

A meeting of the Governing Body
2 May 2013

ENCLOSURE 8
CQC Inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children – update on areas of improvement

RESPONSIBLE LEAD: Faruk Majid Clinical Director safeguarding

AUTHOR: Alison Browne Nurse Director

RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to receive the updated CQC LAC action plan

SUMMARY:

OFSTED / CQC reviewed children's service in Lewisham in 2012 and excellent and good scores were received. One area for possible improvement identified as good was the Looked After Children's service and an action plan was developed and delivered jointly by the joint children's commissioners, the partnership and provider services.

The action plan has been updated and agreed with Ian Smith Director of Children's Social Care service.

KEY ISSUES:

All actions are now complete and monitoring is taking place to ensure the changes made. This includes 3 monthly audits and performance dashboards.

The one outstanding action was that in the spirit of partnership, all domestic violence notifications were to be sent to the health visitors and school nurses to identify any children potentially at risk.

This has proved very impractical due to the large volume of incidents in the borough and the police unable to screen out the incidents where there are no children involved.

As MASH (Multi agency safeguarding hub) is now established and it is felt by partners that this is sufficient to identify children at risk in homes where there is domestic violence.

CONSULTATION HISTORY:

Children and Young People's joint commissioning group
Children and Young People's strategic partnership board

PUBLIC AND USER INVOLVEMENT: None

Public Sector Equality Duty

The general equality duty requires public sector bodies, in the exercise of their functions, to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited under the Equality Act 2010
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and people who do not share it
- Foster good relations between people who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it

STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT

London Borough of Lewisham

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