

Protocol

between

Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

and

Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board; including the Children, Young People and Families Strategic Partnership

1 PURPOSE

This protocol will outline and confirm the functions and responsibilities of Rotherham's key strategic partnerships; Health and Wellbeing Board; Children, Young People and Families Partnership; Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board; and the relationship between them.

2 OBJECTIVE

To provide clarity in terms of the relationships between the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board, including the Rotherham Children Young People and Families Strategic Partnership; and articulate the specific links and reporting arrangements between them.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB) is a statutory partnership board and the Children Young People and Families Strategic Partnership (CYPFSP) is a key leadership forum for services provided to children and their families. Both have important, complimentary but distinctive roles in ensuring that the strategic planning needs for children and young people in the borough are understood and met. This includes keeping children safe and promoting their welfare.
- 3.2 There is not a hierarchical relationship between the Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and Children Young People and Families Strategic Partnership but a joint responsibility to ensure that the needs of

children and young people in Rotherham are prioritised at a strategic level and delivered effectively at an operational level.

- 3.3 The Children Young People and Families Strategic Partnership contributes to the local Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) developed by the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB). RMBC Children and Young People's Services on behalf of the CYPFSP reports the Children and Young People's Commissioning Plan into the Health and Wellbeing Board in order to take account of and contribute to the Health and Wellbeing Strategy for the borough. This ensures that local priorities and improved outcomes for children and young people are aligned and identified through the JSNA.

4 ROTHERHAM LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

- 4.1 The RLSCB is not a service delivery body; it is the scrutiny and decision making body for multi-agency safeguarding responsibilities within Rotherham. It is a statutory partnership board; its work is directed by statutory guidance.

- 4.2 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment;
- preventing impairment of children's health or development;
- ensuring that children grow up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes.

- 4.3 The Chief Executive of the Local Authority has a statutory responsibility for ensuring that an effective Local Safeguarding Children Board is in place for the Local Authority area.

- 4.4 The core objectives of Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board which are set out in Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 are:

(a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and

(b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

- 4.5 Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 and Working Together 2013 further prescribes the functions in relation to these objectives as:

- developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority.

- communicating to persons and bodies in the area of the authority the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so;

monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve;

participating in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority;
and

- undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

Regulation 5 (3) provides that an LSCB may also engage in any other activity that facilitates, or is conducive to, the achievement of its objectives.

4.6 The Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board is responsible for challenging each relevant partner, as defined by the Children Act (2006)¹ on their effectiveness in safeguarding children and ensuring their welfare.

4.7 LSCBs do not commission or deliver direct frontline services though they may provide training. While LSCBs do not have the power to direct other organisations they do have a role in making clear where improvement is needed. Each Board partner retains their own existing line of accountability for safeguarding children.

4.8 Rotherham LSCB will publish an annual report and business plan

- RLSCB is chaired by an independent chairperson appointed by the Council Chief Executive in conjunction with Board partners. The RLSCB Chair sits on the CYPFSP.
- The Strategic Director for Children and Young People's Services and the Director of Public Health are RLSCB Members
- The Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Families Services is a participating observer on the RLSCB.

5 ROTHERHAM HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

5.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board, a statutory sub-committee of the council established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012, is the single strategic forum to ensure coordinated commissioning and delivery across the Rotherham Clinical Commissioning Group (RCCG), NHS England, RMBC , social care, RMBC public health and other services directly related to health

¹ 'The Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006 (Statutory Instrument 2006 No.90)

and wellbeing in order to secure better health and wellbeing outcomes for the whole Rotherham population.

5.2 The functions of the Health and Wellbeing Board include:

- To oversee the development of local commissioning plans, to ensure that all commissioning plans take account of the Health and Wellbeing Strategy and are aligned to other policies and plans that have an effect on health and wellbeing.
- Assess the needs of the local population and lead on the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA)

To hold relevant partners to account for the quality and effectiveness of their commissioning plans

To enable, advise and support organisations that arrange for the provision of health or social care services to work in an integrated way.

