

**BRIGHTON & HOVE LOCAL SAFEGUARDING  
CHILDREN BOARD**

**Tuesday 12 September 2017. 1pm-3.30pm  
The Great Hall, Moulsecomb North Hub**

**Attendees**

Graham Bartlett	LSCB Independent Chair (Chair)
Allison Cannon	Director of Clinical Quality & Primary Care, Brighton & Hove CCG
Caroline Davies	Deputy Chief Nurse, BSUH
Chris Robson	LSCB Independent Chair
Christine Lewis	LSCB Lay Member
Claire-Louise Mackay	LSCB Senior Administrator (Minutes)
Dan Chapman (Cllr)	Lead Member, Children's Services, Brighton & Hove City Council
Darrel Clews	Local Authority Designated Officer, Brighton & Hove City Council
Daryl Perilli	Performance Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council
Debi Fillery	Named Nurse, BSUH
Elizabeth Cody	Brighton College
Helen Gulvin	Assistant Director Children's Services: Safeguarding & Care
Jayne Bruce	Deputy Director of Nursing Standards and Safety, SPFT
Jess Summer	CEO, Community Works
Jo-Anne Welsh	Chair, Violence against Women & Girls Forum
Jo Lyons	Assistant Director Children's Services: Education & Inclusion
Lance Freeborn	Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
Mark Burden	National Probation Service
Mark Melling	Named Nurse, SPFT
Mia Brown	LSCB Business Manager
Nigel Nash	Service Manager, CAF/CASS
Peter Wilkinson (Dr)	Acting Director of Public Health
Peter Wileman	Community Safety Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council
Pinaki Ghoshal	Executive Director of Children's Services, Brighton & Hove City Council
Rich Bates	Detective Chief Inspector, Sussex Police
Ruth King	Blatchington Mill School
Tom Stibbs	Principal Social Worker, Brighton & Hove City Council
Tracy John	Head of Housing, Brighton & Hove City Council
Yvette Queffurus	Named Nurse, Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

**Apologies Received**

Anna Gianfrancesco	Service Manager, YOS
Andrea Saunders	Director of Public Protection, National Probation Service
David Feakes	Head of Safeguarding, Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust
David Kemp	Head of Community Safety, ESFRS
Deb Austin	Head of Safeguarding, Brighton & Hove City Council
Debbie Piggott	Head of Service for Assessment, Rehabilitation and IOM, KSS CRC

Diane Hull	Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Domenica Basini	NHS England
Jo Tomlinson	Designated Nurse, Brighton & Hove CCG
Jamie Carter (Dr)	Designated Doctor for Child Protection, Brighton & Hove CCG
Jason Tingley	Sussex Police Lead
Kerry Clarke	Public Health Strategic Commissioner Children's Services, BHCC
Mary Flynn (Dr)	Named Doctor, Brighton & Hove CCG
Natasha Watson	Managing Principal Lawyer, Brighton & Hove City Council
Nicola Ranger	Chief Nurse, BSUH
Peter Castleton	Head of Community Safety, Brighton & Hove City Council
Rebecca Conroy	Greater Brighton Metropolitan College
Richard Chamberlin	Roedean School
Terri Fletcher	Director, Safety Net. Community & Voluntary Sector Representative
Tracy Bowers	Hertford Infant School

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

- 1.1 Graham Bartlett welcomed the group, and introductions were made. Allison Cannon was greeted as the new lead for the Clinical Commissioning Group
- 1.2 This will be Graham Bartlett's last meeting as chair. Chris Robson will be taking over this role from the start of November. Chris was welcomed to the meeting as an observer. Chris comes from the Metropolitan Police where and has a wealth of experience in safeguarding.
- 1.3 This will also be Helen Gulvin's last meeting as she is retiring from the post of Assistant Director of Children's Services, and Graham Bartlett took the opportunity to thank her for her commitment to the Board.
- 1.4 Graham Bartlett 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 on 7 June 2017 were agreed for accuracy.

## 3. Matters Arising

- 3.1 The LSCB considered the circulated update on matters arising from the last LSCB meeting on 7 June 2017.
- 3.2 (Early Help Group) School representation on the Early Help Group has been discussed and it was agreed that the current arrangements are sufficient.
- 3.3 (LSCB Neglect Strategy) This has been circulated to the Community & Voluntary sector and is still out for comment. It will be circulated for consideration by the Safeguarding Adults Board. The Participation & Engagement Subcommittee discussed how this can be promoted in organisations at their August meeting.
- 3.4 The Training Need Analysis has been amended as requested.

