

## **Proposal to the East Sussex Governor Forum (ESGF)**

The Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service (SLES) Safeguarding team would like to facilitate a session at the Local Area Forum meetings due to take place in March 2018, to provide an update for governors on safeguarding in schools. This will include:

### **1. Detailed feedback on the 2017-2018 East Sussex 175 safeguarding audits, including strengths and weaknesses and SLES/LSCB response to this.**

85% of East Sussex Schools have returned the 2017-18 safeguarding audit to date and SLES are undertaking a detailed analysis of these audits in order to understand strengths and weaknesses in our schools, and plan to support schools through intervention and training as required. Early analysis demonstrates that schools have identified 2 main areas for development – in relation to particular policies and also in relation to training for the whole staff. The audit's judgements are based on school self-evaluation and key questions/considerations for the Forum will include:

- a) The involvement of governors in moderating these judgements
- b) How the audit returns record strengths in areas which SLES feel are actually often areas for development
- c) The on-going role of governors in monitoring safeguarding
- d) What further training and development governors would like to see offered for DSLs and Governors in relation to safeguarding.

### **2. Summary information on safeguarding complaints and concerns sent to SLES 2016-2017 and lessons learnt from these.**

SLES received 115 safeguarding concerns and complaints in the academic year 2016-17, many of which were sent to OFSTED. SLES would like to present a summary of the type of issues involved and some best practice tips in reducing the likelihood of complaints, as well as dealing with safeguarding complaints as and when they do arise. Key questions/discussion points for the forum –

- a) What should governors be aware of in relation to safeguarding complaints?
- b) How familiar are governors with their school's complaints policy?
- c) What can good schools do to reduce the risks of complaints to OFSTED?

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