- To ensure that public health functions are discharged in a way that help partner agencies to fully contribute to reducing health inequalities.
- To ensure that there are arrangements in place to provide assurance that the standards of service provided and quality of service are safe, meet national standards and local expectations
- The Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Families Services is a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board

The Strategic Director for Children and Young Peoples Services is a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board

- The Director of Public Health, who is also a member of the Health and Wellbeing Board is responsible for ensuring that vulnerable children's issues feature in the JSNA (WT 2013)

6 ROTHERHAM CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

6.1 The Children, Young People and Families Strategic Partnership² is the local partnership that brings together the organisations responsible for strategic planning and commissioning of services for children, young people and families with a shared commitment to improving children's lives.

6.2 The functions of the CYPFSP are to³:

² Determined as a statutory obligation under the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009

³ Extract from consultation of 'Statutory Guidance on co-operation arrangements' para 1.7

- a) develop and promote a local vision – set out in the CYP Commissioning Plan – to drive improved outcomes for local children, young people and their families
- b) have in place robust arrangements for inter-agency co-operation
- c) develop integrated strategies, sharing data and workforce development
- d) support those strategies via more integrated processes, including effective joint working
- e) develop and promote integrated front line delivery, organised around the child in a setting which supports family life rather than statutory intervention, professional or institutional barriers.
- f) develop the Children and Young People’s Plan, keeping it under review and revising it as necessary
- g) monitor progress and produce a report on the extent to which the CYPFSP partners are delivering their commitments in the Children and Young Peoples Plan and its Commissioning Plan
- h) feedback progress to the Rotherham Health and Well Being Board against delivery of the Children and Young People’s Plan and the overarching Health and Wellbeing Strategy priorities.
 - The CYPFSP is chaired by the Cabinet Member for Children Young People and Families Services
 - The Strategic Director for Children and Young People’s Services is a member of the CYPFSP.
 - The Director of Public Health is a member of the CYPSP

7. THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE RLSCB AND CYPFSP

- 7.1 The Independent Chair of the RLSCB is a member of the CYPFSP and the Chair of the CYPFSP is a participating observer on RSLCB.
- 7.2 CYPFSP expects that RLSCB will fulfil its statutory functions and duties under 4.4 – 4.8 of this protocol.
- 7.3 The RLSCB produces an Annual Report which is presented to the CYPFSP. The Annual Report follows a format which accords with statutory guidance and should be completed by September each year.
- 7.4 The Board minutes for both the CYPFSP & RLSCB are shared in a timely manner.
- 7.5 The RLSCB will be formally consulted by the CYPFSP when the Children’s Commissioning Plan is being refreshed. The consultation phase will be sufficiently long to allow a thorough debate to support the RLSCB response to

the consultation. The Children’s Commissioning Plan will draw on the ‘support and challenge’⁴ from the RLSCB Annual Report and other on-going work.

8 THE RELATIONSHIP AND COMMITMENTS BETWEEN ROTHERHAM HEALTH AND WELL BEING BOARD, RLSCB AND ROTHERHAM CYPFSP

8.1 The CYPFSP will formally report to the HWBB on the progress update against the relevant priorities (in line with the Health and Wellbeing Strategy) of both the CYPFSP and the key milestones and targets within the Children and Young People’s Commissioning Plan.

8.2 The RLSCB will submit its Annual Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board.

8.3 The Health and Wellbeing Board will ensure that:

- The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment takes account of key areas for vulnerable children identified via the RLSCB Annual Report and the CYPFSP key priorities. The Director of Public Health has specific responsibility for this.

8.4 The Health and Wellbeing Board may also request that the CYPFSP and/or the RLSCB to consider issues for development, action or scrutiny.

9 SIGNATURES

Name.....

Date.....

Independent Chair Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

Name.....

Date.....

Chair Rotherham Health and Wellbeing Board

Name.....

Date.....

Chair Rotherham Children, Young People and Families Strategic Partnership

⁴ See ‘Working Together...’ para 3.63