

# STOCKTON-ON-TEES LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (SLSCB)

## 1. Attendance, Apologies & Governance

SLSCB Members	Title	Representing	Other Interests: Stockton-on-Tees or Tees Valley Partnerships, Boards, Group, etc. (Ch. denotes Chair, VCh Vice-Chair)	× Apols
Dave Pickard (DP)	LSCB Independent Chair	SLSCB	LSCB Chair Hartlepool	<b>✓</b>
Pauline Beall (PB)	Business Manager		MALAP (Multi Agency Looked After Partnership)     Stockton VCSE Safeguarding Forum	✓
Leanne Bain (LB)	Lay Member		MAPPA SMB (Lay Member)	✓
Lesley Cooke (LC)	Lay Member		<ul><li>Eastern Ravens Trust</li><li>Catalyst</li></ul>	<b>✓</b>
Deborah Wray (DWr)	Lay Member		Governor Bowesfield Primary School	<b>√</b>
Martin Gray (MG)	Director of Children's Services	Local Authority (SBC)		<b>√</b>
Ann Workman (AW)	Director of Adults and Health			Apols
Rhona Bollands (RB)	Assistant Director - Safeguarding and Looked After Children / Chair SLSCB VEMT Sub-Group			<b>√</b>
Sarah Bowman- Abouna (SBA)	Assistant Director - Public Health			<b>√</b>
Diane McConnell (DM)	Assistant Director - Schools and SEN		<ul> <li>CAF Board</li> <li>Convener of the Safeguarding Forum for Education Settings</li> <li>Tees LSCBs Strategic VEMT Group</li> </ul>	<b>✓</b>
Jane Edmends (JE)	Strategic Housing Manager		<ul> <li>Stockton Early Help Partnership Group</li> <li>Housing and Neighbourhood Partnership (Thematic Group)</li> </ul>	✓
Cllr Ann McCoy (AM)	Lead Cabinet Member - Children and Young People (Participating Observer)		Governor Tees, Esk & Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust (TEWV)	<b>✓</b>
Neil Schneider (NS)	Chief Executive (Participating Observer)			<b>√</b>
Margaret Harvey (MH)	Service Manager	CAFCASS		×
Anne-Marie Salwey (AMS)	Detective Superinten- dent / Chair SLSCB LIPSG	Cleveland Police		<b>√</b>
David Woodward (DWo)	Independent Schools - Deputy Headmaster, Yarm School	Education Establishments		<b>√</b>
Gill Booth (GB)	Secondary Schools - Executive Headteacher, Ian Ramsey Academy (and Venerable Bede)			<b>√</b>
Kerry Coe (KC)	Primary Schools - Head Teacher, St John the Baptist CE VC Primary School		<ul><li>High Needs Panel</li><li>Primary Heads Group</li><li>ARP Cluster</li></ul>	<b>√</b>

SLSCB	Title	Representing	Other Interests:	<b>/</b>
Members	Title	Representing	Stockton-on-Tees or Tees Valley Partner-	×
Moniboro			ships, Boards, Group, etc. (Ch. denotes	Apols
Leaves Della	Deat 40 Education		Chair, VCh Vice-Chair)	-
Joanna Bailey	Post-16 Education -		Governor at The Grangefield Academy	<b>✓</b>
(JB)	Principal,		Governor at The Grangefield Academy     Campus Stockton Teaching Alliance	
	Stockton Sixth Form		14-19 Partnership,	
	College		Campus Stockton CPD Group	
			Campus Stockton R&D Group	
			Secondary Heads Group	
Jean Golightly	Executive Nurse	Hartlepool &	South Tees CCG (Exec Nurse)	Apols
(JG)	Executive ivales	Stockton-on-Tees	Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board	
(00)		Clinical Commis-	Member of NHSE Quality Surveillance	
		sioning Group	Group meeting	
Trina Holcroft	Designated Nurse,	(HAST CCG)	Hartlepool SCB (full board, exec and	✓
(TH)	Safeguarding Children	(111.01.000)	LIPSG)	
	& LAC		• CDOP	
			Tees LSCBs Procedures Group	
			Multi-Agency Looked After Partnership	
			(MALAP Stockton)	
			Stockton Performance Management     Stockton Performance Management	
			Stockton LIPSG     Hortland Barfarmana and Quality Crounce	
			Hartlepool Performance and Quality Group     Joint Training Croup	
			Joint Training Group     MACH SMB and Implementation Group	
			Teeswide Designated Professionals Group	
			NTHFT Steering Group	
Vacancy	Designated Doctor		141111 1 Steering Group	
Vacancy	Advisor to the Board			
David	Quality and Patient	NHS England	Hartlepool LSCB	Apols
Charlesworth	Safety Manager	(Cumbria & North	Middlesbrough LSCB	
(DC)	Carety Manager	East)	Darlington LSCB (Deputy)	
(50)		2401)	Durham LSCB (Deputy)	
Lindsey	Deputy Director of Nurs-	North Tees &		Apols
Robertson	ing	Hartlepool NHS		
(LR)		Foundation Trust		
		(NTHFT)		
Elizabeth	Executive Director of	Tees, Esk &	Teeswide Adult Safeguarding Board	Apols
Moody	Nursing and Govern-	Wear Valleys	North Yorkshire Adult Safeguarding Board	
(EM)	ance	NHS Foundation	<ul> <li>North Yorkshire Children's Safeguarding</li> </ul>	
		Trust	Board	
		(TEWV)	(Member of other safeguarding boards but	
Julie Allan	Hood of Clovelend Arre	Drobotion	send deputies on regular basis)	Apols
	Head of Cleveland Area	Probation	Middlesbrough LSCB     Redear and Claysland LSCB	Apois
(JA)	- National Probation	Services	Redcar and Cleveland LSCB     Hartlepool LSCB	
	Service (NE)		South Tees YOS	
			Stockton YOS	
			Hartlepool YOS	
			YOS Management Board	
			LCJB	
			Local Public Service Board	
			Teeswide Safeguarding Adults Board	
			Tees Adult Health and Wellbeing Board	
			Strategic DV and Abuse Strategic Group	
			Contest Gold	
			Stockton Scanning and Challenge	
			ETE/OSE Board	
Dank and O''	Head of Office 1 - O	-	Tees Strategic VEMT Group	
Barbara Gill	Head of Offender Ser-			✓
(BG)	vices - Community Re-			
	habilitation Company			

