

8 October 2019		ITEM: 7
Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee		
Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership – Performance Report May – August 2019		
Wards and communities affected: All	Key Decision: N/A	
Report of: Alan Cotgrove, Manager Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (LSCP)		
Accountable Assistant Director: Sheila Murphy, Assistant Director of Children's Services		
Accountable Director: Roger Harris, Corporate Director of Adults, Housing and Health and Interim Director of Children's Services		
This report is Public		

Executive Summary

Following changes made in legislation to The Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018 statutory guidance, Local Safeguarding Children's Boards have been dissolved. Thurrock has implemented The Local Safeguarding Children Partnership to meet the statutory responsibilities of the Local Authority area in relation to multi-agency safeguarding arrangements for children.

As part of the scrutiny process of the new arrangements, Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership requested the Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee accept reports at its regular meetings. The reports from the Partnership will set out its contribution to safeguard Thurrock Children. The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee will also receive an Annual report from the Partnership on its effectiveness.

This report is the first performance report of the Partnership following the transition to the new arrangements on 7th May 2019. This initial report will cover the period from May 2019 – August 2019. Going forward, in future years, performance reporting will be on a quarterly basis and will align to the standard business planning year of 1st April – 31st March.

Attached to this report is a copy of the 2019-2020 Partnership Delivery Plan (Appendix 1) which has been agreed by the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Safeguarding Partners. The Delivery Plan sets out the activity of the Partnership over the coming year under the five strategic aims agreed by the Partnership for the focus of activity for all organisations involved in safeguarding Thurrock Children.

1. Recommendation(s)

1.1 The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee note the 2019-2020 Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Delivery Plan.

1.2 The Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee consider and provide comment on the performance of the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership.

2. Introduction and Background

2.1 This report covers the activities undertaken by Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership during the reporting period May 2019 – August 2019 in support of safeguarding Thurrock Children and Young people.

2.2 The Partnership has an overarching vision for children in Thurrock:-

"Thurrock children and young people are happy, healthy, safe and can achieve their full potential, by providing effective support to all, with special attention given to those who are most vulnerable and at risk"

2.3 In support of that vision the Partnership have agreed five strategic aims:-

- Safeguarding is everyone's business
- Reduce the number of children in need of responsive safeguarding through effective help and support at an earlier stage
- Voice of the child
- Responding to Serious Youth Violence
- A Partnership fit to meet future demands

2.4 Our strategic aims support member organisations to focus on improving the child's journey through the services they receive, in particular that early help leads to improved diversion from specialist interventions at a later time.

2.5 The early help element will be a key area of business for the Partnership, supporting the focus to target early multi-agency support effectively so that we see a reduction in Children's Social Care referrals, Child Protection and Child In Need cases and an increase in pre-referral work with families.

