

**Protocol between the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board and the
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board**

1. AIM

The aim of this Protocol is to define how the Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board (LHWB) and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) will work together in the pursuit of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, young people in Lincolnshire.

2. PURPOSE OF THE BOARDS

2.1 Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

The primary function of the LSCB is to ensure that relevant partnership organisations in Lincolnshire work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the county. Their role is to scrutinise and challenge the work of agencies both individually and collectively.

The key objectives of the LSCB as set out in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children, are to:

- co-ordinate local work to safeguard and promote the well-being of children;
- ensure the effectiveness of that work

The LSCB will publish each year a Strategic Plan and an Annual Report.

2.2 Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board (LHWB)

Health and Wellbeing Boards were established under the Health and Social Care Act 2012 to act as a forum in which key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and to promote integrated services. The LHWB became a formal committee of the County Council in April 2013. The main functions of the Board are set out in Sections 195 and 196 of the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

This means the Board has a:

- Duty to encourage integrated health and social working arrangements and to provide advice and guidance to support such arrangements.
- Duty to oversee the development of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) which provides a comprehensive picture of the health and wellbeing needs of Lincolnshire.

- Duty to produce a Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy (JHWS) covering social care, health care and public health.
- Duty to develop the Pharmaceutical Needs Assessment.
- Right to be consulted by each Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) on their commissioning plan and to give an opinion whether each CCG's commissioning plan takes proper account of the JHWS.

3. PRINCIPLES AND COMMITMENTS TO ENSURE CO-ORDINATION BETWEEN THE BOARDS

All bodies have a responsibility to ensure vulnerable children are properly safeguarded so that safeguarding is not the sole responsibility of any single agency or partnership. As such, all key strategic plans whether they are formulated by individual agencies or by partnership forums should include safeguarding as a cross-cutting theme. This is to ensure that existing strategies and service delivery, as well as emerging plans for change and improvement, include effective safeguarding arrangements that ensure that all children people and in Lincolnshire are safe and their well-being is protected.

The Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy sets out the commissioning direction and five year priorities to improve the health and wellbeing of the people of Lincolnshire. The LHWB will hold partners to account to ensure commissioning and decommissioning decisions align to the JHWS and deliver the shared outcomes. It is critical that in drawing up, delivering and evaluating the strategy there is effective interchange between the LHWB and LSCB. Therefore each Board undertakes to:

- Identify a named individual/post to act as contact point to ensure co-ordination of relevant activities.
- Ensure messages and information about keeping children safe is disseminated within partner organisations, including collaborating on stakeholder events.
- Ensure action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another.
- Where appropriate ensure that there is cross-board representation to facilitate coordination and prevent duplication of activity.

In order to foster a closer working relationship and ensure effective safeguarding arrangements are in place the following commitments will be apply:

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children's Board will:

- Formally sharing its annual plan with LHWB during the formulation stage to enable coordination and coherence where there are business overlaps.
- Provide assurance to the LHWBB that satisfactory arrangements are in place for Safeguarding Children. Where appropriate arrangements are not in place the LSCB will highlight concerns to the LHWB.

- Ensure comprehensive safeguarding data analysis is fed into the JSNA to inform strategic planning and priority setting.
- Provide support, scrutiny and challenge to the commissioning and quality assurance arrangements across health and social care to ensure that they adequately reflect Safeguarding.
- Formally present its Annual Report to the LHWB.

The Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board will:

- Regularly sharing its work programme and Forward Plan to enable co-ordination and coherence where there are business overlaps.
- As required, provide information in respect of Joint Health and Wellbeing Strategy and Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to the LSCB.
- Provide a formal response to LSCB's Annual Report.
- Provide LSCB with a copy of the LHWB's Annual Report (*first report due Autumn 2014*).

4. OPERATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

The LSCB is not directly accountable to the LHWB, so their role in relation to it would be one of equal partners underpinned by this protocol. This would facilitate the LSCB's responsibility to scrutinise and highlight any safeguarding concerns they may have relating to the work of the LHWB or its member organisations.

This Protocol will be reviewed a year after its agreement and bi-annually thereafter or when national guidance affecting one of the Boards is revised or introduced.

5. RESOLUTION PROCESS

Where there is concern that this protocol is not succeeding in ensuring strong partnership working to keep children safe and healthy, resolution should be sought through communication between the Chairs of the Boards, the Lead Members and the Directors of Children's Services and Public Health.

6. SIGNATURES:

..... Date
 Chairman, Lincolnshire Health and Wellbeing Board

..... Date
 Independent Chairman, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board