

Keeping our children safe from harm

Present

Safeguarding Children Board Members

Keith Barham	(KBa)	Youth Offending Service
Karen Bradshaw	(KB)	Director of Children's Services, Shropshire Council
David Coan	(DC)	Designated Nurse, Shropshire Clinical Commissioning Group
Sharon Conlon	(SC)	Safeguarding, Lead Adults & Children, SSSFT
David Cookson	(DCo)	National Probation Service
Julie Harris	(JH)	Named Nurse for Safeguarding, Shropshire Community Health Trust
Steve Lunt	(SL)	Secondary Head Teacher Representative
Colleen Male	(CM)	Head of Quality Assurance & Performance
Steve McAlinden	(SM)	Further Education Representative (Shrewsbury College Group)
Ivan Powell	(IP)	Interim Independent Chair SSCB
Dee Radford	(DR)	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust
Jason Wells	(JW)	West Mercia Police
Kerry Williams	(KW)	Shropshire Youth Association

Also in attendance

Nick Bardsley	(NB)	Lead Member Children & Young People, Shropshire Council
Francean Doyle	(FD)	Head of Early Help, Commissioning & Partnership
Andrew Gough	(AG)	Safer Communities
Siobhan Hughes	(SH)	Service Manager, Quality Assurance & Performance
Suzanne Marsden	(SMa)	Robert Jones Agnes Hunt Hospital
Clive Wright	(CW)	Chief Executive, Shropshire Council

Apologies

Martin Banks	(MB)	CAFCASS
Nicola Bond	(NB)	Primary Head Teacher Representative
George Branch	(GB)	Community Rehabilitation Company
Tom Currie	(TC)	National Probation Service
Ellen Green	(EG)	Community Member
Kerry Lynch	(KL)	Primary Head Teacher Representative
Dr Jessica Sokolov	(JS)	Named Doctor, Shropshire CCG
Bev Tabernacle	(BT)	Director of Nursing, RJAH
Rod Thomson	(RT)	Director of Public Health
Guy Williams	(GW)	Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

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

Actions

Item

1 **Welcome and introduction**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2 **Round Table – Agency Update**

Dco reported Tom Currie will be retiring at the end of August and Jackie Stevenson would be replacing him.

DC reported Dawn Clarke has started at Shropshire CCG as the new Director of Nursing, replacing Linda Izquierdo.

JH reported Shropshire Community Health Trust are moving towards electronic patient records. Tiffany Forester has been appointed the new LAC nurse and they will be interviewing for a LAC administrator shortly. Shropshire Community Health are starting to set up a database for all LAC children in Shropshire, including those children placed in Shropshire by other Local Authorities.

DR reported the new Director of Nursing at Shrewsbury & Telford Hospitals would be Deirdre Fellma.

SL reported safeguarding would be added as a standard agenda item on school meeting agendas.

SC reported the 0-25 Emotional Health & Wellbeing Service is now being provided by SSSFT.

CW introduced Nick Bardsley as the new portfolio holder for Children & Young People.

3 **Minutes and matters arising from SSCB Board Meeting held on 23 March 2017**

Board Members agreed the minutes from 23 March 2017 as a correct record of the meeting.

Action Log

No current actions open.

Actions on Minutes

The SSCB members agreed for all the actions to be closed, due to them being completed.

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.

BJ confirmed there was a meeting with Sarah Chaloner about the dataset and quarter 1 data should be received by the end of July 2017.

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.

Work continues to be undertaken with schools and other settings to address fixed term exclusions and to prevent escalation to permanent exclusions. This included structured pupil planning meetings, commissioning Woodlands Outreach services and advocating for vulnerable children and young people when necessary.

The EAS is aware of children who are on a CP Plan; notifications are sent by social care and entered onto the ONE system. However, it is not possible to enter details of all children on CIN plans or who are accessing Early Help in order to report on cohorts. This is because the ONE database and Carefirst do not 'talk' to each other and the constant fluctuation of children on CIN and accessing EH. However, EAS does have access to view the details of cases held on Carefirst, which means that children on CIN plans and EH are known on an individual basis for safeguarding purposes. It is possible to provide a report on cohorts including vulnerable groups, key stages, age, gender, ethnicity, CLA etc.

