



Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board (Staying Safe)

15 July 2009 at 9.30am

Training Room 5 & 6, AFC Telford Learning Centre

Present:

Mr Chris Brannan	Independent Chair
Ms J Almond	Director of Children Services
Miss E Boddison	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service (Minutes)
Mr G Branch	West Mercia Probation
Ms L Burrows	T&WC: Integrated Youth Support Services
Mrs A Cole	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Ms S Collymore	CAFCASS
Mr T Currie	Safer Stronger Communities Partnership
DCI A Edwards	West Mercia Constabulary
Ms K Fisher	T&WC: Legal Services (for the second part of the meeting)
Dr Ganesh	TandW PCT
Mr D Goss	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Ms L Heath	Secondary Schools
Ms C Hobbs	Primary Schools
Mrs C Hughes	T&W SCB Training
Ms B Jackson	T.C.A.T
Mr A James	T&WC: Connexions 4 Youth
Ms L Johnston	T&WC: Locality Services
Ms S Jones	TandW PCT Child & Family Support Services
DSupt M Lakeman	West Mercia Constabulary
Ms A Parton	Youth Offending Services
Ms A Rosser	New College
Ms C Shouli	T.C.A.T
Ms T Tanner	SaTH
Major J Welsh	Army Welfare Service

1. Apologies

Ms C Barber	T&WC: Integrated Child Care
Mrs P Bickley	TandW PCT
Cllr Stephen Burrell	T&WC: Lead Member for C&YP
Mr J Collins	T&WC Learning and Achievement
Mrs B Evans	T&WC: Safeguarding & Corporate Parenting
Mrs J Gibling	T&WC: Senior Manager, Early Intervention
Ms H Hipkiss	Shropshire and Staffordshire Strategic Health Authority
Ms L Hosking	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service
Mr P Lowe	Crown Prosecution Service
Ms AM Morris	Joint Commissioning Unit
Ms C Morris	T&WC: Integrated Child Care representing Ms C Barber
Ms K Perry	T&WC: Planning and Performance
Ms A Scott-Ryan	TandW PCT
Ms J Sumner	TandW PCT
Mr M Turner	T&WC: Safeguarding Advisory Service
Ms S Tyas	T&WC: Healthy Schools
Mr C Watt	NSPCC,
Ms A Yapp	T&WC: Placements

Apologies not received

Ms J Banks	T&W PCT
Ms S Edwards	Learning and Skills Council
Ms S Fisher	T&WC: Licensing
Ms L Foley	Voluntary Sector Representative
Ms G Foster	T&WC: Mental Health (NHS Trust)
Ms T Knight	T&W: Safeguarding
Ms J McGillivray	T&WC: Adult Protection
Ms A Orr	SSAFA
Mr D Robson	T&WC: Adult and Consumer Care

Chris Brannan introduced himself as the new Independent Chair; a Career Profile was circulated via email prior to today's meeting. Chris also wished to thank Colin on behalf of all members for his hard work and commitment to the Safeguarding Children Board.

2. Minutes from last meeting

Page 1 & 2 - it was acknowledged that an old template had been used in error and therefore some members' titles were incorrect.

Page 5 - last line should read 'Colin stated that Appendix 1 and 2 were *drawn up*'

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

Matters arising

Page 3 - Think Family

The attached paper was tabled and Anne suggested this being a main agenda item for the October Board meeting.

Care Proceedings

The number of Care Proceedings is still rising; this is a national issue.

Page 4 - Families do Matter

Anne advised that she is unsure whether Sally has been able to set up a small group to discuss how to embed this work.

Claire Hughes and Gill Scott have developed a training programme that has been adopted by DCSF for use nationally.

Safer Schools Partnership

A group has now been established and terms of reference agreed; Tom indicated that there is scope to incorporate other work into this group such as anti-bullying.

Board Matters

Anne asked for members' permission to use a small amount of Board funding to purchase a thank you present for Colin; all agreed.

Page 5 - Annual Report & Business Plan

This is on today's agenda; Anne received no comments after the last meeting.

Page 8 - E-safety Strategy

Mark Turner and Richard Lawson did three raising awareness sessions on E-safety and Cyber Sentinel to 90 members of Council staff and are looking at more sessions.

Claire advised that she has programmed into the training plan to issue Think u Know DVD's to school staff who wish to train parents.

Julia suggested having all action points listed at the end of the minutes to assist in monitoring and with matters arising. It was agreed that this would be done from now on.