SLSCB Members	Title	Representing	Other Interests: Stockton-on-Tees or Tees Valley Partnerships, Boards, Group, etc. (Ch. denotes Chair, VCh Vice-Chair)	× Apols
Julie McNaughton (JM)	Accommodation Contracts Manager	Thirteen / Housing Provider	<ul> <li>Tees Valley Choice Based Lettings Steering Group</li> <li>My Sisters Place – Board</li> <li>North East Homelessness Group</li> <li>MAPPA Representative</li> </ul>	<b>✓</b>
Steve Rose (SR)	Chief Executive Officer Catalyst	Voluntary Sector	<ul> <li>Safer Stockton Partnership</li> <li>Stockton 14-19 Partnership</li> <li>Stockton Carers Implementation Group</li> <li>Stockton Health &amp; Wellbeing Partnership</li> <li>Stockton VCSE Senior Leaders Forum</li> <li>Stockton Voice</li> <li>Stockton Youth Offenders Service Board</li> <li>Tees Dementia Collaborative</li> <li>Tees Valley Local Development Agencies Forum</li> <li>Tees Valley Unlimited European Social Inclusion Task &amp; Finish Group</li> </ul>	×

Guests:		
Rachael McLoughlin (RM)	NTHFT - Named Nurse, Safeguard'g & LAC Teams	Sub for Lindsey Robertson
Karen Agar (KA)	TEWV - Associate Director of Nursing (Safeguardg)	Sub for Elizabeth Moody
Sharon Barnett (SB)	Probation - Stockton Team Manager (NPS)	Sub for Julie Allan
Sandra Clement (SC)	Probation - Acting Team Manager (NPS)	Sub for Julie Allan

Meeting Quorate:	Yes

Declarations of Interest:	None

# **ENSURING CO-ORDINATION**

## Governance

Ref No. 1	Attendance, Apologies & Quoracy
Discussion	<b>RB</b> and <b>AMS</b> were welcomed to their first Board meeting since becoming SLSCB members.
	<b>RM</b> was in attendance as the substitute for <b>LR</b> , <b>KA</b> was in attendance as the substitute for <b>EM</b> , and <b>SB</b> and <b>SC</b> were in attendance as the substitutes for <b>JA</b> .
	<b>BG</b> arrived at the meeting at 9.35am. <b>NS</b> left the meeting at 10.40am.
Agreement/ Outcome	Noted.

Ref No. 2	Board Minutes for Accuracy – 15.12.16
Discussion	Minutes of the Board meeting held on the 15 <sup>th</sup> December 2016 were agreed as a true record, subject to the following amendment:
	Ref No. 12 (Any Other Business)
	<ul> <li>Children's Services - Caseload and Staffing: Reference to the intention to bring Operation Encompass into Health (Joint Targeted Area Inspections (fourth bullet-point) needs re-wording to state that Operation Encompass data is reported into the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub, where both NTHFT and TEWV are represented.</li> </ul>

Agreement/ Outcome The minutes of the Board meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2016 be recorded as ratified, subject to the identified amendment.

