

MINUTES OF SLSCB BOARD MEETING (21.5.09)

Date: 21 May 2009 Time: 1.00pm Venue: The Education Centre

Details of next meeting:

Please note an extended special meeting will take place 16th July 2009 1.00pm - 4.00pm as per minutes

1) Attendance at Meeting
Key: MA – Member Attended, RA – Representative Attended, A - Submitted Apologies, NC – No Contact/Attendance

Board Members

| Name | | Title | Representing | Attendance | |
|-------------------|------|--|--|------------|--|
| Jane Humphreys | JH | Corporate Director of Children, Education & Social Care (CESC) (SLSCB Chair) Link to Drug Action Team & Domestic Violence Executive Group | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council | MA | |
| Sandra Egleton | SE | Assistant Director of Children's Services (SLSCB Vice Chair) | Barnardo's | MA | |
| Lynne James | LJ | Service Manager | , i | | |
| Alastair Simpson | AS | Detective Chief Inspector | Cleveland Police (Crime / Child Protection) | MA MA | |
| Ted Allen | ТА | Chief Inspector Link to Youth Offending Service & Safer Stockton Partnership | Cleveland Police (Stockton District - Prevention) | A | |
| Sujinder Sangha | SSa | Principal, Riverside College | Colleges | MA | |
| Ian Harrington | IH | District Manager | Fire Service | NC | |
| Cath Siddle | CS | Deputy Director of Nursing | North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust (NTHFT) | Α | |
| Linda Watson | LW | Head of Community Services | North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust | Α | |
| Sue Smith | SSm | Director of Nursing & Patient Safety | North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust | MA | |
| Anne Moore | AM | Director of Nursing & Therapies | Tees PCT | NC | |
| Bernice Gallagher | BG | Children's Services Manager | NSPCC | Α | |
| Hazel Ducker | HD | Head Teacher | Primary Schools | Α | |
| Julie Allan | JA | Assistant Director Link to MAPPA | National Probation Service | RA | |
| David Youldon | DY | Head Teacher | | | |
| Julie Nixon | JN | Head of Housing | Stockton-on-Tees BC | MA | |
| Julia Morrison | JM | Head of School Effectiveness / Assistant Director NTHFT | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council CESC / NTHFT | A | |
| Peter Seller | PS | Head of Children & Young People's Strategy / Assistant Director (Commissioning) Stockton PCT Link to Sexual Health Service, Domestic Violence Executive Group & Hidden Harm | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council CESC / Stockton PCT | A | |
| Lyn Burns | LB | Acting Head of Children & Young People's Operational Services / Assistant Director NTHFT Link to MAPPA, Sexual Health Service, Youth Offending Service, Safer Stockton Partnership & Domestic Violence Executive Group | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council CESC / NTHFT | MA | |
| Shaun McLurg | SMcL | Head of Children & Young People's Operational Services / Assistant Director NTHFT Link to MAPPA, Sexual Health Service, Youth Offending Service, Safer Stockton Partnership & Domestic Violence Executive Group | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council CESC / NTHFT | MA | |

| Ray Graham | RG | Community Services Manager and | Tees, Esk & Wear | MA |
|------------|----|--------------------------------------|-------------------|----|
| | | Professional Lead for CAMHS Nursing. | Valleys NHS Trust | |

Scrutiny / Information Role (Due to the nature of these roles standing apologies are noted)

| Name | Title | Representing | Attendance |
|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|------------|
| Cllr Alex Cunningham | Lead Cabinet member - | Elected Member | |
| | Children and Young People | Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council | |
| Sam Cramond | NE Child & Maternal Health | NHS North East Strategic Health | Α |
| | Service Advisor | Authority | |

SLSCB Staff

| Name | Title | Present | Apologies |
|---------------|------------------|---------|-----------|
| Pauline Beall | Business Manager | ✓ | |
| Lorna Wright | Administrator | ✓ | |

Advisors / Guests / Speakers

| Name | | Title | Representing | Present | Apologies |
|------------------|----|------------------------------------|--|----------|-----------|
| Eric Jewitt | EJ | Chair | Training Task Group | ✓ | |
| Linda Sandbach | LS | Chair | Procedures & Practice Task Group | ✓ | |
| Miriam Robertson | MR | Youth Offending Service Manager | Youth Offending Service | ✓ | |
| Neil Schneider | NS | Chief Executive | Stockton Borough Council | ✓ | |
| Sarah Megan | SM | Senior Probation Officer | National Probation Service Julie Allen | √ | |
| Simon Willson | SW | Chair | Performance & Quality Task Group | √ | |

No. Agenda Item

Action
By

2 Minutes of Meeting held on 19 March 2009

Agreed as true record.

