

Report to: Children Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee

Date: 17th October 2018

Subject: Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2017/18

1.0 Purpose of report and decisions to be made

- 1.1 To present to the Committee the Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report 2017/18 for consideration and discussion.

2.0 Summary

- 2.1 The BSCB Annual report provides an overview of the Board's activities in 2017/18 and reflects on progress during this period against the challenges and key action set out in the Business Improvement Plan 2017/19.

3.0 Recommendations

- 3.1 The Committee receives the BSCB Annual report 2017/18

4.0 Context

- 4.1 The BSCB is an independent statutory multi – agency Board established under Section 13 of the Children Act 2014, with two statutory objectives:

- To coordinate 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; and
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

- 4.2 Independently chaired, the Board is required to report annually on the effectiveness of those two objectives. The Report must be presented to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Local Authority, the West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board.

- 4.3 The Independent Chair's Accountability Report 2017/18 was published in April 2018 (Appendix 1) with the formal more detailed Annual Report published on 28th September 2018. The Independent Chair has been invited to present the Annual Report 2017/18 (Appendix 2) to the Overview and Scrutiny Committee and provide an overview of progress on the key challenges ahead.

5.0 Main Issues

- 5.1 The report examines how the BSCB discharged its core functions as set out in Statute and Department for Education guidelines.
- 5.2 The report also incorporates a specific section on the crucial role that statutory agencies play in safeguarding and promotion the wellbeing of children and young people in Birmingham.

- 5.3 The report sets out the transition to the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements and child death partner arrangements that will replace Local Safeguarding Children Boards by 29th September 2019.

6.0 **Looking Ahead – Business and Improvement Plan 2017 /19**

- 6.1 The challenge ahead will be to continue to work in close collaboration with the three ‘Safeguarding Partners’ West Midlands Police, NHS Birmingham and Solihull Clinical Commissioning Group and Birmingham City Council to deliver a smooth transition to the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements.

- 6.2 In the interim period the BSCB will continues to effectively fulfil all of the statutory functions required to safeguard and promote the wellbeing of children and young people in the city.

7.0 **Contact Officer Details:**

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent
Chair BSCB Simon Cross, Business
Manager BSCB
Tel: 0121 464 2612
Email: simon.cross@birminghamchildrenstrust.co.uk

- 8.0 **Date:** 8th October 2018

9.0 **List of Appendices**

Appendix 1- Independent Chair’s Accountability Report 2017/18
Appendix 2 - Birmingham Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2017/18