3. Board Matters

Annual Report

This was circulated prior to today's meeting. Anne noted that she has realised that there is no mention of JAR so will amend it to reflect this. Anne asked for members' approval and this was given by all present.

Anne questioned how the Annual Report should be distributed and reminded people that last year it was uploaded on to the website and a flyer sent advising people of this. Tom indicated that it is easily accessible if it is on the website. Discussion took place regarding this and Chris asked for any suggestions to be sent to Anne Cole or Emma Boddison. Chris also suggested having a copy in each library; Chris Shouli stated a copy could be put in the college libraries. It was agreed that:

- Julia will take the Annual Report to the Heads Forum.
- Dr Ganesh will ensure it is taken to the PCT Board
- All members will receive a copy as Martin felt it is important for everyone to have one to present to any inspectors and for members to take through their own governance arrangements.
- Chris will contact all Chief Execs regarding membership (see item below) and include a copy of the report with his letter
- Dissemination of the Annual Report will be incorporated into the communications plan.

Business Plan

This was circulated with today's agenda.

Anne stated that as the Business Plan runs from April to April she is delighted to say that some actions have already been completed including some of those relating to CATE, E-safety, and Safer Schools Partnership.

The following sections were discussed:

Laming report / government response

Anne indicated that a full action plan can not be developed until a full government response has been issued; Anne explained that the government response already issued was mainly stating what they have asked people to do as a result of the Laming Report before they do a full response. Anne added that the PCT want a plan by the summer so she is suggesting that the action plan be taken to the Exec on 30 July, presented in draft form to the PCT and then brought to the October meeting of the board for final approval.

Julia added that a report had been prepared for Cabinet advising them of the latest position and this would be presented next week.

Funding

Anne stated that establishing a Section 10 budget is still being looked at. She added that at the end of this financial year the Board will be at the end of its 3 year budget and therefore she and Chris had already discussed the possibility of looking at what work the Board wish to do and then agree what budget is needed instead of having a rolling budget and using that to establish what work can be undertaken.

Performance Management

Anne advised that the multi agency audit will be piloted at the August meeting of the SCRP

CDOP

The CDOP Annual Report was tabled at today's meeting and is attached to these minutes. Dr Ganesh explained that there are some CDOP priorities that he would like to share with the SCB at a future meeting. Anne added that the Panel feels that some national Performance Indications will be issued shortly.

Training

This is going from strength to strength.

Impact of Domestic Abuse

Tom stated that he feels that the current performance indicator does not give an indication of the number of high level cases discussed at MARAC and therefore suggested having one which includes the number of children discussed at MARAC and also how many of them have received positive intervention. Anne queried how this would be measured? Julia suggested that this is considered by the Executive Group at their next meeting.

George suggested having a target relating to the impact of drugs and alcohol on young people. Julia explained that this is a priority for the Children's Trust Board so we need to ensure that work is not duplicated, although it is an important area. Chris suggested that George's suggestion is taken to the Trust.

The Business Plan was approved by those present.

Review of Board Membership and Structures

Anne explained that this was discussed at the last Board meeting and members were asked to send any comments to Anne, however none have been received. A couple of amendments have been made since the last meeting and a further amended proposal was tabled at today's meeting - please see attached; Anne talked through the proposal.

4.1 & 4.2 James Welsh expressed his surprise at how large the main Board will be even when it has been streamlined. Anne agreed with James but explained that the Board is required to have certain organisations represented and read out those listed in Working Together; Chris commented that he feels it would be difficult to make the Board smaller whilst still ensuring all organisations are represented.

Although the proposal suggests Further Education Colleges attend the full Board it was agreed today that they will only attend the forum. Discussion also took place on whether Independent Schools and Academy Schools should attend the forum even though they are captured through the Heads Forum? It was agreed that they should be invited. It was also agreed that the forum will take place immediately after the main Board meeting and members of the forum will receive the full agenda so that they can attend for an agenda item if felt necessary.

Chris advised that it is recommended that each SCB have two lay members and he suggests that the new Board is set up first and then they consider the process. Anne agreed with Chris and explained that a couple of SCBs in the region already have Lay members and she thinks it would be helpful to learn from their experiences.

4.3 Chris queried why the Chair of the SCB does not attend the Exec and Anne explained that previously the decision was made as it was thought it would affect the Chair's independence however this can be changed if people thought it was appropriate. The Exec will consider this at their next meeting.

