



Bath & North East Somerset  
Local Safeguarding Children Board

## **BATH AND NORTH EAST SOMERSET COUNCIL**

### **LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD**

**Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2016**

#### **Present:-**

Reg Pengelly (Independent Chair)  
Mike Bowden (B&NES Council, People and Communities, Strategic Director and DCSS)  
Richard Baldwin (B&NES Council, Divisional Director, Children and Young People, Specialist and Targeted Services)  
Sally Churchyard (B&NES Council, 11-19 Prevention Service Manager, Youth Offending Service)  
Fiona Finlay (Sirona Care and Health, Designated Doctor)  
Bruce Laurence (B&NES Council, Director of Public Health)  
Lesley Hutchinson (B&NES Council, Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance)  
Duncan Stanway (Barnardo's, Assistant Director Midlands and South West)  
Nicola Smith (Primary Heads Representative)  
Jackie Deas (B&NES Council, Deputy Safeguarding Lead: Children and Quality Assurance)  
Jill Chart (Sirona Care & Health)  
Donna Redman (NHS BaNES CCG, Named GP)  
Councillor Michael Evans, Cabinet Member for Children's Services  
Roz Lambert (First Steps (Bath), Children and Young People's Network representative)  
Richard Kelvey (Avon & Somerset Constabulary)  
Dami Howard (B&NES Council, Safeguarding Children & Adults Boards Business Support Manager)  
Liz Spencer (National Probation Service)  
Mike Menzies (RUH, Named Nurse)  
Michelle Maguire (Oxford Health – Head of Service for Swindon, Wiltshire & B&NES)  
Harriet Bosnell (Curo)  
Sarah Seeger (Curo)  
Mel Argles (CSC B&NES)  
Jenny Daly (BaNES CCG)  
Helen Chrystal (NHS England)  
Mark Everett (Secondary Heads Representative)  
Gemma Darby (NSPCC)

**Apologies:** Dawn Clarke (NHS BaNES CCG, Director of Nursing and Quality), Helen Blanchard (RUH), Chrissie Hardman (Sirona Care & Health), Will White (Avon & Somerset Constabulary) and John Trevains (NHS England)

## WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

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

## 17 EMERGENCY EVACUATION PROCEDURE

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

## 2 PRESENTATION – NSPCC WORK IN SCHOOLS

Gemma Darby, NSPCC Schools Service Area Coordinator gave a presentation to the Board, a summary is set out below.

She explained that as well as sharing the work of the NSPCC with the Board she was seeking endorsement from them of the Speak Out, Stay Safe programme.

### **KS1 Assembly**

Introduction: Children are introduced to our mascot Buddy in a friendly and age appropriate way.

#### Children's rights:

- The right to speak out and be heard
- The right to be safe
- The right to get help when they need it.

Case study and definitions of abuse: A case study is shared with the children and a number of definitions are explained to them.

#### Trusted grown-ups and ChildLine:

- We help the children to think about which grown-ups they could talk to if they ever felt sad, worried or unsafe – both in school and out of school
- ChildLine is open 24/7, 365 days a year
- Children are reminded to speak out to a grown-up they trust who can help them to stay safe, and to keep speaking out until something changes.

#### Recap and close of assembly:

- Recap of the key messages
- Mobilisation is a key element of our messaging, empowering children to come together and help other children. Together they can help more children to 'Speak out and Stay safe'.

## **KS2 Assembly**

Introduction: Introduce ourselves, the NSPCC and our mascot Buddy

Children's rights: As in KS1

Sack of Worries exercise:

- Children are shown an empty sack and are asked to think of the types of things that may make a child feel sad, worried or unsafe. For every worry a plastic brick is placed in the sack.
- The following types of abuse may be mentioned; Emotional abuse, Physical abuse, Sexual abuse, Neglect and Bullying

Definitions of abuse: A number of definitions are explained to the children.

Return to the Sack of Worries exercise:

- The children are asked which trusted adults they could talk to if they ever felt sad, worried or unsafe. For every adult suggested a brick is removed from the sack of worries.
- The sack is now nice and light demonstrating that speaking out can stop children from being weighed down by their worries.

ChildLine key messages:

- No problem is too big or too small
- What a child says to ChildLine stays with ChildLine – unless we are really worried or concerned about them
- Open all day, every day and free to call

Case study: A case study is shared with the children

Recap and close of assembly: As in KS1

## **Year 5 & 6 Workshops**

Recap of assembly received in KS2:

- Sack of Worries exercise
- ChildLine key messages
- The children take part in a short recap quiz
- Recap of children's rights

Ok / Not Ok activity focussed on sexual abuse: Children work in groups and are given 4 ambiguous statements. They must decide if the statements are ok, not ok or in the middle. Once they have done this in groups the statements are discussed as a class.

Case study activity focussed on neglect: A case study is shared with the children

Speak out, Stay safe kit:

- Each child is given a Speak out, Stay safe kit in which they can record the people, places and things that make them feel happy and safe
- Key messages are recapped

Gemma said that a brochure for schools has been produced and that the presentation has already been delivered to 15,000 schools and over 1 million children.

Bruce Laurence asked if there was any evidence to show a rise in calls to Childline following the presentations.

Gemma replied that she did not have any precise figures to hand, but said that the number of calls do increase following the presentations.

Richard Kelvey asked if in the presentation the children are told they can contact the Police.

Gemma replied that the Police are not directly referred to in the presentation, but that they are always suggested as a Trusted Adult.

The Board unanimously **RESOLVED** to endorse the Speak Out, Stay Safe programme.

The Chair, on behalf of the Board thanked Gemma for attending the meeting.

### **3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **4 UPDATE ON S136 USE**

Lesley Hutchinson said that additional funding through AWP has secured for 4 additional places. She added that it had not yet been agreed what the contingency plan was should these all be full. She said that events are planned in October and November across the six CCGs to address the challenge of no longer using Police cells.

## 5 MINUTES, ACTION LOG AND MATTERS ARISING

With regard to the Prevent presentation (Agenda Item 2) Lesley Hutchinson asked for the abbreviation XRW to be written as Extreme Right Wing for context when the minutes are published. There was then a discussion about the detail of cases referred to PREVENT. Richard Kelvey agreed to go back to Dickon Turner, who presented the information for comment and LSCb agreed to be guided by him.

Harriet Bosnell added a correction to her name

The minutes of the last Board meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016 were agreed subject to these amendments.

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

240: Richard Baldwin reported that Vodafone were close to completing the work required regarding the N3 Spine. Update to LSCB in December.

252: On this agenda.

256: PPPG will discuss in November 2016.

264: Richard Baldwin to write again to all agencies that have not responded. Update further in December.

273: Complete after today's report.

274: Additional funding secured for 4 additional places. Still to agree contingency should these all be full. Events planned in October and November across six CCGs to address the challenge of no longer using Police cells.

283: Letter will be sent to the Chair of the RAG

287: Complete – on agenda today.

296: Presentation to be given at today's meeting.

298: Complete.

299: Now resolved and all information held on one spreadsheet. Email to go to all GPs about who on the list is at their surgery. Negotiate any further requests re LAC and update LSCB in December.

303: Lesley Hutchinson raised this at the RAG meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>. Actions will be added to the Business Plan, where relevant by Bruce Laurence as Chair of the Domestic Abuse Partnership and update Dami.

305: Not all organisations are confirming dissemination so agreed that Board members by default are expected to disseminate unless they give Business Support Manager another name. Good to have 1 name where several attend from the same agency. We will name and shame non responders from December onwards.

## 6 THEMED REVIEW – EARLY HELP

Debbie Forward introduced this item to the Board. She stated that Early Help is a priority for the LSCB and that this themed review aims to gain a more accurate picture of how effectively local partnership arrangements for early help services are improving children and family outcomes, reducing risks and preventing them from escalating (or taking further action where they do).

She explained that Q1 monitoring information from commissioned and B&NES delivered preventative early help services reported just under 500 referrals for targeted support and 96% of these were accepted. This would suggest that thresholds are understood and applied appropriately.

She said that in addition the Q1 monitoring information from commissioned and B&NES delivered preventative early help services shows there were a further 209 single agency early help assessments.

She informed the Board that the positive impact of Early Help is starting to be demonstrated by the number of young people and families achieving positive outcomes as a result of the targeted support they receive.

Four small group discussions then took place to provide actions or challenges relating to the following three questions:

1. Based on the information in this paper and your agency's experience, are you assured that early help in B&NES is effective? If not what else would you like to see?
2. How confident are you in your agency that where you are delivering early help to children and families, that they know what is in their plan?
3. Can you share your experience of quality assuring the delivery of early help, either in your agency or through the CAF group?

### Group One:

- Need a single point of contact for Early Help advice/ referral/ triage
- Issue of not knowing when a CAF is in place
- Not confident in quality assurance of Early Help

### Group Two:

- Action: Develop a data set which is more robust
- Raised issue of measurement tools and standardised / uniform tools that can be compared to other services / users / outcomes
- Possible Sub-Group of the Early Help Board

### Group Three:

- Common understanding of evidence that illustrates Early Help is a challenge
- Mismatch in understanding by strategic staff
- Performance working together across agencies

### Group Four:

- Early Help Domestic Violence needs to be a key priority. Understanding police contacts that don't turn into referrals
- Re-visit the role of panels – targeted
- Improve Step Down and Exit Planning

The Chair proposed that the LSCB take a prime responsibility for this issue and asked whether a Board member should join the Early Help Board.

Lesley Hutchinson said she supported the idea that the Board has a further Sub-Group to look at Early Help.

Debbie Forward commented that a recommendation from the report was to bring a report back to the Board in December to discuss this in more detail.

The Board **RESOLVED** to:

- i) Receive a further report in December around revised arrangements for quality assurance and governance. **(Action 312)**
- ii) Receive an annual report each September on the effectiveness of Early Help **(Action 313)**
- iii) Full notes from groups to be discussed at October Sub Group Chairs and any additions added to Business Plan **(Action 314 )**

## **7 LSCB BUSINESS PLAN 2015-18 UPDATE**

Lesley Hutchinson introduced this item to the Board and the following entries were updated.

Key Priority 1: 6 - *Undertake an audit to ensure it is effectively audited – add to PPG audit plan.* Dami Howard to transfer the action to the PPG.

Key Priority 1: 9 - *Set up process to ensure learning and recommendations from the self-harm and suicide prevention groups inform and are included in LSCB multi-agency training.* Mel Argles replied that the majority of this action had been completed in June.

Key Priority 1: 17 - *Develop and embed mechanism for sharing the learning from other LSCB's SCR reports.* Lesley Hutchinson commented that she would provide an update for the plan in due course.

Key Priority 1: 19 - *Take opportunities to promote “think family” as widely as possible.* Lesley Hutchinson explained that this was a new action and would be discussed further by the Sub-Group Chairs and the Communications Sub-Group.

Key Priority 2: 1 - *Seek assurance that new child friendly Working Together guidance is disseminated. Request confirmation from Board members this has been actioned.* LSCB Board members asked to confirm to Business Support Manager.

Key Priority 2: 2 – *Children’s Commissioner to provide annual assurance on uptake of advocacy.* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 2: 3 - *Discussion with all LSCB members on the potential for involvement of young people in their recruitment to safeguarding posts.* Richard Baldwin commented that this action was now complete as a young person was now a member of the Communications Sub-Group.

Key Priority 2: 6 - *Incorporate learning from SHEU.* Bruce Laurence to advise whether information can be included in the 2016-17 LSCB Annual Report. March 2017

Key Priority 3: 4 - *Receive update report on private fostering numbers.* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 3: 7 - *Ensure via the full section 11 audit in 2015-16 that all previous actions have been completed.* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 3: 13 - *What assurance does LSCB receive re safeguarding now NHS England is separate from Council in commissioning optometrists, dentists, pharmacists and independent contractors?* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 4: 4 - *Review school self-assessment to ensure this area is addressed to enable assurance to be provided.* Complete.

Key Priority 4: 5 - *Support Peer Audit for single agency training.* Mel Argles to update.

Key Priority 4: 9 - *Develop Framework and implement for safeguarding leads after advanced training.* Mel Argles to update.

Key Priority 5: 3 - *Overview report on good LSCB inspection reports.* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 5: 9 - *Review information from schools audit and correlate with Council data.* Deferred until December 2016.

Key Priority 5: 11 - *Triangulate serious sexual offences data with Avon and Somerset Constabulary.* Deferred until March 2017.

## **8 6 MONTHLY REPORTS – PPG, COMMUNICATIONS, CSE & JOINT FGM**

### PPG:

Duncan Stanway introduced this report. He informed the Board that the PPG has revised its Terms of Reference and renewed its membership in the last 6 months. The new membership ensures the quality assurance process now covers the activity of more LSCB members than the previous membership allowed.

He said that the group had met three times since its last report and he asked the Board to note the report.

### Communications:

Richard Baldwin introduced this report. He highlighted the three current areas of focus/activity for the group.

Continued development of a new website for the LSCB in conjunction with the LSAB: We anticipate that the site will be functional and ready for launch in October.

Female Genital Mutilation; T.V. Monitor advert: The Communications group has recently completed work on developing an awareness raising advert that is now being shown on TV monitors situated in all Council waiting areas within the One Stop shops as well the option of this advert also being placed onto similar monitors in a number of GP surgeries.

Joint LSAB/LSCB Newsletter: The first joint newsletter from both Boards was published in mid-July. He asked the Board members present if they would like to provide any articles for the next publication.

He said that two young people now regularly attend the Sub-Group with one of those being the current Member of Youth Parliament.

### Child Sexual Exploitation / Missing:

Richard Baldwin introduced this report. He highlighted two areas of work for the group.

Publicity Materials: The sub-group has assisted in the development of a range of posters and leaflets that are now being used by the B&NES licencing team with hotel and taxi staff to raise awareness of CSE.

The sub-group have also assisted the Willow Project in the development of a range of leaflets for parents, young people and professionals that provide basic information about signs of CSE and contact details for the project.

Regional CSE Project: The funding for the current regional CSE Project ends in March 2017. We have already participated in a series of meetings with other LSCB's and Barnardo's to look at how together we can build on the changes and developments that have been implemented over the last 18 months. The Council has already met with the PCC and agreed to continue to provide increased monies to assist the project.

The current project is in the process of compiling area Problem Profiles across the region. It is hoped that these profiles will be ready to be shared with agencies in

October/November. These should provide for the first time, a detailed picture of CSE activity and areas of concern that will assist in developing services and prioritising deployment of resources.

#### Female Genital Mutilation:

Jenny Daly introduced this report. She highlighted the following sections from within it.

Scope of the group:

- Awareness raising for children, parents and the community
- Ensure skilled and competent workforce, and understand mandatory reporting requirements / pathways
- Robust needs analysis of local population at risk
- Developed performance and reporting mechanisms to provide assurance

A detailed action plan has been developed and is monitored at the task and finish group.

Summary of achievements

- Article to raise awareness of FGM included in:
  - BaNES Local Authority Council Connect magazine
  - Royal United Hospitals Bath NHS Foundation Trust In @RUH Bath magazine.
  - Requested to be added to CURO magazine.

Members of the group have liaised with professionals leading on FGM in Bristol, to discuss how they have raised the issue of FGM with the Muslim community and how they have worked with young people to get them to lead the ongoing campaign to end FGM practice. Engaging with the Muslim community in Bath and involving young people is a focus of the September 2016 meeting.

The Chair thanked all of the report authors on behalf of the Board.

## **9 SCHOOLS UPDATE – MANAGED MOVES AND EXCLUSIONS**

The Chair commented that he was happy with the report.

The Board **RESOLVED** to note the local arrangements and actions being taken to promote the uptake of managed moves and to increase capacity in Alternative Provision.

## **10 CDOP ANNUAL REPORT**

Dr Mary Gainsborough, Designated Doctor for Child Deaths addressed the Board. She stated that during the period 2011-2016, 581 child deaths were notified with 36 of these being within B&NES. She said that 11 deaths had yet to be investigated.

She explained that this year's annual report focus was on suicide and deliberate self-inflicted harm. This includes children who are known to have chosen to take

their own lives and children that died following risk-taking behaviour, whose intention remained unclear following a full investigation and Coroner's inquest.

In the period between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2016 CDOP reviewed the deaths of a small number (< 15) of children who were felt to fall into this category. In 84% of cases the method of death was hanging/strangulation.

She shared two case studies with the Board.

The Chair thanked her for the report and attending the meeting on behalf of the Board.

## 11 HOUSING & BENEFIT CHANGES

Sarah Seeger, Curo introduced this report to the Board. She said that B&NES is a pilot area for the roll out of Universal Credit (UC). As at 10/08/16 Curo have 378 households on Universal Credit in BANES.

She informed the Board of the following points of information:

- UC rolls all benefits bar Child Benefit into one single monthly payment – claimants will need to budget to make this last through the month.
- Most claimants will have a 35-42 day wait for their first UC payment. UC is paid monthly in arrears.
- UC is a digital benefit – all claims are made and managed on line.
- All UC claimants have to agree to a “claimant commitment” in order to receive their benefits.
- UC is paid into a bank account to one household member
- Managed payments are available for eligible claimants. This can include housing costs being paid to landlords, more frequent payments and split payments in cases of domestic or financial abuse. More frequent payments and split payments are rarely used.

Liz Spencer said that there were issues relating to this for people coming out of prison and not receiving benefits immediately. She added that people under the age of 35 should be placed in appropriate shared accommodation.

Duncan Stanway commented on the potential child safeguarding risks that this issue could create and asked if the Chair would consider making a representation on behalf of the Board.

The Chair replied that he would raise the matter at the next national meeting of LSCB Chairs. **(Action 315)**

Dami Howard to resend paper to all LSCB members and add to the links/resources on LSCB website **(Action 316)**

Bruce Laurence commented on whether the use of Food Banks was promoted enough.

Sarah Seeger replied that they do make people aware of this service. She added that in some cases it was possible for people to get an advance on their payments, but that this was not always a preferred option for claimants. She said that the effect of the 'Bedroom Tax' was also a factor to be considered.

Mike Bowden said that Ian Savigar (Divisional Director - Customer Services) would produce a briefing paper for staff regarding Universal Credit.

Lesley Hutchinson said that contingency plans were required given the potential for young people at risk.

## 12 CHILDREN OF PRISONERS UPDATE

Sally Churchyard introduced this report. She explained that until recently, this group of young people was largely unrecognised but is now receiving a lot of attention nationally through the Transforming Rehabilitation agenda and the Troubled Families programme. The Department for Education commissioned Barnardo's to undertake work in this area and the Safer Somerset Partnership funded development work in Somerset that was match-funded by Barnardo's to extend the provision across Avon and Somerset.

She said that a multi-agency fixed-life sub-group of the LSCB has worked to raise awareness of the impact of parental imprisonment on children and young people and find effective ways of offering support. She added that there remains much to do in this area, but the working group has concluded its focused piece of work and is confident that there is now a much greater awareness of the needs of this group of children in B&NES.

The Board **RESOLVED** that;

- i) Children affected by parental imprisonment to remain a priority group for the LSCB
- ii) Core safeguarding training to continue to highlight issues and skill staff up to work with this group of children and their families
- iii) It endorses the 'champion model' so that every agency has a key point of contact for colleagues
- iv) It notes that key areas of work, including information sharing, remain work in progress at a national and regional level and will be brought back to future meetings as necessary.

The Chair requested that this area of work be added to Key Priority 1 of the LSCB Business Plan. **(Action 317)**

### **13 ASC REPORT RE: PERFORMANCE IN RELATION TO HMI REPORT ‘MISSING CHILDREN; WHO CARES?’**

Richard Kelvey addressed the Board. He informed them that seven recommendations had been implemented following the publication of the HMI report. He added that there was a force wide Action Plan in place alongside a series of Information Management Plans.

He said that weekly meetings took place to discuss certain cases.

The Chair thanked him for the update on behalf of the Board.

### **14 CHAIR’S REPORT**

The Chair announced that Jackie Deas would be leaving B&NES. He wished to thank her for all her work within the Board and for the Council.

He said that Jenny Daly would replace Jackie in the role of Chair of the Children in Care and Quality Assurance (CICQA) Sub-Group.

Jackie Deas informed the Board that Mel Argles would cover her role for the next three months including that of the LADO.

He congratulated Ashley Ayre on his appointment to Interim Chief Executive and similarly to Mike Bowden on his appointment to the position of People & Communities Director.

He announced that Lesley Hutchinson had become part of the People & Communities Management Team and would also replace Mike Bowden as Chair of the Policy Procedure and Performance monitoring (PPPG).

He stated that a summit meeting regarding the Wood Report has been requested by the Police & Crime Commissioner.

He informed members that he would be attending meetings of the Health & Wellbeing Board to discuss the LSCB Annual Report Lesley Hutchinson and Dami Howard will present it to the Responsible Authorities Group.

### **15 CHILD PROTECTION CHAIR’S ANNUAL REPORT**

Jackie Deas introduced this report. She highlighted the following sections to the Board.

#### **Parental / Family participation in Child Protection Conferences**

This remains high at 90% of Conferences having one or both parents plus carers and often other family members in attendance. The focus on Parental participation is the central factor in safeguarding children and the family members need to have a central role in our Conferences and in planning what needs to change.

It is re-assuring to note that participation of both parents has been at 48%. Whilst 12% of fathers have attended the Conference alone, mothers continue to represent the majority of parents who will come to conference unaccompanied and more likely as the sole carer of the children. It is understandable that parents will not always be able to attend a conference and when they do it aids better working relationships to ensure the safety of children and young people.

### **The Sharing of the Social Workers' Reports for Child Protection Conferences**

The sharing of the Social Workers' Reports for CP Conferences is a key priority and it is important that parents and carers have sight of the draft reports at least two working days before the Conference. The required standard in B&NES is that all the reports should be shared with family members, their comments about the report and the proposed plan noted and included in the report. The report is then authorised by the supervising Manager, together with their comments being included, and this must happen at least 48 hours in advance of the Conference.

### **Young People's use of Advocacy**

Advocacy accepted: 59%

Advocacy declined: 24%

Advocacy refused: 17%

Children and young people have raised with advocates that they would like a child friendly CP Plan – or plans with more child friendly outcomes- and this is as an area that the CPCs will work on with the Social Workers during the next twelve months.

### **Parental Domestic Abuse**

A history of drug use involving one or other parent or carer is a factor in 44% of ICPCs, compared to the previous year's figure of 31%. This is the highest this figure has been in the last eight years. The increase will be shared with Council Commissioning colleagues to ascertain whether they have seen the same increase in drug services.

The Board **RESOLVED** to approve the Chairs' action plan for 2016-17.

## **16 GODDARD INQUIRY**

This agenda item was deferred.

## 17 EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT VISITS – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Dami Howard introduced this report. She explained that the report would be shared at the education Child Protection Forums on 3rd October and to the Strategic Heads and Governors meetings to discuss recommendations and actions. She added that all schools that identified 'red' on their action plans in March 2016 will then be emailed in September for updates as agreed by the LSCB.

The Board **RESOLVED** to note the content of the report and agree the following:

- i) Approve the Report's recommendations and proposed action to ensure it is discussed and responsibilities to monitor allocated at the LSCB Sub Group Chairs meeting in October. **(Action 318)**
- ii) Recommend that this second process is repeated with a further random sample following the S175 safeguarding audit for 2016-17, subject to any amendments required by the LSCB. **(Action 319)**

### ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Dami Howard asked if members had any report proposals for December 2016 / March 2017.

Lesley Hutchinson suggested the Board could receive reports on Participation and Advocacy.

Jackie Deas informed the Board that there was now a National LADO network.

Dami Howard said that she would be sending electronic calendar invites to Board members regarding future meeting dates.

Richard Baldwin said that the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub was due to go live on 25<sup>th</sup> September.

The meeting ended at 5.15pm.

The next meeting of the Board will take place on **Tuesday 6th December 2016 at 2.00pm in the Community Space, One Stop Shop, Keynsham. BS31 1FS.**

Chair (person).....

Date Confirmed and Signed.....

**Prepared by Democratic Services**