JH proposed SLSCB minutes go through the same process as the Children's Trust Board minutes of going to cabinet for information. Members agreed the ratified minutes will be sent to Democratic Services.

3 Matters Arising

- 3.1 JH provided an update on the Child Death Review Project and gave a brief overview of the panel process.
- 3.2 JH advised that Jayne Palmer will continue with work on physical restraint, this will include issues around consistency in practice. Annual reports will be presented to the Board.
- 3.3 Work on the Joint Protocol for Children Missing From Home will continue. The Stockton group are now looking at this group becoming a Tees wide project. Sally Robinson Assistant Director, Hartlepool Borough Council, has offered to chair these meetings.

AS advised that the Police are looking at changing their procedure for data collection to coincide with the needs of this group.

3.4 AS confirmed the Forced marriage worker has been in post since Monday 18.5.09 and is making contact with key people. PB offered to arrange a meeting with the key people in Stockton.

РΒ

- 3.5 JH gave an update on the Serious Case Review which has been sent to Ofsted. So far there have been a couple of minor queries that have been dealt with. Further information will be fed back to the Board when it is received.
- 3.6 PB advised that the Tees Procedure group have met once and are due to meet again tomorrow. Draft Terms of Reference has been written for the group to consider. The hope is to move forward

with more Tees groups to prevent duplication of work.

4 Domestic Violence - Police Referrals to Social Care

AS provided a verbal update and gave information from his meeting with Susan Jackson, Safeguarding Operations Manager.

There are over 270 incidents of domestic violence in Stockton per month and more than half of these are from homes where children are present.

AS advised that there has been a dramatic increase since Christmas and there is a lot of work to be done on the Domestic Violence Strategy.

JH continued the discussion and noted that she had picked up the recession/credit crunch appeared to be impacting on some families when doing visits to schools in the area.

Various members of the group gave information on how this was also effecting their service area, problems with housing has increased, domestic violence features heavily in case conferences and the significant increase in DV cases in Stockton was discussed at the North Tees Foundation Trust recently.

AS commented that it is important for a clear risk assessment to be completed, identify the risks and put measures in place. JH made a request for SMcL to set up a group to ensure systems are in place to address these issues. More information will be brought back to the September meeting.

SMcL

5 Safeguarding in the Secure Estate for Children and Young People Report

(NB National Document previously provided at January Board meeting)
Miriam Robertson, Youth Offending Service (YOS) Manager, presented the report to advise the LSCB of the recent review commissioned by the Youth Justice Board (YJB) on safeguarding of children and young people held in the secure estate in England and Wales (The summary report was published in December 08 and provided to Members at their meeting in January 09).

MR highlighted specific areas of the report and gave information on how the YOS responds, MR advised that the LSCB needs to satisfy itself that they are ensuring robust Safeguarding policies and procedures are provided in Stockton.

The Board agreed to:

ALL

- Note the content of the Safeguarding in the Secure Estate for Children and Young People Report
- Continue to receive six monthly information on young people in the secure estate
- Receive information on individual concerns, in the event of any serious incidents in custody

6 ISA (Independent Safeguarding Authority) Readiness

Two reports were circulated; Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) Readiness Tool for Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCB) and the Vetting & Barring Scheme stakeholder presentation.

PB advised that these documents have been circulated prior to the DCSF/GONE formal issue. The readiness questionnaire shows what evidence is required. JH advised there have already been discussions about this and it needs to be taken forward with individual agencies.

Information on the Safe Recruitment group, which is attended by HR leads was given by PB, information from this group can be brought back to the board as they have been working on the Safer Recruitment and Selection Protocol.

DY led the conversation regarding work experience in schools and although health and safety checks are carried out there is still a possibility that children are being sent out to work with people who don't have a CRB check. SS advised that Colleges have the same issue.

7 Management of Serious Case Reviews – Proposal from ADCS Vulnerable Children's Network. Report presented by PB.

The report has been produced to facilitate work by the Vulnerable Children's Network, a sub group

of the regional group of the Association of Directors of Children's Services.

LSCB are asked to consider ways in which consistency in the management and publication of SCR's regionally can be achieved. PB has had conversations with Ofsted regarding the publication the current SCR in Stockton, the advice that was given was to refrain from publishing the document until all scoring and feedback has been received from Ofsted.

AS felt it is critical that a coordinated approach where media is concerned is developed.

PB advised that as part of the Media/SCR strategy, media staff in all agencies are notified prior to the review to ensure the agreed process is followed. The SBC public Relations Officer acts as the Boards Media Officer.

Following discussion regarding the recommendations in this report, PB requested that all agencies keep the Business unit up to date with their LADO and Media contacts.

The Board agreed to

- ALL
- Support the principle of taking a responsive approach to the publication of SCR Executive Summaries.
- Publications consisting of placing the Executive Summaries on the LSCB web-site unless
 the merit of a particular case leads the LSCB to consider that a more pro-active approach to
 managing the media is necessary.
- Where an approach from the press about a case subject to review is received, LSCB's will
 confirm that the SCR is taking place and will advise of planned publication (as outlined
 above) and suggest press / media monitoring of the web-site.
- The timing of SCR publication being delayed until the LSCB receives confirmation of the results of the evaluation by Ofsted
- The SCR's Executive Summaries being published on LSCB web-sites for 6 months prior to being removed.
- Support the co-ordination of the timing of SCR publications across the region, by providing regular updates on timing and delays in order to support other LSCB's in the process of effectively managing publication.

8 CP (Social Care) Audits

Report presented by LB

The report provides a summary of findings from an audit undertaken of the involvement of Children's Social Care with children subject to a Child Protection Plan in December 2008. The Review was commissioned by the Corporate Director of Children, Education and Social Care following the publicity about the Haringey Baby P case.

LB advised that the audit took a long time to complete due to the amount of work to get through, and confirmed that strategies were in place to address any issues that came to light.

JH added that she is satisfied Stockton has the policies and procedures in place; it is a question of ensuring that they are followed. PB advised that any issues raised from recent Serious/Case reviews have been included in this years training programme however, commented that a lot of training gets cancelled due to poor uptake and requested that members encourage their agency participation.

A discussion took place around responsibilities of professionals and how they should be held accountable for their practice following any training they receive.

SW welcomed the recommendations from this report on behalf of the Performance & Quality Task Group and felt that they need to look at audits not just as a process but what there outcomes will be.

LS gave praise for the amount of referrals coming from professionals such as Library, Garden or Housing maintenance staff.

An action plan will be completed and brought back to the next Board meeting once the full audit is finished.

LB

9 Vulnerability Unit

Report presented by AS for information and discussion.

The report outlines the decision by Cleveland Police to co-locate officers and staff working in the functions of child abuse investigation, abuse against vulnerable adults and domestic abuse within a vulnerability unit.

AS advised that the changes would take place from 6th July 2009 and provided and an overview of the report, highlighting areas in coordination and administration support which should greatly improve.

Interviews will take place over the next few weeks; JH requested that information is circulated as soon as possible advising who the new staff will be.

AS

ALL

The Board agreed to

- Note the report
- Provide any views / considerations to DCI Simpson

10 Laming Review

Verbal update given by LB

LB provided information from the Laming recommendations and the Government's response. The document also included a column advising where we are in Stockton with regard to the recommendations.

LB and PB will have a meeting next week to discuss how to progress outcomes and organise workshops. It was agreed today they would take place at the next meeting in July, which will be the extended time of 1.00 pm - 4.00 pm.

LB, PB

11 Board / Task Group Meeting Attendance & Membership Review

PB presented two reports, the first is set out to show information in the format requested by DCFS and the second gives more detail and breakdown of attendance at all task groups.

JH queried the coding of 50's, PB advised that this is a monetary value given for all attendees. JH requested that this be amended to show attendance more clearly. A new version to be emailed to members next week.

