

BRIGHTON & HOVE LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD



Monday 10 September 2018

1.30pm-4.30pm

The Great Hall, Moulsecoomb North Hub

1. Welcome and Introductions

- 1.1 Chris Robson welcomed the group to the meeting and introductions were made.
- 1.2 Chris Robson reminded all members to declare any conflicts of interest should they arise.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

- 2.1 The Minutes of the last LSCB meeting from June 2018 were agreed for accuracy.



3. Update on Actions

- 3.1.1 The LSCB considered the circulated update on matters arising from the last LSCB meeting.
- 3.2 December 2017 (10.10) sharing information captured by schools on racist and racially motivated bullying with One Voice. Pinaki Ghoshal updated that One Voice has not met. He advised the LA are having a discussion about how this information is captured as it is no longer a statutory requirement and some schools are not holding this information. He advised the Safe and Well at School Survey captures this information more reliably.



Action: Forward Plan survey results to Monitoring & Evaluation in February 2019. COMPLETED.

- 3.2 15 March 2018 (6.20) The Op Encompass Working Group were asked to meet on final time to look at how they will evaluate the success of Operation Encompass before bringing this into effect in Brighton & Hove. They suggested this work be undertaken by Monitoring & Evaluation who felt the work needed to be undertaken by the Working Group as they were not involved in project set up. Sussex Police will chair further meetings and Tina James, Quality Assurance Programme Manager, will support, on behalf of the LSCB, the group with evaluating the impact of the project once it has gone live. Go live date is looking like January 2019.
- 3.4 15 March 2018 (10.5) (Peer on Peer Abuse) There is currently no easy way to capture this information. A text search searching for the term 'sexually harmful behaviours' or 'harmful sexual behaviours' has been run which returned 306 documents on 156 people going back to 2009. A breakdown by age, gender and ethnicity can be run, however this may be misleading as the child may be the victim of sexually harmful behaviour (peer on peer) or it could relate to a connected adult. The John SCR published in 2014 by West Sussex LSCB looked at some significant peer on peer abuse, and there is a complex case in West Sussex that involves some children from Brighton & Hove. East Sussex are currently doing an IMR on a school where there have been a number of incidences. Monitoring & Evaluation agreed to look in more depth at recognition and response to peer on peer abuse. Anna Gianfrancesco has requested an amendment to the Strat discussion record by Performance. This should support capturing this information. The record will capture whether the strat discussion is considering CSA and whether the SARC pathway has been followed. It could also ask a question whether this is Peer on Peer Abuse. A sample report will be run and provided to Monitoring & Evaluation. The group will consider information provided by the Child Sexual Abuse Referral Centre at its November Meeting. This will include referral data, referral outcomes data (preferable), converted into attendance (Number where it is suggested at the Strat that it is recommended to come, but don't get bought) of peer on peer cases seen in the SARC. This will be a snapshot over three months. More detailed demographic profiling will follow. Anna Gianfrancesco advised that this activity may lead to a joint audit between Children's Services and SARC/ may be a future thematic for Children's Services.
- 3.5 15 March 2018 (12.1) (Refresh of Domestic & Sexual Violence & Abuse Strategy) Jo Player advised that Lindsay Adams has taken over the Joint Strategic Commissioner, Safer Communities - Joint Domestic, Sexual

Violence & Abuse and Violence against Women & Girls (VAWG) Unit Brighton & Hove and East Sussex. She advised that the current infrastructure of Domestic Violence services in the City is under review with a report going to the Neighbourhoods, Inclusion, Communities & Equalities Committee shortly. The Domestic & Sexual Violence & Abuse Strategy will be re-drafted. The timeframe provided was March 2019.

- 3.6 11 June 2018 (4.9) Chris Robson will write individually to the members of the Exploitation Strategic Subcommittee to explain the importance of having the correct people at these meetings. This group is now likely to be disbanded, with discussion to follow between now and our next meeting in December 2018.
- 3.7 11 June 2018 (10.10) This is now complete. The Participation & Engagement Strategy has been reviewed and published. Further work on the strategy will need to take into account the move to the new safeguarding partnership who are yet to determine arrangements.
- 3.8 11 June 2018 (11.9) (Management Information Report) Debi Fillery, Anna Gianfrancesco and Daryl Perilli have not yet met to discuss how to better evidence the number of children who present at A&E due to self-harm or substance misuse. **Action: Update to be provided at December's meeting under matters arising.**
- 3.9 11 June 2018 (11.13) (Management Information Report) Daryl Perilli will add some comparative figures to the safeguarding snapshot to give more context. This will be tabled at December's meeting.
- 3.10 11 June 2018 (13.12) Sussex Police will submit a report to outline how the Strategy & Compliance team quality assure the work of the force, and what this tells us about Safeguarding practice. This has been forward planned for the attention of Monitoring & Evaluation in November 2018.

