

## **CABINET - 17 SEPTEMBER 2019**

### **ANNUAL REPORTS 2018/19 FROM THE OXFORDSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD**

**Report by Deputy Director - Safeguarding**

#### **RECOMMENDATION**

1. **Cabinet is asked to review and note the reports.**

#### **Executive Summary**

2. This paper presents three annual reports: the Oxfordshire Safeguarding Children Board Annual (OSCB) Report; Performance, Audit and Quality Assurance Annual Report and the Case Review and Governance Annual Report.

#### **Background**

3. Local Safeguarding Children Boards were set up under the Children Act 2004 in order that agencies co-operate with each other to safeguard children and promote their welfare. The Oxfordshire Board is led by an independent chair and includes representation from all six local authorities in Oxfordshire, as well as the National Probation service, the Community Rehabilitation Company, Police, Oxfordshire Clinical Commissioning Group, Oxford University Hospitals NHS Trust, Oxford Health NHS Foundation Trust, schools and Further Education colleges, the military, the voluntary sector and lay members. In April 2019 these arrangements changed to reflect the requirements of the DfE guidance 'Working Together 2018' however these reports relate to the financial year 2018/19.

#### **Key Issues**

4. The OSCB Annual Report sets out report sets out the challenges that the safeguarding partners have faced in terms of the ongoing demand on the system with neglect being a key feature; the need to keep children safe in full-time education and the contextual safeguarding risks that exist for children outside of their home environment. The report also highlights a number of examples of good practice including work around child exploitation.
5. The Performance Audit and Quality Assurance subgroup scrutinizes the effectiveness of safeguarding practice. This annual report summarises the common themes for learning and improvement to support vulnerable children.
6. The Case Review and Governance Annual report summarises the learning from four serious case reviews.

### **Budgetary Implications**

7. The OSCB receives partnership funding. A breakdown of income and spend is included in the annual report.

### **Equalities implications**

8. The OSCB ensures that diversity and equality issues for all children are considered in all aspects of its work.

### **Risk Management**

9. The OSCB maintains a risk register, which is reviewed on an annual basis.

### **Communications**

10. The OSCB annual report is published on the OSCB website. The PAQA and CRAG reports are not published on the OASB website but are available as part of Cabinet papers.

### **Key Dates**

11. The reports were considered by Performance Scrutiny Committee on 5 September and will go to Full Council on 5 November 2019.

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