

CABINET ITEM COVERING SHEET PROFORMA

AGENDA ITEM

REPORT TO CABINET

1 November 2012

**REPORT OF CORPORATE
MANAGEMENT TEAM**

CABINET DECISION

Children and Young People – Lead Cabinet Member – Councillor Mrs McCoy

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2011 / 2012

1. Summary

The Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board (SLSCB) Report **Appendix 1** is produced annually and is presented to Cabinet for information to Councillors in relation to the achievements and future challenges of the SLSCB.

An overview of safeguarding activities outlined in the report is summarised in **Appendix 2**.

2. Recommendations

Cabinet is requested to:

1. Note the 2011 / 2012 Annual Report of the Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board.

3. Reasons for the Recommendations/Decision(s)

There is a requirement (under the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009) for Local Safeguarding Children Boards to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area, including the implementation of Serious Case Review action plans.

4. Members' Interests

Members (including co-opted Members with voting rights) should consider whether they have a personal interest in the item as defined in the Council's code of conduct and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest in accordance with paragraph 9 of the code.

Where a Member regards him/herself as having a personal interest in the item as described in paragraph 16 of the code, in any business of the Council he / she must then in accordance with paragraph 18 of the code, consider whether that interest is one which a member of the public, with knowledge of the relevant facts, would reasonably regard as so significant that it is likely to prejudice the Member's judgement of the public interest and the business: -

- Affects the members financial position or the financial position of a person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code, or

- Relates to the determining of any approval, consent, licence, permission or registration in relation to the member of any person or body described in **paragraph 17** of the code.

A Member with a prejudicial interest as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, may attend the meeting but must not take part in the consideration and voting upon the relevant item of business. However a member with such an interest may make representations, answer questions or give evidence relating to that business before the business is considered or voted on, provided the public are also allowed to attend the meeting for the same purpose whether under a statutory right or otherwise (**paragraph 19** of the code)

Members may participate in any discussion and vote on a matter in which they have an interest, as described in **paragraph 18** of the code, where that interest relates to functions of the Council detailed in **paragraph 20** of the code.

Disclosable Pecuniary Interests

It is a criminal offence for a member to participate in any discussion or vote on a matter in which he / she has a disclosable interest (and where an appropriate dispensation has not been granted) **paragraph 21** of the code.

Members are required to comply with any procedural rule adopted by the Council which requires a member to leave the meeting room whilst the meeting is discussing a matter in which that member has a disclosable pecuniary interest (paragraph 22 of the code).

AGENDA ITEM

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An overview of safeguarding activities outlined in the report is summarised in **Appendix 2**.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cabinet is requested to:

1. Note the 2011 / 2012 Annual Report of the Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board.

DETAIL

There is a requirement (under the Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009) for Local Safeguarding Children Boards to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area, including the implementation of Serious Case Review action plans.

The Munro Review of Child Protection (2011) recommended that the requirements of this should be amended so that the report is shared with the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council, and subject to the passage of legislation, to the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the new Health and Wellbeing Board (currently a 'shadow' Board in Stockton-on-Tees).

It is the intention of SLSCB to share this with all partner agencies and with those that have influence over the services provided to children and families in Stockton-on-Tees. The purpose of this report is:

- To provide an outline of the main activities of SLSCB and achievements during 2011-12;
- To comment on the effectiveness of safeguarding activity and of SLSCB in supporting this;
- To provide the public and partner agencies with an overview of safeguarding activity;
- To identify gaps and challenges in service development in the year ahead.

SLSCB recognises that it needs to establish a link with the Health and Wellbeing Board to ensure that safeguarding arrangements are included and worked out within its remit.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific financial implications arising from this report. Financial contributions are made to SLSCB by member agencies and this forms part of the mainstream budget reporting through the usual channels.

LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no specific legal implications arising from this report. The legal context for SLSCB activity is covered in the following legislation:

Section 14 (1) of the Children Act 2004

Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009

Working Together to Safeguard Children Statutory Guidance 2010

RISK ASSESSMENT

SLSCB is categorised as low to medium risk. Existing management systems and daily routine activities are sufficient to control and reduce risk.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY IMPLICATIONS

The safeguarding of children is a key component of the children and young people theme in the Sustainable Community Strategy. Improving outcomes for children by effective service delivery will also impact on their potential quality of life in adulthood.

The effective safeguarding of children and young people will also have a significant impact on the community safety agenda.

EQUALITIES IMPACT ASSESSMENT

This report has not been subject to an Equalities Impact Assessment because it is not seeking approval for a new policy, strategy or change in the delivery of a service.

CORPORATE PARENTING

For those children who are looked after, the Council has a responsibility as corporate parent to ensure that their needs are appropriate met, this includes ensuring they are safe and in suitable secure placements.

CONSULTATION INCLUDING WARD/COUNCILLORS

No consultation has taken place in relation to this issue at this stage.

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Background Papers

Working Together to Safeguard Children and their Families (2010)

The Munro Review of Child Protection: Final Report *A child-centred system* (2011)

Ward(s) and Ward Councillors:

Not applicable

Property

There are no implications for Council property.

APPENDIX 1



STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB

ANNUAL REPORT 2011 - 2012

with

2012 – 2014 BUSINESS PLAN



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1. CHAIR'S SUMMARY INTRODUCTION

Safeguarding Children and Young People continues to represent one of the greatest challenges for those agencies tasked to protect. This has become even more so as statutory and third sector agencies are faced with demanding financial challenges that are directly impacting upon their available resources. Put bluntly, increasing demand is being met by diminishing resources which is not a comfortable balancing act.

Since being appointed into the role of LSCB Independent Chair one of my main priorities has been to ensure that the resources at the disposal of the LSCB are 100% focussed upon its identified priorities – safeguardings 'core business'. To achieve this, changes have been made at Board level to ensure its governance is 'fit for purpose'. The most obvious illustration of this has been the creation of an Executive Committee – that meets monthly to address urgent day to day business. This has cleared the Board's agenda to make it more strategy focussed.

Over the past 12 months our safeguarding system has dealt with a number of complex safeguarding issues which have been heavily scrutinised to ensure that robust and effective inter-agency arrangements are operating efficiently and safely. Where improvements have been identified parties have worked well together to firmly embed positive change. The introduction of unified Tees-wide safeguarding procedures which should become available in May 2012 is a firm example of how key agencies across Teesside are committed to working together to bring about positive improvements.

Safeguarding children will always be a high risk, challenging responsibility. Our task is to make sure systems and processes are as robust as they can possibly be in order to minimise such risk to the children and young people living in Stockton.

Your continued support and commitment is crucial if we are to be successful, and I thank you for your considerable efforts to date.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Colin Morris'.

Colin Morris
Independent Chair
Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board

2 GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ARRANGEMENTS

2.1 Role, Function And Structure Of The Board And Sub Committees

Keeping Children Safe is Your Business, My Business, It's Everyone's Business

Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board is a statutory partnership of agencies working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children and young people in the Borough. It is committed to the development, co-ordination, monitoring and review of safeguarding practices and ensuring that effective child protection / safeguarding procedures within and between all agencies working with children and young people are in place.

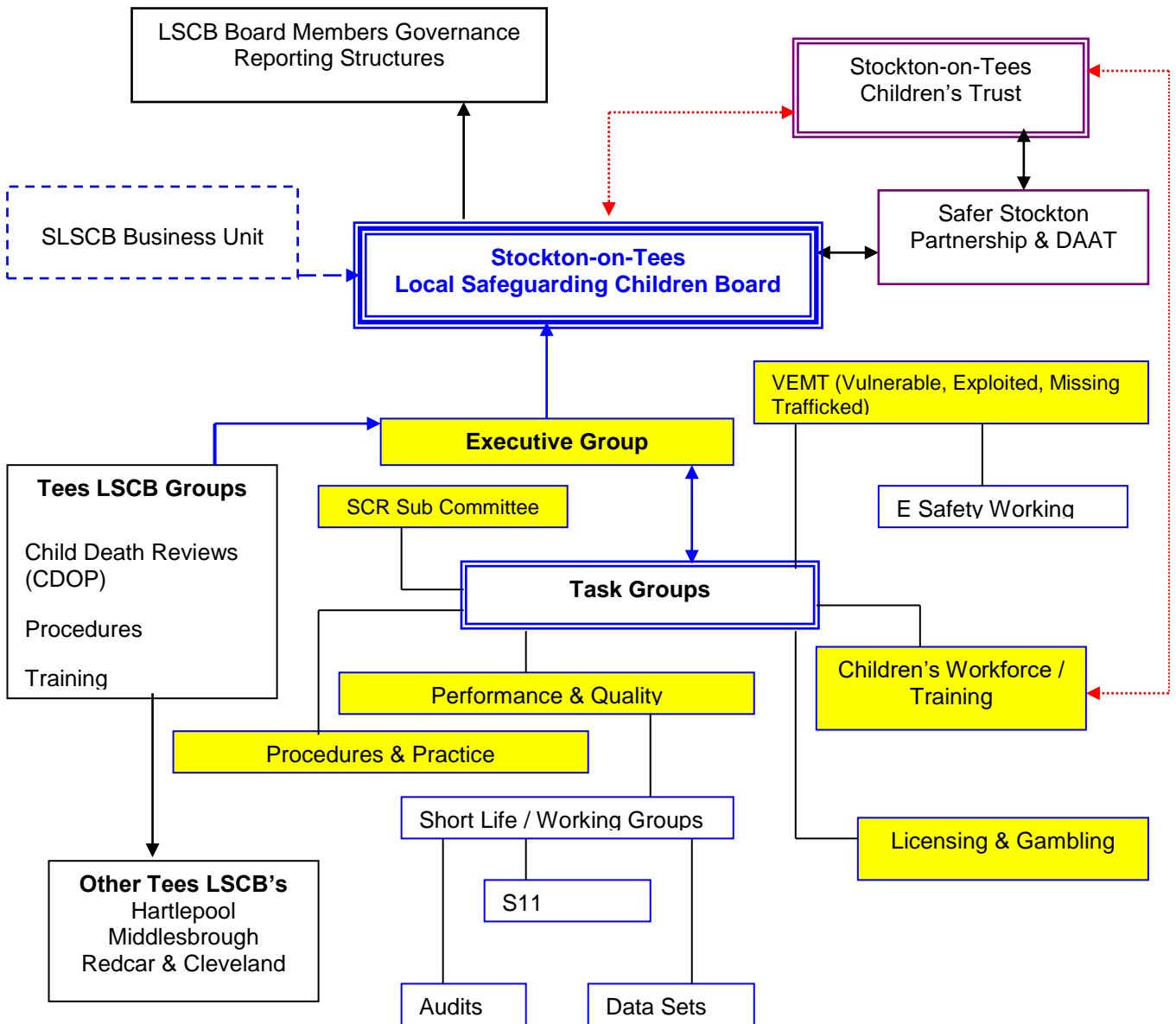
Stockton-on-Tees LSCB seeks to promote the following values through its work:

- All work undertaken is child-centred and children's welfare is promoted regardless of age, gender, sexuality, race, religion, ethnicity, disability or background.
- Safeguarding children is a shared responsibility and effective multi-agency working is crucial to the positive discharge of these responsibilities
- Multi-agency training promotes positive inter-agency working, relationships and understanding
- The importance of good information sharing practices are embraced
- The value of partnership and of wide-ranging consultation in the development of safeguarding policies and practices involving not only statutory and voluntary agencies, but also those who will be affected by the decisions that are made – children, young people, parents and carers
- The value of the public as agents for safeguarding within the community
- The importance of reviewing and monitoring what we do, responding to this, learning from our mistakes and communicating outcomes in an open and honest way.

The work of Stockton LSCB has a focus on keeping children safe; including the prevention of significant harm as well as the wider remit of improving the wellbeing of all children in Stockton-on-Tees.

The Board met six times during 2011 / 2012, the Executive Group met seven times and its groups, some of which are established on a Tees basis, met as required. Further details regarding the meetings can be found at section 7 of this report.

2.2 SLSCB Structure & Relationship Diagram 2011 / 2012



STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB
Annual Report 2011 / 2012 & Business Plan 2012 / 2014

Board Members during 2011 / 2012

As with many organisations membership changes as individuals change positions within their organisations or leave. We have welcomed 5 new members to the Board and said goodbye to quite a few longstanding members who had made a positive contribution to safeguarding children whilst on the Board.

Representing	Title	Name	Left
SLSCB	Independent Chair	Colin Morris	
Local Authority	Corporate Director of Children, Education & Social Care (CESC) (SLSCB Chair April 2010 – October 2011)	Jane Humphreys	
	Head of Education, Early Years & Complex Needs	Lynda Brown	
	Head of Housing – Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council	Julie Nixon	
	Lead Cabinet Member - Children and Young People (Participating Observer)	ClIr Ann McCoy	
Police	Detective Chief Inspector - Cleveland Police (Crime / Child Protection)	Peter McPhillips	*
	Interim Detective Chief Inspector - Cleveland Police (Crime / Child Protection)	Jason Dickson	
	Chief Inspector - Cleveland Police (Stockton District - Prevention)	Ted Allen	*
	Chief Inspector - Cleveland Police (Stockton District - Prevention)	Mick Williams	
Probation	Director Of Operations	Lucia Saiger	
Strategic Health Authority	NE Child & Maternal Health Service Advisor - NHS North East Strategic Health Authority	Sam Crammond	
Primary Care Trusts	Director of Corporate Affairs, NHS Tees.	Celia Weldon	*
	Associate Director/Board Nurse	Bev Reilly	
	Head of Children & Young People's Strategy / Assistant Director (Commissioning) Stockton PCT	Peter Seller	*
NHS & Foundation Trusts	Director of Nursing & Patient Safety - North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust	Sue Smith	
	Head of Community Services - North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust (SLSCB Vice Chair)	Linda Watson	
Youth Offending & Connexions Service	Head of Children & Young People's Operational Services	Shaun McLurg	
CAFCASS	Service Manager	Lynne James	*
	Head of Service	Marie Gittins	*
	Service Manager	Janice Deakin	
Prisons	Head of Offender Management	Elaine Hunneyset	
Adult Social Service	Head of Adult Social Services	Sean McEneaney	
Adult Health (Mental Health & Disability)	Lead Senior Nurse for Safeguarding Children	Karen Agar	
	Head of Tier 3 CYPS Durham/Darlington and Teesside	Chris Davies	
Adult Substance Misuse Services	<i>Joint Strategic Commissioner for Drugs, Prison Healthcare and Social Inclusion</i>	Emma Champley	
Expertise & Advice	Designated Nurse	Alex Giles	
	Designated Doctor	Kailash Agrawal	
2 Lay Members		Lesley Cooke	
		Jo Thornhill	
Schools	Head Teacher – Primary Schools	Hazel Ducker	*
	Head Teacher - Primary Schools	Susan Dawson	
	Head Teacher – Secondary Schools	Elizabeth Horne	
	Head Teacher - Independent Schools	Alex Taylor	

Other Members, Agencies and Groups

Representing	Title	Name
FE colleges	Principal - Riverside College	Sujinder Sangha
NSPCC	Children's Services Manager - NSPCC	Bernice Gallagher

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Representing	Title	Name
Voluntary sector	Assistant Director of Children's Services - Barnardo's	Sandra Egleton
Others	Community Safety Partnership	Mike Batty

SLSCB Task Group Chairs 2011/12

Licensing & Gambling	Performance & Quality	Procedures & Practice	Serious Case Review Sub Committee	Children's Workforce Development / Training	E-Safety
Pauline Beall SLSCB Business Manager	Simon Willson Head of Performance	Martin Graham Strategic Manager Children & Young People	Peter Seller Head of Children & Young Peoples Strategy / Asst Director PCT Replaced by Peter McPhillips Detective Chief Inspector - Cleveland Police (Crime / Child Protection)	Eric Jewitt Workforce Development Manager	Ian Ithurralde E-Learning Co- ordinator

The Business Manager also acts as link between the groups.

The Board also has a Complaints Group which fortunately has not had call to meet since its inception.

Communications are undertaken by the Business Manager who can call upon media officers from partners' agencies if required.

SLSCB Business Unit

Title	Name
Business Manager (F/T)	Pauline Beall
Safeguarding Children Administrator (F/T)	Lorna Wright
Safeguarding Children Administrative Support Worker (P/T)	Donna Westmoreland. Left to take up post in SBC Review & Development Unit July 2012
Safeguarding Children Training Officer (F/T Job Share) (Seconded to Childrens Workforce Development Unit)	Helen Woolley & Debbie Peel.

2.3 Meetings and Attendance

The following table provides information regarding attendance by agency at meetings during 2011/12.

The compact between LSCB's and the Strategic Health Authority makes arrangements for their representative to receive all the documentation and an agreement that they will attend under specific invite or if they wish to raise matters with individual LSCB's. This accounts for their low attendance.

Methods to undertake the statutory requirements of the board by means other than formal meetings are utilised where possible and in particular if the alternate methodology is as, or more productive. An example is the consideration of license applications by the Licensing & Gambling Task group. This group carries out its work via email and information technology, hence there being no meetings being held. Likewise alternative working arrangements have been tried by the Performance and Quality Task Group.

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Organisations	LSCB	Exec Group	Performance & Quality	Procedures & Practice	S C R Sub Committee	Childrens Workforce Training	E-Safety
Number of Meetings Held	6	6	3	6	10	6	3
Participant Observers							
Lead Member for Children	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SBC Chief Executive	33% 2 of 6	16% 1 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
LA							
CESC	83% 5 of 6	100% 6 of 6	100% 3 of 3	100% 6 of 6	90% 9 of 10	100% 6 of 6	100% 3 of 3
DNS	83% 5 of 6	N/A	66% 2 of 3	N/A	50% 5 of 10	100% 6 of 6	0% 0 of 3
LSCB Manager	100% 6 of 6	100% 6 of 6	66% 2 of 3	83% 5 of 6	100% 10 of 10	100% 6 of 6	66% 2 of 3
Adult Social Services	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Adult Substance Mis-use Service	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Independent Chair	100% 6 of 6	100% 6 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lay members	100% 6 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Police							
Protection	100% 6 of 6	50% 3 of 6	33% 1 of 3	33% 2 of 6	90% 9 of 10	0% 0 of 6	0% 0 of 3
District Prevention	33% 2 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Probation Board	100% 6 of 6	N/A	N/A	40% 2 of 5	N/A	33% 2 of 6	N/A
Designated Doctor	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Designated Nurse	100% 6 of 6	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
SHA*	16% 1 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
PCT	33% 2 of 6	50% 3 of 6	0% 0 of 3	16% 1 of 6	80% 8 of 10	16% 1 of 6	N/A
NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts	100% 6 of 6	50% 3 of 6	0% 0 of 3	50% 3 of 6	N/A	16% 1 of 6	0% 0 of 3
Adult Health (Mental Health & Disability)	83% 5 of 6	33% 2 of 6	33% 1 of 3	66% 4 of 6	N/A	66% 4 of 6	N/A
Connexions	83% 5 of 6	83% 5 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAFCASS	50% 3 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Prison Service	66% 4 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
State schools							
Primary	100% 4 of 4	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Secondary	66% 4 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Independent schools	100% 6 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Further Education	66% 4 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	66% 4 of 6	66% 2 of 3
Fire Service	N/A	N/A	N/A	16% 1 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A
Community & Voluntary	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	16% 1 of 6	66% 2 of 3
NSPCC	16% 1 of 6	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0% 0 of 6	33% 1 of 3
Barnardos	83% 5 of 6	N/A	0% 0 of 3	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

2.4 Relationship to the Children's Trust Board

Stockton-on-Tees LSCB works closely with the Children's Trust Board whilst at the same time maintaining its independent role. It is a statutory part of the Children's Trust arrangements but has a clear and distinct identity within the Children's Trust governance arrangements. It is not a sub group, nor subordinate to the Children's Trust Board. Its function is to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements made by agencies, individually and collectively, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The LSCB advises the relevant agencies where strategic or operational gaps exist and holds them to account, via the Children's Trust Board, for the provision or revision of appropriate services to ensure children and young people in Stockton are safe and their welfare promoted.

The Children's Trust Board is going to review its role and function taking into account the demise of the statutory requirement for Local Authorities to have a Children's Trust and the inception of Health & Well-being Boards. The relationship between the Local Safeguarding Children Board will therefore be reviewed during 2012 / 2013 with a working protocol being developed.

2.5 Role of Lead Member & Chief Executive of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council

The Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Cabinet Member for Children & Young People and the Chief Executive act as safeguarding champions and receive all information as though they were a Board Member in order for them to undertake their scrutiny and challenge roles. They independently hold regular meetings with the LSCB Chair and attend Board meetings when able to as participating observers.

The Cabinet Member for Children & Young People provides leadership to the elected members on safeguarding matters.

The Chief Executive of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council also takes a keen interest in safeguarding children arrangements and holds regular meetings with the Director of Children, Education & Social Care and the Chair of the LSCB.

2.6 Finance

Stockton LSCB receives contributions from its statutory and non-statutory partners. The budget information shown below, only details monetary contributions and does not take into account officers' time or the use of rooms etc provided free of charge. It should be noted that the cost to safeguard children is considerably more and we are therefore grateful to all the contributors.

Core SLSCB Budget

The information below shows the outturn core budget for 2011 / 2012 and a projected base budget for 2012 / 2013 based on the agreed no percentage increase from members who have provided a contribution in previous year.

<u>INCOME</u>	Actual <u>2011 / 2012</u>	Projected <u>2012 / 2013</u>
CAFCASS	550	550
Police	13,863	13,863
Probation	744	744
Riverside College		
SBC CESC (incl Connexions)	61,257	61,257
Stockton NHS PCT	53,055	53,055
Courses / Fees		
Grant from SBC	25,901	
Sub Total	155,370	129,469
Brought Forward from 2010 / 2011	12,134	9,237
Total Receipts	167,504	138,706

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<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Staffing (Direct & Indirect costs)	115,223	117,004
Business Manager Full time		
Administrator Full Time	114,227	116,004
Training & Development Officer Full Time		
Administrative Support Worker Part Time	996	1,000
Shared Premises Costs		
Travel & Transport Costs	1,800	1,500
Supplies & Support Services	41,935	22,000
a) Independent Chair	17,000	17,000
b) Web Based Procedures	2950	2,000
c) General Running costs	3,599	3,000
d) Training – delivered and e-learning	15,000	
e) Serious / Management Case Reviews	3,386	
Total Payments	158,958	140,504
Projected Income – Expenditure	8,546	-1,798

Serious Case Review

With regard to Serious Case Reviews it is always difficult to say what the expenditure will be against this budget as it depends on whether there is need and the number of reviews (Serious, Case Reviews, facilitated discussions or other methodology used for reviews) required during the financial year. The agreement to carry forward funds wherever possible is therefore a necessity. Due to some extremely complex cases that required review during 2011 / 2012 a new baseline funding strategy will be established for 2012/ 2013.

