



DERBY CITY COUNCIL

CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE COMMISSION

30 JULY 2008

Report of the Corporate Director for Children and Young People

Derby Safeguarding Children Board Annual Review 07/08 and Business Plan 08/09

RECOMMENDATION

- 1.1 To note and comment on the work and performance of the local safeguarding children arrangements for last year (2007/08) and the key priorities for the Derby Safeguarding Children Board for the coming year (2008/09).

SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Derby Safeguarding Children Board was formally established in 2006 in accordance with the requirements of section 13 of The Children Act 2004 and the statutory guidance contained within 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2006. Each Children's Services Authority is required to establish with its partners a Local Safeguarding Children Board. The law prescribes the partners to local safeguarding arrangements and places upon them a statutory duty to co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of local children (section 11 of the Children Act).
- 2.2 The remit of the Safeguarding Children Board is set out in the Working Together Guidance. Essentially the Board must provide leadership and ensure a co-operative local partnership that is working effectively to safeguard local children and promote their welfare. In order to achieve this, the Board must develop and adequately resource an annual business plan and monitor its effectiveness. The Board has an important role in raising safeguarding issues within the wider (non-professional) community and in evaluating the effectiveness of local services.
- 2.3 The work of the Derby Safeguarding Children Board has been closely scrutinised during 2007/08 as part of both the Annual Performance Assessment and the Joint Area Review inspections. These inspections found that local arrangements to safeguard children and promote their welfare are good. The inspections noted the hard work and contributions of staff in all agencies to this critical area of work.
- 2.4 The remit and structure of the Derby Safeguarding Children Board are set out comprehensively in the Annual Review 2007/08 and Business Plan 2008/09. This single document aims to describe the local safeguarding board arrangements, review last year's activity, identify key priorities for 2008/09. The report also sets out the arrangements for monitoring progress.

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Background papers:

List of appendices:

App 1 Implications

**App 2 Derby Safeguarding Children Board Annual Review 2007/08
and Business Plan 2008/09**

IMPLICATIONS

Financial

1. The Derby Safeguarding Children Board has an annual budget made of up contributions from the key partners to the local arrangements. The budget meets the staff costs of the Board and funds the Boards training and communication activity.

Legal

2. The Derby Safeguarding Children Board has been established in accordance with the requirements of The Children Act 2004 and the guidance contained within Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2006.

Personnel

3. An important role for the Derby Safeguarding Children Board is to support the training of staff from the range of agencies involved to work effectively in partnership to safeguard children. In order to meet this requirement of the role Board has established a Workforce Development Group which works to develop and deliver an annual training plan.

Equalities impact

4. Derby is a culturally diverse community and the local safeguarding arrangements are required to be responsive to both individual cultural needs within the assessment and case planning process and to community needs through its awareness raising responsibilities. The local safeguarding children procedures developed jointly with Derbyshire address equalities issues.

Corporate Priorities

5. The work of the Derby Safeguarding Children Board supports the key priority of helping us to be healthy, active and independent. The partnership arrangements led by the Board support local agencies to respond to the needs of children in an appropriate and timely way.