

Priority Area 1: Neglect & Emotional Harm

(Domestic Violence & Abuse, Parental Mental Health & Substance Misuse)

Child neglect is the most common and pervasive type of abuse in the UK today and requires a coordinated and rigorous professional response at all levels. To this end, Neglect and Emotional Harm is one of our key priorities for 2016-19. We believe that all children in our city should have trusted committed and able professionals who are able to swiftly identify and respond effectively to child neglect. To read more about the signs and symptoms of neglect visit our [website](#)

Neglect

(Emotional Harm,
Domestic Violence &
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Mental Health &

Our Progress

- Undertaken an in-depth multi-agency audit of the effectiveness of arrangements to safeguard children who experience neglect (read more on page 20)
- Professionals from across the partnership have been trained to recognise and respond to child neglect.
- Commissioned a Learning Review to see how effectively our partner agencies are working with neglectful families (read more on page 22). 104 professionals attended a briefing session following this review.
- Professionals have been trained to understand the impact of domestic violence & abuse on children and young people.
- Professionals have been trained to understand the impact of parental substance misuse on children and young people.
- Refreshed the Sussex Pre-Birth Child Protection Procedures following LSCB audit activity, to clarify that pre-birth conferences should be held at least 3 months before the estimated delivery date to allow planning and support for the pregnancy and the birth of the baby to be put in place.
- Over the year the LSCB has been developing a multi-agency Neglect Strategy setting out Brighton & Hove's approach to tackling neglect.
- Improved our understanding of the numbers of children for whom neglect is a feature, the prevalence of parental factors and the effectiveness of the safeguarding system in reducing neglect.
- A new system of undertaking Child Protection Conferences was introduced in January 2017 (read more on page 22)
- Read more about what our agencies having been doing to tackle neglect from page 31.

Still to do

- Review and promote the use of the Quality of Care tool to practitioners working with children and families. This tool helps professionals measure the quality of care being given to a child. It's an assessment tool that helps them to spot anything that's putting that child at risk of harm.
- Ensure actions from the Neglect Strategy Action Plan are progressed, including:
 - Reporting the impact of the Neglect Strategy in the 2017/18 annual report of the LSCB to the Health and Well-Being Board.
 - A review and refresh of LSCB web content and communication to promote professional and public awareness, understanding and recognition of neglect.
 - The Safe and Wellbeing School survey to investigate children and young people's understanding of neglect.
 - Children's Service to deliver a workshop with children and young people around neglect to gather the thoughts and feelings from those who might have experienced neglect.
- Ensure actions from quality assurance activity are fulfilled, including;
 - Embedding the use of genograms and multi-agency chronologies/significant events to analyse the impact of neglect on children,
 - Making use of Strengthening Family Plans to ensure that child focussed outcomes are clear with time scales, regularly updated and revised.