

# Children and Young People's Partnership Board

<b>Item 4.5</b>
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18<sup>th</sup> September 2008

**Local Children Safeguarding Board Annual  
Report 2007-08 and Business Plan 2008-09**

**WARDS All**

## **Summary**

- This report informs the board about the activity of the LSCB in 2007-08 and the plans for action in 2008-09.

## **CONTRIBUTORS**

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## **Recommendation(s):**

- That the Annual Report is received and the Business Plan is agreed.

## **1. Background**

Each local authority is required to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board. The Hammersmith and Fulham LSCB reports to the Children and Young People's Partnership Board. The Board is a multi-agency board concerned with promoting and safeguarding the welfare of children and young people in the borough. The local authority has a lead responsibility for ensuring that all agencies are aware of their safeguarding responsibilities and that agreed policies and procedures are known and understood.

## **2. The Annual Report for 2007-08 (See Appendix 1)**

The report details the wide range of work which the LSCB has overseen. The key activity has been about:-

- Strengthening the scrutiny role of the LSCB, through the use of the operational and audit sub groups
- Rolling out the third edition of the London Child Protection Procedures
- Preparing for the new LSCB duties to review child deaths
- Piloting new domestic violence risk assessments
- Responding to the information sharing agenda
- Joint working with the education sector
- Responding to the hidden harm agenda
- Promoting safer employment practices
- Safeguarding children and young people in public places.

It is important to note that there has been good participation in all of the groups by many agencies, including the voluntary and community sector. The participation is enhanced through multi-agency training, co-ordinated by the LSCB and an annual conference which drew nearly 200 professionals into wide ranging discussions around parental mental illness and substance misuse and parental issues impacting on the safety and wellbeing of children.

## **3. The LSCB Business Plan 2008-09 (See Appendix 2)**

The business plan is agreed at the LSCB. The work is co-ordinated by the LSCB officer, but the individual priorities have identified officers for each piece of work. You will note that in the priorities this year, there is one which relates to parenting, which is in line with the Children and Young People's Plan focus. In addition, having worked hard together with Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster Councils, we have established the required bodies to carry out rapid response to child deaths and an overview committee. This is to ensure that every child death is properly handled and reviewed and where necessary investigated. This will support the work which we already do to have an independent review of serious cases in the Borough.

## **4. Comments of Head of Legal Services**

- 4.1 The duty to have a Local Safeguarding Children Board is set out in the Children's Act 2004, as is the lead responsibility given to local authorities and referred to in paragraph 1 of this report.
- 4.2 There are no direct legal implications for the purposes of this report.

## 5. Comments of Director of Finance

### 5.1 LSCB annual report & business plan

The Director of Finance has been consulted and notes that there are no direct financial implications contained within this report.

### LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 2000 LIST OF BACKGROUND PAPERS

No.	Description of Background Papers	Names/Ext. of Holder of Files/Copy	Department/ Location
1.			
2.			