

NORTH LINCOLNSHIRE COUNCIL

CABINET

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REVIEW REPORT 2012-2013

1. OBJECT AND KEY POINTS IN THIS REPORT

- 1.1 To present the LSCB Annual Report for 2012-2013.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The LSCB has a statutory requirement to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. It is required that the report is submitted to the Leader of the Council, Chief Executive, Local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.2 The statutory guidance set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013, states that the annual review report should be a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services.
- 2.3 This report is written in accordance with the National Association of Independent LSCB Chairs guidance on preparing annual reports. A copy is available in the Group Offices.
- 2.4 The Annual Report outlines the progress made in respect of LSCB statutory functions including:
- Agencies duties in respect of Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and section 14 of the Children Act 2004
- The Board's duties in respect of:
- developing policies and procedures to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children;
 - Training of persons working with children
 - Communication and awareness raising about safeguarding children
 - Undertaking reviews into child deaths
 - Undertaking serious case reviews
- 2.5 The Annual Report also includes progress against LSCB priority areas which are:
- Reduce the harm from exploitation of children and young people
 - Reduce the harm from domestic abuse
 - Promote early help
 - Reduce the harm from emotional abuse and neglect

2.6 The headlines within the report are:

- LSCB policies and procedures continue to be reviewed and kept up to date. All the procedures have been reviewed and updated locally.
- Training for multi-agency professionals was delivered through 102 courses and 3 LSCB information sessions. All training is subject to evaluation and is consistently rated as good or excellent by those staff who attend.
- The LSCB has continued to raise awareness and has focused on working with children and young people through stay safe events with schools and children and parents subject to safeguarding plans.
- The LSCB consulted and collaborated with children and young people who have played a significant role in improving practice, for example the development of the child friendly plan designed and developed by the Cool Kidz Club.
- There were no serious case reviews in North Lincolnshire in 2012-2013.

2.7 The work of the LSCB has received recognition from Ofsted in June 2012 (safeguarding and looked after children inspection) who described the Board's work as excellent. Following the inspection Ofsted came back to North Lincolnshire specifically to write up best practice. This focused on the North Lincolnshire risk analysis framework and the work undertaken with children subject to child protection plans, the Cool Kidz Club. Both examples were featured on the Ofsted Best Practice website as an outstanding example of keeping children safe and working in collaboration and partnership with children and their families.

2.8 By seeking to continually improve on the effective safeguarding arrangements already in place, the LSCB has identified three priority areas for 2013-2014. These are:

- Reduce the harm from exploitation
- Provide early help to children and young people
- To support effective parenting capacity.

2.9 The LSCB through its Board members and robust partnership arrangements will continue to embed highly effective arrangements and support creative and innovative work with children and their families across all services, whilst keeping the child at the centre of all we do.

2.10 The LSCB works to identify emerging need, reduce harm from exploitation and ensure that staff deliver evidence based interventions to parents, carers and their children that produce the best outcomes for their children.

3. **OPTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION**

3.1 To receive the Annual Review Report 2012-2013.

4. **ANALYSIS OF OPTIONS**

4.1 None, for information only.

5. **RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCIAL, STAFFING, PROPERTY, IT)**

5.1 None, for information only.

6. **OUTCOMES OF INTEGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT (IF APPLICABLE)**

6.1 Not applicable.

7. **OUTCOMES OF CONSULTATION AND CONFLICTS OF INTERESTS DECLARED**

7.1 The LSCB has approved this report.

8. **RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 To receive the LSCB Annual Review report 2012-2103.

DIRECTOR OF PEOPLE

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Background Papers used in the preparation of this report:

LSCB Annual Review Report - copies available in group office.

Working Together to Safeguard Children: A guide to interagency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children 2013. Copies available in group office.