

HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

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PROTOCOL SETTING OUT THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN KEY STRATEGIC BOARDS IN MEDWAY

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The report accompanies a protocol, which sets out the roles and responsibilities of the different strategic partnerships working across Medway Council in relation to safeguarding. It has been produced in response to recent Ofsted Inspections of children's services in other local authorities, which have identified a need to have these responsibilities clearly defined and agreed by each Board. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note the protocol and sign up to its implementation.

1. Budget and Policy Framework

- 1.1 Medway Council works in partnership with the NHS, other public sector providers and the voluntary and community sector to improve the experience of service users (both adults and children) and their carers. Recent health and social care reforms have introduced new structures and processes and there are a number of strategic boards and partnerships, with complementary roles and functions, all of which have a role in relation to safeguarding.
- 1.2 Recent Ofsted inspections of Children's Social Care services have identified a need for a clear and agreed protocol, signed by strategic partnerships, which clarify these respective roles and responsibilities.

2. Background

- 2.1 A protocol has been drafted which set outs an expectation that each Board will have the opportunity to see, comment on and challenge the safeguarding priorities of other strategic bodies, and be updated on progress on their work.
- 2.2 The protocol is being taken to other named strategic boards and partnerships for comment and sign up during September and October.

3. Advice and Analysis

The purpose of this report is to ask the Health and Wellbeing Board members to read and discuss the draft protocol and if in agreement, for the chair to sign to evidence acceptance.

There are no policy or structure implications.

4. Risk Management

- 4.1 Failure to have an agreed protocol, which evidences clarity and understanding on the part of Board members about roles and responsibilities between strategic Boards, presents a risk to the Council in relation to future Ofsted inspection grading.

5. Consultation

- 5.1 All strategic Boards are in the process of being consulted about this protocol and will have opportunity to review and comment on the document

6. Financial and legal implications

- 6.1 There are no financial implications in relation to agreeing the protocol.
- 6.2 Colleagues from legal services have reviewed and cleared the protocol document.

7. Recommendations

- 7.1. The Health and Wellbeing Board is asked to note and review the protocol and if in agreement, for the chair to sign to evidence acceptance.

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