



SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD MEETING Friday 9 October 2015

PRESENT:

Jimmy Doyle, Independent Chair; **Rachel Cook**, Independent Chair; **Sara Blackmore**, South Gloucestershire Council, Public Health Consultant; **Catherine Boyce**, South Gloucestershire Council, Strategic Safeguarding Services Manager; **Maria Bredow**, South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Designated Doctor; for Safeguarding Children; **Jill Chart**, Sirona, Named Nurse for Safeguarding; **Richard Clark**, Stoke Lodge Primary School, Headteacher; **Rachael Cragg**, CRC Probation LDU Team Leader; **David Gee**, CAFCASS, Service Manager; **Lisa Harvey**, South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Deputy Nurse Director, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children; **Susannah Hill**, South Gloucestershire Council, Head of Education, Learning and Skills; **Councillor Jon Hunt**, South Gloucestershire Council, Lead Member for Children and Young People; **Louise Leader**, Education Other than at School, Headteacher; **Jenny Macdonald**, AWP, Managing Director for South Gloucestershire; **Kate Mansfield**, South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Named GP For Safeguarding Children; **Anne Morris**, South Gloucestershire Clinical Commissioning Group, Nurse Director and Head of Quality and Safeguarding; **Carol Sawkins**, University Hospitals Bristol, Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children; **Janice Suffolk**, Lay Member; **Claire Summers**, NPS Probation, Team Leader; **Alison Sykes**, South Gloucestershire Council, Head of Secure and Emergency Services; **Sarah Telford**, Survive, Chief Executive; **Leigh Zywek**, Policy and Practice Manager

APOLOGIES:

Kathryn Birtles, South Gloucestershire Council, Education Adviser Early Years;
Paul Coates, Merlin Housing, Director of Housing and Communities;
Kevin Jones, South Gloucestershire Council, Interim Head of Integrated Children's Services;
Emma Keating, HMP/YOI Eastwood Park;
Peter Murphy, South Gloucestershire Council, Director for Children, Adults and Health;
Gill Sinclair, South Gloucestershire Council, Legal Services Manager;
Leanne Smith, Faith Sector Representative, Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor;
Duncan Stanway, Barnardos;

REPRESENTATIVES:

Maria Hennessy, North Bristol Trust, Head of Nursing and Governance in the Community Child Health Partnership and **Sue Jones**, North Bristol NHS Trust, Director of Nursing represented by Anne Fry
Steve Waters, South Gloucestershire Council, Youth Offending Team Manager, represented by Tracey Warburton
Robert Walsh, South Gloucestershire Council, Head of Safe Strong Communities represented by Mark Pullin

Detective Superintendent Rachel Williams, Avon and Somerset Constabulary,
Head of PPU represented by DCI Simon Crisp

NON ATTENDANCE:

Rose Farmer, Crown Prosecution Service;

Rosheen Hucker, South Gloucestershire and Stroud College, Child Protection
Officer;

Julie Jones, Soldiers, Sailors, Airman & Family's Association, Personal & Family
Support Worker;

Lindsey Scott, NHS England, Director of Nursing & Quality;

Karl Stephenson, Lay Member;

Sarah Thompson, (interim representative) South Western Ambulance Service, NHS
Foundation Trust, Safeguarding Named Professional;

EVACUATION PROCEDURE

The Chair drew attention to the emergency evacuation procedure

21. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting. He introduced Rachel Cook as the
new Independent Chair. All members introduced themselves for the benefit of
Rachel Cook, new members and representatives

22. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10 JULY 2015

The minutes were signed as a correct record

**23. ACTIONS FROM MEETING ON 10 JULY 2015 NOT SCHEDULED ON THE
AGENDA**

Meeting with Be Safe

Leigh Zywek reported that this meeting has taken place and actions from the
meeting are being addressed

Board Responsibility to Children's Homes

Jimmy Doyle reported that he had discussed this issue with other LSCB chairs
and no one had used the tool referred to in the guidance.

It was agreed that the Board should continue to have an annual report from the
commissioning team.

Policy and Procedures Sub Group

Leigh Zywek reported that this group was progressing and had had new
nominations for membership.

