


Cabinet 28 July 2021	 TOWER HAMLETS
Report of: James Thomas – Corporate Director of Children and Culture	Classification: Unrestricted
Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020-21	

Lead Member	Councillor Asma Begum, Cabinet Member for Children, Youth Services and Education
Originating Officer(s)	Louise Griffiths, Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Strategy Manager
Wards affected	All wards
Key Decision?	No
Reason for Key Decision	This report has been evaluated as not meeting the key decision criteria
Forward Plan Notice Published	N/A
Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome	All Priorities

Executive Summary

The Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership (THSCP) is required to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in its locality.

The Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020-21 demonstrates the activity of the THSCP within the last financial year, which includes the setting of priorities, sub-groups, data sharing and the impact on children within the borough.

Recommendations:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Note the work that has been carried out by the Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership over the year 2020-21 and the outcomes that members would like to see from the THSCP over the next year]
2. To note the specific equalities considerations as set out in Paragraph 4.1.

1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS

- 1.1 The Working Together 2018 Arrangements stipulate in section 41 -46 that safeguarding partners must publish a report within every 12-month period, and this should be shared through all agencies. The report will also go to the National Safeguarding Practice Review Panel, and the What Works Centre for Children within 7 days of publication. The report was required to be signed off by the three partners including the DCS for the Local Authority, Borough Commander for the Police and Chief Executive of the local CCG as well as the Independent Scrutineer.
- 1.2 The content of the Annual Report has been developed and agreed by the THSCP statutory partners from the local authority, clinical commissioning group and the borough police.

2 ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS

- 2.1 There is no alternative option.

3 DETAILS OF THE REPORT

- 3.1 The report covers the key activities over the year 2020-21 which includes:
- Governance and Membership
 - Independent Scrutiny
 - Working together to Safeguard Children 2018 and how this is implemented
 - Local Demographics
 - Children and Young People Specific Data
 - Funding
 - Impact of Covid-19 on Safeguarding Children
 - What Children and Young People have said about the issues they are facing
 - Setting the priorities
 - Feedback from Children and Young People about the Priority Subjects
 - Partners Views on Challenges to Safeguarding
 - Key Achievements
 - Data Journey
 - Statutory Reviews and The Learning Cycle
 - Strategic Boards and Partnerships linked to the THSCP

4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The work and outcomes of the THSCP are designed to ensure that all children have access to early help support and statutory intervention when needed to keep them safe from harm, at home and in the community, and to tackle the challenges they face individually or as a family unit to help them grow in to healthy adults. The safeguarding partnership will continue to prioritise ensuring all children are protected from risk and harm.

5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 The report sets out how the statutory children's safeguarding partnership has worked together to ensure the strategic view of safeguarding children is reflected equally between the three core partners which are the Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Group.

6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

- 6.1 There are no financial implications arising from the recommendations in this report.

7 COMMENTS OF LEGAL SERVICES

- 7.1 Section 16G of the Children Act 2004 requires the children's safeguarding partnership prepare and publish a report, at least once every twelve months, on the actions undertaken by the safeguarding partnership and the effectiveness of the partnership arrangements. Statutory guidance, Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018, sets out further requirements on the content of the report.
- 7.2 The matters referred to in this report comply with the above legislation and guidance.

Linked Reports, Appendices and Background Documents

Linked Report

- NONE

Appendices

- Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2020-2021.

Background Documents – Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements)(Access to Information)(England) Regulations 2012

- NONE

Officer contact details for documents:

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