Bus Unit

AC queried the number of meeting cancelled by the Licensing and Gambling TG and suggested that only 5 meetings be arranged instead of 10. PB advised that this has been taken into consideration and discussed with members of this group, who agreed that meetings will be arranged on a need only basis. The group have also discussed accompanying the Fire Officer on one of his building checks to form a greater understanding of his role.

L&G TG

PB advised that SLSCB constitution is being revised and this should eliminate some of the attendance problems.

The Board agreed to:

ALL

- Note the Board and Task Group Attendance Data 2008 / 9
- The inclusion of the Representation Attendance by Agency table in the Annual Report.

12 Human Trafficking

Report presented by PB

The report provides an overview of new guidance & procedures for assessing and recording cases of child and adult trafficking which became operational from the 1st April 2009.

Following an overview of the report, PB again championed the use of Tees wide groups to avoid duplication in this kind of work.

SE gave the group information on the research provided by Barnardos, which was funded by Northern Rock. Further information on the progress of this will be brought to the next meeting.

The Board agreed to:

ALL

- Note the report
- Request a review of the local procedure in relation to child trafficking.
- Recommend that the review be undertaken on a Tees Valley basis if possible.
- Request confirmation of the Local Authority who the Adult and Children leads are in respect
 of this issue.
- Promote access of the free on line child trafficking training available from ECPAT UK
- Share this report with Adult Services and the Children's Trust to raise awareness.

Safeguarding Arrangements in Independent Schools, Non-maintained Special Schools and all Boarding schools - Keeping Our Schools Safe

Report presented by PB

The report provides a summary of the investigation carried out by Sir Roger Singleton in relation to safeguarding arrangements in Independent schools, Non-Maintained Special Schools and all Boarding schools in England. The findings of which will be implemented alongside that of Lord Laming's Review.

PB advised that she will make formal links with Independent schools. AC asked who should carry out Independent scrutiny; A request was made for Julia Morrison to provide a report regarding independence.

JM

The Board agreed to:

ALL

- Note the report
- Request a follow up report from SBC, Children Education & Social Care Head of School Effectiveness, advising what local arrangements are being made with regard to Independent Schools, Non-maintained Special Schools and any Boarding schools in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees to support the recommendations
- Instruct the SLSCB Business Manager to make contact with any Independent Schools, Non-maintained Special Schools and Boarding schools in the Borough of Stockton-on-Tees to raise awareness of LSCB policies, procedures, training and advice and guidance that could be made available to them.

SI Standing Items

- A Inspections (& Actions Required)
 - A1 SBC Cabinet Member Children & Young People Issues

AC advised that he has been having regular formal meetings with JH and PB, where agenda details and work programmes are discussed.

Information on the member's seminar was shared and AC assures the group that he is briefed on media interest and gave assurance that any safeguarding issues are dealt with appropriately.

A2 Standards Criteria for Unannounced Safeguarding Children Inspections

JH gave information on two inspections following the new guidelines from Ofsted, which were published in May..

Inspection for Safeguarding Looked After Children's Services

This inspection will be every three years; a maximum notice of 10 days will be given and will Impact all partner agencies. JH will set up a meeting with key agencies to discuss the impact and process.

Annual Unannounced Inspection of Contact, Referral and Assessment Arrangements.

This inspection will be unannounced (i.e. inspectors will arrive and tell us they are here) they will ask for a maximum of 2 days. The focus will be on practice in relation to contact assessment and referral processes for children in need and children who may be in need of protection and will consider how well practice supports the affective management of risk and minimises the incidents of child abuse and neglect. The inspection will focus primarily on First Contact, Duty Team, EDT and some aspects of Health and Police.

These inspections could commence any time from June 09.

B Group Updates

B1 Business Managers Annual Update Report

PB presented the report which gives an overview of the work completed by the Business Unit on behalf of the Safeguarding Board

PB advised subject to the Board approval the information will be collected with other relevant information to form the 2008/9 Annual Report. The Annual Report will need to be presented to the Children's Trust and GONE.

The Board agreed to:

Note the Report

ALL

- The inclusion in the Annual Report.
- Share the report with the Children's Trust and other identified parties.
- A 2008/9 Training Evaluation Report

Report provided for information. PB gave an overview of the report.