4. Update from Leadership

- 4.1 The Leadership Group¹ last met on 30 July 2018 and this was the second joint meeting with the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB).



GDPR

- 4.2 The introduction of the General Data Protection Regulation in May 2018 has caused some problems for the safeguarding boards, primarily the SAB's quality assurance activity, but may also cause some issues for the LSCB. The issue is that different organisations are getting different advice from their legal teams about sharing information from their records with the boards for quality assurance activity. This hasn't come up as an issue in serious case or safeguarding adults review as yet. Legal services in Brighton & Hove City Council advise that the safeguarding boards have a legal basis to request information in order for them to fulfil their statutory duties. Mia Brown advised that going forward the Safeguarding Partners will need to develop an information sharing agreement and they will need to establish who will be the data controller and can opt for joint control or for control in common. Mia Brown asked partners to share any concerns they may have about sharing information for LSCB multi-agency audits ahead of time so we can avoid delays where possible.

Safeguarding Sussex Week

- 4.3 Jo Tomlinson advised the Leadership Group about the plans for Safeguarding Sussex Week. The LSCB in partnership with colleagues from the Safeguarding Adult Board and Safe in the City, are running a number of training events aimed at supporting staff to protect children and young people and adults with care and support needs. The week long series of events begins on Monday 26th November 2018 with a Pan Sussex LSCB Conference. Other events include; Practical Tools for Trauma Informed Working, Children & Young People Who Display Harmful Sexual Behaviours, Mental Health & Children's Services: Working Together with Families, "Hard to Handle" (Coping with Crying Babies), Introduction to Dual Diagnosis, Transition from CAMHS to Adult Services and Professional difference and challenge "to question or not". Details are on the LSCB Website - <https://www.brightonandhovelscb.org.uk>

Section 11

- 4.4 Plans for the Section 11 event were finalised. Booked for 17 and 24 September.

¹ This group consists of the chairs of the LSCB Subcommittees and helps us co-ordinate the ongoing work to meet Business Plan objectives.

Newcastle CSE SCR

- 4.5 The Chairs of the Safeguarding Boards, the Business Manager, and the Chairs of the Exploitation Subcommittee met to discuss the Newcastle CSE SCR / SAR and whether there is any need to give local consideration to the 15 recommendations made to Newcastle's safeguarding Boards. It was agreed there was a lot to be curious about in the Newcastle review, particularly around missing vulnerable adults, children missing education and questions about Fraser Competency. Mia Brown has devised a local action plan in response to the review and it was agreed that the LSCB Tactical Exploitation Group will hold oversight of progress.

Trauma Review

- 4.6 The Leadership Group discussed how to take forward the psychological trauma service review. A scoping meeting will be called in October 2018.



5. Feedback from meeting with Safeguarding Partners & Working Together 2018 Publication



- 5.1 Chris Robson feedback from a meeting earlier in the day with the safeguarding partners; Brighton & Hove City Council, Sussex Police and Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group. He reminded the group that under the new legislation (Children and Social Work Act 2017) the Local Safeguarding Children Boards are to be replaced with new arrangements. Four models of delivery were presented to the group. The discussions were extremely productive and a preference was expressed for the new safeguarding arrangements to cover Brighton & Hove only, with opportunities for joint working across Sussex maximised wherever possible. It was agreed that the current LSCB is working well and while we are clear we want to utilise the opportunities offered in the Working Together 2018 to improve how we work, there is a general feeling that to dismantle the Brighton & Hove LSCB would be counter-productive.
- 5.2 Chris advised that he will be meeting with the Department for Education on 18th October to seek central government guidance on the 'next steps' for transition into the new arrangements. We will continue to meet to shape the new arrangements and our next meeting will be in November.
- 5.3 Mia Brown reminded everyone that the current LSCB and associated policies and procedures remain in place until such time as the new arrangements come into force.
- 5.4 Chris Robson advised that the other Sussex Safeguarding Children Boards are having similar conversations.

6. Agency Safeguarding Updates – Persistently Absent from School

- 6.1 Jo Lyons provided an update on the number of children persistently absent from school. This is an issue that has been of increasing concern to the LSCB. She advised of a national and local rise in numbers. Locally, primary school attendance is good, but issues remain with persistent absence from secondary schools.
- 6.2 Pinaki Ghoshal updated the group on the new LA campaign on attendance. There are posters around the city and a strong social media approach. A letter will be sent to every parent which highlights importance of attending school and advises that if they come across a child who isn't at school, to notify the LA.
- 6.3 A briefing has been sent to all Headteachers/Principals outlining the potential risk to children and young people who are not in receipt of full time education. Pinaki Ghoshal advised a strategy and new reporting process has been drafted. He advised a further briefing on Hidden Children and Reduced Timetables is due to be circulated which stresses the purpose of having a coordinated approach to identifying and supporting hidden children. The aim is to improve attendance and reduce exclusions.
- 6.4 Ruth King echoed concerns about the increased vulnerability of children missing education.
- 6.5 Jo Lyons advised that Ofsted are really challenging schools on their response to this safeguarding issue.
- 6.6 Anna Gianfrancesco discussed the increased vulnerability to county lines exploitation of these children.



