Business Plan

Part 2

2015 – 2016
Introduction

Part 1 of our Business Plan sets out the priorities that the Board will work to and be evaluated against.

As a statutory partnership the Safeguarding Children Board is required to undertake key functions to help ensure that all organisations work together as effectively as possible to ensure that the children and young people of Northumberland are safe and protected.

There continues to be change as a result of learning from what we do; and the need for partners to respond to a changing financial environment

Part 2 of our Business Plan is intended to set out the following;

- How each of our sub committees or reference groups will lead on particular aspect of our priorities
- How each of our sub committees or reference groups will work with each other in respect of the key functions of the Board
- Specific and measurable objectives and outcomes which will guide their work and assist in evaluation
- As disabled children are up to three times more vulnerable to significant harm through physical, sexual, emotional abuse and/or neglect than their peers, the needs of disabled children and young people will be considered across all NSCB sub committees or reference groups.

Our strategic priorities are:

1. Improving focus on the child’s experience of services and better embedding it in practice
2. Further promoting preventative and early help approaches
3. Improving partnership working with education services on the safeguarding agenda
4. Improving support to especially vulnerable children and high risk adolescents
5. Reviewing our response to sexual exploitation

The Boards main functions are:

- To maintain a credible, effective and improving partnership across all agencies, organisations and professionals who work with children, young people and their families so that children and young people are safe and protected
- Making sure that all those who work with children and young people know about and use common policies and procedures to ensure children and young people are protected
- Providing a comprehensive programme of training and learning opportunities to ensure the children’s workforce are knowledgeable about and skilled in ensuring children are protected
- Undertaking reviews of practice, including serious case reviews and child death reviews to ensure that arrangements and practice are continually improved, through rigorous review and learning
- Identifying and scrutinising key performance information across all partners to provide assurance and challenge
• Providing an annual report and effective focus across organisations and strategic partnerships regarding the safeguarding of children and young people.

**The Board’s structure for taking forwards its priorities:**

• The Board will meet 6 times a year in order to provide a focus for, and leadership on, agreed priorities, respond to learning and new developments and creating the opportunity for senior leaders from partner organisations to work together.
• The Board will be supported by a Business Group, on which the chairs of the sub committees sit, as well as other designated Board members such as a lay member. This Group is chaired by the Independent Chair to ensure that priorities and work in coordinated, prepared, and progressed.
• The NSCB’s structure (see below) draws on a wide range of expertise and specialist knowledge/experience from across partners and work to clear priorities and outcomes.
• Occasionally a time limited “task and finish” group may be commissioned, to research, scope and analyse a particular issue that the Board has identified as important. This approach facilitates Board level consideration on the basis of high quality information and analysis.

The Annual Report represents one of the ways the Board demonstrates what progress and impact we have made over the preceding year. In addition the Board sets and monitors progress in conjunction with the Business Group. The Board also draws on peer review and has built into its revised business-planning model the facility to evaluate progress against both strategic priorities and statutory functions.

**Board development:**

The development of the board raises a series of challenges for the Board and its members, these are;

• Involving children, young people and their families as well as the wider community in the work of the Board.
• Continuing to work on the “independent” role of the Board and the role of members and their organisations.
• To provide “leadership” as a Board and within each member organisation.
• Having clear priorities that match the needs of children, young people and their families, and matching these to the time and resources available.
• Identifying what resources will be needed and where these will come from.
• Beginning to define and build a “learning system” that means all concerned understand how what they do makes a difference, what can be done to improve this within a clear model of accountability and transparency that reflects the complexity and sensitivity of ensuring children are protected.

There are some particular areas that we will consider closely;

• Developing a new approach and model for reviewing practice and supporting arrangements for when these might have fallen short.
• Developing capacity and a model for monitoring, evaluating and assessing how agencies and professionals work together to achieve high quality outcomes for children
• Further formalising and embedding shared arrangements, as appropriate, between the LSCB and other partnerships including the Health and Well-Being Board and Families, Children Trust Board (FACT), Northumberland Safeguarding Adult Board (NSAB) and Safer Northumberland Partnership (SNP).
• Developing as a Board the capacity to “scrutinise” and “challenge” ourselves and others who are involved in ensuring children are safe and protected
• Improving our mechanisms for systematically capturing the voice of the child in the work of the Board.

EQUALITY AND DIVERSITY STATEMENT

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board believes in fairness, equity, dignity and values diversity.

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board is committed to challenging discrimination on the basis of gender, age, disability, race, religion, sexuality or social class.

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board will continue to embed and reflect its equality and diversity values into its work programme, in its policies and procedures and during its meetings.

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board will strive to promote access to opportunities by taking account of peoples differing needs and capabilities and by valuing differences through inclusion, regardless of age, disability, gender, racial origin, religious belief, or sexual orientation.
Keeping Children and Young People Safe from Harm, Abuse and Neglect

NSCB & Sub-Committee Structure

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board

NSCB Business Group

Families & Children’s Trust Board

Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board

Safer Northumberland Partnership Board

Case Review Sub-Committee
Policy, Procedures, Education and Training Sub-Committee
Quality Improvement and Performance Sub-Committee
Vulnerable Young Person’s Sub-Committee
Early Help & Early Intervention Sub-Committee
Child Death (CDOP Sub-Committee)

Education Reference Group
Communication & Engagement
Shared Group with NSAB and SNP
Risk Management Group
Sexual Exploitation
Shared Group with NSAB and SNP

The needs of children with disabilities are considered at all Sub-Committees and Groups
Business Group

Terms of reference: The purpose of the Business Group is;

- To support the effective and efficient operation of the Board and its priorities and activities, by meeting regularly to coordinate and oversee the work of the sub committees
- To prepare for Board meetings
- To respond to Board decisions and requests to ensure these are followed through
- To consider, scope, and further research upon key issues and developments
- To schedule and oversee required reviews, tasks and other activities that relate to the overall effective functioning of the Board
- To create and ensure sufficient time and space is created to ensure the maintenance of the Boards evidence base and intelligence within a collaborative and partnership based environment
- To prepare the Board for relevant regulatory inspections

Chair: Paula Mead, NSCB Independent Chair. Deputy Robin Harper-Coulson NSCB Business Manager

Membership: Sub-Committee Chairs:

Objectives: The purpose of the Business group will be accomplished by;

- Identifying and preparing in collaboration with the Independent chair and subcommittee chairs matters for the Boards consideration that are in line with the Boards core function and agreed priorities.
- Ensuring that all such matters are presented, with sufficient analysis and reflection, in such a form that will enable Board members to engage with the subject and form a view.
- Supporting the sub committees and their chairs in the development of agreed work streams and priorities.
- Coordinating and facilitating areas of work between the sub committees to avoid unnecessary duplication and maximise learning
- Providing, as required, clarification and adjudication on technical, professional and operational matters as may support the core functions of the Board
- Overseeing the allocation of resources available to the Board and informing the Board as necessary regarding resources at its disposal and current priorities/commitments
- Providing Support, challenge and scrutiny on behalf of the Board
- Agreeing and appointing as required Task and Finish groups and to set clear terms of reference/timescales.
- Providing a lead on and a reference point on behalf of the Board for the identification and evaluation of opportunities for cross Board and regionally based approaches
- Alerting the Board promptly to any emerging issues that may require further investigation or discussion.
- The sub-committee will capture in a work plan the actions to be taken to achieve its objectives, the expected outcomes/impacts and the timescale for completion.
Case Review Sub Committee

Terms of reference: The purpose of the Case review is;

- To provide the Board with a rigorous and effective review of safeguarding practice
- To identify and lead on when practice should be subject to formal review
- To lead on an integrated approach to learning from child deaths, areas of practice that create a cause for concern and review practice on a planned basis in line with the Board’s priorities
- In conjunction with the Business Sub-Committee and other Sub-Committees, ensure that activity and outcomes cross reference and complement each other

Chair: Margaret Tench Designated Nurse (Northumberland Clinical Commissioning Group)

Core Membership: Dr Naomi Jones Designated Doctor (CCG), Jane Abbott Safeguarding lead Specialist (NHCFCT), Robin Harper-Coulson (NSCB Co-ordinator), Chris O’Reilly, (LADO), Jane Walker, (Education), Paul Brooks, (Organisational Development, NCC), Dr Swanepoel, (Named GP, Northumberland), Patrick Boyle, (Children’s Services), Mark Ryland, (Northumbria Probation), Carol Southam, (VCS), Leesa Stephenson Deputy Head of Safeguarding, (NTW NHS Foundation Trust), John Douglas Detective Inspector (Northumbria Police), Anna English (Adults Safeguarding)

Extended Membership: Rachel Farnham (Children’s Services), Peter Tilson, (Legal Services, NCC), Jackie Coleman, (Northumbria Police), Debbie Reape, (NHCFCT) Liz Kelly, (Northumbria Probation), Vida Morris, (NTW), Annie Topping Director of Quality & Safety (Northumberland CCG)

(extended Membership to be convened for specific consideration of a Serious Case Review).

Objectives: The purpose of the Case review Sub-Committee will be accomplished by;

- Providing the Board with advice and recommendations for the undertaking of case reviews
- Establishing additional terms of reference as necessary that articulate the differing functions of the subcommittee
- Contributing to the Board’s Annual Report
- Alerting the Board promptly to any emerging issues that may require further investigation or discussion.
- The Sub-Committee will capture in a work plan the actions to be taken to achieve its objectives, the expected outcomes/impacts and the timescale for completion.
Policy, Procedures, Education and Training Sub Committee

The purpose of the Policies, Procedures, Education & Training Sub-Committee is:

- To provide and coordinate an effective programme of training and learning opportunities for the children’s workforce in Northumberland.
- To maintain, review and produce up to date policies and procedures for the children’s workforce and to ensure their content is reflected in training.
- To advise the Board about how we can best learn from Case Reviews and ensure Northumberland has a learning culture.
- In conjunction with the Business Sub Committee and other sub committees ensure that activity and outcomes cross reference and complement each other.
- To discuss ways to overcome barriers in accessing training, ensuring any training delivered is consistent with the needs of the children’s workforce.
- To monitor and evaluate the impact of training and the outcomes on the services provided for children.

Chair: Tracey Horseman, (Northumbria Healthcare, Adult Services)
Membership: Anne Lambert (Learning & Organisational Development, NCC), Chris O’Reilly, Local Authority Designated Officer, NCC. Karen Wylie (Northumbria Probation), Saira Park (Safeguarding & Quality Assurance Officer/NSCB Development Officer) Yvonne Lawrence (Safeguarding Nurse Advisor, Northumbria Healthcare Trust), Becky Wilson, (Northumberland, Tyne & Wear NHS Foundation Trust), Jan Casson, (Early Years), Caroline Friend, (VoICeS Network), Jane Walker (Education, NCC), Margaret Tench (Designated Nurse, Northumberland CCG), Tracey Horseman, (Northumbria Healthcare, Adult Services), Debbie Laviers (Northumbria Police), Caley Banks (Children’s Services, NCC), Jane Telfer (Northumbria Healthcare Trust)

Objectives: The purpose of the Policies, Procedures, Education & Training Sub-Committee will be accomplished by:

- Ensuring the efficient and effective delivery of a multi-agency safeguarding training and learning programme.
- Evaluating and planning training programmes when learning emanates from local and national developments.
- Operating within the content of the Learning Culture Strategy and ensuring it is regularly reviewed.
- Providing and coordinating the collection and sharing of information and data in order to support the review of the Board’s impact and effectiveness.
- Contributing to the Board’s Annual Report.
- Leading on and convening as necessary such events as may contribute to the Board learning culture strategy.
- Alerting the Board promptly to any emerging issues that may require further investigation or discussion.
- The Sub-Committee will capture in a work plan the actions to be taken to achieve its objectives, the expected outcomes/impacts and the timescale for completion.
Vulnerable Young Person’s Sub Committee

**Purpose:**
1. Undertake its functions on behalf of and in line with the NSCB priorities.
2. Ensure that activity and outcomes are cross-referenced with those of the other sub-committees of the NSCB.
3. Commission and oversee relevant audits as determined by this sub-committee or the Business Sub-Committee.
4. Contribute to the NSCB Annual Report

**Membership:**
Chair: Jackie Coleman  Deputy: TBC
Allan Brown, Public Protection, NCC. Carol Leckie, Education & Skills, NCC. Doris Ross/Marian Moon, Disabled Children’s Team, NCC. Emma Gashi, OSM CAMHS. Jane Walker, Virtual Head Teacher for LAC, NCC. Judith Turner, CYPS. Julie Young, Housing, NCC (By exception). Margaret Tench, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, CCG. Maureen Charlton, Head of Student Services, Northumberland College. Naomi Jones, Designated Doctor, NHFT/CCG. Patrick Boyle, Specialist Manager, Children’s Services. Robin Harper-Coulson, NSCB Business Manager, NCC. Serena Thompson, Northumberland Adolescent Service, NCC (By exception). Yvonne Hush, Public Health, NCC