		Actual <u>2011 / 2012</u>
<u>INCOME</u>		
SLSCB		3,386
SBC		15,692
NHS Tees		
B/wd from 2010 / 2011		2,740
Total Receipts		21,818
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Transport		
Supplies & Services		21,641
Case A	909	
Case C	20,358	
Case D	374	
Meetings		177
Total Payments		21,818
Income – Expenditure Balance to be c/fwd		0,000

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SLSCB Multi Agency Training

<u>INCOME</u>	Actual <u>2011 / 2012</u>
SLSCB	15,000
Grants	15,859
Fees Generated	1,019
Total Receipts	31,878
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Room Hire for Delivered Training @ EDC	5,810
External Room Hire for Delivered Training	
Photocopying / Printing	1,511
E-learning Membership	5,970
Other Supplies & Services	300
Total Payments	13,591
Income – Expenditure Balance to be c/fwd	18,287

Tees Multi Agency Training

<u>INCOME</u>	Actual <u>2011 / 2012</u>
NHS Tees	12,000
Fees Generated	
Total Receipts	12,000
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>	
Room Hire	234
External Room Hire	
Photocopying / Printing	309
Other Supplies & Services	612
Total Payments	1,155
Income – Expenditure Balance to be c/fwd	10,846

Child Death Review Project

Child Deaths Reviews are the responsibility of each LSCB however in recognition of the need for efficiency and effectiveness a Tees LSCB's Child Death Review Project was established in 2008 which is managed by Redcar & Cleveland LSCB. Each of the four Tees LSCB's; Hartlepool, Middlesbrough, Redcar & Cleveland and Stockton-on-Tees contribute towards funding of the project. The Stockton-on-Tees allocation is managed by the SLSCB Business Manager which is transferred to the pooled budget administered by Redcar & Cleveland LSCB.

Due to financial pressures that had been recognised by all of the Tees LSCB's and the need to continue the Child Death Review function a review of this service was undertaken during 2011/12. Funding was released from Stockton LSCB during 2010 / 2011 which provided funding for their contribution until the end of March 2014.

3 MONITORING, EVALUATION & QUALITY ASSURANCE OF EFFECTIVENESS

3.1 Board and Agency Reports

During 2011 / 12 a process of agency audits and thematic reviews took place whereby partner agencies reported to the Board findings from their agency and how this information was used to improve practice.

3.1a Section 11 Audits

An audit of Section 11 responsibilities was also completed during 2011 / 2012. Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on key individuals and organisations to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted in the undertaking of their functions. For schools and colleges this responsibility comes under section 175 of the Education Act 2002.

Key issues to note:

- Overall a high level of compliance against the standards required under s11 was met.
- Action plans to address gaps were put in place
- Three common issues arose which required remedial action from some of the identified gaps:
 - Written e-safety policies and procedures.
 - Induction processes.
 - Awareness of Private Fostering regulations.

3.1b Quality Assurance Assessments

Quality Assurance Presentations were also made by each agency represented on the Board to Board Members which enabled them to demonstrate how their agency is meeting its safeguarding requirements, what appropriate action to address any shortcomings had been taken (if any) and what had been the impact of these changes.

In essence they reported on:

- How do you quality assure your safeguarding children arrangements to ensure you are meeting your safeguarding responsibilities?
- How are you acting on the results of audits to improve and challenge frontline practice?
- How do you celebrate success and disseminate learning or areas for improvements to all staff?
- How are you measuring the impact of this work on frontline practice and outcomes for children & young people?

Robust challenge took place between Members to enable them to collectively scrutinise local arrangements, learn from each other and ultimately improve service delivery and outcomes for children, young people and families they work with.

3.1c Safeguarding Briefings

Regular Safeguarding Briefings are produced which provide all agencies and interested parties with issues pertinent to safeguarding children in Stockton-on-Tees. Examples of topics covered are:

- E-Safety
- How to deal with intimidating families.
- MAPPA & SLSCB Protocol
- Private Fostering,
- Professional Challenge
- Safeguarding, Child Protection & Prevention,
- SLSCB Procedures
- Stockton LSCB Case Reviews

Copies of SLSCB Safeguarding Children Briefings are available at:

<http://www.stockton.gov.uk/citizenservices/safeg/>

3.1d Agency Reports

The Board, Task Groups and some individual agencies have provided a safeguarding summary for the period April 2011 to March 2012 which is detailed below. To avoid duplication information provided by Members of the Board and Task Group Chairs has not been replicated in the SLSCB Chairs section although collectively it does demonstrate the level of multi agency activity taking place which is constantly subject to monitoring, evaluation, scrutiny and challenge.

3.1.1 SLSCB:

Name of Board Member: Colin Morris, Independent Chair

Report Completed by: Pauline Beall, SLSCB Business Manager

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a LSCB for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on LSCBs. Section 14 sets out the objectives of LSCBs, which are:

- a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area, and
- b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

The LSCB's role is to scrutinise local arrangements and it therefore has a separate identity and an independent voice. It is not subordinate to, nor subsumed within, other local structures in a way that might compromise it.

Core members of the SLSCB are people with a strategic role in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisation. Who are able to:

- Speak for their organisation with authority;
- Commit their organisation on policy and practice matters; and
- Hold their organisation to account.

Other members provide representation and advice from relevant sectors, including Education Establishments, Designated Nurse and Lay Members.

SLSCB is accountable, through the Corporate Director (Children, Education & Social Care) to Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council, as Directors of Children's Services have responsibility for improving outcomes for all children and young people in their area. It is the Directors of Children's Services who will be held to account for the effective working of the LSCB by the Local Authority (LA) Chief Executive and challenged where appropriate by the Lead Member.

To support this Stockton LSCB has an Independent Chair who is responsible and accountable to the Corporate Director (Children, Education & Social Care).

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- New governance arrangements introduced; Constitution and Scheme of Delegation.
- Progress on implementing Tees Procedures with neighbouring LSCB's in Hartlepool, Middlesbrough and Redcar & Cleveland.
- Joint review and challenge of Quality Assurance process' improved
- Multi Agency Vulnerable Exploited Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) Task Group established

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

- Despite a rise in the number of cases being referred for assessment including those where consideration was required to determine whether a child should be the subject of a child protection plan, cases were still handled in a sensitive and timely manner.
- A robust multi agency training programme is available and all available courses undergo robust scrutiny and challenge prior to delivery with post evaluation also taking place.
- Attendance from partner agencies and participation in conferences despite growing numbers continued to be well represented leading to joint decision making.
- A culture shift towards greater use of the Common Assessment Framework emerged during 2011 / 2012.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

- An annual process for organisational scrutiny and challenge by peers on the Board was introduced
- Attendance at meetings remained high with good engagement from partners.
- Lessons from Serious and Management Case Reviews were shared in a timely manner to facilitate learning from local and national cases to be shared and actions implemented where ever necessary to reduce the likelihood of reoccurrence or similar occurrences happening in the area.
- Ofsted Annual Inspection of Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Children's Services was graded as Level 3 - Performs well (An organisation that exceeds minimum requirements).

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- The relationship with the emerging Stockton-on-Tees Health and Well-being Board is to be defined.
- Alternative open and transparent learning processes will be developed so that the public can see where improvements are being made to protect children from harm.
- Visibility of Board Members and greater emphasis on listening and learning to and from staff, children and young people has also been identified as an area for improvement.

Challenges that Still Remain:

- Accessing continued sources of funding for the SLSCB remains a challenge during times of austerity.
- Organisational change and reductions in human resources balanced against increasing workloads across agencies remains a challenge which the SLSCB will continue to monitor.
- How to engage / involve children and young people more effectively in work of the SLSCB

3.1.1.2 SLSCB Task Groups:

3.1.1.2.a Childrens Workforce Training & Development Task Group

Name of Task Group Chair: Eric Jewitt

Report Completed by: Eric Jewitt

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- The Children's Services Workforce Training and Development Group operate against its Terms of Reference agreed in 2009 (scheduled for review). Main role is to provide a framework that will develop and deliver appropriate and relevant training, both multi-agency and single agency for the Children's Workforce with particular emphasis on Safeguarding.
- The primary role is to ensure that we have a multi-agency workforce that have the skills and knowledge to ensure that all children are kept safe.
- The group meets every 2 months and reports are submitted to the Board and Executive as necessary.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- One of the key achievements is the development, production and delivery of the multi-agency training and development programme. This work incorporates a quality assurance process known as "Sharing the Learning" whereby members of the group undertake robust scrutiny and challenge of any multi agency training modules prior to its delivery. A similar process has started to be adopted for some single agency safeguarding training.
- In the last year 2011-2012 we have continued to provide thematic drop-ins; facilitate a conference relating to Neglect; promote the CAF Programme; explore Impact of training; develop training in relation to SCR outcomes.
- 1435 people attended 88 full multi-agency safeguarding training courses and a further 431 people attended specific bespoke multi-agency training
- 1525 people completed e-learning courses and a further 88 have enrolled and still have to complete

- Included in the above multi-agency training statistic we show 511 people having attended 26 CAF sessions with a further 431 having attended 12 bespoke single agency sessions.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

- The key focus on all the training we offer is the mix of attendees from partner agencies which promotes a wider understanding of roles and responsibilities and the key issues that they face. Accordingly the theme of “Working Together” is a constant strand.
- The multi-agency programme is cross-referenced with the other training programmes that are developed e.g. Schools; Social Care and Early Years, and this ensures that the broader theme of workforce development and career development is provided.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

- The range of inspections that Services are subjected to usually reflect the quality of safeguarding training that has been undertaken in a positive way.
- We monitor closely the evaluation of all training and this enables any of the courses to be adapted and improved as necessary.
- We will be continuing to look at the Impact of training and development and how to monitor it and assess it.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- To review the Terms of Reference and submit them to the Board for consideration and approval.
- Review and refresh the membership of the group to reflect structure changes in partner agencies.
- As stated above to continue looking at the Impact of training and development.
- Continue to monitor the implications of Munro Report.
- Implement the charging policy and its impact on attendance
- Complete the Section 11 Audit requirements
- Develop programme for 2013/2014

Challenges that Still Remain:

- To respond positively to the changing structures of the various partner agencies e.g. LA; Health; Voluntary and Community Sector.
- Funding streams and capacity.
- Determining a robust process for the evaluation of Single Agency Training
- The evaluation of Commissioned Training.

Statistical information relating to training provided during 2011 / 2012 is provided at 3.4.4.

[3.1.1.2.b Performance & Quality Task Group](#)

Name of Task Group Chair: Simon Willson

Report Completed by: Simon Willson & Pauline Beall

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

The Performance & Quality Task Group was responsible to the Board for establishing, coordinating, implementing and monitoring quality assurance activity and performance issues on a multi agency basis in respect of safeguarding children. Its members include representatives from SLSCB member agencies who have knowledge and expertise in performance management as well as child protection and safeguarding: e.g. the Police, Children’s Social Care, Health, Education and Probation. Other members are co-opted onto the group as required.

•

Governance secured through reporting in to the SLSCB – via minutes and updates from the Chair to the Board and the Executive Group.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Ensured that monitoring arrangements for performance and quality assurance are set up in each agency so that agency performance can be analysed.

Set standards in accordance with the SLSCB / Tees policies and procedures and monitor compliance through quality review and audit activity.

Monitored and provided analysis of the relevant child protection inter agency activity to the SLSCB.

Ensured the monitoring role complements and contributes to the work of the Stockton-on-Tees Children's Trust or Board of a similar standing.

Ensured Serious Case Review recommendations are disseminated through agencies and monitor the implementation of recommendations within individual agencies.

On behalf of the Board, informed the Stockton-on-Tees Children and Young People's Plan to ensure that child protection and safeguarding is fully embedded in Stockton-on-Tees's planning and commissioning arrangements.

Ensured complaint and commendation information is included in the quality assurance processes.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

In addition to supporting the quality assurance processes carried out by the Board the Performance and Quality Task Group also carried out scrutiny and challenge in respect of action plans deemed as being complete following Management Reviews to identify the impact of lessons learned.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Analysis of Section 11 returns during 2011 / 2012 identified that the following standards were those for which improvement plans were most frequently required: E-Safety; Induction Processes for new staff; and awareness of Private Fostering. These issues were shared with the other Tees LSCBs, and some modification has been agreed to future S11 returns to address the e-safety issue.

A project was agreed to undertake an evaluation of the impact of Neglect training. This substantial piece of work will continue during 2012 / 2013.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

To agree the membership, terms of reference and develop the work plan for the proposed Performance and Practice Task Group.

Development of data set to support performance monitoring, in line with government response to the Munro Review recommendations.

Challenges that Still Remain:

To ensure continuity with the transfer of responsibilities to the new Performance and Practice Task Group for 2012 -13.

3.1.1.2.c Procedures & Practice Task Group

Name of Task Group Chair: Martin Graham

Report Completed by: Martin Graham

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

The Procedures & Practice Task Group (PPTG) is a multi-agency sub-group of the Local Safeguarding Board. The role of the group is to:

- develop policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children;
- support the implementation of agreed policies and procedures within local and national frameworks;
- encourage and support the development of co-operative working relationships and mutual understanding between agencies and professionals;

- ensure that there is full agreement and understanding across agencies about operational
- definitions and thresholds for intervention; and
- use knowledge gained from research and national and local experience to develop and improve practice and service delivery, and ensure that lessons learned are shared, understood and acted upon.
- Over the year the year the PPTG met on 6 occasions

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

The group completed their work programme, and have also considered a number of practice issues that have been feedback to the relevant agencies.

Representatives from the group link with the Tees LSCB Procedures Group and have been actively involved in the development of the web-based Tees Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures which are due to go live on 1 May 2012.

The functions of the group are to be amalgamated with the proposed Performance and Practice Task Group in 2012 -13.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

The Policies & Procedures Task Group has wide representation from the key agencies, and has had a key role this year in the development of the web-based Tees Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures which will provide a consistent approach across the Tees-wide LSCB's.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Attendance at meetings has at times been inconsistent however the group has delivered on its work plan and has addressed a number of operational issues raised within meetings. In addition to the direct work of the task group, a major focus of members has been to ensure the development and adoption of the web-based Tees Local Safeguarding Children's Board procedures.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

To agree the membership, terms of reference and develop the work plan for the proposed Performance and Practice Task Group.

Challenges that Still Remain:

To ensure continuity with the transfer of responsibilities to the new Performance and Practice Task Group for 2012 -13.

[3.1.1.2.d VEMT \(Vulnerable, Exploited, Missing, Trafficked\) Task Group](#)

Name of Task Group Chair: Liz Abbott

Report Completed by: Liz Abbott & Pauline Beall

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

This multi agency group was introduced to build upon the existing Running or Missing from Home or Care group with an expanded remit to look at the recommendations from the 'Out of Mind, Out of Sight Breaking Down the Barriers to Understanding Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)' report. The remit of the group is to

- Drive work forward and ensure effective cooperation between agencies and professionals with regard to children and young people who may be vulnerable and are in need of protection.
- Identify services available to meet the need and identify gaps in service provision.
- Review current practice.
- Monitor arrangements and data gathered in respect of Children & Young People who are deemed as Missing or Running Away from Home or Care, Exploited, Privately Fostered or similar.
- Raise awareness and work together to combat the vulnerability of young people who may be subject to exploitation be it:
 - Sexual
 - Trafficking
 - Begging
 - Poverty
 - Homelessness

The Group meets every 6 weeks and attendance is consistent with statutory and third sector organisations represented. There is also an Intelligence Group which meets in between VEMT meetings to identify and support multi agency working.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

The Inaugural meeting to initiate this multi-agency work group took place in November 2011 with Terms of Reference endorsed by the LSCB.

Running away or going missing from home is a key indicator that a child might be involved in sexual grooming and children in care are three times more likely to run away than children living at home. When they go missing, they place themselves in great danger of being physically or sexually abused.

The VEMT Task Group has sought to strengthen the identification of children in the SBC area who having missing episodes making them at risk of sexual exploitation and/or trafficking and ensure they are referred into and managed within formal child protection processes at the appropriate level.

The Private Fostering Statement, Communications Strategy and Plan have been reviewed by the group and the vulnerability of young people in the digital world has also been discussed.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

The Operational Intelligence Group will promote and publicise their existence with contact details being given to professionals so that they are aware of the group.

Updates to the RMHC procedures reflect the developments being progressed by Children and Young Peoples services.

The Missing Clients module in the ICS System for CESC is now up and running. The system will be looked at in one month's time with a view to producing reports from the information collected. This will feed into identifying themes and trends as well as feeding the Intelligence group with information regarding perpetrators who are harbouring children and young people.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

The foundation blocks are in place for the VEMT Task Group to move on and further develop:

- safeguarding and protection
- bringing offenders to justice
- public confidence and community engagement

The effectiveness of the work of this group will be measured by:

- Front line professionals increasing their knowledge and confidence to report CSE.
- An increased number of referral of victims / potential victims of exploitation.
- An increased number of Section 2 abduction notices / sanctioned detections for child sexual

exploitation / court disposals and convictions.

- Community engagement activity – increased confidence of our diverse communities in partners and SLSCB to tackle and address issues of exploitation in the local communities.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

An action plan identifying clear pathways as to how improvements in this area will be made in Stockton is being developed and will be incorporated into the SLSCB 2012 / 2014 Action Plan. It will clearly show how we intend to develop and deliver specific multi-agency training which will raise awareness and develop skills and knowledge of front line staff to a suitable level so they can identify and address the issue of vulnerable young people including those subject to child sexual exploitation. This training will compliment the well developed multi agency training that is currently delivered.

Vulnerable children in the community will then be better protected from CSE because the workforce is more able to recognise and respond to their needs including CSE.

Challenges that Still Remain:

- Contribute to public campaigns: e.g. Private Fostering, CSE.
- Undertake specific activity to talk to and listen to vulnerable Children and Young People including those who have been at risk of or have suffered from CSE.
- Undertake specific activity to share experiences of CSE from the child's perspective with C&YP: share information about keeping safe and where to seek help

[3.1.2 Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council Children, Education & Social Care:](#)

[3.1.2a Children, Education & Social Care \(Children's Services\):](#)

Name of Board Member: Jane Humphreys (Corporate Director)
Lynda Brown (Head of Children, Schools & Complex Needs)
Shaun McLurg (Head of Children Young People's Operational Services)

Report Completed by: Shaun McLurg

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- Children's centres and early years services
- Children's social care services (including Tees wide Emergency Duty Team)
- Children with complex needs
- Independent reviewing function
- School improvement function
- Youth service (including Connexions and YOS)
-
- Corporate Director, Children Education and Social Care is accountable for all above services which are monitored and performance managed via Children's Trust Management Team (CTMT).

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- Vulnerable Exploited Missing and Trafficked (VEMT) sub group established
- Missing from home procedure and protocol implemented
- Private fostering procedures updated and training provided
- AIM (young people who are a risk of sexual harm) training completed for managers, social workers and residential staff
- Exit questionnaires for care leavers undertaken and outcomes fed back to service manager
- Procedures updated in light of care planning regulations 2010
- National minimum standards for adoption, fostering and residential care implemented
- All young people entering secure estate for remands or sentencing assessed for vulnerability, informing Youth Justice Board (YJB) placement decisions

- Procedures to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults during restorative justice processes reviewed
- Training package in relation to safeguarding and attachment developed by Educational Psychology Service/Workforce Development
- Training package in relation to safeguarding/assessing children with additional needs developed by Complex Needs Social Work Team/Workforce development
- Hartburn Lodge/Complex Needs Social Work Team/Abbey Hill School and Technology College – sex/relationships training provided for children and young people with disabilities
- Training to social workers in relation to sibling interaction/assessment provided by Educational Psychology Service

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

- Looked After Children (LAC) briefing/training provided to school governors and community groups
- Regulation 33 (visits to children's homes) training provided to elected members

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

- Evidence of improvement noted by Ofsted in unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment services
- Adoption services assessed as 'outstanding' by Ofsted
- All children's homes are assessed as 'good' by Ofsted
- Early Support Nursery assessed as 'outstanding' in relation to safeguarding
- All Children's Centres inspected so far (High Flyers, Redhill, Sunrise) assessed as 'good' in relation to safeguarding

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- AIM assessment procedures to be finalised
- Two new children's homes to be registered and opened
- Analysis of Common Assessment Framework (CAF) outcomes to be undertaken
- Enhance use of risk taking behaviour (RTB) toolkits across integrated youth support service
- Increase take up of training/support from Educational Psychology Service for social work teams
- Ensure new Children's Centre providers deliver services consistently with SLSCB procedures
- Training and development in relation to safeguarding for short break providers

Challenges that Still Remain:

As above

3.1.2b Housing:

Name of Board Member: Julie Nixon (Head of Housing)

Report Completed by: Caroline Wood

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Fulfils the Council's strategic housing function; duties under homeless legislation; delivers the Housing Benefit service and the private sector housing service. In addition, the Housing Service leads on a number of 'housing lead' regeneration projects in partnership with a number of Registered Housing providers.

Head of Housing is a member of the Safeguarding Board and Lead Professional for the CAF. Housing Options Manager is the Housing Author for Management and Serious Case Reviews; is a member of the Children's Workforce Development Group and the Tees wide Safeguarding Children Policies and procedures group and represents Housing on MALAP; also lead officer in Housing for CAF.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- All appropriate staff undertake Safeguarding Children and CAF training, and are subject to Enhanced CRB checks.

- Safeguarding Children Training to be provided for all contractors who visit clients homes carry out works to renovate or adapt properties.
- As part of the Housing Options assessment Safeguarding is considered and recorded whenever a child is part of the household. A corporate form is to be introduced from May 2012 so that this practice is adopted across the whole of the Housing Service.
- Regular independent audits are undertaken of current homeless applications to specifically identify any safeguarding issues and to ensure that these have been considered and acted on appropriately.
 - This includes lone 16 and 17 year olds whose vulnerability and susceptibility to Safeguarding concerns are considered and responded to in the same way.
 - The results of the audit have been positive but wherever areas for concern have been identified these are incorporated in discussions at full team meetings. – this approach is to be introduced across the rest of the Housing Service in 2012.
- By nature of the services provided by Housing; there is a vast amount of information held about households in the Borough and this has been formally recognised in respect of sharing of information in serious case and management reviews in both safeguarding children and through the MAPPA process.
- In recognition that households with children who are placed in temporary accommodation are particularly vulnerable, a CAF 1 is instigated in all cases.
- Housing Options is in the process of implementing a new bespoke IT management system. Within the system we have incorporated mandatory fields regarding safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults
- Housing and Council Tax Benefit Service - Under Local Housing Allowance rules benefit is generally paid to the tenant. However staff will apply discretion to pay the landlord direct when the tenant is a vulnerable person who is likely to have difficulty in managing his/her affairs. This provides a safeguard for the most vulnerable tenants and reassures them that their benefit and rent will be paid, helping to prevent rent arrears and tenants being put at risk of eviction.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Lone 16 and 17 year olds are jointly considered by Housing Options, the Through Care Team and all other relevant services in a coordinated and structured way to ensure the Corporate Parenting responsibilities are fulfilled

Housing is represented at MARAC, MAPPA, Domestic Violence Forum and a host of other relevant partnerships.

We attend Safeguarding Children meetings and Team around the Child meetings where there are housing concerns.

Housing instigated MAPPA training to be embraced and delivered as part of the rolling programme of Safeguarding Children training.