B 2008/9 E-Learning Report

Report provided for information. PB gave an overview of the report and shared information on new E-learning programmes

C 2009/10 Safeguarding Children Training Programme

Copies of the Training Programme were circulated. EJ advised that more copies were available. The PDF version will be emailed to members once received.

D Out turn Budget 2008 / 9

The Budget report discussed at the January meeting made a request for partner agencies to provide some additional funding for Serious Case Review Chairs and Independent Authors. PB advised this may not be needed as there has been sufficient carry over from last years budget to cover these requirements.

AS requested the contribution figure from the police be amended as it should have read £13,863 not £18,863. The total figure of £130,423.00 as referred to in the report is correct.

РВ

The Board agreed to:

ALL

Note the following reports:

2008/9 Training Evaluation Report,

2008/9 E-Learning Report,

2009/10 Safeguarding Children Training Programme

SLSCB Budget - 2008/9 Out turn and 2009 / 10 Projection Report

Request regular financial updates

E 2009 / 10 Additions to Business Plan

The report gave information on additional sections that will be added to the Business Plan 2009/10

The Board agreed to

ALL

- Accept the Business Plan 2008/12 Additional Actions report
- Suggest amendments as appropriate to the Business Manager.

B2 Tees Pre-Trial Therapy Procedure

LS presented the Tees Pre-Trial Therapy Procedure.

The procedure was devised by the Police and has been discussed at the Procedures & Practice Task group where the group agreed it should be added to the Safeguarding procedures.

The Board agreed to:

The Tees Pre-Trial Therapy Procedure.

C Issues from Members (not included in the agenda)

JH gave a verbal report on behalf on Ted Allen regarding 'Operation Stay Safe' An initiative from Cleveland Police Neighbourhood Policing in partnership with Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council The pilot scheme will provide a safe place for young people to go, with an aim of keeping Children safe in the evenings. Children who are identified as at risk or harm will be taken to the safe place until the police can arrange a safe collection by Parents/Carers.

Information leaflets were circulated. The pilot will run from 12.6.09 on a Friday and Saturday.

D Correspondence

The Board noted the following correspondence:

D1 Probation Trust Application

The application should be completed by early July.

D2 National Drugs Awareness Week

This will run from 8-12 June 2009, Safeguarding will be an active part via Hidden Harm.

D3 Registrars Reporting of Child Deaths

It has been agreed that registrars must notify the Child Death panel of any Child Death.

E Information Items

- E1 Safeguarding Information Update 16th March 2009 (emailed 20.3.09)
- Written Ministerial Statement, 19 March 2009 Vetting And Barring Scheme (emailed 20.3.09)
- Safeguarding Information Update 24th March 2009 (emailed 27.3.09)
- Safeguarding Information Update 31st March 2009 & Safeguarding Conferences 2009 (emailed 2.4.09)
- E5 UKBA Comms Monthly Stakeholder Update April (emailed 7.4.09)
- New Time Solution Focus workshop featuring the Magic door 21st April free workshop (emailed 7.4.09)
- Safeguarding Information Update 8th April 2009 (emailed 14.4.09)
- Safeguarding Information Update 20th April 2009 (emailed 20.4.09)
- PVE(Preventing Violent Extremism) Event 20th May 2009 (emailed 22.4.09)
- E10 Vetting and Barring Scheme (VBS) Update April 09 (emailed 24.4.09)
- MAPPA Guidance (2009) Version 3.0 (emailed 29.4.09)
- E12 Whistle blowing hotline for children's services workers in England (emailed 30.4.09)
- E13 Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Service Summer Activities (emailed 5.5.09)
- Safeguarding Information Update 30th April 2009 (emailed 6.5.09)
- E15 C F & M E-Bulletin (emailed 6.5.09)
- Protection of Children in England Governments Response to Lord Laming 5 May 2009 (3 docs emailed 6.5.09)
- Fire Safety Information (emailed 12.5.09)
- E18 Contact Officers for Disseminating SLSCB Information (emailed 12.5.09)

F Details of Next Meeting:

Board Extended special meeting

Date: 16 July 2009 Time: 1.00pm – 4.00pm

Education Centre, Junction Road