



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children’s Board Meeting
22nd March 2018, 1.00 – 4.00pm**

**Northumberland Fire and Rescue Headquarters
West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP**

Present	Role	Initials
Paula Mead	Independent Chair, NSCB	PM
Sheila Askew	Senior Operational Support Manager, NPS, North of Tyne	SA
Ian Billham	Strategic Community Safety Manager, NCC	IB
Gary Connor (for Lindsay Blackmore)	Northumbria LRC	GC
Helen Guy (for Deborah Brown)	Community Safety, Fire & Rescue, NCC	HG
Robin Harper-Coulson	Business Manager, NSCB	RHC
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Jackie Jollands	NTW NHS Foundation Trust	JJ
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, CCG	NJ
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children’s Services, Action for Children	CJ
Cath McEvoy	Executive Director of Children's Services, NCC	CM
Ellie Monkhouse	Executive Director of Nursing, NHCFT	EM
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
Margaret Tench	Designated Nurse, CCG	MT
Jan Tilson	Safeguarding Manager/Senior IRO, NCC	JT
Annie Topping	Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW
Paul Woods (for Mick Paterson)	DCI-Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	PW

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Lindsay Blackmore	Director of Offender Management, Northumbria Rehabilitation Company	LB
Deborah Brown	Community Safety, Fire & Rescue, NCC	DB

Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
Julie Dodson	Director, Voices	JD
Anna English	Senior Manager, Adult Social Care and Safeguarding, NCC	
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Paul Hedley	Chief Fire Officer and Head of Service, Fire and Rescue Services, NCC	PH
Andy Johnson	Interim Director of Children's Services	AJ
Mark McCarty	Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Fire and Rescue Services, NCC	MM
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Mick Paterson	Detective Superintendent, Northumbria Police	MP
Emma Ramsay/Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children's Services, Barnardo's East	ER
Deborah Reeman	Head Teacher Prudhoe Community High School	DR
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing, NCC	PS
Julie Young	Strategic Housing Manager, NCC	JY

In Attendance		
Sandra Blackwood	NSCB Business Support (Minute Taker)	SBI

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
1.	<p>Welcome, Introductions & Apologies for Absence</p> <p>PM welcomed the group. Introductions were made and apologies were noted - see above.</p>		
3.	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting, Matters Arising and Action Log</p> <p>The previous minutes of 11th January 2018 were accepted.</p> <p>The action log was reviewed and updated - see separate document.</p>		
4.	<p>Items to Report & Discussion</p>		
4.1.	<p>Operation Sanctuary Presentation (papers) – Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>RHC presented the ‘Joint SCR concerning sexual exploitation (SE) of children and adults with needs for care and support in Newcastle-upon-Tyne’.</p> <p>PW commented that the North and South victim hubs have joined up; there is still ongoing work to be done.</p> <p>JJ: Vulnerability is still ongoing and we are ensuring that staff are being trained and supported.</p> <p>AH asked about training by Police for bar/door staff and PW confirmed that the Police are working with this group, as well as taxi drivers, although unsure of specifics. RHC: New licensees now have to attend training on SE. There is a new ‘See Something, Say Something’ campaign for all licensed accommodation. For those not licenced, work is being done on a voluntary basis. Future plans will involve places like McDonalds and then all places supplying alcohol.</p> <p>AT suggested undertaking a piece of work looking at the evidence (recommendations) and obtaining assurance.</p> <p>PM mentioned the recent JTAI meeting; the SE theme will be raised at Monday’s SE subcommittee meeting; the strategy will be refreshed, ensuring a concrete operational delivery plan is in place (incorporating Operation Sanctuary), with recommendations, outcomes and milestones set. Each partner will have different roles and this will be coordinated by RHC (a template for gathering information was sent out earlier this week). RHC informed the group that there is a new Chair for this subcommittee.</p> <p>SS asked about work in schools especially for those with unidentified learning needs e.g. tools to increase their self-esteem. KH noted that resources and guidance are provided to schools but unsure how schools apply their resilience and curriculum themselves.</p> <p>CM reminded us that we all need to be aware of the signs and symptoms and JJ reiterated communication between multi agencies, with the children being key. AT: an EHCP for students is being developed. Commissioning arrangements need to be explicit; a safeguarding annex is always</p>		

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	included. Future carousel events will include learning from Operation Sanctuary as well as the DHR; there is still a lot of work to be done, but this will be taken forward by the SE subcommittee that represents the three boards.		
4.2.	Private Fostering Report (paper) This was prepared by Fiona Brown. CM: There is an ongoing audit of current private fostering. Although there is no national benchmark or guidance for referral numbers, we are not getting referrals (from key frontline staff i.e. schools and health visitors). This report will be discussed by the Business subcommittee. Action: RHC to distribute the 7 minute briefing.	RHC	
4.3.	Independent Reviewing Service Annual Report (paper) – Jan Tilson JT presented the report. Main points to note: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manageable caseload of 50-70; reviewed monthly. ● Increase in staff numbers. ● Good information sharing between IROs and Social Workers. ● Quantitative data is in place; qualitative data to be collected, which should be available for the 2017-18 report. ● The IRO can pick up on trends. 		
4.4.	LA Improvement Plan (papers) – Cath McEvoy and Alan Hartwell CM informed the group of the ILACS framework used by Ofsted; in the past month, NCC has had a focussed visit, an annual conversation and a self-assessment. The recent focused visit was positive; no priorities for action. We have confidence in our improvement plan and the vision and priorities for moving forward. The plan is looked at during monthly meetings and updated regularly; actions from Ofsted have been included. PM congratulated all involved.		
4.5.	Police Inspection Outcome (paper) – Paul Woods PW gave an overview from the 'Report - HMICFRS Child Protection'. There were a lot of positive findings, e.g. safeguarding and 5 provisional findings. The full report is not due to be published until the end of April and will be brought to the Board again.		
4.6.	GP Sec 11 (paper) – Margaret Tench MT updated the group on the 'Primary care - Section 11 audit' and recommendations. JJ queried assurance and PM asked about any areas of concern; MT provides advice and information e.g. templates, for the Support Families meetings (MDT), but they are based on the GPs' own practice caseload;		