The Housing and Neighbourhood Partnership is the thematic partnership to deliver the Council Plan and is used as a successful platform for raising awareness of Safeguarding issues and consideration of outcomes from Serious and Management case reviews to inform practice and procedures.

Housing has taken a proactive role in influencing the active participation and commitment of Tristar Homes and other providers of affordable housing in the Council's Safeguarding agenda.

- The Benefit Service has worked closely with the housing options service to provide targeted support to help meet the housing needs of claimants affected by Housing Benefit reforms. For example, preventing homelessness, negotiating with landlords, supporting people who need to move and giving money advice.

- Private Sector Housing: Example of how the provision of Safeguarding Children Training can have an effective outcome

An officer in the Private Sector Housing Division received a complaint about poor housing conditions in a privately rented flat. The officer visited the property and during the course of his inspection he was told by the tenant that she was concerned that there was no effective heating in the property. She was especially concerned because she had a child who was also living in the flat.

A man was present at the time of the inspection who the tenant introduced to our Officer as her 'support worker'. Our Officer was suspicious of this as the man did not present himself in a professional manner.

Following up his inspection, the officer contacted the managing agent for the property and advised of the works that were needed to remedy the unacceptable conditions in the flat. During the conversation, the managing agent advised that there should be no children occupying the flat.

The officer immediately contacted the First Contact Unit regarding his concerns and a Social Worker visited the same day to take the appropriate action to safeguard the child.

The officer knew to follow this procedure as a direct result of the training he received.

- Housing actively contributes to CESC inspections.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

- All Registered Housing providers as well as Tristar Homes need to be engaged and actively contributing to the Council's Safeguarding agenda.
- Promotion and development of the Tees wide Safeguarding Website.
- System to be put in place (to share details with First Contact) for all households that are moved as a direct result of a housing lead regeneration scheme.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

The Benefit Service envisages an increase in requests for additional support in 2012/13 due to the Welfare Reforms. We will work closely with the housing options service, social services, Jobcentre Plus and local advice agencies to give existing claimants who could potentially be affected as much notice as possible and offer them appropriate support to prepare for the changes.

Ensuring services working with Adults give consideration to children first

Ensuring the resources are available to meet the increased demand for services due to the recession and its impact on households.

Ensuring professionals are consistent in their tolerances of acceptable standards irrespective of location, tenure and circumstances.

Challenges that Still Remain:

As above

3.1.3 Cleveland Police:

Name of Board Member: Jason Dickson (Temporary Detective Chief Inspector Public Protection)

Dave Toor (Temporary Chief Inspector Stockton District)

Report Completed by: TDCI Jason Dickson

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Cleveland Police's primary role in safeguarding is to work with partners to protect children from harm and to bring to justice those who commit crimes against children.

Cleveland Police is committed to being an active member of Stockton LSCB, in July 2009 the Force established "Vulnerability Units" with one team (North Tees) covering Hartlepool and Stockton and the other team (South Tees) covering Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland.

The Vulnerability Units are dedicated teams of detectives and police staff bringing together specialist investigators in the fields of domestic abuse, child abuse, honour based violence and vulnerable adult abuse.

The team's child abuse investigators work closely with partners from other agencies to ensure children are safeguarded. This includes attendance and contributions at multi agency strategy meetings, joint investigations, serious case review panels and committees and joint training with partners to ensure a co-ordinated approach is taken to safeguarding.

Detectives conduct rigorous joint investigations into allegations of physical abuse, sexual abuse and neglect. The safeguarding of victims is paramount in all such investigations and the Vulnerability Unit is a point of contact and source of advice to any police officer in relation to issues of safeguarding.

Each Vulnerability Unit has a Detective Inspector reporting to the Detective Chief Inspector responsible for public protection who is a member of Stockton LSCB.

The Chief Inspector responsible for Neighbourhood policing for Stockton District is also a board member. This ensures that safeguarding issues are core business for all police officers and staff working in Stockton and not just the specialist Vulnerability Units.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Through a risk assessment process conducted at all reported domestic abuse incidents Cleveland Police identify safeguarding issues with young people and act accordingly to protect young people from harm, abuse and 'hidden harm'. The domestic abuse reports are risk assessed by staff within the Vulnerability Units which strengthens our approach to tackling child abuse linked to domestic abuse.

The majority of police officers and police staff in Stockton have now completed an E learning package on safeguarding children which should assist them in spotting signs that a child is being abused and knowing what to do about it.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Cleveland Police are represented on Stockton LSCB and a number of its sub groups including the DCI for Public Protection chairing the SCR sub Committee. The DCI for Public Protection is also chair for 3 other LSCB SCR sub groups which helps to share the learning from SCR's across Tees.

Officers from the Vulnerability Units attend child protection strategy meetings, Initial Child Protection Conferences and LADO meetings. Attendance by this small number of officers ensures a consistent approach is taken by Cleveland Police. Attendance at these meetings is a performance measure for the Vulnerability Units to ensure we continue to effectively contribute to partnership working in safeguarding children.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

A monthly audit is carried out by each of the vulnerability unit Detective Inspectors to ensure crimes are recorded ethically (NCRS), victims are kept informed of the progress of investigations (VCOP) and that we work effectively with partners using multi-agency policies and procedures. The above audit contributes to a robust performance management system which exists within Cleveland Police to ensure we are working towards our goals and fully contributing to partnership working to ensure children are safeguarded.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

The process for carrying out SCR's is likely to be subject to change following recommendations in the Munro report. It is important that the subsequent process implemented is fit for purpose and robust. As chair of the SCR Committee the DCI responsible for Public Protection will have a key part to play in this.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Introduction of Police and Crime Commissioners
Impact of current financial climate

3.1.4 Durham Tees Valley Probation Service:

Name of Board Member: Lucia Saiger (Director of Operations)

Report Completed by: Lucia Saiger

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust provides high quality, timely advice to sentencers and the Parole Board. Our supervision of offenders in the community helps protect the public from harm, reduces reoffending, attempts to rehabilitate offenders and supports victims. By working with offenders to change their lifestyles and enable them to change their behaviour, offender managers safeguard and promote the welfare of offenders' children. The Trust is governed by the Durham Tees Valley Probation Board.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

All offender managers have been trained to consider the issues and risks associated with children who live in families where offending occurs. Emphasis within training and in on going staff supervision is on the issues associated with Neglect , Misuse of Drugs and Alcohol , Mental Health and Domestic Violence

The recent offender management inspection by HMIP reflected the positive role we undertake managing risk of harm including safeguarding children. Offender Managers work to local Safeguarding Children Board procedures in respect of early recognition of needs within a family through to actions required to safeguard children in need of protection. All staff understand and comply with the Common Assessment Framework to highlight needs at the earliest point of contact

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Durham Tees Valley Probation Trust contribute to multi agency working through Director commitment to LSCB, management involvement in local discussions with social care colleagues, individual offender manager contributions to case conferences and core groups. Additionally the Trust has a responsibility under Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements to manage in partnership with others those people who pose the highest risk of harm. The Trust also play a full part in the MARAC process to manage victims of domestic violence. Developments this year include the contribution to the troubled families' agenda, working in partnership with all organisations to change behaviour within households and a particular emphasis on Domestic Violence as a key issue which affects families and particularly children. The Trust have played a part in promoting the links between parents in prison and the impact on children and how contacts can be established at an early point with the prison and the family with the aim of dealing with any safeguarding issues but also to promote the continuation of parent /child relationships during a prison sentence if this is in the best interests of the child.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Case sampling within the organisation has demonstrated best practice in identifying families where risk is a particular issue and also recognising neglect. Contributions to case conferences and core groups are effectively monitored through monthly case record checks by the Probation Manager Also the introduction of a process to share information, the CPP3 process has been implemented successfully and evidence is available from the most recent inspection to verify this has worked well.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

Recognising the challenge of parenting skills work with offenders being provided by appropriate agencies as well as tackling the issues of neglect with families in Durham Tees Valley.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Ensuring continued focus on early intervention with families and recognising the agencies who can contribute to work with offenders and their families.

3.1.5 Health NHS Tees:

Name of Board Member: Beverley Reilly

Report Completed by: Alex Giles Designated Nurse

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

NHS Tees has statutory duties under the Children Act 1989 and Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It is accountable for improving the health and wellbeing of the population of Stockton-on Tees, which includes assessing the health needs of the town's children and young people and planning the kind of health services they need. NHS Tees is under a legal obligation to work with Stockton-on Tees's local authority in carrying out this responsibility. NHS Tees commissions health services from a range of providers and holds the providers of these services to account via contracts. NHS Tees Chief Executive is responsible for ensuring the health contribution to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is discharged effectively across the whole of Stockton-on-Tees health economy. NHS Tees is a statutory partner of Stockton-on-Tees Safeguarding Children Board (SLSCB.)

Governance arrangements for NHS Tees are via its Patient Safety, Quality and Safeguarding Committee. This committee reports directly to NHS Tees Board. Additionally via external audit i.e. Audit North NHS, the Special Health Authority, (previously the Strategic Health Authority) the Care Quality Commission and SLSCB.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- NHS Tees has a Board Lead to take responsibility for governance and organisational focus on safeguarding children and a Senior Nurse and Consultant Paediatrician (designated senior professionals) to take a strategic, professional lead on all aspects of the health service contribution to safeguarding children across the local health economy. This is in accordance with statutory requirements.
- NHS Tees has significantly improved its quality assurance framework for safeguarding children with the development of the Patient Safety, Quality and Safeguarding Committee and Clinical Quality Review Groups (CQRG) which enable NHS Tees to scrutinise and robustly challenge the professional safeguarding children practice of its NHS Foundation Trust providers.
- Robust safeguarding children quality indicators are embedded into NHS Foundation Trusts and certain other provider contracts and by routinely monitoring contracts NHS Tees is able to assure itself that providers are meeting the required safeguarding children standards.
- All GP Practices have an up to date Child Protection Policy in place agreed by NHS Tees, which incorporates the child protection quality standards required of GPs. 93% of Stockton-on-Tees GP Practices have received a support visit from NHS Tees, which includes discussing Practices' compliance with the Child Protection Policy.
- NHS Tees provides safeguarding children training to Stockton-on-Tees GPs, of which 95% have been trained to date. Also to GP Practice staff.
- NHS Tees provides each Stockton-on-Tees GP and GP Practice with feedback on their rate of return of information to child protection conferences. This enables GPs/Practices to see their success, identify areas for improvement and also challenge any incorrect data. Since this system has been put into place there has been a significant improvement with an average of 79%% return during the last year and in the final quarter of 2011 85% return as compared with 71% in the final quarter of the previous year.
- 100% of Stockton GP Practices have a Child Protection Lead
- NHS Tees has commissioned holistic paediatric assessments for all children who become subject to a child protection plan for neglect so as to identify and plan for any unmet health and development needs. A system of audit is in place.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

NHS Tees is an active participant on Stockton-on-Tees Safeguarding Children Board, Executive Committee and its Task Groups including the Tees wide Groups i.e. the Child Death Overview Panel, Procedures and Training Groups. NHS Tees co-ordinates the health input into Stockton-on-Tees serious case reviews and management reviews and monitors the compliance of providers with action plans to better safeguard children for example 'Andrew' and 'Colin'. NHS Tees contributes funding to Stockton-on-Tees Safeguarding Children Board and in 2011/12 contributed additional funding to better support multi-agency training

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Ofsted and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) last undertook an integrated inspection of Safeguarding and Looked After Children services in Stockton-on-Tees in 2010, which concluded the aggregated inspection outcome was adequate for Safeguarding and for Looked After Children good. The CQC identified several examples of good practice by NHS Tees including good partnership working and strong safeguarding key performance indicators.

NHS Tees undertakes quarterly safeguarding children self-assessments, which are reported to the North East Strategic Health Authority. The assessments continue to show compliance with Section 11 of the 2004 Children Act and the overall effectiveness of NHS Tees safeguarding children arrangements.

In liaison with the SHA, NHS Tees has produced an action plan identifying areas for improvement and development within safeguarding children for 2012/13. Examples are given below:

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- To ensure outcomes measured are the ones that matter most to children, young people and their families.
- Improvement in the active involvement of children, young people and families in the planning and evaluation of safeguarding services.
- Training post Munro
- Think child, think parent, think family approach.

Challenges that Still Remain:

- To continue to support Tees Clinical Commissioning Groups prepare for their safeguarding responsibilities and help them to be fit for purpose at authorisation.
- To continue to strive to constantly improve the quality of our arrangements for safeguarding children
- To embed within all contracts high quality safeguarding children standards and to improve on monitoring compliance with contracts.

3.1.6 North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust:

Name of Board Member: Sue Smith - Director of Nursing & Patient Safety

Linda Watson - Clinical Director Community Services

Report Completed by: Lindsey Robertson - Named Nurse Children's Safeguarding

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

North Tees & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust (NT & H NHS FT) delivers the standards as defined by the Care Quality Commission (CQC),

Section 11 arrangements and the local LSCB audit requirements; ensuring that children are protected from harm and comply with the principles laid down in the Children Act (1989 and 2004), Working Together to Safeguarding Children (HM Government 2010), and the Local Child Protection procedures of, Stockton.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

A mnemonic has been created 'ACHILD' which is used as a trigger to alert staff to a concern in A&E; Major improvements to the identification and referral pathways are ongoing including sharing of information; identifying concerns about parenting if the adult has care of children; and will inform the work going on across Tees; Quality audit record panels are now embedded in children's services

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Named Nurse and Named Doctor represent on Procedures & Practice; Performance and Quality and Workforce Development; Facilitated discussion 'Daniel' and joint action planning.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

CQC inspection took place as part of the integrated inspection of safeguarding and services for looked after children took place in 2010. At the same time the Trust had identified as part of a health management review that policies and procedures were not in place for looked after children. This policy has now been developed and at the same time the Trust will identify those children who are looked after with a flagging system to ensure appropriate provision of services and consideration of risk.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

Implementing recommendations from Eileen Munro's review of Safeguarding Children working in partnership with LSCB's including of revision of Working Together 2010, Further development of the quality assurance framework including observational audit; Safeguarding supervision for medical staff

Challenges that Still Remain:

Implementation and evaluation of Family Nurse Partnership and the impact of the Health Visitor Expansion plan; Ensuring that children and young people in Stockton remain safe as Health services continue to be in a period of transition with national and local change including the introduction of clinical commissioning.

3.1.7 CAFCASS:

Name of Board Member: Janice Deakin, Service Manager

Report Completed by: Marie Gittins, Head of Service / National Safeguarding Team
Janice Deakin, Service Manager

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Safeguarding is a key function of Cafcass, set out in the founding legislation. Section 12.1 of the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000 states that in respect of family proceedings in which the welfare of children is or may be in question it is a function of Cafcass to: safeguard and promote the welfare of the children; give advice to any court about any application made to it in such proceedings; make provision for the children to be represented in such proceedings and to provide information, advice and other support for the children and their families.

Cafcass is accountable to the Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Children and Families in the Department for Education (DfE), which is our sponsoring department. We work within the strategic objectives agreed by DfE and contribute to wider government objectives relating to children.

Cafcass is governed by the Cafcass Board, Chaired by Baroness Claire Tyler. The Cafcass Board is an independent body of appointed members who come from experienced backgrounds in Social Work, Children's Services, Child Protection and the Family Justice System.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Cafcass has in place the following policies that outline our key safeguarding arrangements:

- Operating Framework (April 2012)
- Child Protection Policy (April 2012)
- Supervision Policy (updated April 2012)
- Reporting to Court Policy (updated Dec 2011)

The Operating Framework outlines how we meet our responsibilities as a court social work service – to children and young people, to courts and to people with parental responsibilities, as required by legislation, through supporting and promoting safe and timely outcomes for children and young people and at a time of rising demand for our services. It replaces the Safeguarding Framework.

Cafcass measures its safeguarding performance against a number of key performance indicators (KPIs). A2 (Durham, Tees Valley and York) data for 1.4.2011 until 31.3.2012 shows:

1. Significant improvements in the allocation of cases within target dates - e.g. 100% of public law cases were allocated to a Children's Guardian at month end exceeding target of 97%; 99.8% of cases were allocated to a Children's Guardian by the Case Management Conference exceeding target of 97%; 99.9% private law cases were allocated to a Family Court Advisor at month end exceeding target of 97%.
These improvements have been made in spite of an increase in public and private law work within A2.
2. 99.9% of section 7 reports were filed by the date agreed with the court.

Nationally 96% of safeguarding assessments were rated as satisfactory or higher by Cafcass management narrowly missing the target of 97%.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Cafcass contributes to multi-agency working in line with the Private Law Programme and the Public Law Outline. Cafcass also contributes to serious case reviews and other learning reviews; multi-agency and internal audits and to the national and local Family Justice Board

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Cafcass Annual Report contains information and statistics on the effectiveness and performance of Cafcass. The report is available on Cafcass' website:

http://www.cafcass.gov.uk/publications/reports_and_strategies.aspx

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- To continue to improve the quality of work undertaken in both private and public law.
- To further develop understanding of role and responsibilities between agencies.
- To improve the timescale for safeguarding checks being undertaken.
- To implement Operational Framework.

Challenges that Still Remain:

- Regular meetings and liaison with Police and Local Authorities in respect of Safeguarding checks and information sharing.
- Quality Assurance of work to ensure appropriate assessment and analysis of information received and systems in place for screening.
- Effective management of workload to address increased demand within current resources.
- **Cafcass to prepare and contribute to forthcoming changes to Family Justice system and the impact this will have on children and families involved with the Courts**

3.1.8 Her Majesties Prison Service:

Name of Board Member: Elaine Hunneyset (Head of Offender Management)

Report Completed by: Elaine Hunneyset

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Prisons have a legal responsibility to safeguard and promote the welfare of the children in their custody and other children with whom they have contact. They have policies and arrangements designed to protect children committed to their custody from significant harm, including self-harm or suicide, harm from other children, (bullying and other potential forms of abuse which may occur in prison), and harm from staff and other adults, e.g. visitors. Prisons also have a responsibility to

safeguard the children who are not in the Service's custody but with whom the Service has routine contact e.g. children visiting the establishment, and prisoners' children who are resident in Mother and Baby Units. They must minimise the risks of harm to children in the community by prisoners who have been identified as presenting such a risk, which could occur during any form of contact with a child, including correspondence, telephone and visits. Directors and Governors must also facilitate access to Local Authority social workers to undertake their duties under Children Act 1989.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

There are two prisons in the Stockton-on-Tees area. HMP Holme House is a large Category B local prison and HMP Kirklevington Grange is a small semi-open resettlement prison. Both establishments hold adult prisoners. They have dedicated public protection staff who monitor and manage the prison safeguarding children arrangements and Harassment procedures. This includes identifying those prisoners who pose a risk to children and monitoring or stopping any form of contact with children where necessary.

A new development this year is the introduction of a member of staff from Victim Support working alongside the prison public protection team offering an enhanced level of contact with victims of domestic abuse.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Multi-agency risk assessments are completed in all cases where a potential risk to children is identified. This will determine what, if any, contact the prisoner is allowed with a child and the nature of the contact. This will only be granted where it is deemed to be in the interests of the child.

Prisons also contribute via reports or attendance to Initial Child Protection Conferences, MAPPA meetings, MARAC meetings and other information sharing arenas.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

The last internal Public Protection audit score was 100% compliant.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

We need to continue to develop stronger links with Children's Services and Vulnerability Units across the Durham Tees Valley area to ensure that we are alerted to prisoners of concern to other agencies so that we can work together to protect children.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Promoting the support that prisons can give to other agencies so that we work together during an offenders custodial period and beyond.

[3.1.9 Tees Esk & Wear Valley NHS Foundation Trust:](#)

Name of Board Member: Karen Agar

Report Completed by: Chris Stanbury - Executive Director of Nursing and Governance / Trust Safeguarding lead.

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- To provide mental health and learning disabilities services
- To meet the requirements of the Care Quality Commission Essential Standards of Safety and Quality and the responsibilities of 'Working Together' in safeguarding the population that services are provided to.
-
- Safeguarding is governed by:
 - Ensuring an executive safeguarding lead on the Board of Directors
 - Representation on all LSCB's in the localities where the Trust provides services
 - Internal Trust Safeguarding Groups that are assurance working groups to the Quality and Assurance Committee (QuAC) – which is the sub-committee of the Board of Directors that is responsible for monitoring assurance of the provision of safe and effective services and

- compliance, together with regulation and legislation
- Regular audit, assurance and performance reports to the QuAC and to commissioners

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- Safeguarding is administered and led by a team managed within the corporate Directorate of Nursing and Governance, supported with a Trust wide network of operational staff in the role of Safeguarding Link staff. The team comprises of a Named Doctor (1 session) An Associate Named Doctor (1 session) A Named Nurse (1.0 wte) Senior Nurses (3.0 wte) First contact trainer (1.0 wte) and team administrator (1.0 wte) with management provided by the Associate Director of Nursing and Compliance.
- Safeguarding is a key activity for the Trust - this year there has been expansion in the team, compliance with training targets has increased significantly, safeguarding audit programme has been implemented and the training strategy has been reviewed. All training programmes have been fully implemented and new systems have been developed to track concerns and referrals. The Trust has participated fully in LSCB activity and maintained all the internal assurance requirements. There has been an annual programme for Trust Board involvement established and seminars have been held.
- All Section 11 assessments have been completed and quality indicator requirements have been met for the commissioners of services.
- The Trust has established good systems for the involvement in MARAC process, has contributed to the development of Teeswide procedures and is a key player in the development of a Think Child Think Parent Think Family protocol for use in MH/LD with the Tees Designated Nurse.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

See above – and contribution to multi agency training programmes and working groups.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

All objectives and annual plan priorities have been met for safeguarding children. Quarterly performance reports have been submitted to commissioners that include training compliance and last quarter safeguarding case file audits. Commissioners have been satisfied with assurance of performance provided.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- Further development of compliance audits
- Implementation of new Level 3 training requirements
- Full compliance with Think Child, Think Parent, Think Family system across all services

Challenges that Still Remain:

Working across 7 LSCB areas with local authorities that all have different referrals systems, initiatives, priorities and procedures.

3.1.10 Drugs & Alcohol Action Team:

Name of Board Member: Emma Champley (*Strategic Commissioner Manager*)

Report Completed by: Kerry Anderson – *Modernisation Manager*

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

The Drug & Alcohol Action Team (DAAT) are responsible for commissioning and co-coordinating high quality substance misuse services across Stockton by working in partnership with all those concerned in reducing the harm caused by substance misuse to individuals, their families and communities. They work in partnership with a number of key stakeholders including public health, police, prisons, probation service, youth offending service, community safety, children's services, housing, adult strategy, Job Centre Plus through various forums both strategically and operationally. The DAAT reports to the Safer Stockton Partnership and Health & Well Being Board.