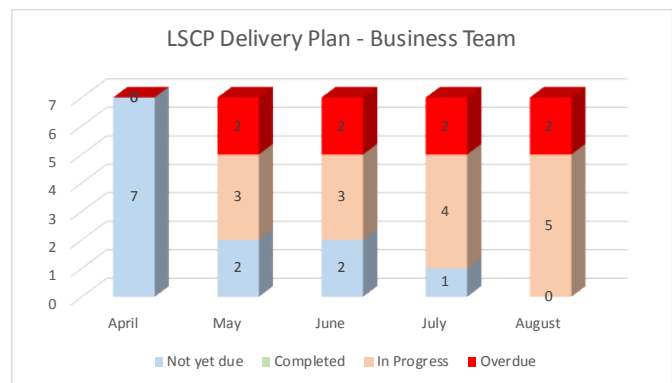
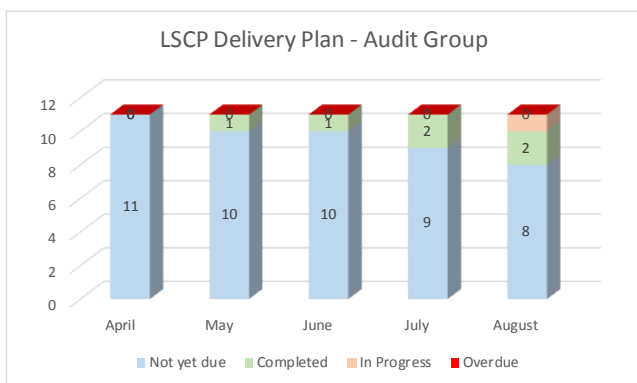
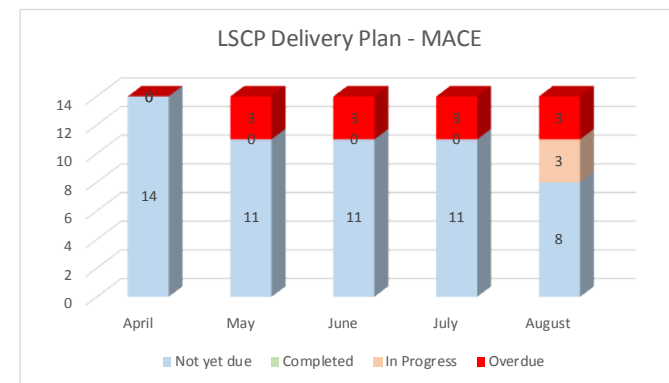
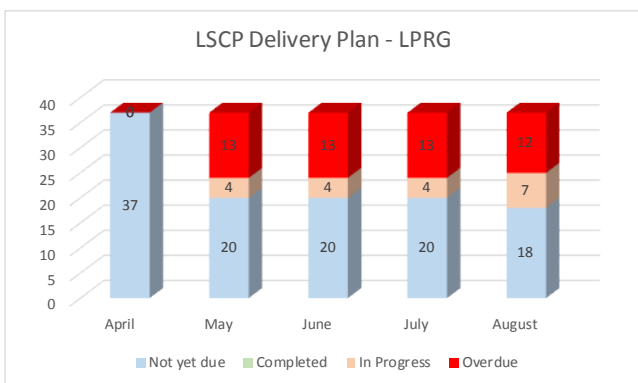
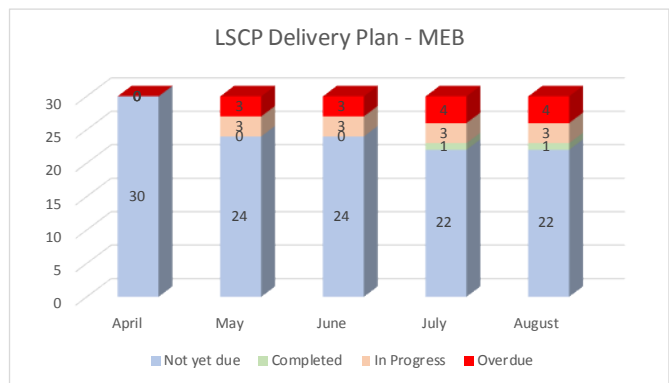
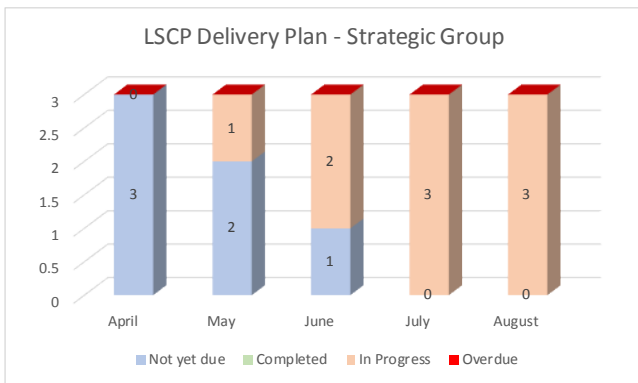
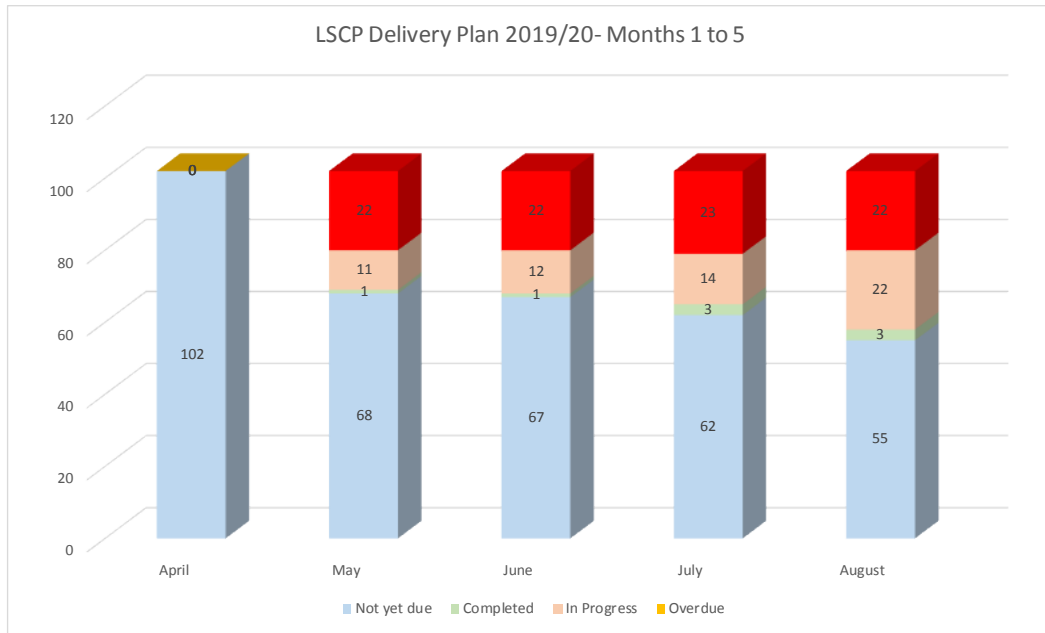
2.6 2019 – 2020 Delivery Plan

