

**From:** Sue Chandler, Cabinet Member for Integrated Children's Services  
Sarah Hammond, Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education

**To:** Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee – 17 January 2023

**Subject:** **KENT SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN MULTIAGENCY PARTNERSHIP - ANNUAL REPORT OCTOBER 2021-SEPTEMBER 2022**

**Classification:** Unrestricted

**Past Pathway of report:** Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Executive Board – 05 December 2022

**Electoral Division:** All

**Summary:** The Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Annual Report provides an account of the activities undertaken, key achievements and challenges addressed during October 2021 and September 2022.

### **Recommendation**

The Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** the progress made and **NOTE** the content of the Annual Report.

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 The Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Annual Report - October 2021 to September 2022 (attached as Appendix A), has been produced in line with the statutory requirements set out in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children July 2018' (Working Together). The report focuses on key areas of activity and learning during the period.
- 1.2 Working Together 2018, specifically, requires that multiagency safeguarding arrangements must publish a report at least once a year and the report should include:
- evidence of the impact of the work of the safeguarding partners and relevant agencies, including training, on outcomes for children and families from early help to looked-after children and care leavers
  - an analysis of any areas where there has been little or no evidence of progress on agreed priorities
  - a record of decisions and actions taken by the partners in the report's period (or planned to be taken) to implement the recommendations of

any local and national child safeguarding practice reviews, including any resulting improvements

- ways in which the partners have sought and utilised feedback from children and families to inform their work and influence service provision.

1.3 Also, consideration was given to the Analysis of Safeguarding Partners annual reports published on behalf of the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel May 2021, in writing the annual report.

1.4 It is a requirement for a copy of the published Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Annual Report - October 2021 to September 2022, to be sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care within seven days of being published.

## **2. Annual Report October 2021 to September 2022**

2.1 The report follows the same structure as the previous annual report which had been developed based on analysis and recommendations by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and benchmarked against other partnership annual reports.

2.2 The Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Annual Report - October 2021 to September 2022, was agreed by the Executive Board on 5 December 2022.

2.3 As mentioned earlier, the report includes an overview of the key activities undertaken during the period October 2021 to September 2022, alongside ambitions for the next 12 months. It also includes an evaluation from the Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Independent Scrutineer.

2.4 The report particularly highlights several key activities progressed during the period, including:

2.4.1 Implementation of the revised partnership architecture

2.4.2 Improved multi-agency engagement with schools and educational establishments and re-established Education Subgroup

2.4.3 Commencement of the Communication and Engagement project

2.4.4 Independent Scrutineer evaluation

2.4.5 Initiation of the biennial Section 11 audit process jointly with Medway Safeguarding Children Partnership

2.4.6 Front Door (Request for Support) multi-agency audit undertaken with report expected in early 2023

2.4.7 Tracking of Serious Incident Notification and referrals to the National Panel

2.4.8 Publications of several legacy Serious Case Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review cases.

## **3. Conclusions**

- 3.1 The Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership has been established to fulfil the statutory duties placed on the 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 Executive Partnership Board will continue to discharge such responsibilities defined in law and statutory guidance working in partnership with all relevant bodies and organisations in Kent.
- 3.3 The Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership Annual Report October 2021 to September 2022 is presented for the information of the Children's, Young People and Education Cabinet Committee. The report will be published on the Partnership website and a copy will be sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care.

#### 4. Recommendation

4.1 Recommendation: The Cabinet Committee is asked to **CONSIDER** the progress made and **NOTE** the content of the Annual Report.

#### 5. Background Documents

Working Together to Safeguard Children A guide to inter-agency to safeguard and promote welfare of children July 2018

#### 6. Report Authors

Michal Thomas-Sam  
Systems Improvement Manager, Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership (Interim)  
03000 417338  
[Michael.thomas-sam@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Michael.thomas-sam@kent.gov.uk)

Laura Wright  
Learning & Development and Policy Advisor, Kent Safeguarding Children Multiagency Partnership  
03000 417835  
[Laura.wright@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Laura.wright@kent.gov.uk)

#### Relevant Director

Sarah Hammond  
Corporate Director Children, Young People and Education  
03000 411488  
[Sarah.hsmmond@kent.gov.uk](mailto:Sarah.hsmmond@kent.gov.uk)