## 4. Update from Leadership

- 4.1 The Leadership Group<sup>1</sup> last met on 9 August 2017 and the minutes have been circulated to the Board.

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

- 4.2 The Leadership Group heard that Mia Brown has spoken to Diane Hull, Executive Director of Nursing and Quality, at Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust about the need to improve the trust's attendance at our subcommittees. This will be further explored later in the agenda when we hear about their internal review of safeguarding.
- 4.3 The Learning & Development Subcommittee are progressing work on this year's Learning Together to Safeguard Sussex week which will bring together the LSCBs and SABs from across the county with Community Safety Partnerships to promote safeguarding and hold a wide range of learning events. The week will run from 27 November – 1 December 2017, and will open with a Neglect Conference with a range of external speakers.
- 4.4 The Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee reported that their next multi-agency audit is underway on Children with Disabilities, and Deb Austin will chair a moderation event to bring together partner's audits at the end of this month. The second audit planned for 2017-18 will be on familial CSA to tie into the next JTAI theme.
- 4.5 The Health & Wellbeing Board have made a recommendation to the LSCB and the SAB that a joint audit should be undertaken to look at how we support families where parents have a learning disability. Graham Bartlett agreed to this approach. **Action: Both the LSCB Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee and the SAB Q&A Subgroup will consider how to move forward.**
- 4.6 The Leadership Group had a lengthy discussion around the CSA/CSE Prevent, Protect and Early Identification Subcommittee and the Vulnerable Children & CSE Strategic Group, and how the LSCB's oversight and accountability of exploitation will be affected by the formation of the Adolescent Board. It was agreed that the remit of these groups needs to be looked at to avoid duplication or confusion. Mia Brown will draft Terms of Reference and a proposal for a way forward be presented for approval at the December Board meeting.

## 5. Learning from relationships: an evaluation of relationship-based practice in Brighton & Hove

- 5.1 Tom Stibbs, Principal Social Worker for Brighton & Hove City Council, was welcomed to the meeting to present "Empathy, Tenacity and Compassion": An evaluation of relationship-based practice in Brighton & Hove". The new model of relationship based practice was introduced across Children's Social Work Services in October 2015 after having listened to staff, families and partner agencies. This was a whole system change, including:
- A new vision of social work for Brighton & Hove – based on social workers building relationships with families and using those relationships to affect change;
  - Service redesign – the 'Team Around the Relationship', social work teams redesigned as pods that work collaboratively and provide continuity for families;
  - Supervision model – group supervision and Reflective Practice Groups introduced across the system as well as relationship-based management;
  - Recording system – 'One Story' to avoid duplication and provide clarity for families and practitioners.
- 5.2 The ongoing evaluation has shown that the Team Around the Relationship provides the potential to make a difference for children and families. The key messages so far are that, in general:
- Families have a better experience of social work
  - Social workers feel more supported and more able to make a difference for families
  - Relationship based practice seems to be support safe and stable family lives for children
  - The model of practice seems to have decreased demand for high level social work interventions.
- 5.3 The Family Children & Learning Directorate will keep developing the new model, and include the learning from the evaluation so far. One of the recommendations was that they needed to include, and learn from, more robust feedback from partners and other agencies, so Tom Stibbs encouraged the Board to think about whether they could be included in the evaluation of relationship-based social work going forward, and to offer them the opportunity to provide feedback.
- 5.4 Yvette Queffurus said that she has seen a lot of strengths in the model of relationship based practice, but gave feedback that the premise of knowledge being shared across a pod is not working in all cases, so when the primary worker is absent the other social workers & manager are not able to assist. Tom Stibbs agreed that there is an intention that there would be more collaborative working in the teams, and that the smaller pods should allow for managers to have oversight of all cases. Helen Gulvin said that she has heard evidence of where this is working well, but would welcome feedback when this is not the case.

Yvette Queffurus gave assurance that she does talk to the pod manager or head of service when instances are brought to her attention, and will also raise cases for discussion at the Child Protection Liaison Group.