2.7 The Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Delivery Plan is an Annual Plan divided into the five strategic aims agreed by the Partnership with specific actions under each element.

2.8 To ensure the Partnership has a clear focus on outcomes and impact, each action within the Delivery Plan has been allocated to one of the Partnership

Groups to oversee the actions to be taken and monitor the progress and outcome.

- 2.9 The progress of activity and outcomes is recorded and monitored through a detailed reporting process, which sits behind the published Delivery Plan and sets out the detailed analysis which is available to the Partnership Management Executive Board to support scrutiny of our activity and that outcomes are being effective.
- 2.10 The nature of safeguarding will require constant review and changes to the Delivery Plan which will be reviewed during the planning year. Some activities are self-contained actions with others interdependent on the activity of others.
- 2.11 The Delivery Plan incorporates the statutory areas that the Partnership are responsible for under The Children and Social Work Act 2017 and Working Together 2018 statutory guidance. Other areas have been identified as those areas of safeguarding children that are relevant from a Local and National perspective.
- 2.12 The below data chart provides the current picture of progress within this reporting period.



2.13 Delivery Plan Exception report

The following section highlights those actions shown as overdue. Exception reports offer the opportunity for the constructive review of planned activity and supports quality assurance, accountability and transparency of the Partnership's aims. At this stage in the delivery cycle, the majority of actions highlighted as overdue are scheduled to start within the next meeting cycle commencing September 2019.

The Partnership is still in its early stages of development. Timelines for completion of its activities in its Delivery Plan were acknowledged to be a challenge to judge fully during the first year. The Board meets quarterly and will need to align relevant standing actions to those meetings. It is not anticipated that any of the actions highlighted in the exception report will not be achieved. A more comprehensive analysis will be available at the next reporting period.