All DAAT commissioned Services work towards the key areas set out in the National Drugs Strategy 2010 through contracts and outcome based Service Level Agreements. The National Drug Strategy 2010 has a focus on “Keeping Children Safe and Rebuilding Families” which is reflected in contracts. Through performance and contract management, the DAAT ensures that Services work within “Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010” guidance and follow existing pathways including providing early intervention and targeted work around parental substance misuse and takes a strategic approach to tackling drug and alcohol misuse and developing wider support to vulnerable young people and families.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

The Common Assessment Framework procedure in line with the “Continuum of Needs and Services Framework” has been fully supported by the DAAT and has been fully integrated within all of the DAAT commissioned Services. Each service have an identified safeguarding & CAF lead in order to ensure ease of communication between services and to offer guidance to colleagues on these matters to ensure internal procedures are compliant with local safeguarding procedures.

CAF processes and safeguarding is a standard agenda item on DAAT led provider manager meetings in which learning from case reviews is discussed. This meeting is attended periodically by the CAF Coordinator who highlights any process issues where relevant. Safeguarding procedures and actions from the LSCB Action Plan are also topics for review in the performance management of services.

There is continuing delivery of evidence based parenting programmes within community drug services & prisons.

CRI Family Service (families where drugs or alcohol is a factor) provides child-focussed interventions, support parents to stay in treatment and build parenting capacity. They have started to use an evidenced based model “Moving Parents and Children Closer Together” (MPACT).which explores a whole family approach to meeting the needs of children and their parent.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

The DAAT continue to work in close partnership with a multitude of key agencies through various forums to ensure that services are joined up and effectively meet the needs of the clients and their families.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

As a result of a presentation given by the DAAT to the LSCB Peer Challenge, Scrutiny & Special Quality Assurance Board Meeting their proactive work in the implementation of CAF in adult substance misuse services was acknowledged and applauded by Shaun McLurg.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

The following were areas for consideration as a result of the LSCB Peer Challenge, Scrutiny & Special Quality Assurance Board Meeting:

1. How often senior managers in services review case files in relation to safeguarding
2. Ensuring that safeguarding was robustly reviewed within contract reviews of services

There are also identified actions within the LSCB Action Plan which have been monitored throughout the year which have been addressed through contract reviews.

Safeguarding is regularly under scrutiny during the periodic contract reviews of all adult substance misuse services and the DAAT are satisfied that the management and supervision of case files within services is carried out formally on a monthly basis through one to one supervision meetings and informally on a weekly or daily basis through team briefings.

All service contracts have been aligned with Section 11 of the Children Act.

Challenges that Still Remain:

To continue to develop the agenda across both adults and children's services to ensure that the needs of families where parental drug & alcohol misuse is a factor are being met, through effective commissioning of services, joined up protocols and clear pathways.

To continue to increase the number of people who leave treatment services successfully especially due to the numbers in treatment services who are parents.

3.1.11 Independent Lay Members– Representative of the local community

Name of Board Member: Jo Thornhill & Lesley Cooke

Report Completed by: Jo Thornhill

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- To fulfil the requirements of 'Working together to Safeguard Children' by having independent lay members, who reside in the local area, on the board that can represent the interests of the local community and act as a 'critical friend' to the board via attendance at meetings and having access to and commenting on, key documentation.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Achievements include attending all board meetings over the last year and a seminar delivered by Stephen Shaw on the role of the lay person in contributing to the business of the board. The lay members are now a familiar presence at board meetings

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Not directly applicable to the lay members role

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Not directly applicable to the lay members role

Areas for Development / Improvement:

To continue to contribute to the board by reading and commenting on key documents/changes in the services offered to children and families and gain confidence in challenging and questioning within the board meetings

Challenges that Still Remain:

One challenge is time management issues between the lay member's role and professional commitments to paid employment. This includes having the time to ensure that the lay person has sufficient current and updated knowledge that allows informed challenge/questioning to be made within board meetings

3.1.12 Independent Schools

Name of Board Member: Alex Taylor Head Teacher Redhouse Independent School

Report Completed by: Alex Taylor

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- There are three independent schools within Stockton on Tees: Red Houses School, Teesside High School and Yarm School. All three schools are independent of each other with their own board of Governors. All three Head Teachers are members of independent school associations, namely ISA, GSA, SHMISH and HMC. In turn these associations are all members of the Independent Schools Council (ISC). Each school is independently responsible for safeguarding. The School including its governors have a statutory responsibility for the welfare of the children, including safeguarding, that attend the school.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Each school is independently and separately responsible for its safeguarding and child welfare responsibilities.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Schools have undertaken statutory training as appropriate. The Common Assessment Form (CAF) has been used where appropriate

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Red House School and Yarm School were inspected by the Independent Schools Inspectorate (ISI) in 2011. Both schools met all the regulatory requirements. Teesside High School was last inspected in 2007 and again met all the regulatory requirements.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

Use of CAF as required.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Maintenance of current high standards.

3.1.13 Further Education – Stockton Riverside College:

Name of Board Member: Liz Boynton (Head of H.E, Safeguarding & Professional Development)

Report Completed by: Liz Boynton

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

SRC is a general FE college situated in Thornaby that incorporates sixth form provision on a separate site in Billingham. It delivers education and training to young people from 14 to 16, those aged 16-19 and adults, including learners with learning difficulties and/or disabilities. As an education institution, SRC has a responsibility to safeguard its learners, staff and visitors through the provision and maintenance of a safe environment.

Staff receive awareness training at induction and ongoing training to ensure they are kept updated of changing safeguarding legislation and procedures. This includes attending internal training sessions at least yearly and successfully completing an online safeguarding award developed for the FE sector by LSIS.

Stockton Riverside College has an overarching safeguarding policy and related policies and codes of practice (e.g. safer recruitment of staff) that clearly outline roles and responsibilities. Four Designated Persons for safeguarding are in situ and have all undertaken training for this role within the last 2 years as recommended. The lead Designated Person has undertaken additional training for this role with LSIS within the last year. Governors receive safeguarding reports which include reports on audits of the Single Central Record to enable them to ensure their responsibilities are being discharged.

SRC has a Nominated Governor with responsibility for safeguarding. This governor sits on the college's Safeguarding Group which meet regularly to discuss and action safeguarding related issues. This includes agreeing and monitoring the college's safeguarding development plan.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

- Overarching Safeguarding Strategy
- Policy statement and guidelines
- Ongoing review of procedures to ensure compliance with updated legislation
- Comprehensive Single Central Record of all staff and volunteers (includes safeguarding training and dates references applied for and received)
- Regular audits on the Single Central Register to ensure compliance with requirements. These are reported to the College Management Team
- Safeguarding reports to the Governing Body
- Enhanced CRB disclosures and checks made at appointment (staff and volunteers)
- Written records of CRB risk assessment panels
- Regular CRB re-checks of staff in key areas
- Visitor protocol
- Risk management strategy
- SLSCB Common Assessment Framework (CAF) processes adopted

- Significant increase in safeguarding related information and guidance made available to learners via the personal tutorial system and a safeguarding newsletter distributed to learners
- Safeguarding group meets at least 6 times per year. Representation includes the nominated governor for safeguarding
- Appointment of a Corporate Head of HR to improve the effectiveness of the HR function within the college

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Good partnership working with a range of relevant agencies including Connexions and NHS preventative services

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

A number of measures have been consolidated this year to improve effectiveness and performance including:

- updating policies, strategy and Codes of Practice
- updated training for staff and volunteers
- embedding of the safeguarding management group (main focus – steer and monitoring)
- reporting mechanisms (including regular audit reports) strengthened
- extended staff training (including a requirement for managers to undertake a Safer Recruitment module)
- enhanced personnel processes and monitoring of the Single Central List

SRC was inspected by Ofsted in September 2011 and judged to be satisfactory in relation to safeguarding.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- Incorporating safeguarding responsibilities into job descriptions
- To further improve the gathering of learner views regarding safeguarding especially those with learning difficulties and /or disabilities.
- Further embedding of CAF process into college practices
- Incorporation of the results of Serious Case Reviews into staff & volunteer training
- Increase frequency of updates to staff and volunteers (via a staff newsletter)

Challenges that Still Remain:

- Further developing staff & learner understanding of safe use of social media

3.1.14 Primary Schools:

Name of Board Member: Susan Dawson, Head Teacher

Report Completed by: Susan Dawson

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- Responsibility for safeguarding pupils within statutory regulations. Safeguarding is inspected externally through Ofsted
- Governing bodies generally delegate the daily compliance with safeguarding to the head teacher; this is then reported upon regularly to the governing body. Good practice is for schools to have a named governor with responsibility for safeguarding.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Head teachers, delegated on a day to day basis by the governing body, oversee safeguarding within their schools with respect to their statutory obligations. Significant guidance is provided from the local authority to ensure Head teachers and governing bodies have the latest information in order to meet best practice in safeguarding.

In response to a questionnaire regarding safeguarding training 36 of the 60 primary schools responded of which in the last twelve months:

28 had updated staff safeguarding training

25 had updated governing body training in safeguarding

30 had attended designated officer for safeguarding for training

28 had at least one member of staff or governor who had attended safer recruitment training – in many cases this was more than one person

In addition:

14 had achieved a quality mark for their anti-bullying work – this included both the Stockton-On-Tees anti-bullying accreditation or the Stockton-On-Tees Inclusion quality mark

Almost all schools who responded stated that e-safety was a central part of their ICT curriculum with pupils and the vast majority had provided information for parents regarding e-safety either through workshops, newsletters and in some cases individual support via Parent Support Advisors.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

All schools worked effectively with a wide range of outside agencies. The Common Assessment Form (CAF) has been used to a greater extent than before and of the 36 respondent schools 34 stated that at least one member of staff had attended CAF and/or multi-agency training over the past 12 months to support this.

A group of approximately twenty schools has been meeting representative of the local authority in a joint enterprise to devise effective ways of ensuring best quality multi-agency working in schools where it is recognised there is a high level of families with social care involvement. A number of approaches have been discussed and shared within this forum.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Eleven primary schools were inspected using the previous Ofsted framework until December 2011, of these safeguarding was judged as outstanding in three, good in three and satisfactory in five. Under the new Ofsted framework safeguarding does not receive a separate judgement but is included in the behaviour and safety grading. Of the two schools judged under this framework so far one has been judged outstanding, the other good.

Many schools take advantage of safeguarding audit facilities offered by the local authority including Single Central Record (SCR) checks.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

Development of policy in response to changes to statutory requirements.

Ensuring the development of effective multi-agency working.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Maintenance of procedures and vigilance to ensure pupils continue to be safeguarded following best practice guidance.

Ensuring current best practice is maintained in response to new / anticipated guidance i.e. CRB, school visit risk assessment guidance etc.

3.1.15 Secondary Schools:

Name of Board Member: Elizabeth Horne

Report Completed by: Elizabeth Horne

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

- Local Authority Education – responsibility for safeguarding students within statutory regulations. Safeguarding is inspected through School Ofsted Inspection and as part of Local Authority arrangements for protection of children.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Of those who responded –

- Head Teachers oversee safeguarding within their schools with respect to their statutory duties.
- Designated Officers have a key role in effective implementation of procedures
- All new staff appointed to schools have completed online training.
- All existing staff completed training in Autumn 2010 and are in process of receiving training updates.
- Regular training and updates re- school procedures by all who responded.
- Staff attended Designated Officer/Person training.
- Head Teachers have attended *Safer Recruitment* training.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

- Relevant members of staff have completed CAF training and CAF framework now embedded within practice.
- Designated Officers play a key role in strategy meetings.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

- A number of establishments working towards local authority's *inclusion mark* status.
- Strong focus on e-safety as part of IT and PSHE curriculum.
- Effective use of sixth form students in supporting younger students regarding issues of bullying, cyber bullying.
- Information sharing with parents re. policies, procedures and e- safety is strong.
- Of those who responded and were inspected in the year 2011/12 – Ofsted ratings for Safeguarding were good.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

- Governor training in *Safer Recruitment* process to be further promoted
- Could further develop direct work (workshop based) with parents regarding cyber bullying and e safety.

Challenges that Still Remain:

Maintenance of procedures and vigilance at all levels.

Updating staff training – where large staff numbers and turnover of staff – need to ensure establishments continue to prioritise resources to this area.

Quality assurance of all establishments.

Learning from situations - the results of Serious Case Reviews informing practice.

3.1.16 Barnados:

Name of Board Member: Sandra Egleton (Assistant Director of Children's Services)

Report Completed by: Sandra Egleton

Primary Role, Safeguarding Responsibilities & Governance Arrangements:

Children's charity providing range of services to vulnerable children, safeguarding responsibility to ensure children are kept safe in the services and safeguarding concerns are referred to social care.

Key Safeguarding Arrangements and Achievements:

Mandatory training in place for all staff and volunteers. New safeguarding training for practitioners (Core 1 and 2) and managers. Internal inspection on safeguarding held with resultant action plan.

Contribution to Multi Agency Working:

Staff in Stockton and South Tees have engaged in a range of multi-agency training including updates on procedures and SCRS lessons learnt. Barnardo's delivering training in S.H.B.

Effectiveness and Performance including Inspection Outcomes:

Quality Assessments undertaken on all services in February with resultant action plans including safeguarding (including supervision and recording). No external inspections.

Areas for Development / Improvement:

Safeguarding data in relation to staff on “as and when” contracts and volunteers who become employed needs clarification and requirements for training. Safeguarding induction for agency staff needs addressing.

Challenges that Still Remain:

-

3.2 Locality Profile

Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council is the largest Unitary Authority in the Tees Valley. It is a borough of contrasts with a mixture of busy town centres, urban residential areas and picturesque villages located in the North East of England, between County Durham to the North, Middlesbrough to the East, North Yorkshire to the South and Darlington to the West. It covers a total area of 20,390 hectares and with 9.5 people per hectare, it is more densely populated than the Tees Valley, the North East and England & Wales¹.

The majority of the Borough’s population, an estimated population of 191,100² lives within the following five areas:

- • Stockton Town Centre (with a population of 82,130 and 34,590 households);
- • Billingham (with a population of 35,740 and 14,715 households);
- • Thornaby (with a population of 21,335 and 9,545 households);
- • Norton (with a population of 21,205 and 8,885 households); and,
- • Ingleby Barwick (with a population of 20,740 and 6,995 households).

Overall, 51% of the Borough’s population is female and 49% is male.

Age Groups²

The largest age group in the Borough (equal to 27.9% of the population of Stockton on Tees) is aged 30 – 49.

6.2% aged 0 – 4.

18.8% aged 5 – 19

12.7% aged 20 – 29

27.2% aged 50 – 74

7.1% aged 75 – 85+

3.3 Child Health Profile³

Around 25% of the population of Stockton-on-Tees is under the age of 20 and around 8% of school children are from a black or minority ethnic group.

The health and well-being of children in Stockton-on-Tees is generally worse than the England average. The infant mortality rate is similar to the England average and the child mortality rate is similar to the England average.

The level of child poverty is worse than the England average with 23% of children aged under 16 years living in poverty.

¹ SOURCE: Tees Valley Stats Card 2010 (Tees Valley Unlimited, 2010)

² SOURCE: Mid 2009 Resident Population Estimates (ONS, June 2009):

³ ChiMAT (Child and Maternal Health Observatory)

Children in Stockton-on-Tees have average levels of obesity. 10% of children in Reception and 20% of children in Year 6 are classified as obese. 55% of children participate in at least three hours of sport a week which is similar to the England average.

The MMR immunisation rate is higher than the England average. Immunisation rates for diphtheria, tetanus, polio, pertussis and Hib in children aged two are higher than the England average. GCSE achievement in this area is similar to the England average. 57% of young people gain five or more GCSEs at A* to C grade including maths and English. The percentage of young people aged 16 to 18 not in education, employment or training is higher than the England average.

Social and economic disparities across the borough are reflected in the life experiences of children and young people; inequalities in economic prosperity, in health, in educational attainment, in access to sport, leisure and culture, and in social exclusion and offending. A key aim for all agencies involved in Children's Services is to narrow these gaps by improving services for all children across the borough and to prioritise services for the most in need

3.4 Performance

3.4.1 [Referrals and Assessment Activity](#)⁴

The following provides an overview of the work relating to the protection of children over the period 1 April 2011 – 31 March 2012. Many Local Authorities across the country including Stockton-on-Tees have reported an upsurge in the number of referrals being received by Children's Social Care. Other agencies such as Housing have also reported an upsurge in the number of requests for assistance to their service area for which they have identified a need for assistance for families.

It is considered likely that the poor economic climate was at least partially responsible for this rise, as financial hardship puts families under increased pressure and stress.

This trend has been mirrored locally with a marked rise in the numbers of referrals which has translated into significant workload pressures throughout the social care system and partner agencies.

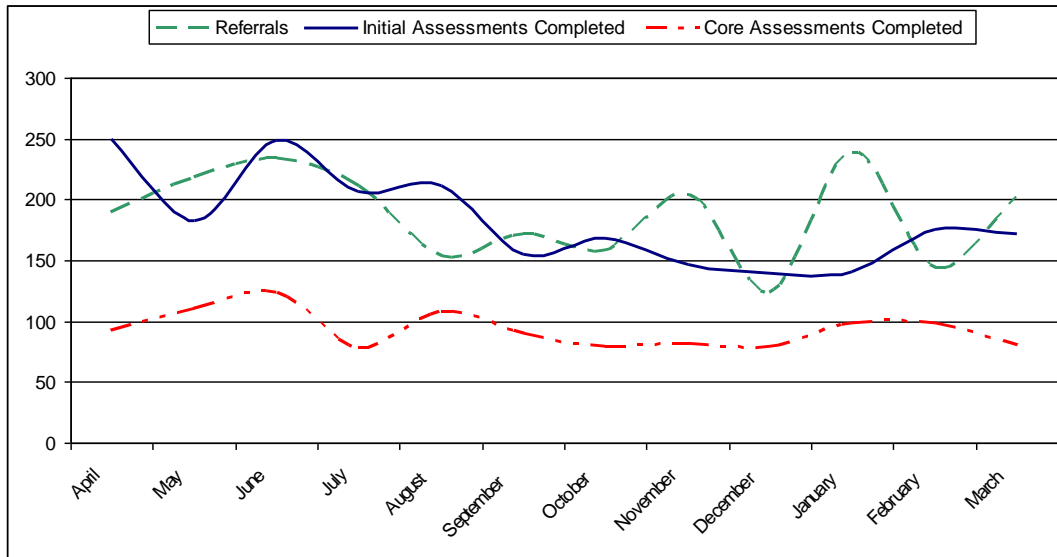
Table 1: Referral and Assessment Activity 2011/12

Month	Referrals	Initial Assessments	Core Assessments
April	190	250	93
May	218	182	111
June	234	249	124
July	211	207	78
August	154	211	108
September	172	155	90
October	158	168	79
November	204	146	82
December	124	139	79
January	239	141	99
February	144	175	98
March	202	172	81

Referral and Assessment Trends

⁴ SOURCE: SBC CESC Report to Members

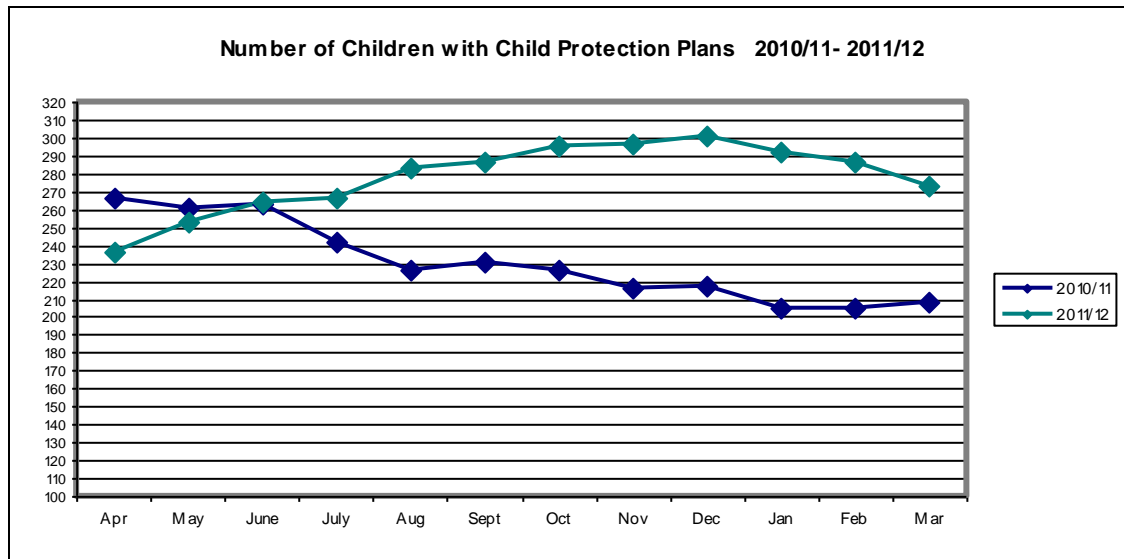
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3.4.2 Child Protection Activity 2011 / 2012⁵

Total number of children with Child Protection Plans on 31st March 2012 was 273. The under 18 population in Stockton-on-Tees is 45,085 the rate of children and young people subject to Child Protection Plans in Stockton-on-Tees was therefore 60 per 10,000 children.

On the 31st March 2011 there were 208 children on the list of children subject to Child Protection Plans; over the 12 months to 31st March 2012 this had increased to 273 children from 121 families. 259 children were removed from the list and there were 324 new plans made.



	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Total
CP Plans removed from list	55	54	63	87	259
New CP Plans	111	77	77	59	324

For the year to 31st March 2012 the rate of children with second or subsequent plans was 14%. This equates to 46 children of the 324 new Plans since 1st April 2011. Analysis shows that the period between Child Protection Plans was greater than 2 years for 28 of these children.

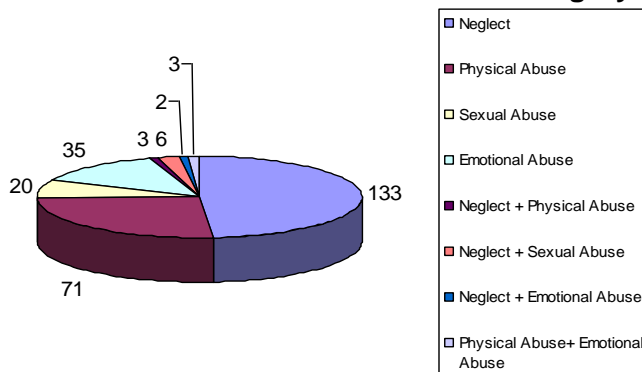
⁵ SOURCE: Adapted from CESC R&D Information

Of the remaining 18 children, 7 from 4 families were made subject to subsequent child protection plans within 2 years, and 11 children from 5 families were within a one year period.

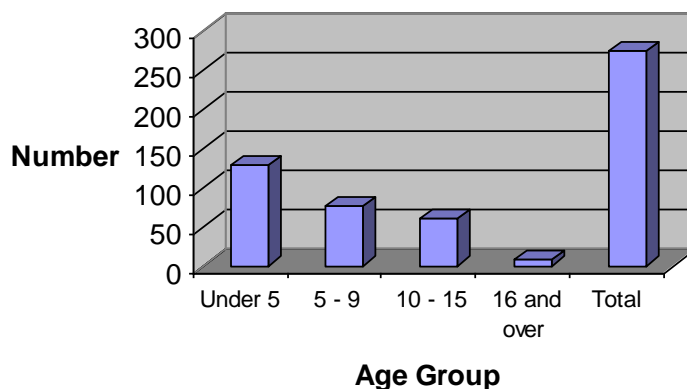
For the subsequent plans within two years, 3 of the 4 families had recurring domestic violence and paternal drugs misuse issues. The other family, 2 children were living with grandparent who failed to apply to court for a residence order.

