

Item 5a

Report of the Executive Director Core Services to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) on 13 September 2022

The Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership Annual Report 2021-22 - Cover Report

1.0 Introduction and Background

1.1 The Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (BSCP) is the organisation responsible for agreeing how services and agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the borough and ensuring that they do so effectively. The Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 places the responsibility on the three 'Safeguarding Partners', the police; the local authority; and health, to formulate the local arrangements for partnership working to safeguard children in their own geographical area.

1.2 The role of the Partnership is to:-

- Ensure that safeguarding children and young people is at the centre of everything they do
- Hold Partnership members to account, making sure they are doing enough to keep children and young people safe
- Collect and share information about how well they are keeping children and young people safe and identify what more can be done

1.3 BSCP created a new role of Independent Scrutineer in November 2021. The role of the Independent Scrutineer is to act objectively, as a constructive and critical friend who promotes reflection to drives continuous improvement.

2.0 Current Position

2.1 The Barnsley Local Safeguarding Children Partnership's Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 5b - attached) outlines the work of the Partnership and its sub-groups over the last year and indicates its priorities and plans for continued improvement. It also shows how they try to include the voice of children, young people and families at every opportunity.

2.2 The governance structure of the Partnership is outlined within the report, showing the six sub-groups who ensure the work of the Partnership is carried forward. These groups are:-

- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)
- Children with Disabilities (CwD) and Complex Health Needs subgroup
- Policy, Procedures and Workforce Practice and Development (PPWPD) subgroup
- Child Exploitation (CE) Strategic subgroup
- Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR) subgroup
- Performance Audit and Quality Assurance subgroup

2.3 A review of the governance arrangements is underway. With the support of the Independent Scrutineer, a structured executive group is now in place. Meetings have increased in number and duration. A new strategic multi-agency safeguarding hub

(MASH) group reports directly to the executive. Subgroups are being restructured to deliver on strategic priorities. The full set of changes come into place in October 2022.

2.4 The Partnership has identified four strategic priorities for 2022-25:-

- Child neglect - improving outcomes for children and young people at risk of neglect and harm
- Child exploitation - improving outcomes for children and young people at risk of exploitation and harm outside of home
- Bullying, online harm, stalking and harassment
- Service development and improvement

3.0 Invited Witnesses

3.1 A number of Partnership representatives have been invited to today's meeting to answer questions from the Overview and Scrutiny Committee regarding their work over the last annual reporting year (April 2021-March 2022), as well as work being undertaken currently and future plans:-

- Carly Speechley, Executive Director, Children's Services, BMBC
- Keeley Boud, Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, Children's Services, BMBC
- Annette Carey, Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Manager, Children's Services, BMBC
- Cllr Trevor Cave, Cabinet Spokesperson – Children's Services
- Superintendent Emma Wheatcroft, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
- Nikki Kelly, Named Nurse Safeguarding Children, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)
- Dawn Gibbon, Head of Safeguarding, Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust (BHNFT)
- Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board
- Emma Cox, Assistant Director of Nursing, Quality & Professions, South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust (SWYPFT)
- Jayne Sivakumar, Chief Nurse, South Yorkshire Integrated Care Board

4.0 Possible Areas for Investigation

4.1 Members may wish to ask questions around the following areas:

- What area of work has had the greatest positive impact on safeguarding children and young people in the borough during 2021-22?
- How is the cost of living crisis impacting on the safeguarding of our children and young people?
- How confident are you that there is effective information sharing and challenge across practitioners from different agencies to protect children in Barnsley?
- How do you ensure that parents/carers have listened, heard, and understood advice given to them by services, such as regarding safe sleeping?

- What is in place for parents, other family members, children and young people, to give feedback on their experience of assessments and/or being involved in safeguarding services?
- What impact have the recent changes in senior officers in a number of the agencies had on the work of the partnership?
- How effective are policies/procedures in place to safeguard children who are out of mainstream education or in Elective Home Education (EHE)?
- How does the Partnership work together with the Safeguarding Adults Board?
- How is the Partnership ensuring a smooth transition between Children & Adults safeguarding services?
- How does the Partnership embed good practice from the National Safeguarding Panel into its own work?
- What actions have been put in place to better evidence the impact of changes made by the Partnership?
- How will you embed the changes outlined in the two Child Practice Reviews?
- How does the Partnership make sure it meets the needs of young people with disabilities?
- Do staff have the capacity to conduct the direct work needed with children & young people?
- What actions could be taken by Members to assist in the work of Barnsley Safeguarding Children Partnership?

5.0 Background Papers and Useful Links

- Barnsley LSCP Annual Report 2021-22 (Item 5b - attached)
- Barnsley Safeguarding Children Partnership New Arrangements and Implementing the Requirements of Working Together 2018:-
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/10311/barnsley-safeguarding-children-partnership-implementation-document.pdf>
- Barnsley Safeguarding Children Website:-
<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/services/children-families-and-education/safeguarding-families-in-barnsley/safeguarding-children-in-barnsley/>
- Child Protection in England: National Review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson (2022):
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1078488/ALH_SH_National_Review_26-5-22.pdf

6.0 Glossary

BHNFT	Barnsley Hospital NHS Foundation Trust
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CE	Child Exploitation
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CwD	Children with Disabilities
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead
LCSP	Local Children's Safeguarding Partnership
LCSPR	Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
MASH	Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
OSC	Overview & Scrutiny Committee
PPWPD	Policy, Procedures and Workforce Practice and Development
SCRs	Serious Case Reviews
SWYPFT	South West Yorkshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
SYP	South Yorkshire Police

7.0 Officer Contact

Jane Murphy / Anna Marshall, Scrutiny Officers

Scrutiny@barnsley.gov.uk

05 September 2022