Children's Social Care		
<b>Accountable Director:</b> Carmel Littleton, Director of Children's Services		
<b>This report is Public</b>		

## **Executive Summary**

Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) operates within a legislative and policy framework created by the Children Act 2004 and Working Together 2010 (as amended by Working Together 2013).

This Annual Report, included at appendix 1, is required under the above legislative arrangements and reflects the priorities set within the LSCB Business Plan for 2013/14, the progress against these priorities, and areas for further development during 2014/15.

The report was deferred at the 11 June 2014 LSCB Board meeting at the request of partner agencies to include additional single agency contributions and was ratified at its meeting held on 17 September 2014.

### **1. Recommendation(s)**

**1.1 That the progress made on children's safeguarding for the 12 month period April 2013 to March 2014 be noted.**

**1.2 That the Committee consider and comment upon the report.**

### **2. Introduction and Background**

**2.1 Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Board's (LSCB) Annual Report for 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014 provides an account of what activity it has conducted to oversee safeguarding services within Thurrock and to assess their effectiveness.**

- 2.2 The Board was set up in order to make sure that key agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Thurrock.
- 2.3 The LSCB operates within a legislative and policy framework created by the Children Act 2004 and Working Together 2010 (as amended by Working Together 2013).
- 2.4 This Annual Report is required under the above legislative arrangements and reflects the priorities set within the LSCB Business Plan for 2013/14, progress against these priorities, and areas for further development during 2014/15.
- 2.5 The report was deferred at the 11 June 2014 LSCB Board meeting at the request of partner agencies to include additional single agency contributions and was ratified at its meeting held on 17 September 2014.

### **3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options**

- 3.1 This is a monitoring report for noting, therefore there is no analysis option.

### **4. Reasons for Recommendation**

- 4.1 It is a statutory requirement for Local Safeguarding Children Boards to produce an Annual Report. It is best practice for this to be considered by the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. This report is for monitoring and noting.

### **5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)**

- 5.1 The document was circulated in draft format for consideration and comment by the LSCB and Children's Partnership (CYPP) committees.

### **6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact**

- 6.1 The aims and priorities contained within the Annual report influence the refresh and development of both new and existing strategies and plans of both the Council and LSCB partner organisations.

### **7. Implications**

#### **7.1 Financial**

Implications verified by: **Kay Goodacre**  
**Finance Manager – Children's Services**

No specific financial implications. The delivery of the LSCB Business is undertaken within budgets established through annual partnership funding.

## 7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Christine Ifediora**  
**Senior Solicitor**

There are no direct Legal implications.

Thurrock LSCB is required to publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. The report fulfils the requirements of the Children's Act 2004 to report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area and to ensure that the appropriate agencies receive a copy.

## 7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Teresa Evans**  
**Equalities and Cohesion Officer**

The annual report covers the safeguarding needs of all children in Thurrock. The plans and policies of its board and sub committees reflect the diverse needs which are supported through implementing and developing equalities impact assessments as appropriate.

## 7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

None

## 8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- LSCB Business Plan 2013/14
- Minutes of Board meetings

## 9. Appendices to the report

- Appendix 1 - Thurrock LSCB Annual Report 2013/14

### Report Author:

Alan Cotgrove

Business Manager

Local Safeguarding Children Board