For the subsequent plans within one year: 1 family with 5 children fled to another Authority where a transfer ICPC reaffirmed our plan and the family moved back to Stockton leading to a subsequent plan within 3 months. The second family with 1 child, within 4 months of the plan ending mother commenced a new relationship with a violent partner. 2 young people from different families moved into households where children were already subject to child protection plans resulting in them being made the subject of a plan in their new respective households. The final 3 children were from a family where issues of severe domestic violence and parental drugs misuse resulted in subsequent plans within 3 months.

31st March 2012 Number of Children and Category for which they had a Child Protection Plan



Ages of Children with a Child Protection Plan



The percentage of children ceasing to be the subject of a Child Protection Plan, who had been the subject of a Child Protection Plan continuously for two years or longer was 4.2% during the year to 31st March 2012.

Month	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Numerator	2	3	3	11
Denominator	55	109	172	259

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Indicator (%)	3.6	2.8	1.7	4.2
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The period of time that children are subject to a Child Protection Plan, is monitored by the Children's Social Care Review Unit Manager on a monthly basis. Particular attention is given to the tracking of cases from 15 months after the decision that a Child Protection Plan is necessary. This system has ensured that cases are reviewed in a timely manner, and that there is an appropriate level of scrutiny on the plans made for children and young people. In certain circumstances a period of registration longer than 24 months may be required.

As at 31st March 2012 no children with a plan exceeded the 24 month timescale.

Over the year 191 Initial Child Protection Conferences for 363 children were held. There were 377 Child Protection Review Conferences for 464 children but as some children had more than 1 Review Conference in the year the number of children who were reviewed was 749.

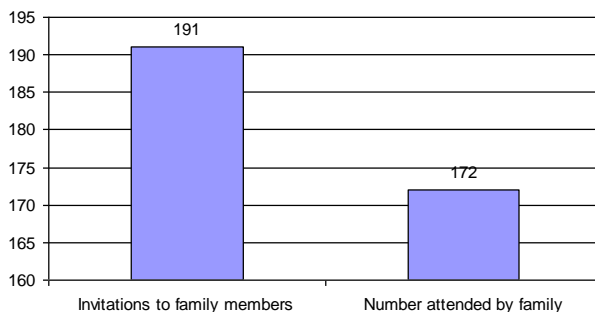
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total
Children subject to an ICPC	127	87	78	71	363
Children subject to a CPRC	143	199	188	219	749

The percentage of child protection cases that were reviewed within the required timescales was 746 out of a possible 749. 2 children from 1 family were reviewed 6 days out of timescale due to the Social Worker being abroad to prepare court reports while the Team Manager was on leave. The other case relates to a delayed birth immediately after the New Year and mother requested that she attended the conference; which was rearranged 2 days out of timescales.

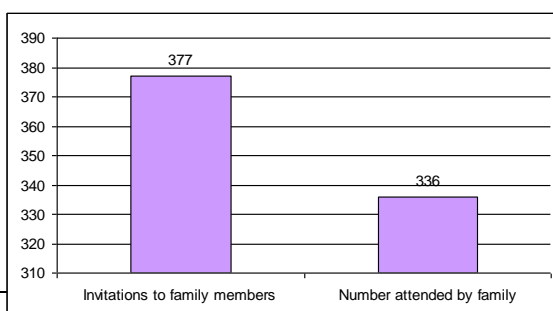
At 31st March 2012 there were 10 Looked After Children who were also the subject of a Child Protection Plan, all were voluntarily accommodated under Section 20, CA 1989.

Attendance at Child Protection Conferences

Out of 191 invitations, family members attended 172 Initial Child Protection Conferences, a total of 90%



Out of 377 invitations, family members attended 336 Child Protection Review Conferences, a total of 89%



Over the year to 31st March 2012, no family members with parental responsibility were excluded from attending child protection conferences.

Analysis of agency attendance for the 191 Initial Child Protection Conferences and the 377 Child Protection Review Conferences held between 1st April 2011 and 31st March 2012 indicates that over the year 2 Child Protection Review Conferences were cancelled due to a lack of agency representation however both were rescheduled within the prescribed timescales.

For Initial Child Protection Conferences, the significant levels of participation were from Social Workers, Health Visitors, Addictive Behaviour Services, Midwives, School Nurses, Police, Schools, Children's Centres, Harbour and Probation. In addition, a further 10 Organisations either attended conferences or contributed to reports.

For Child Protection Review Conferences, the significant levels of participation were from Social Workers, Health Visitors, Addictive Behaviour Services, Midwives, School Nurses, Schools, Children's Centres, Harbour, Probation, and Housing. In addition to these, a further 10 organisations either attended conferences or contributed to reports.

Of the 365 Children who were the subject of Initial Child Protection Conferences, 41 were not made subject to a plan: 9 of these children were in the LAC system, 4 were transfers from another Authority and 3 were teenage children of the household where younger siblings required a plan.

3.4.3 Key Performance Indicators⁶

The following data provides a performance summary of key indicators for children and young people covering more than just child protection as the holistic welfare, development and opportunities available to them gives a greater indication of how agencies work together to safeguard children in Stockton-on-Tees. The data set below is followed by narrative that creates a more detailed picture.

Key indicators	Progress
Initial assessments for children's social care carried out within 10 working days of referral from 45.4% in 2010/11 to 60% in 2011/12.	65.9% (Green)
Core assessments for children's social care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement from 50.6% in 2010/11 to 60% in 2011/12.	69.7% (Green)
Proportion of child protection plans over 2 years duration – reduce to 0% by 2013.	4.2% (Amber)
Proportion of second or subsequent child protection plans within a 24 month period – target of <5%.	5.5% (Amber)
No 'priority actions' (or equivalent) are identified in Ofsted inspection of children's services.	(Green)
No Schools to be in an OFSTED category.	None at end of Spring Term 2012 (Green)
Maintain the persistent absence (PA) rate in secondary schools at <5%	5.2% for 2010~11 school year (Amber)

⁶ SOURCE: SBC CESC BISU

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Reduce further the NEET rate – target of 9% for 2011~12.	8.6% at end of March. (Green)
Short term placement stability for looked after children: 3+ placements per year to be maintained at <10%.	7.9% (Green)
Long term placement stability for looked after children: proportion with latest placement of over 2 years to increase to 65%.	56.6% (Red)
The average SDQ (Strengths and Difficulties Questionnaire) score for looked after children improves to <14.0 by 2012~13.	13.6 (Green)
Breastfeeding prevalence (at 6 to 8 weeks) from 25.1% in 2010/11 to 27.8% in 2011/12.	27.8%. (Green)
Reduce teenage conception rate to 24.04 per 1,000 in 2011~12 (based on national target of 50% reduction from 1998 baseline).	34.6 (March 2011) (Amber)
Screening rates for Chlamydia in under 25s from 22.7% in 2010/11 to 35% in 2011/12.	20% (Red)
Obesity rate in Y6 primary school children.	20.4% (Red)
Rate of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System (per 100,000 young people aged 10-17 yrs)	Rate of 1189 per 100K population, in line with previous year.
Rate of proven re-offending by young offenders aged 10-17 – target rate for 2011~12 of 1.2 re-offences per young offender in cohort.	Year end position not known until July – projected to miss target.
Percentage of young people receiving a conviction who are sentenced to custody – target to maintain within 5%.	6%

Commentary on Performance

The overall quality of inspected provision (schools; children’s centres; children’s homes; childcare and early years settings) remains good, compared to benchmark groups.

Up to the end of the Spring Term 2012, we continued to have no maintained schools in an Ofsted category. It should be noted that a new school inspection framework was implemented by Ofsted from January 2012, which makes comparisons over the whole school year difficult due to the way in which judgements will have changed under the new framework. During the autumn and spring terms of the current school year, 9 of our schools have been inspected.

- were inspected in the autumn term period under the previous Ofsted framework, with 3 judged as good and 2 as satisfactory for their overall effectiveness.
- schools have been inspected under the new framework (effective from January 2012) with 3 schools judged as good and 1 as satisfactory.
- As at the end of the spring term, 71% of our schools were judged good or outstanding for overall effectiveness at their last inspection.
- Latest available (provisional) national data is for the end of December 2011 (i.e. before the new framework came into operation), which indicated that 70% of all schools were judged good or outstanding.

Secondary school persistent absence rates presented some challenge during the past school year.

- Latest nationally released data for the 2010~11 school year indicated a persistent absence rate of 5.2% for Stockton-on-Tees secondary schools.
- This compares to a N.E. Regional average of 4.4% and national average of 4%.

Childcare and Childminder quality is a priority area for further improvement, and inspection outcomes for such provision over the year indicate an improving position:

- of 28 Childcare Settings inspected during the year, 22 (79%) were good or outstanding, a significant improvement on the 50% for inspected settings during the previous year; and good progress from the 60% reported in the August 2011 Ofsted Performance Profile, which is based on the last inspection for all currently registered provision (and gave comparator performance of 68% for Statistical Neighbours; and 75% for England);
- of 17 Childminders subject to full inspections during the year, 14 (83%) were good or outstanding, a significant improvement on the 62% for the previous year; and good progress from the 57% reported in the August 2011 Ofsted Performance Profile, which is based on the last inspection for all currently registered provision (and gave comparator performance of 60% for Statistical Neighbours; and 66% for England).

All four Children's homes were subject to interim inspections during the Q4 period:

- (75%) were judged to be making good progress in improving the quality of care and outcomes for children and young people since the most recent full inspection; and 1 (25%) making satisfactory progress.
- To compare with latest available national benchmarks – of 178 interim inspections during the Q3 period (1 October and 31 December), 58% were judged to be making good progress and 30% satisfactory progress.

There has been a significant increase in the volume of CAF (Common Assessment Framework) activity over the year, compared to the previous year. Although there was a peak during Q3 of the 2011~12 period, Q4 saw continued high levels of activity. CAF activity is a proxy indicator for improved multi-agency early intervention and prevention. It is expected that levels of activity will level off, given the high levels of engagement now being sustained across partner agencies.

Good progress has been maintained in relation to timeliness of social care assessments, building on the gradual improvement of the previous year, and exceeding the targets set:

- For initial assessments, Q4 performance was maintained at a similar level to Q3, resulting in a year end rate of 65.9% completed within 10 days (45.4% achieved in 2010~11).
- For core assessments, 69.7% completed within 35 days continued the improving trend over the year (50.6% in 2010~11).

Although there was a gradual reduction over Q4 in the number of child protection (CP) plans (from 301 at the end of Q3 to 273 at the end of Q4), numbers were still relatively high compared to previous years. The cumulative impact of CP plan activity over the year has had some impact on performance.

- For CP plans in place over two years, the year end rate of 4.2% (i.e. of 259 CP plans ceased during the year, 11 had been in place over 2 years) was above the 1.5% from the previous year and missed the 0% target.
- However, the proportion of children becoming the subject of a CP plan for a second or subsequent time (within two years of the previous plan) was in line with target at 5.5% (i.e. 18 such cases, from the 325 new CP plans agreed over the year)

The continued high number of looked after children over the year (at highest ever levels over the 2011~12 period) has created some pressures in sustaining performance in placement stability.

- Very good performance has been sustained in shorter term stability (i.e. less than 3 placements in the year), although the Q4 period saw a slight increase. The year end position of 7.9% (i.e. of 341 children placed, 27 had three or more placements) is within target and a good improvement on the 11.9% of the previous year.
- The measure of longer term stability (over two years in latest placement) has been more challenging over the year, although Q4 saw a good rate of improvement. The year end position of 56.6% (i.e. of 76 children in care over 2.5 years, 43 have been in their latest

placement for at least two years) is outside target and down slightly on the 60.8% of the previous year. National benchmarking data (not available until autumn 2012) will identify whether the local picture is mirrored in the national trend.

Adoption - recent publication by the DfE of an Adoption Scorecard for all local authorities resulted in a meeting with DfE representatives to review our performance. The scorecards used data drawn from national statistical returns, for the 2009 to 2011 period, to compare aspects of the timeliness of the adoption process. Whilst we presented as an outlier with regard to the timescale for matching a child with adopters following the court order, analysis of the cases concerned illustrated:

- the complexities associated with the family finding process (e.g. for sibling groups; children with complex medical needs; older children; those with dual heritage);
- the impact of court processes, sometimes after a placement order has been granted;
- the effectiveness of our processes in making good placement decisions, centred on the welfare of the child, with no breakdowns of children placed for adoption since 2005.

Following the meeting, the DfE have confirmed their satisfaction with our progress and with our analysis, with no causes for concern.

Case file audits are now an established part of quarterly performance arrangements, with the aim of monitoring the quality of social care casework practice. Review of audit findings has identified some examples of improving casework, but with some continuing themes where improvement is needed, particularly relating to case supervision arrangements; recording case chronologies; and gaps in planning and assessment documentation.

NEETs: despite the challenging economic context, good performance has been sustained in this area. It should be noted that the national measure has changed from the previous indicator covering 16-18 yr olds based on place of learning. It is now based upon residency (all Stockton young people irrespective of where they learn) and, significantly, has moved to cover the academic years Y12 to Y14 – i.e. the cohort to be tracked and supported now includes 19 year olds (an increase in the target cohort of around 1400).

- Based on the 3 month average for November to January (the method used in the past for the annual figure), the Y12-Y14 rate was 10.3% and the 16-18 figure was 9.7%.
- However, data for the end of March (reflecting fuller impact of the January Offer – see para 23 below) indicates a Y12-Y14 rate of 9.8% and a 16-18 rate of 8.6% - within the 9% target figure.
- Taking into account also the 'Not Known' rate (i.e. those young people whose intentions are not yet known), Stockton-on-Tees performs very well – we continue to have the lowest Not Known rate in the Tees Valley; and the combined NEET / Not Known rate is better than the Tees Valley average and better than all but one of the Tees Valley local authorities.

Breastfeeding rates have continued to be a challenge with performance continuing below benchmark groups. However, latest data available (end of March 2012) indicates improvement over the quarter, leading to achievement of the year end target.

- A prevalence rate at 6 to 8 weeks of 27.78% (on target).
- This compares to an England average of 47% and North East average of 29.8%.
- The rate of initiation is 56.8, below the England average of 74.1% and North East average of 60.4%.

Sexual health:

- Latest reported national validated data (up to March 2011) for teenage pregnancy indicates a strong continuation of the improvement trend over the previous year with the number of conceptions (21 – a rate of 23.4 per 1,000) in the last reported quarter the lowest ever recorded since the national baseline and targets were set in 1998.
- Based on a rolling quarterly average, the rate of 34.6 conceptions per 1,000 under 18s is the lowest (best) of the four Tees local authorities; is now even further below the NE

average of 42.8 and has nearly matched the England average of 34.1. This picture is reflected in more recent, local (unvalidated) data which indicates a rate of 34.3.

- For Chlamydia screening, a strong performance in March meant that the 35% target (of 15-24 yr olds) for the quarter was achieved. However, despite this improvement, the full year position of 20% remained well off target.

Obesity: the recently released results of the National Child Measurement Programme for the 2010~11 school year show the Stockton-on-Tees rate as 20.4%, an increase on the previous year and outside target expectations. This rate is higher than the England average of 19% but lower (better) than the North East average of 21.4%.

The number of first time entrants (FTE), as recorded by the Youth Offending Service (YOS) database, continued to fall during the Q4 period, resulting in a total for the year of 232 FTEs (237 in 10~11) – this is a rate of 1189 per 100,000 population aged 10-17 yrs, the same rate as the previous year.

NC (Police National Computer) data, however, indicates that whilst the FTE number is falling, the local rate is 1271 per 1000,000 population; this is above the regional, family and English averages. It is likely that this reflects Stockton-on-Tees YOS is one of a handful of services in the country which does not deliver either pre-reprimand disposals and/or triage in the police custody suite. At this stage, it is unknown how this measurement will be impacted by the introduction of a new range of out of court disposals, once new legislation through LASPO is enacted.

Re-offending rates: YOS data reported here is for the period April to December 2011, based on re-offences committed during the period by the cohort of 127 young people who first offended during Jan-March 2011 and who are tracked over a 12 month period.

- The data indicates that more young people have re-offended and they have committed more offences, than in the same period in the previous year, with 50 young people (39% of the cohort) committing 141 offences to date (a rate of 1.11 so far in 11~12). It is likely therefore that the 12 month performance rate for the current cohort (data will be available in July this year) will be poorer than in the previous year.
- More detailed analysis indicates that the increase is accounted for mainly by re-offending of young people at pre-court stage and following release from custody. Significantly, the numbers of offences committed by young people on community orders supervised by the YOS appears to be the lowest since 2005 - this is an area of ongoing monitoring through the monthly PI clinics.

Custodial sentences amounted to 6% of sentences imposed in 11~12 (actual number 21), the highest figure for several years, an increase on 4.1% (actual number 17) in the previous year, and above the long-standing performance target of 5%.

However, data from the national YJMIS (Youth Justice Management Information System) shows a different picture, with a custody rate of 0.87, which is a decrease from 0.98 for the same period in the previous year and compares favourably with the family average, although is above the England and regional averages.

Actions taken

Quality of childcare:

- The new Quality Improvement Programme for childcare providers, introduced during 2011~12, is being closely monitored to evaluate impact on the quality of childminders in particular. As outlined above, there is evidence that this programme is now being reflected in improved inspection outcomes.
- A Scrutiny Review on Quality of Childminders is being undertaken as part of the 2012~12 Scrutiny Programme.

Given the increasing numbers of CAF forms being recorded, consideration has been given to ways in which the impact of this activity might be evaluated. As a result, arrangements have been agreed for a multi-agency audit process in order to look at the quality of interventions being made through the CAF

process and the outcomes being achieved. Results of this audit work will feed into future quarterly monitoring reports.

Case file audits:

- The use of thematic case file audits has been agreed where feedback indicates the value of looking at specific areas of practice. During the 2011~12 period, thematic audits were undertaken for Private Fostering cases; and for cases where there had been a second or subsequent child protection plan agreed for a child.
- For Q2 of 2012~13 it is intended to focus on more recent casework (i.e. the last six months of casework for the sampled cases) in order to inform a view about the impact of case file audits on current practice.
- An annual review of learning from case file audits is to be undertaken in conjunction with all social care staff.

In conjunction with partners in the Stockton Local Safeguarding Children Board, there has been some review of our wider approaches to quality assurance of practice and its impact on families. In particular, consideration has been given to ways in which the views of families / carers, who have been receiving services to safeguard children, are gathered and evaluated. As a result, it has been agreed to introduce a new Exit Survey questionnaire for those parents or carers who have been in receipt of services to obtain their feedback about the support provided and the difference it has made to them. This will be introduced during the July / August period 2012 and will inform future monitoring reports.

One of our two new Children's homes has been opened; the other is ready for opening, awaiting final approval from Ofsted. These homes will provide more local capacity for addressing the placement needs of looked after children.

There have been positive outcomes to date from the 'Put yourself in the Picture' Fostering and Adoption campaign; three prospective foster carers and one prospective adopter undergoing assessment; more potential foster carers ready to start assessment.

Analysis of long term placement stability for LAC has taken place through the Children's Social Care Performance Clinic; this indicates that some of the placement moves, although they impact adversely on the way performance is measured, are in fact planned moves in to other forms of permanency e.g. special guardianships, residence orders or returning to live with parents or relatives.

Linked to the above issue, internal monitoring of permanency arrangements over the year, and findings from some regional benchmarking work concerning placement of children, it has been agreed to undertake some further work around our approach to permanency (whilst this will include adoption, it will take a broader look than the areas covered by the DfE meeting discussed in point 9 above). As part of the new Sector Led Improvement arrangements, we are considering arrangements for some form of peer challenge to assist us in this area.

Recent EIT Reviews will deliver changes in structures and service delivery aimed at addressing further improvements in the quality of services and provision.

- The EIT Review of Children's Social Care (to be implemented from early September 2012) will create additional capacity within the Child Placement Team, as well as establishing new Permanence Teams.
- The EIG Review (Early Years Services) has created a new model for delivery of Children's Centres aimed at ensuring provision is targeted more effectively at those families most in need; and has strengthened arrangements for monitoring the quality of Early Years and Children Centre provision.

A project is underway exploring the possibility of establishing a 52 week residential school, in partnership with a provider, based at the former King Edwin School site.

The NEETs agenda continues to be overseen by the 14-19 Partnership Board, through the Full Participation Plan, to ensure that all partners are working collaboratively to improve progression, transition and retention of learners; and to implement the new RPA (Raising Participation Age) requirements. Implementation of the 'January Offer' this year has had a positive impact on the NEETs position; however, sustainability of this approach may be challenging due to the resources required for tracking, follow-up and support of the young people at this stage.

The Attendance and Exclusion Team continues to work in close partnership with schools to sustain good attendance levels and target resources and intervention to those schools currently with attendance/ persistent absence (PA) below national averages. The next published attendance figures for the Autumn term of the current school year (2011~12) are expected to be released by the DFE on 14th June. Local, unconfirmed data for Stockton-on-Tees shows an improvement in each secondary school's attendance when compared with the Autumn term 10~11 and an improvement in PA in the majority of schools.

Breastfeeding: a number of actions are in place through the Breastfeeding Support Service to target improvements, including:

- trained peer support and supervision;
- specialist antenatal workshops;
- social marketing;
- quality improvement session planned for key stakeholders
- UNICEF Baby Friendly Initiative accreditation.
- Chlamydia: a number of actions were undertaken to improve year end performance, including:
 - revised marketing and communications plan,
 - accessing events and outreach services to promote Chlamydia testing,
 - increased uptake of health staff providing screening services (GPs/ Pharmacies)

Obesity: actions to address performance are overseen by the Healthy Lives, Healthy Weight Partnership. These include a 3 tier approach to weight management, from prevention, community based support services and specialist interventions through to secondary health commissioned care contracts for those children deemed most at risk of life limiting illness as a result of their BMI.

The YOS continues to review the impact policing practice has on FTE numbers and looks to alternative approaches to custody such as restorative programmes aimed at providing more permanent outcomes for young offenders.

All custodial sentences are reviewed within the service and analysis evidences that all were appropriate and proportionate outcomes from court given offence seriousness, persistence and / or refusal by the young person to engage in community options.

