

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

17 NOVEMBER 2021

REPORT OF DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES / SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERS

HSSCP ANNUAL REPORT (2020-21)

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this report is to update Health and Wellbeing Board on the work undertaken by the Hartlepool and Stockton-On-Tees Safeguarding Children Partnership during the year 2020-21.

SUMMARY

The report summarises the key successes and achievements of the Safeguarding Children Partnership throughout 2020-21. It updates on qualitative and quantitative data and information for the reporting period and outlines the specific areas being taken forward in the coming year.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note this report.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

1. The Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSSCP), during 2020-21 was in its second year of being operational; having been established in April 2019 and replacing the previous two Local Safeguarding Children Boards.
2. 2020-21 was an unusual and challenging year for the partnership, with the need to adapt to new ways of working in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and social distancing restrictions.
3. HSSCP continued to meet virtually throughout 2020-21 to ensure continued co-ordination of safeguarding services across Hartlepool and Stockton-On-Tees, to carry out challenge and assurance activity and to enable learning to be identified and shared across partner agencies.
4. In addition, HSSCP carried out project planning and development work throughout 2020-21 and continued to provide multi-agency professionals with safeguarding training and development opportunities; via online learning platforms.
5. The Annual Report provides an assessment of the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, set against an analysis of the local area safeguarding context. It should recognise the achievements and the progress that has

been made in the local areas as well as providing a realistic assessment of the challenges that still remain.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

6. There are no financial implications arising from this report.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

7. There are no legal implications arising from this report.

RISK ASSESSMENT

8. There are no risk implications arising from this report.

CONSULTATION

9. This annual report has been discussed and ratified by the four statutory safeguarding partners for HSSCP.

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