



Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board (Staying Safe)

8 July 2008 at 9.30am.

At Training Room 5+6, AFC Telford United Learning Centre

Present:

Ms G Bailey	Mental Health NHS Trust (representing Michael Bennett)
Mr C Watt	NSPCC, Chair of T&W SCB
Mrs A Cole	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Ms S Collymore	CAFCASS
Mr T Currie	Safer Stronger Communities Partnership
Mrs B Evans	T&WC: Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting
Dr M Ganesh	SaTH Consultant Paediatrician
Mr G Harkness	T&WC Learning and School Improvement
Ms L Heath	Secondary Schools
Ms C Hobbs	Primary Schools
Mrs C Hughes	T&W SCB Training
Mr P Jackson	T&WC: Community Services
Mr A James	T&WC: Connexions 4 Youth
Ms S Jones	T&WC: Sexual Health Services
Mr S Jones	T&WC: Integrated Child Care Services
Ms T Knight	T&W: Safeguarding & Children in Care
DSupt M Lakeman	West Mercia Constabulary
Mr R Lansdale	T&WC: Disabled Children's Services
Ms A Morris	Children's Joint Commissioning
Miss D Passant	Minute Taker
Ms N Peck	T&WC: Connexions 4 Youth
Mr D Robson	T&WC: Adult and Consumer Care
Ms A Rosser	New College
Ms A Scott-Ryan	T&W PCT
Mr M Turner	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Major J Walsh	Army Welfare Service
Ms A Yapp	T&WC: Placements

1. Apologies:

Mr D Goss	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Miss E Boddison	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service (Minutes)
Ms L Hosking	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
Ms C Barber	T&WC: Integrated Child Care Services
Ms C Shouli	T.C.A.T
Mr G Branch	West Mercia Probation
Ms J Clark	T&WC: School and Community Services
Ms J Sumner	TandW PCT
Ms J McGillivray	T&WC: Adult Protection

Ms K Fisher	T&WC: Legal Services
Ms L Burrows	Shropshire and T&W: Youth Offending Service
Mr N Haggitt	West Mercia Constabulary
Mr N Janjua	CVS: Race & Diversity Partnership (RED)
Ms S Tyas	T&WC: Learning & School Improvement
Ms S Tough	T&W: School & Community Services
Mrs T Tanner	SaTH
Ms A Orr	SSAFA

Apologies not received from:

Mr B McKinnon	West Midlands Ambulance Service
Ms J Jones	Methodist Church
Ms K Jones	T&WC: Housing
Ms L Foley	Voluntary Sector Representative
Mr N Houlston	T&WC: Licensing
Ms P Paradise	Victim Support
Mr P Lowe	Crown Prosecution Service
Ms S Edwards	Learning and Skills Council

In attendance:

Alison Sorrell	Social Worker for Private Fostering
Paul Kelly	Team Manager: Fostering

CW expressed his thanks to AFC Telford for their continued support to the Board by providing the venue for this meeting.

CW also wished Emma Boddison (T&W SCB Administrator) a speedy recovery after her recent operation.

2. Minutes from the last meeting:

The minutes from the last meeting held on 8 April 2008 were checked for accuracy and the following amendment were made:

Page 2 should read 2008.

Page 5 should read 9.00 am – 5.00 pm.

The minutes were then agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.

Matters arising:

Page 3 – SCB Website

AC reported that the SCB Website has now been fully updated and advised Board Members to press F5 to refresh the screen to ensure that the latest versions of documents are displayed.

Page 3 – Children and Young People Plan

AC advised that an electronic version of the CYP Plan had been sent out with the papers for this meeting but advised not to print off as a hard copy version will be sent out in due course.

Page 4 – Sheffield SCB Multi-Agency Guidance

AC reported that she had received a nil response to her invitation to attend a Task Group to look at adapting Sheffield's guidance for us to use. AC asked that willing volunteers should contact her, failing that she will approach people directly!

Page 5 - Healthcare Standards

AC reported that the declaration at the previous board has been submitted and the suggestions/amendments that had been received and incorporated.

Page 5 – JAR

BE advised she will brief the meeting on this issue as part of agenda item 10.

Page 8 – Annual Report & Performance Monitoring

AC advised that the final version of the Annual Report had been sent out with the meeting papers. Distribution lists were being compiled for sending out hard copies of the document and a copy will appear on the LSC website.

