



Gateshead local safeguarding children board

## 2016 PROTOCOL BETWEEN GATESHEAD LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD AND HEALTH AND WELLBEING BOARD

### INTRODUCTION

This protocol sets out the governance and working arrangements between the Gateshead Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). It provides an overview of the roles and responsibilities for each Board and identifies the way in which they will cooperate to ensure that there is effective communication, coordination and influence. Neither Board is directly accountable to the other, however it is recognised that both should work together to safeguard young people at risk and improve the wider health and wellbeing agenda across Gateshead.

### WHAT IS THE LSCB?

Gateshead LSCB is an independent statutory partnership with two main objectives as set out in statutory guidance *Working Together to Safeguard Children* (2013) and the Children Act 2004 Regulations:

1. To coordinate the safeguarding arrangements of each body represented on the Board and promote the welfare of children in Gateshead Council
2. To monitor the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements in Gateshead

The LSCB also has a number of statutory roles and functions to support these objectives, including:

- Developing child protection policies and procedures
- Communicating and raising awareness of safeguarding
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of partners individually and collectively
- Participating in the planning of services
- Undertaking reviews of all child deaths and Serious Case Reviews and disseminating the learning
- Commissioning and evaluating multi agency training

Gateshead LSCB has a three year business plan for 2014-2017 with key priorities of **Leadership, Challenge** and **Learning** and these principles are not only applied to the work of the Board but to partners and other partnerships, where relevant.

### WHAT IS THE HWB?

The Health and Social Care Act 2012 established Health and Wellbeing Boards as a forum where key leaders and commissioners from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities.

The role and functions the Gateshead HWB include:

- Assessing the needs of the local population and leading on the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment
- Leading on the production of a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy
- Promoting integration and partnership working in the provision of health and social care
- Supporting strategic joint commissioning where appropriate
- Leading on local health improvements and prevention activity

## **ARRANGEMENTS BETWEEN THE BOARDS**

The following arrangements are already in place or are proposed to ensure greater join up between Gateshead LSCB and the HWB. These arrangements ensure that each Board contributes to and influences the work of the other and that the LSCB receives assurances that safeguarding is adequately considered by the HWB:

- The LSCB has a statutory requirement to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Gateshead. This will be shared with the HWB, and other partnerships, as part of the annual reporting cycle. The LSCB also produces an annual Business Plan with key priorities and this will be shared with the HWB (usually at the same meeting). This enables effective sharing of good practice between both Boards and the sharing of any safeguarding issues identified by either Board. The HWB is not currently required to produce an annual report.
- The LSCB also produces a newsletter on a quarterly basis entitled Safeguarding News, and it is proposed that this will be circulated to members of the HWB in addition to LSCB members and frontline practitioners
- There are a number of agencies represented on both Boards e.g. Gateshead Council, Newcastle Gateshead CCG, Gateshead Health NHS Foundation Trust, Northumberland, Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust etc. There are also some individuals who are members of both Boards, for example the Strategic Director – Care, Wellbeing and Learning. This will be considered further as part of the annual review of membership of both Boards. There is an expectation that members of any Board, for example the LSCB, HWB, Safeguarding Adults Board, Community Safety Board and Children’s Trust Board, will ensure that any issues impacting on another strategic partnership are shared as appropriate so that issues can be identified. For example, if the HWB discuss an issue that has implications for safeguarding children then the LSCB should be alerted. There is also an expectation that Members of both Boards will ensure that messages about keeping children safe are disseminated within partner organisations
- The LSCB Business Manager and the Gateshead Council Policy Manager who coordinates the work of the HWB will meet twice a year to discuss issues that have been discussed by each Board, issues on the horizon and any relevant concerns that would impact on the work of the other Board