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## **SUBJECT**

<b>Report of</b>	<b>The Director of Children's Services</b>
<b>Report to</b>	<b>Leeds Safeguarding Children Board</b>
<b>Date of meeting</b>	<b>27<sup>th</sup> April 2010</b>

### **1.0 Purpose of report and decisions to be made**

The purpose of this report is to initiate a discussion with the Leeds Safeguarding Board (LSCB) about the development of a performance management framework. The report identifies key drivers for the framework and raises a number of issues which need to be considered to enable the development of the framework.

The performance management framework will enable the board to monitor its priorities and as such will provide regular updates against priorities including progress towards achieving key performance targets. A draft indicator set is attached at appendix 1 for consideration. However, there are a number of issues for the board to consider in terms of ensuring that it can discharge its duties effectively and these are set out below.

### **2.0 Context**

The need to establish effective performance management arrangements was identified in the Ofsted Announced Inspection report (January 2010) which concluded that 'the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board has not been in a position to challenge and scrutinise progress effectively across the area and its performance management framework is not comprehensive'.

It further concluded that the Leeds Safeguarding Children Board arrangements should be providing challenge and monitoring safeguarding across the partnership so that more rapid progress is made in delivering robust safeguarding services across Leeds for children and young people.

In determining the scope and shape of any new performance management

arrangements, 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (DCSF March 2010), states that one of the key roles of the Board is to '*monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of what is done by the local authority and Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advise them on ways to improve*'. Clearly, any new performance management arrangements need to enable the board to carry out its functions and responsibilities.

Over and above this, the framework will need to fit within the overall performance management framework for the Children's Trust Board, the details of which are also in development.

As part of the review of the LSCB, work was previously undertaken to establish a performance management framework. It is proposed that this work should be revisited as part of this discussion. This is attached at appendix 2.

### **3.0 Main Issues**

#### **Developing an effective Performance Management Framework (PMF)**

In determining the performance management framework for the LSCB, there are a number of issues to be resolved. Key amongst these is the Board having a clear sense of the priorities to be monitored.

##### **Issue 1**

How would the Board like to monitor overall progress in terms of delivering its priorities.

##### **Possible approach**

The Council currently uses an action tracker approach to monitor its priorities. The action trackers pull together key areas of activity, challenges/risks and data. It may be appropriate to utilise a similar approach. Some of the action trackers which are already produced for Corporate reporting purposes would in any case be relevant to the Board.

##### **Issue 2**

What data should be reported to the board? The lists at appendix 1 and 2 provide an initial indication of what could be produced. This list is currently made up of National Indicators, other local key indicators and other data sets. LSCB will need to consider:

- Which indicators will best enable it to track progress towards key priorities and targets
- Which indicators it needs to monitor in order to comply with its responsibilities in terms of e.g. holding other agencies to account

##### **Proposal**

To undertake a piece of work to pull together a set of key safeguarding performance indicators which should be reported to the board and circulate these to the board to obtain views. These should be made up, as appropriate of quarterly and annually reportable National Indicators (NIs) as well as other

key local indicators and information sets. The results of this exercise can be brought back to the next meeting of the LSCB for further consideration and discussion.

**Issue 3**

At what frequency should performance management information be reported to the LSCB? It is anticipated that the LSCB will want to see some performance information at every meeting.

**Proposal**

As part of the above exercise it is proposed to develop a reporting schedule in line with the timetable for the production of data.

**Issue 4**

What other types of performance/quality assurance information should be coming to the board.

**Proposal**

The board will wish to receive information about how safe children and young people feel and may wish to look at the experiences of specific potentially vulnerable groups.

**Issue 5**

Clearly a major task for the board will be to monitor the implementation of the recommendations arising from serious case reviews.

**Proposal**

The LSCB may wish to consider charging an appropriate sub-group with this key task.

**Issue 6**

The need to consider how the performance management function for the LSCB will be resourced.

**Proposal**

To address this through the Business Support review currently ongoing.

**4.0 Recommendations**

LSCB is requested to discuss the contents of this report and:

- Review appendix 1 and 2 and make recommendations for a basket of indicators which it wishes to receive
- Note that further work is needed to develop a reporting timetable
- Nominate appropriate representatives from the board to work with Children's Services Performance officers to progress the proposals outlined above.