

Keeping our children safe from harm

Present

Safeguarding Children Board Members

Martin Banks	(MB)	CAFCASS
Keith Barham	(KBa)	Youth Offending Service
Nicola Bond	(NB)	Primary Head Teacher Representative
Karen Bradshaw	(KB)	Director of Children's Services, Shropshire Council
David Coan	(DC)	Designated Nurse, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Tom Currie	(TC)	National Probation Service
Julie Harris	(JH)	Named Nurse for Safeguarding, Shropshire Community Health Trust
Steve Lunt	(SL)	Secondary Head Teacher Representative
Kerry Lynch	(KL)	Primary Head Teacher Representative
Colleen Male	(CM)	Head of Quality Assurance & Performance
Steve McAlinden	(SM)	Further Education Representative (Shrewsbury College)
Ivan Powell	(IP)	Interim Independent Chair SSCB
Jason Wells	(JW)	West Mercia Police
Guy Williams	(GW)	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

Also in attendance

David Minnery	(DM)	Lead Member Children & Young People, Shropshire Council
Simon Langford	(SLa)	SSSFT (Representing Sharon Conlon)

Apologies

George Branch	(GB)	Community Rehabilitation Company
Donna Chapman	(DCh)	Learning & Development Lead, Shropshire Council
Sharon Conlon	(SC)	Safeguarding, Lead Adults & Children, SSSFT
Ellen Green	(EG)	Community Member
Linda Izquierdo	(LI)	Director of Nursing, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Dee Radford	(DR)	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust
Dr Jessica Sokolov	(JS)	Named Doctor, Shropshire CCG
Bev Tabernacle	(BT)	Director of Nursing, RJAH
Rod Thomson	(RT)	Director of Public Health

SSCB Business Unit

Lisa Charles	(LC)	Acting SSCB Business Manager
Corinne Chidley	(CC)	SSCB Training Officer (Apologies)

Sarah Chidlow (SCh) SSCB & Children's Trust Administrator (Minute Taker)
Bill Joyce (BJ) Interim Development Manager, SSCB

Item

1 Welcome and introduction

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 Round Table – Agency Update

SLa reported the SSSFT would be taking over the Emotional Wellbeing Service from CAMHS.

DC reported Linda Izquierdo had now left the CCG and Barbara Beal would be temporarily covering Linda's role, until a new appointment is in place.

JH reported Ellie Johnson, LAC Nurse had now left the position of LAC Nurse and Laura Caldecott had been appointed to cover the post in the interim.

CM informed the members that Children's Services are preparing for an Ofsted inspection to be undertaken by November 2017. The new Risk Assessment model (Martin Calder) is being introduced across Social Care, and will move through to Early Help, the training for this new model will start in July 2017. The model will be outcome focussed. CM agreed to update on progress at the next SSCB meeting in July 2017.

NB reported West Felton Primary School had an Ofsted inspection last week and it was concluded that the Governors training did not include any safeguarding training.

KL informed the members that there had been a number of primary head teachers who have raised the same issue around no safeguarding training for the Governors; therefore, the issue was fed back to Chris Matthews in regards to that.

The Chair offered to speak to the primary school representatives outside of the general SSCB meeting, in regards to the Governor safeguarding training.

JW reported there had been no change around the structure within West Mercia police for Shropshire. The NSPCC have reported there was a 38% rise in CSE in West Mercia and 77% increase in Warwickshire.

The National Crime Agency have identified a drug distribution model known as County Lines, whereby urban gangs travel to smaller locations and target local properties to sell drugs. 80% of forces who are reporting it also see sexual exploitation of children. The current challenge for West Mercia are groups from Merseyside travelling to Shrewsbury and Oswestry to sell drugs, but so far there have been no identified CSE risk for these young people presenting in Shropshire.

KBa mentioned there are anti-social behaviour crimes in North Shrewsbury, with some suggestion of County Lines taking place, due to the young people accessing drugs from out of county. KBa asked if there

Actions

are any multi-agency strategy groups that the Youth Justice Service could be involved in.

The Chair mentioned there had been investment in the dedicated CSE teams in West Mercia and Warwickshire and that Telford and Shropshire now have separate CSE policing teams.

3 Minutes and matters arising from SSCB Board Meeting held on 15 December 2016

The Chair mentioned he checks the draft minutes, but suggested the individual agencies read them and email any amendments to the minutes prior to the next meeting in order that more time can be spent on the priority areas on the agenda

SM mentioned he attended the SSCB briefing on the CSE strategy on Tuesday and found the training to be excellent. SM congratulated the SSCB Training team on a brilliant job and commented the new assessments are very good.

Board Members agreed the minutes from 15 December 2016 as a correct record of the meeting.

Action Log

A117 – 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.

The board members agreed for the action to be closed due to John Doyle, Analyst, looking at all of the domestic abuse data across adults and children with a view to producing performance reports across the different boards.

Actions on Minutes

Action: BJ asked Board members to email any comments on the scorecard to him.

Action: BJ to send the most updated CSE scorecard based on the strategy to Board members for comments (positive or negative) to be returned by 20th April 2017.

Bill Joyce

Action: CSE sub group to consider how best to support parents, and also how to reflect the role of NPS/CRC/YJS in preventing reoffending (including on the scorecard).

This action has been completed and therefore was agreed to be closed.

Action: Working with the task and finish group, DCh and BJ to revise the neglect strategy in the light of SSCB discussion and develop an action plan and scorecard, for agreement at the Executive in February.

BJ confirmed that this action had been completed. DCh and BJ met to ensure all practitioners understand about identifying neglect. It was suggested and agreed that the Executive Group oversee the Neglect Action Plan.

Action: Education Assurance Report to address the queries raised by the data regarding exclusions reported by QAP to SSCB in December 2016.

BJ reported Jane Parsons presented the Education Assurance report to the Executive Group. The permanent exclusions in Shropshire have

increased with 31 exclusions this year, but they hold pupil planning meetings which devise access plans for every child who has been excluded, to ensure positive outcomes for every young person. There may have been an increase in exclusions from the academy schools. Fixed term exclusions are high in young people subject to child protection plans or CIN plans, which will be an issue for the local authority, SSCB and the schools.

Action: KB to address the issue around the fixed term exclusions with Chris Kerry, Education Access Manager and if the data can be broken down into particular cohorts of young people.

**Karen
Bradshaw**

The board members stated the data is out there about the exclusions, which includes LAC exclusions. KL mentioned the exclusion form does not ask if the young person is subject to a child protection plan or CIN.

SL asked if the board could produce a glossary of terms / acronyms, as he was unsure what some of the acronyms meant.

Board members agreed to further develop the glossary of terms / acronyms which is available on the SSCB website

Action: LC to circulate the current glossary to all board members to add any of their acronyms.

Lisa Charles

Action: The Constitution to be sent to members for signing with the minutes.

SCh confirmed that only a couple had not returned the signed constitution and would be chasing them up.

**Sarah
Chidlow**

Action: BJ to reword the terminology for the SSCB focus for childhood neglect.

BJ confirmed this action had been completed.

4 Minutes from the Executive Subgroup meetings held on 23 February 2017 (for information)

The SSCB Exec minutes from the meeting held on 23 February 2017 were noted.

The Chair explained the Executive Report (agenda item 8) would highlight any issues, which the Board members need to be sighted on.

5 Quality Assurance & Performance report – Multi-Agency Emotional Wellbeing Audit & Quarterly Dashboard

DC presented the quarterly dashboard. Charts 1 & 2 are relating to the referrals to social care. In December 2016, there was an increase of referrals to Early Help but a decrease to social care. Children on a second plan is still a challenge but there are only 4 children on a plan for over 2 years.

Board members discussed the dashboard and was mentioned the information on the dashboard is all social care, it was agreed that other agency data also needs to be looked at. The number of referrals into social care had reduced last year, but they are doing more assessments, with

98% of referrals going to assessments. It was positive that all the referrals taken through Compass are appropriate.

SM questioned the move of some Early Help social workers to social care and how that affects the increase of referrals to Early Help.

CM responded by mentioning the Early Help social workers do not lead on Early Help, their role is to make contact with the families to gain consent to go further with the referrals, therefore the Local Authority reviewed the roles of the Early Help social workers. It was agreed the Early Help social workers are to support professionals, which was a statutory requirement in 'Working Together'.

