

	<p>Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee</p> <p>6 January 2016</p>
<p>Title</p>	<p>Council Response to Barnet Safeguarding Children’s Board Annual Report</p>
<p>Report of</p>	<p>Family Services Director Commissioning Director, Children and Young People</p>
<p>Wards</p>	<p>All</p>
<p>Status</p>	<p>Public</p>
<p>Urgent</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Key</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>Enclosures</p>	<p>Appendix 1: Council Response</p>
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Summary

This paper is the Council response to the published 2014/15 Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report. It provides comment on the report and summarises key developments for BSCB areas of priority.

Recommendations

- 1. That the Committee approve the Council response to the BSCB Annual Report 2014/15 and agree for its submission to the BSCB**

1. WHY THIS REPORT IS NEEDED

- 1.1. Members considered and noted the Annual Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) paper at its meeting on the 21st of September 2015. It was requested that a Council response to the report would be appropriate which demonstrates the shared vision, partnership-working and areas of progress between the Council and Barnet Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB). This paper seeks to set out for Members the Council's response and elaborates on areas of priority for the BSCB that are being advanced by the Council.

2. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The recommendation made asks Members to note the Council response to the annual BSCB report and summarises key developments for BSCB areas of priority.

3. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND NOT RECOMMENDED

- 3.1 None

4. POST DECISION IMPLEMENTATION

- 4.1 Following decision, work on key areas will be progressed as outlined in the appendix of this report.

5. IMPLICATIONS OF DECISION

5.1 Corporate Priorities and Performance

- 5.1.1 The Council's Corporate Plan 2015-20 states that the council, working with local, regional and national partners, will strive to ensure that Barnet is a place:

- of opportunity, where people can further their quality of life
- where people are helped to help themselves, recognising that prevention is better than cure
- where responsibility is shared, fairly
- where services are delivered efficiently to get value for money for the taxpayer

- 5.1.2 The work of the Council and BSCB supports the implementation of Corporate Priorities, in particular, 'To create better life chances for children and young people across the borough'.

5.2 Resources (Finance & Value for Money, Procurement, Staffing, IT, Property, Sustainability)

- 5.2.1 The Council funds BSCB both directly and in terms of infrastructure support. The current annual budget of the BSCB is £163,100, which includes the contributions made by partner agencies, of which Barnet's contribution is £98,000. Most of the budget covers staffing requirements including the

Independent Chair of BSCB. One of the recommendations of the BSCB annual report is to ensure that in future, the resourcing of the Board does not fall disproportionately on the Council.

5.3 Social Value

5.3.1 There are no Social Value considerations directly relevant to the recommendation.

5.4 Legal and Constitutional References

5.4.1 The Council is a partner of the statutory BSCB. The BSCB has an obligation to publish an annual report setting out its priorities and progress over the previous 12 months. The BSCB priorities should be taken into account when the Council makes policy decisions in relation to safeguarding children.

5.4.2 Constitution, Responsibility for Functions, Annex A, sets out the terms of reference of the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee including:

- To be responsible for those powers, duties and functions of the Council in relation to Children's Services (including schools)
- To ensure that the Council's safeguarding responsibilities are taken into account

5.5 Risk Management

5.5.1 There are no specific risks attached to this recommendation. There is a risk management system in operation across the Council to ensure that risks relating to Safeguarding are managed effectively.

5.6 Equalities and Diversity

5.6.1 Equalities and Diversity considerations are a key element of the Council's approach to safeguarding. Analysis of local needs and key issues drive the work of BSCB and has shaped BSCB priorities.

5.7 Consultation and Engagement

5.7.1 Consultation and Engagement is not required as part of this report. There is ongoing consultation and engagement activity across the Council, which includes a focus on engaging with children and young people to include their views in service design and delivery.

5.8 Insight

5.8.1 Qualitative and quantitative insight data from across the service is used to inform safeguarding activity.

6. BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 6.1 Barnet Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2014-15, which was noted at the Children, Education, Libraries and Safeguarding Committee on Monday 21 September, 2015.
<http://barnet.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s25894/Appendix%20A%20-%20Safeguarding%20Children%20and%20Young%20People%20in%20Barnet.pdf>