
From: Chris Palmer, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services
Christine McInnes, Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education

To: **Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee** –18th November 2025

Subject: Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-agency Partnership (KSCMP) Annual Report 2024/25

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of report: Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-agency Partnership Executive Board – 19th May 2025
Lead Safeguarding Partners – 2nd July 2025

Future Pathway of report: None

Electoral Division: All

Is the decision eligible for call-in? Yes / No – exempt

Summary: The KSCMP Annual Report provides an overview of Partnership activities undertaken, key achievements, challenges addressed and impact made during the period April 2024 to March 2025.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **NOTE** the content of the Annual Report.

1. Introduction

- 1.1 The KSCMP Annual Report 2023-24 has been produced in-line with the statutory requirements set out in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023'¹ (hereafter referred to as Working Together 2023). The Report focuses on key areas of activity and learning obtained over the period set out.
- 1.2 Working Together 2023 requires that Safeguarding Partnerships publish a yearly report by 30th September each year, which should include the following:
- What has been done as a result of the Partnership arrangements, including in relation to child safeguarding practice reviews.

¹ [Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/115266/Working_together_to_safeguard_children_2023.pdf)

- How effective the Partnership arrangements have been in practice.
- The contribution of each Safeguarding Partner to the functioning and structure of the arrangements.
- Any themes emanating from aggregated methods of scrutiny, for example, reviews, scrutineer activity and multi-agency audits.
- Evidence of the impact of the work of the Safeguarding Partners and Relevant Agencies, including training, on outcomes for children and families.
- Analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities.
- Analysis of learning from serious incidents.
- A record of key decisions and actions taken by the Safeguarding Partners in the yearly cycle, including in relation to implementing the recommendations from any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews and the impact this has had.
- Ways in which the Safeguarding Partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision.
- The financial contributions of individual partners.
- Evidence of how Safeguarding Partners are ensuring the adequate representation and input of education at both the operational and strategic levels of the arrangements.
- An overview of how data is being used to encourage learning within the arrangements and evidence of how information sharing has improved practice and outcomes.
- A review of the impact and learning from independent scrutiny arrangements to ensure leadership is strong and the arrangements are leading to the desired and necessary impact.
- Any updates to the published arrangements with the proposed timescale for implementation.
- Evidence that national reforms have been implemented.

2. Annual Report April 2024 to March 2025

- 2.1 The Report is compliant with Working Together 2023 regarding our new and amended responsibilities. As such, it summarises progress made following the introduction of the Lead Safeguarding Partner roles; introduction of the Delegated Safeguarding Partner role; introduction of the Partnership Chair role; and enhanced engagement of education at a strategic and operational level. The report also considers the role of Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise and childcare and sports organisations in the Partnership.
- 2.2 The Report includes an overview of the key activities undertaken during the 2024/25 financial year, alongside the Partnership's ambitions for the next 12 months. It includes an evaluation from the KSCMP Independent Scrutineer.
- 2.3 The Report particularly highlights several key activities progressed during the period, including:
 - Review of the KSCMP architecture, leading to the establishment of the Child Exploitation Oversight Group.

- Work undertaken to enhance and embed education representation within the Partnership, which has been achieved through outreach activities; the development of dedicated communications; the enhanced work of the Education Safeguarding Group; and the appointment of two school leaders to the KSCMP Executive who ensure the voice of education informs Partnership strategic decision making.
- Development of a campaign designed to raise awareness of children inappropriately being considered protective factors for their parent/carer's mental health.
- Scoping of a targeted cannabis awareness campaign following the cannabis policies, procedures and guidance audit.
- Undertaking an Elective Home Education benchmarking audit and EatSafe impact survey.
- Further work on the Escalation Project.
- The launch of new multi-agency learning and training resources, including: training sessions; e-learning courses; factsheets; webinars; guidance and good practice examples.
- Strengthening of the Learning Improvement Group demonstrated through the use of the PowerBI tracker, which provides members with a real time account of their organisation's performance against actions agreed.
- Completion and publication of a number of Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and implementation of recommendations.
- Completion of the Section 11 statutory multi-agency self-assessment process.
- Tracking of Serious Incident Notifications and referrals to the National Panel.
- Enhanced use of the KSCMP data dashboards to monitor trends and performance.

2.4 The Report responds to the findings of the Department for Education's Safeguarding Children Partnerships Yearly Reports Analysis and complies with Government expectations regarding content and has been developed to better highlight the impact of the Partnership's activities.

2.5 The KSCMP Annual Report 2024/25 was agreed by the KSCMP Executive Board on 19th May 2025. It was subsequently signed-off by the Lead Safeguarding Partners. It was published on the KSCMP website on 14th July 2025.

3. Conclusions

3.1 The KSCMP has been established to fulfil the statutory duties placed on Kent County Council, NHS Kent and Medway Integrated Care Board and Kent Police by virtue of the Children Act 2004 (as amended by the Children and Social Work Act 2017).

3.2 The Lead Safeguarding Partners and KSCMP Executive (Delegated Safeguarding Partners) will continue to discharge such responsibilities as defined in law and statutory guidance working in partnership with all relevant bodies and organisations in Kent.

3.3 The KSCMP Annual Report 2024/25 is presented for the information of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee.

Recommendation(s):

The Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** and **NOTE** the content of the Annual Report.

4. Background Documents

4.1 [Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023: A guide to multi-agency working to help, protect and promote the welfare of children](#)

5. Contact details *(please insert details below)*

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