- 5.5 Jo Lyons said that two years ago, before the change in practice, she would often receive calls from schools to raise issues with poor communication from Social Workers, but this is no longer the case. She feels that this may be credited to a more open culture in Social Work. Elizabeth Cody praised work undertaken by B&H social work. Ruth King said that at Blatchington Mill their relationship with social work is predominantly good, with the occasional friction around perceived best outcomes.
- 5.6 Debi Fillery said that the hospital find it preferable to work with the teams in Brighton & Hove because of the pod structure, and that they find other authorities who change social worker at the time of the conference very confusing to work with.
- 5.7 Pinaki Ghoshal said that another positive outcome from the new model is that, as of this month, there has been no agency social worker use. This will make a much bigger difference in terms of continuity and consistency. Graham Bartlett said that there is a recurring theme in national Serious Case Reviews of inconsistency in workers, and it is good to see that children in Brighton & Hove will have this continuity throughout their journey.
- 5.8 Helen Gulvin said that a main aim of this change was to achieve better outcomes for our children, and that they are starting to see less children going into care. The pods own their own workload, and there is a sense of healthy competition between the different teams around performance.
- 5.9 Jo Lyons said that some of the City's schools are now working in geographical clusters and that they would be welcome to go to the clusters to gather feedback. She suggested that this could be done in tandem with the work with partners on the review of the Early Help Structure.
- 5.10 Richard Bates had no negative feedback to give from Sussex Police. The majority of their contact with social work takes place in the MASH, which is now mature. The recent review of the MASH said that there should be more continuity of police representation, which they have now achieved, to build better relationships. There are some issues out of hours with the Emergency Duty Service, which is not part of the model, and the Board heard that the EDS have been invited to CPLG tomorrow to discuss some of the recent difficulties.
- 5.11 Peter Wilkinson suggested that the data in the report should go further back in time to give a bigger picture, and compare to national data where applicable.
- 5.12 The board were encouraged to email Tom Stibbs with any further feedback to [Tom.Stibbs@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:Tom.Stibbs@brighton-hove.gcsx.gov.uk)

## **6. Sussex Partnership Safeguarding Report**

- 6.1 Jayne Bruce presented the overview report from their internal review of safeguarding adults and children. It looks at a "snapshot" over three months to clarify and better understand the form and function of service provision for safeguarding within the trust.
- 6.2 The key changes that have been put in place following the review are to introduce an integrated safeguarding approach:
- £200,000 has been invested to allow for four whole time post equivalents. This will allocate an additional 150 hours per week for safeguarding, with 37 hours for a Safeguarding Adults Advisor, and the remainder on Children's posts across the county.
  - A centrally located single point of contact will be established for all internal and external communications, systems and processes. This will be in place by the end of November, and partners will be invited to meet with the new team.
  - This team will consist of Safeguarding Lead Nurse, Deputy Named Nurses, Safeguarding Adults Advisor and a Business Manager.
  - They will provide enhanced support to the named Doctors role with improved continuity to manage ongoing referrals

