



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children's Board Meeting  
28<sup>th</sup> November 2017, 1.00 – 4.00pm**

**Northumberland Fire and Rescue Headquarters**

**West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP**

<b>Present</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Paula Mead	Independent Chair, NSCB	PM
Jane Abbott (in place of Ellie Monkhouse)	Professional and Operational Lead, Safeguarding	JA
Helen Anderson	Detective Chief Inspector – Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	HA
Sheila Askew	Senior Operational Support Manager, NPS, North of Tyne	SA
Ian Billham	Strategic Community Safety Manager, NCC	IB
Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children's Services, Barnardo's North East	SB
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Ruth Cunningham-Spencer (in place of LW)	Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	RC
Helen Guy (in place of Deborah Brown)	Community Safety Manager, Fire and Rescue Services, NCC	HG
Robin Harper-Coulson	Business Manager, NSCB	RHC
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Andy Johnson	Interim Director of Children's Services	AJ
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	Service Director, Children's Services, NCC	CM
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing, NCC	PS
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
---------------	--	----

<b>Apologies Received</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
John Barnes	Seaton Valley Federation	JB
Lindsay Blackmore	Director of Offender Management, Northumbria Rehabilitation Company	LB
Deborah Brown	Community Safety, Fire & Rescue, NCC	DB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
Julie Dodson	Director, Voices	JD
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Paul Hedley	Chief Fire Officer and Head of Service, Fire and Rescue Services, NCC	PH
Daljit Lally	Interim Chief Executive, NCC	DL
Ellie Monkhouse	Executive Director of Nursing	EM
Mick Paterson	Northumbria Police	MP
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW
Julie Young	Strategic Housing Manager, NCC	JY

<b>Absent</b>	<b>Role</b>	<b>Initials</b>
Anna English	Strategic Adult Safeguarding Manager, NCC	AE
Alyson Raine	Interim Director of Nursing, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	AR
Deborah Reeman	Prudhoe Community High School	DR
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Northumberland County Council	LW

<b>In Attendance</b>		
Sandra Blackwood	Admin Assistant - Safeguarding (Minute Taker)	SBI

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>The group were welcomed and congratulations given to CM on her new role and thanks to AJ. Introductions were made and apologies were noted - see above.</p>		
3.	<p><b>Minutes of Last Meeting, Matters Arising and Action Log</b></p> <p>The previous minutes of 26<sup>th</sup> September 2017 were accepted.</p> <p>The action log was updated - see separate document.</p>	All	
4.	<p><b>Items to Report &amp; Discussion</b></p>		
4.1	<p><b>Health Visitor and School Nurse Caseloads (Paper and Presentation) – Kay Vincent</b></p> <p>KV informed the group of changes since her last update a year ago; commissioning changes since April 2017. Northumberland is now considered separately from North Tyneside.</p> <p>The paper provides data and charts, based on April/May information. Registered and GP resident data was discussed following commissioning changes in North Tyneside that will impact on Northumberland arrangements. Families resident in North Tyneside but registered with a Northumberland GP are currently served by Northumberland health visitors and vice-versa. NT health visitors will only see NT residents. A management plan is in place to ensure children are not inadvertently missed.</p> <p>JJ was interested in whether the caseload information was undertaken using software; KV said that the system was developed in-house and reviewed/amended each year on review. She welcomes the opportunity to discuss the use of different systems.</p> <p>The group agreed that school nurse information is also invaluable; JJ said that it would be good to capture the Tier 1 and 3 CAMHS.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> JJ and KV to discuss other systems to capture this information.</p>	JJ & KV	
4.2	<p><b>Olivia: Serious Case Review – Mark Dalton</b></p> <p>MD presented his 5<sup>th</sup> draft, giving an overview and providing comparisons with Molly’s SCR. A few issues to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer holidays were mentioned i.e. an increased time of vulnerability and lack of source of safety; schools play an important part in the safeguarding relationship;</li> <li>• There was no case conference; these are opportunities to share concerns and also to understand and discuss the implications of</li> </ul>		