4.4 & 4.5 Julia expressed concern over the new name and asked that the Exec Group give further consideration to it at their next meeting as she doesn't feel

that it reflects the work that they do. Anne explained that the Exec feel the current name causes confusion with regards to the status of both the Exec and the Board. Alastair suggested the name 'Business Planning Group'

It was agreed that the name remains as 'Executive Group' until their next meeting when it will be discussed further.

4.6 It was agreed that it would be helpful to have an organisational chart showing where all the groups sit and that this should also contain contact details for the lead of each group so that people can contact them if they feel they should be represented. James queried whether he should nominate a representative for the CATE group and Safer Schools Partnership? Anne suggested that we add the leads contact details to the organisational chart and if anyone wished to join a sub group they could make contact with them to discuss this.

Anne indicated that raising the profile and status of the board, which is what members want will result in additional staffing being needed i.e. a Board Manager and more admin support and therefore thought needs to be given to the resources needed.

4. Performance Framework

Anne wished to start by saying that she believes this is a good and valuable tool. She went onto say that the summery has caused some misunderstanding and Anne will amend the summery to reflect this. Please see attached the correct version of this paper and destroy any previous copies

The meeting briefly looked at Appendix 1. It was acknowledged that within Area of Focus 3 & 4 David Goss has not been included as a LADO; Anne will amend this. Number 15-20 can now be populated and Tom's earlier comments re having a PI relating to MARAC will be incorporated into number 31. When looking at the final page, Effective administration of LSCB meetings, Anne explained that the majority of papers for today's meeting went out 9 days in advance due to a delay in obtaining them and therefore asked that if someone is responsible for an agenda item that they send the relevant papers to Emma well in advance so that they can be distributed 10 days before the meeting.

Julia asked if the reporting frequency for each PI can be aligned with those for the Children's Trust. Anne indicated that this could be done and then the Board will receive August's figures at their October meeting and November's figures in January.

Laura Johnston expressed concern over the Performance Framework being very much focused on Child Protection Plans and not recognising the increase in early

intervention work. Laura therefore suggested that this is incorporated into number 27 and 28.

Appendix 2 is for information only.

Appendix 3 is Karen's report following the supervision audit that she undertook. It was agreed that the wording for SaTH should be changed to read "incorporated into'

5. Performance Monitoring

Anne gave the attached presentation.

6. Practice Issues

Dual Status

David referred to the paper circulated prior to today's meeting and asked those present to agree to the proposal.

Sonia stated that she would agree as long as individual circumstances are considered.

Anne advised that the proposal has already been to DMT and the Exec.

All present accepted the proposal and Anne asked that all members ensure that it is disseminated through their agencies as in most cases it will not be Board Members who attend the Child Protection Conferences but front line staff.

Pre Birth Child Protection Conferences

Again David referred to the paper and advised that the proposal has been discussed with the Lead Midwife who felt that it is in line with their procedures.

All present accepted the proposal.

Tom suggested that confirmation of accepted proposals is circulated to all members with a statement outlining their responsible with regards to dissemination.

They will also be incorporated into the latest update of policies and procedures.

7. CATE

David summarised his report which was circulated with today's agenda.

Helen Morris and DS Ian Rutherford attended to give the attached presentation. Ian added that the police are finding it extremely difficult bringing cases for prosecution. Reasons for this include lack of evidence and the high risk to the young women from the perpetrator if they give evidence in court. Ian also raised the emotional impact this work has on the staff involved and indicated that the young women so far have always said that they would rather talk to a police officer than a social worker which is having a huge impact on their workload. Ian concluded by saying that there have been some success stories to date for example one man was convicted and sentenced to 36 weeks imprisonment.

David explained that the CATE work links in to missing persons and trafficking work. He added that some of the cases are very serious and there is a fear that in the future we could be looking at a Serious Case Review. David also advised that Ann-Marie Morris is carrying out a commissioning exercise on mainstreaming the project.

Alan Edwards reported that there will be a lot of work starting in the autumn but there are police officers available to work on this project straight away. They want to start as soon as possible but can not do so until resources are put in place.

Angela Parton asked if there was any merit in having a joint approach – perhaps with Shropshire? Anne replied by saying that she feels it would be worth considering having a West Mercia wide group as although authorities collectively have a high number of cases, individually the numbers are quite low. It was acknowledged that although this is the case the impact on the young people and staff is extremely high. Anne added that the CATE group is a well established group that has already achieved a lot but a sustainable way forward is urgently needed.

