

Keeping our children safe from harm

**Present**

**Safeguarding Children Board Members**

Nicki Bellinger	(NB)	Robert Jones Agnes Hunt Hospital
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)	Deputy Head, National Probation Service
Julie Harris	(JH)	Named Nurse for Safeguarding, Shropshire Community Health Trust
Marilyn Hunt	(MH)	Primary Head Teacher Representative
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 Group)
Ivan Powell	(IP)	Interim Independent Chair SSCB
Dee Radford	(DR)	Shrewsbury & Telford Hospital NHS Trust
Jason Wells	(JW)	West Mercia Police
Guy Williams	(GW)	Group Manager Prevention & Protection, Shropshire Fire & Rescue Service

**Also in attendance**

Nick Bardsley	(NBa)	Lead Member Children & Young People, Shropshire Council
Siobhan Hughes	(SH)	Service Manager, Quality Assurance & Performance
Angela Parton	(AP)	Voluntary Sector Representative, YSS
Audrey Scott-Ryan	(ASR)	Designated Nurse / Chair of CDOP

**Apologies**

Keith Barham	(KBa)	Youth Offending Service
Phil Beaumont	(PB)	Service Manager, CAFCASS
George Branch	(GB)	Community Rehabilitation Company
Dawn Clarke	(DCI)	Executive Director of Nursing, Shropshire CCG
Ellen Green	(EG)	Community Member
Dr Jessica Sokolov	(JS)	Named Doctor, Shropshire CCG
Bev Tabernacle	(BT)	Director of Nursing, RJAH
Rod Thomson	(RT)	Director of Public Health
Kerry Williams	(KW)	Voluntary Sector Representative, Shropshire Youth Association

Clive Wright (CW) Chief Executive, Shropshire Council

### **SSCB Business Unit**

Lisa Charles (LC) Acting SSCB Business Manager

Corinne Chidley (CC) SSCB Training Officer

Sarah Chidlow (SCh) SSCB & Children's Trust Administrator (Minute Taker)

### **Actions**

#### **Item**

#### **1 Welcome and introduction**

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

#### **2 Round Table – Agency Update**

The Chair thanked everyone who engaged with Ofsted during the recent inspection. The draft report will be received on 3 November 2017, then the Local Authority have until 10<sup>th</sup> November 2017 to return the report with any comments, concerning factual accuracy. The final report will be published on 24<sup>th</sup> November 2017.

DCo reported Jackie Stevenson has now replaced Tom Currie, and that DCo would be attending meetings in Shropshire on behalf of the National Probation Service.

DC confirmed the launch of the new GP forms.

SC informed the board that she would be on a secondment from November 2017 for 6 months, and therefore Claire Histed will be covering her role during that time. They are discussing whether SC will retain responsibility for attendance at safeguarding boards.

JW reported West Mercia Police have introduced a new IT framework and the discussions on the changes within the police force are still ongoing.

KB echoed The Chair's comments in regards to Ofsted.

#### **3 Minutes and matters arising from SSCB Board Meeting held on 13 July 2017**

The Chair reported he had spoken to Paul Cooper and Andrew Gough about the Domestic Abuse Strategy and whether there was a need to have a linked strategic governance group. SSCB QAP and CSP have been working on a common DA dataset as well as ensuring that there is no duplication of effort, and securing agreement on which board would be taking on which actions. The DA strategy discussions have included the subject of specialist domestic violence courts, as revealed in the recent multi-agency Domestic Abuse audit and similarly revealed the recording of MARAC minutes.

The Chair asked members if they were happy with the Peer on Peer Abuse policy and procedures.

The board members were advised the updated Children who abuse others policy will soon be available on the West Midlands Safeguarding Procedures. Schools confirmed they are tight on monitoring peer on peer

abuse; however, work is still required in colleges around this. It was suggested having a holistic view around peer on peer abuse. The Schools Safeguarding Group sent the recent safeguarding policy to all schools, which does include a section on peer on peer abuse. It was also suggested that child sexual exploitation is also joined up with the peer on peer abuse.

