

BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL

LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

Tuesday 4th March 2014

Present:-

Reg Pengelly (Independent Chair)
Ashley Ayre (B&NES- Strategic Director for People and Communities)
Richard Baldwin (Divisional Director, Children and Young People's services)
Jennifer Daly (named nurse, safeguarding children RUH)
Clive Diaz (B&NES Children's services – Quality Assurance Manager)
Kevin Elliott (NHS England BGSW)
Fiona Finlay (RUH)
Rachel Grant (Children and Young People's Network)
Chrissie Hardman (Sirona)
Jill Hollin (Lay member)
Anita Johnson (Great Western Hospital, Swindon)
Judy Lye-Foster (City of Bath College)
Sarah McCluskey (B&NES Partnership Development Officer)
Michelle Maguire (for Oxford Health – Head of service – Swindon, Wiltshire & B&NES)
Pete Mountstephen (B&NES Primary Heads)
Liz Richards (AWP B&NES)
Duncan Stanway (Barnardo's)
Sophia Swatton (B&NES CCG - Designated nurse, safeguarding children)
Jenny Theed (Sirona Care and Health)
Sarah Thompson (safeguarding Head – South Western Ambulance Service)
Rachael Williams (Avon & Somerset Police)

Observer: Councillor Michael Evans (Shadow cabinet member, B&NES)
For Item 4: Spencer Hird (CAFCASS)

Apologies:- Mike Bowden (B&NES) , Dawn Clarke (B&NES CCG), Sally Churchyard (YOS) Jackie Cooke (RNHRD), Mick Dixon (Avon Fire & rescue), Simon Lenton (RUH) Jenny Theed (Sirona), Vicky Tinsley (maternity services, RUH), Naina Thomas (Lay Member), Victoria Penaliggon (CAFCASS).

54 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members made introductions.

55 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Democratic Services Officer drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure.

56 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Chair declared a non-prejudicial interest in his capacity as a lay member of the Dorset LSCB and the Pan Dorset CDOP. He is also an independent safeguarding

consultant. Apart from the Safeguarding E-Academy, none of his clients function in the B&NES area.

There were no other declarations of interest.

57 PRESENTATION FROM CAFCASS (ITEM 4)

Spencer Hird, of CAFCASS, gave a presentation about the impact of legal changes on the demands for their service.

The Chair asked how concerns about how the welfare of children whose parents were going through the court process are addressed. Spencer replied that the Local Authority (LA) or other agencies would become involved in providing support in 60% of cases. If, after the first hearing, there are more concerns, the case is referred to the LA for further investigation. Richard Baldwin asked about the reasons why demand for the service had risen and was informed that there were three factors – 1) it was cheaper to go through the court process than to go through mediation 2) there was not much signposting to mediation as an alternative and 3) the withdrawal of legal aid by the government.

The Chair thanked Spencer for his presentation (which is attached to these minutes)..

58 MINUTES, ACTION LOG AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last Board meeting on 3rd December 2013 were agreed and signed a correct record by the Chair.

The Chair went through the Minutes and Action Log for any matters arising.

Action log		
Note: This action log will be reviewed and updated at each LSCB business meeting		
Actions	Responsible officers	Completion Date
203. The Chair has met with chair of LSAB to explore joint aspects between the 2 boards.	Reg Pengelly/ Sarah McCluskey	ongoing
217. Policy, Procedures and Performance Monitoring Group to incorporate issues from improvement plans in next Section 11 audit	Mike Bowden	ongoing
224. Identify issues not covered in current LSCB programme e.g. CSE, internet safety	Rachael Williams & Richard Baldwin	Ongoing
225. Suggestions for future working with Children England	Mike Bowden	Defer for future update
227. Berwick Report – learning and improvement strategy. To come to	Richard Baldwin	Ongoing

Development Day		
228. Rachael Grant to consult with network members about the charging rate and feed back to Sophia	Rachel Grant	ASAP
229. Assessment Protocol to be circulated with the minutes	Richard Baldwin	ASAP
230. Audit tool to be circulated	Clive Diaz	ASAP
231. All agencies to feedback Ofsted evidence to Sarah.	All agencies	By 19 th March
232. Work programme – Sarah to collate responses for incorporation into next year’s programme.	Sarah McCluskey	By April 2014

