

North Tyneside Health & Wellbeing Board Report Date: 12th September 2019

ITEM 8

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

Report from:	North Tyneside Council, North Tyneside CCG and Northumbria Police	
Report Author:	Julie Firth, Assistant Director Children's Services	☎ 0191 643 5943
Relevant Partnership Board:	North Tyneside Local Safeguarding Childrens Board & North Tyneside Children, Young People and Learning Partnership Board	

1. Purpose:

To advise the North Tyneside Health & Wellbeing Board of the proposals to create new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) in North Tyneside.

2. Recommendation(s):

The Board is recommended to:-

- a) Agree to the intention to integrate the existing Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and Children and Young People's Partnership governance as part of the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements, under the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership governance structure;
- b) Endorse the proposed next steps outlined within section 4 of this report and section 8 of the appended plan; and
- c) Agree to receive further reports regarding implementation of the new arrangements between September 2019 and 2020, and regular quarterly update reports following full implementation

3. Policy Framework

This item relates to all priorities within the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy 2013-23 but most notably the objective to ensure that 'communities will experience greater positive wellbeing and resilience, particularly those who are most vulnerable and those living in the most deprived areas in the borough.'

4. Information

On Monday 24th June, North Tyneside published its plan to implement new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA), as required by the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 national guidance.

Each local authority area, with its two statutory safeguarding partners (the clinical commissioning group and police force), was required to publish a plan by the end of June 2019 to set out how it would implement the new MASA.

The new MASA are required to come into effect from 29th September 2019, although this can be a phased approach. The new MASA must replace the existing Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) arrangements, although there is no requirement to replicate any of the existing LSCB governance or structure and there is significantly greater freedom for local areas to determine the best arrangements to meet local need and priorities.

The published plan, which is appended to this report, sets out the proposed new structure of the MASA, the vision and guiding principles of the arrangements. In North Tyneside, the aspiration has been to take the opportunity of developing new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements to further align safeguarding partnership governance with strategic partnership governance for children and young people, recognising that keeping children safe is intrinsically linked to improving outcomes more broadly. Therefore, the plan describes the intention to integrate the existing LSCB and Children, Young People and Learning Partnership governance under the North Tyneside Strategic Partnership. This also provides an opportunity to further join up partnership scrutiny, oversight and developments across other key forums, such as the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safer North Tyneside Partnership, and the Safeguarding Adults Board.

Alongside the development of individual local area MASA plans, work has been ongoing at a North and South of Tyne level to explore the potential to develop sub-regional safeguarding arrangements across that wider footprint. This will build on existing collaboration at this level, in relation to the development of joint policies and procedures, and explore where sub-regional working could be beneficial in relation to areas such as peer review and challenge, performance analysis, and shared learning. Whilst this work is developing, the safeguarding partners in North Tyneside have committed to contributing to this agenda, where beneficial.

As part of the implementation planning, the partnership will agree appropriate governance arrangements to deliver the priorities set out within the draft Children and Young People's Plan, whilst ensuring that key mechanisms continue to be in place to provide assurance about quality of practice and the ability to learn and continually develop practice. With a specific focus on safeguarding, the plan describes an intention to create two new standing groups, which will replace the existing range of sub-groups in the LSCB governance: a Quality of Practice Group; and a Quality of Learning Group.

The key focus for the MASA will be ensuring that there is a strong connection between strategic priorities and frontline practice, and being able to clearly demonstrate impact on the quality of practice as a result of the new arrangements within the first 12 months.

The appended plan sets out the key milestones for the phased implementation of the new MASA, with the intention for the new arrangements to be launched from September 2019 and fully in place from January 2020. Over the next two months, a series of workshops and development sessions will take place to agree the:

- Broader governance, linked to the priorities within the CYP Plan
- Approach to involving children and young people in the new arrangements
- Approach to understanding local need and performance management
- Interface with wider sub-regional safeguarding governance arrangements
- Communications plan for the new governance arrangements

- Funding and support required to implement and manage the new arrangements

5. Contact officers:

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6. Appendices

Appendix 1 - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements Governance Structure
Appendix 2 - North Tyneside Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

7. Background information:

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/779401/Working_Together_to_Safeguard-Children.pdf

8. Finance and other resources

A key aspect of the implementation plan for the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements will be agreeing partnership funding for the MASA and how this will be used to ensure appropriate support is in place to ensure the smooth operation of the governance structure.

9. Legal

The proposals contained within this report and the appended plan will ensure that the three safeguarding partners in North Tyneside comply with their obligations, as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018.

10. Consultation/community engagement

In developing the proposals contained within this report and the appended plan, the three statutory safeguarding partners have engaged with key stakeholders across a range of existing governance forums. The implementation plan will include further engagement, including agreeing appropriate mechanisms to ensure the participation and engagement of children and young people in the new governance arrangements.

11. Human rights

There are no human rights implications directly arising from this report.

12. Equalities and diversity

There are no equalities and diversity implications directly arising from this report.

13. Risk management

The implementation plan for the new arrangements will ensure that the change in governance will not present any additional risk to vulnerable children and young people in North Tyneside.

14. Crime and disorder

There are no crime and disorder implications directly arising from this report.

SIGN OFF

Chair/Deputy Chair of the Board	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Public Health	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Children's and Adult Services	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Director of Healthwatch North Tyneside	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CCG Chief Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Chief Finance Officer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Head of Law & Governance	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements Governance Structure