The Chair mentioned there was a discussion at the last board meeting around the White Ribbon campaign, and therefore are we any further on in regards to Shropshire linking in with their publicity programme.

**Action: JW to clarify any communications campaigns planned by CSP for the White Ribbon Campaign.**

**Jason Wells  
(A124)**

Board Members agreed the minutes from 13 July 2017 as a correct record of the meeting.

#### **Action Log**

The Chair reported on the actions and it was agreed to close the following actions, due to them being completed:

*A120 – Any comments on the Domestic Abuse Strategy to Andrew Gough or Lisa Charles.*

*A121 – The Chair to contact Telford & Wrekin and Herefordshire Independent Chairs to discuss a joint approach to funding a voluntary perpetrator programme.*

*A122 – Andrew Gough 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.*

*A123 – The Chair to speak to Andrew Gough about the CAADA programme.*

In regards to, A119 – *The Chair to consult with other 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*, JW agreed he might have some flexibility once the template around the changes has been shared.

The Chair mentioned Shropshire now has a pilot voluntary perpetrator programme, which will be delivered by CRC and the first one is due to take place in November 2017. They are taking referrals now for the first programme in November.

**Action: SSCB Administrator to circulate the voluntary perpetrator programme referral form and leaflet to board members with the minutes.**

**Sarah  
Chidlow  
(A125)**

#### **4 Minutes from the Executive Subgroup meetings held on 11 July 2017 (for information)**

The SSCB Exec minutes from the meeting held on 11 July 2017 were noted for information only.

The Chair advised the board members to read the Executive sub group minutes.

**5 SSCB Training Report 2016-17**

CC reported the training report contains a lot of information. The training sessions have been well attended from agencies, but the only agency not represented on the multi-agency training is the police. The only missing recommendations from the report are:

- Adult joint training to launch Domestic Abuse workforce training at the same time as the Domestic Abuse Strategy.
- The SSCB biannual conference is due to take place next autumn, however the board would need to make a decision on the theme of the conference by April 2018.

**Action: JW to discuss police attendance at multi-agency training with CC before the next SSCB meeting in January 2018.**

**Jason Wells  
(A126)**

The Chair asked if we are able to report on who is accessing the Home Office / Department of Health training online.

Members suggested agencies feedback in the section 11 audit around training. SM mentioned that the college received a request from the SSCB Training Administrator, asking what training staff had undertaken, and therefore could put down all Home Office training as well.

The Chair asked if the right level of professionals are attending the training in their organisation. 139 professionals have been trained in GCP2, but are these the right people in each organisation to use the tool.

CC mentioned there has been a high returns rate of the impact evaluations, in which some have commented the training has made a difference.

CM suggested drilling down in depth on training in the Section 11 audit and to note any gaps in training. LC reported the questions on the Section 11 audit are generic, due to the Section 11 being used across the West Midlands. If it is decided that there needs to be a more in depth evaluation of training, then that would need to be undertaken separately through a Training Needs Analysis. CM suggested the new business manager pick the training issues up when in post.

**Action: The Chair and the Business Unit to discuss on how to undertake an in depth evaluation on agency training.**

**Ivan Powell  
(A127)**

KL mentioned the schools safeguarding lead information asks who the Designated Safeguarding Lead is and when their last safeguarding training was. KL suggested it would not be a problem to add another box at the bottom of that information asking about other training undertaken and the impact of that training.

AP mentioned the voluntary sector had not been asked to complete a Section 11 audit from Shropshire, but has from other local authorities.

The Chair mentioned the development day in December 2017 will look at the priorities of the board and therefore the decision on the conference theme for next year, whether that be 1, 2 or 3 of the priorities, should be decided afterwards. The Chair commented that Ofsted provided positive feedback concerning the clarity of the business plans.

SM asked if the evaluations had improved because that was an issue raised last year.

CC replied the evaluations have improved, due to the discussions and recommendations made last year around the evaluations.

