

**CHILDREN'S SERVICES AND LEARNING OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY PANEL
16 DECEMBER 2009**

**LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT
(Acting Director of Children, Young People and Learning)**

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The purpose of this Annual Report is to note the work undertaken through the LSCB to ensure the Council meets its responsibilities in relation to safeguarding children and young people.

2 SUGGESTED ACTION

- 2.1 **That the attached report be noted.**
- 2.2 **That the Children's Services and Learning Overview and Scrutiny Panel establish a working group to undertake a review of safeguarding children as referred to in the 2009/10 Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme.**

3 SUPPORTING INFORMATION

- 3.1 'The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in each local area will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality, and for ensuring the effectiveness of what they do.' ('Working Together to Safeguard Children', 2006 paragraph 3.2). The Bracknell Forest LSCB was formally established on 1 April 2006, replacing the previous Area Child Protection Committee (ACPC). It is now chaired by an Independent Chair, Elaine Coleridge Smith, rather than the Director of Children's Services.
- 3.2 The LSCB Annual Report for 2008-09 is the 3rd annual report. Section 3 sets out the main achievements during the year, Section 4 sets out performance in relation to Child Protection Conference activity as well as key National Indicators relating to Safeguarding. Sections 5 and 6 describe how the LSCB carries out its functions and its priorities for the current year.
- 3.3 The role of the LSCB is wider than child protection and encompasses all aspects of child safeguarding activity.
- 3.4 The timing for the commencement of the Working Group will need to take account of other requirements for Overview and Scrutiny officer support, such that the review is unlikely to be supportable within the next three months.

Contact for further information

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