Private Fostering

Jimmy Doyle reported that regional LSCB Chairs were interested in working with
South Gloucestershire to raise awareness. Kate Mansfield reported that GP
awareness was already being addressed.

24. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2015 AND ISSUES ARISING

Jimmy Doyle reported that these minutes are circulated to the Board for information.

Under action Page 9 - Risk Register

Jimmy Doyle reported that, further to conversations with other Chairs, there is no clear approach to this. It was suggested that a column in the existing Challenge Log could be used to identify specific risks.

Police Re-Inspection Model

There was a thorough discussion at the Executive and a number of concerns were raised. It was agreed a letter to the Police and Crime Commissioner regarding the concerns of the Board in relation to safeguarding children be sent from the Chair. Kevin Jones was to prepare the draft and Jimmy Doyle would share with other Chairs in the region to see if they wanted the letter to be sent jointly. This letter has not been done due to Kevin Jones going on leave.

Resolved

- That Kevin Jones prepares a draft letter on behalf of the Chair which would now be Rachel Cook.

25. CDOP ANNUAL REPORT

Vicky Sleap presented the CDOP Annual Report, on behalf of Dr Mary Gainsborough who was unable to attend, outlining facts and figures in relation to the deaths of children in South Gloucestershire.

A Steering Group has been re-introduced and meets twice a year. A representative from the Board attends the meetings.

Jimmy Doyle and Maria Bredow commented that the work of CDOP was beneficial for professionals and parents, and that the cases were reviewed in great detail.

Jimmy Doyle said that this report paints a positive picture and that CDOP should continue to maintain the high standard of work. The backlog of cases has now been cleared and going forward a further backlog should be avoided.

26. MULTI-AGENCY PERFORMANCE REPORT

Catherine Boyce presented the multi-agency performance report.

Page 4 – Source of Referrals

Richard Clarke commented that referrals to social care are increasing year on year and in particular there is a 55% increase in CP referrals to social care from the police.

Initial child protection conferences have seen a 50% increase.

Jimmy Doyle assured the board that there is detailed discussion at the Executive on the data from the performance report with follow-up as necessary.

Page 5 – Child Protection Plans, Looked After Children, Children in Need, SAFs and Universal Partnership Plus

Looked After Children is fairly static, but there is a rise in the number of children with an open child protection plan. The timeliness of conferences is of concern. There has been some analysis and the poor performance in this respect is due to sickness and vacancies within the CP conference service and an increase in requests for initial conferences, delays in social workers referrals, availability of staff/parent/carers to attend. The team is now fully staffed and it is hoped to see an improvement.

Page 7 – Care Proceedings

A court tracker is now being used therefore, in future reports, 1.61/1.62 will be amalgamated and data will be easier to report.

Page 9 – Children with Disability

This is to be added to the Diversity and Equalities section but the data is complicated to collect. Initially the report will look at children open to social care with disability and with a SEN need.

Page 10 – Ongoing DV Notifications

Progress is being made identifying why there was a drop in this data. Both social care and the police are sorting out an arrangement around language being used for recording purposes and it is hoped to see an improvement in the accuracy of data.

Page 11 – MARAC

This will now include 16/17 year olds who are referred to MARAC.

Page 12 - Parental Mental Health

It is hoped to have data for Q3

Page 13 – Missing Children

It is hoped to add data of 'unauthorised absence' at school

Page 17 – Workforce

Information in relation to the police data was discussed and it was hoped that some data would be available for the next quarter report

Page 19 – Risk Register

A reminder was given to all organisations about providing information for inclusion in the risk register.

Page 19 – Single Agency Audits

A reminder was given to Board Members to provide information on single agency audits that have taken place. Thanks was offered to Health colleagues for providing information on audit work.

27. QUALITY ASSURANCE SUB GROUP AUDIT

Lisa Harvey presented the quality assurance sub group audit and highlighted points within each case.

The Board launch of the 'neglect tool kit' is now a year on. Richard Clark reported that work needs to be done within education about using the Resolution of Professional Differences policy. Susannah Hill reported that within schools headteachers were more anxious that something is done rather than reporting it. Kate Mansfield reported that with the GPs the intention is there but they do not always find it easy to use.