Action	Comment
1.4	Back to Basics Child In Need training – currently unable to identify anyone suitable to deliver this training – proposal potentially that this be peer training from another Authority within the Eastern Region – Business Manager to discuss at Eastern Region meeting in September
2.2	Thematic Reports to Management Executive Board will start from the 26 th September 2019 meeting
2.8	Request sent to Partners in September for this information to be provided for each Learning & Practice Review Group going forward
6.1	This is being discussed at the Learning & Practice Review Group meeting on 9 th September 2019
6.3	This is being discussed at the Learning & Practice Review Group meeting on 9 th September 2019
8.2	Need to arrange a meeting with the previous trainers of this programme before this can be taken forward
11.4	Elements of this are being undertaken by Children's Social Care, need to meet with them to avoid duplication
13.2	Annual report 2018/19 being presented at the Management Executive Board meeting on the 26 th September 2019
13.4	Annual report 2018/19 being presented at the Management Executive Board meeting on the 26 th September 2019
13.6	Annual report 2018/19 being presented at the Management Executive Board meeting on the 26 th September 2019
20.1	This is being discussed at the Learning & Practice Review Group meeting on 9 th September 2019
20.3	This is being discussed at the Learning & Practice Review Group meeting on 9 th September 2019
22.4	Strategic Lead for Brighter Futures advised that this information will not be available until December/January at the earliest
23.2	Awaiting the new refreshed Threshold Document and then training will be delivered to staff
24.2	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group have been refreshed under the

	new arrangements and have only met on two occasions – this will be discussed at the next meeting
28.3	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group have been refreshed under the new arrangements and have only met on two occasions – this will be discussed at the next meeting in October
35.1	Since the new safeguarding arrangements have come into effect, the Safeguarding Leads Forum have not met – next meeting in October/November
37.1	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group have been refreshed under the new arrangements and have only met on two occasions – this will be discussed at the next meeting in October
38.1	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group have been refreshed under the new arrangements and have only met on two occasions – this will be discussed at the next meeting in October
38.5	Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Group have been refreshed under the new arrangements and have only met on two occasions – this will be discussed at the next meeting in October
40.2	This will be deferred until November to allow for initial scoping of agencies within the Borough
41.1	Cycle of scrutiny starting from September

2.14 Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership - Website Data

Total Hits	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
		2859	3246	3904	4374							

Top 3 Pages	1	2	3	Top Training Course
Apr				
May	Procedures	New Safeguarding Arrangements	Threshold Document	Walk On Line Roadshow for Parents, Carers and Professionals
June	Procedures	New Safeguarding Arrangements	Information and guidance for schools	Practice Learning Events
July	Procedures	Child Sexual Exploitation	Threshold Document	Online Training courses
Aug	Procedures	Child Sexual Exploitation	Threshold Document	Online training courses
Sep				
Oct				
Nov				
Dec				
Jan				
Feb				
Mar				

Outcome/Impact:

The new website was launched on the 7th May 2019. Examining the number of hits for each of the current 38 sections of the website shows a good use of this resource. The site is still in its development stage and it is expected that the monthly rate will increase as the site becomes more populated with additional information. The data will enable the Partnership to monitor activity when new information is published and provides a useful toolkit of safeguarding information for both professionals and the community.

**2.15 Partnership Events
New Safeguarding Arrangements**

14 May 2019 Partners Workshop

22 May 2019 Partners Workshop

Outcome/Impact:

The Partner workshops were organised to raise awareness across the different agencies involved in safeguarding, of the new arrangements. The events were well attended with 78 professional from across the spectrum of services attending over the course of the two events. The sessions provided valuable feedback and enabled the agencies attending to engage and contribute in the development of our Constitution and Delivery plan.

Risky Behaviours Awareness for Parents – Harris Academy

8 July 2019

Outcome/Impact:

The Business Team attended the event to raise awareness of safeguarding children with Parents and Children from schools across the Borough hosted by Harris Academy. This was a multi-agency event where we gave out 27 Safeguarding packs containing 918 items of safeguarding information. The number of parents that attended was disappointing despite this being advertised through the schools forums.

Purfleet Fun Day

14 August 2019

Outcome/Impact:

The Business Team attended the event to raise awareness of safeguarding children with members of the community. This was a multi-agency event at the Childrens centre where we gave out 40 Safeguarding packs containing 1360 items of safeguarding information. This was an outdoor event and unfortunately the weather was not kind with torrential rain resulting in the event being closed early.

2.16 SET Activity

Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership are an integral part of the safeguarding activity which takes place across Essex, more commonly known as SET - Southend Essex and Thurrock arrangements.

The partnership engage in a number of SET Strategic Groups supporting safeguarding which is not defined by geographical boundaries.