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

The glossary was circulated with the minutes and any acronyms to be returned by 31st May 2017.

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

All members have returned the signed Constitution except for one. The chair reported that this is the CCG and for the particular reason that they were concerned about the clause regarding SSCB seeking additional in year funding should the need arise, most likely in respect of a need for additional SCR funding. The chair has agreed with the CCG that this should not hold up the signing of the constitution. This has been taken forward by the DAS as part of the ongoing discussions regarding the revised structure and business support to KASiSB and SSCB.

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.

BJ confirmed feedback was received and shared with the QA&P sub group.

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

The Chair explained there was a discussion at the Executive meeting around some professionals being concerned that their use of the escalation process would be received negatively by partners. The chair explained that this should not be the case as the escalation procedures are straight forwards and a constructive way in which to enable challenge between partners to ensure better outcomes for children. CM reported that the process is not bureaucratic and can often be simply by means of a

phone call between supervisors or managers. The importance of using the escalation process was a finding in the recent DHR.

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

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

The Chair explained he had met with Siobhan Hughes to review and revise all of the datasets, including CSE.

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

The guidance was circulated with the minutes.

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

The guidance was circulated to members.

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

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

SM and SL confirmed Shrewsbury Colleges and the secondary schools have ensured the Escalation Policy was included in their safeguarding procedures.

Safer Stronger Communities Partnership to link with the different funding bids for the violence against women and vulnerable people programmes.

The Chair confirmed there had been 2 bids, one from Shropshire CSP and the CRC to the Home Office Violence Against Women and Girls fund in respect of the voluntary perpetrators programme, and one to the policing innovation fund from the police and OPCC in respect of vulnerable and elderly victims of domestic abuse both of which were unsuccessful. AG has arranged for a meeting to take place on 8 August 2017, to discuss going forward.

Input into the All Age Mental Health around young people's mental health.
BJ attended the meeting around All Age Mental Health.

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

SM confirmed he now has the named person to contact in relation to Prevent action plan.

4 Minutes from the Executive Subgroup meetings held on 26 April 2017 (for information)

The SSCB Exec minutes from the meeting held on 26 April 2017 were noted for information only.

5 Revised Vulnerability Strategy

JW reported the police have been revising the vulnerability strategy. The strategy was implemented in January 2017, due to the inspection in 2016. The strategy is holistic approach across similar themes. The key messages are:

- Promoting professional curiosity, whereby all officers watch a 15-minute DVD, but it is still waiting to be delivered in Shropshire.
- Crime – violent crime, domestic abuse reporting and CSE markers. CSE and vulnerable adult referrals have gone up.
- The hot weather has resulted in more calls in 7 days than on New Year's Eve.
- There are challenges with regards to the police data recording.
- In June-August 2016, investigations model was going to change, with no specialist departments due to merger with CID but never came into effect in Shropshire or Telford.
- There will be further changes to come into effect from April 2018, due to the police force needing to find savings.

JW informed the board members that he would like to consult on the changes within the police force.

The Chair reported that during recent change programmes the police had tended to implement change then report those changes to partners. With the possibility of moving specialist protecting vulnerable people detectives into the general CID the chair requested better engagement and consultation with partner agencies, and completion of the child impact assessment in respect of child protection specialist staff.

The board members requested they see the impact assessment first before the changes are implemented. The members also asked that the police understand and ensure that the changes do not put the children, young people, and their families at risk. The police officers need to be interested and motivated in what they do, to ensure children and young people are kept safe. The members agreed the most important thing is for the police to continue the multi-agency working.

