


<p>Non-Executive Report of the:</p> <p>Health and Wellbeing Board</p> <p>10 December 2024</p>	
<p>Report of: Steve Reddy, Corporate Director of Children's Services</p>	<p>Classification:</p> <p>Unrestricted</p>
<p>Report Title: Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report</p>	

Originating Officer(s)	N/A
Wards affected	All wards

Executive Summary

The Working Together 2023 (WT23 Arrangements stipulates that safeguarding partners must publish a report within every 12-month period which demonstrates local safeguarding activity. The Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report provides an overview of the function and activities of the Partnership in regard to its safeguarding duties, from the period of 2023 – 2024.

Recommendations:

The Health and Wellbeing Board is recommended to:

1. Note the contents of the Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report.
2. Request H&WBB members to support sharing the report with the senior team in their agency/organisation.

Health and Wellbeing Strategy:

The Health and Wellbeing Strategy is grounded upon 6 principles that matter most to residents of Tower Hamlets. Detail how this report relates to these principles:

<p>1. Resources to support health and wellbeing should go to those who most need it</p>
<p>The THSCP ensures that resources are targeted at the most vulnerable, including children at risk of abuse, or neglect, and ensure the promotion of the welfare of all children in the borough. Partnership data-sharing, risk assessment and joint working are used to identify and prioritise those with the greatest need.</p>

2. Feeling connected and included is a foundation of wellbeing and the importance of this should be built into services and programme

The THSCP fosters connection and inclusion by embedding a child and family centred approach in all services, ensuring that the voice of the child is reflected throughout our work.

3. Being treated equally, respectfully and without discrimination should be the norm when using services

The THSCP works to ensure that its work is equitable and non-discriminatory. It seeks to understand disproportionality through data and audit and is committed to fostering this culture through its Anti-Racism priority.

4. Health and wellbeing information and advice should be clear, simple, and produced with those who will benefit from them

The THSCP supports the delivery of safeguarding protocols, procedures, training sessions and the dissemination of other information in a way that is accessible. The THSCP employs a cohort of Young Scrutineers, young people who ensure that information and language are targeted at and accessible to young people.

5. People should feel that they have equal power in shaping and designing services and programme that impact on their health and wellbeing

The THSCP actively involves young people, in the form of its Young Scrutineers programme, to provide insights and engage with a diverse range of other young people in the borough, shaping service delivery.

6. We should all be working together to make the best use of the assets we already have that support people's health and wellbeing.

The THSCP relies on contributions from its partners, including the Local Authority, Police and NHS to deliver its objectives and ensures that projects are based on principles of best value.

1. REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

1.1. No decision is needed for this report.

2. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

2.1. There are no alternative options.

3. DETAILS OF THE REPORT

3.1. The Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership (THSCP) Annual Report provides an overview of the responsibilities, activities and performance of the THSCP from the period of 2023 – 2024. This includes detail around the Working Together 2023 Arrangements and key changes made which impact the Partnership and the governance, structure, funding and membership of the THSCP. It details scrutiny arrangements, quality assurance, data and information around achievements and challenges. The report also outlines the statutory reviews, including Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews which have been undertaken by the THSCP over the course of the year.

4. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

4.1. This report outlines important work which is being done to safeguard vulnerable children and families in Tower Hamlets. It is important that there is senior oversight and scrutiny of this work to minimise disproportionality on vulnerable and protected groups.

5. OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

5.1. As a key statutory partner, the Local Authority is responsible for ensuring the THSCP operates effectively, including reviewing the Annual Report to ensure it accurately reflects safeguarding arrangements and outcomes and to challenge and hold other partners accountable for delivering safeguarding improvements. The Health and Wellbeing Board should ensure the THSCP is aligned with broader health and wellbeing strategies and to ensure that safeguarding forms part of its agenda.

6. COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

6.1. N/A

7. COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

7.1. N/A

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

- [TOWER HAMLETS SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT](#)
- [Annual report 22-23 summary](#)

Appendices

- N/A

Local Government Act, 1972 Section 100D (As amended)

List of “Background Papers” used in the preparation of this report

- None

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