

REPORT OF THE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES

**SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT
PLAN – PROGRESS UPDATE**

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To provide an update report on the progress being made on the Safeguarding Children Learning and Improvement Plan.

2. Background

- 2.1 The Learning and Improvement Plan was developed by the Children's Services Improvement Board in response to the areas of improvement highlighted by the Ofsted Inspection Report.
- 2.2 The Learning and Improvement Plan has been developed around 7 key priorities for improvement:-
- Recruiting, retaining and developing a skilled and confident social care workforce
 - Providing coherent and coordinated early help services to children and their families
 - Improving the quality and timeliness of assessment and care planning
 - Ensuring high quality support and services for looked after children and effective permanency planning
 - Putting the voice of the child at the centre of social care practice
 - Supporting young people leaving care to have a positive and successful transition to adulthood and independence
 - Embedding strong quality assurance and governance mechanisms to drive continual improvement of service
- 2.3 The Children's Services Improvement Board monitors the Improvement Plan on a monthly basis. Members of this Committee also receive the agenda for the Sunderland Safeguarding Board.

3. Current Position

- 3.1 Alex Hopkins (Director of Children's Services) will provide a verbal update at the meeting on the progress being made on the priorities in relation to the Improvement Plan.

4 Conclusion

- 4.1 The report will provide members with an overview of the progress being made in implementing the Safeguarding Children Learning and Improvement Plan

5. Recommendations

- 5.1 The Scrutiny Committee is asked to consider and comment on the progress being made.

6. Glossary

None

7 Background Papers

Safeguarding Children Learning and Improvement Plan