

NEATH PORT TALBOT COUNTY BOROUGH COUNCIL

Children & Young People's Executive Committee

2nd June 2016

Report of the Chairman, Western Bay Safeguarding Boards

Matter for Information

Wards Affected:

All Wards

Safeguarding Children Board Update to NPTCBC

Purpose of the Report

1. The purpose of this report is to provide an update to NPTCBC's CYPE committee on the work of the Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board and to provide information on the most recent annual report (published July 2015) and the Business Plan 2016/17.

Executive Summary

The SSWA regulations and codes of practice issued under part 7 (Safeguarding) clearly set out the requirements on Safeguarding Boards to produce and publish an annual plan at 31st March each year and an annual report at 31st July each year. Recent instruction from the Welsh Government Ministers have given further direction that due to the requirement to publish the annual plan preceding enactment of the Act requirements to publish such documents will not come into force until

March 2017. The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board has however been functioning to the requirements since set out in draft and are already meeting required timescales in respect of the annual report and business plan.

The attached annual report outlines the work and effectiveness of the SCB over 2014/15 and should clearly demonstrate the work which has been undertaken and its effectiveness over that period.

The attached annual business plan has taken a different shape to that of previous business plans and now complies fully with the requirements of the Act in terms of its content. The new SCB business plan is clearly outcomes focussed with overarching and measurable outcomes for each of its strategic priorities. The priority outcomes are set against the 4 Ps¹ methodology which is aligned with police and probation methodologies as well as Welsh Government's National CSE action plan and the national counter terrorism strategy.

2. Background

The Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board was established in April 2013 following direction from Welsh Government to regionalise safeguarding children boards as recommended within sustainable social services white paper 2011/12.

NPTCBC is identified in the Social Services and Wellbeing Act (Wales) 2014 (SSWA) as being the lead partner responsible for establishing effective regional safeguarding boards for the Western Bay area.

Financial Impact

3. Within the Annual Report there is a section which highlights the requirements of a multi agency budget. In previous years the WBSCB has used its own funding formula to ensure contributions from statutory partners which is not dissimilar to the statutory funding formula set out in the SSWA regulations for Safeguarding Boards.

¹ Prepare, Prevent, Protect, Pursue

4. There is and always will be a financial implication on NPTCBC as a statutory partner to contribute to a multi agency budget as this is now set out in regulation however, in previous years the local authority contributions were equitable with those of the neighbouring local authorities and each contributed the same amount. The regulations now set out local authority contributions aligned with population which has seen a reduction in contribution from NPTCBC and an increase from City and county of Swansea. These impacts highlight a saving in 2016/17 of £ 3675.00. The multi agency budget for the Safeguarding Boards across Western Bay has not increased since its establishment in 2013, funds both Safeguarding Adults and Safeguarding Children Boards from a single budget and is projected to not increase over the following next 2 years.

Appendices

5. Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report - 2015
6. Western Bay Safeguarding Children Board Annual Business Plan - 2016/17

Officer Contact

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