Ref No. 3	Action Log
Discussion	The circulated <i>SLSCB Meetings Action Log 2016 / 2017 (To do)</i> was provided for information - <b>PB</b> advised that there continued to be no immediate concerns, and that those who had not submitted progress updates will be chased.
	SBA provided the following update in relation to one of the listed actions:
	38/08/1617: 'Reflect the SLSCB discussion stemming from the 'Suicide' Learning Lessons Report around the issue of suicide at the next Health & Wellbeing Board' (SBA): This issue will be picked up in a different way, with emerging themes regarding risk factors to be identified and examined. A scrutiny review is planned around mental health and wellbeing, with themes to be included in relation to suicide and self-harm. Progress on these developments will be brought back to the SLSCB at future meetings.
Agreement/ Outcome	Action Log update noted.

#### **Partnership Information**

# Ref No. 4 Organisation / Partnership Safeguarding Issues Discussion Local Authority

MG reported that there continues to be high demand pressures within Children's Social Care (the recent festive period saw a slight reduction in demand), though this is being managed. Work in relation to the Hartlepool and Stockton-on-Tees Children's Hub performance is ongoing, and a report will be presented to SBC Cabinet in the near future (and will also be brought to the SLSCB). The Local Authority is in the process of appointing a new VEMT Co-ordinator, a post which will address issues around strategic VEMT analysis. Hartlepool's recent Ofsted/CQC Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) inspection was published this week - although not wholly positive, some of the issues identified are being picked-up as part of Stockton's preparations for an anticipated inspection. Finally, the recent tragic episode of a young person in Billingham who committed suicide is being investigated and will be discussed at a forthcoming Learning & Improving Practice Sub-Group (LIPSG) meeting - this case will also go through the Tees Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) process.

Further to the recent secondary schools survey and the emerging concerns of young people regarding social media, **AM** provided details of a subsequent meeting with **DM** and representatives from the Stockton Youth Assembly. Two powerful films in relation to CSE were shown, and young people were of the opinion that schools were dumbing-down sexeducation - proposals were therefore put forward to investigate the extent to which schools were delivering the type of sex education that young people want/need. **DM** added that schools are providing this facet of education, but this does not appear to be impacting upon their behaviours - as such, a review of the various resources on offer is being undertaken, and this work will link in with the SLSCB VEMT Sub-Group. **DP** stated that the SLSCB will look at future thematic work around VEMT, and this will provide an opportunity for Board members to view some of these potential resources.

#### HAST CCG

In relation to the Hartlepool local area SEND inspection, **TH** advised that a multi-agency meeting is planned to address the concerns raised.

Ref No. 4	Organisation / Partnership Safeguarding Issues
	TEWV KA advised that a Named Nurse had recently resigned - although TEWV will continue to be part of the various LSCB sub-groups across Tees, full attendance at forthcoming meetings may prove challenging in light of this current vacancy.
	Police AMS noted the marked improvements in Police attendance at Strategy meetings, which had now risen to around 90% in Stockton across the last couple of months.
Agreement/ Outcome	Updates noted.

Ref No. 5	SLSCB Income & Expenditure: April - December 2016
Discussion	PB referred to the circulated SLSCB Income & Expenditure for the Period April - December 2016 paper, advising that although some additional predicted expenditure was still to come out of the SLSCB budget, the Board finances were in good order.  In terms of partner contributions to the SLSCB for the next financial year, early positive indications were that those agencies/departments who currently provide funds for the Board will continue to put forward similar amounts for 2017-2018.
Agreement/	SLSCB Income and Expenditure updates noted.
Agreement/ Outcome	SLSCB Income and Expenditure updates noted.

# Minutes / Updates / Outcomes from Meetings

Ref No. 6	Children & Vulnerable Adults in Custody & Tees Procedures Group
Discussion	a) Children & Vulnerable Adults in Custody - Action Plan & Next Steps With reference to the circulated <i>Children &amp; Vulnerable People in Custody Working Group - Summary of Recommendations and Action Plan</i> document, <b>DP</b> commented that this had been provided for information only, and followed up on the Children and Vulnerable People in Custody Report Working Group report presented by Alastair Simpson (formerly Detective Superintendent (Head of Vulnerability), Cleveland Police, and SLSCB member) at the Board meeting in October 2016. Accompanying the document was a letter from Jane Humphreys (formerly SBC Director of Children's Services, and SLSCB member) which reflected the agreed position of all four Tees DCS' on specific recommendations within the report following discussions at the Tees Valley Directors' meeting on the 16 <sup>th</sup> December 2016.
	<b>DP</b> stated that it was the role of the SLSCB to ensure that the Action Plan was delivered, and that agencies were held to account. A key aspect of this will be in three-four months' time when the Police report back on progress of the identified actions.
	b) Tees Procedures Group (TPG) - Annual Report On behalf of Shaun McLurg (formerly SBC Assistant Director - Safeguarding and Looked After Children, SLSCB member, and TPG Chair), <b>PB</b> provided an overview of the circulat- ed Tees LSCBs Procedures Group Annual Report 2016/17. This report had been pro- duced early due to the agreed transfer of TPG oversight (Chair and Business Support) to Hartlepool (as of February 2017), and was therefore a reflection of activity from April 2016 to January 2017. Key points of note included:
	<ul> <li>Chairing, Membership and Attendance</li> <li>Although there have been a number of changes in membership throughout the year, overall there continues to be strong representation from each LSCB and agency/sector. The meetings continue to be well attended, with positive contributions from</li> </ul>

