

Essex Safeguarding Children Board update

Reference Number: PAF/09/22

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| Report title: Essex Safeguarding Children Board update | |
| Report to: People and Families Policy and Scrutiny Committee | |
| Report author: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer | |
| Date: 14 April 2022 | For: Consideration and identifying any follow-up scrutiny actions |
| Enquiries to: Graham Hughes, Senior Democratic Services Officer at graham.hughes@essex.gov.uk. | |
| County Divisions affected: Not applicable | |

1. Introduction

The Committee has agreed to review the work of the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) on an annual basis and last did this in October 2020. This is the latest update which is later than it would normally be scheduled.

2. Action required

The Committee is asked to consider:

- (i) **The attached update; and**
- (ii) **Identify any follow-up scrutiny actions**

3. Background

- 3.1 The Committee has previously agreed to review the work of the Essex Safeguarding Children Board (ESCB) on an annual basis and last did this in October 2020. The minutes of that discussion can be accessed using this link (scroll to page 4 in the minutes) – [PAF minutes - 8 October 2020](#).
- 3.2 Recent statutory guidance has removed the previous statutory framework for local safeguarding children boards. Instead, the guidance stipulates three statutory local partners (Upper Tier Council, Police and Health) who should determine the local governance structure in future for safeguarding children. To support discussion on the Essex governance arrangements, representatives from the NHS and the Police will also be in attendance.
- 3.3 The Committee Chairman and Vice Chairman held a preparatory discussion with the ESCB Independent Chair Facilitator last month to agree format and expectations and specifically asked for some additional disclosure on Children Missing Education and those Home Educated and this has been included in the agenda papers, partly as an introduction to further scrutiny work by the Committee on the impact of County Lines and drug gangs.

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4. Update and Next Steps

The update is attached in Appendices A-E. Next steps are as proposed under Action Required.

Expected attendees to support the discussion:

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| David Archibald | - | Independent Chair Facilitator. |
| Louise Mcspadden | - | Service Manager - Children and Families |
| Alison Cutler | – | Essex Safeguarding Children Board Business and Performance Manager. |
| Andrew Packer | - | Deputy Chief Superintendent, Essex Police |
| Jane Kinniburgh | - | NHS West Essex Clinical Commissioning Group |

5 List of Appendices

- Appendix A - ESCB Briefing Pack for Scrutiny (April 2022)
- Appendix B - Induction Pack March 2022 – For ESCB Members and anyone interested in the work of the Essex Safeguarding Children Board
- Appendix C - ESCB Annual Report 2020-21
- Appendix D – Essex Safeguarding Children Board – Power Point Presentation to ECC Scrutiny Committee – 14 April 2022
- Appendix E - NHS Power Point Presentation – Safeguarding in the Context of Health.