AS-R asked if a flyer could be distributed to say that the Annual Report is now available on the website. **AC agreed to look into this.**

Page 9 – Scrutiny

CW advised that colleagues have agreed to take part in the Scrutiny Subgroup and the first meeting is due to take place later this week.

Page 9/10 – E-Safety

ML provided a verbal progress report on the work being undertaken in relation to the training for parents. The West Mercia DVD Consultation event took place with 150 people attending. WM Police in association with Tesco have distributed 3,500 E-Safety leaflets and DCI Sean Paley and colleagues have run and cycled from Lands End to John O'Groats to publicise the issue.

3. Board Matters

3.1 Business Plan 2008/09

The Board approved the Business Plan with one amendment; 'Parents with Problems' to be re-named 'Think Family'.

3.2 Parents with Problems – Re-named Think Family

The first meeting of the Task Group took place yesterday.

3.3 Training Plan

CW thanked CH for a good piece of work. CH reported that a part-time trainer had been appointed to support the training team, with a start date in September.

'Train the Trainer' sessions were being held in September which was an excellent development opportunity for employees to deliver safeguarding training on site.

CH agreed to e-mail Dr Ganesh with the future meeting dates, as it appears that Health do not have a representative for Train the Trainers training.

NP advised that a new lead would be needed for the Communication Strategy as she was leaving the Authority later this week.

3.4 Third Chief Inspectors Report on Safeguarding Children

CW advised that he had been invited to attend the launch of the Third Chief Inspectors Report on Safeguarding Children in London, but didn't attend due to it clashing with today's meeting. T&W SCB had submitted evidence and comments to the review about local priorities, achievements and challenges. CW agreed to present an overview of the report at the next Board meeting.

4. Child Care Sufficiency Audit

Scott Jones informed the SCB that the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (a new Local Authority Duty under the Childcare Act 2006) has been undertaken by Hemsall Consultancies on behalf of Telford & Wrekin Council. The Assessment was now at the action planning stage. One action planning session has taken place and a second is to take place on 29 July 2008. The action planning is based on the eighteen recommendations of the Assessment.

Importantly, the development and sufficiency of childcare in areas where there are a higher prevalence of safeguarding issues was of key importance to the SCB. Scott made available a map of Children's Centres in Telford & Wrekin (attached as Appendix A).

BE asked Scott to highlight the recommendations of the Childcare Sufficiency Assessment (attached as Appendix B).

CW thanked SJ for a very informative report.

5. Disabled Children Guidance

Richard Lansdale presented the draft Disabled Children guidance for T&W practitioners to use, alongside the guidance developed by the Council for Disabled Children.

RL asked for the Board's endorsement and invited comments on the draft document.

Dr Ganesh commented that he felt it was a very good report.

MT suggested that a hard copy version of this document should be available to all staff after training, as it makes an excellent reference tool.

TC commented that the guidance was a comprehensive, and important piece of work which might benefit however from a clearer perspective on criminal justice issues.

CH suggested that a 'quick guide' for practitioners may be useful, to include 'what to do/when' guidance.

Board members considered comments and endorsed this guidance. CW thanked RJ for his work and asked that thought be given to how this document is distributed.

6. PCT Annual Report

Audrey Scott-Ryan presented the T&W PCT Annual Report for 2007/2008.

AS-R advised that the main issues arising from the report are the 20% rise in CP registrations/referrals; that there were no stats from the TAC process. The Serious Case Review recommendations also need to be shared by debrief on a multi-agency basis.

AS-R thanked Dr G and CH for their support in CP training, though suggested there is a need to push forward training in the Acute Trust, especially in the Midwifery service. A new Named Midwife for Safeguarding has recently been appointed.

CW commented that the document was helpful, comprehensive and well structured.

7. Child Death Overview Panel Update

Audrey Scott-Ryan updated the group on the progress made by the Child Death Overview Panel.

To date, there have been 13 child deaths across Telford & Wrekin and Shropshire. 7 deaths in T&W and 6 deaths in Shropshire. AS-R advised that there have been more deaths than anticipated. The projected numbers for our area were between 20/40 child deaths per annum.

AS-R advised that there were two cases where the possibility of a Serious Case Review was discussed. The details of the two cases was discussed. BE advised that she had informed OfSted about the two cases and received confirmation that they are happy for us to determine if investigations were necessary via Serious Case Review Panel.

