

By: Sarah Hohler, Cabinet Member for Children, Families and Education
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To: Children's Champion Board

Date: 21 October 2010

Subject: Kent Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2009-10 / Business Plan 2010 - 2013

Classification: Unrestricted

Summary: This report went to County Council on 14 October 2010 and presented the Kent Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report for 2009/10 and Business Plan for 2010 - 2013

Introduction

1. (1) The Annual Report / Business Plan of Kent's Local Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB) provides an account of the Board's work in 2009/10. It also sets out the Board's strategic aims for 2010 / 13, and the specific objectives to achieve the aims.

(2) The purpose of the Annual Report / Business Plan is to be informative about the work of the Kent Safeguarding Children Board and to make the results of its efforts accountable to safeguarding children professionals, to those who fund and support safeguarding children services and the KSCB, to all members of the Council and the Lead Member for Children's Services, to the Kent Children's Trust and to service users, and the public of Kent.

Background

2. (1) Since their introduction in 2006, Local Safeguarding Children Boards have produced annual reports and business plans so that they can be held accountable for the work they do. The KSCB Annual Report for 2009/10 highlights the wide range of activity undertaken by the Board. KSCB has been highly successful in setting in place robust arrangements and processes to ensure that it fulfils its statutory responsibilities to a high level, and this is reflected in the Annual Report.

(2) The solid foundations developed by KSCB put it in a good position to take on new challenges. Future Annual Reports will be different because of the requirements of the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009. As well as reporting on activity, the new requirement is that they should report on the **effectiveness** of safeguarding arrangements in a local area: in other words, they will seek to address the question: "*How safe are children in this area, and how effective are the different agencies in helping to keep children safe?*"

Recommendations

3. The Board is asked to note the achievements, strategic aims and objectives of the Kent Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB) as outlined in the Annual Report 2009-10 / Business Plan 2010-2013, which is attached to this covering report.

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Background Documents:

1. Children Act 2004 *available on*
http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/UserFiles/KSCB/File/Resources_and_Library/Children_Act_2004.pdf
2. Working Together 2010 *available on*
http://www.clusterweb.org.uk/UserFiles/KSCB/File/Resources_and_Library/Working_Together_2010.pdf