The audit reports gave a good sense of what is happening in frontline practice. Work is needed to progress incorporating the voice of parent/child in the Quality Sub audits.

Simon Crisp gave thanks to group and Lisa Harvey for the quality of the work and reports.

28. FEEDBACK REPORT ON FAITH ORGANISATIONS

This report was deferred due to the absence of Leanne Smith

Resolved

- That the feedback report on faith organisations be presented to the next Board meeting

29. REPORT ON A SCHOOL IN SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE

The Chair welcomed Lucy Young, the independent consultant, and thanked her for her report. It was stressed that this report is confidential and for board members only. Lucy said that she was disappointed this report would not be shared more widely but understood the reason why.

Lucy highlighted that The School, although it has been difficult for them, have accepted and agreed with report. The School now has more awareness of grooming since this report.

Lucy felt that the young person, who is now 25 years old, found discussions with Lucy helpful.

The SCR sub group will look at the recommendations and formulate an action plan and monitor progress. A letter has gone out to the young person and her parents inviting them to come and read the report in the office and Catherine Boyce and Lucy Young will be around to answer any queries they may have. To date no response to the letter has been received.

Simon Crisp said that he thought the report was very thorough and complimented on the quality.

Louise Leader asked that the Education Sub Group have the action plan on their agenda for their next meeting and asked how it could be shared with other schools. Susannah Hill, as Chair of the Education Sub Group, agreed to add to the agenda of the next meeting. Schools should be encouraged to refer incidents to the LADO. The LADO sits within Catherine Boyce's remit.

The Board accepted the report and its findings.

Resolved

- That the action plan be added to the agenda of the next Education Sub Group and establish how it can be shared with other schools.
- That the SCR sub group monitor progress against the action plan.

30. VINNEY GREENS ANNUAL REPORT, RPI POLICY, SAFEGUARDING POLICY, SEARCHES POLICY AND MISSING YOUNG PEOPLE'S POLICY

This report was presented by Alison Sykes, having previously been considered by the Executive. Alison acknowledged that a lot of the work had been done by Keith Smith before he left.

Alison highlighted that the Unit had undergone a full OFSTED inspection which resulted in a 'Good' judgement and that since an interim inspection effectiveness had been sustained.

Alison also reported that most young people placed in the unit spoke English, however, translation was needed for some parents.

Training with staff around mental health awareness is currently being discussed.

31. WEBSITE

Catherine Boyce reminded the Board that the new website was up and running and a lot of documents had transferred to the new website. She stressed the need for input from partner agencies. It needs to be kept updated.

A Section on 'I am a child/young person' has been set up and it was agreed to meet with some children and young people to find out what they want to see and what they would find useful.

Leigh Zywek had made a bid on behalf of the board for some innovation money from the Dept. for Education to develop an app for young people but this bid was unsuccessful.

Kate Mansfield told the Board that two GPs had reported the usefulness of the website

32. YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT) INSPECTION REPORT

Tracey Warburton, in the absence of Steve Waters, reported on the short quality screen inspection of the youth offending work in South Gloucestershire that had taken place in September. They were given 2 week's notice and the inspection lasted for 3 weeks looking at 14 cases

Jimmy Doyle offered the board's congratulations to the team on what was a good report highlighting many positives in the quality of assessments.

This needs to be added to the single agency inspection section of the SGSCB performance report.

Resolved

- That a summary of the YOT inspection be added to the single agency inspection section of the performance report. Steve Waters to send to Ed Gibbons.

33. EARLY HELP 6 MONTHLY UPDATE

Katie Harwood presented the progress report and emphasised this was only a progress report and that the annual report would be presented to the board in April 2016.

Katie informed the Board that a national thematic inspection was carried out by OFSTED in March 2015 on the effectiveness of the early help services for children and families based on evidence from 12 local authorities and their partners. The report can be found on the OFSTED website. Findings from this thematic inspection have been added to the early help strategy.

Resolved

- That the Early Help Annual Report be presented to the Board in April 2016

34. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE) MARAC

Catherine Boyce gave a verbal update on the CSE MARAC. She reported that the CSE MARAC was not working particularly well and that a review had been undertaken. There is a change in the focus of CSE MARAC to three different levels: CSE meeting for lower level of incidents or when a young person's behaviour is beginning to show concerns; a strategy meeting when concerns are greater and the threshold for a section 47 investigation have been met: and then a complex meeting where there are multiple perpetrators/victims or cross boundary issues.