AS-R advised that there are no formal cover arrangements for the SUDI Paediatrician to cover annual leave/sickness which is something that needs to be addressed, also for providing a 7 day Rapid Response service.

8. Anti-Bullying Strategy

Alistair James presented the draft Telford & Wrekin Children's Trust Anti-Bullying Guidance which had been put together to raise awareness of bullying.

AJ advised that a task group has been set up by the LA and Partners to continue to work on and develop the guidance.

The key issues would be to adopt the strategy and guidance, take back to individual organisations and put into practice.

The task group will continue to look at training and hope to be able to show individuals how to identify bullying through training and also raise staff awareness. Workshops are in the process of being organised, possibly from September of this year. AJ advised that an Anti-Bullying Conference was in the process of being organised, following the success of last year's conference, with a national speaker and a YP event in the afternoon at TCAT.

AC encouraged members of the Board to sign up to this document.

CW commented that the document was excellent and informative

The Board endorsed this draft guidance policy.

9. Section 10 Agreements

Ann Marie Morris, Lead Commissioner, CYP&F presented this item.

A-MM's report suggested that the Safeguarding Board currently carries out business planning on an annual cycle. Financial investment for safeguarding is agreed on an annual basis with the level of investment from some partners not agreed until well into the new financial year. This does not allow for medium to long-term planning. It was noted however that this is a historical position with 3 year funding now agreed by most partners.

Key funding agencies were identified as:

- Police
- Local Authority
- PCT
- NHS Trusts

It was agreed that formal agreement for financial investment from other agencies was required.

A-MM asked the Board to agree to the devolvement of a Section 10 agreement for a 3 or 5 year period including this financial year and suggested that what the SCB was now seeking was 'investment' in safeguarding by partner agencies rather than merely 'contributions'.

The Board agreed that A-MM's work continue with partners to obtain agreement and bring back to the October meeting for ratification and sign-off for this financial year.

10. JAR Update

Barbara Evans gave a brief feedback to the group of the JAR findings to date and agreed to report to the Board in October once the review has been published.

11. Crucial Crew and Child Safety Week Feedback

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

12. Information Items

12.1 Taxi Leaflet

MT presented a leaflet entitled 'Safe Driver, Safe Journey, Safe Passenger' which has been produced by the SCB, T&W Licensing and T&W Safer & Stronger Communities Partnership, following recent concerns regarding taxi drivers. The leaflet is due to be launched in August 2008.

ML commented that MT needs to check the West Mercia Constabulary telephone number as some changes to these numbers were due to take place.

12.2 DCSF Press Release

CW drew the group's attention to the DCSF Press Release relating to the intention of the Home Office and the DCSF for the UK Border Agency to have a legal duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

12.3 Children & Young People's Plan 2008-2010

A copy of the CYP Plan was attached for information.

12.4 Annual Report – 2007/08

A copy of the Board's Annual Report was attached for information.

12.5 Staying Safe Action Plan

AC asked lead members to provide an update on the progress section of this report for the next meeting.

13. Private Fostering Briefing and Annual Report

Alison Sorrell, Social Worker for Private Fostering attended the meeting for this item.

Prior to presenting the annual report. Alison invited members to break into small groups to explore their own understanding of private fostering and the safeguarding issues. Members reported that this was an interesting and useful exercise.

AS provided the group with a copy of the Private Fostering Annual Report. The report provided information on the activity that has taken place and gave

qualifying data on the number of arrangements recorded.
The report also gave feedback on the first Key Announced Inspection undertaken by Ofsted of Private Fostering Services in Telford and Wrekin in June 2007.

The definition of a private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (i.e. without the involvement of the Local Authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 (18 if disabled) by someone other than a parent or close relative with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more.

AS reported that there have been 24 private fostering arrangements in total, 9 were already known as at April 2007 and a further 15 became subject to private fostering arrangement during the course of the year.

AS handed out leaflets and posters and asked if these could be distributed to other agencies and also highlight that training on Private Fostering is available.

The Board agreed the Private Fostering Annual Report.

14. Any other Business

14.1 Thank You

CW, on behalf of the Board thanked Graeme Harkness, Nicky Peck, Sara Tough, for their hard work and commitment to the Board and wished them well in their future roles.

CW also thanked Sara Jones who, due to other commitments will no longer be leading on CATE.

