

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel	
MEETING/ DECISION DATE:	13th November 2023	EXECUTIVE FORWARD PLAN REFERENCE:
TITLE:	Bath & North East Somerset Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP) Annual report 2022-2023	
WARD:	All	
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM		
List of attachments to this report: Attachment 1: BCSSP Annual Report 2022-2023 Attachment 2: BCSSP Annual Report Executive Summary 2022-2023		

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The B&NES Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP) is introducing its Annual Report for 2022-2023, alongside its priorities to be actioned in its Strategic Plan for 2023-2024.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The Panel is asked to;

2.1 **Proposal 1:** Note the Annual Report and Executive Summary for the BCSSP

2.2 **Proposal 2:** Raise any queries in respect of community safety and/or safeguarding activity

2.3 **Proposal 3:** Recommend any additional areas it would like the BCSSP to give consideration to in 2023-2024

3 THE REPORT

3.1 The report contains information covering the following areas:

- The current community safety and safeguarding context for B&NES
- The new Partnership governance arrangements
- Achievements against strategic plans for community safety, safeguarding children and adults

- The work of the sub-groups during the year
- Adult and children's safeguarding activity data
- Priorities for the year ahead

Activity and Information Highlights

- 2022-2023 is the third full year of reporting for the BCSSP since it was established in 2019
- Within the year, the Local Government Association (LGA) have conducted an overarching review into the effectiveness of the partnership. An action plan has been developed to integrate a number of the recommendations made.
- Despite physical and financial resource pressures, continuity has been maintained, the statutory duties met, and strategic objectives of the partnership have been delivered
- The BCSSP has published three Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and continued to undertake work towards recommendations from previous SARs
- The Practice Review Group has received five referrals for SARs, of which two met the criteria, two were still under consideration at the time of writing this report and one was agreed to be addressed through a learning briefing.
- The Practice Review Group has received four serious incident notifications for consideration and a Rapid Review was deemed appropriate for each case. A Local Child Safeguarding practice Review (LCSPR) was recommended for three of the notifications.
- The BCSSP has continued to update and revise key policies and procedures, including the joint Multi-agency Safeguarding Adults Policy and a B&NES, Swindon and Wiltshire Non-accidental Injury in Under 1's Policy.
- The BCSSP has carried out multi-agency audits including a Section 11 Audit, Section 175 Audit, Safeguarding Adults Audit and a Self-neglect audit

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

4.1 Four reasons can be considered in terms of the statutory basis for the BCSSP annual report being shared with the Children, Adults, Health and Wellbeing Policy Development and Scrutiny Panel.

- (1) Safeguarding is everyone's business and the BCSSP would like the Panel to consider the information contained in the report on this basis and because it meets the outcomes the Health and Wellbeing Board set out to achieve through its Strategy.
- (2) The BCSSP has set out in its Terms of Reference the requirement for the BCSSP Annual Report to be presented to the Panel. By delivering this presentation the

BCSSP is meeting its responsibilities and raising awareness of safeguarding concerns.

- (3) Although the Council is responsible for establishing the BCSSP jointly with its statutory partners, Avon and Somerset Constabulary, B&NES, Swindon & Wiltshire ICB, National Probation Service and Avon Fire and Rescue Service, the BCSSP is not accountable to the Panel – it is independent. Therefore, the relationship is one of mutual challenge and scrutiny. It is also on this basis the BCSSP would like to present their work.
- (4) There is also a requirement for the BCSSP to present its Annual Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board for consideration and the Care Act 2014 Schedule 2 requires a copy to be shared with the Chair; there is no requirement to share with Panels however the Partnership welcomes the scrutiny and challenge from the Panel as well, in order to ensure the widest breadth of views are heard and considered.

5 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS (FINANCE, PROPERTY, PEOPLE)

- 5.1 B&NES Council, BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire ICB, and Avon and Somerset Constabulary contributed to the running costs during the period with smaller contributions being made by the Probation Service.
- 5.2 The BCSSP is funded through multi-agency partners. The budget is managed by the BCSSP Business Manager and budget reports submitted to the Executive Group annually. There is regular discussion regarding partner contributions and resourcing of the BCSSP.
- 5.3 Following agreement with B&NES Council, BaNES, Swindon and Wiltshire ICB, and Avon and Somerset Constabulary contribute equally to any Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs) or Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs).

6 RISK MANAGEMENT

- 6.1 A risk assessment related to the issue and recommendations has been undertaken, in compliance with the Council's decision making risk management guidance.
- 6.2 The BCSSP developed its own Risk Register in 2020 which is regularly monitored.

7. EQUALITIES

- 7.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required for the BCSSP Annual Report.

8. CLIMATE CHANGE

- 8.1 The BCSSP (and sub-groups) ensure that meetings have dial in facilities available where possible to reduce officers travelling and reduce carbon emissions

9. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED

None

10. CONSULTATION

10.1 The BCSSP Annual Report was approved by the BCSSP in August 2023.

10.2 The Report was presented to the Health and Wellbeing Board on the 26th September 2023.

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Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	