## 6 **CDOP Annual Report**

ASR mentioned the CDOP Annual Report would be presented at the next board meeting in January 2018. There has been a rise in deaths in Shropshire, including unexpected deaths. There has been over 10 child deaths since April 2017. ASR mentioned she had returned comments, in regards to the changes in the Wood Review around where CDOP reports. The database will be held with Department of Health and not the Department of Education.

Ofsted were pleased with CDOP, but CDOP will be relooking at the Suicide Strategy, Safer Sleep workshops, vitamin D, smoking in pregnancy and looking at the safety of flats in Telford after the Grenfell Tower fire.

GW asked whether the fire service are supporting in regards to the safety assessments of the flats in Telford.

ASR confirmed the fire service representative on the Community Safety Partnership would be picking it up.

**Action: ASR to send the information of the Fire Service representative to SSCB Administrator for GW.**

**Audrey Scott-Ryan (A128)**

KB asked about the co-sleeping and whether the safer sleep training is for all agencies.

ASR confirmed all staff are trained in safer sleep, and there is an annual multi-agency training workshop for agencies to attend.

JH clarified the health visitors always discuss safer sleep with parents.

ASR reported there is up to date information on the website about safer sleep, as well as the national information including sleep pods.

ASR mentioned the maternity review is still ongoing.

The Chair stated the Wood Review does not mention about having police representation at the CDOP meetings.

ASR confirmed police do attend the CDOP meetings in Shropshire and their contribution is invaluable. The Wood Review did suggest panels should be bigger.

JW reiterated if the police representation at CDOP is seen as valuable contributor, then the police could still be a member.

## 7 Quality Assurance & Performance report – Multi-Agency Neglect Audit, Quarterly Dashboard & Section 11 Audit

SH summarised the dashboard.

- There have been a lower number of referrals to social care in Q1, 1.4% of which did not go for assessment.
- Low re-referral rates to children's social care continue which suggests that the right help is being delivered to families at the right time.
- Cumulatively 92% of Child and Family Assessments are completed within the 45 days compared to 37% in June 2016.
- There has been a drop in the number of children, which are subject to child protection plans over the past year, and Chart 9 – Number Starting and Ceasing CPPs has seen a decrease of children starting child protection plans and ceasing child protection plans over the last year. Chart 10 shows that the number of children on child protection plans last 2 years or more has decreased and the number of children starting child protection plans with 2nd or subsequent plans has decreased from last year.
- A recent audit by children's services has shown that the majority of children who are subject to a 2nd or subsequent child protection plan have suffered neglect.
- There is an increase in children who have witnessed domestic abuse over the past year, which will need to be explored further.
- There is a downward trend in the number of young people accessing substance misuse services both locally and nationally and there has been a notable reduction in young people utilising heroin.
- The number of children missing in education has reduced from 87 to 37 in the past year.

The dataset is under revision, due to the dataset focusing a lot on Children's Social Care.

### Neglect Data

- Currently 48% of children subject to child protection plans are under the category of neglect, in comparison to 45% nationally and 41% regionally. This is reduction of 9% from last year; however, we have also seen an increase of children under the category of emotional abuse from 30% to 45%.
- The gender split for neglect CP plans is 48% female, 49% male and 3% unborn.
- In regards to age, the age spread is consistent, and no particular age group stands out.
- The numbers in regards to ethnicity is small, but the largest number outside white British for Neglect is Gypsy/Roma with 5.
- It is notable that more children are listed for being on a plan due to neglect over 9 months.
- There were 2 convictions for Neglect under NSPIS Q1 and 11 crimes were recorded for Neglect.

It was agreed further data analysis of Neglect should take place to include:

- Substance misuse

- Alcohol
- Mental health
- Hotspots – which will also be mapped due to key themes identified in specific areas during the audit.

**Action: SH to update the SSCB on the Neglect data analysis at the next meeting in January 2018.**

**Siobhan  
Hughes  
(A128)**

#### Multi-Agency Neglect Audit

In undertaking the recent multi-agency audit on Neglect there was a difficulty around identifying the cases, due to using a tool based on the West Midlands Joint Targeted Area Inspection for Neglect. The cases had to be open to Children's Social Care and have probation/YJS involvement.

