



## Health & Wellbeing Board and Warrington Safeguarding Children Board Protocol

## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This document sets out the expectations of the relationship and working arrangements between Warrington Health and Wellbeing Board and Warrington Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB). It covers their respective roles and functions, arrangements for challenge, oversight and scrutiny and performance management

## **2. The Warrington Safeguarding Children Board**

- 2.1 The WSCB is a statutory partnership with responsibility for agreeing how relevant local organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The WSCB's role is to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard all children.
- 2.2 The WSCB's key responsibilities are to:
- Develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Warrington, including policies and procedures in relation to:
    - a. the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;
    - b. training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;
    - c. recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children;
    - d. investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children;
    - e. safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered;
    - f. cooperation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners;
  - communicating to persons and bodies in Warrington the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so;
  - monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by Warrington Borough Council and its partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve;
  - participating in the planning of services for children in Warrington; and
  - undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and the Board partners on lessons to be learned.

## **3. The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB)**

- 3.1 The Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB) is a statutory partnership of providers and commissioners of community, health and social care services, elected members, officers of the Council, representatives of

Warrington Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS providers, local HealthWatch and other key partners.

- 3.2 The HWB is a Committee of Warrington Borough Council which:-
- provides a local governance structure for local planning and accountability of health and wellbeing related services;
  - delivers improved wellbeing, morbidity, mortality and equality outcomes for the population of Warrington;
  - approves the statutory Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Local Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment and Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy;
  - promotes integration and partnership working between the NHS, social care, public health and other local services.
- 3.3. The Warrington Strategy for Wellbeing 2012-15 has been developed by the Warrington Partnership and the Warrington Health and Wellbeing Board as the overarching strategic document for the borough, setting out a vision and priorities that have been agreed by all partners, based on a whole borough needs assessment that was carried out in 2011-12.
- 3.4. The Strategy has a section on “ensuring the best start in life and transition to adulthood”. The strategy identifies the main challenges as:
- pre and post natal care
  - child poverty
  - alcohol and other lifestyle choices
  - sexual health and teenage pregnancy

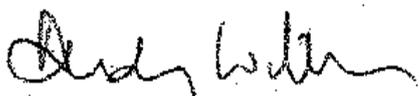
#### **4. The Relationship between the WSCB and the HWB**

- 4.1 The roles and responsibilities of the two respective bodies are different but in relation to children and young people, complementary. Both Boards promote joint working and co-operation between partners to improve the wellbeing of children and young people in Warrington.
- 4.2. The Independent Chair of WSCB, the Executive Director of Families and Wellbeing (who is also the DCS and DAS) and Director of Public Health are all members of both the HWB and WSCB.
- 4.3. The HWB may receive reports from the WSCB about any matters in relation to integration, partnership working and delivery of Warrington’s priorities within the Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy. The Board may also consider and comment upon the Annual Report of the Warrington Safeguarding Children Board. (The Annual Report 2012-13 was presented to the HWB on 17 October 2013).
- 4.4. The WSCB is also held to account by the Council’s Scrutiny Committee, which may make reports and/or recommendations to the Council, the Executive and partner bodies about any matter which it has reviewed. The Scrutiny Committee holds decision makers to account and can make recommendations for improvements in services. (The Annual

Report 2012-13 was presented to the Scrutiny Committee on 19 March 2014)

- 4.5. Through its case review, evaluation and audit programmes of work, the WSCB must be able to form a view of the quality of local activity, to challenge organisations as necessary, and to speak with an independent voice. For that reason, the chairs of the two Boards must be different people. The WSCB is chaired by an independent person and the HWB is chaired by the Chief Executive of the Council.
- 4.6. The WSCB works with the HWB, informing and drawing on the JSNA and the HWB may request the WSCB to consider issues for development, action or scrutiny
- 4.7. The WSCB offers support, guidance, advice, challenge and scrutiny to the HWB to enable the partner organisations to discharge their safeguarding responsibilities effectively.
- 4.8. The HWB provides expert advice around all issues of children's health to the WSCB. It supports the shaping of children's health strategy and priorities for the Borough to reduce health inequalities and improve outcomes for children and families.

Signatures



Audrey Williamson  
Independent Chair Warrington Safeguarding Children Board  
April 2014



Steven Broomhead  
Chair of Health and Wellbeing Board  
April 2014