

TRAFFORD COUNCIL

Report to: Executive
Date: 23rd September 2013
Report for: Discussion
Report of: Executive Member for Supporting Children and Families

Report Title

Trafford Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2012-13

Summary

Dr Bob Postlethwaite, Independent Chair of the Trafford Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is presenting the Board's annual report for 2012-13. The report also incorporates the revised business plan highlighting four key themes for priority action;

- Theme area 1: Reduce the impact of parental factors leading to safeguarding issues
- Theme area 2: Improve Early Intervention, Promoting Health, Wellbeing and Development
- Theme Area 3: Support engagement of children and young people
- Theme area 4: Ensure Core TSCB Responsibilities are met

The TSCB is a statutory partnership bringing together key agencies to work towards a co-ordinated approach to safeguarding children in Trafford. Statutory guidance sets out the requirements of the Board and the Annual Report is one of these requirements.

As a key partner to the Board the Annual Report is presented to Executive to ensure that the work of TSCB is embedded in all aspects of the Council's work and to support strategic leadership of its priorities.

Recommendation(s)

Report is for information only

Contact person for access to background papers and further information:

Name: John Pearce, Director Service Development – Children, Family and Education
Extension: 5100

Background Papers: None

Relationship to Policy Framework/Corporate Priorities	TSCB annual report is a statutory document
Financial	No financial implications
Legal Implications:	TSCB is a statutory partnership and the information reported outlines how it has met its requirements during 2012-13
Equality/Diversity Implications	Not Applicable
Sustainability Implications	Not Applicable
Staffing/E-Government/Asset Management Implications	Not Applicable
Risk Management Implications	Not Applicable
Health and Safety Implications	Not Applicable

1.0 Background

Trafford Safeguarding Children Board (TSCB) is a statutory partnership made up of a range of specified core partners in addition to partners that at a local level we have identified as having a key role locally in safeguarding children. TSCB has an independent chair and infrastructure funded by the partner agencies and is subject to a major component of the Ofsted Framework for inspecting local safeguarding services.

The revised *Working Together to Safeguard Children* was published in March 2013. This guidance increases very significantly the role of Local Safeguarding Children Boards. A major element of TSCB work in 2013-14 will be to ensure that all the requirements for LSCBs set out in *Working Together* are met.

It is a statutory requirement under section 14A of the Children Act 2004 that LSCBs produce an annual report. *Working Together* reinforces this requirement and states that „the report should provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. It should identify areas of weakness, the causes of those weaknesses and the action being taken to address them...”

The structure of the majority of sections of this report into achievements, challenges and priorities for 2013-14 hopefully meets these requirements. The priorities are then incorporated either into the TSCB Business Plan or the Work Programme of committees and working groups. All partner agencies are required to embed the work of the TSCB in their practice to ensure a co-ordinated approach to safeguarding children.

2.0 Business Plan Priorities

TSCB has worked towards the following priorities set in its business plan 2012-15 which has been refreshed as part of the process of developing the annual plan;

- Theme area 1: Reduce the impact of parental factors leading to safeguarding issues

- Theme area 2: Improve Early Intervention, Promoting Health, Wellbeing and Development
- Theme Area 3: Support engagement of children and young people
- Theme area 4: Ensure Core TSCB Responsibilities are met

A thorough Performance Management Framework underpins delivery of these themes by the TSCB and is reported on a quarterly basis.

3.0 Consultation

All partner agencies have been consulted and engaged in the development of the Annual Report and the Business Plan. It is a requirement that the report is presented to Executive Boards of all agencies to ensure there is an understanding and strategic leadership for the work of TSCB.