Outcome/Impact:

The SET procedures working group published a revised version of the SET Child Protection procedures on 14th May 2019 as part of the transition to the new safeguarding arrangements across Essex. Various chapters were updated to reflect current practice and align with statutory guidance. This includes a new chapter on safeguarding children from exploitation and trafficking. Further changes will take place once all three new Local Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements for Essex, Southend & Thurrock are in place (September 2019). A final edition is expected to be available in October 2019 which will be updated on the website.

The SET CSE Board met in June 2019 and were updated on the schools programme taking place across the County (including Thurrock) being undertaken by Essex Fire & Rescue service on behalf of the office of the Fire and police crime commissioner covering. We are currently awaiting the evaluation and data relevant to Thurrock schools.

2.17 Learning & Improvement Framework

Walk on Line Roadshow Event for parents & professionals

23 May 2019

Outcome/Impact:

28 participants attended the daytime event at Thameside Theatre, Grays. 26 participants attended the evening event at Harris Academy, Chafford Hundred. Both sessions included professionals and parents. 54 safeguarding packs containing 1080 items of safeguarding material were given out. The content of the programme included online safety, gang and knife crime. Feedback forms from parents was very positive and will be reviewed by the Learning & Practice Review Group.

Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) training

24 June 2019

Outcome/Impact:

This is a statutory course commissioned by the Partnership to meet the legal requirements for Designated Safeguarding Leads. The course was at capacity of 25. Positive evaluation of programme. Further programmes planned for later in the year.

2.18 Highlight areas this reporting period

Project Goldcrest - The Partnership are supporting a pilot programme being pioneered here in Thurrock led by Essex Police and the Sexual Abuse Referral Centre (SARC) .This is a service provision for children assessed as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation, but who are not willing or able to provide an evidential account to the Police, and do not want to attend the SARC or engage with services. Pilot due to start October 2019.

New safeguarding leaflets

Safeguarding in Sport – for parents (Deliver Plan 6.2)

Safeguarding in Sport – for organisations (Delivery Plan 7.1)

Policy/procedures - Supporting the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Analysis on sexual abuse

3. Issues, Options and Analysis of Options

- 3.1 The Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership is a statutory requirement

4. Reasons for Recommendation

- 4.1 To ensure the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership meets its statutory duties with regard to Children Safeguarding

5. Consultation (including Overview and Scrutiny, if applicable)

- 5.1 A consultation process with agencies involved in safeguarding children in Thurrock has been taking place during the transitional arrangements
- 5.2 Two safeguarding summits have taken place with Essex and Southend Safeguarding Children Board to agree working across Essex arrangements

6. Impact on corporate policies, priorities, performance and community impact

- 6.1 This report impacts on the following corporate priorities:
- People: a place where people of all ages are proud to work and play, live and stay;
 - Place: a heritage rich Borough which is ambitious for its future;
 - Prosperity: a Borough which enables everyone to achieve their aspirations.
- 6.2 There are no Local Authority policy changes proposed as part of the new arrangements

7. Implications

7.1 Financial

Implications verified by: **Nilufa Begum**
Management Accountant

There are no additional financial implications under the new safeguarding arrangement. The Local Authority contribution currently to the safeguarding arrangements remain in place and will be reviewed during the next financial year.

7.2 Legal

Implications verified by: **Stephen Smith**
Team Leader (Social Care)

The Council are required to ensure that the new safeguarding arrangements meet the statutory requirements. No other legal implications have been identified.

7.3 Diversity and Equality

Implications verified by: **Rebecca Price**
Team Manager – Community Development and Equalities

The new safeguarding arrangements and Delivery Plan applies to all children and families. There are no known negative implications arising for groups or individuals with protected characteristics.

7.4 Other implications (where significant) – i.e. Staff, Health, Sustainability, Crime and Disorder)

- None relevant

8. Background papers used in preparing the report (including their location on the Council's website or identification whether any are exempt or protected by copyright):

- Working Together 2018 (Government Document)
- The Children and Social Work Act 2017 (Legislation)

9. Appendices to the report

- Appendix 1 - Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Delivery plan 2019 -2020

Report Author:

Alan Cotgrove

Manager

Thurrock Local Safeguarding Children Partnership