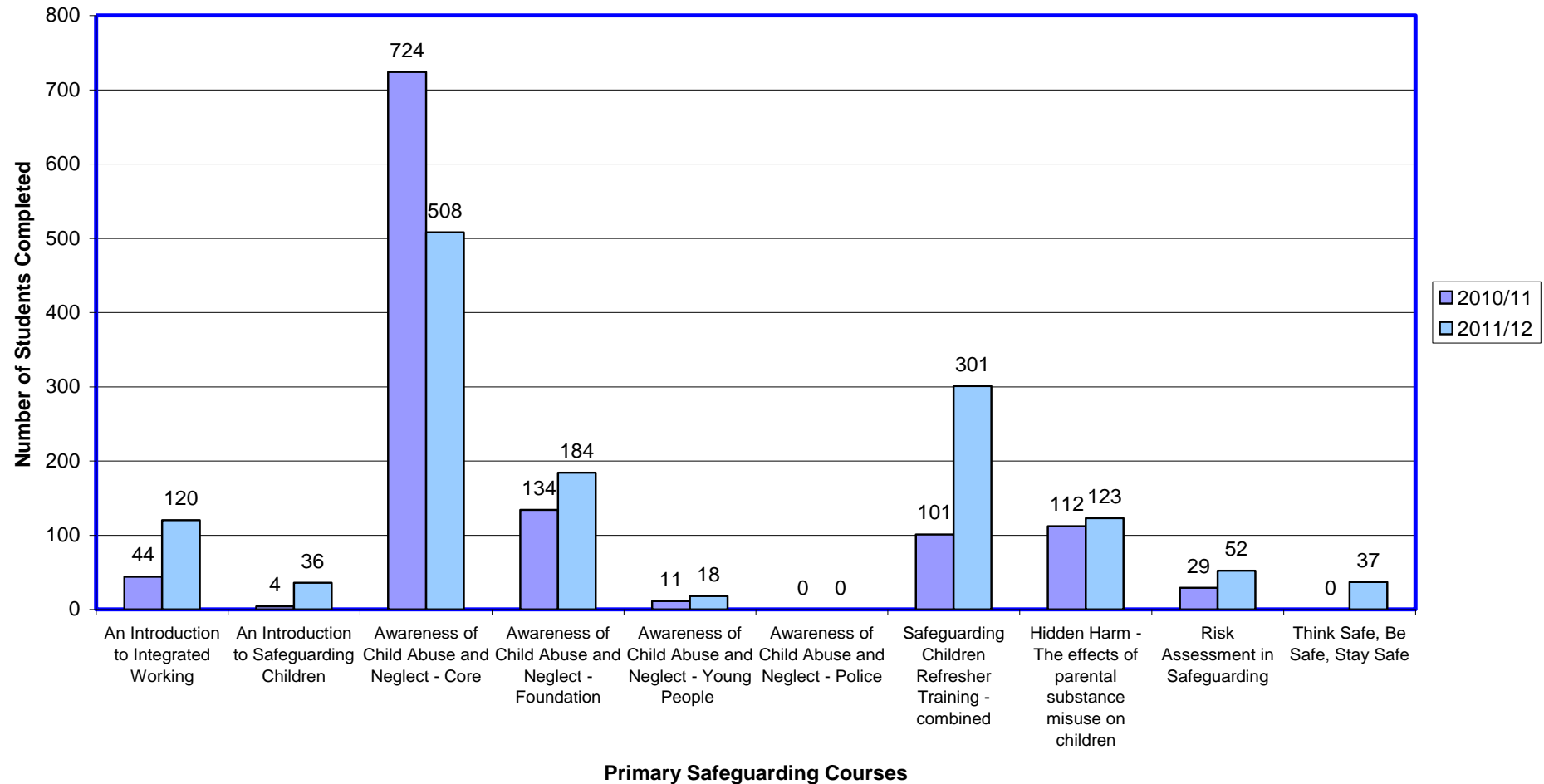
The service has been reviewing the way in which it delivers a range of services to young people with the express aim of improving engagement and compliance and it is hoped that this may have an impact upon the custodial rate.

Reduction in the use of custody is a key priority for the YJB nationally and mechanisms are being introduced to enable this to be measured, not only by the actual number of custodial sentences, but also the number of 'bed nights' in the secure estate. Investment / Payment by Results pilots have been launched by the YJB in 11~12 and their success in reducing the number of bed nights is being monitored.

3.4.4 Training

As referred to at 3.1.1.2.a multi agency training is provided using a variety of mediums to accommodate learning styles and service needs. The following provides a detailed breakdown of provision during 2011 / 2012.

Safeguarding Children e-Learning Course Completions - April to March 2010/11 & 2011/12



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Multi-Agency Safeguarding E Learning Training April 2011 - March 2012																
Course Title	Police	Community & Voluntary	F E Colleges	Fire Service	Housing	NHS Trust	PCT	Primary Schools	Probation	Secondary Schools	Sexual Health	SBC	Sure Start	YOS	Other	Total
<i>Unlimited Licences</i>																
An Introduction to Integrated Working		45			5	1		1	1	1		59	5		2	120
An Introduction to Safeguarding Children		1	1		1	1		2		1		24	3		2	36
Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect - Core	1	163	2		37	4	1	187		56		28	18	7	4	508
Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect - Foundation		29			8	1	1	27				63	51	1	3	184
Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect - Young People		8			1			1		1		5		2		18
Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect - Police																0
Safeguarding Children Refresher Training		26			3	1		16				31	14	1		92
2011 Refresher: Core		5	1			1		110		2		67	6	7		199
2011 Refresher: Foundation										1		5	2			8
2011 Refresher: Young People	1											1				2
Hidden Harm - The effects of parental problem substance misuse on children		42	1					4		34	1	33	7	1		123
Risk Assessment in Safeguarding		28						2		1	1	14	6			52
Think Safe, Be Safe, Stay Safe			32									3		2		37
<i>Limited Licences (20)</i>																
An Introduction to the Autism Spectrum	1											1	3			5
Awareness of Domestic Abuse												2				2
Child Accident Prevention													4			4
Child Development												3	4	1		8

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Course Title	Police	Community & Voluntary	F E Colleges	Fire Service	Housing	NHS Trust	PCT	Primary Schools	Probation	Secondary Schools	Sexual Health	SBC	Sure Start	YOS	Other	Total
Childhood Obesity and HENRY												3	3			6
Common Core of Skills & Knowledge												1	1			2
Communication in Health, Social Care & YP Settings												1				1
Cultural Awareness in Safeguarding	1	9										4	2			16
Duty of Care in Health, Social Care & YP Settings												1				1
Early Child Development - Foundation Stage													3			3
Equality and Diversity in the Workplace		3										5	1			9
Equality and Inclusion in Health, Social Care & YP Settings												1				1
eSafety - Guidance for Practitioners and Parents										1		4				5
Information Sharing V1		5										1				6
Integrated Working Strategic Managers Overview	1	1							1							3
Hate Crime																0
Manual Handling for Parents and Carers								1		3						4
Medication Awareness												1				1
Mental Capacity Act 2005 Practice Learning Guidance		3											1	1		5
Parental Mental Health		1				1						2	7			11
Right from the Start with HENRY																0
Runaways Protocol South Yorkshire												1				1
Safeguarding Adults	1	4			1		1					2				9
Safeguarding Children from Abuse by Sexual Exploitation		6											1			7
Safeguarding Children with Disabilities												2	3			5

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Course Title	Police	Community & Voluntary	F E Colleges	Fire Service	Housing	NHS Trust	PCT	Primary Schools	Probation	Secondary Schools	Sexual Health	SBC	Sure Start	YOS	Other	Total
Safeguarding Everyone, C&YP and Vulnerable Adults															1	1
Safer Recruitment		1						1				7	1			10
Safer Working Practices V1		4							1			3	1			9
Short Breaks for Children with Disabilities													1			1
Supervision & Appraisal in Early Years Settings									1				1			2
Teenage Pregnancy												1	2			3
The role of the Health & Social Care Worker											1	1	1			3
Wellbeing in Sexual Health		1											1			2
	6	385	37	0	56	10	3	352	4	101	3	380	153	23	12	1525

E-learning courses referred to above are delivered in association with the Safeguarding Children e-Academy –Virtual College.



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Multi-Agency Safeguarding Delivered Training April 2011 - March 2012

Course Title	Sessions Delivered	Total Attendance	Carer	Academies	CAFCASS	Children & Complex Needs	Community/ Faith/Vol	CESC C & YP Ops	Connexions	DANS	Further Ed	NHS/PCT	Independent Schools	Integrated Youth Support Service	Other Local Authority	Other	Probation	Police	Private Sector	CESC Adults Services	Maintained Schools	Self Employed	CESC Support Services	YOS
TOTAL	88	1435	6	2	7	67	146	403	65	29	38	181	8	19	25	39	19	14	180	35	90	11	8	51
Analysing Risk & Developing Positive Outcomes for Children & Young People	2	32			1	1	2	10				13			3		1				1			
Assessing the Non Abusing Parents/Carers Capacity to Protect	2	29				3	3	18			1	1					1				2			
Assessment and Risk Management of Adults who Sexually Harm	2	28					1	20				4						2			1			
Basic Child Protection	7	199					30	33	1				2		5	15			85	2	26			
Basic Mental Health Awareness	1	16				2		4	1		5	2					1				1			
Bonding & Attachment in the Safeguarding Arena	1	33	1					7				17			5		1	1		1	1			
Bullying	3	54	1				5	37	4		3				2	2		1						
Common Assessment Framework (Full training)	19	274				19	33	57	2	9	4	60	4	6	1	9	4	1	11	10	40	1	1	2
Common Assessment Framework (Briefing Session)	7	237				15	10	25	53	1		4		6	1	2			58	1	7	9	2	43
Child Protection Conference & Core Groups	2	24				1	6	8		3						5			1					
Child Trafficking & Sexual Exploitation	1	13					1	5			4	1								1				1
Children and Young People who Display Sexually Harmful Behaviour	2	28					3	7			4	4		2	1		3	1		2	1			
Children & Young People who Self Harm	1	12				3	2	3			2	1					1							

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Course Title	Sessions Delivered	Total Attendance	Carer	Academies	CAFCASS	Children & Complex Needs	Community/ Faith/Vol	CESC C&YP Ops	Connexions	DANS	Further Ed	NHS/PCT	Independent Schools	Integrated Youth Support Service	Other Local Authority	Other	Probation	Police	Private Sector	CESC Adults Services	Maintained Schools	Self Employed	CESC Support Services	YOS
Designated Safeguarding Children Officer's Role	4	31		1			2	7			5				1				16					
Emotional Abuse	2	32				1	4	17			4	1		1		1	1		1		1			
Getting it Right for Young Carers	1	11					3	1	3	1		3												
Introduction to Integrated Working & Information Sharing	2	14			4							4			1			2			3			
Keeping Children Safe on the Net E-Safety	1	15		1		1		2		12														
Learning Lessons from Serious Case Reviews	1	44			1	4		17	1	1		14		1	1				1					3
MAPPA	1	20					2	7				7					3	1						
Motivational Approaches for Working with Children with Difficult to Engage Families	1	17				3	5	4			1			1		2	1							
Neglect of Children & Young People	5	73	1			5	3	26		1		8	2	2	4			5	3	5	2	1	5	1
Neglect of Children & Young People Refresher	1	4	1				1	3																
Physical Abuse	2	22				3	4	10			3									2				
Risk Assessment (understanding risk assessment when working with children, young people and families)	1	15					2	11		1											1			
Drop in sessions - Care Planning Regulations	1	5			1	1		1				1								1				
Drop in sessions - FGM	1	7										6												1
Drop In sessions - LADO	1	10						1				8								1				
Drop In sessions - Private Fostering	1	5										5												
Drop In sessions - SCR	1	13						6				5								2				

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Course Title	Sessions Delivered	Total Attendance	Carer	Academies	CAFCASS	Children & Complex Needs	Community/ Faith/Vol	CESC C&YP Ops	Connexions	DANS	Further Ed	NHS/PCT	Independent Schools	Integrated Youth Support Service	Other Local Authority	Other	Probation	Police	Private Sector	CESC Adults Services	Maintained Schools	Self Employed	CESC Support Services	YOS
Drop In sessions - Teenage Pregnancy Prevention	1	4										4												
Sexually Active Young People & the Safeguarding Checklist	2	9					5	4																
Supervising Staff who have Assessment & Safeguarding Responsibilities	1	14				2	3	2				5					1				1			
The Impact of Child Sexual Abuse	1	17	1			1	1	12				1								2				
The Impact of Domestic Abuse on Children & Young People	2	21	1				3	9			2	1				1			1	3	1			
The Impact of Parental Mental Illness on Children & Young People	2	23				2	2	15									1		1	1	1			
The Impact of Parental Substance Misuse on Children & Young People	2	30					10	14				1				2			2	1				

3.5 OFSTED Inspection Information⁷

The findings of the Annual Inspection of Childrens Services was published in November 2011 with the following being reported.

Children's services in Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council perform well. This good performance has been sustained from 2010 to 2011. The large majority of settings, services and institutions inspected by Ofsted are good or better and the very large majority of provision helps children and young people learn well and stay safe. Areas of strength and areas for development remain largely the same as last year.

The September 2010 inspection of safeguarding and services for looked after children found that safeguarding arrangements were adequate and services for looked after children were good. The unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements for children in need and children who may be in need of protection, carried out in May 2011, identified areas of practice that met requirements and no areas that required urgent attention.

Strengths

- For children under five, the provision has improved this year. The four children's centres inspected are good. The very large majority of nursery provision is good or better. In 2010, levels of development at the Early Years Foundation Stage were in line with the average for similar areas and
 - above the national average.
- Primary schools are mostly good and outcomes at the age of 11 have improved substantially over the past few years. In 2010, results at Key Stage 2 were above similar areas and the national average. Provisional results for 2011 show a small drop of 1%.
- The local authority provided good support to the small number of primary and secondary schools that were in an Ofsted category of concern last year. Ofsted monitoring visits to these schools show that support to bring about improvement has been effective and these schools are no longer
 - inadequate.
- Eight of the 10 local authority secondary schools are good or outstanding. The other two are satisfactory. The two academies have not been inspected yet, but one was inadequate and the other satisfactory when last inspected as local authority schools. Over the past four years, results
 - at higher grade GCSE including English and mathematics have improved and match similar areas. Provisional results for 2011 show further improvement.
- By the age of 19, the proportion of young people achieving a level 2 qualification matches the average in similar areas and, at level 3, it is above. The quality of provision in the school sixth forms is at least good.
- As reported in 2010, specialist education provision is mostly good. One special school, the special school sixth form and the residential special school for young people with complex needs are outstanding. The pupil referral unit remains good. Two special schools are satisfactory.
- Provision for looked after children is good. The high quality of the four local authority children's homes has been maintained. Three of the four homes are outstanding and one is good. The privately-run home, inspected in January 2011, has improved and is now satisfactory. At the time of its inspection the home was providing accommodation for three children with a learning disability.

Areas for further improvement

- The most recent unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements for children in need and children who may be in need of protection identified six areas for

⁷ SOURCE: Ofsted - <http://www.ofsted.gov.uk/local-authorities/stockton-tees>

development, some of which remain from the previous inspection in January 2010. For example, the number of inappropriate referrals to social care is still too high and the quality of case recording, including reasons for the delays in the completion of assessments, is not always sufficiently accurate.

- Childminding provision has not improved and is mostly satisfactory, as it was in 2010.
- At all ages, gaps in attainment between children and young people from low-income families and the majority of children in Stockton-on-Tees are not closing.
- As reported in last year's assessment, the proportion of 16- to 18-year olds not in education, work or training is above similar areas.

4 SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS & MANAGEMENT REVIEWS

Membership of the Serious Case Review Sub Committee has remained consistent throughout the year with good attendance. Due to changes in partner organisations chairing of the group changed throughout the year however this did not detract from work undertaken.

The Committee met on 10 occasions and in addition a Serious Case Review Panel met twice to complete a Serious Case Review that commenced in 2010.

Overall there have been 3 new referrals received by the Committee for consideration as to whether a SCR should be recommended. There were 5 ongoing reviews from the previous year one of which was the Serious Case Review which was reviewed as good by Ofsted.

The action plans from the Serious and Management Case Review have been monitored by the Committee.

A process for sharing learning from reviews carried out through out the North East region was agreed by the LSCB Chairs and Managers Network thus embracing a culture of continuous learning and improvement which helps to identify opportunities on what works and areas where improvements should be made.

Lessons to be learned from the various reviews have been shared across agencies and with front-line staff using a variety of mediums; one to ones, drop ins, team briefings, inclusion in SLSCB Briefings and in multi agency training courses.

The inter relationship between the LSCB and Community Safety Partnership identified support and learning that could be provided through learning from the process of Serious Case Reviews and the commonalities with the Domestic Homicide Review Process.

The Terms of Reference for the Serious Case Review Sub Committee were reviewed during the year introducing a more robust monitoring and quality assurance process.

Learning

During this year, the management reviews and action plans that have been monitored have at times been quite complex and complicated. This has involved a considerable amount of time from members of the Committee along with the involvement of a wide range of staff who were directly involved in each case.

Some of the lessons to be learned during the year were:

- The need to reinforce that Multi-agency child protection plans should not normally be removed within 3 months unless there are exceptional circumstances.
- Where decisions are taken that are not compliant with multi-agency procedures the reasons why procedures have not been followed needs to be carefully explained and a record made, including the details of who was consulted.

- Multi Agency Reports need to be produced in time to allow all professionals to see the report well in advance of the meeting. Verbal updates to be captured in conference minutes.
- Agency views must be correctly represented in CP conferences.
- Unborn babies need to be included as the subject of ICPCs alongside the other children in the family.
- Practitioners should be reminded or made aware of how to work with un-cooperative families and intimidating family members
- Awareness raising about Sexual Offending by Young People was required.
- The need for detailed practice guidance and risk assessment procedures for taking children or young people on external visits.
- Clearer understanding between the role and relationship between the LSCB and the Child Death Overview Panel.
- The benefits and requirements of professional challenge

None of these themes are particularly new and emphasise the need for front-line staff being well supported in their tasks through good supervision, support in record-keeping, following procedures and delivering a focus on the child.

5 CHILD DEATHS

5.1 Overview

In recognition of the need for efficiency and effectiveness a Tees LSCB's Child Death Review Project was established in 2008 which is managed by Redcar & Cleveland LSCB. Regular reports are provided to each Board and the following gives an overview of activity during 2011 / 2012.

It should be noted that the numbers of deaths reviewed will differ to the number of children who died during the year as there is sometimes a time delay in reviewing cases whilst relevant information is being gathered. To enable comparison and lessons learned to take place the information provided covers all four of the Tees Boards. Statistical information pertinent to Stockton-on-Tees LSCB is shaded in blue.

5.2 Statistical Information

Table 1 shows the number of child deaths in each local authority and the cumulative total across Tees. (It should be noted that the number of child deaths in any one year is likely to vary and sometimes notifications to the project are made after the year end.)

Table 1	H	S	M	R & C	Tees
Total Number of Child Deaths in each local authority	3 (1)*	25 (8)*	11 (3)*	6 (2)*	45 (14)
Total Number of Males	2 (67%)	15 (60%)	6 (55%)	4 (67%)	27
Total Number of Females	1 (33%)	10 (40%)	5 (45%)	2 (33%)	18

* Numbers in brackets show unexpected deaths

Table 2 relates to the number of child deaths from each local authority area that occurred outside the area, for example where a child was in a facility such as a hospital outside of their home area. In the table below all of the deaths occurred in Newcastle hospitals.

Table 2	H	S	M	R & C	Tees
Total Number of Child Deaths that occurred outside the authority area	1	4	1	1	7

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Table 3 shows comparative numbers of total child deaths per area for the 4 complete years of the Tees CDOP.

Table 3	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	Total
Hartlepool	5 (1)*	9 (1)*	9 (3)*	3 (1)*	26 (6)
Stockton	15 (3)*	10 (4)*	18 (8)*	25 (8)*	68 (24)
Middlesbrough	20 (9)*	18 (8)*	12 (6)*	11 (3)*	61 (20)
Redcar & Cleveland	12 (8)*	8 (5)*	13 (1)*	6 (2)*	39 (16)
TOTAL	52	45	52	45	194 (66)

* Numbers in brackets denote unexpected deaths

5.3 Child Deaths considered by CDOP 2011 / 2012

Table 4 shows the respective ages of the children when they died.

Table 4: Numbers in age range							
	Neonatal Deaths <4weeks	4-52 weeks	1-4 years	5-9 years	10-14 years	15 up to 18 years	TOTAL
Hartlepool LSCB	3	2	1	0	0	0	6
Stockton LSCB	6	2	2	2	3	2	17
Middlesbrough LSCB	4	4	3	0	0	1	12
Redcar & Cleveland LSCB	1	0	2	2	1	1	7
Tees	14	8	8	4	4	4	42

In considering the gender of the children who died there were more boys than girls.

Table 5: Gender		
	Male	Female
Hartlepool LA	5	1
Stockton LA	15	2
Middlesbrough LA	5	7
Redcar & Cleveland LA	2	5
Tees	27	15

Table 6 shows the children's ethnicity which unsurprisingly given the ethnic mix in Tees is overwhelmingly White British

Table 6: Ethnicity as recorded on returned CDOP forms						
		H	S	M	R & C	Tees
White	British	5	14	9	7	35
	Irish					
	Other white background					
	Traveller of Irish Heritage					
	Gypsy/Roma					
Dual Heritage	White & Black Caribbean					
	White & Black African					
	White and Asian		1			1
	Any other dual heritage					

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Asian or Asian British	Indian					
	Pakistani	1	2	2		5
	Bangladeshi					
	Any other Asian					
Black/Black British	Caribbean					
	African					
	Other Black Backgrounds			1		1
Chinese						
Any other, please specify						
Not known/not stated						

Table 7 shows the number of children who died and who could be considered to have a higher level of vulnerability than most children in the locality.

Table 7: vulnerable children	H	S	M	R&C	Tees
Number of children that were Looked After by the LA	0	1	0	0	1
Number of children with a disability or with life limiting conditions	3	6	5	5	19
Number of children with a current Protection Plan	0	0	0	0	0

Table 8 looks at the place of death. It should be noted that when a child dies in hospital after an incident that occurred elsewhere, such as a river or a highway, the place of the incident that led to the child's death is recorded.

Table 8: Location of death or fatal event	H	S	M	R&C	Tees
Number at home of normal residence	1			2	3
Number in other private residence					
Number in residential care					
Number in foster placement					
Number in hospital	5	15	12	5	37
Number in educational establishment					
Number in hospice					
Number in public place (including roads, railways, parks, restaurant, beaches etc)waterway (i.e. river, canal, sea,)		2			2
Number in YOI/Secure Unit					
Number in Mental Health Unit					
Abroad					
Other (please specify)					

Table 9 sets out the recorded reason for the child's death. This data reflects the original categorisation from the Local Case Discussion (LCD) and Form C information.

Numbers of deaths in the categories *					
*as taken from the DfE website					
Table 9	H	S	M	R&C	Tees
1. Deliberately inflicted injury, abuse or neglect				1	1
2. Suicide or deliberate self inflicted harm			1		1
3. Trauma or other external cause		3			3
4. Malignancy	1	1			2
5. Acute medical or surgical condition		1			1
6. Chronic medical condition		1	1	3	5
7. Chromosomal, genetic or congenital anomalies	2	3	4	2	11

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8. Perinatal/neonatal event	3	4	4	1	12
9. Infection		1			1
10. Sudden unexplained, unexpected death (Of these any classed as SUDI)		3 (1)	2 (1)		5

Table 10 provides additional information in respect of the Child Death Review (CDR) process and outcomes from the Child Death Overview Panel CDOP. One case was subject to a Serious Case Review and the case was also reviewed by the CDOP.

