

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Decision Report

Panel:	Corporate Parenting Board
Date:	21 June 2021
Title:	Protocol on the Working Arrangements Between the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership
Report From:	Director of Children's Services

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Purpose of this Report

1. The purpose of this report is for the Corporate Parenting Board to note and approve the updated Protocol on the Working Arrangements Between the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership.
2. **Recommendation(s)**
The recommendation is for the Panel to note and approve the updated Protocol on the Working Arrangements Between the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership

Executive Summary

3. The attached Protocol on the Working Arrangements Between the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership has been reviewed and amended to bring it up to date highlighting the Corporate Parenting Board is now a full committee of the County Council.
4. The revised protocol states that the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board will produce an annual report and this report will be submitted to the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report will equally be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board for relevant matters relating to Looked after Children and Care Leavers (para 2.1).

Contextual information

5. In 2018/19 there were significant changes to the Children and Social Work Act 2017, which created new duties for three key agencies, police, health and the local authority, to lead arrangements locally to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their area. Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 outlined the replacement of Local Safeguarding Children's Boards with Local Safeguarding Partnerships. The Hampshire Local Safeguarding Board formally moved to the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP).

The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board are equal partners with a joint responsibility to ensure that the needs of Looked After Children are prioritised at a strategic level and delivered effectively at an operational level. This protocol will support the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership and Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board to operate effectively in relation to one another in terms of safeguarding and the means to secure effective co-ordination of matters relating to the safeguarding of Looked After Children and Care Leavers.

Finance

6. Not Applicable

Performance

7. The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership is a statutory partnership, and the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board, a full committee of the County Council, with the remit to scrutinise and ensure that Children in Care and Care Leavers are provided with the highest standard of care.

Consultation and Equalities

8. No equality impacts have been identified in the development of this report.

Other Key Issues

9. In addition to note that it is recommended that the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership should undertake to review the implementation of this protocol bi-annually.

Conclusions

10. The Protocol on the Working Arrangements Between the Hampshire Corporate Parenting Board and the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership has been reviewed and amended to bring it up to date regarding organisational changes and the joint areas of interest for Looked After Children and Care Leavers.

11. The Hampshire Corporate parenting Board produces an Annual report, and this will be submitted to the Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership. The Hampshire Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual report will equally be presented to the Corporate Parenting Board and will ensure that Looked After Children receive good quality services, have their welfare promoted, reach their potential and are safeguarded from harm.

REQUIRED CORPORATE AND LEGAL INFORMATION:

Links to the Strategic Plan

Hampshire maintains strong and sustainable economic growth and prosperity:	No
People in Hampshire live safe, healthy and independent lives:	Yes
People in Hampshire enjoy a rich and diverse environment:	No
People in Hampshire enjoy being part of strong, inclusive communities:	No
OR	
<p>This proposal does not link to the Strategic Plan but, nevertheless, requires a decision because: <i>NB: Only complete this section if you have not completed any of the Strategic Plan tick boxes above. Whichever section is not applicable, please delete.</i></p>	

NB: If the 'Other significant links' section below is not applicable, please delete it.

Other Significant Links

Links to previous Member decisions:	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>
Direct links to specific legislation or Government Directives	
<u>Title</u>	<u>Date</u>

Section 100 D - Local Government Act 1972 - background documents	
<p>The following documents discuss facts or matters on which this report, or an important part of it, is based and have been relied upon to a material extent in the preparation of this report. (NB: the list excludes published works and any documents which disclose exempt or confidential information as defined in the Act.)</p>	
<u>Document</u>	<u>Location</u>
None	

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT:

1. Equality Duty

The County Council has a duty under Section 149 of the Equality Act 2010 ('the Act') to have due regard in the exercise of its functions to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct prohibited by or under the Act with regard to the protected characteristics as set out in section 4 of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation);
- Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation) and those who do not share it;
- Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic within section 149(7) of the Act (see above) and persons who do not share it.

Due regard in this context involves having due regard in particular to:

- The need to remove or minimise disadvantages suffered by persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are connected to that characteristic;
- Take steps to meet the needs of persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of persons who do not share it;
- Encourage persons sharing a relevant protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.

2. Equalities Impact Assessment:

Not Applicable