DC reported the Board requested for a few members to observe review child protection conferences after the recent SCR. There had been 2 review child protection conferences observed. The Executive Group decided to close the action around observing the review child protection conferences, as they did not feel the action delivered what it was intended to. Monitoring the effectiveness of core group working continues through multi-agency audits.

Emotional Wellbeing Audit

DC gave an overview of the last multi-agency audit, which was around the effectiveness of multi-agency working in regards to promoting and addressing the emotional wellbeing of young people who have attempted suicide. The audit was focussed around the children who had contact with CAMHS and therefore the cases were selected from the information CAMHS had provided. The findings were as follows:

- The multi-agency working was very positive.
- There was good attendance at the Early Help meetings.
- The schools were noted to have positively worked with the young people.
- There was good use of tools and assessments by all agencies.

The challenges were:

- around accessing the targeted support for the young people
- families involved with drugs and alcohol were not referred to the drug and alcohol services
- not all agencies were sharing information.

The recommendations are:

- Practitioners who are referring cases for specific Targeted Early Help support should consider other services that can meet the needs of the child in the interim, whilst awaiting for the case to be allocated.
- Enhance to provide a breakdown of data to QAP regarding waiting times for their service from point of referral to allocation of a worker, alongside percentage of engagement once a case is allocated.
- Consideration to be given to a protocol for sharing discharge notifications with school designated safeguarding leads, in a proportionate way, following A&E attendance with self-harm/suicidal ideation.
- All safety plans for young people must be shared with multi-agency partners who have a role in safeguarding the child to ensure that all professionals are aware of and are supporting the plan. This is in accordance with the SSCB Self-harm and Suicide Prevention

Care Pathways and should involve a co-ordinated Early Help response.

- To raise awareness of the young person's screening tool for substance misuse, Substance Misuse and Risk Taking Early Referral (SMARTER), in particular the need to complete for any young person where substance misuse is identified as a risk factor through the use of other assessment tools, even if this is does not appear to be the predominant risk.

The board members discussed the audit and mentioned some of the recommendations are learning rather than actions. Members suggested sharing the outcome from the audit with the commissioners, so they are aware of the issues. SM mentioned colleges do not have school nurses for them to share the information. The information the school nurses have is not their information to share and the information the school nurses receive can be delayed. There have been issues raised around key agencies not being present at core groups and therefore are the agencies able to work together effectively to safeguard the child. Members agreed it was important that key agencies attend the core group meetings.

BJ mentioned there had been a peer review on the 2015/16 Section 11 Audit returns. Some agencies had actions, which need completing.

Action: BJ to circulate out the common findings from the Section 11 peer review and for all feedback, including no action required if applicable, to be returned by 28 April 2017.

Bill Joyce

6 Case Review commissioned through Learning & Improvement Sub Group

BJ reported the overview of events, analysis of the case and the conclusions/recommendations of the case. There was some very good practice, but not multi-agency working or sharing of information. Some of the decisions were decided quickly and not assessed.

DC mentioned the learning review was different to a SCR. There were many short-term plans for the young person, but there was a lack of joined up working, as the single agencies were aware of the plans but the plans were not shared. The case was very interesting but complex and agencies had not ascertained how the young person felt about going on home leave after the allegation was made.

The board members discussed the case review and suggested there was similarities between this case and the recent Walsall SCR but the outcomes were different. The Chair mentioned recommendation 5 – The Policy on Escalation of concerns to social care needs to be clearly available to services outside of Shropshire to allow robust raising of child safeguarding concerns and these concerns are dealt with in a timely manner. There was a discussion around the recent DHR and it was agreed to re-promote the same Escalation Policy.

BJ mentioned that SSCB had just re-launched the Escalation Policy in Shropshire, but needs promoting as a positive thing and not negative.

DC confirmed NHS England are also interested in the case.

Action: BJ to re-circulate the link to the Escalation Policy to the Board members to distribute within their agencies. Bill Joyce

SM mentioned that the colleges safeguarding policy does not reference the Escalation Policy and therefore the re-circulation of the policy would be useful to add to the colleges safeguarding policy.

7 Ofsted Preparation – LSCB Review & JTAI

LC reported the SSCB are preparing for Ofsted and included in the board papers are the CSE and Thresholds update briefings and the Ofsted briefing for information.

