
Dudley Health and Well Being Board – 16th December 2014

Joint Report of the Director of Adult, Community and Housing Services and the Interim Director of Children's Services

The Annual Report of Dudley Safeguarding Children Board 2013-14 and the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14

Purpose of Report

1. To present to the Health and Well Being Board the Annual Report of the Dudley Safeguarding Children's Board 2013-14 and the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14

Background

2. **Annual Report of the Dudley Safeguarding Children's Board 2013-14**

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children requires effective co-ordination in every local area. For this reason, the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB).

3. The Local Safeguarding Children Board is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.
4. The core objectives of the Local Safeguarding Children Board are set out in S 14(1) of the Children Act 2004 as follows:
 - 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 of the authority
 - To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for that purpose
 - Protecting children from maltreatment
 - Preventing impairment of children's health or development
 - Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
 - Understanding that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully
5. The scope of Local Safeguarding Children Board's role includes safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in three broad areas of activity
 - Activity that affects all children and aims to identify and prevent maltreatment, or impairment of health or development and ensure children are growing up in circumstances consistent with safe and effective care
 - Proactive work that aims to target particular vulnerable groups

- Responsive work to protect children who are suffering or at risk of suffering harm
6. The functions of the Local Safeguarding Children Board are laid out in statutory guidance – *‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’* (March 2013).
 7. Dudley Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) has an independent chair in accordance with Government and Ofsted guidance. Under the new arrangements for Ofsted inspections of Local Authority arrangements for safeguarding children safeguarding boards will be subject of inspection. The evaluation schedule for the inspection of boards can be found at <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/children-and-families-services/for-children-and-families-services-providers/inspecting-children-and-families-services/inspect-12>.
 8. The Dudley Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report (enclosed) provides an outline of the key achievements and developments during 2012-13 and progress in respect of its key priorities.

9. **The Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14**

The Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2013-14 is attached (on CMIS) . This document set out six safeguard adult principles for boards to consider: Empowerment
Prevention; Proportionality; Protection; Partnership; and Accountability.

10. The context for adult safeguarding – in particular the implementation of the Care Act in April 2014 which will set Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing for the first time – is noted as well as the Priorities of the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board.
11. The contribution of partners to the adult safeguarding agenda is outlined in the Report with examples of their work.
12. The challenges for the Board in the context of a changing public sector and social and economic environment are the subject of some reflection in the Report as well as the learning that has been done through Practice Learning Events, Serious Case Reviews and related activity during the last year.
13. Working with the Learning Disabilities Partnership Board, members of the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board have maintained particular attention on the on-going requirements linked to the outcome of the Winterborne View Review. The Health and Well-Being Board can be re-assured that there is full sight in Dudley of the care situations of all people who might be considered the target group of this Review.
14. The Health and Well Being Board will wish to note that during 2013-14, a Peer review into our local safeguarding arrangements was conducted by colleagues from Stoke-on-Trent City Council. The Review made a number of recommendations which have been followed through, particularly with regard to partnership working.
15. Detailed information on the incidence of safeguarding episodes is included in the Report. The Health and Well-Being Board will wish to note that in addition to partners reporting to the Adult Safeguarding Board about their activity in this area, a detailed analysis of relevant management information is considered twice yearly at the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board.

16. The Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board Annual report also includes an Action Plan for the coming year.

Finance

17. Dudley Safeguarding Children Board has annual budget of £220,700 for 2013/14 financial year, receiving core funding from the local authority (53%), Primary Care Trust (26%) and West Midlands Police (4%). The remainder of income is received from contributions from other partner agencies and through training.
18. The local authority funds the Head of Safeguarding & Review post and a number of administrative posts within the Safeguarding & Review Unit which contribute directly to supporting the business of the Board.
19. From 2013/14, partner agencies agreed to make contributions to the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board. The Local Authority employs a Head of Adult Safeguarding. Dudley CCG and Dudley Group also invest in specialist safeguarding roles and other agencies have safeguarding leads,

Law

20. The key legislation underpinning the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board is the Children Act 2004, supported by statutory *Working Together to Safeguard Children* guidance.
21. For adults, the Care Act 2014 and its associated guidance puts Safeguarding Adults Boards on a statutory footing with an obligation for agencies to act in partnership.

Equality Impact

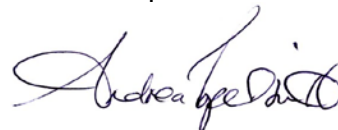
22. The work of the Dudley Safeguarding Children Board supports parents, families, communities and partner agencies in providing safe homes and environments, security and stability for all children and young people in the Borough. The Dudley Safeguarding Children Board responds to the needs of vulnerable groups to minimise the incidence of child abuse and neglect to ensure that all children can maximise the opportunity to achieve positive outcomes.
23. The Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board monitors the incidence of safeguarding according to a range of identity factors including age, ethnicity and disability. Specific activity linked to Hate Crime has been undertaken to take account of special factors within a variety of settings such as domestic violence or to protect people with learning disabilities.

Recommendation

13. Dudley Health and Well being Board receive and comment on the reports.



.....
Pauline Sharratt
Interim Director of Children's Services



.....
Andrea Pope-Smith
Director of Adult, Community & Housing Services

Contact Officers:

Ian McGuff
Assistant Director – Quality & Partnership
Telephone: 01384 814387
Email: ian.mcguff@dudley.gov.uk

Brendan Clifford
Assistant Director- Adult Social Care
Telephone – 01384 815806
Email: Brendan.clifford@dudley.gov.uk

List of Background Papers

Dudley Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report - copy on CMIS
Dudley Safeguarding Children Board Executive Summary - attached

<http://safeguardingchildren.dudley.gov.uk/what-is-the-safeguarding-children-board/business-plan/>
Annual Report of the Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board - copy on CMIS

Reports on CMIS can be accessed via the link – <http://cmis.dudley.gov.uk/cm5/>

Two copies will be available at the meeting. If any Board Member wishes a hard copy in advance please contact Joe Jablonski and he will send you a copy