

TITLE	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Update
FOR CONSIDERATION BY	Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 13 th September 2016
WARD	None Specific
DIRECTOR	Judith Ramsden, Director Children's Services

OUTCOME / BENEFITS TO THE COMMUNITY

The Multi agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) is a well-established approach within Local Authorities to the triaging and sharing of information to establish more holistic and accurate risk assessments about safeguarding and child protection incidents relating to children and their families.

As part of a Pan Berkshire project, Wokingham Borough Council established a MASH which launched in April 2016.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee review the update below.

SUMMARY OF REPORT

This update builds on the update to Overview and Scrutiny on 28th June 2016.

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) continues to function well and feedback from partners remains positive. The Strategic MASH group has now transformed from a project implementation group to a governance group meeting quarterly. This group continues to monitor the multi professional strategic issues and data quality relating to the performance of MASH and Wokingham's links to the Pan Berkshire project.

The Operational group continues as a forum to monitor and improve the delivery of services at a practitioner level. The work of MASH continues under established Information sharing Agreement has been established and signed by Police, WBC and Health. Our Legal colleagues have agreed this.

The accommodation continues to serve MASH well and remains linked to the Early Help Hub with continued success in joint working and the diverting of children's needs at a timely stage to Early Help services.

The metrics have been developed based upon Pan Berkshire models to ensure consistent recording of data and performance. This will be reported routinely to the LSCB's. The data for Contacts and referrals has been routinely recorded; however MASH data sets have been established since 1st May 2016.

The head line data is below and demonstrates a stable and consistent picture of contacts, referrals and percentages of referrals being identified as meeting the MASH criteria for multiagency triaging. This picture is consistent with Wokingham Borough Council own trend data and is appropriately relative to other Berkshire authorities.

Contacts / Referrals

April 16	May 16	June 16	July 16	1 st -25 th Aug 16	Quarter 1 2016-17	Year to date 2016-17
410	518	535	477	430	1,463	2,370

MASH Contacts where agency checks have taken place

Contacts where agency checks have taken place (%s not included for the breakdown because multiagency checks could take place for one contact)	Apr-16		May-16		Jun-16		Jul-16		1st - 25th August 16	
	This information was not recorded formally until 1st May 2016	72	14%	88	16%	46	10%	47	10%	
Education setting		43		34		11		2		
Education Welfare		0		5		0		2		
Health		22		31		30		28		
Other		21		34		12		21		
Police		12		29		12		8		
Probation		2		10		3		0		
Discussed with DA Risk Assessor (BWA)	95	23%	56	11%	56	10%	39	8%	73	17%

Contacts where agency checks have taken place (%s not included for the breakdown because multiagency checks could take place for one contact)	Quarter 1 2016-17		Year to date 2016-17	
		160	11%	253
Education setting	77		90	
Education Welfare	5		7	
Health	53		111	
Other	55		88	
Police	41		61	
Probation	12		15	
Discussed with DA Risk Assessor (BWA)	207	14%	319	13%

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	Is there sufficient	Revenue or
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	Cost/ (Save)	funding – if not quantify the Shortfall	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

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