

WIRRAL CHILDREN'S TRUST BOARD – 17th July 2012

Report to the Children's Trust Board on Safeguarding Arrangements

1. Introduction and background

This report forms part of a regular update from the LSCB to the Children's Trust Board on key developments locally and nationally on regulatory reform, updates on progress of local Serious Case Reviews and key challenges for the partnership and agencies.

2. Annual Report and Business Plan 2012-13

This report is presented to the Children's Trust in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between both boards. The report was published in April 2012 and will be presented to the Safeguarding Reference Group and the Chief Executive as required by *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (2010).

The report can be navigated as follows:

Section 1 provides an overview of the work undertaken over the previous 12 months.

Progress and Achievements reflects on the priorities from the 2011-12 Business Plan detailing what was achieved and what the next steps will be. This chapter has been informed by the Section 11 audit, accountability meetings, sub-committee tasks, themed audits and evaluations.

The chapter on *Serious Case Reviews* reports on the reviews completed within the period, the resulting changes to practice and the lessons learned.

The annual report from the Child Death Overview Panel is incorporated into the document giving an overview of the data and progress made in terms of the pan-Merseyside CDOP.

Data and analysis of child protection information, looked after children, common assessment framework activity and allegations against staff are considered in this section.

The *Financial Report* provides an account of the contributions from partner agencies and how funds have been used in order to meet statutory functions.

The second section of the report contains the Business Plan for 2012-13. In summary the LSCB priorities are:

1. Further develop professional expertise in safeguarding practice
2. Improve learning from Serious Case Reviews
3. Ensure outcomes for children are the focus of interventions and performance management reporting
4. Implement the actions from the 2011 Serious Case Reviews
5. Continue to improve the functioning and accountability of WSCB
6. Continue to strengthen joint working between WSCB and SAPB

These build on the achievements of 2011-12, incorporate recommendations from the Munro Review of Child Protection and are aligned with other key business plans and strategies.

3. Recommendations:

3.1 The Children's Trust Board acknowledges receipt of the LSCB Annual Report and Business Plan.

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