The themes identified were:

- GCP2 was started to be discussed but there was no completed GCP2 on the cases.
- The police raised the issue that all the cases involved substance misuse and alcohol, as well as the families living close to each other.
- Professionals invited to core groups but were not always receiving core group minutes.
- Housing had a lot of intelligence to share, but they did not know about GCP2, and therefore asked about the GCP2 training.

The recommendations from the audit were:

- Information regarding GPC2 training to be re-circulated and attendance to be monitored.
- GCP2 training information and dates to be specifically sent to Housing.
- Use of GPC2 to be monitored and tracked by the training subgroup.
- In depth analysis of data related to neglect to be undertaken, identifying any related factors, trends and any areas where neglect is more prolific.
- An internal children's services learning review to be held on 1 case RE progression of the plan at the Review Child Protection Conference.
- Subgroup Chair to liaise with Education RE information passed to new school for 1 child.
- Multi-agency core group audit to be undertaken in 3 months' time (December) once current learning has been embedded, to check agencies are being invited to core groups, attending, being given the opportunity to contribute and are receiving core group minutes. A follow up audit will take place in a further 3 months (February).

The theme for the next audit will be child sexual exploitation (CSE).

SC asked about the treatment the 41 young people are receiving, which are mentioned in chart 12 - Shropshire Young People Substance Misuse (NDTMS Q1 Data), and are they substitute subscribing.

SH confirmed she would clarify with Jayne Randall.

**Action: SH to clarify with Jayne Randall on the treatment the young people are receiving and then confirm with SC.**

**Siobhan Hughes (A130)**

DC commented on how impressive it is around the Section 47 assessments being completed in timescales.

KB replied the Local Authority rely on agencies to help complete the Section 47 assessments.

#### Section 11 Audit

SH reported Shropshire piloted 3 questions from the West Midlands Section 11 audit tool, the only difficulties raised were around uploading documents onto the electronic audit tool. SSCB require the whole Section 11 audit tool to be completed by February 2018.

The board members asked why the referrals to social care dropped in June 2017 and there were lower referrals in school holidays. KB mentioned the figures are cumulative and start again in April. The Chair suggested it might be worth unpicking why the referrals go down during school holidays.

SH mentioned in the future there will be a narrative presented with the dashboard.

#### **8 Development Day**

The Chair confirmed the joint development day is due to take place on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2017. Bill Joyce has done a piece of work around the Wood Review, which has been considered by the Director of Children's Services, Director of Adult Services, West Mercia Police and CCG. However, there is still some fine-tuning of the budget.

The development day will have a joint section for both boards, a section for children's board and a section for adult's board.

**Action: The Chair or KB to liaise with Bill Joyce around the agenda after the publication of the Ofsted report.**

**Ivan Powell / Karen Bradshaw (A131)**

CM suggested the development day reflect on the board priorities, as LC gave a good breakdown on the priorities in the annual report.

The Chair confirmed he would look at the papers Bill Joyce had prepared for the day. The JSNA has not been refreshed and therefore suggested maybe that should be taken into account. The Chair also suggested looking at some of the themes in the JTAI report.

**Action: LC to contact Public Health to provide some headlines for the JSNA for the joint development day.**

**Lisa Charles (A132)**

The board members suggested looking at any recent reports nationally, for example the SCR, CSE.

#### **9 Report from Executive Sub Group**

LC reported the Executive Group receives reports from the sub groups and assurance reports from agencies.

#### Progression of the business plan

LC confirmed the revision of the Domestic Abuse Strategy will be presented to the Community Safety Partnership next week.

The CSE panel's terms of reference has been revised, and they are only going to focus on high risk cases. There are weekly CSE triage meetings, which social care and police attend, with Education looking to attend those meetings to strengthen the links between CSE, missing and children missing from education. TYS held a development day, which focused on CSE. Kayleigh's Love Story has been positively promoted in PSHE lessons within schools.

