

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

21 MAY 2014

REPORT OF CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN, EDUCATION AND SOCIAL CARE

REPORT ON STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL'S LGA SAFEGUARDING PRACTICE DIAGNOSTIC REVIEW (CHILDREN) – 25-27 MARCH 2014

1. SUMMARY

This report provides findings of the LGA Safeguarding Practice Diagnostic Review (Children), held in March 2014.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Health and Wellbeing Board notes the content of the report of the LGA Peer Review Team (included as Appendix 1).

3. DETAIL

3.1 The Review was undertaken over three days and focused on a number of key lines of enquiry that had been discussed in advance with the LGA Team and the Council (Appendix 1 in the Report).

3.2 The Review concentrated on three strands of work whilst on site, including:

- Case Records Review
- Real Time Review of Contact, Referral and Assessment
- Social Work Practice Observation

3.3 The Peer Review Team was made up of the following members :

Cliff James (Head of Safeguarding and Children's Social Care - Children and Young People Services Suffolk County Council)

Mark Nicholas (Head of Adult Safeguarding and Performance Management City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council)

Neil Holden (Operations Manager, Children's Social Care, West Sussex County Council)

Ernest Opuni (Peer Challenge Manager, Local Government Association)

3.4 The team was on site from 25-27 March 2014 and met and spoke to a number of staff during the Review period.

3.5 Thirty five case records were subject to audit by the Team and individual feedback was provided on the records.

- 3.6 An overview of the key findings of the review was provided in a presentation to the Council on the last day of the Review (27.03.2014).
- 3.7 An Improvement Plan is now being developed to incorporate the findings of the LGA Review and the Critical Friend Review undertaken earlier in the year. The Improvement Plan will be monitored by Cabinet, LSCB and CYP.
- 3.8 The attached report provides more detail in relation to the findings of the LGA Team.

4. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable to this report.

5. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Not applicable to this report.

6. RISK ASSESSMENT

Not applicable to this report.

7. CONSULTATION

Not applicable.

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