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
	<p>any neutral medical findings;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consistency of personnel is important for the families, to prevent case transference and subsequent dilution of importance;</li> <li>• Expectations agreed with family members should not be uncritically considered as protective;</li> <li>• We must not be afraid to use strong and clear language when talking about risks;</li> <li>• The focus on other forms of sexual abuse e.g. CSE shouldn't divert from the fact that the most common type of child sexual abuse is interfamilial.</li> </ul> <p>Three main areas to change:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ensure strategy meetings take place, at the right time, with the right people;</li> <li>2. Training staff on communication e.g. using guided practice, role play, and learning on the job;</li> <li>3. Review of policies, starting from the needs of the children e.g. abolish waiting lists for post abuse services and extend the service (currently Barnardo's) beyond 12 sessions.</li> </ol> <p>The review was opened up to the group, although comments have previously been sent to MD:</p> <p>JJ had a query about the chronology, as this was the first time she had seen the report. She was reassured that this was a proportionate review, as agree with the National Panel, and joined up with Molly's report/action plan to focus on common learning from both reviews. NJ also commented that abused children talk about physical abuse in the first instance rather than sexual abuse.</p> <p>CM said that it was beneficial having a multi-agency audit. PS asked if the threshold for S47 was too high. CM confirmed that multi-agency case team meetings are important if a case review meeting is not deemed necessary.</p> <p>MT noted that there is a post abuse support meeting taking place tomorrow, looking at all services and the length of support provided. There is also a meeting taking place next week between MT and RHC to ensure a joint action plan between Molly and Olivia.</p> <p>JS asked about support for children during the school holidays and CM said that they are looking to develop community access information, but there is no simple answer to solve increased vulnerability at these times.</p> <p>SR asked about the history of domestic abuse, as seen in both cases and CM confirmed that we are alerted to the risks but domestic abuse is not automatically linked with sexual abuse. Schools are also made aware of</p>		



Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
4.5	<p><b>LA Improvement Plan – Cath McEvoy</b></p> <p>CM presented an update on the Children’s Social Care Improvement Plan, which was developed following the closure of the Ofsted SIF Improvement Plan and PM agreed that it covers key issues. Priorities mentioned were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Demand management (a significant challenge);</li> <li>• Recruitment and retention;</li> <li>• Quality of customer service.</li> </ul>		
4.6	<p><b>The National Review of Quality Surveillance Group – Annie Topping</b></p> <p>AT reported on the function of the QSG i.e. it brings intelligence together and reviews risks. The paper presented also provides a link to the July 2017 National Guidance Report.</p> <p>The work of the QSG and relationship to the LSCB were discussed; AT wondered if a standing item on the agenda would be beneficial to highlight issues that required escalation. CM suggested that local issues be escalated through NSCB Quality, Improvement &amp; Performance subcommittee and it was agreed this would be the route for any escalation issues.</p>		
4.7	<p><b>Safeguarding Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between NHS England (Cumbria and the North East) – Paula Mead</b></p> <p>PM explained the role of NHS England and their representation at local safeguarding boards. To cover the issue of attendance as statutory LSCB members, Chris Brown suggested to all Chairs, the use of an MOU.</p> <p>The board were happy that the MOU covers the requirements for board membership and its proposal was endorsed.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> PM to relay acceptance of the MOU to Chris Brown.</p>	PM	
4.8	<p><b>Northumbria Police Safeguarding Operation Model – Mick Paterson</b></p> <p>In MP’s absence, HA discussed the new model for Northumbria Police. There are 29 recommendations, relating to internal processes and terms of reference and these have all been provisionally agreed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Frontline resources have been reviewed – increasing the safeguarding department by 70 officers</li> </ul> <p>Another review is planned looking at all resources.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Provide feedback to HA/MP if any concerns</p> <p>HA also gave an update on the PEEL inspection and the three areas</p>	All	