59 TRAINING & WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT GROUP (REPORT 6)

Sophia Swatton introduced this report and asked the Board to respond to the proposals regarding the training charging policy. There was some debate about whether the charge rate would adversely affect smaller agencies. It was agreed that the fairest and simplest way to assess the size of agencies was by headcount. It was further agreed to charge £50 for cancellation with 1 week’s (or less) notice rather than 2 weeks. This rate would also apply to non fee-paying agencies for non-attendance.

ACTION: Rachel Grant to consult with her network members about the charging rate and feed back to Sophia.

60 HEALTH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (REPORT 7)

Sophia Swatton introduced this item and asked that the Board recognise the progress that had been made by health providers involved and that the CCG could continue to monitor providers’ progress via the CCG quality monitoring meetings. She said that it would be the last report emanating from the 2012 review by Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission and recommended that the Board rely on the CCG quality processes to monitor compliance in the future. Any exceptions would be reported to the CCG Quality Committee and/or Serious Incident and Safeguarding Committee as appropriate. The LSCB would also be informed.

61 POLICY PROCEDURE AND PERFORMANCE MONITORING GROUP. (REPORT 8)

Richard Baldwin introduced this item in the absence of Mike Bowden. He informed the Board that the group had approved a number of protocols on behalf of the LSCB as detailed in the report. A copy of the Assessment Protocol was circulated at the meeting. One of the key issues that the group had considered was the use Common Assessment Forms (CAF) and the numbers of those which converted into referrals, currently at around 9%. Less than 10% of CAFs go onto warrant a

full assessment, which the group considered is an acceptable level for this authority. There had also been a significant reduction in the number of Child Protection Plans (CP).

The group also considered attendance data for children on CP plans, particularly in secondary school. Poor attendance needed to be picked up in the plan. Ashley Ayre added that B&NES is a high-attending LA and worked closely with schools on this issue.

The Chair asked about the proportion of cases which involved domestic abuse and was informed that it is a significant factor in many cases.

ACTION: The Assessment Protocol to be circulated with the minutes so agencies could disseminate to social workers, health visitors and any other relevant staff.

62 UPDATE ON SCR/SCRG & LEARNING AND IMPROVEMENT FRAMEWORK (ITEM 9)

.Sophia Swatton introduced this item as deputy chair of the SCR sub-group. She reported that the TOR needs to provide further clarity on regarding membership for serious case reviews generated by the LSCB and referred to the sub-group.

The updated Care Pathway for identifying children and young people vulnerable to emotional/mental health problems and suicide was due to be reviewed by the Public Health-led Suicide Prevention Group today. The Chair suggested that, following this, the paper should be circulated to all LSCB members. If there is consensus about the proposals, then the Board will adopt them, if not, then the issue would come to the next LSCB for discussion.

One of the LSCB actions arising from the SCR Child A was to target training for senior members who would become specialists in this field. However, the general view of the Board was that they felt it would be preferable if the wider workforce was skilled up. Ashley Ayre said that there had been a long debate about this issue and that secondary schools had raised concerns about talking to young people about suicide in terms of unwanted outcomes and adverse parental reactions. Future training would take into account the above Board decision.

Michelle Maguire asked whether suicide and self-harm were being covered in a single training session. She pointed out that the whole workforce needs skilling about self-harm as it was so widespread, but training would need to differentiate between the factors that led to self-harm and those around suicide. Professionals should not rely on self-harm as an indicator of risk of suicide. At present CAMHS offer DSH training as part of a rolling programme to all staff working in Children's Services. DSH training has also been offered to all schools across B&NES and take-up has been quite good.

Chrissie Hardman said that she supported this initiative and that it works well – she quoted a case study and offered it for use in the training. Ashley Ayre added that 6 young people had committed suicide in the past 2 years, so there was a great need for wider workforce training. Sophia replied that the training sub-group were looking at how to deliver this training.