CM mentioned when working in another authority and there was a single investigation team in the police, there were challenges around capacity within the police to support Children's Services, for example, when there was a murder, are they still going to be able to continue to resource the team. One of the strengths for Shropshire is the joint working with police at all levels. Police attend multi-agency meetings, and therefore how will the changes affect police attendance at those meetings.

CW mentioned it was good that the police are engaging with agencies on these changes but asked what does the integration look like for the future and the board needs to understand the roles in the integration?

JW reported there would be challenges around the changes, but the board is engaged. JW suggested the Chair write to the police, on behalf of the board, in regards to their concerns around the changes.

The Chair stated there are 5 safeguarding boards within the West Mercia and Warwickshire policing area. The Chair agreed to discuss the changes with the other 4 chairs with a view to securing a collective view and then to, would write to the police.

JW responded once he has further information, he would share with the board members. The police are looking for the recommendations to be in place by October 2017. The challenges for West Mercia will be the blue print; however, JW confirmed he could make some adjustments to the changes locally.

Action: The Chair to consult with other to West Mercia Independent Chairs and to write to West Mercia Police with the challenges on behalf of the LSCBs, with a draft letter being circulated for comment before sending.

**Ivan Powell
(A119)**

6 Quality Assurance & Performance report – Multi-Agency Domestic Abuse Audit & Quarterly Dashboard

SH reported the dashboard shows a decrease in the number of referrals to Social Care but an increase to Early Help. Most of the referrals to Social Care result in Section 47s. The child protection plans in Shropshire are lower than the national average. Neglect is the highest category in Shropshire, with other agencies the highest referrers and police the second highest referrers. It remains a challenge to gather domestic abuse data, most of the data came from the police. 48 children and young people experienced domestic abuse 3 times or more.

In regards, to the domestic abuse audit, there was good practice and information sharing from agencies, even though agencies were not aware of SWAN meetings, which maternity services organise for the most vulnerable clients. There was good timeliness around accessing the Freedom programme, good attendance from health at the strategy meetings, good examples of MAPPA information and good general information sharing. There were 12 recommendations, also individual recommendations for agencies. The main recommendations are:

- Domestic Abuse Court to be considered for Shropshire.
- Board to monitor progress of the development of a perpetrator programme.
- MARAC meetings are minuted and those minutes are distributed to partner agencies.
- All agencies to ensure they have signed up to ECINS.

AG confirmed there was a Domestic Abuse court in Shropshire but the sessions were on a specific day. TC took an action to discuss further with the courts.

The members asked whether the information of children victim to domestic abuse, are living in the household with domestic abuse between parents/carers and are children actual victims of the assaults. The Shrewsbury Colleges are undertaking work with students around consent and relationships. The data between children and adults needs to be triangulated and ensure children who are being treated for substance misuse are being supported through early help.

7

Update on Revised Shropshire Domestic Abuse Strategy

AG reported the Domestic Abuse Strategy to be finalised by the end of 2017. There is a working group in place revising the strategy. The first draft was presented to the CSP Board and is due to be presented to the Adult Safeguarding Board and HWBB.

Action: Any comments on the Domestic Abuse Strategy to Andrew Gough or LC.

AG confirmed work is still ongoing until September 2017, when the final draft will be going to the Domestic Abuse Forum before being circulated for consultation.

KB mentioned about action 6 – Improved links to other areas of safeguarding, improved risk mitigation, and needs led interventions for victims, children and perpetrators, supported by commissioning frameworks. No owners have been identified in the plan for voluntary perpetrator programme. KB suggested escalating to board members to fund a voluntary perpetrator programme, due to it not being acceptable to rely on funding from PCC. Board members however, would want to know how much the programme would cost.

AG clarified the bids were not successful from the PCC and CRC, which also included Telford & Wrekin and Herefordshire, therefore, another meeting has been arranged for 8th August 2017, to discuss how to move forward in regards to perpetrator programmes. Worcestershire, however are looking at a different programme.

CW stated the gap needs to be filled and assuming on 8th August, there would be finance to fund the programme, asked what resources partners could bring to make it happen. CW mentioned he would be happy to discuss with the Chief Executives in Telford and Herefordshire around a joint approach to funding a programme.

The Chair suggested a conversation with Telford & Wrekin and Herefordshire Independent Chairs, to discuss a joint approach to funding a voluntary perpetrator programme.

AG mentioned the PCC would be attending the meeting on 8th August.

Action: The Chair to contact Telford & Wrekin and Herefordshire Independent Chairs to discuss a joint approach to funding a voluntary perpetrator programme.

The board members asked for clarity on the strategy/action plan, they were not sure if the plan sets out what Shropshire is doing, in regards, to domestic abuse for children and young people. What about the impact of domestic abuse on children and the limited support for children who have been exposed to domestic abuse.

AG reported there was a big discussion at the mental health meeting, and the meeting suggested maybe the Emotional Mental Health 0-25 should deal with the prevention of mental health in adults with exposure to domestic abuse as children but where it should sit in regards to the strategy.

**Board
Members
(A120)**

**Ivan Powell
(A121)**

The Chair asked whether the right people attending the domestic abuse strategy meetings are informing on the child perspective.

Action: AG to identify the scheduled Domestic Abuse Working Group meetings and circulate to Children's Social Care, Early Help and Children's Centres to attend by 21 July 2017.

Andrew Gough (A122)

8 Draft Annual Report 2016-17

LC reported the draft annual report would be circulated to board members shortly for comments, to be signed off early September 2017, before the Ofsted inspection.

KB clarified that Shropshire will be having an Ofsted inspection before Christmas, and will be looking at the SSCB.

9 Report from Executive Sub Group

BJ reported on Executive Group and the board priorities.

Domestic Abuse

The previous Domestic Abuse Forum assurance report referenced:

- Children and Young People/Vulnerable Victims Caseworkers – work with children from 4 years old and over. They do not work with children exposed to domestic abuse or sexual assault. The service works with parents on how to support their children.
- Children and Young People ISVA – This service works with children 11 years plus who have experienced domestic abuse.
- Domestic Violence Support Worker for children and young people – CRUSH for young people 13 years or over and the helping hands programme for primary school children.

BJ asked does the board need a clearer picture on what services children are receiving, who have been exposed to domestic abuse.

Child Sexual Exploitation

- The CSE Panel terms of reference has been revised, and have moved to a more strategic focus by looking at locations/names of perpetrators to support disruption.
- Return interviews take place for Shropshire children, but they are not responsible to undertake return interviews for OLAC.
- Audit around return interviews report from Children's Social Care will be presented to a future CSE sub group.
- The Schools Safeguarding Group will be looking at using 'Kayeigh's Love Story' with certain groups.

Neglect

- The Neglect Strategy is now on the website.
- Training on GCP2 has taken place, further training dates are planned up to December 2017. GCP2 tool to help professionals to identify Neglect.
- The step-up/step-down process has been revised. Child protection cases are step down to CIN and not to Early Help.

The sub groups reported the following to the Executive Group:

- The Learning & Improvement sub group presented the Root Cause Analysis report in regards to case CW.

- The L&I sub group are awaiting the final report in regards to the SCR on an unaccompanied asylum seeker.
- The L&I sub group decided that another case did not meet the criteria for an SCR, however Health are carrying out a Root Cause Analysis, (RCA) with report due around July 2017.

JH clarified the RCA had gone to the coroner's court.

BJ continued to report on the sub groups:

- The regional procedures have gone live and the regional group are updating procedures on 'Children who Abuse Others'.
- The briefing sessions have been set up to update and inform agencies about the new procedures.
- The data from CDOP will go to the Department of Health.
- No deaths were reported in Shropshire from April 2017.
- There will be a full CDOP annual report scheduled to be presented to the Executive Group.

The following reports were presented to the Executive Group:

- Assessment of the Response of Substance Misuse Services to Domestic Abuse
- Briefing report regarding children and young people Looked After and placed by others in Shropshire
- Student LSCB
- Family Drug and Alcohol Courts (FDAC)

The board members discussed the reports. JW informed that there has been a real success in reducing the missing episodes, due to the Care Home Team being in place. The Student LSCB has struggled to recruit students from across Shropshire, therefore, SM asked the Executive Group to agree to seek Health and Social Care students from the Shrewsbury Colleges Group. From September 2017, the students are due to meet fortnightly.

BJ mentioned work for the board to look at is:

- Does the board need a clearer picture of children exposed to domestic abuse
- Further work around OLAC placed in Shropshire.

The board members require understanding that Safe Lives called Insight would identify gaps. There are gaps in providing support to children and young people experienced or exposed to domestic abuse but what is the impact on their mental health. In regards to peer on peer, it was agreed that schools manage the risks of peer on peer within the school. The youth justice service mentioned they also deliver the CRUSH programme.

The Chair mentioned the board would like to know the gaps, however, given Insight are coming to Shropshire, this would appear to present an opportunity to improve our understanding of service provision gaps locally.

Action: The Chair to speak to AG about the CAADA programme.

**Ivan Powell
(A123)**

NB suggested running a publicity programme on domestic abuse, like the SSSS campaign last year.

The board members suggested that there is a white ribbon campaign in November 2017, which Shropshire could link their publicity programme to, including messages to identify the risks of domestic abuse. In regards to the return home interviews, Shropshire young people return interviews take place within 72 hours of them returning. A bid for PCC funding has been approved for submission from the CSP for a post to undertake the return interviews for missing OLAC.

10 Review of Board structure and business support

BJ reported due to the impact of the Wood Review, there has been a review undertaken on both the Children's and Adult Safeguarding Boards, and the principles are:

- Retain an independence stance
- Challenge selves and each other
- Scrutiny

The safeguarding boards is not just the board meetings but participate fully in the wider safeguarding board work, for example: sub groups, audits, case reviews and multi-agency safeguarding practice.

The structure for the new board will be as follows:

- Statutory partners, which will comprise of the key partners of health, police and Local Authority, who will meet 4 times a year, twice of which will be at the full board meeting.
- The full board including the broader partnership, will meet twice a year.
- The Executive Groups do the work, for example, the action plans.
- Some of the sub groups could be joined together but ensure what works best in Shropshire.

The structure for the new board business support unit will be as follows:

- Safeguarding Boards Business Manager
- 2 Safeguarding Boards Development Officers, one for SSCB and the other for KASiSB
- 2 Safeguarding Boards Administrators, one for SSCB and the other for KASiSB
- The discussions around financial contributions are still ongoing and the adult board has a shortfall of £85,000.

The board members asked where the Multi-Agency Training sits within the new structure. The training within both boards are to remain the same. In regards to the shortfall, they are looking for adults to fund the gap. SC suggested going back to the start and re-calculating what each agency should contribute. SM mentioned the colleges roughly know how much they should be contributing each year, and commented on the quality of the training, which the board provides.

11 Development Day

BJ reported both boards are looking at holding a joint development day in September 2017, to look at the following key areas:

- Board structure

- Effectiveness of the board
- Board priorities

CM suggested a gap is required between the development day and the board meeting on 11th October 2017, to allow discussion at the board meeting.

12 Effectiveness of meeting:

The Chair explained there is work ongoing to improve the detail of the dataset to inform the work of the Quality Assurance and Performance sub group and the understanding of performance for the Board members.

The members raised concerns around the last Executive Group meeting taking place a few days prior to the board meeting and not being summarised at the meeting.

SC raised the issue of meetings being back to back and the some of the agenda items being discussed are the same at both board meetings.

13 Matters to raise with other partnerships

The domestic abuse issues to be raised with Community Safer Partnership.

14 Any other business

DC raised the issue of not being able to see attachments embedded into a PDF document, and therefore it was agreed all embedded documents be attached to the paperwork.

The meeting concluded at 3.50pm