Ref No. 6	Children & Vulnerable Adults in Custody & Tees Procedures Group
	all members.
	<ul> <li>Work Programme</li> <li>Procedures agreed during 2016/17 so far are as follows (links to procedures included, which were also circulated in the last SLSCB email bulletin to Board members):         <ul> <li>Assessing and Responding to the impact/experience of Domestic Abuse on Children</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
	dren Children and Babies leaving the UK Complaints against the LSCB Dual Process/Double Protection (clarification of procedure) Fabricated and Induced Illness (FII) Chronology Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) – Guidance for Health Professionals Impact of Parental Substance Misuse Procedures and Guidance Interface Protocol Between Safeguarding Children and Safeguarding Adults Making a Referral to Children's Social Care Sudden Unexpected Death of a Baby  Work currently underway includes: Breast Ironing Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Procedures Child in Need (CiN) Procedures Child Protection Medical Assessments Cross Boundary Procedure (CP transfers) Dangerous Dogs Procedure & Risk Assessment Tool Health attendance at CP Reviews and Core Groups Parental Mental Illness
	<ul> <li>Parents Recording Professionals</li> <li>Quoracy at CP Conferences, Reviews and Core Groups</li> <li>Safeguarding Disabled Children</li> <li>Unborn Baby Procedures</li> <li>The Tees LSCB's Safeguarding Procedures website continues to be monitored and updated as appropriate. An analysis of website 'traffic' or usage is currently underway.</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Current Position</li> <li>The functioning of the TPG was identified as a key strength during Stockton's Ofsted inspection in May/June 2016 - this provides further evidence that the TPG continues to function effectively, and 2016/17 has been another positive and productive year. There is a clear structure in place to ensure that work is progressed in a timely manner, and this provides a firm foundation for the TPG going forward into 2017/18.</li> </ul>
	Regarding the current standing of the TPG, <b>PB</b> highlighted the effectiveness of Shaun's work as Chair which had greatly contributed to the group's achievements and recognition. Hartlepool will be continuing with the current systems in place, and there are no changes to processes envisaged. <b>PB</b> emphasised the importance of staff across all agencies regularly accessing Tees procedures in order to familiarise themselves with new or amended documentation - this is also crucial as the TPG need input from staff if a procedure is not working correctly.
	<b>DP</b> commended the work of the TPG throughout 2016-2017, and again praised the contribution of Shaun McLurg. The incoming TPG Chair, Danielle Swainston (HBC Assistant Director, Children's Services), was wished well in continuing the positive work of this group.
Agreement/ Outcome	Children & Vulnerable People in Custody Working Group - Summary of Recommendations and Action Plan document noted, with progress against the identified actions to be brought to a future Board meeting. The Tees LSCB Procedures Group (TPG) Annual Report 2016/17 was also noted, including achievements, ongoing work, and future arrangements.

#### **EFFECTIVE CHALLENGE**

# Ref No. **7**Discussion

#### Domestic Abuse

**DP** introduced this first thematic item in relation to domestic abuse, noting that this issue is one of the key features of a child ending up on a Child Protection plan, and highlighting the devastating impact it has on families and individuals. Domestic abuse is prolific, yet remains an under-reported issue, and efforts are being made to understand its impact on children, in addition to the previous tendency to focus on victims and perpetrators. Operation Encompass is helping to address domestic abuse, but what is the structure for further addressing this?

Attention was drawn to the guidance document provided in this meeting around the assurance role of the SLSCB. **DP** asked Board members to think about what **MG** was about to present in the context of the Board's assurance role, and consider if they are satisfied that key issues are being addressed. Following the presentation, a group task will be given.

**MG** gave a presentation (circulated prior to this meeting) on *Domestic Abuse*, the purpose of which was to highlight the work undertaken to date around this important safeguarding issue. Board members were notified that, following the presentation, they would be asked about the sorts of future questions the SLSCB may want to pose as this work continues to evolve. Key facets of the presentation, along with any supporting comments, were noted as follows:

#### Contents

- Context and why this is important
- Developing a new approach
- Ideas from elsewhere
- How is this being taken forward?
- Today....

