
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** –21st November 2024

Subject: Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-agency Partnership (KSCMP) Annual Report 2023/24

Classification: Unrestricted

Past Pathway of report: Kent Safeguarding Children Multi-agency Partnership Executive Board – 13th June 2024

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 2023 to March 2024.

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 during 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.
 - How effective the Partnership arrangements have been in practice.

¹ [Working together to safeguard children - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](http://www.gov.uk)

- 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 breakdown of costs in delivering the arrangements for that period, including 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 2023 to March 2024

- 2.1 The report follows the format of the October 2022 to March 2023 interim report, which had been developed to better highlight the impact of the Partnership's activities, as well as responding to analysis by the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel of Local Child Safeguarding Partnerships (LCSPs) annual reports.
- 2.2 The KSCMP Annual Report 2023/24 was agreed by the KSCMP Executive Board on 13th June 2024. It was subsequently signed-off by the Lead Safeguarding Partners in July 2024. It was published on the KSCMP website on 5th August 2024.
- 2.3 The report includes an overview of the key activities undertaken during the 2023/24 financial year, alongside the Partnership's ambitions for the next 12 months. It includes an evaluation from the KSCMP Independent Scrutineer.
- 2.4 The report particularly highlights several key activities progressed during the period, including:

- Development of KSCMP Priorities and Strategic Plan 2024-25
- Development of KSCMP data dashboards
- Undertaking a third survey regarding use of the multi-agency escalation pathway
- Multi-agency audit of the use of interpreters when working with children and families
- Multi-agency audit regarding Elective Home Education
- Development and launch of Kent Father Inclusive Practice Guidance
- Tracking of Serious Incident Notifications and referrals to the National Panel
- Publication of legacy Serious Case Reviews and Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Implementation of recommendations from Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Development and launch of the EatSafe campaign to support safer eating in early years settings

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 2023/24 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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