

Committee: Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 28 January 2014

Agenda item: **Annual Report of the Merton Safeguarding Children Board, 2012-13**

Wards: All

Subject:

Lead: Kevin Crompton, Independent chair of the Merton Safeguarding Children Board

Lead officer: Yvette Stanley

Lead member: Cllr. Maxi Martin

Contact officer: Simon Deakin

Recommendations:

That the Board receives the Merton Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report, 2012-13

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 The Merton Safeguarding Children Board Annual report is a public document, published on the MSCB webpages, www.merton.gov.uk/lscb, produced under the statutory guidance for multi agency working – *Working together to Safeguard Children*, 2013. This requires that it is presented to the Health & Wellbeing Board. It stipulates a 'detailed' report on the 'effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area'.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Merton Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) is the multi-agency forum for agreeing how local child protection services are planned, delivered and monitored in the borough. The MSCB has an independent chair, Kevin Crompton.

3. DETAILS

3.1 The report presents a positive picture of safeguarding activity in the children and families sector; and all the major partners have reported on their activity in 2012-13 and their challenges and priorities for the future.

3.2 Agencies have also self assessed their compliance to Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 which requires them to cooperate and assess the effectiveness of the arrangements for safeguarding children at a strategic level.

3.3 There is extensive data on performance and other information in the appendices.

4. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

None

5. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

The report has been presented to the Chief Executive and Leader of the council and the local crime commissioner (the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) as required under statutory guidance. It was agreed for publication by the MSCB on 15 September 2013.

6. TIMETABLE

The MSCB annual Report is published in September/October each year.

7. FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

None for the purposes of this report

8. LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

The Merton Safeguarding Children Board Annual report is a public document, published on the MSCB webpages, produced under the statutory guidance for multi agency working – *Working together to Safeguard Children*, 2013.

9. HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

The report presents activity related to safeguarding children in all of Merton's communities, including BAME, culture and faith groups

10. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

None for the purposes of this report.

11. RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

None for the purposes of this report.

APPENDICES – THE FOLLOWING DOCUMENTS ARE TO BE PUBLISHED WITH THIS REPORT AND FORM PART OF THE REPORT

- Merton Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2012-13 & Appendices

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None