### Context and why this is important

- Volume and demand
  - o 30% of all single assessments list DA: this is actually lower in Stockton than across the Tees Valley, though caution was required in terms of how cases are being recorded (e.g. is this being listed as the primary reason, or one of a number of presenting issues). Domestic abuse appeared to be less of an obvious issue in early help cases, though this would be expected, as the presenting issue is often a symptom of something else, and after investigation, these cases can ultimately involve domestic abuse.
  - A factor in nearly 50% of second CP plans
  - 45% of YOT caseload
  - Operation Encompass: referrals in relation to this are not showing signs of decreasing, and are running at a high level. There remains a lot of activity involving schools regarding awareness of domestic abuse incidents.
- Impact on children: no easy way of measuring this (some evidence comes out of the voice of the child work undertaken through plans).
- Practice from our MAA programme: Domestic abuse was the first issue examined using the new multi-agency audit approach, though dangers in drawing conclusions from the small sample size were acknowledged.
  - Effectiveness and speed of support programmes a concern: Harbour do not always work within appropriate timescales.
  - How effective is work with children and young people on impact of DA: unsure at present, as domestic abuse work often focuses more on victims and perpetrators.
  - Difficulties of engaging with perpetrators / completion: a perpetrator programme does exist, and is one way of breaking the domestic abuse cycle.
  - Timescales for completion of support programmes and fit with statutory timescales: sometimes setting families up to fail?: this can prevent stepping cases down.

# Minutes from SLSCB Board Meeting: 19th January 2017 Ref No. 7 **Domestic Abuse** Over-emphasis from some social workers on capacity of Mother to protect children: asking too much? How are we taking this forward... Domestic Abuse Steering Group: MG is the Chair of this group, which is the focus for delivery, and reports into the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWB). Repeat victims Tactical / operational group: monitoring information on a daily basis. New strategy: more specific and action-focused, which will get to the nub of addressing the key domestic abuse issues - work is underway (see next presentation section). Good practice elsewhere: lots of emerging practice around how this issue is being addressed. Evidence: Early Intervention Foundation has completed work in an attempt to ascertain what works, but no specific answers were provided - this issue is too complex. Whole systems / Police approach: working across six Police forces, progress on this will feed into the Domestic Abuse Steering Group. Developing a new approach We will use a multi-faceted population-based approach to cultural change to strengthen our efforts to prevent domestic abuse, including a focus on healthy relationships: anecdotal evidence appears to suggest that tolerance of domestic abuse across Tees is higher than in other areas - this needs exploring to ensure that work is targeted in the We will intervene early, and respond efficiently and effectively, to support, protect and safeguard individuals and families who are affected by domestic abuse: 'Hub' models are developing elsewhere. We will seek to understand, and intervene to reduce, the cycle of repeat perpetration of domestic abuse. We will seek to identify, understand, and support repeat victims of domestic abuse: what are we doing to break this cycle? We will reduce the impact of domestic abuse on children, young people and families by working restoratively with families: working with families to reduce impact on an ongoing basis. We will educate, inform and challenge ourselves, partners and communities in the delivery of our vision: how we hold ourselves to account, and how we measure this - joint partnerships event between Children and Young People Partnership (CYPP) and HWB planned to establish what we need to do to take responsibility. It was noted that significant time has been spent thinking about the appropriate wording and terminology to be used in the new approaches listed above. Ideas from elsewhere Domestic abuse hub Daily referrals; risk assessments; allocation; tracking (e.g. Calderdale, Leeds): went to see this in Calderdale (who also have a CSE hub) - for the last six months, daily meetings have taken place involving West Yorkshire Police, the Voluntary Sector (Harbour-equivalent), Probation, a Social Worker (from the Hub), and any other relevant person. In addition, a funded Health Co-ordinator pulls information together from across Health. Calderdale acknowledge that this model is not sustainable in the long-run, but wanted to get a handle of these big issues.

- System navigators
  - Case management approaches (e.g. Doncaster): felt that another level of coordinators had to be imposed as joint working was not happening as it should have been.
- Intensive focus on perpetrators
  - Integrated offender management approaches (e.g. Drive model in SW England /

#### Ref No. 7 Domestic Abuse

Wales): intensive working involving lots of challenge and support to break the cycle - interest from Cleveland Police regarding this more assertive approach.

- Bigger focus on family based approaches
  - Family Group Conferencing (e.g. Leeds): evidence-based approach, bringing in extended family members, and giving families the responsibility to address issues themselves, whilst forcing perpetrators to confront their behaviours. Family Group Co-ordinator involved, and a key part is ascertaining the voice of the child Leeds are currently being evaluated on this approach.