Lesley commented that she feels work needs to be done to tackle the perpetrators and to engage the community.

Dr Ganesh indicated that he believes support for the young people and the families is very important, for example counselling, and feels that this has been missed out previously.

Alastair wished to add that it is worth recognising that the project needs to be sustained as at the moment even Helen's full time post is not fully sustained.

Sonia Collymore asked if young people are being educated in schools about exploitation and if not is there a plan to do so as she feels this is a big piece of work that needs to happen to prevent further cases? Helen responded that there

is definitely a need for preventive work but Telford & Wrekin are so short of resources that she can not even consider this due to the time she is spending on high risk cases. Julia stated that schools should mainstream this into PHSE lessons and she will take this message back, she will also take back the issue of resources as this is an urgent priority for the SCB and CTB. Alan indicated that training packages are already in place and ready to use nationally. Claire explained that interagency training is taking place and schools who have invested in safeguarding (previously known as 250 club) are offered training sessions.

Copies of the '[Safeguarding Children & Young People from Sexual Exploitation Guidance](#)' were available at today's meeting and can be found by clicking the link.

8. CDOP Annual Report

Dr Ganesh summarised the attached report; and explained that this is only an interim report and not a full one.

9. SCR Annual Report

Kirsty summarised the attached report.

Chris agreed to give Kirsty and Julia a copy of the proposed DSCF guidance.

Kirsty advised that she recently chaired a SCR for Shropshire and will be sharing any lessons learnt from that with the autumn SCRCP.

10. Information Items

Briefing on unannounced inspections

Julia Almond gave an update on this and advised that 40 authorities will be inspected by the end of September and all by April 2010.

Anne drew everyone's attention to it not just being C&YP that will be inspected, it will be Safeguarding as a whole and therefore inspectors have the right to roam if they wish; Staffordshire have already been inspected and it was made very clear to them that Safeguarding is everyone's responsible and it is not a case of agencies "helping social workers".

11. AOB

October's Meeting

The next SCB has been changed from 6 October 2009 to 9.30am on 14 October 2009.

Anne Cole

Julia announced that Anne will be leaving the authority in September and paid tribute to the hard work she has done for the Board, stating that Anne has been the driving force. Julia thanked Anne for her commitment.

MAPPA

Martin Lakeman reported that a film company called True North Productions has been commissioned by the BBC Panorama to do a 30 minute programme on MAPPA and its processes. It will focus on the management of Sexual and other dangerous offenders and West Mercia will be the main focus. Chief Constable Paul West is the ACPO national lead for this area of business.

DASH

Martin explained that DASH is the new national risk assessment for Domestic Abuse, stalking and harassment, and honour based violence and for the first time all agencies will be using the same tool, thereby having a single interpretation of what high risk means.

Date of Next Meeting:

9.30am on Wednesday 14 October 2009 in Training Room 5 & 6 AFC Telford United Learning Centre.

N.B - this is a change of date, the meeting was originally scheduled for 6 October 2009 and then 5 October.

Inclusions for the Agenda:

Any further inclusions for the agenda, or topics, presentations, suggestions or offers for future meetings please could they be sent to Chris Brannan (chrisbrannan@live.co.uk) or Emma Boddison.

Actions

Annual Report

Julia to present the Annual Report to the Heads Forum Julia Almond

Dr Ganesh to present the report to the PCT Board Dr Ganesh

Chris Brannan to contact all Chief Execs and include a copy of the report with his letter Chris Brannan

Business Plan

The Exec to consider having a performance indicator regarding the number of children discussed at MARAC and also how many of them have received positive intervention Exec Members

Chris and / or Julia to speak to the CTB regarding the SCB having a target relating to the impact of drugs and alcohol on young people Chris Brannan / Julia Almond

Review of Board Membership and Structures

The Exec to: Exec Members

- ◆ Give thought to the Independent Chair becoming a member of the Exec.
- ◆ Give further thought to the name of the group.

An organisational chart to be produced showing where each subgroup sits and contact details for the lead of each group. Anne Cole

CATE

Julia to discuss mainstreaming exploitation awareness into PHSE lessons at the next Heads Forum Julia Almond

Julia to give thought to resources as this is an urgent priority for the SCB and CTB Julia Almond