## 7. Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report 2016-17

- 7.1 Darrel Clews was welcomed to the meeting to present the LADO<sup>2</sup> Annual Report for 2016-17. He said that he had seen an increase in activity in the last year, with a particular spike in work in quarter 4 which was replicated throughout the South East following more disclosures after the high profile allegations of abuse in sport.
- 7.2 Last year saw a significant decrease in allegations against local authority foster carers. The LADO continues to be consulted about Standard of Care and complaints raised and there is no indication that this decrease raises any specific issues with reporting.
- 7.3 In the past year the LADO has started to raise the profile within the voluntary sector, and the trend in the steady decline of referrals regarding this sector over the past few years appears to have halted. The LADO considers the percentage still to be disproportionate given it is such a large employment sector, so this work is ongoing.
- 7.4 The LADO has been building a closer working relationship with the Hackney Carriage Service over the past few year, and this now appears to be coming to fruition with a rise in referrals regarding transport. The LADO has appeared in court as a witness for the Hackney Carriage Service when they have been refusing or revoking taxi licences due to safeguarding concerns.
- 7.5 The most significant increase in referrals has been within non-Local Authority residential homes following a children's home being deemed Inadequate by Ofsted in July 2016 (report published Sept 2017). The number of referrals from this unit immediately increased following the Ofsted inspection. Referrals to the Front Door for Families (FDFF) also increased during this period.
- 7.6 There were 40 Police investigations, and 12 Child Protection (S47) investigations following allegations in 2016-17. It is worth noting that the percentage of police investigations is significantly higher as the referrals may be about suitability, and the employee has no family/children; or there may be no named child warranting a Strategy Discussion for example in cases involving internet sharing of Indecent Images of Children.
- 7.8 Last year the LADO raised concern over the timescales for police investigations, and whether this was potentially due to the implementation of the Brighton Safeguarding Investigations Unit. This year the evidence reassuringly shows that only 20% of police cases have taken a year or more to complete with 70% being completed up to 3 months.
- 7.9 Very few of the referrals to the LADO transpired to being False or Malicious allegations, giving assurance that the contacts are appropriate.
- 7.10 There was an increase in referrals to the DBS following concerns about an individual's suitability or private life, including potential Host Families for language schools who have had had their own children removed. Language Schools are not regulated but representatives of many of the local language schools have developed a safeguarding forum which, whilst in its infancy, is invaluable in raising issues of safeguarding, practice and standards amongst it's members.
- 7.11 The national LADO network have drafted a set of standards of practice, aimed at ensuring parity between LADOs. Once these national expectation and guidelines have been ratified the will be brought to the LSCB to consider local implications.
- 7.12 Jess Summer asked what strategies had worked in raising awareness with the community & voluntary sector. Darrel Clews said that he has found taking the time to go out and meet organisations and explain his role more effective than communicating through newsletters etc. **Action: Jess Summer will check that the role of the LADO is referenced adequately in the suite of policies that Community Works provide.** Darrel Clews said that some organisations do contact him to check when they are updating their policies.

## 8. LSCB Management Information Report

- 8.1 Daryl Perilli was welcomed to the meeting to present the Management Information Report for the first quarter of 2017-18. The finer details of this have been analysed by the Monitoring & Evaluation

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<sup>2</sup> The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), has overall responsibility for the management of allegations of Abuse against Adults who work with Children. The LADO provides advice and guidance, liaises with the Police, Social Care Teams, regulatory bodies such as Ofsted and other organisations as needed and ensures a consistent, fair and thorough process for both child and adult. Read more about our LADO at [http://brightonandhove.lscb.org.uk/professionals/prof\\_lado/](http://brightonandhove.lscb.org.uk/professionals/prof_lado/)

Subcommittee who did not find a particular area of concern that they felt needed a more thorough investigation this quarter.

- 8.2 In the city and safeguarding snapshots, and Pinaki Ghoshal questioned the number of children classed as persistent absentees at the end of Spring Term 2017. He asked for clarity on whether this was a percentage those children recorded as absent rather than the whole schools population as this seemed misleading. **Action: Daryl Perilli to clarify the data on children missing from education.**
- 8.3 Daryl Perilli explained that the RAG ratings (red, amber, green) used on the dashboard are those in place in the Families, Children & Learning Directorate using their internal rationale against their targets. He then talked through the data on the previously circulated report.
- 8.4 Allison Cannon asked for the reason for the improvement in the number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) taking place within 15 working days. Helen Gulvin explained that they were having some internal staffing difficulties but these have now been rectified.
- 8.5 Pinaki Ghoshal explained that the children subject of a child protection plan is graded as red because it is in context with our statistical neighbours which is around 263. However if this figure fell by 100 we would be very worried as such a reduction would take a long time, so this indicator is likely to always be red. Helen Gulvin explained that they undertake a lot of quality assurance activity and are confident that the thresholds are correct and that these children need to be supported on plans.
- 8.6 Police data on CSE has been included on this dashboard for the first time, although unfortunately it was not submitted in time for some commentary to be included. Graham Bartlett said that this is a good start but we need to look at more information from sources that are not children's social care.
- 8.7 Richard Bates explained that the offences related to CSE are recorded on the system as a range of crimes, and they have to rely on this being flagged when analysing the data so there is room for human error. He suggested that more local information from the Op Kite meetings may be more meaningful to the Board. This will show us the fluctuations in the level of risk and better demonstrate the effects of the work to protect children. The Op Kite format is evolving to cover more broad forms of exploitation, including the Op Rattle work on County Lines and drugs, so this would provide us with an overview of multiple risks.
- 8.8 Pinaki Ghoshal asked if the 2016-17 data on Serious Sexual Offences is missing because comparative information was not available or because the number was zero. **Action: Richard Bates will share the sanitised version of the police's quarterly CSE report that they are producing**
- 8.9 Helen Gulvin asked whether the Adolescent Board's high level risk operational group will report in here once it is set up. They will look at all forms of exploitation, and Graham Bartlett agreed that the Management Information Report needs to reflect all the Business Priorities of the Board and will ask the Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee to continue to develop this so that it is more multi-agency.
- 8.10 Pinaki Ghoshal asked why there is no data on self-harm in the dashboard. Daryl Perilli explained this is only published annually, and that the in-depth report presented at the December Board was a more thorough investigation of this indicator. Ruth King asked if the number of admissions in the snapshot was people or individual presentations, and Peter Wilkinson said that the reporting mechanism won't look at individuals so it will be the total admissions for the year. Jayne Bruce said that young people may receive urgent health services due to self-harm injuries but this may not be recorded as the primary reason for their attendance. Debi Fillery agreed that young people may describe their reason for attendance in a number of ways, including feeling anxious or unwell. She suggested that we would get more meaningful information by looking at the number of referrals to the Mental Health Liaison Team.

