

Committee: Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel

Date: 9th November 2016

Agenda item:

Wards: All

Subject: Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) Annual Report

Lead officer: Yvette Stanley, Director of Children's Schools & Families

Lead member: Cllr Katy Neep, Cabinet Member for Children's Services

Contact officer: Paul Angeli, Assistant Director for Children's Social Care and Youth Inclusion

Recommendations:

To comment on and discuss the MSCB's annual report.

PURPOSE OF REPORT AND EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.1 To ensure that CYP Scrutiny Panel is sighted on the statutory Safeguarding Children Board's annual report; the role played by council departments and partner agencies in safeguarding children locally; key areas of focus and achievements; and the priorities for the Board in the coming year.

DETAILS

2.1 The MSCB annual report is produced on behalf of the safeguarding partnership involving all key agencies and supports the council and the Chair of the MSCB in assuring local arrangements. The report is attached as **Appendix One**.

2.2 We have undertaken self-evaluation in advance of our anticipated inspection by Ofsted of our work with children in need of help and protection. An extract from this self-evaluation is attached as **Appendix Two**.

ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

3.1 None

CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN OR PROPOSED

4.1 All key agencies contributed to the production of the annual report.

FINANCIAL, RESOURCE AND PROPERTY IMPLICATIONS

5.1 The MSCB budget and expenditure is covered in the annual report.

LEGAL AND STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

6.1 It is a statutory responsibility to produce an annual report and for it to be published.

HUMAN RIGHTS, EQUALITIES AND COMMUNITY COHESION IMPLICATIONS

7.1 Safeguarding vulnerable children and young people and vulnerable adults as parents strengthens families and communities.

CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

- 8.1 There is a considerable volume of child protection activity which relates to domestic violence, substance misuse and anti-social behaviour. Systemic work with families can break generational cycles as well as improving outcomes for individual children.

RISK MANAGEMENT AND HEALTH AND SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

- 9.1 The work covered in the report is high risk and considerable efforts are made to mitigate and reduce risk in a challenging context for many of our families.

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

Appendix One: Annual report of the Merton Safeguarding Children Board 2015/16

Appendix Two: Extract from SIF Self-Evaluation

11 BACKGROUND PAPERS:

None