It has been agreed that all agencies should ensure the relevant staff attend the GCP2 training.

#### Sub group reports

##### Learning & Improvement sub group

The SCR in relation to the unaccompanied asylum seeker is still ongoing and is due to be reported to Board in January 2018. There was a decision not to carry out an SCR in relation to another young person, but was agreed for Health to carry out a root cause analysis, which is due to be reported back to the next sub group meeting.

JH confirmed the RCA has been completed on the young person and is due to be presented to the coroner's court in November 2017.

##### Policy & Procedure sub group

The LADO annual report was presented to the sub group, which evidenced a lot of good practice and an improved recording system has enabled more analysis to take place. The West Midlands Safeguarding Procedures have gone live. Work is on-going around reviewing each procedure every 2 years. The Joint Working Protocol (JWP) has recently been revised and was agreed to be uploaded to the procedures and for further work to be undertaken to make the protocol multi-agency.

The Child Sexual Exploitation sub group, Quality Assurance and Performance sub group and Training sub group have already been discussed at the meeting.

##### Student LSCB

At the last Executive group, it was agreed that the student LSCB could recruit from the Health and Social Care cohort across Shrewsbury Colleges Group with a view to gaining better representation and attendance at those meetings. The Student LSCB will pick up on the following issues:

- CSE
- Domestic Abuse
- CRUSH programme
- Sexual Health
- Baseline safeguarding questionnaire
- As well as their own priorities and other issues as they emerge

#### Agency Assurance Reports

The agency assurance reports have been reported in the recent SSCB Annual Report.

The recommendation in the Children's Social Care report was:

- Agencies were requested to review the improvements and challenges for the Children's Social Work services identified in the report and share agency views on how the challenges could be addressed in other ways than identified in the report and to ensure the report is shared within their own agencies.

The recommendations in the Early Help report were:

- Once the Early Help Performance Framework is in place it will set out what the SSCB and Early Help Partnership boards are to oversee. The Performance Framework will include measures around Neglect and Domestic Abuse.
- A further report regarding governance and oversight of Early Help and the Early Help Performance Framework will be presented to the SSCB Executive Group.

There were no recommendations in regards to the Corporate Parenting report or the Prevent report.

The recommendation in the DAAT report was:

- For the SSCB to consider arrangements for free safeguarding training where there is a commissioned service.

LC confirmed that multi-agency training is free of charge to Young Addactions.

The SSCB Annual Report 2016-17 has now been completed and published on the website. The Independent Chair has presented or will be presenting the report to:

- Chief Executive and Leader of the Council
- Police and Crime Commissioner
- Children's Trust
- Young People's Scrutiny Committee
- Health & Wellbeing Board.

DC clarified on page 72 of the Executive report, the second to last paragraph is incorrect. The GP's undertake level 3 training every year and not every 3 years as suggested in the report.

**Action: DC to email feedback to add to the Executive report in regards to GP training to LC.**

**David Coan  
(A133)**

The Chair mentioned Jayne Randall presented the DAAT report to the Executive group, whereby a discussion took place around the awareness making of referrals for treatment.

## **10 Dates for next year's meetings**

The Chair mentioned the proposed dates for the SSCB meetings next year and ask for clarity on which 2 should be the strategic board meeting dates and which 2 should be the full board meeting dates, to enable Sarah Chidlow to arrange and book the sub group meeting dates for 2018-19.

CM suggested those dates are discussed at the development day in December 2017.

**11 Effectiveness of meeting:**

The Chair mentioned they need to look at what is presented to the Board and what is presented to the Executive Group.

There were challenges raised in regards to training and data.

KB asked who the key audiences for GCP2 are, and whether the training and development is for all agencies, including housing.

The Chair suggested looking at the 2 questions around effectiveness of meeting to ensure they are reflective of the process.

**12 Matters to raise with other partnerships**

The Chair explained the ongoing discussion of domestic abuse with the Domestic Abuse forum and Community Safety Partnership.

**13 Any other business**

There was no any other business raised.

**The meeting concluded at 3.00pm**