



Business Plan 2009/10

Introduction

The Safeguarding Children Board (SCB) has agreed a number of **Priority Areas** to address in its scrutiny and co-ordination role during 2009/10. This does not necessarily mean that the SCB will be undertaking these activities but it has identified or commissioned various lead groups to take work forward and to present progress reports to board meetings. (See Board Priorities Action Plan below).

Particular developments which have become greater priorities during 2008/9 and which will now form discrete elements of the plan are the work of the **CATE** (children abused through exploitation) group and the establishment of a **Safer Schools Partnership**. The **Think Family** priority from last year's plan has also taken on greater significance during the year and is developing into a project which will be monitored by DCSF. Similarly the work in relation to **E safety** has developed over the year and continues to be a priority for the board as does the impact of **domestic abuse** upon children which is a priority shared with the Children's Trust.

A significant area of work for 2009 will be developing and implementing an action plan in response to the **Laming Report** and the **Government's Response** although several aspects have already been incorporated into developments.

Also within the business plan is a **work programme** of activities for the board to undertake itself, including matters relating to structure, membership and funding. The board is in the process of finalising a more comprehensive **performance framework** which will monitor and quality assure a range of activities across partner agencies including issues such as safer recruitment; agency engagement; views of parents carers and children; and overall the success of interventions in keeping children safe .

The SCB will also continue to monitor the work of the **Serious Case Review Panel (SCRCP)** and the **Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)**. Currently there are no outstanding actions from any reviews.

The SCB continues to develop new training opportunities as well as revising its rolling programme and, this year will develop and an over arching **Training Strategy**. As part of the 'new' clarified relationship with the Children's Trust a joint **Communication Plan** is being developed and the implementation of this will form part of the overall business plan.

Board Priorities Action Plan

CATE			
Target	Activity	Responsible	Success criteria / PI
Improve support to those subject to sexual exploitation and reduce the numbers of those at risk	<p>Hold stakeholders workshop to establish existing services</p> <p>Review membership of the group</p> <p>Commission a sustainable service based on the successful pilot and the experience of good practice elsewhere</p> <p>Explore options for linking with SARCs</p>	CATE group / Jt commissioning	<p>Service in place</p> <p>Performance measures to be developed for service</p>
Think Family			
Target	Activity	Responsible	Success criteria / PI
<p>Ensure that the impact on children of parental issues such as mental health problems or substance misuse is minimised</p> <p>Prevent children coming into care where it is possible and safe to do so</p>	<p>Undertake DCSF funded FIP project in south cluster and evaluate its effectiveness</p> <p>Use this as a 'best practice' model to influence service delivery across the borough</p>	Think Family Steering Group	<p>Improvement in range of outcomes for children</p> <p>Awaiting detail from DCSF</p>
E Safety			
Target	Activity	Responsible	Success criteria / PI
Increase awareness of internet / new technology safety for children, parents and carers	Approve (April 2009) and implement E safety strategy (see separate action plan)	E safety group	<p>Number of software packages distributed</p> <p>Number of staff trained</p>

Safer Schools Partnership

Target	Activity	Responsible	Success criteria / PI
<p>Help young people not to feel vulnerable and scared for their personal safety (YP's Priority)</p> <p>Ensure that children are safe from bullying in the wider community</p>	<p>Establish a multi agency strategic partnership to identify and address local issues</p> <p>Re launch the anti bullying strategy and encourage more take up of this</p>	SSP	<p>Fewer children report concerns in the TellUs survey - 2.9% felt very unsafe going to and from school 3.7% felt very unsafe in school in June 2008 survey</p> <p>Greater number of settings committed to the strategy from he baseline figure of 27 @ 31.3.09</p>

Impact of domestic abuse

Target	Activity	Responsible	Success criteria / PI
<p>Identify children where there is domestic abuse and improved provision and co-ordinated support (CT/CYPP priority)</p>	<p>Improve on existing data and analysis</p> <p>Monitor the implementation of the protocol for sharing information between the Police and Children's Services to ensure that children are identified and supported at the most appropriate level;</p> <p>Identify any gaps in provision and seek to re-address these through the implementation of the DA Strategy and evaluate the effectiveness of these measures.</p>	DA Steering group	<p>Increase the number of children and young people whose need for a protection plan which involved concerns around domestic abuse ceases within one year to 70% (from baseline of 64.5%)</p> <p>Identify the proportion of children involved in MARAC who have a support plan and increase this to 100%</p>

Laming report/ government response

<p>Ensure that the SCB and partner agencies are compliant with national requirements</p>	<p>Complete self assessment (originally undertaken before Gov't response)</p> <p>Develop composite action plan</p>	Agenda Group	<p>Action plan implemented</p> <p>SCB compliant with any amended</p>
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	Respond to any specific requirements in respect of SCBs in revised guidance(Dec 09)	guidance
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Board work programme – actions 2009/10

Structure and membership		
Activities	Lead	Success criteria
Appoint new independent chair	DCS	Chair appointed
Agreed revised membership and structures – to include Lead Member	SCB	Agreed and in place
Organisations appoint their representatives accordingly	Partners	Appropriate representation and regular attendance
Agree process for appointing lay members	SCB	Process agreed
Funding		
Activities	Lead	Success criteria
Review portfolio contributions in light of council restructuring	CYPP	New arrangements agreed within the council
Review resources required to support new arrangements	CYPP	Any additional resources required agreed across funding partners
Establish S 10 budget	Jt Commissioning	S 10 budget in place

Performance management		
Activities	Lead	Success criteria
Complete and implement performance framework develop necessary tools to do this eg Template for individual reports; multi agency audit template agree reporting schedule	SCB	Performance managed and any issues addressed
CDOP		
Activities	Lead	Success criteria
Develop improved rapid response service Finalise leaflets/ information for parents	PCT/CDOP CDOP	Full service in place Suitable leaflets published
SCRIP		
Activities	Lead	Success criteria
Revise local guidance on undertaking SCRPs Respond to any specific requirements in revised Working Together guidance Report on learning outcomes published by Ofsted	SCRIP SCRIP SCRIP	New guidance in place Any reviews undertaken in line with government guidance Reports to SCB

Training			
Activities	Lead	Success criteria	
Strengthen strategic nature of SCB training sub group	SCB	Training strategy in place	
Develop over arching strategy for training	Sub group		
Identify levels of training required within each agency/staff groups	Sub group/ agency		
Establish systems to manage E learning options	Sub group	High take up of E learning	
Communication strategy			
Activities	Lead	Success criteria	
Complete and implement joint communication strategy with Children's Trust	SCB	Greater awareness of role of SCB	
Establish a Communication Sub group			