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	rural practices only have meetings every 3 months.		
4.7.	<p>Regional Section 11 audit proposal (paper) – Robin Harper Coulson</p> <p>RHC provided an update and the Board agreed to the request for a regional process i.e. regional Section 11 audit, every September.</p> <p>The Board also agreed for RHC to pursue potential for cost savings through sharing north and south of Tyne TRix procedures.</p>		
4.8.	<p>Performance and Audit Report (paper) – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented the March 2018 Performance Report and brought to the group's attention 3 areas of concern:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. NTW waiting times There have been recent improvements and JJ reported a 25% reduction in the past 8 weeks. A new green paper is suggesting waiting times be reduced to 4 weeks which is perceived by mental health trusts to be possibly unachievable. Whilst understanding the increasing complexity and pressures, PM challenged NTW and requested assurance from NTW and the CCG for consistency in waiting times, rather than just seeing improvements at the time of waiting time initiatives being in place. JJ confirmed this is complex but they are working closely with the CCG, who in turn report on figures monthly and are monitored by NHS England. 2. Reduced Early Help activity The EH Strategy will be brought to the Board in July. Sign up is required for more partners to use the referral tools and PM asked for commitment from partners 3. Increase in Child Protection Plans CM: JT is discussing the Thresholds at all conferences and looking at appreciative referrals. MT: the increase may be due to raised awareness from recent serious case reviews, shared learning and the DHR. PM observed that if that were the case, rising numbers could be perceived as a positive outcome. AH: the increase in the <i>severity</i> of neglect and violence could also be a factor. There is no pattern for those who refer inappropriately; this does not need to be challenged, as agencies are contacted directly in such cases. <p>JJ suggests undertaking a focussed piece of work with Public Health and CM requested to look at the historic support of large families in our area.</p>		PM
4.9.	<p>SCR Committee Update, including feedback from carousel events (papers) – Margaret Tench</p> <p>MT discussed the SCR Committee report dated 14th March, provided to the Business Group.</p> <p>MT and RHC met this morning to discuss the DHR and actions for children.</p> <p>Actions: 7 minute briefings to be done for the 2 neglect cases and the</p>	RHC	

	<p>Joint Action Plan (Molly and Olivia) to be updated.</p> <p>The carousel events were successful, with over 400 attendees. The workshops were oversubscribed and one other workshop is to be arranged. Very positive evaluation by attendees.</p> <p>RHC thanked all agencies who attended and supported these events.</p> <p>MT: the Coping with Crying DVD will be considered by Learning and Development for rollout to schools (6th formers) and social workers.</p>		
4.10.	<p>NSCB Development date agreement – Paula Mead</p> <p>Two half days are planned for June and September to review the Board’s annual plan, priorities and the forward plan; hopefully these dates can be prioritised. Will also involve discussion of future arrangements in view of pending changes to strategic safeguarding measures.</p>		
5.	Information Items		
5.1.	<p>Control and Restraint Report</p> <p>Distributed previously for information.</p>		
5.2.	<p>NSCB Training Catalogue 2018-19</p> <p>Distributed previously for information.</p>		
5.3.	<p>Business Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes</p> <p>Distributed previously for information.</p>		
5.4.	<p>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes</p> <p>Distributed previously for information (no new meetings since the previous Main board meeting).</p>		
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>KH mentioned the Public Health resilience plans and new NSPCC guidance.</p> <p>Action: to send to SBI for circulation; partners to provide feedback if they have any suggestions on the wider resilience strategy and work plan.</p>	<p>KH All</p>	
7.	<p>Dates and Times of Future Meetings (2018):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15th May, 19th July, 20th September and 20th November. • All meetings are diarised for 1pm to 4pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP. 		

Name	11.01.18	22.03.18	15.05.18	19.07.18	20.09.18	20.11.18	22.01.19	14.03.19	16.05.19	25.07.19	24.09.19	21.11.19
Paula Mead	✓	✓										
Sheila Askew	✓	✓										
John Barnes	✓	DNA										
Ian Billham	✓	✓										
Lindsay Blackmore	✓	Gary Connor										
Deborah Brown	✓	Helen Guy										
Sian Bufton/Emma Ramsay	A	A										
Karen Burns	✓	A										
Wayne Daley	A	A										
Julie Dodson	✓	A										
Anna English	DNA	A										
Nicholas Greenley	✓	A										
Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓										
Alan Hartwell	✓	✓										
Paul Hedley	A	A										

Andy Johnson	A	A										
Jackie Jollands	A	✓										
Naomi Jones	✓	✓										
Catherine Joyce	✓	✓										
Mark McCarty	A	A										
Cath McEvoy	✓	✓										
Ellie Monkhouse	✓	✓										
Liz Morgan	A	A										
Mick Paterson	✓	Paul Woods										
Deborah Reeman	✓	A										
Sue Reilly	✓	✓										
Jill Scarr	A	✓										
Phil Soderquest	✓	A										
Margaret Tench	✓	✓										
Jan Tilson	✓	✓										
Annie Topping	A	✓										
Lynsey Wafer	✓	✓										

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies