

Keeping our children safe from harm

Present

Safeguarding Children Board Members

Martin Banks	(MB)	CAFCASS
Karen Bradshaw	(KB)	Director of Children's Services, Shropshire Council
George Branch	(GB)	Community Rehabilitation Company
David Coan	(DC)	Designated Nurse, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Sharon Conlon	(SC)	Safeguarding Lead Adults & Children, SSSFT
Tom Currie	(TC)	National Probation Service
Ellen Green	(EG)	Community Member
Sally Halls	(SH)	Independent Chair SSCB
Julie Harris	(JH)	Named Nurse for Safeguarding, Shropshire Community Health Trust
Colleen Male	(CM)	Head of Quality Assurance & Performance
Steve McAlinden	(SM)	Further Education Representative (Shrewsbury College)
Dr Jessica Sokolov	(JS)	Named Doctor, Shropshire Community Health Trust
Jason Wells	(JW)	West Mercia Police

Also in attendance

James Bainbridge	(JB)	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service (representing Guy Williams)
Lisa Davies	(LD)	Voluntary Sector Representative (representing Jon Mills)
Bill Joyce	(BJ)	Interim Development Manager, SSCB
Audrey Scott-Ryan	(ASR)	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding for T&W & CDOP Chair

Apologies

Jo Banks	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust
Keith Barham	Youth Offending Service
Cassie Davies	Community Member
Linda Izquierdo	Director of Nursing, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Steve Lunt	Secondary Head Teacher Representative
Jon Mills	Voluntary Sector Representative (Hope House)
David Minnery	Lead Member Children & Young People, Shropshire Council
Tina Russell	Head of Safeguarding, Shropshire Council
Cheryl Sherratt	NHS England
Bev Tabernacle	Director of Nursing, RJAH
Rod Thomson	Director of Public Health
Guy Williams	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

SSCB Business Unit

Lisa Charles (LC) Acting SSCB Business Manager
Corinne Chidley (CC) SSCB Training Officer
Sarah Chidlow (SC) SSCB & Children's Trust Administrator (Minute Taker)

Item

2 SSCB Development Session – Neglect

CC gave a brief overview of the Triennial Analysis of Serious Case Reviews (2011-2014): Practice briefing for Local Safeguarding Children Boards. It highlights the role of LSCB – arising from SCRs - as:

- Building effective structures
- Coping with limited resources
- Embedding responsive cultures
- Establishing workable processes

CC confirmed that the Triennial Analysis recommendations for action will be shared with the Learning & Improvement Subgroup on Friday 16th September 2016. In regards to the multi-agency training action, every single training model is reviewed before being delivered.

Board members asked if the Triennial Review link could be included on the website. Board members also agreed to distribute throughout their organisations.

Action: CC to ensure the Triennial Review document link is on the website.

CC introduced the Graded Care Profile (GCP), which has been developed by NSPCC and is evidenced based. A task and finish group led by the SSCB and Shropshire Council is reviewing the Neglect Strategy and accompanying tools, to include use of GCP.

The process of implementing the revised Neglect Strategy and the GCP will be as follows:

- 8 professionals to attend the Graded Care Profile train the trainers course (which is licensed by the NSPCC), funded by SSCB.
- SSCB Neglect Conference on 10th November 2016, where the revised Neglect Strategy will be launched and introducing the GCP workshops to be held in the afternoon.
- Roll out is then planned across Shropshire.

CC then explained the NSPCC's 5 top tips in implementing the GCP, which are:

- Tip 1 – Deliver quality training
- Tip 2 – Have strong leadership and clear implementation
- Tip 3 – Make the right decisions
- Tip 4 – Ongoing monitoring and support
- Tip 5 – Maintain enthusiasm

Board members requested the PowerPoint presentation be circulated to the members.

Actions

Corinne Chidley

The board members discussed the GCP. BJ explained a lot of authorities are using the GCP with their families, therefore asked the members to think who in their agencies would carry out the GCP assessments with the families. It was advised that the lead professionals would undertake the assessments in those key agencies. The adult focused organisations need to understand parental behaviours and the pre-implementation checklist.

ASR noted that Telford has been using the GCP for some years, and also incorporate Sandstories in their staff training. CC clarified Sue Wilmore (of Sandstories) will also be at the SSCB conference as a speaker. Members asked if all handouts could be circulated to board members.

Action: All development session handouts to be circulated to Board members, together with the PowerPoint presentation.

Sarah
Chidlow

CC asked the board members the following questions:

- How are SSCB members going to be assured that we are responding effectively to Neglect?
- How will we know that we've made a difference?

To establish the current baseline, a short survey will be distributed to SSCB members after the meeting.

Action: Board members to complete and return the Graded Care Profile checklist to SSCB by 3rd October 2016.

SSCB
Members

Board members were invited to consider what assurance questions they would like to apply to the neglect strategy and Shropshire's subsequent work on neglect, in order to establish its effectiveness and impact. Initial thoughts were shared.

Action: QA&P sub group to develop a Neglect scorecard, to incorporate and refine the assurance questions.

QA&P
Subgroup

1 Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting

3 Apologies, Round Table – Agency Update

Apologies noted.

This item was taken towards the end of the meeting.

The Chair noted she would be following up any persistence non-attendance at the Board, as is usual.

Sally Halls
(A116)

4 Minutes and matters arising from SSCB Board Meeting held on 16 June 2016

Board Members agreed the minutes from 16 June 2016 were a correct record of the meeting.

Action Log

Board members agreed the following actions to be closed.

A111 – Public Health to progress health representation within MASH and report back to SSCB in June 2016.

A113 – LI to pick up the immediate health issues for LAC after the SSCB meeting.

A114 – SE to speak to the Police Improvement Lead to arrange a peer review & KB to send out information to Director of Children’s Services within the West Mercia area.

A115 – Pursue engagement of CRC in COMPASS, escalating if required.

A112 – Establish a Task & Finish group to scope issues with regards to OLAC across agencies and recommend how they might be addressed consistently and effectively – is to remain open, CM to have regular meetings with private providers and to report back to Executive Sub Group.

Action: KB to follow up level of regional peer reviews.

**Karen
Bradshaw
(A114)**

Action: CM to speak with Steve Ladd about establishing a Task & Finish group to scope issues with regards to OLAC across agencies and recommend how they might be addressed consistently and effectively.

**Colleen Male
(A112)**

5 Minutes from the Executive Subgroup meeting held 19 July 2016 (for information)

The SSCB Exec minutes from the meeting held on 19 July 2016 were noted.

6 SSCB Annual Report

The Chair asked board members for comments on the annual report. The Chair thanked LC for all her hard work on the annual report.

Board members discussed the annual report. The members thought the report was really comprehensive and easy to read. Members requested that the focus on the impact of actions (‘so what’) is highlighted, and queried whether report is sufficiently critical.

Action: Board members to email final comments on the annual report to LC/Sarah Chidlow by 23rd September 2016.

**SSCB
Members**

7 Quality Assurance and Performance Report – Quarterly Dashboard Regular Report

The Chair introduced the paper, highlighting the thematic audit on domestic abuse, and noted that Ofsted’s latest thematic area inspection (from September 2016 to March 2017) is to focus on domestic abuse.

Action: Link to the Ofsted thematic inspection criteria to board members.

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/544745/Children_living_with_domestic_abuse_joint_targeted_inspection_guidance.pdf

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/544747/Joint_targeted_area_inspections_inspection_framework_and_guidance.pdf

**Sarah
Chidlow**

DC explained the detail of the report on the dashboard indicators. Data for a number of the indicators is collected by children’s social care, but are indicators of multi-agency activity (charts 1 – 6 (Concerns Forms

Outcomes – Children’s Social Care or Early Help, Number of Referrals to Children’s Social Care 2015/16, Referrals by Organisation, % Referrals by Outcomes & % by Organisation, % Referrals by Outcomes and % of SW Assessments Outcomes). The referrals have settled down since the developments within Early Help last year, which is positive. There are some new indicators in place, such as Chart 7 (% SW Assessments within 45 working days), reflecting pressures across the system. There are too many assessments not being completed in 45 days. Children’s Social Care are reporting back to QA&P sub group in relation to those assessments. There has been a fall in the numbers of looked after children (Chart 8 (CPP & LAC Numbers at Month End), but subgroup members will continue to monitor and report on those figures.

Chart 10 (Children Exposed to Domestic Violence) indicates there has been an increase in the numbers of children exposed to domestic violence 3+ times.

The subgroup noted that there is a need for an improved dataset concerning children missing, and this is to be addressed as part of the scorecard development which is part of the planned work of the CSE sub group.

The subgroup has also met with WM Police to discuss their data on CSE and has requested analysis as well as raw data. The lack of analytical capacity is a persistent challenge for the group. All agencies need to consider how to address this in relation to their own data. Tom Currie noted that the CSP had some analytical capacity which could possibly be made available in relation to specific areas of common interest.

The subgroup has raised concerns about the number of children who have been excluded from school (both permanent and fixed term) and has requested further information from Education before reporting back to the SSCB.

Board members discussed the dashboard and the child protection indicators from education in groups and highlighted the following:

- Chart 9 (children missing from home/care) - members agreed the information was difficult to interpret, and needed education information in order to provide a full picture, together with improved analysis. The board members could not see if the missing episodes were related to CSE, and questioned what was making those young people to run away from home or care, however the return interviews could clarify some of those issues.
- Chart 10 (Children Exposed to Domestic Violence) – members questioned what is the response of the board and what are agencies doing to ensure the safety of those children.
- Chart 2 (Number of Referrals to Children’s Social Care 2015/16), Chart 3 (Referrals by Organisation) – JH noted the information was not capturing that Shropshire Community Health Trust was making referrals. Most of the referrals are from police and education and therefore is the referral rate appropriate? Members questioned whether the police were referring too many, or does this simply reflect their role?

Board members raised concerns around the statistical neighbour and West Midlands data due to the authority not always having access to all the

information. A lot of the data presented at QA&P sub group does not have narrative to explain the data and there is no dedicated Quality Assurance person to analysis the data. TC suggested the Community Safer Partnership have John Dodd, who could do a piece of work around analysing the data.

Board members discussed the information they required on the dashboard. BJ offered to help with undertaking a piece of work to review the dashboard and ensure it reflected Board priorities.

The following actions were agreed:

Action: The Domestic Abuse Forum to be asked to provide an analysis of the reasons for the rising numbers of children exposed to domestic abuse on more than one occasion, together with details of how this is being addressed.

Lisa Charles

Action: Schools Safeguarding Group to provide an analysis to QAP of the education child protection data.

Steve
McAlinden/
Schools
safeguarding
group

Action: Establish the level of analytical capacity in CSP and map out what information is available from the domestic abuse forum that would be useful for SSCB.

Tom Currie
(A117)

Action: QA&P subgroup to work with Bill Joyce to

- Refine the current dataset
- Ensure agencies are appropriately represented at QA&P subgroup to improve the analytical aspect of agency performance reporting to highlight the effectiveness of multi-agency activity and include statistical neighbour and national/regional data where appropriate and available.

Bill Joyce/
QAP

Multi-Agency Audit – Domestic Abuse

DC reported on this multi-agency audit, the purpose of which was to review the quality and effectiveness of practice in protecting children who are living with domestic abuse.

The audit considered:

- the use of the screening tools
- information sharing arrangements
- service provision
- quality and impact of multi-agency planning, including 'step up' and 'step down' arrangements
- the voice of the child (included that of disabled children).

The Audit group found that many improvements have been made in the recognition and referral of domestic abuse cases. Most of the cases audited were rated good on effectiveness overall in supporting the child and mother, with some good inter-agency working, information sharing and looking at key ways to try to engage families. The Police are routinely using the CAADA DASH and risk assessments tools which are appropriately shared with partner agencies.

Areas of challenge included:

- Agencies not routinely using the available screening tools.
- Use of troubled families support for some families not being fully explored when families are experiencing domestic violence.
- GPs are not currently receiving any information from MARAC or receiving any minutes from CP conferences.
- Missing opportunities to understand the experiences of children with disabilities.
- The robustness of 'step down' and early help arrangements.
- Poor links with Shropshire Recovery Partnership Services.
- The general understanding of MARAC arrangements.
- The continuing lack of voluntary perpetrator programmes (although there is support for the victims).

The proposed Action Plan was agreed.

Actions were agreed as follows:

Action: Report to the Executive on 15th November 2016 on progress report on domestic abuse audit with the action plan.

QAP/ to co-ordinate

Action: Use the domestic abuse audit report to inform a further challenge to the domestic abuse forum on the lack of availability of 'voluntary' perpetrator programmes, and proposing a business case is put to the PCC to request funding to address this.

Sally Halls (A118)

Action: Audit findings to be summarised and disseminated to practitioners across the children's workforce.

QA&P Sub Group

8 CDOP Annual Report

ASR reported Telford & Wrekin LSCB was found by Ofsted to be 'good'. Ofsted's report included the following:

'There is a well-functioning child death overview panel. This is a joint panel with Shropshire. Learning from child deaths, both locally and nationally, has led to training and public information campaigns about such issues as safer sleeping and suffocation from nappy sacks. Learning from perinatal deaths led directly to the establishment of a dedicated midwifery post to work with vulnerable mothers. A bereavement midwife and health visitor support families who have experienced a sudden infant death. An increase in suicides and self-harm has led to a suicide prevention strategy. This aims to improve the support available in schools and through GPs to vulnerable young people.'

ASR also noted that CDOP had contributed to the Wood Review of LSCBs.

ASR reported the key things for Shropshire in related to CDOP are:

- There had been 14 deaths in Shropshire, of which 8 were unexpected.
- The largest category continues to be perinatal deaths.
- There have been few deaths from asthma and deaths from cancer has not risen in the last couple of years.

Board members discussed the report, noting the difficulty of identifying trends due to the low numbers. The offer to parents of a CDOP lead, such as a bereavement midwife, was welcomed. The lead offers support to the parents and also any siblings.

The Chair asked if there is anything the SSCB needs to support with, for example safer sleep, overheating. This is all in hand.

Board members accepted the CDOP Annual Report.

9 SSCB Multi-Agency Training Annual Report

CC presented the SSC Multi-Agency Training Annual report. The Training Strategy has been updated and is very clear on levels and expectations. At present, few people reply to the follow up evaluation request and board members were asked to address this within their own agencies.

Board members discussed the issues around the completing of the evaluations and a number of suggestions made, including:

- Holding back the certificates until the evaluations have been completed
- Giving more explanation at the end of the training sessions about the purpose of the evaluation
- mentioning to the people undertaking the training that completing the evaluation at 3 months was part of their CPD
- discussing the impact of training in staff appraisals, with any issues raised to be cascaded to the SSCB multi-agency training team.

CC was asked whether individual Board members could be advised when an evaluation has not been completed.

The multi-agency training team are proposing to conduct a training needs analysis, to ensure that the right training is available and is reaching the right groups of staff. This was agreed.

Board members were also asked to notify CC of suitable training rooms, to assist in keeping costs down.

The Chair summarised the discussion and the report was accepted.

10 Governance Report and Business Plan 2015-17

LC reported that the Wood Review had been presented to the Governance Group, which is developing its thinking on potential local arrangements, whilst awaiting future directions from the government.

The key areas of work for the SSCB are:

- hearing the voice of the child
- developing the role of the community members
- engaging with practitioners
- improving quality assurance arrangements
- 'closing the loop' – putting systems in place to ensure that the 'learning loop' is complete and evidencing what has been done with the learning from reviews and audits and the impact on outcomes for children.

To assist partners who sit on both boards and work across West Mercia footprint, SSCB meetings for 2017 are scheduled on the same day as the Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire meetings, except for March. The Keeping Adults Safe in Shropshire Board will meet in the morning and SSCB in the afternoon, beginning at 1.00pm. This will allow for a development session at the start of the meeting.

It was noted that:

- Bill Joyce will be leading a piece of work to review the effectiveness of the Board. This will be concluded in 3 months.
- The Risk Register is being revised
- Budget: The SSCB is on budget for this quarter. SSCB is waiting for confirmation from the CCG of its financial contribution to the SSCB.
- If SSCB wishes to continue to utilise the Section 11 online audit tool, then this would cost a minimum of £8,000 in quarter 4 (not currently included in the projected expenditure). Work is ongoing regionally around the Section 11 audits and therefore may become cheaper.
- The website development costs are not included in the projected expenditure. There are also some cuts being made to the training budget.

The following recommendations were agreed:

- to note the contents of the Budget report and for those agencies where contributions are not yet agreed (CCG), the relevant SSCB members are requested to progress this;
- to consider the new arrangements for board meetings in 2017 and agree future arrangements for development sessions. This means that agency assurance reports will be presented to the SSCB Executive Subgroup in future, with a highlight report to SSCB with any issues that require escalation and the SSCB agenda will focus on the Board priorities;
- to note the reporting schedule for future meetings. The Chair highlighted the changes to the reporting schedule, which are:
 - Neglect reports to be presented to SSCB in December 2016
 - CSE reports to be scheduled for March 2017 Instead of December 2016).

LC outlined the proposed arrangements for the forthcoming section 11 audit, to include training for online completion and full completion scheduled by Christmas, with a report to SSCB in March 2017.

However, it was noted that the previous section 11 audit has not yet been fully analysed and that this should be completed before a further audit is undertaken.

BJ mentioned that other LSCBs are looking at undertaking Section 11 Audits bi-annually but undertake thematic audits in between.

Action: To consider quality assurance of Section 11 Audits and training for use of the online audit tool.

**Lisa Charles /
Bill Joyce/
Colleen Male**

Board members accepted the Governance report.

11 Matters to raise with other partnerships

As noted throughout the meeting, which were:

- To challenge the Community Safer Partnership on the lack of availability of voluntary perpetrator programmes.
- To request JSNA for CSE at the Health & Wellbeing Board.

12 Any other business

West Mercia Police gave notice of the forthcoming HMIC effectiveness inspection (beginning on 19th September). Agencies have been invited to stakeholder group meetings.

Board members will be invited to a meeting to address the issues around missing people. The Catch 22 group has been invited to present their work on return interviews for missing children.

SCC updated the Board on forthcoming changes at AD level in Children's Social Care. Tina Russell is moving on and Colleen Male will be taking on the position of Head of Safeguarding from 19 September 2016. Tina Russell was thanked for her contributions to the Board.

Asylum seeking children: the forthcoming report on the National Dispersal Policy to the Council's Cabinet meeting in September will be made available to Board members at SSCB in December 2016.

Shropshire Community Health Trust: CQC inspection has judged the Trust to require improvement, although the safeguarding area was strong and caring was good.

Action: Link to the CQC report of Shropshire Community Health Trust to be circulated to the SSCB members with the minutes.

http://www.cqc.org.uk/sites/default/files/new_reports/AAAF7999.pdf

The Chair reported Martin Banks, representative for CAF/CASS, has agreed to be the link for the SSCB with the Family Justice Board.

The Chair gave an update on a number of local developments, including the planned focus by the 'Pentagon of Partnerships' on domestic abuse, the review of the terms of reference of the subgroups (which will have implications for the Constitution), the challenge to West Mercia Police concerning the impact of its reorganisation on LADO arrangements, and RCPC attendance.

A number of Board members put their names forward to observe case conferences.

JW will be meeting with the LADOs within the West Mercia area to hear and address the concerns.

The meeting concluded at 4.40pm

**Karen
Bradshaw**

**Julie Harris /
Sarah
Chidlow**