

## Priority Area 4: Governance, Quality Assurance & LSCB Scrutiny

We want to remain a highly performing LSCB. To achieve this we embrace challenge and scrutiny and have this year continued to employ a variety of methods to do this including, peer review, lay members and collaboration with other LSCBs.

Over the year we, and our partners, have continued to challenge each other and to seek evidence of the effectiveness of all that we do to keep children and young people safe in Brighton & Hove.

### Our progress

- Our Management Information has been revamped and better directs our business planning cycle.
- Our multi-agency audit programme to assess safeguarding performance across the city continues to thrive. Read about the audits completed in 2016-17 on page 20
- Auditing and Management Information are now more closely aligned, supporting the delivery of LSCB priorities and highlighting deficit areas or weaknesses in existing systems and processes.
- We continue to have oversight and scrutiny of our partner's child protection and safeguarding quality assurance activity.
- We are confident that learning and improvement activity is robustly embedded within services, single and multi-agency, across the partnership.
- Via our established Section 11 scrutiny<sup>1</sup> we continue to have a clear understanding of the quality and timeliness of our partners contributions to safeguarding arrangements.
- We are assured that our safeguarding and child protection policies, procedures and expectations for working practices are up to date, visible and accessible for frontline professionals and managers.
- Our multi-agency training programme has continued to go from strength to strength, incorporating learning from reviews and audits into our training offers. Read more about our training on page 23
- We have tightened up protocols with the Corporate Parenting Board, Prevent Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and Health & Wellbeing Board to be better sighted on matters of mutual interest.
- The LSCB has been updated on outcomes from internal and external reviews and inspections that our partners have undergone and remain to be sited on the actions. Read more about this on page 17

Performance  
Monitoring,  
Quality Assurance  
& LSCB Scrutiny

<sup>1</sup>Section 11 – Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) requires all LSCBs to gather this information to assess whether partners are meeting their statutory obligations as outlined in Section 11 of the Children's Act (2004). Every two years the LSCBs across Sussex ask each partner agency to look at their processes and to assess how good they are by completing a self-evaluation tool kit about their systems around their responsibilities towards children. This asks questions including; is the agency clear about how to keep children safe and promote their wellbeing, do staff have access to good training, are staff recruited safely, do agencies work well with other sharing information properly and quickly and are they able to recognise and respond to particularly risky situations. Agencies can rate themselves red, amber or green. They have to provide 'Evidence' for their rating, either by describing what they do or by attaching documents which support their judgement by showing what they do. For areas where they have said they are red or amber they are required to complete an 'Improvement Plan' to describe what they will do to improve, who will do it and when it will be done by. The LSCB's hold "Challenge Events" to bring together local partners and look at the S11 audits, sharing good practice and working together on areas that require improvement.