The members suggested listing the multi-agency audits and case reviews that have been undertaken by the SSCB, with a brief overview of the audits, including what has been done and what differences have been made for young people.

The next Ofsted notifications are 24 April and 1 May 2017.

LC informed the members that the next Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAs) are starting in May 2017, and the theme will be Neglect.

8 Report from Executive

BJ reported on the Executive Group, whereby the sub groups are focussing on the priorities of the SSCB, which are Domestic Abuse, CSE and Neglect.

Action: Re-circulate the Domestic Abuse Forum paper and Safer Stronger Communities Partnership Board report to the SSCB members. Bill Joyce

BJ informed the members that there are funding bids for violence against women and vulnerable people programmes in place from the CRC and West Mercia Police. The Executive Group agreed for a progress report to be presented to the Executive Group, in regards to the funding bids.

BJ informed the members that Sarah Chaloner from West Mercia Police is now chairing the Child Exploitation sub group.

The members discussed the CSE scorecard, and whether the information would need to go to the CE sub group.

Action: CE sub group to look at what data needs to go to Quality Assurance & Performance sub group from the CSE scorecard. Child Exploitation Sub Group

Action: Circulate the CSE Guidance for Practitioners to the SSCB members. Sarah Chidlow

Sub Group updates

BJ reported there have been 3 case considerations at the Learning and Improvement sub group, whereby only 1 was agreed to be a serious case review.

Maria White will be leaving the authority and therefore the Policy and Procedures Sub Group requires a chair for the group. The West Midlands Regional Procedures are due to be launched on 1st April 2017.

The Training Sub Group are working on next year's training schedule, which will include training focussed on the themes from the audits, performance data and the national and regional learning.

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) reported the number of child deaths in Shropshire as 18 for the period of 2016-17 and that there had been 3 suicides.

The Quality Assurance and Performance Sub Group also requires a new chair, due to David Coan stepping down in that role after 2 and half years. There is also a request for deputy chairs for all the sub groups.

KB nominated Siobhan Hughes, Service Manager for Quality Assurance to be the chair of the QAP sub group.

SM asked if there was any guidance for the Safeguarding Children Impact Assessment.

Action: BJ to circulate the guidance for the Safeguarding Children Impact Assessment.

Bill Joyce

BJ reported at the last Executive Group, there were assurance reports from Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC), Youth Justice Service, Education and Energize STW.

The members discussed the assurance reports and questioned whether the board are assured that the Shropshire FA has safeguarding in place. It was agreed that Shropshire FA undertakes DBS checks and all staff have to undertake mandatory safeguarding training.

LC mentioned that sports clubs of National Governing Bodies funded by Sport England are registered with Club Matters, an accreditation scheme which sets safeguarding standards for community clubs. Some national governing bodies brand this differently and FA Charter Mark is football's version of Club Matters.

CM suggested agencies are made aware of any issues another agency has with that agency, and are going to mention in their assurance reports prior to presenting at meetings, to enable the agencies to respond.

9 Effectiveness of meeting

KB suggested there is a challenge around the data sets, and the development of those.

Members agreed the report from the Executive Group was extremely helpful and the Board was informed on what they may need to keep an eye on. It was suggested that the data include the number of young people on a plan, not just in percentages.

Action: Dashboard to include the number of young people on a plan, as well as the percentages.

**QAP Sub
Group Steve
McAlinden /
Steve Lunt /**

Action: Schools and colleges to ensure the Escalation Policy is included in their safeguarding procedures.

10 Matters to raise with other partnerships

1. Safer Stronger Communities Partnership to link with the different funding bids for the violence against women and vulnerable people programmes.
2. Input into the All Age Mental Health around young people's mental health.

**Kerry Lynch /
Nicola Bond**

Ivan Powell

**Bill
Joyce/Lisa
Charles**

11 Any other business

TC mentioned the incident that took place in Westminster on Wednesday 22nd March 2017 and reiterated to remain vigilant.

JW also mentioned there would be more police visible on the streets of Shropshire.

SM suggested it would be helpful to share any information that might help to inform the Prevent action plan.

Action: JW to contact SM with the named person to contact in relation to further information to inform the Prevent action plan.

Jason Wells

The meeting concluded at 3.50pm