#### Today...

- Culture / tolerance
- Early intervention
- A bigger focus on perpetrators?
- Understanding and reducing the impact on children
- What does success look like?

Working in groups, MG asked Board members to undertake the following:

- 1) General discussion regarding domestic abuse personal experiences and thoughts, views on the presentation given at this meeting, and consideration of the questions listed above.
- 2) Consider the role of the SLSCB in seeking assurance around the progress of domestic abuse work. What do Board members want to see being done?

Table 1		Table 2		Table 3		Table 4	
LB	TH	DM	NS	LC	GB	RB	SC
DWr	KA	JE	AMS	SBA	BG	RM	
JB		AM	KC	DWo	JM	SB	

Feedback from the group discussions was recorded as follows:

#### General discussion

- Under-reporting hidden; social challenge (across all communities).
- · Positive view of family conferencing.
- 'Mum's' responsibility/role.
- Existing programmes built-in barriers (i.e. must attend, venue's, etc.); outcome-focused?; do these programmes need to be questioned/challenged?
- Children needs to 'route' link back to self-esteem/emotional wellbeing; their understanding about what is/is not acceptable.
- KC highlighted the case of a child who has significant behavioural issues after witnessing domestic abuse this case was closed to Children's Social Care, yet the child (now 9 years-old) cannot manage due to his experiences, so what happens now? Ongoing work is vital crucial not to finish involvement with a child once an agreed programme has concluded.

#### Role of SLSCB

- Better reporting refined/where is information coming through?
- Higher figures not a negative in this instance.
- 'Correct' pathway.
- Family intervention 'qualitative' impact.
- Extended family measure?
- What has been commissioned how is it evidenced?; is it succesful?
- Multi-agency professional challenge know programmes/Operation Encompass exists,

	Minutes from SLSCB Board Meeting: 19 <sup>th</sup> January 2017			
Ref No. 7	Domestic Abuse			
	but so what? What has happened since - what has been the difference?			
	Table 3 LC / SBA / DWo / GB / BG / JM			
	<ul> <li>General discussion</li> <li>Early intervention - understanding of what 'intervention' is (before or after something has happened?).</li> <li>Culture/tolerance in the North - starts from an early age and becomes the 'norm'; engaging the family unit (e.g. family conferencing) is key to addressing this.</li> <li>Domestic abuse issue can start when 12/13 years-old against sibling - not always manifesting within an adult relationship.</li> <li>Role of SLSCB</li> <li>Other links to crime, poverty, etc.</li> <li>Information-sharing and confidence this is being done.</li> <li>Working with young people - how; they work differently to us; they do not know what will happen to the information they share, and can worry about what will happen if they say something.</li> <li>Making everyone's role child-centric in the family.</li> </ul>			
	Table 1 LB / DWr / JB / TH / KA			
	<ul> <li>General discussion</li> <li>Children we do not know about - skilling professionals to ask about domestic abuse (mental health); readiness to talk about it (different tools).</li> <li>Prevalence and tolerance - judicial/Police; attitudes to women; cultural; do we have resource and skills to challenge these attitudes?</li> <li>Domestic abuse relationships between young people - what is a healthy relationship (schools)?</li> <li>Recognition of female perpetrators.</li> <li>Strategies - recognition of other contributing factors.</li> <li>Young people as future perpetrators/victims.</li> <li>Empowering young people (particularly girls) to recognise if in an abusive relationship and take a stand against this.</li> </ul>			
	<ul> <li>Role of SLSCB</li> <li>Increase in early help stage work.</li> <li>Voice of the child feedback (how that is captured and used).</li> </ul>			

- Not to underestimate impact.
- Multi-agency responses.
- What is your agency doing?
- Falling and changing statistics and indicators deeper understanding.
- In past, emphasis on victims others now looking at perpetrators, but the SLSCB needs to focus on the child. As seen in the earlier comments from **KC**, if young people's issues are not addressed, this can lead to major problems.

Table 4 RB / RM / SB / SC

#### General discussion

- Extend case conferences to incorporate families.
- Re-integrating perpetrators in family behaviour so entrenched that this can be impossible.
- Wrongly target men into group work programmes, but behaviour so entrenched it will
  not affect their actions can actually become more sophisticated perpetrators, therefore need care before placing into groups.