Table 10 : additional information	H	S	M	R&C	Tees
Number of Coroner's cases	1	9	6	4	20
Number of deaths that were expected	4	7	7	4	22
Number of deaths that were unexpected	2	10	5	3	20
Number of deaths that CDOP deemed to have modifiable factors.	1	3	3	0	7
Number of cases were CDOP had insufficient information to make a decision on modifiable factors	0	1	1	1	3
Serious Case Reviews considered or associated with a death	0	0	0	1	1

Length of time taken from date of death to case being reviewed by CDOP

	Number of deaths considered in this timescale
Under 6 months	6
6 or 7 months	13
8 or 9 months	8
10 or 11 months	9
12 months	4
Over 1 year	2

6 MULTI AGENCY LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (MALAP)

The Multi Agency Looked After Children Partnership (MALAP) is a partnership in its own right, but with links to SLSCB to ensure that the safeguarding of children and young people who are looked after is given high priority..

MALAP champions the corporate parenting role and, via its governance arrangements, scrutinises the delivery of the Corporate Parenting Strategy to improve outcomes for looked after children. Terms of Reference and membership are reviewed annually. During 2011 / 2012, to ensure the services for, and voice and rights of Looked After Children, young people and care leavers were taken into consideration, representation came as a minimum from:

- The Children in Care Council (Let's Take Action Group)
- CAMHS (Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust)
- North Tees & Hartlepool Foundation Trust
- Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council
 - Elected Members
 - Children's Trust Management Team
 - Integrated Youth Support Services
 - Children & Young People Fieldwork Services
 - Children & Young People LAC Services
 - Children & Young People Business Support & Improvement Team
 - The Virtual School
 - Culture Services
 - Housing Services

- Regeneration & Economic Development
- The Voluntary & Community Sector
- Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board

Included in the above membership are specialist advisors with responsibility for looked after children.

At each meeting a thematic approach was taken to reviewing service provision and need for this group of children and young people based on the following priorities:

- Priority 1:** Ensure that LAC and Care Leavers have access to health services that are responsive to the particular needs of LAC and Care Leavers.
- Priority 2:** Ensure an appropriate range of local placement support and resources for LAC, Care Leavers, and those on the edge of care.
- Priority 3:** Develop and implement revised independent review and monitoring processes.
- Priority 4:** Improve educational outcomes.
- Priority 5:** Further develop the means by which the voice of LAC and Care Leavers is heard and responded to.
- Priority 6:** Extend work-based training opportunities for LAC and Care Leavers within the Council and partners in the Children's Trust Board.
- Priority 7:** Priority: Embed the corporate parenting role across the Council and Children's Trust Board partners.

In July, November and March, in their capacity as governors of the Virtual School, members of MALAP received reports from the Virtual School Head Teacher as part of their challenge, scrutiny, accountability and champion of LAC role.

In addition to the Business Manager being a member of this partnership, secretariat is also provided by Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Unit.

7 STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB PRIORITIES 2012 / 2014

As referred to previously the Business Plan requires annual review and updating to ensure it meets current need and requirements to safeguard children. The following have been identified for priority action during 2012 / 2014

- Protection of Children
- Engagement / Connection of Staff, Children & Young People (including schools)
- Preparing and mainstreaming the new Inspection Framework
- Think Child, Think Parent Think Family.
- Engagement in Tees Working where appropriate
- Governance & Board Members interface and shared understanding.
- Health Changes and Transition

8 SLSCB AGENDAS 2011 – 12

The agendas for each Board and Executive meeting are shown below which provides an overview of the issues discussed at each meeting and information provided to Board Members by email in between meetings. Minutes from Board Meetings are available on the SLSCB web site: <http://www.stockton.gov.uk/slscb>

All meetings of SLSCB have the following rider attached to agendas for meetings.

Interests & Confidentiality: Members should consider whether they have a personal or pecuniary interest in an item and, if so, declare the existence and nature of that interest. In addition Members are reminded that also in accordance with the SLSCB Constitution that they shall keep confidential any information obtained as a result of their involvement in the activities of the Board save to the extent that disclosure is necessary in order to discharge the safeguarding functions of the Board as set out in *Working Together to Safeguard Children*.



SLSCB Executive Agenda

Date: 16 May 2011

1	Role of the Executive Group	8	SCR Update
2	Agenda Planning Exec & Board	9	Unannounced Inspection Outstanding Actions: CPP3 & Referrals
3	Year End Out turn Budget 2010 / 2011	10	CDOP
4	Budget 2011/ 12	11	Monroe Review Executive Summary
5	Charging for SLSCB Multi Agency Training	12	S11 Audits
6	SLSCB Structural Review - Review of SLSCB Task Groups	13	Children & Young People's Plan
7	LSCB & MAPPA SMB Relationship (SCR Mary)	14	Tees Safeguarding Children Training

BOARD MEETING 16.06.11

Date: 16th June 2011 | Time: 1:00 - 4:00 | Venue: Education Centre

AGENDA

1	Attendance & Apologies	
2	Serious Case Review - Colin	MH
3	Minutes of Board Meeting held on: 17 th March 2011	
4	Matters Arising	
5	Executive Group Feedback	CM
6	SLSCB Constitution	PB
7	CAF	SMcL
8	2010 / 2011 Allegations Management (LADO) Report	SMcL
9	Medical Examinations Regarding Sexual Abuse	JH
10	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment for Young People who present with Sexually Harmful Behaviour	SMcL
11	Tees Procedures http://www.teescpp.org.uk/	PB
	a) Process	
	b) Allegations Against Staff Carers & Volunteers	
12	Unannounced Children's Social Care Inspection	JH
13	CESC Restructure	JH
14	Tees PCT Structure	BR
15	GP Consortia	
16	Public Health Representative	
17	Any Other Business	

Dates for 2011 /12 Meetings:

Board Meetings

15 September 2011	1:00 p.m.	Education Centre
19 January 2012	1:00 p.m.	Education Centre

Executive Group Meetings

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21 July 2011	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
18 August 2011	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
20 October 2011	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
17 November 2011	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
15 December 2011	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
16 February 2012	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
15 March 2012	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings

Discussion Reports Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting | **Last Date to Comment**

- 1 Tees Web Safeguarding / Child Protection Web based Procedures, emailed 8.3.11
- 2 Tees Web based Procedures - Documents to be checked, Emailed 11.3.11
- 3 Tees Web based Procedures - Documents to be checked, Emailed 14.3.11
- 4 Tees Web based Procedures - Documents to be checked, Emailed 28.3.11
- 5 Tees Web based Procedures - Documents to be checked, Emailed 04.4.11

Information Items Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting

- 1 FREE research for all LSCB staff from reconstruct. Emailed 8.3.11
- 2 Report into the views of young people on safeguarding in the secure estate. Emailed 10.3.11
- 3 Neglect Conference 6th May 2011- The Education Centre Norton. Emailed 11.3.11
- 4 CEOP - Safeguarding Alert. Emailed 21.3.11
- 5 Supporting Childminders – An Advisory Resource for Local Safeguarding Children Boards. Emailed 24.3.11
- 6 Drop In Session Learning lessons from Serious Case reviews 9.05.11, 11 a.m. at Education Centre. Emailed 28.3.11
- 7 Independent Chairs Network Letter. Emailed 30.3.11
- 8 New web enabled version of the Children's Homes and Fostering Standards. Emailed 5.4.11
- 9 Invitation - Young Carers Practitioner Guide Launch. Emailed 6.4.11
- 10 S11 of the Children Act Audit Tool for completion. Emailed 11.04.11
- 11 Ofsted Evaluation of SCRs April 2011. Emailed 13.04.11
- 12 SLSCB Multi Agency Safeguarding Children Training Programme 2011 / 2012 Emailed 19.04.11
- 13 Prof Eileen Munro Final Report A child-centred system. Emailed 10.5.11
- 14 Launch Of NSPCC Helpline Mobile Phone Texting Service. Emailed 16.05.11
- 15 CAF Report March 2011 – Emailed 17.5.11
- 16 Learning Together Model - Munro Recommendations, Event on 11.7.11. Emailed 24.5.11

SLSCB Executive Agenda

Date: 21 July 2011

1 Attendance & Apologies	8 Sharing of Management Case Reviews
2 Notes & Matters Arising from 19 May 2011	9 SLSCB Finance April – June 2011
3 CDOP Meeting March 2011	10 Task Group Update: SCR, P&Q, P&P, Tees P, CWT, Tees Training
4 CDOP Social Care Representative	11 LSCB Chairs & Managers Network
5 Domestic Homicide Reviews	12 Tees DCS & LSCB Chairs Mtg
6 Govt. Response to Munro Review	13 AOB
7 SCR Sub Committee Terms of Reference	

SLSCB Executive Agenda.

Date: 18 August 2011

1 Attendance & Apologies	10 Tees DCS & LSCB Chairs Mtg
2 Notes & Matters Arising from Executive Mtg. 21.07.11	11 SBC Behaviour and Safety Conference
a SCR Information Sharing Protocol	12 C&F Asylum Seeking Children Conference
b SCIE Pilot	29 September
3 Unratified Minutes from Board Mtg June 2011	13 Lay Members Training 16 September
4 LSCB Chairs & Managers Network	14 DfE Advice on Health & Safety for Schools, including trips
a Regional LSCB Chairs & Managers Network Terms of Reference	15 Task Group Update: SCR, P&Q, P&P, Tees P, CWT, Tees Training
b North East Regional Protocol for the Management of Cross Boundary Serious Case Reviews	
5 Ofsted Inspection re Hassockfield Secure Training	16 Any Other Business

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- Centre
- 6 Tees Valley LSCB Data Sets
- 7 C Family Complaint
- 8 CDOP Information May 2011
- 9 Acute Child Forensic Assessment Service for Tees children

BOARD MEETING 15.9.11

Date: 15th September 2011 | Time: 1:00 - 4:00 | Venue: Education Centre

AGENDA

- 1 Attendance & Apologies
- 2 Guest Speakers / Presentations:
 - a. Learning from Serious Case Reviews – Social Work Chambers Report (1:00 pm) SWC
Dr Karen
Rollinson
 - b. Clinical Director Newcastle Paediatric Forensic Service (2:00 pm)
 - c. SCIE DVD ([Film 1](#)) ([Film 2 North West Pilots](#))
- 3 Minutes of Board Meeting held on: 16th June 2011
- 4 Matters Arising
- 5 Executive Group Feedback July & August 2011
 - a. Notes from Meetings
 - b. SCR Information Sharing Protocol
 - c. Adoption of Procedures
- 6 [Chapman Report](#)
- 7 [Out of Mind, Out of Sight – CEOP Report](#) (Report emailed 5 July 2011)
- 8 Barnados ACE Implication of Funding Cuts
- 9 SCR Sub Committee Update -
 - a. Colin
 - b. Daniel
 - c. General Update
- 10 Tees CDOP Request for Information (Daniel)
- 11 Quality Assurance
 - a Reports (NHS Tees PCT, NT&H NHS FT and TEWV NHS Trust)
 - b Proposal of Special Annual SLSCB Meeting re Quality Assurance
- 12 Working with the Tees LSCB's
 - a. Meeting: Stockton & Hartlepool LSCB's
 - b. Tees LSCB's Procedures
 - c. Tees Multi Agency Safeguarding Children Training
- 13 Draft SLSCB Annual Report 2010 / 2011
- 14 [Ofsted Consultation on Inspection of Children's Services](#) SW
- 15 [PREVENT](#) Update / Confirmation of SLSCB Lead
- 16 Any Other Business

Dates for 2011 /12 Meetings:

Board Meetings

19 January 2012 1:00 p.m. Education Centre

Executive Group Meetings

20 October 2011 1:00 p.m Municipal Buildings
 17 November 2011 1:00 p.m Municipal Buildings
 15 December 2011 1:00 p.m Municipal Buildings
 16 February 2012 1:00 p.m Municipal Buildings
 15 March 2012 1:00 p.m Municipal Buildings

Discussion Reports Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting

Last Date to Comment

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1 Youth Justice Board Consultation - Serious Incident Process – Emailed 17.6.11 | 10 th July 2011 |
| 2 Paediatric Assessment – Emailed 22.07.11 | 29 th July 2011 |
| 3 UKBA Consultation re: family migration | 31 st August 2011 |
| 4 Request for Information for the SLSCB Annual Report 2010 / 2011 | 19 th August 2011 |
| 5 Tees LSCB's Procedures http://www.teescpp.org.uk/ | 9 th September 2011 |

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Information Items Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting	E-mail Date
0 Bailey Review - Letting Children Be Children.	6.6.11
1 CAF Training Information.	3.6.11
2 CPSU Relay newsletter issue 16 (spring 2011)	10.6.11
3 Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre Annual Report	13.06.11
4 Under subscribed imminent Safeguarding courses	14.06.11
5 SBC CYP Report to Cabinet 16.6.11	17.6.11
6 CEOP Out of Sight, Out of Mind Executive Summary	5.7.11
7 Procedures for Working Together to Safeguard Children in Stockton-on-Tees – Update	12.7.11
8 Corporate Parenting Strategy Final Approved by Cabinet 16 June11	12.7.11
9 Governments to Munro Review.	14.7.11
10 DfE Advice on Health and Safety for Schools, including School Trips.	14.7.11
11 Munro Review Analysis – Tri.x.	20.7.11
12 CRI Family Service.	22.07.11
13 Neglecting the issue: impact, causes and responses to child neglect in the UK.	16.07.11
14 B Dickie CV.	26.07.11
15 Consultation on the arrangements for local authority children's services.	26.07.11
16 Supporting information for the development of joint local protocols between drug and alcohol partnerships, children and family services.	04.08.11
17 Consultation on Family and Friends Care Policy	08.08.11
18 FREE Risk Taking Resource for Out of School Settings	10.08.11
19 Tri.X Briefings & Policy Guide.	10.08.11
20 CDOP Annual Report	23.08.11
21 Monro Review Conference invitation from Social Work Chambers	23.08.11
22 Ofsted Consultation on Inspection of Children's Services	26.08.11
23 Published SCR Executive Summaries	01.09.11
24 Working Together to Safeguard Children (Safe Network Newsletter)	05.09.11

SLSCB Executive Agenda.

Date: 20 October 2011

1	Attendance & Apologies	9	SLAC Action Plan Progress Update
2	New DfE Guidance Advice:	10	SLSCB Finance
a	Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against Teachers	11	Task Group Update:
b	Screening, Searching and Confiscation		CWT & Tees Training, P&Q, P&P &
c	Use of Reasonable Force		Tees Procedures, SCR
d	Advice on Health & Safety for Schools, including School Trips		
3	Review of MARAC Capacity by DV Partnership	12	Board Members & Attendance
3	Notes & Matters Arising from Executive Mtg. 18.08.11	13	November Exec Meeting with Children's Trust
4	Unratified Minutes from Board Mtg September 2011	14	LSCB Regional Network Meeting
2.1	Social Work Chambers Recommendations – Action Plan	15	Any Other Business
7	Child Sexual Exploitation / RMHC Group		
9	SCR Colin		
10	Tees CDOP		
11	QA Special Board Meeting 23 rd November		
5	SCIE Pilot Champion		
6	Police Checks & Charging		
7	Ofsted LSCB Good Practice Report		

nationaladoptionweek
31 October – 6 November 2011

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SLSCB Executive & Stockton-on-Tees Children's Trust Agenda.
Date: 17th November 2011

Shaping the Future Meeting

AGENDA

- 1 Welcome, Attendance & Apologies
- 2 Why are we here?
- 3 Business Planning
- 4 Relationship between the LSCB and the Children's Trust Board
- 5 What is Safeguarding ?
- 6 Child Protection
- 7 CYP Plan Priorities for 2011 / 2013
- 8 Who should lead on what?
- 9 Agreed steps for Shaping the Future
- 10 Close meeting

National Anti-Bullying Week - 'Stop and think – words can hurt'
14th - 18th November 2011

BOARD MEETING 23.11.11

Date: 23 November 2011	Time: 1:45 - 5:00	Venue: Maureen Taylor Conference Suite - Stockton Riverside College.
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AGENDA

- | | | | |
|---|------|---|----------------------------------|
| | | Apologies, & Opening Introduction | SLSCB Chair |
| 1 | 1:45 | Briefing re Stockton Serious Case Review 'Colin' | SLSCB Chair |
| Quality Assurance Presentations, Questions & Answers | | | |
| 2 | 2:05 | Adult Substance Misuse Services | Emma Champley |
| 3 | 2:25 | Barnados | Sandra Egleton |
| 4 | 2:45 | CAFCASS | Marie Gittings |
| 5 | 3:05 | NSPCC | Bernice Gallagher |
| 6 | 3:25 | Prisons | Elaine Hunneysett |
| 7 | 3:45 | SBC DNS (Housing & Community Safety | Julie Nixon & Mike Batty |
| 8 | 4:05 | Health – PCT & Stockton & Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust | Beverly Reilly / Sue Smith |
| 9 | 4:20 | Police – Stockton District Prevention & Crime Protection | Mick Williams / Peter McPhillips |
| 10 | 4:35 | Probation | Lucia Saiger |
| 11 | 4:50 | SBC CESC (including YOS & Connexions) | Jane Humphreys |

SLSCB Executive Agenda

Date: 15 December 2011

- | | | | |
|---|--|---|---|
| | 1 Attendance & Apologies | | 4 Procedures considered by Board Members - PB |
| 2 | Notes & Matters Arising from Executive & Board Mtgs: 20.10.11, 17.11.11 & 23.11.11 | 5 | Engagement with G.P.'s – Clinical Commissioning Group - BR |
| 3 | Brought Forward from October 2011 | 6 | SCR / MR Update (Colin & Andrew) - CM |
| | i. Training Charging Report - EJ | 7 | CDOP: |
| | ii. Social Work Chambers Recommendations - Next Actions - CM | | Sept CDOP Meeting, Governance Meeting Feedback, Request for Information - 'Daniel' and CDOP Annual Review |
| | iii. Ofsted LSCB Good Practice Report - CM | | |
| | iv. Evaluating Neglect - SW | | |
| | v. Merging P&Q and P&P Task Groups – SW / MG | | |
| | vi. Tees Procedures Discussion – CM / JH | | |

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BOARD MEETING 19.01.12

Date: 19 January 2012	Time: 1:00 - 4:00	Venue: Education Centre
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AGENDA

- 1 Attendance & Apologies
- 2 Minutes of Board Meeting held on: 15 September and 23 November 2011
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Executive Group Feedback from 20 October, 17 November and 15 December 2011.
- 5 Quality Assurance Review
 - a) CESC - Adults
 - b) CAFCASS
 - c) HM Prisons
- 6 SCR 'Colin' Update
- 7 Budget Report April – December 2011 / 12
- 8 Finance 2012 / 2013
- 9 Proposal for SLSCB Development Day – March 2012
- 10* LSCB Meetings Review – Perpetual Improvement
- 11 Stockton LSCB Proposed Scheme of Delegation
- 12 Annual Review / Appraisal of Independent Chair - Options
- 13 Tees LSCB's Procedures
- 14 Deaf Children - Reviewing LSCB processes - Audit Tool
- 15 Any Other Business

Dates for 2011 /12* Meeting dates will be confirmed following discussion (Agenda item 10):

Board Meetings

15 th March 2012 (Special)	1:00 p.m.	Education Centre
16 th March 2012 (Dev Day)	9:00 a.m.	Police HQ

Executive Group Meetings

16 February 2012	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings
15 March 2012	1:00 p.m	Municipal Buildings

Discussion / Action Meeting	Reports Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting	Email Date	Last Date to Comment
1	Expansion of Running or Missing from Home or Care Group.	07.10.11	17.10.11
2	Running or Missing from Home or Care Procedure.	01.11.11	16.11.11
3	Amended Allegations Management Procedure	01.11.11	16.11.11
4	Children In Adoptive Placements Procedure	02.11.11	16.11.11
5	Service User Complaints Procedure	02.12.11	23.12.11
6	Proposed Amendment to Working with Sexually Active Young People Procedure	22.12.11	13.01.12

Information Items Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting	E-mail Date
1 Common Assessment Framework & Lead Professional Training dates	06.09.11
2 Safeguarding in Schools	07.09.11
3 SBC Family and Friends Care Policy	12.09.11
4 Tri.x Briefings	14.09.11
5 Good Practice by Local Safeguarding Children Boards	20.09.11
6 Bullying Training and Neglect Training	29.09.11
7 Training Drop in Sessions	29.09.11
8 Getting It Right for Young Carers - Training Event 25 October 2011	29.09.11
9 Shelter Benchmarking Guide -Improving Outcomes for CYP in Housing Need	30.09.11
10 Getting It Right for Young Carers - Training Event 25 October 2011 2 nd email	13.10.11
11 New First Contact Process	14.10.11
12 Analysing Risk and Developing Positive Outcomes for Children through Effective use of Multi Agency Meetings	14.10.11
13 Children's Commissioner - Thousands of sexually exploited children in England are being failed	24.10.11
14 Research report on local partnership responses to CSE	25.10.11
15 Social Care Health Visitor Newsletter - October 2011	27.10.11
16 Ages of concern: learning lessons from Serious Case Reviews April 2007 - March 2011.	31.10.11

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Information Items Emailed To Board Members Since The Last Meeting		E-mail Date
17	The protection of children online: a brief scoping review to identify vulnerable groups	31.10.11
18	Alcohol Awareness Week - Alcohol Briefing Session - 'Second Hand Unseen Alcohol Harm'	03.11.11
19	Alcohol Awareness Week in the North East	14.11.11
20	Information Report: National Independent Chairs Conference 8.11.11	16.11.11
21	CJJI Thematic Inspection Report - MAPPA	18.11.11
22	SBC Review Unit Annual report 10 11	23.11.11
23	Review of Working Together and Alternative Model for evaluation of Significant Incidents	24.11.11
24	DfE Decision Letter re 'Colin' SCR	24.11.11
25	CAF Activity Report up to 31 October 2011	25.11.11
26	National Action Plan for Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation.	25.11.11
27	Vacancy for Joint Independent Chair - Herefordshire	25.11.11
28	New dates for "Raising awareness of sexual exploitation with young people"	25.11.11
29	Newcastle LSCB SCR Executive Summary November 2011	25.11.11
30	Messages from Research - Identifying and responding to child maltreatment	25.11.11
31	Stockton LSCB Safeguarding Briefing	02.12.11
32	New Govt. Strategy for Missing Children	09.12.11
33	SCIE Parental mental health and child welfare guide	13.12.11
34	Letter to DCS and Chairs of LSCB's	15.12.11
35	Safeguarding CYP in Licensed Premises and Participation in Service Delivery.	19.12.11

SLSCB Executive Agenda.

