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To: Kent Health and Wellbeing Board

Date: 18 March 2015

Subject: **Revised protocol on the working arrangements between the Kent Health And Wellbeing Board, Kent Children's Health And Wellbeing Board and Kent Safeguarding Children Board**

Classification: **Unrestricted**

Summary

This paper provides further contextual information relating to the revised draft Protocol, which sets out on the working arrangements between the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), Kent Children's Health and Wellbeing Board (CHWB) and Kent Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB).

Recommendation for Approval

The Board is asked to:

AGREE the revised draft Protocol, subject to the inclusion of any amendments or additions the Board deem necessary.

1. Introduction

1.1 This paper provides further contextual information relating to the revised draft Protocol (see Appendix 1), which sets out on the working arrangements between the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB), Kent Children's Health and Wellbeing Board (CHWB) and Kent Safeguarding Children Board (KSCB).

2. Background

2.1 The government guidance on inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, 'Working Together', was revised in March 2013. The modified guidance clarifies the legal responsibilities of all professionals (both individuals and organisations) in relation to the safeguarding of children, making it explicit that this is the responsibility of all practitioners who work with young people. 'Working Together' sets the expectation that collaborative inter-agency

work (especially between local authorities, Health and the police) is integral to delivering the best outcomes for children, and this relates to any actions taken and services provided to this end. This means partner agencies need to work in a collaborative and transparent way at every level in order to fulfil their statutory roles and responsibilities. In order to fulfil this requirement, it is therefore essential that Kent's various memorandums of understanding set out the relationships between the structures which govern multi-agency activity and collaboration in this arena.

- 2.2 The Protocol that was previously in place related to working arrangements between the Joint Commissioning Board (JCB) and KSCB in relation to safeguarding and the promotion of wellbeing. Since the dissolution of the JCB and creation of the CHWB, which took over a number of the JCB's functions, no further amendments had been made to this document.
- 2.3 To add to this, the original Protocol did not cover the work of the HWB or map how the work of this body aligned with/tied into the work of the other multi-agency Boards.
- 2.4 The aim of the attached revised Protocol is to support all three partnerships to operate effectively, being clear about their respective functions; inter-relationships; and the roles and responsibilities of all those involved in promoting and maintaining the health and wellbeing of children and in keeping children safe. This is essential in order to maximise the effectiveness of safeguarding work, to avoid duplication and to ensure that there are no preventable strategic or operational gaps in safeguarding policies, services or practice.

Recommendation for Approval

The Board is asked to:

AGREE the revised draft Protocol, subject to the inclusion of any amendments or additions the Board deem necessary.

Appendix 1 - Revised Protocol on the Working Arrangements between the Kent Health and Wellbeing Board, Kent Children's Health and Wellbeing Board and Kent Safeguarding Children Board

Background Documents - Working Together to Safeguard Children, March 2013

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