Ref No. 7	Domestic Abuse
	<ul> <li>Integrated offender management (IOM) approach - if using controls on perpetrators, for every control you need a protection; perpetrators of all types of crime, and those com- mitting the most offences, are seen by Police/Probation on a weekly basis (monitoring and surveillance) - this level of attention can change their behaviours which may affect others (family).</li> </ul>
	<ul> <li>Role of SLSCB</li> <li>Voice of the child - need to hear this, and where their thinking is in terms of domestic abuse.</li> <li>Before closing a case, Children's Social Care do not interview the child to get their thoughts - this can be changed.</li> </ul>
	MG thanked Board members for all the comments made in relation to domestic abuse, and will be taking the views of the SLSCB to the next Domestic Abuse Steering Group.
Agreement/ Outcome	Progress of work around domestic abuse noted. Subsequent group discussion around general thoughts on this issue, and the role of the SLSCB in seeking assurance over the work being undertaken in relation to domestic abuse, was recorded - <b>MG</b> to reflect Board comments back to the next Domestic Abuse Steering Group.

## **ENABLING CHANGE**

Ref No. 8	SLSCB LIPSG Overview
Discussion	<b>DP</b> introduced this second thematic review which focused on the role of the SLSCB Learning and Improving Practice Sub-Group (LIPSG). The LIPSG could be viewed as the 'engine room' of the SLSCB, and was a pivotal group in the safeguarding children arena - as such, it is imperative that Board members are aware of how it operates.
	<b>TH</b> , in her capacity as LIPSG Vice-Chair ( <b>AMS</b> had only recently taken on the role of LIPSG Chair after replacing Alastair Simpson (formerly Detective Superintendent (Head of Vulnerability), Cleveland Police, and LIPSG Chair) from the 1 <sup>st</sup> January 2017), had therefore been asked to present an overview of the LIPSG, where some group work would again follow. To further facilitate Board members' understanding, a pack containing the <i>SLSCB Learning &amp; Improvement Framework (with Reflective Update)</i> document was circulated in this meeting for reference - also included was the proposed revised LIPSG Terms of Reference, and a Learning Log detailing the cases that were considered by the LIPSG during 2016-2017.
	<b>TH</b> gave a presentation (circulated prior to this meeting) titled <i>Learning &amp; Improving Practice Sub Group (LIPSG): Thematic Understanding.</i> Key features of the presentation, along with any supporting comments, were noted as follows:
	<ol> <li>LIPSG: A sub-group of SLSCB</li> <li>Main function is to:         <ol> <li>Ensure the implementation of the Learning Improvement Framework - this framework should enable organisations to be clear about their responsibilities, to learn from experience, and improve services as a result (WT Chapter 4).</li> <li>Oversee practice, quality and learning - drawing on research, data, audits and practice issues to inform the Board's embedding change priority.</li> <li>Examine serious cases of child abuse, neglect or death - Serious Case Review or Learning Review (Multi or Single Agency). Anyone can make a referral into the</li> </ol> </li> </ol>

of good practice as well as concerns/issues.

LIPSG, who then determine the level of review required, including the identification

#### Ref No. 8 SLSCB LIPSG Overview

#### Who is on LIPSG?

- Terms of Reference extract:
  - Members of LIPSG will be from a range of agencies and professions (e.g. Children's Social Care, Education & SEN, Housing (Economic Growth & Development Services), Police, Health).
  - Additional and temporary membership: LIPSG may co-opt other members as may be deemed appropriate for the work; specifically, where an agency does not have a standing sub-group member, a representative with seniority in the organisation will be required on such occasions.

#### Processes in place

- Learning Improvement Framework.
- Multi-Agency Audits (LIPSG can ask the audit group if themes are emerging).
- Consideration and undertaking of Serious Case Reviews & Learning Reviews.
- Operational Assurance Reports (e.g. Running and Missing from Home or Care, LAC).
- Work undertaken should be <u>proportionate</u> according to the scale and level of complexity of the issues being examined.

#### Are we assured that ...

- LIPSG changes behaviours? Effective, challenge and change.
- How do we know? Have we evidence of improvement? (some of this is documented in the circulated pack)
- Is LIPSG receiving the correct information to make recommendations to the Chair when considering cases for a Serious or Learning Review? Agencies must provide analysis of the information they provide at the initial stage. The SLSCB Chair has the ultimate role in deciding if a case meets the SCR criteria.
- How does it / can it interact with the other sub groups / what's happening in agencies?
   Could new Exec Group be a vehicle for sharing issues, strengths, areas for improvement and how to get the messages out?

Working in groups, Board members were asked to consider their assurance role, measures for improvement, what the direction of travel should be, and who should be doing what. Specifically:

- 1. As a Board, are you re-assured as to the work and outcomes of LIPSG?
- 2. What would you like to see done differently?
- 3. How can this be achieved?

Before the group work commenced, **DP** noted the subtle difference between considerations around the LIPSG and those of domestic abuse (the previous agenda item) - LIPSG is about the SLSCB, and about the Board 'doing the doing'. As such, are Board members satisfied that the LIPSG is delivering what it should be in light of its Terms of Reference?