Banardos provide training with agencies and are currently working with Preventative Services. EDT are to ask for training

This week SG council had a meeting with Barnardos regarding the night-time economy and the Barnardos worker agreed to work with South Gloucestershire around hotels, taxi drivers (progress is being made with Licencing team), night time street marshals and fast food outlets.

There is a link with the anti-social behaviour team around two venues - Chipping Sodbury high street and Kingswood.

Capacity is becoming an issue within social care and the police with the increase in CSE related work.

It was agreed to highlight CSE in the Board newsletter.

Resolved

- That CSE be highlighted in the Board newsletter

35. ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION, INCLUDING ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION

Guy Halley presented the report.

Guy reported that the number of children and young people being home educated has risen from 140 to 165. Parents have the right to opt to home educate their child(ren). Local authorities have powers to insist on seeing children in order to enquire about their welfare where there are grounds for concern, but do not have the power to see and question children as to whether they are receiving a suitable education. This can put the safeguarding of children at risk. The authority does have the authority to say 'no' to parents wishing to home educate their children if they are subject to Special Educational Needs.

The welfare service has visited all the 165 children and young people except two where there was difficulty in engaging with the family. The Board felt that it was a credit to the authority that they try and visit the families as other authorities do not do this.

The Board were informed that some schools may tell parents when faced with difficulties that home education is an option. This should not be done.

The issue of safeguarding children and young people who are home educated has previously been raised with Mr. Timpson, government minister, and CDOP has raised the issue with Michael Gove after a child who was educated at home died. Jimmy Doyle indicated that this remains a matter of concern to other LSCB Chairs and is likely to remain a focus of attention.

It was agreed that the Board should continue to receive a report on children missing education, including elective home education annually

Resolved

- That the Board continues to receive a report on children missing education, including elective home education, annually.

36. MARAC ANNUAL REPORT

Richard Capp presented the MARAC Annual Report on behalf of Sophie Jarrett who was unable to attend.

He informed the Board that no other authority prepares an annual MARAC report. But that South Gloucestershire find this a helpful and informative process.

The Board need to be aware of the prevalence, demographics and the response to Domestic Violence in South Gloucestershire as this is a multi-agency issue. The MARAC process continues to evolve and in particular is looking at how it can report on the impact of the MARAC process for the victims and perpetrators and their families.

Catherine Boyce commented on the impact domestic abuse has on safeguarding. When collating the cases for the next quality sub group audit which is focussed on children subject of a CP plan for a second or subsequent time, all cases that

ended back in CP less than one year since the previous plan was ended was due to DV.

Sarah Telford explained that Survive are raising awareness in Cribs Causeway around DA. Training is being undertaken with Boots encouraging staff to notice people who come into shop and are looking for make up to hide bruises for example.

Mark Pullin highlighted that the work of the MARAC sits within the Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Team. Last year South Gloucestershire Council consulted on a review of the Community Safety and Anti-Social Behaviour Team as part of the council's savings programme. The decision was taken at that time to defer implementation for a further year. The savings still need to be made from the 2016/17 year onwards and so a further consultation is required given the passage of time that has elapsed.

Click on the link below to the consultation. Members are encouraged to respond: <https://consultations.southglos.gov.uk/consult.ti/ASBreview/consultationHome>

Resolved

- Board members are encouraged to respond to the consultation

37. ANNUAL REPORT OF THE SAFER AND STRONGER COMMUNITIES STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

Mark Pullin presented the report on behalf of the Chair of the Partnership Robert Walsh.

Mark highlighted the focus on the Prevent agenda which is an emerging area of concern.

There were 2 DHR investigations last year, the outcomes and recommendations of which are presented to the LSCB if applicable to the children's agenda.

There are opportunities for joined up work between the Board and the Partnership, particularly around CSE, Prevent and Domestic Abuse.

38. RESTRUCTURING OF SOCIAL CARE

Catherine Boyce gave a very brief update on the restructuring of social care.