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
	<p>reported on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Efficiency – considered good</li> <li>2. Effectiveness – yet to be graded</li> <li>3. Legitimacy – yet to be graded</li> </ol> <p>There is a need to understand future demands and improve the digital services (for country wide communication).</p> <p>HA informed the group that there will be an HMIC child protection thematic inspection in January (will be directed towards MASH). A timetable is being put together; RHC asked if the Police need any help for their inspection and PM asked if the board can see their inspection framework.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> HA to let RHC know if help is required and to send RHC the framework.</p> <p>CM asked if the Safeguarding Operating Model handout could be shared and HA confirmed yes.</p>	<p>HA</p>	
<p>4.9</p>	<p><b>Performance and Audit Report – Alan Hartwell</b></p> <p>AH presented the Performance Report for November 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Suzanne Barton (NTW) has provided a full report to the Quality, Improvement &amp; Performance subcommittee and 2016 national benchmarking data will be available soon, to include – action plans and assurances are in place. AT offered assistance in providing information on national averages for the performance reports and also said that she can provide information for every meeting if asked in advance.</li> <li>• There are training issues especially in the North and West of the county – low take up and cancellations, primarily due to access issues. SR noted that it is in the more remote areas where there is more of a training need. This may need further consultation with GPs and staff.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> AH to ask TH to review the training requirements and issues with AT and MT.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Quality, Improvement &amp; Performance subcommittee have discussed details around neglect and p6-7 of the report noted significant findings, which are to be repeated to reduce the ambiguity.</li> <li>• P8 of the report was on self-harm and AH mentioned that summer holidays is an area of concern, where there is an increase in incidents.</li> </ul> <p>CM commented the Neglect Audit findings provide evidence and no surprises. Recommends that we use this report as a baseline benchmark. PM reiterated that we have a delivery plan to underpin the MA Neglect Strategy.</p>	<p>AH, TH, AT, MT</p>	





Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
	<p>November.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All meetings are diarised for 1pm to 4pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP.</li> </ul>		

# Keeping Children and Young People Safe from Harm, Abuse and Neglect

# MINUTES

Name	31.05.16	13.07.16	26.07.16	27.09.16	29.11.16	18.01.17	29.03.17	16.05.17	25.07.17	26.09.17	28.11.17
Paula Mead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Sue Reilly	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Ian Billham	✓	DNA	A	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓
Julie Young	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	DNA	A
Annie Topping	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	DNA	✓	✓
Andy Johnson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	✓
Sharon Dunbar	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA
Julie Dodson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A	A
Barry Frost	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	Zoe Frais	A	A	DNA	
Sheila Askew	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓
Paul Woods	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA
Alan Hartwell	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Brian Smeaton	✓	✓	✓
Liz Kelly (Replaced by Lindsay Blackmore)	✓	A	A	✓	A	DNA					
Lindsay Blackmore							✓	Natalie Caush	✓	✓	A

Karen Herne <i>(Replaced by Liz Morgan)</i>	✓	A	✓	✓							
Liz Morgan					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Anne Graney	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	DNA	DNA
Deborah Brown	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Naomi Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓
Deborah Reeman	A	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	A	A	A	DNA
Catherine Joyce	A	✓	✓	A	✓	DNA	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Robert Arckless <i>(Replaced by Wayne Daley)</i>	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A				
Wayne Daley									A	A	A
John Barnes	A	A	A	✓	DNA	A	A	✓	A	A	A
Carol Goodman <i>(Replaced by Karen Burns)</i>	A	A	✓	A	DNA	A	DNA	DNA	A		
Karen Burns									DNA	A	DNA
Margaret Tench	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓

Daljit Lally	A	✓	✓	A	✓	DNA	A	A	DNA	A	A
Debbie Reape <i>(Replaced by Alyson Raine)</i>	A	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	Jane Abbott	Trish Grant	✓		
Alyson Raine										✓	DNA
Vida Morris	A	✓	A	DNA	DNA	DNA	✓	✓	Leesa Stephenson	✓	DNA
Julie McVeigh <i>(Replaced by Sian Bufton)</i>	A	✓	A	✓	DNA	A	DNA				
Sian Bufton									✓	✓	✓
Cath McEvoy				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jan Grey	Leesa Stephenson		✓		✓	✓	A	A	DNA	DNA	DNA
Anna English					✓	✓	✓	A	DNA	A	DNA
Jill Scarr					A	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Nicholas Greenly					A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A
Gill Physick						✓	A				
Peter Storey						✓	Phil Mordue	✓	✓	DNA	DNA
Mick Paterson										✓	A

Lynsey Wafer						✓	A	✓	DNA	✓	DNA
Phil Soderquest									✓	A	✓

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies