



**Bath and North East Somerset**

**Local Safeguarding Children  
Board**

**Welcome to the May 2014 issue of the B&NES LSCB e-newsletter**

The LSCB is a multi- agency partnership that has responsibility for overseeing the safety and well-being of children and young people in B&NES. It is supported by an Independent Chair and is made up of safeguarding representatives from a wide range of statutory services, police, health and the voluntary sector who work with children, young people or their parents/carers.

**Local updates**

**LSCB Stakeholder Event 2013**

The LSCB's Annual Stakeholders' Event was held on 28th November 2013. This was attended by 100 stakeholders from statutory and voluntary agencies and schools across B&NES

The theme was "Beyond Listening: how can we engage with Children and Young People to keep them safer in B&NES?"

The day gave a useful opportunity to reflect on how agencies and individuals meaningfully engage with the Children and Young People that they work with. The discussions highlighted actions for inclusion in the LSCB's work programme for 2014 - 2015, as well as actions which individuals committed to take following the event.

**LSCB Stakeholder Event 2014**

This annual event will be on Thursday Nov 27th 9.00-4.30pm and it is likely it will be on the theme of 'Neglect'

Further details will follow in the early autumn

**Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP) 2014-2017**

The CYPP 2014-2017 and Outcomes Framework are now live on the Childrens Trust Board page. The CYPP sets out the vision that the Children Trust Board (our local partnership of the Council, Police, NHS, schools, voluntary organisations and other agencies) has for improving the outcomes for children and young people in B&NES.

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/children-young-people-and-families/strategies-policies-planning/children-and-young-peoples>

## **LSCB Annual Report 2013-2014 and Work Programme 2014-2015**

The Annual Report of the LSCB is now live on the LSCB webpage. This report highlights the achievements of the Board over the last year and in its Work programme clearly identifies where it will focus its work over the coming year.

<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/services/children-young-people-and-families/child-protection/local-safeguarding-children-board>

### **Training**

This year has been fantastic for inter-agency training, with over 1000 days training taken across the children's workforce in a range of standard and specialist courses. This next year is looking to be as exciting, so for further information on all our courses please go to [www.bathnes.gov.uk/safeguardingtraining](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/safeguardingtraining).

New for September 2014, we will have an electronic booking system so that you can manage your bookings, receive updates and access additional learning resources. Look out for our flyers on how to register, coming soon.

### **SEND reform update**

SEND stands for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and Disability. The reform is a transformation of the way support is provided for children and young people with SEN and/or disabilities up to the age of 25. Support will be focused on enabling children, young people and their families to achieve their long term aspirations.

B&NES has now progressed into the second or 'testing' phase of our project to deliver SEND Reform.

### **Engagement and communication**

A SEND Reform Briefing has been compiled for delivery to schools and other settings to provide an overview of the reforms and their implications from September 2014 onwards. We are eager to host a number of briefing sessions in order to reach as many people as possible, so if your school or setting would like to host a session, please see the contact details at the end of this newsletter and get in touch.

### **Workforce development**

A wider training programme for schools, settings, young people and parent carers is also being developed to provide a comprehensive introduction to the SEND reforms, as well as additional training sessions to look at Education, Health and Care planning in greater depth.

### **Integrated assessment and planning**

BANES has now begun piloting new statutory assessments for Education, Health and Care (EHC) plans, building upon the work of other local authority pathfinders. We are using the piloting process in order to test timescales and our EHC plan template, as well as developing skills and identify training needs.

From the end of April/May onwards, a range of annual reviews will be selected to look at the process of converting old statements of SEN into EHC plans, focusing on targeting key transition stages.

### **Joint commissioning and personal budgets**

We are exploring pathfinder approaches to delivering personal budgets and commissioning services. This is still a work in progress and different models are being considered.

### **The local offer**

Initial testing of our Local Offer template has begun, with a number of Early Years settings and schools approached to look at the content and provide feedback.

An IT platform to 'host' the Local Offer is being explored utilising Rainbow Resource and looking at developing user features which will make searching for services and information more personalised and relevant to the child/young person or parent-carers.

### **Find out more, keep informed, get involved**

For more information about the SEND reform in B&NES including how to get involved go to [www.bathnes.gov.uk/SENDreform](http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/SENDreform) or [www.facebook.com/SENDreform](https://www.facebook.com/SENDreform).

This web page and Facebook page will include updates about this work in B&NES, details of how to let us know what you think and get involved and links to useful information about Special Educational Needs and disability and these changes nationally.

Alternatively if you have any specific queries, please email [SEND\\_info@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:SEND_info@bathnes.gov.uk) or contact Rebecca Claridge, SEND Reform Project Administrator on 01225 477980

### **National Updates**

#### **Information Hub on i-Hop Offenders Families with Children website**

In 2013 Barnardo's and POPS (Partners of Prisoners and Families Support Group), funded by the Department for Education, joined together to develop i-HOP, with the aim to:

- improve support provided to children in offenders' families,
- improve integrated working across agencies supporting children in offenders' families, and
- increase awareness and knowledge of the issues impacting on children in offenders' families.

The service provides a one stop information hub for professionals who work with children and families of offenders. There are an estimated 200,000 children of offenders in England and Wales and 7% of school aged children will have experienced the imprisonment of their father. These children are far more likely to suffer poor outcomes (poverty, mental health, and youth offending) than their peers.

i-HOP provides professionals who work with the children of offenders (whether they are teachers, social workers, commissioners, health care workers, prison officers etc.) with a free online information hub providing all the up to date resources, strategies, policies and research to support work with these families. There is also a free helpline that professionals can access for support.

[www.i-hop.org.uk](http://www.i-hop.org.uk)

## Update on domestic violence protection notices and domestic violence protection orders (DVPN/Os)

From 6<sup>th</sup> May 2014, the police have had new powers allowing them to intervene in domestic violence incidents to protect victims and manage perpetrators.

The new legislation involves Domestic Violence (DV) protection notices and DV protection orders.

### **What are these orders and notices?**

Domestic Violence Protection Notices and Orders are aimed at perpetrators who present an on-going risk of violence to the victim, but where no criminal complaint is being pursued through the criminal justice system.

They are put in place so that the victim is protected and the perpetrator is properly managed.

### **How do they work?**

A Domestic Violence Protection **Notice** is the initial notice of immediate emergency protection to the victim or victims that is issued by the police. This initiates a hearing in a Magistrates Court within 48 hours. A number of controls can be put in place such as removing the perpetrator from the address.

A Domestic Violence Protection **Order** is an order made by the magistrates' court after a notice has been issued. If agreed by the Magistrates the police conditions can be endorsed or additional measures put in place. It will run for between 14-28 days, beginning on the date it is made by the magistrates' court.

### **Who do notices and orders affect?**

They affect the victims of violence and the perpetrators.

Offenders are often free to return to the scene of abuse sometimes within hours of arrest. Research shows us that this is a time of increased risk to a victim.

Victims have "traditionally" had to make the decision to leave the address, often with children, and/or for an injunction taken out to prevent further abuse or harassment by the alleged perpetrator.

The new legislation could allow the victim to stay and for the alleged perpetrator to

- leave the address
- be prohibited from entering the address
- go within a specific distance of the address
- *not prohibit* the victim from the address

### **Why is this legislation being brought in?**

Because a more co-ordinated approach is needed across all partner agencies so that victims are protected and offenders, particularly serial offenders managed.

The police, the NHS, housing, local and county councils, the voluntary sector, social services, the Crown Prosecution Service are all involved.

### **What will happen?**

Future safeguarding training will incorporate information on the orders and notices to ensure professionals working with families are aware of the new legislation.

The police are also producing supporting material to help staff understand the new legislation, and will launch a public campaign creating awareness with supporting materials for victims and families.

### **Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

The Child Exploitation and Online Protection agency (CEOP) have launched their latest educational film, *Exploited*.

Based around an 18-minute film, *Exploited* helps young people aged 12 and over, learn to stay safe from sexual exploitation. It educates young people to identify features of an exploitative friendship or relationship in contrast with the development of a healthy relationship, and gives them clear information about how to report abuse and access support.

The resource is based on a set of learning points promoting awareness and positive behaviours. It aims to help young people learn:

- That in a good relationship, both people want what's best for each other.
- That some people make you think they are your friend, boyfriend or girlfriend, but really they are using you e.g. for money, status or sex.
- That some people make young people feel special (e.g. giving them gifts or paying them compliments) in order to gain control over them.
- That some people use pressure and threats to try to gain control over others.
- How to tell when a situation is unsafe, and set boundaries about what you want to do and don't want to do.
- How to tell if someone wants a relationship with you for the right or wrong reasons.
- That there are many people who can support you if you feel at risk, including teachers, parents/carers, and organisations like CEOP and Child Line.

The *Exploited* resource and supporting can be downloaded from the Think U Know [resources area](https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/Teachers/Resources/): <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/Teachers/Resources/>.

**Please read the pack in full before delivering *Exploited* to young people.**

Exploited Trailer

[http://youtu.be/q\\_qDsHSjZAE](http://youtu.be/q_qDsHSjZAE)

Here is a link to another animation about exploitative sexual relationships from Child line

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XasNkfQ5AVM>

B&NES are also currently developing their own supported resources around the CSE agenda. email [Claire\\_James@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Claire_James@bathnes.gov.uk) for further details

### **Serious Case Reviews**

Serious Case Reviews (SCR's) have been a feature of child protection practice for many years. The guidance for Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) currently falls within Chapter 4 of "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.

The guidance states that a Serious Case Review should provide a "rigorous, objective analysis" of what happened and why so that lessons can be learnt and services improved. The final reports of serious case reviews, including the LSCB's response to the findings, must also be published on that LSCB's website for a minimum of 12 months and thereafter should be available on request.

A SCR is undertaken for every case where abuse or neglect is known - or suspected - and either:

- a child dies
- a child is seriously harmed and there are concerns about how organisations or professionals worked together to protect the child

Additionally, LSCBs may decide to conduct a SCR whenever a child has been seriously harmed in any of the following situations and the case brings up concerns about the way in which local services worked together:

It has been recognised that while Case reviews provide valuable lessons about how organisations are working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children there is longstanding concern that the same issues are being identified again and again. Through collaboration between the NSPCC and the [Association of Independent LSCB Chairs](#), a national repository of published case reviews was set up in November 2013. It aims to hold all case reviews in a central location, so the learning contained within them is easier to access.

In addition, the NSPCC's information service is developing a series of at-a-glance case review learning analyses for practitioners focused on recurring themes, such as parental substance misuse and domestic abuse.

The repository is a valuable learning tool. The link is as follows

[http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/serious\\_case\\_reviews\\_homepage\\_wda82779.html](http://www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/resourcesforprofessionals/serious_case_reviews_homepage_wda82779.html)

### **[Serious Case Review \(SCR\) checklist for Social Workers](#)**

The following is a useful link to a checklist for Social Workers in regard to SCR's

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/2014/04/10/test-social-work-practice-20-point-serious-case-review-checklist/#.U0bvwwldW6o>

If you are a professional who would like to be a member of the SCR LSCB sub group

Please contact Interim Head of Safeguarding [Julie\\_Downey@bathnes.gov.uk](mailto:Julie_Downey@bathnes.gov.uk)