



## Annual Report of the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Boards

Thursday 28 April 2016

**Report from Cabinet Member for Children's Services and the Deputy Leader & Cabinet Member for Health and Wellbeing**

### **Purpose of this Report**

1. Both the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board and the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board are required to publish an annual report. These set out the key safeguarding concerns for children, young people and adults at risk of abuse or neglect. They also act as an assessment of how effectively partners are working together to protect our most vulnerable residents.
2. The most recent annual reports can be found on the respective Safeguarding Board website and key messages will be presented to Council.
  - BSAB Annual Report 2013-15: <http://www.buckinghamshirepartnership.co.uk/safeguarding-adults-board/about-the-board>
  - BSCB Annual Report 2014-15: <http://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/about-the-bscb>
3. These reports set out much good practice across partners, but also identify a number of areas of challenge which require further improvement. They set out a context of change for both Boards, with the Safeguarding Adults Board responding to the new requirements of the Care Act and the Safeguarding Children Board seeking to make rapid and sustained improvements following an inadequate Ofsted rating in Summer 2014.
4. Given that almost 12 months has passed since the timeframe covered in these reports, Council will also be provided with an update on key progress since that time, and the challenges ahead for 2016/17.
5. In particular, over the last 12 months both Boards have sought to work more closely together around a number of areas of common interest. Closer working has been supported by a recently developed Joint Protocol, which sets out a coordinated

approach to safeguarding across the Strategic Boards and partnerships working in Buckinghamshire. There is good evidence that this approach is starting to have positive outcomes including clarifying governance arrangements and reducing duplication.

6. Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and both Boards recognise the important role that County Councillors have to play in this agenda, both in terms of the role they play with their local constituents and the decisions they make around service planning, delivery and budgets. The Boards would be keen to open a discussion with Councillors about this role including thinking about what additional support that Boards may be able to provide in this respect.

**Recommendation**

**Council is asked to note the report and presentations from the Buckinghamshire Safeguarding Boards**

**CABINET MEMBER FOR CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
DEPUTY LEADER & CABINET MEMBER FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING**