- 6.7 Chris Robson asked what further support the LSCB might be able to offer.
Action: Jo Lyons will share material of ‘miss school, miss out’ for partners to share across their agencies. The LSCB will draft communications about this also.
- 6.8 Mia Brown and Anna Gianfrancesco updated the group on discussions held within Monitoring & Evaluation on 6 September 2018 about children missing from education. The Board requested Monitoring & Evaluation to explore the reasons behind the rise, following information presented to the Board in Q3 2017/18. We looked at information from Qs1-3. There was a clear spike in Q3, of both open cases in the city and for those children who have moved to other authorities. The new chair of Monitoring & Evaluation was reassured that the LA know which of those children were open to CSC (including those living in another area). There were 19 pupils raised at the 2 Child Missing Education Panels held in the period who had current attendance of less than 30%. There are 64 pupils in the city who fall into this criterion. Monitoring & Evaluation were advised that recording and monitoring of CME cases will improve following the development of the Carefirst reporting tool, which will ensure that all CME cases are recorded and monitored within Carefirst. This add-on is currently being developed and could be live by end September 2018.
- 6.9 The Management Information Report for December’s Board will include detail on how many children are subject to a CPP/ LAC/ coming to the attention of the AVRМ and who are missing education. This will be further broken down by vulnerability.
- 6.10 Mia Brown also advised that Monitoring & Evaluation had also noted the numbers of children being home educated is rising both locally and nationally and the group questioned how partners can be assured they are being appropriately safeguarded. Gavin Thomas advised that once a year the team contact parents/carers of children who are EOTAS, this is above what most LA’s do. There is a bill currently going through parliament – at commons level – looking to make arrangements more robust, although proposed changes regarding monitoring are quite conservative.
- 6.11 Anna Gianfrancesco said that as chair of the Child Protection Liaison Group she was planning to take discussion on this subject there. Mia Brown advised that Dave Hunt, LSCB Learning & Development Officer, has been kept abreast of discussions to ensure the LSCB training offer on Hidden Children is reviewed and promoted following these discussions. A practice reminder will also be sent round to front line staff from the LSCB.

7. Exploitation Update (for scrutiny) VVE Strategy & Action Plan



- 7.1 Jo Player updated the group on the development of the VVE Strategy and its action plan. She said the strategy’s aim is to reduce the harm caused by organised crime activity in the city in relation to drug dealing, drug use and child criminal exploitation. The strategy sits under the Community Safety Partnership. The strategy aims to achieve:
- Preventing vulnerable people from becoming involved with drug gangs
 - Safeguard vulnerable people who are being exploited
 - Provide a safe, supportive pathway to enable vulnerable people to exit involvement with drug gangs
 - A decrease in drug gang related activity in the city
- 7.2 Chris Robson expressed concern that there is still some uncertainty about where the wider exploitation agenda sits, e.g Modern Slavery, Sexual Exploitation and wider criminal exploitation. He reminded the group of the two Exploitation groups operating under the LSCB – the Strategic and the Operational groups. He advised the Strategic group had not met, due to concerns from attendees about duplication of efforts with other strategic boards in the city. The Tactical group has been meeting and has been looking at themes coming from the LA and Police jointly chaired Adolescent Vulnerability and Risk Meeting.
- 7.3 Jo Player advised that there is an action plan from the recent Locality Review that looked at VVE (as it relates to county lines).

- 7.4 Chris Robson asked the group to consider the benefits of having one exploitation strategy, that encompasses all forms of exploitation, not just county lines. Anna Gianfrancesco said this would be the preferred approach. She advised of work she was undertaking around children and modern slavery and how there is a move to using modern slavery law to address elements of exploitation. Brighton Police have Home Office funding for a Serious Organised Crime Officer, who will work with the VVE group and support enforcement work.
- 7.5 Deb Austin expressed concern that the group was in danger of making the issue more complicated than needed. She said that all partners have matured in their understanding of exploitation and that now was the right now to develop a city wide exploitation strategy, incorporating adults and children, with subheadings for each form of exploitation.
- 7.6 The group agreed that this strategy would be better placed under the auspices of the Safe in the City Partnership Board as exploitation is a city-wide concern, whilst it is a serious safeguarding risk, there are also city wide implications.
- 7.7 Mia Brown will convene a meeting with relevant partners to take these conversations forward. **Action: For update at December Board.**

8. LSCB Annual Report 2017-18

- 8.1 Mia Brown presented the LSCB Annual report. This runs from 31 March 2017- 1 April 2018. It takes the format of previous versions. It reflects on progress against the priority areas of business.



Priority Area 1: Neglect and Emotional Harm

Achievements

- Evidence that learning from previous multi-agency neglect audit and learning review is embedded in practice.
- Creation of Multi-Agency Child Neglect Consultation Group

Challenges

- Development of a multi-agency assessment tool to support practitioners in neglect cases has not been achieved.
- Roll out of Operation Encompass

Priority Area 2: Sexual Harm and Violence towards Children

Achievements

- Reviewed the effectiveness of LSCB to remain alert to emerging risks and issues
- Partners evidenced a focus on supporting victims as well as acting to find and stop would be perpetrators
- LSCB influenced to ensure that strategic and operational responses to sexual harm and violence informed by voices of children.

Challenges

- New and emerging threat for the partnership
- More work is needed to understand missing patterns and learn how to reduce repeat episodes in a child focused way.

Priority Area 3: Early Help, Pathways, Thresholds and Assessments

Achievements

- Continued with our commitment to early help.

- Clarified the thresholds for early help
- Agreed a strategy for how agencies can work together to better support the needs of the whole family.

Challenges

- Too early to audit to seek assurance about positive and lasting outcomes for children and families.

Priority Area 4: Governance, Quality Assurance & LSCB Scrutiny

Achievements

- Quality assurance activity is robust - helped us truly understand how effective safeguarding services are in the city.

Challenges

- Need to ensure that all agencies are listening to the voices of children, young people and their families, and are achieving a positive impact on children's lives as a result of their own quality assurance processes
- Management information from key safeguarding agencies still needs to be embedded

Priority Area 5: Participation & Engagement

Achievements

- Continued our commitment to sharing learning from all LSCB activity
- Good outward facing communications for professionals

Challenges

- Struggled to get engagement from children and young people to develop safeguarding messages on behalf of the Board.
- Not able to run the city - wide campaign highlighting the risks of all forms of exploitation and on-line grooming of children that we had planned this year.

8.2 Board members to read draft Annual Report for virtual agreement by **Monday 1st October**.

9. LSCB Messaging by Right Here

9.1 Forward planned for December 2018 meeting.

10. Any Other Business

Ofsted Inspection

10.1 Pinaki Ghoshal updated that children's social care services have been judged 'good' following a three-week inspection by Ofsted in July. The inspection showed that children's services are headed in the right direction.

10.2 The inspection found;

- The senior leadership team, supported by strong cross-party political and corporate support, has worked effectively to improve services
- Social workers' morale is high
- The service provide a joined-up response to the needs of vulnerable children and families
- Children in need of early help and children in need of protection receive prompt and appropriate help
- Social workers are tenacious in seeking to build meaningful relationships with children
- They and their managers are aspirational for the children in their care and demonstrate a strong focus on improving their experiences and outcomes
- Young people have good access to a range of housing and living options.



- 10.3 The recommendations made have already been identified as areas for improvement, particularly around information recording.
- 10.4 The Children Disability and the Adolescent services were shown to be highly functioning services with some recommendations to follow up on.
- 10.5 The inspectors complimented the good partnership working in the city. Pinaki Ghoshal said the next journey is to get to outstanding.

BUSH

- 10.6 Debi Fillery said the CQC will be re-vising the hospital in a couple of months and committed to bringing back progress on the Trust's improvement plan to a future Board meeting.

National Child Protection inspection - Sussex Police

- 10.7 Pierre Serra advised that between 25 June and 6 July 2018 Sussex Police were inspected by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire and Rescue Services.

- 10.8 Early findings from hot de-brief;

- Complimentary on quality and strength of leadership
- The force engages well with partners from across the local authorities, specifically in the referral and assessment process within the MASHs
- Inconsistent approach to missing children
- High number of vacancies
- Inconsistent recording leading to inadequate assessment of need
- Busy increase in demand, inability to fulfil detective roles
- Learning around detention of children

- 10.9 Chris Robson said he would like to hear about findings and progress at the December Board meeting.

Brexit

- 10.9 Vera Jakimovska, Lay Member, asked the group what the implications of Brexit may have on local safeguarding arrangements, e.g staffing.
- 10.10 Pinaki Ghoshal advised that the LA looking have been looking at the recruitment and retention of staff, particularly care staff, as the LA are quite dependent on people from the EU staffing residential homes. He could not think of any specific issues around safeguarding.
- 10.11 Pierre Serra discussed implications around DBS checking and cross boarder sharing of information.
- 10.12 The group considered the effect that conversations about Brexit may be having on children from our European community.

Next Meeting: Monday 10 December 2018, 1.30-4.30pm, The Great Hall, Moulsecoomb North Hub,