## 10. Early Help Group Update

- 10.1 Peter Wilkinson said that the Early Help Group will be having their second meeting tomorrow, 13 September 2017. They will look at:
- The Early Help Self-Assessment, which has been developed by Sarah Colombo and is based on the Troubled Families approach, to help us better understand how developed Early Help is across the partnership and inform further work
  - An update from the Healthy Futures Team
  - The rejuvenation of the Early Help Strategy to be an LSCB protocol.
  - The updates that need to be made to the Thresholds document following the formation of the Front Door for Families



10.2 In their following meeting, in October 2017, the group will further explore how Early Help is provided around Mental Health in schools.

## **11. Participation & Engagement Update**

- 11.1 Richard Bates updated on the Participation & Engagement Subcommittee which he took over as chair of in 2016, and which merged with the Safeguarding Adults Board to become a joint group earlier this year. The new group has met twice and had good attendance from representatives in adult and youth work, and will continue to evolve.
- 11.2 The group has agreed that they will align their products where possible, as there is a considerable amount of overlap, and the LSCB Communications Strategy will be developed to incorporate key messages on safeguarding adults.
- 11.3 The subcommittee are taking a thematic approach to meetings, and partners have been invited to share good practice with the group. At the first joint meeting they heard about the effective campaign that took place earlier this year around proposed cuts to youth services, and how young people were integral to this.
- 11.5 Richard Bates said that he thinks Participation is always interactive, and the Subcommittee are still working on how we get the voice of the service user. They will include in their work plan how they will get adults with care & support needs, and children & young people better engaged.
- 11.6 Graham Bartlett thanked Richard for the update and said that this is a very important function of both Boards, and that the Sibling W & X SCR highlighted the consequences when there are problems with engaging effectively with communities.

## **12. Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2016-17**

- 12.1 Mia Brown presented the LSCB Annual report for 2016-17, which is a third shorter than the previous years' reports. It describes our progress against the five priority areas on the Business Plan, and the findings from our multi-agency audits, Serious Case Reviews and Learning Reviews. It also gives an overview of our finances, and submissions from all agencies in the safeguarding partnership.
- 12.2 There are a couple of agency reports still to be received and some data to add. Debi Fillery has given some feedback to Mia Brown which has been incorporated. Subject to these additions the Board agreed the annual report and this will be published in November 2017.

## **13. Any Other Business**

- 13.1 There will be an editorial meeting next week for the next edition of the parent's newsletter Safety Rocks. All partners were asked to contact Claire Mackay if they would like anything including in this communication.
- 13.2 Pinaki Ghoshal thanked Graham Bartlett for his work as Independent Chair of the Board, and for his continued support and challenge, particularly in leading the LSCB to achieve the Ofsted grading of "Good" LSCB.

## **Next Meeting**

- Thursday 7 December 2017, 1.30-4.30pm, Moulsecomb Great Hall