Phase 1 the new Access and Response Team (ART) is now in place although there are still staffing issues with more agency staff than the authority would like, however, this is improving.

A consultant post to work alongside Leigh Zywek has been advertised again and has produced a better number of applicants.

Preventative Services are in the middle of a re-structure.

The Signs of Safety model is being adopted by social care and there is a requirement for partner agency engagement. The December Development Day will have a presentation on the model. This is a significant project to implement

the model. There is a project board. Catherine is chairing the communications and partner engagement sub group and requested volunteers to sit on the sub group to help implement the model across all partners.

The Quality assurance framework continues to be implemented in social care. A piece of work has been undertaken to try to make QA part of daily work, for example as a manager when signing off a report to conference or dealing with a complaint these tasks should be seen as part of the QAF.

Anne Fry requested a structure chart following the reorganisation with names of who to contact. Leigh Zywek agreed to send a co-ordinated list.

39. CHALLENGE LOG

The challenge log was presented for information and was noted.

40. FORWARD PLAN

The forward plan was noted with the additions of any reports following this meeting.

41. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Labour Motion to Children and Young People Committee

The Chair of the LSCB reported that he had received a letter from the Director of Children, Adults and Health regarding a proposal by the Labour Party Lead Member of the Children and Young People Committee that:

The committee commissions independent inspectors to assess the quality of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and review the Local Safeguarding Board against the current OFSTED criteria and report their findings to officers and members.

The Director's letter requested that the Board consider the motion from their perspective.

Following discussion the LSCB concluded that it could not accept the proposal for the following reasons:

- Given the likelihood that an Ofsted inspection is imminent
- A CQC inspection of the CCG and Youth Offending Service inspection have just concluded. These and other inspections had a significant impact on day to day service delivery and the capacity of staff in all agencies
- Health colleagues were concerned that winter pressures are already impacting on their services
- The LSCB is maintaining an ongoing self-assessment and evaluation of progress in respect of its business plan and the conduct of other multi-agency quality assurance processes.
- Currently the LSCB is undertaking an extensive learning review and a domestic homicide review is underway. Reviews of this nature place a significant demand on all parties and agencies

In conclusion the board considered that for the above reasons the proposed mock inspection would be inappropriate and potentially duplicate quality assurance activity at a significant and unnecessary cost. The Board was of the view that the potential benefits were outweighed by the dangers of detracting from quality frontline services.

CCG Inspection

Lisa Harvey gave a list of areas inspected. They have had the preliminary feedback and it was felt that overall the positives outweighed the negatives. Now awaiting the full report. All areas seen were reported to have good professional practice with the right policies in place. The inability of different parts of the service to easily access records was commented on and this is being addressed.

The inspection report and action plan, when received, would be presented to the Board.

Resolved

- That the inspection report and action plan, when received, would be presented to the Board.

JIMMY DOYLE

The meeting concluded noting that this was Jimmy Doyle's last meeting. Jimmy has been the independent chair for the last 5 years. His calm and measured approach to the work of the board will be sincerely missed. Thanks were given for his excellent leadership.

ACTIONS

Minute	Action
24	MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON 17 SEPTEMBER 2015 AND ISSUES ARISING Police Re-Inspection Model <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Kevin Jones prepares a draft letter on behalf of the Chair which would now be Rachel Cook.
28	FEEDBACK REPORT ON FAITH ORGANISATIONS <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the feedback report on faith organisations be presented to the next Board meeting
29	Report on Castle School <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the action plan be added to the agenda of the next Education Sub Group and establish how it can be shared with other schools.
32	YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM (YOT) INSPECTION REPORT <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the YOT inspection be added to the single agency inspection section of the performance report.
33	EARLY HELP 6 MONTHLY UPDATE <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Early Help Annual Report be presented to the Board in April 2016
34	CSE MARAC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That CSE be highlighted in the Board newsletter

35	<p>ANNUAL REPORT ON CHILDREN MISSING EDUCATION, INCLUDING ELECTIVE HOME EDUCATION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the Board continues to receive a report on children missing, including elective home education annually.
36	<p>MARAC ANNUAL REPORT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Board members are encouraged to respond to the consultation
41	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>CCG Inspection</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the inspection report and action plan, when received, would be presented to the Board.