The draft version of the Learning and Improvement Framework had been considered by the SCR sub-group. They were looking at the process in terms of raising concerns and considering where issues should be taken and escalated.

The Chair said that the Board is vulnerable in not currently having a learning and Improvement framework, but that this issue would be discussed on the Development Day. There followed some discussion about the SCIE approach to SCRs which provoked a mixed reaction from various agencies. The Chair acknowledged that there were differing views about this method and said that, although SCIE had its benefits, each SCR demanded an approach tailored to the particular circumstances.

63 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) UPDATE (ITEM 10).

This item was introduced by Richard Baldwin who reported that he was due to meet with the Chair and Rachel Williams from the Police in April about how the LSCB respond to CSE and E-Safety. It was hoped that the sub-groups would link in with the police practice and experience. Rachel Grant asked whether this would work at either the strategic or the operational level – she pointed out that the CSE working group had identified the lack of strategy and wanted to move things forward. Richard Baldwin confirmed that it was at strategic level.

64 UPDATE ON CHILDRENS' SERVICES OFSTED IMPROVEMENT PLAN (REPORT 11)

Richard Baldwin introduced this report which informed the Board on the actions implemented by the Improvement Board to improve Safeguarding Services following the 2013 Ofsted inspection. The timing of assessments has improved – 94-95% were now on time. The quality of the assessments had been audited and had also shown improvement and better consistency. The Board had worked with SARI (Stand Against Racism and Inequality) in looking at the culture within families and capturing the views and experience of the child. The Improvement Board had, however, identified that supervision was the area which needed most development.

Pete Mountstephen asked whether the morale of social workers was being protected and was informed that the board membership included social workers, and they had told the board where they were going wrong. Ashley Ayre added that newly-qualified social workers were being offered good quality training and development and that although they were under intense pressure, morale was improving. Clive Diaz commented that they were supported through flexible working and more investment such as post-qualification training. Sophia Swatton offered to bring an options paper on supervisions to the LSCB and Clive Diaz suggested a 6 monthly workshop on supervision training.

ACTION: Clive Diaz to send out the audit tool.

65 WINTERBOURNE VIEW UPDATE (ITEM12).

Ashley Ayre introduced this item and informed the Board that a formal report by Mike MaCallum would be presented to the next meeting. The Minister of State for care issues has asked local authorities to track all their vulnerable adults – however, B&NES does not have anyone currently in a similar institution to Winterbourne View.

66 READINESS FOR FUTURE OFSTED INSPECTION (ITEM 13).

The Chair introduced this item and informed the Board that inspections could happen at very short notice, so it was important to collate any evidence relating to case studies.

ACTION: Agencies to feed back any useful evidence to Sarah McCluskey within 2 weeks.

67 ANNUAL REPORT AND WORK PROGRAMME (REPORT 14)

The Chair introduced the report, copies of which were circulated at the meeting. Members worked in small groups to review the suggestions for themes to be included on the work programme.

ACTION: Sarah to collate the responses for incorporation into next year's work programme.

68 DEVELOPMENT DAY PLANNING (ITEM 15).

The Chair proposed that the development day agenda includes looking at a new way for the Board to conduct its business with a thematic structure to meetings which would foster different ways of thinking and a more thorough challenge. There was general agreement for this.

69 ANY OTHER BUSINESS (ITEM 16)

Sophia Swatton informed the Board that NICE had published new guidelines which raised big questions for agencies. They would be circulated with the minutes.

Sarah Thompson (safeguarding lead - South Western Ambulance Service) offered to give a presentation at the next Board meeting about the issues around safeguarding within the ambulance service. The Chair and Board welcomed this proposal.

The next meeting of the Board would take place on **Tuesday 3rd June 2014 in Room 8, Riverside.**

Please note that the venues for the September 9th and December 2nd LSCB meetings have yet to be confirmed, but it is most likely that they will be held in Keynsham. Board members will be kept informed.

The meeting ended at 4.20pm.

Chair (person).....

Date Confirmed and Signed.....

Prepared by Democratic Services