

Safeguarding Overview & Scrutiny

Dorset County Council



Date of Meeting	5 th July 2018
Officer	Karen Maher (Business Manager – Dorset Safeguarding Adults Board)
Subject of Report	Developing a ‘Whole Family Approach’
Executive Summary	<p>Following joint discussions in 2017 between the Community Safety Partnerships (CSPs), Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards regarding the need to take a “whole family” approach to address risks identified through DHRs/SARs and SCRs, all Boards endorsed this through a paper presented at each Board in September 2017.</p> <p>The Adult and Children Safeguarding Boards successfully delivered 2 joint conferences with a theme of a “whole family approach” to Safeguarding and consideration is now being given to the steps now required to develop this further.</p> <p>It is recognised that the Safeguarding Boards/CSPs are unlikely to have a complete picture of existing practice in relation to “whole family” working including how local practice frameworks, organisational arrangements and service offers lend themselves to this approach.</p> <p>To this end, it is proposed to hold a listening event to develop a map of current arrangements to inform the next steps/ plans in adopting a “whole family” approach across Dorset.</p> <p>Objectives for the listening events will be to –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• agree a common understanding of what we mean by the term “whole family approach”• provide an opportunity for a cross section of relevant colleagues to reflect on the joint conferences and the opportunity to build “whole family” working into multi-agency practice.

Developing a Whole Family Approach

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop an understanding of opportunities and gaps for how existing practice frameworks/organisational arrangements/service offers support “whole family” working. • listen to views on the strategic decisions /practical support needed to realise the ambition of all organisations adopting a “whole family” approach. • test initial thinking for promoting a “whole family” approach such as promotion through existing training programmes, policies/procedures and future practice learning events. • identify how we will know we have been successful in adopting a whole family approach. • use the output from the event to inform the development of an agreed local protocol for whole family working. <p>The listening event will be held over 2 x ½ day sessions on the 3rd October 2018 with approx. 40 (in total) managers/Principle Social Workers and practitioners at each event from partner organisations.</p> <p>Skilled facilitation of the event will be an important factor in its success. Local contributions of cases demonstrating good multi-agency practice can be utilised as a learning tool. Requests will be sent to all teams inviting examples of good practice which can be reflected on at the listening event. Small group work will also provide an opportunity to consider any barriers and opportunities for embedding a whole family approach across Dorset. Contact is also being made with areas with experience of introducing a whole family approach to identify a potential contributor.</p> <p>Agency leads will be briefed ahead of invitations going out for the event to ensure relevant attendance. A summary of issues identified during the day will be taken to strategic forums.</p> <p>In addition to the above a shared learning group has been established to enable the Safeguarding Adults Boards, Safeguarding Childrens Boards and Community Safety Partnerships to identify and reflect on shared learning themes to improve responses in local practice. The partnerships will work together to identify and disseminate key learning themes in a co-ordinated and efficient manner to achieve the greatest impact.</p>
<p>Impact Assessment:</p> <p><i>Please refer to the protocol for writing reports.</i></p>	<p>The Boards Equality Impact Assessment is contained within its Strategic plan.</p> <hr/> <p>Budget:</p> <p>The Listening Events will be funded from profits made by the Joint Conferences.</p>

Developing a Whole Family Approach

	Risk Assessment: N/A
	Outcomes: As highlighted above
Recommendation	The Overview & Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and accept the Boards objectives as set out in this report.
Reason for Recommendation	
Appendices	None
Background Papers	N/A
Officer Contact	Name: Karen Maher, Business Manager DSAB Tel: 07775982966 Email: k.maher@dorsetcc.gov.uk