15. Date and time of next meeting

7 October 2009 at 9.30 am, Training Room 5 & 6, AFC Telford.

Inclusions for the next Agenda:

Any further inclusions for the agenda, or topics, presentations, suggestions or offers for future meetings, please could they be sent to Colin Watt, Anne Cole or Emma Boddison.

Children's Centres and their Location



- | | | | |
|---|---------------------------|----|-------------|
| 1 | Dakenqates | 8 | Brookside |
| 2 | Newdale | 9 | Newport |
| 3 | Arlaston | 10 | Dawley |
| 4 | Woodside | 11 | St. Georges |
| 5 | Sutton Hill | 12 | Wellington |
| 6 | Malinslee | 13 | Donnington |
| 7 | Hadley Learning Community | | |

APPENDIX B

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE CHILDCARE SUFFICIENCY ASSESSMENT

1. Following receipt of this report and the acceptance of the key findings and recommendations, we recommend that the authority works with key internal managers (e.g. FIS) and external partners to fully understand the detailed findings of the childcare sufficiency assessment and to link this understanding with the development of a sufficiency plan.
2. Population change requires the local authority to continue to work with partner agencies such as Jobcentre Plus and in local areas to maintain an up to date knowledge of local population change, demographics and childcare need and demand. It is important (and a condition of legislation) to continually update the childcare sufficiency assessment on an annual basis, and to complete a full assessment at least every three years, this is in line with the Department of Children, Schools and Families' guidance and the Childcare Act (2006).
3. When planning future childcare provision (and appraising current supply) it is recommended that the authority considers the actual number of places made available to the market, rather than the total number of registered places.
4. All childcare settings should receive support to increase take-up of places, linking with Jobcentre Plus and anti-poverty strategies. In particular, those settings reporting occupancy levels of less than 50% should receive targeted support to increase take-up of places. This support should seek to respond to parents' demand for flexible childcare.
5. It may be necessary to identify whether improvements to the effectiveness of waiting lists are possible or indeed beneficial, to group childcare providers.
6. Training and support for all providers should enable all settings to maximise their marketing activities to increase childcare take-up through 'word of mouth' and linking with the FIS.
7. The FIS should continue to market its services with a view to further increasing the awareness of the FIS of parents, carers, partner organisations and those hardest to reach.
8. Support should be provided for all childcare settings, in the target areas of market need and demand for sufficient childcare identified by the assessment, to further develop their businesses by addressing the identified barriers e.g. suitable premises.
9. Continued support should be made available to all childcare settings (including out of school and childminding) to ensure that provision is inclusive, focused on children's individual additional needs and equips settings to deliver quality services for all children. This support should include (but not exclusively) Special Educational Needs Coordinators, advice and guidance and planning.

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10. Despite perceptions of relative sustainability reported by providers, an on-going programme of support should continue to ensure that sustainability is achieved by all settings. Additionally, those settings that said they disagreed that they were sustainable, should be supported as a matter of urgency.
11. A development support meeting could be offered to childminders after 18 months service, to offer retention, career development and problem solving support as required by individual childminders.
12. Further consultation should be held with group providers and childminders. This should identify additional detail on barriers to training and to examine how the current programme of training and qualifications aims to meet these identified needs.
13. The Family Information Service should continue to raise awareness of employers and parents/carers to increase the impact of the provision of information, advice and assistance in childcare and related issues (Section 12 Childcare Act 2006).
14. Childcare needs to respond to the needs and demands expressed by parents/carers in this assessment. Providers need to move from a model of provision-led services, to one that is driven by the current and future needs and demands of parents/carers. New childcare provision needs to include flexibility and responsiveness at the outset.
15. Parent/carers and employers should be provided with clear and readily available information about the full range of financial and other support available.
16. A shared and commonly understood definition of childcare should be developed and widely shared, so that childcare and related issues are better understood and enable improved partnership working and involvement.
17. Further explore opportunities to maximise links between childcare and extended schools provision with a view to developing a planned development strategy to ensure the duty to secure sufficient childcare can be met, and that childcare provision remains sustainable.
18. Continue to monitor the impact of change within the borough (including changes to the population; the needs of lone parents as changes become effective; the impact of changes to free flexible entitlement and continued development of extended services) to update the childcare sufficiency assessment. Incorporate a consideration of childcare needs and the legal duty to secure sufficient childcare into wider planning throughout the authority.

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