

## NORTH YORKSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

### YOUNG PEOPLE OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

15<sup>th</sup> June 2012

#### Covering Report on the

#### **NORTH YORKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 The purpose of this covering report is to introduce the Executive Summary of **NORTH YORKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13 (NYSCB)** attached at Annex A.
- 1.2 Members are asked to:
- a. Note the information in this covering report
  - b. Comment on the Report attached at Annex A

- 2.0** Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 requires the NYSCB to publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. This report looks in depth at the work of the Children's Trust and the NYSCB in promoting partnership working to improve safeguarding outcomes for children in North Yorkshire.

Members of the Committee have been provided with a copy of the Executive Summary which highlights the enormous amount of committed hard work by the wide range of professionals making up the statutory multi-disciplinary partnership that is North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Board (NYSCB). Should Members require a full copy of the NYSCB Annual Report please advise the Corporate Development Officer.

#### **3.0 Recommendations**

- 3.1 The Committee is asked to:
- a. Note the information in this report.
  - b. Comment on the Report attached at Annex A.

**Bryon Hunter, Scrutiny Team Leader  
Policy, Performance and Partnerships  
County Hall, Northallerton**

Report compiled by: Stephanie Bratcher, Corporate Development Officer  
Ext: 2049

Email: [stephanie.bratcher@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:stephanie.bratcher@northyorks.gov.uk)

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Background Documents: None

# **NORTH YORKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2012-13**

## **Section One: (a) Introduction by the Chair**

I am pleased to introduce this Annual Report of the North Yorkshire LSCB (NYSCB) for the year 2012 – 13. The following pages represent an enormous amount of committed hard work by the wide range of professionals making up the statutory multi-disciplinary partnership that is NYSCB.

This year has been another busy one with all the initiatives outlined in the last Annual Report being progressed, and many completed. There have also been changes to the Constitution of NYSCB agreed and implemented and the forthcoming year will allow the opportunity to measure the effectiveness of these changes in enabling NYSCB business to progress.

The following is a summary of the key achievements of NYSCB during this reporting period:

- Development of the Board and Executive Group to increase effectiveness
- Revised Locality Forums to ensure feedback on all local and county wide safeguarding issues is fed into and out of the Board
- Embedding the NYSCB Integrated Data Set in the Board and Localities
- Revised business planning processes
- Effective Child Death Review Processes
- Embedding the lessons from Serious Case Reviews and other reviews
- Review of multi-agency policies, procedures and practice guidance
- Development of the Missing from Home and Care/Child Sexual Exploitation Panel
- Development of the NYSCB website
- Providing a full and varied multi-agency training programme

- Development of Child Protection Standards
- Providing a range of briefings and local events to cascade key messages to frontline staff
- Effective communication strategy evidencing target audiences reached
- Continued committed participation of two lay members.

The Business Plan for 2011/12 gives a summary of what has been achieved and the progress made against the objectives agreed by the Board in 2011. (Appendix 17) Additionally, the following key areas for future development have been identified to sit alongside ongoing work programmes as identified in statutory guidance and reflected in NYSCB business planning:

- Thresholds need to be reviewed in light of the increased numbers of children involved with Children's Social Care and Early interventions
- Engagement with children, families and front line staff using a variety of methodologies
- Providing outcome based performance data for analysis of safeguarding.

As we move in to 2012-13 there are a number of uncertainties that may impact on the work of NYSCB. These include the impending changes in Health provision; ongoing implementation of the Munro recommendations; changes in the status of schools; the introduction of the new Police and Crime Commissioner role which will work to identify local policing priorities, and this list is far from exhaustive.

The Government has accepted the Munro report which will bring about a strengthening of the role of LSCBs and it is clear that delivery of the Government agenda on safeguarding can only come about through strong partnership working and the development of trust and transparency between partner agencies.

It is for NYSCB to build on existing partnership working and to facilitate the strengthening of these partnerships, enabling partners to be open about their challenges and strengths, and to build relationships to support each other through the changes that seem inevitable for all NYSCB partners over the coming year.

It is in this context that I look forward to continuing to work with all partners to take forward the challenging agenda for NYSCB in the coming year. I am also pleased to take this opportunity to thank all colleagues for their contribution to the successes outlined in this report.

## Section One: (b) Executive Summary

Chapter 3 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 requires the NYSCB to publish an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. This report looks in depth at the work of the Children's Trust and the NYSCB in promoting partnership working to improve safeguarding outcomes for children in North Yorkshire.

**Section One** contains the key messages from Nancy Palmer, Independent Chairperson of the NYSCB.

**Section Two** looks at the Governance arrangements of the NYSCB, the Children's Trust and other partnerships that impact upon safeguarding children. It highlights key features of the NYSCB structure and the changes that have recently taken place to address the difficulties that were flagged up in the first Annual Report. It highlights how the NYSCB has responded to the recommendations of the Munro Review to date. There is a section on the NYSCB budget settlement for last year and the proposal for the coming year.

**Section Three** addresses local components of safeguarding - the NYSCB Business Plan 2011-2012. This chapter reports against objectives achieved in the Business Plan, those that are outstanding and the new and ongoing objectives for the coming year.

**Section Four** looks at the performance activity of the NYSCB. Presented is the NYSCB Performance Model used by the Performance Sub Group on behalf of the NYSCB. This includes the Integrated Data Set with a description of the journey taken to this point. There is a commentary on the overall data with some recommendations for future use. There is also a section on the work of the Multi Agency Audit Team and the effect it has had on outcomes for children in North Yorkshire.

**Section Five** gives an overview of Serious Case Review (SCR) activity in the last year. This includes the work of the SCR Sub Group and how this has been improved through a reorganisation.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 requires all Local Authorities to have in place arrangements to review the deaths of all children within the area. The Child Death Overview Process (CDOP) in North Yorkshire is a joint arrangement with the City of York.

**Section Six** gives an overview of the Panel's work from its third Annual Report 2010-11. It looks at both its strengths and weaknesses and makes recommendations for the future.

**Section Seven** provides an overview of the strategy and the Training Plan. This section looks at the trends in attendance and evaluation of training over the agreed period. There are also recommendations of how, given the present climate, the provision of high calibre training can continue.

**Section Eight** concludes the report with a composite list of recommendations.