

Bath & North East Somerset Council

MEETING/ DECISION MAKER:	Health and Wellbeing Board
MEETING DATE:	5 th September 2024
TITLE:	Bath & North East Somerset Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP) Annual Report 2023-2024
WARD:	All
AN OPEN PUBLIC ITEM	
List of attachments to this report: Attachment 1: BCSSP Annual Report 2023-2024 Attachment 2: BCSSP Annual Report 2023-2024 Executive Summary	

1 THE ISSUE

1.1 The B&NES Community Safety & Safeguarding Partnership (BCSSP) is introducing its Annual Report for 2023-2024, alongside its priorities to be actioned in the Strategic Plan 2024-2027.

2 RECOMMENDATION

The H&WB Board is asked to:

2.1 Note the Annual Report and Executive Summary for the BCSSP

2.2 Raise any queries in respect of community safety and/or safeguarding activity

2.3 Recommend any additional areas it would propose that the BCSSP give consideration to in 2024-2025

3 THE REPORT

3.1 The report contains information covering the following areas:

- The current community safety and safeguarding context for B&NES
- The Partnership governance arrangements and new structure
- Achievements against community safety and safeguarding priorities for 2023-2024

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

3.2 Activity and Information Highlights

- 2023-2024 is the first full year of reporting for the BCSSP with Fiona Field as Independent Chair
- The recommendations from the Local Government Association (LGA) peer review have been implemented.
- The BCSSP has undergone a complete restructure to assist in meeting the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023 requirements and to give parity to the three strands of work.
- The BCSSP has published 4 Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and continued to undertake work towards recommendations from previous SARs
- The Practice Review Group has noted that the themes apparent in SAR's are predominantly linked to self-neglect and Mental Capacity. A learning event has been held to address the learning points.
- The Practice Review Group has received 3 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 one of the notifications and was conducted jointly with the South Gloucestershire Children's Partnership
- Non-accidental injuries to non-mobile babies still remains prevalent both nationally and locally, and the BCSSP has continued its joint working with Swindon and Wiltshire to address these concerns, including developing BSW Bruising in Under 1's and Unborn Baby protocols.
- The BCSSP has carried out multi-agency audits including a Section 11 Audit, Section 175 Audit, Safeguarding Adults Audit and Engaging with Fathers audit

4 STATUTORY CONSIDERATIONS

- 4.1 Safeguarding is everyone's business and there is a statutory requirement for the BCSSP to present its Annual Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 4.2 Although the Council is responsible for establishing the BCSSP jointly with its statutory partners, (Avon and Somerset Constabulary, B&NES, Swindon & Wiltshire ICB, Probation Service and Avon Fire and Rescue Service), the BCSSP is not accountable to this Board – 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. The Partnership welcomes the scrutiny and challenge from this Board, 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

- 9.1 None

10 CONSULTATION

- 10.1 The BCSSP Annual Report was approved by the BCSSP in August 2024. It has been approved by the members of the Executive Group.

Contact person	Kirstie Webb 01225 396350
Background papers	None
Please contact the report author if you need to access this report in an alternative format	