Section 11 Audit 2018

In July 2018 the Coventry Safeguarding Children Board undertook an audit into agencies and organisations across the Coventry Partnership who complete statutory work with children at risk of or experiencing abuse. This is a legislation driven piece of quality assurance work that all Boards across the country are required to undertake on an annual basis and asks questions around policy, procedure and adherence to guidance and legislation. The results were gathered and turned into a report which was presented to the Board in September 2018.

The audit was overwhelmingly positive, with the majority of partners reporting good adherence to requirements and able to give excellent evidential examples of good practice. Even the lowest scoring areas (identified below as areas for development) scored well, with a number of partners able to identify good practice or the changes they intend to make to improve the way they work. No single area came out as ‘requiring improvement’ across the audit as a whole, evidencing generally high levels of work with children and families in Coventry.

The key pattern identified in this audit was that partners are clearly confident in their systemic and strategic work and planning; policies and procedures were by far the highest scoring criteria across the partnership. The weakest scores (comparatively; the lowest score was still relatively high) were visible in person-centred areas of work such as partners incorporating the voice of the child into their work. This suggests that all partners have strong frameworks within which their work is undertaken, and that future development should focus on ensuring staff, children and young people are able to shape and influence partnership culture and practice.

It is noted that there is no evidence of any immediate risk to any child or young person as a result of poor organisational performance, and nothing of immediacy for the partnership or Board to seek to action at this time.

Safeguarding Board Quality Assurance Manager

2nd October 2018