Date: 16 February 2012

1	Attendance & Apologies	8	CDOP
2	Notes & Matters Arising from Executive & Board Mtgs: i) 15.12.11 and ii) 19.01.12		i. November CDOP Meeting, ii. Governance Meeting Update, iii. Request for Information - 'Daniel' iv. CDOP Work Plan 2011 - 2013
3	Procedures considered by Board Members i). Amendments to Working with Sexually Active Young People 9.3.24-26 ii). Proposed addition / amendment to 7.10.3.3 and 7.10.3.4 of the SLSCB Procedures - Discontinuing the Child Protection Plan. iii). Proposed changes to 6.4.1 Strategy Meeting and / or discussion. iv). Proposed addition to 6.3 Immediate Protection	9	Task Group Chairs Reports: i) Performance & Quality ii) Procedures & Practice iii) CW Training iv) VEMT a. Terms of Reference b. Tees E-Safety Strategy & c. Tees E- Safety Standards v). Serious Case Review Sub Committee
4	'Andrew' Management Review	10	SLSCB Briefing February 2012
5	Terms of Reference for merged P&P / P&Q Group	11	Free Training Requests e.g. Sanctuary- Carr-Gomm
6	New inspection arrangements		
7	LSCB Chairs Survey - Munro		

BOARD MEETING 15.03.12

Date:	15 March 2012	Time:	1:00 - 4:00	Venue:	Education Centre, Junction Road
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AGENDA

- 1 Attendance & Apologies
- 2 Minutes of Board Meeting held on: 19 January 2012
- 3 Matters Arising
- 4 Executive Group Feedback from meeting held 16 February 2012
- 5 Andrew – Management Review
- 6 Tees Procedures: Presentation and Decision re: <http://www.teescpp.org.uk/>
- 7 Any Other Business

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB
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Discussion / Action Reports Emailed To Board Members		Email Date	Last Date to Comment
1	Request for information in respect of financial contributions to the SLSCB Core Budget.	10.01.12	Not Applicable
2	Proposed Addition to 7.10.3 of the SLSCB Procedures - Discontinuing the Child Protection Plan	16.01.12	19.01.12
3	Managing & Providing info re CP	17.01.12	19.01.12
4	SCR Sub Committee Request for Information - Benjamin 3	17.01.12	02.02.12
5	Discontinuing the Child Protection Plan Procedure	02.02.12	15.02.12
6	Proposed amendments and additions to 6.4.1 Strategy Meeting and / or Discussion SLSCB Procedure	06.02.12	15.02.12
7	Proposed addition to SLSCB Procedures 6.3. Immediate Protection	06.02.12	15.02.12
8	Draft Childrens Workforce Development Training Programme 2012/13	09.02.12	15.02.12
9	Annual Report 2011 2012 Information Request	10.02.12	01.05.12
10	NE LSCB Munro Event - Wednesday 21st March 2012	27.02.12	06.03.12

Information Items Emailed To Board Members	E-mail Date
1 Stay Safe and Warm Initiative	10.01.12
2 NSPCC Helpline report 'How the NSPCC Protects Babies' published	10.01.12
3 Bonding & Attachment Training Course 19 March 2012	11.01.12
4 Information Sharing between LAs and UKBA re: family returns processes	12.01.12
5 2 Day Drug & Alcohol Awareness Course	16.01.12
6 Child Centred Practice Presentation at MTLC 23rd January 2012	16.01.12
7 NSPCC Authorised Person Status	25.01.12
8 Child Neglect Report (Action for Children) January 2012.	26.01.12
9 New arrangements for the inspection of local authority children's services	01.02.12
10 Child Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation Training/ 9 February 2012	01.02.12
11 Training Event: Autism Specialist Disorders (ASD) Awareness , 4-dates available	01.02.12
12 Introduction to Integrated Working & Information Sharing/ 21 February 2012/ 13:30 - 16:30/ The Education Centre	01.02.12
13 Supervising Staff who have Assessment and Safeguarding Responsibilities/ 22 February 2012/ 09:30 - 16:30/ The Education Centre	01.02.12
14 Children with a Parent in Prison - impact on outcomes	14.02.12

Dates for 2012 /13

Board Meetings

Date	Time	Venue	Main Topic (To be confirmed)
17 May 2012	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Education Centre	Year End Performance & Annual Report
19 July	9:00 – 4:00 p.m.	Education Centre, Room E	Development Day
20 September	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Education Centre	
15 November	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Education Centre	Quality Assurance
17 January 2013	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Education Centre	

Executive Group Meetings

Date	Time	Venue	Main Topics (To be confirmed)
19 April 2012	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Ground Floor Committee Room - Town Hall	Finance
21 June	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings - Conf rm 2	
16 August	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings - Conf rm 2	Finance
18 October	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings - Conf rm 2	Priority Areas, CDOP
20 December	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings Conf Rm 2	TG Updates
21 February 2013	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings Conf Rm 2	Finance
21 March	1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Municipal Buildings Conf Rm 2	Joint with Children's Trust

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB
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BOARD MEETING 16.03.12

Date: 16 March 2012	Time: 9:00 - 4:00	Venue: Police HQ (Media Suite) Ladgate Lane Middlesbrough TS8 9EH
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AGENDA

CM	Welcome and Overview
CM	Sharing Your Thoughts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 2 Positives and 2 Areas for Improvement
CM	Governance & Partnership Working (Sub Groups & Finance)
JH	Engagement: Young People & Staff
	Break
SW	New Inspection Framework
SMcL	Serious Case Reviews
	Lunch
SMcE	Think Child – Think Family <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ How well is it working? ▪ What are the gaps? ▪ How do we improve?
AG	Tees Working <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ What are the benefits? ▪ What are the discernable positive outcomes? ▪ What are / will be the barriers?
	Break
CM	Presentation of Key Themes Arising from the Development Day
	End



STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB

2012 – 2014 ACTION PLAN

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB
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A) SLSCB BUSINESS PLAN 2012 / 14

The Business Plans for the Board and its Task Groups requires annual review and updating to ensure it meets current need and requirements to safeguard children. The following have been identified for action during 2012 / 14.

Key Priority Objective 1: Protection of Children

Action		When	Intended Outcome	Lead
1.1	Tees wide staff focus group to be convened in order to gain feedback on effectiveness of procedures.	November 2012	Future development of procedures to be based on user feedback.	Tees wide Procedures Group
1.2	SLSCB to receive assurance statements from all member agencies regarding minimum training for staff. (May want to work towards consistent model for all agencies to follow)	November 2012	Ensure staff have necessary skills to safely perform their role.	SLSCB Chair
1.3	'Deep dive' case discussions facilitated by 2 SLSCB members (different agencies) involving feedback from parents and carers.	4 x annually	Evidence of effectiveness of multi agency working.	Corporate Director CESC/Head of CYP Services
1.4	Continue to develop SLSCB quality assurance framework	March 2013	Improved quality assurance of practice by SLSCB member agencies.	SLSCB Chair
1.4	Task Groups support functions of SLSCB	Ongoing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Regular meetings of multi agency Task Groups are held. 2. Twice yearly reports presented to LSCB on the groups safeguarding activity, achievements, involvement of partners and areas for development. 3. Single issue reports presented as required to address or highlight areas of concern, importance or where decisions are required.. 	Task Group Chairs

Key Priority Objective 2: Engagement / Connection of Staff, Children & Young People

Action		When	Intended Outcome	Lead
2.1	SLSCB members to attend operational meetings as an observer (1 x yearly).	March 2014	Board will ascertain what is working, where there are gaps in service provision, what needs greater focus and how they	SLSCB Chair

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Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead	
		need to assert their influence to introduce change.		
2.2	Multi Agency Briefings (6 sessions annually).	March 2014	Key messages communicated to staff.	Corporate Director CESC
2.3	Targeted single agency briefings as requested.	March 2014	Key messages communicated to staff.	Corporate Director CESC
2.4	Interagency shadowing by SLSCB members (min 1 x ½ day annually) (Board members to propose to SLSCB chair).	March 2014	SLSCB members achieve greater understanding of issues affecting other SLSCB agencies.	SLSCB Chair
2.5	Establish a CYP Sub Group to be led by VCS (CYP Consortium)	March 2013	Ongoing dialogue with children and young people with experience in relation to safeguarding agenda.	To be identified (VCS lead to become member of SLSCB)
2.6	SLSCB members attend the 'Lets Take Action' group, twice yearly.	March 2014	Ongoing dialogue with children and young people with experience in relation to safeguarding agenda.	SLSCB Chair
2.7	Exit survey for parents/ carers following provision of service to be reviewed	January 2013	Improved intelligence about service quality to inform future development.	Chair P&P TG

Key Priority Objective 3: Develop and Embed a Learning and Improvement Framework

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead	
3.1	Prepare for the current & future inspection framework	July - September 2012	1. Project team in place 2. Self evaluation completed, best practice identified and areas for development addressed 3. Staff fully briefed and prepared 4. Database and core documentation in place	Head of Business Support and Improvement (BuSI)
		March 2013	Assessment of new framework carried out and development plan in place.	
3.2	Establish an annual learning and improvement cycle (continuous improvement framework)	March 2013	1. Framework of learning and improvement, associated targets and annual cycle of reporting in place. 2. Outcome measures (single & multi agency) agreed and approved.	Head of Business Support and Improvement (BuSI)

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Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead
		3. Challenge and support from Board and partner organisations contributing to improved outcomes e.g. SCR's	

Key Priority Objective 4: Think Child, Think Parent Think Family.

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead
4.1 Awareness raising training incorporated into all training. Brand the Think Parent, Think Child, Think family ideal.	Ongoing	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Understanding of the Broader definition of 'Parent' 2. Remove silo working 3. Improve holistic approach 4. Improve information sharing between professionals working with Adults & Children. 	Childrens Workforce Training Group
4.2 Professionals working with adults and children should consider completion of the CAF, or similar assessment tool, to identify if parent/carer and if issue/concern may impact on the child/family.		<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Early identification of issues likely to impact on children/fam 2. Improved assessments 3. Improved information sharing 4. Appropriate referral to other services 	Designated Nurse
(i) Fully implement the procedure for assessing the potential impact of parental mental health on children.	(i) by 30 November 2012		
(ii) Adapt the potential impact of parental mental health on children procedure to assess the potential impact on the child/family of parental behaviours associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Substance misuse • Domestic Violence • Learning disability 	(ii) by 31 December 2012		
(iii) Fully implement the procedures	(iii) by 28 February 2013		

A1) SLSCB Childrens Workforce Development Training TASK GROUP PLAN 2012 / 14

Objective 1: Training

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
1.1 To ensure that single agency and inter-agency training on safeguarding and promoting welfare is provided to meet local needs	Ongoing throughout 2012/2013/2014 with regular reports to SLSCB	To ensure that there is consistency and high quality training being delivered by all Agencies in compliance with the SLSCB responsibilities (WT 3.18)	SLSCB Chair and SLSCB Business Manager in liaison with Chair of TTG
1.2 Monitoring the delivery of the 2012/2013 Training Plan.	Ongoing throughout 2012/2013 with interim reports to the Board.	A fully trained multi-agency staff adequately prepared to meet the needs of their respective roles	Chair of TTG in conjunction with Training Task Group
1.3 To evaluate the impact of all training delivered	Pre and Post delivery with a follow-up 6 months after.	To ensure compliance with Working Together (WT 3.19) and the broader requirements of Chapter 4.	Chair of TTG in conjunction with SLSCB Business Manager

Objective 2: Engage in Tees Working

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
2.1 Identify and engage in opportunities to develop training initiatives across Tees Valley	October 2012	Maximise resources and ensure consistency of high level training to all partner agencies in the Tees Valley	Chair of TTG and partner colleagues

Objective 3: Think Child, Think Parent, Think Family

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
3.1 Ensure that we coordinate training plans and programmes for both Adult and Childrens Safeguarding Training	Ongoing during 2012/2013	Ensure consistency of transition and remove duplication for Children and Families	Training and Development Manager – Children and Adults

Objective 4: Implement Munro and Social Reform Recommendations

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
4.1 Ensure that all recommendations are identified with relevant timelines for implementation	December 2012	Meet statutory requirements	SLSCB with Training Task Group

Objective 5: Training Needs 2013 / 2014

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
5.1 Training Task Group to develop and identify key training priorities for 2013/2014	December 2012- January 2013	Draft Programme to be considered by the Board	Chair of TTG in conjunction with Task Group

Objective 6: Funding

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
6.1 To monitor budget activity relating to all Training Costs and assess activity in light of Charging policy	Ongoing throughout the financial year with interim quarterly activity reports	To ensure delivery of Service is within budget and is value for money	SLSCB Business Manager in conjunction with Chair of TTG

A2) SLSCB Performance & Practice TASK GROUP PLAN 2012 / 14

Objective 1: Ensure Multi-Agency Quality Assurance Arrangements Are In Place.

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
1.1 Develop a Quality Assurance (QA) Framework for SLSCB.	By Nov 2012 (date of annual QA meeting of Board).	The Board has a clearer understanding of how quality of practice will be monitored and evaluated, to inform future improvements.	Chair of Performance & Practice Task Group (PPTG)
1.2 Support SLSCB in ensuring each Agency has appropriate QA arrangements in place.	To determine following annual QA meeting of Board.	Greater assurance for the Board regarding agencies' approach to QA.	Chair and Members of PPTG
1.3 Undertake / commission multi-agency 'reality check' studies on key themes identified from QA activity.	Timetable to be determined as work is commissioned.	Improved quality of practice through identification of best practice and areas for development.	Lead to be identified as and when thematic studies are agreed.

Objective 2: Monitor Practice Standards And Advise On Development Of Procedures.

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
2.1 Undertake annual Section 11 Audits and review progress against linked action plans.	July-Sept each year, with report to Board in Nov / Dec.	The Board has an up to date overview of Agencies' compliance with core standards.	SLSCB Business Manager
2.2 Maintain links with Tees Procedures Group and support development of new / revised procedures as required.	Ongoing work through attendance at Tees Procedures Group and liaison with P&P Task Group.	Tees Procedures are used and valued by local practitioners.	Stockton-on-Tees reps on Tees Procedures Group.
2.3 Ensure local practice issues / developments are reflected in appropriate guidance and procedures, linked to Tees Procedures.	As standing agenda item for each meeting of the P&P Group.	Guidance and Procedures support local practitioners in meeting core standards.	Stockton-on-Tees reps on Tees Procedures Group.

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Objective 3: Evaluate Impact Of SCR And Other Review Action Plans.

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
3.1 Review completed Action Plans and identify key themes for follow-up 'impact' studies.	As and when Action Plans are signed off by the SCR Panel.	Improved understanding of how SCRs / other Reviews have led to any improvement in practice standards / quality of safeguarding.	Chair of PPTG
3.2 Undertake or commission audits / reviews to evaluate impact of identified themes.	To be determined, as and when Action Plan reviews are completed.		

Objective 4: Provide Performance Reports And Analysis Of Inter-Agency Child Protection Activity.

Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
4.1 Liaise with other Tees LSCB's regarding future Tees-wide Safeguarding Data Set.	By October 2012.	Improved performance monitoring and identification of common development needs and best practice.	Chair PPTG
4.2 Review performance data from agencies (e.g. Data on child protection activity) and report to Board on key learning points.	Performance Report to Board in Nov / Dec and June / July each year.	Board is better informed of progress and areas for further development, to inform future service planning.	Chair and Members of PPTG

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A3) SLSCB Vulnerable, Exploited, Trafficked & Missing (VEMT) TASK GROUP PLAN 2012 / 14

Objective 1: Strategy

	Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
1.1	Develop a strategy that addresses the themes of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Safeguarding and Protection ▪ Bringing Offenders to justice ▪ Raise public awareness and community engagement 	January 2013	i. Increased confidence in reporting ii. Increased number of referrals ii. Increased number of Section 2 abduction notices v. Increased confidence of communities in LSCB partners to tackle and address issues of exploitation in the local community	Chair VEMT Task Group

Objective 2: Operational Practice

	Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
2.1	Review the current Stockton Running or Missing from Home or Care procedure to ensure it works operationally	September 2012	Procedure is fit for purpose and reflects operational process	SBC CESC Procedures & Development Manager
2.2	Ensure Tees LSCB's Procedures reflect current requirements.	Ongoing	Procedures are available to staff that assist them to recognise and respond to potential signs associated with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The sexual exploitation of children and young people, determine the level of risk and action required. ii. Situations where children and young people are vulnerable and in need of protection. 	LSCB Business Manager
2.3	SLSCB Children's Workforce Training Group to ensure courses are available or develop specific VEMT related multi agency training	January 2013	Vulnerable children in the community will be better protected from harm because the workforce will be more able to recognise and respond to the correlation between the CSE, Missing and Trafficked children and young people	Chair of SLSCB Training sub group
2.4	Ensure lessons are learned from previous current and future CSE &	Ongoing	Victims are supported through out the criminal	Detective Inspector

STOCKTON-ON-TEES LSCB
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	Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
	ICT prosecutions and that interviews are taken by trained staff.		justice process from report to court.	Cleveland Police
2.5	Establish and pilot a Multi Agency Risk Management Panel.	September 2012	Identify young people who are most vulnerable and in need of support.	SBC Service Manager LAC & Barnados CSE Programme Manager

Objective 3: Awareness Raising

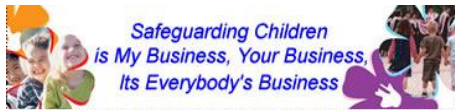
	Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
3.1	Undertake specific activity to talk and listen to Children & Young People who have been at risk of or have suffered from CSE	Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Professionals have an increased understanding of CSE by listening to C&YP and are better able to safeguard them. ii. Children & Young People have a raised awareness about CSE, and are better able to protect themselves. 	Public Health Early Interventions Manager
3.2	Deliver age-appropriate information to children and young people that will enable them to understand and manage risks and make informed positive choices, helping to prevent sexual exploitation taking place and instil resilience.	Ongoing	Young People develop the knowledge and skills they need to make safe and healthy choices about relationships and sexual health.	Public Health Early Interventions Manager & Barnados ACE Team Leader
3.3	Return Interviews are carried out to ensure young people are safe well and future episodes of running or missing from home or care are reduced.	Ad required	The safety of children & young people.	Police & Social Care
3.4	Undertake awareness raising of e-Safety	On-going	To ensure children, young people, parents, carers and professionals have a knowledge base in terms of Social Networking, internet use and safe use.	E-Learning Co-ordinator & Chair of SLSCB Training sub group

Objective 4: Monitoring Arrangements.

	Action	When	Intended Outcome	Lead Officer
4.1	Map the needs of the area to identify levels of child sexual exploitation and locations or circumstances where children are particularly at risk.	November 2012	Local knowledge is shared; services available are identified along with gaps in service provision.	Chair VEMT Intelligence Group

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STOCKTON-ON-TEES LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

ANNUAL REPORT 2011 / 2012

This edition of the Stockton-on-Tees Local Safeguarding Children Board Safeguarding Children Briefing will provide you with an overview of the Boards effectiveness to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the borough as detailed in the Annual Report 2011 / 2012.

The full report and Business Plan 2012 / 2014 is available from Pauline Beall, Safeguarding Business Manager: pauline.beall@stockton.gov.uk or www.stockton.gov.uk/slsch

Safeguarding children will always be a high risk, challenging responsibility. Our task is to make sure systems and processes are as robust as they can possibly be in order to minimise such risk to the children and young people living in Stockton.

Your continued support and commitment is crucial if we are to be successful. and I thank you for your considerable efforts to date




Colin Morris,
SLSCB Independent Chair

We're on the web
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**Who's
Responsible
for
Safeguarding
Children?**

Everyone Is!

Assuring the Quality of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Work

During 2011 / 12, partner agencies reported to the Board findings from their internal audits quality assurance activities and how this information was used to improve practice. An audit of responsibilities under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 (the duty to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded and their welfare is promoted) also took place.

Key issues to note:

- Overall a high level of compliance against the standards required under s11 was met.
- Action plans to address gaps were put in place
- Three common issues arose which required remedial action from some of the identified gaps:
 - Written e-safety policies and procedures.
 - Induction processes.
 - Awareness of Private Fostering regulations.

Robust challenge took place between Members to enable them to collectively scrutinise local arrangements, learn from each other and ultimately improve service delivery and outcomes for children, young people and families they work with.

Training

Multi agency safeguarding children training was provided using a variety of mediums to accommodate learning styles and service needs. 1,525 people took the opportunity of learning using Information Technology via our e-learning courses and 1,435 attended delivered training courses.

Learning from Management and Serious Case Reviews

Lessons to be learned from the various reviews were shared across agencies and with front-line staff using a variety of mediums; one to ones, drop ins, team briefings, inclusion in Safeguarding Children Briefings and in multi agency training courses.

Some of the lessons to be learned during the year were:

- The need to reinforce that child protection plans should not be removed within 3 months unless there are genuinely exceptional circumstances.
- Where decisions are taken that are not compliant with multi-agency procedures the reasons why procedures have not been followed needs to be carefully explained and recorded, including details of who was consulted.
- Multi Agency Reports need to be produced in time to allow all professionals to see the report well in advance of the meeting.
- Agency views must be correctly represented in Child Protection conferences and verbal updates should be captured in minutes.
- Unborn babies need to be included as the subject of Initial Child Protection Conferences alongside the other children in the family.
- Practitioners should be reminded or made aware of how to work with un-cooperative families and intimidating family members
- Awareness raising about sexual offending by young people was required.
- The need for detailed practice guidance and risk assessment procedures for taking children or young people on external visits.
- The benefits and requirements of professional challenge

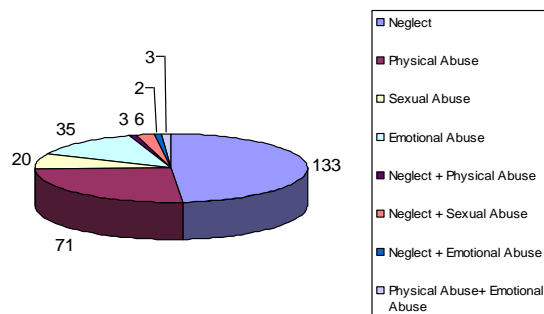
None of these themes are particularly new and emphasised the need for front-line staff to be well supported in their tasks through good supervision, support in record-keeping, following procedures and maintaining a focus on the child.

Child Protection Activity

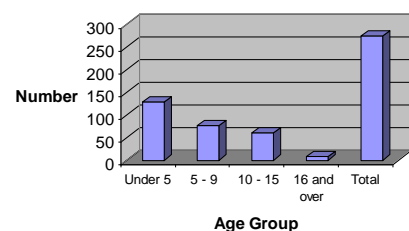
Total number of children with a Child Protection Plan on 31st March 2012 was 273. The under 18 population in Stockton-on-Tees was 45,085. Therefore the rate of children and young people subject to Child Protection Plans in Stockton-on-Tees was 60 per 10,000 children.

On the 31st March 2011 there were 208 children subject to Child Protection Plans; over the 12 months to 31st March 2012 this had increased to 273 children from 121 families. 259 children had plans removed and there were 324 new plans made.

31/3/12 Number of Children with a Child Protection Plan and the Category



Ages of Children with a Child Protection Plan



Should you require clarification on anything contained within this summary Annual Report please don't hesitate to contact us.

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