


<b>Cabinet</b>  1 August 2022	 <b>TOWER HAMLETS</b>
<b>Report of:</b> James Thomas, Director of Children and Culture	<b>Classification:</b> Unrestricted
<b>Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2021/22</b>	

<b>Lead Member</b>	<b>Councillor Maium Talukdar (Deputy Mayor and Cabinet Member for Education, Youth and Lifelong Learning (Statutory Deputy Mayor))</b>
<b>Originating Officer(s)</b>	Louise Griffiths – Strategy and Partnership Manager
<b>Wards affected</b>	All wards
<b>Key Decision?</b>	No
<b>Reason for Key Decision</b>	This report has been reviewed as not meeting the Key Decision criteria.
<b>Forward Plan Notice Published</b>	23 May 2022
<b>Strategic Plan Priority / Outcome</b>	This decision will support one or more of the Corporate Priorities as set out in the Strategic Plan 2022-26 which is anticipated to be approved at this meeting

### **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 priority sub-groups, data sharing and the impact on children within the borough.

## **Recommendations:**

The Mayor in Cabinet is recommended to:

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

## **1 REASONS FOR THE DECISIONS**

- 1.1 The Working Together 2018 Arrangements stipulates in section 41 -6 the 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's within 7 days of publication. The report was required to be signed off by the three partners including 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 N/A

## **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
  - Voice of the Child and Young Person
  - Priorities
  - Key Achievements
  - Data Journey
  - Statutory Reviews

## **4 EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

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.

- 4.1 The THSCP expects all practitioners in all agencies to be proactive and they respond appropriately regarding the safeguarding of all children and young people. The local authority and partner agencies should recognise and support equality and diversity and understand any additional vulnerabilities faced by children and young people.

## **5 OTHER STATUTORY IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 This section of the report is used to highlight further specific statutory implications that are either not covered in the main body of the report or are required to be highlighted to ensure decision makers give them proper consideration. Examples of other implications may be:

- Best Value Implications,
- Consultations,
- Environmental (including air quality),
- Risk Management,
- Crime Reduction,
- Safeguarding.
- Data Protection / Privacy Impact Assessment.

## **6 COMMENTS OF THE CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER**

- 6.1 The Tower Hamlets Safeguarding partnership is funded through contributions from Partners and Council resources. There was a slight overspend in 2021-22, detailed in the presentation pack. As part of the Budget realignment work completed by LBTH Finance the budget has been adjusted and realigned to ensure there are adequate resources to support delivery for 2022-23 there are not expected to be any adverse financial implications for future years

## **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**

- Appendix 1 - Tower Hamlets Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2021-2022

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

- None

### **Officer contact details for documents:**

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