Feedback from the group discussions was recorded as follows:

#### Table 1

#### LB / DWr / MG / JB / KA

- An additional column in the table at the end of the LIPSG Learning Log 2016-2017 to demonstrate the impact ('so what') of the changes in practice would be useful.
- Tracking how is learning embedded within an organisation? Dissemination of information from Board to frontline could an exercise be undertaken to determine the effectiveness of this?

#### Table 2

### DM/JE/AM/AMS/KC

The LIPSG seems a professional-driven group - should a lay person be added to pro-

Ref No. 8	SLSCB LIPSG Overview				
			perspective?		
	Do all partners know they can bring any issues to LIPSG, and not just high-end cases?				
	Tab	le 3	LC / SBA / DWo / GB / TH	/BG/JM	
	The LIPSG sounds reactive - where are themes identified for actions to be taken; is there anywhere else that identifies trends? Should the LIPSG be doing proactive (preventative) work too?				
	Tab	le 4	RB/RM/SB/SC	<b>;</b>	
	How sh	nould Action	Plans be evidenced?		
	<b>DP</b> again asked if Board members were comfortable about the LIPSG, and had sufficient knowledge around how it operates. <b>TH</b> highlighted the apparent lack of awareness that anyone can put cases forward for consideration, and <b>AM</b> felt that if any training recommendations were made, the SLSCB should want to know the reasons if this is not made a mandatory requirement for staff to access.				
	In terms of wider staff awareness of Serious Case Review/Learning Review determination, <b>PB</b> offered to re-issue the previously circulated <i>SLSCB Learning from Case Reviews: Information for Professionals</i> leaflet - Board members were asked to cascade this throughout their own agencies.				iews: In-
Agreement/ Outcome	Role and responsibility of SLSCB LIPSG discussed, noting existing arrangements, and potential areas for improved processes/awareness. Board members to cascade <i>SLSCB Learning from Case Reviews: Information for Professionals</i> leaflet within their agency.				
Log Ref	Mtg Date	Action Requ		Person Responsible	Due Date
55/01/1617	19.01.17	views: Info	re the SLSCB Learning from Case Re- rmation for Professionals leaflet to Board o disseminate within their own agencies.	РВ	20.01.17

Ref No. 9	Tees LSCB Procedure 'Breast Ironing' for consideration			
Discussion	<b>PB</b> referred to the proposed <i>Breast Ironing</i> procedure that had recently been circulated to Board members for comment. Thus far, the 16 responses received have all approved these proposals, therefore it was agreed that this procedure could be accepted by the SLSCB - <b>PB</b> to reflect this endorsement back to the Tees LSCB Procedures Group (TPG).			
Agreement/ Outcome	Proposed <i>Breast Ironing</i> procedure, previously circulated to Board members for comment, approved by the SLSCB.			
Log Ref	Mtg Date	Action Required	Person Responsible	Due Date
56/01/1617	19.01.17	Reflect SLSCB approval of the proposed <i>Breast Ironing</i> procedure back to the Tees LSCBs Procedures Group (TPG).	РВ	10.02.17

Ref No. 10	Actions, Impact, Evidence & Difference
Discussion	<b>DP</b> asked Board members to identify the impact this meeting had made in terms of safe-guarding children - the following views were expressed:
	<ul> <li>AMS: As the new LIPSG Chair, discussions today have prompted a number of things to consider in relation to this group.</li> <li>AM: Useful to listen to views around domestic abuse - as a Local Authority that issues</li> </ul>

	<ul> <li>service contracts, there is a clear need to challenge what is being provided.</li> <li>KC: The group-work format has been beneficial in making Board members feel more part of the discussions, and made it easier to have a voice - would advocate more of this meeting style.</li> <li>DWr: Group-work allows better ways of challenging - more stimulating than simply going through reports.</li> <li>LB: Encouraging that ideas could be implemented quickly (as per comments around the addition of an interview with a child to get their thoughts prior to closing a case).</li> <li>DP felt this meeting involved empowering Board members and recognising what the SLSCB was about - it also sought reassurance on a number of key issues, and encouraged Board members' confidence in challenging current and proposed activity. SLSCB focus has to move onto the 'so what' question, and consideration over how the Board provides evidence. A paper will be submitted to the next SLSCB meeting in February 2017 in relation to taking forward the Board priorities, and it is important that partners want to ask questions (in the right way) in order to get the right outcomes. DP expressed confidence in the way the SLSCB was heading, and thanked Board members for contributing to this.</li> </ul>
Agreement/ Outcome	Noted.

# OTHER

Ref No. 11	Any Other Business
Discussion	Board Meeting - February 2016  KC advised that the next SLSCB meeting in February 2017 is scheduled during school half-term, therefore apologies are likely from the Board's education representatives.
Agreement/ Outcome	Noted.