



Committee report

Committee	HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD
Date	11 SEPTEMBER 2014
Title	ISLE OF WIGHT SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (IOWSCB) 2013/14 ANNUAL REPORT
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1. The chair of the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board (IOWSCB) is required to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in their local area. This is a statutory requirement under section 14A of the Children Act 2004.
2. The attached 2013/14 annual report for the IOWSCB assesses the performance and effectiveness of local services and identifies the priorities that the board will be focusing on in 2014/15 in order to take further action to continue to improve provision on the Island.
3. Working Together 2013 (Department for Education) states that the annual report should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the chief executive, leader of the council, the local police and crime commissioner and the chair of the health and wellbeing board.

BACKGROUND

4. The 2013/14 annual report was agreed at the 15 July 2014 meeting of the IOWSCB. It outlines progress made during 2013/14 and summarises the key challenges ahead for all agencies to ensure children on the Island are safe from harm, abuse or neglect.
5. The new independent chair (Maggie Blyth) came into post in October 2013. The local authority children's services had recently entered into a partnership with Hampshire County Council just before this. 2013/14 has been a challenging year for all agencies following the issuing of the Government Improvement Direction in January 2013.
6. The annual report describes the improved strategic partnership working between the Isle of Wight Council, the Isle of Wight Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and NHS Trust alongside Hampshire Constabulary. There are also good examples of integrated working following the introduction of the multi-

agency safeguarding hub (MASH) in January 2014 and the plans for locality hubs across the Island.

7. The annual report also captures the lessons learnt from case reviews (chapter 4), with excellent participation by frontline staff in the Learning Lessons events held in early 2014.
8. The IOWSCB has benefited from increasing commitment from schools across the Island, and from children's centres and voluntary sector organisations to protect children. Consequently, some of the improvements of this year have seen significantly more multi-agency training for front line staff in protecting children, the launch of new guidance for professionals in how to access child protection services and greater clarity over the sharing of information.
9. Agencies will be required to make on-going system improvement on the Island to be effective, but the achievements made during this year provide confidence that children's needs are prioritised by all key organisations.
10. The health and wellbeing board, along with other similar strategic partnerships on the Isle of Wight, should use this annual report to inform and plan services for children and young people and families on the Island.

RECOMMENDATION

11. That the board notes and accepts the 2013/14 annual report from the IOWSCB and uses it to inform and plan services for children and young people on the Isle of Wight.

APPENDICES ATTACHED

12. [Appendix A](#): Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board 2013/14 Annual Report

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