

Agenda Item 6.

TITLE Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Update

FOR CONSIDERATION BY Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny
Committee 28 June 2016

WARD None Specific

DIRECTOR Judith Ramsden, Director Children's Services

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

RECOMMENDATION

For the Board to review the update below.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) went live on 11 April 2016. So far this has been successful and we have staff in place. We continue to have a Strategic and Operational group in order to embed the project. The information sharing Agreement has been established and signed by Police, WBC and Health. Our Legal colleagues have agreed this.

The accommodation is at Shute End and is running successfully. There were no significant changes made to the building and the team all moved in on 11 April 2016 as planned. There were initially some technical issues with wifi access but these were speedily resolved through our communications and IT staff.

The business processes are working well and we review these regularly at our Strategic and Operational meetings.

We are pleased with the progress of the MASH and with our successful partnership working and implementation.

The group also meet with the Police across the six Berkshire Authorities to ensure there is consistent practice. We are developing metrics in the autumn to ensure that we are all measuring the same activity and that this is consistent.

We did not have a launch as we did not wish to confuse anyone's referral in to the local authority. Therefore our telephone numbers and processes have not changed. The public and partners are still required to phone the usual number and if appropriate the

referral will be subject to a MASH process.

The attached draft leaflet is work in progress. At the present time this information is given to families verbally. This will be launched over the summer.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE RECOMMENDATION

The Council faces severe financial challenges over the coming years as a result of the austerity measures implemented by the Government and subsequent reductions to public sector funding. It is estimated that Wokingham Borough Council will be required to make budget reductions in excess of £20m over the next three years and all Executive decisions should be made in this context.

	How much will it Cost/ (Save)	Is there sufficient funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	Revenue or Capital?
Current Financial Year (Year 1)			
Next Financial Year (Year 2)			
Following Financial Year (Year 3)			

Other financial information relevant to the Recommendation/Decision

N/A

Cross-Council Implications

N/A

List of Background Papers

N/A

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