**Objectives**
1. In partnership with the Policies, Procedures & Training Sub-Committee, to provide assurance to the NSCB that staff across all agencies have the knowledge and skills to identify vulnerability in young people and that the processes are in place appropriately.
2. To provide assurance to the NSCB that processes are in place to identify, assess and support especially vulnerable children and young people considered at a high risk.
3. In partnership with the Sexual Exploitation Sub-Committee to ensure the needs of disabled children are considered in all relevant aspects of work undertaken by the sub-committee and reflected in the work plan.
4. To ensure the voice of the child is centric to the work of the sub-committee
Quality Improvement and Performance Sub Committee

Terms of reference: The purpose of the Quality Improvement and Performance Sub-Committee is:

- To develop and implement a performance and quality assurance framework based on the Board’s priorities and in keeping with statutory guidance
- To undertake audit as determined by the subgroup
- To undertake the collation, analysis and dissemination of data, including audits, that are conducted by other sub groups
- To ensure that consideration of information and data relates to the Board’s priorities and function
- To advise and inform the Board as to the sufficiency of this function and its capacity
- To ensure the needs of disabled children, young people and their parents or carer are considered across the sub-committees functions
- To, in conjunction with the Business Sub-Committee and other sub committees, ensure that activity and outcomes cross reference and complement each other
- To issue challenge and request data and views from Board representatives in response to issues raised in performance reporting

Chair: Alan Hartwell (Senior Manager, Education & Safeguarding Performance Team, NCC). Deputy Chair: David Lea, CCG

Membership: Brian Smeaton, (Senior Performance & Development Officer, Performance Team, NCC), David Lea (Northumberland CCG), Fiona Brown (Senior Manager, Children’s Services), Jane Abbott (Named Specialist for Safeguarding Children, NHFT), John Douglas (Detective Inspector, Northumbria Police), Sophie Baird (Public Health Analyst, NCC), Katharine Taylor (Clinical Manager, NHFT), Margaret Tench (Head of Quality & Safety for Children, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, CCG), Rebecca Campbell (NTW), Shauna McEvoy (Performance Quality Assurance Officer, NSCB), Robin Harper-Coulson (NSCB Business Manager)

Objectives The purpose of the Quality Improvement and Performance Sub-Committee will be accomplished by:

- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area of the authority and advising them on ways to improve
- Co-operation with neighbouring children’s services authorities and their Board partners
- Participating in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority
- Assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including early help
- Assess whether LSCB partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations
- Coordinating and developing the Board’s capacity to collect, analyse and distribute such information as required in respect of its priorities, audit in particular
- Alerting the Board promptly to any emerging issues that may require further investigation or discussion, in particular issues arising out of safeguarding inspections.
- Contributing to the Board’s Annual Report
- The Sub-Committee will capture in a work plan the actions to be taken to achieve its objectives, the expected outcomes/impacts and the timescale for completion
- Reporting performance and QA issues to the Board to an agreed frequency
- To develop the Board’s intelligence through reporting prevalence of key indicators, neglect and domestic abuse, for example, within the County
- To provide the Board with benchmarking data so that it can assess performance and QA issues within Northumberland against that of other areas
• To work in conjunction with other sub groups to develop the Board’s understanding of the demographics and prevalence of key indicators, for example, neglect and domestic abuse, missing children and CSE
• Ensure that marginalized and vulnerable children and young people in regards to their life circumstance, mental or physical disability are considered within the work of this sub committee
• Engage in any other activity that facilitates, or is conducive to, the achievement of its objectives
Early Help and Early Intervention Sub Committee

Terms of Reference: The purpose of the early help and early intervention Sub-Committee is:

- To contribute to a shared understanding of what early help and intervention means for Northumberland.
- To assess the effectiveness, timeliness and the impact of help offered and provided to Children and families.
- In conjunction with the Business Group and other Sub-Committees ensure that activity and outcomes cross reference and complement each other.
- To challenge agencies to develop services to fill identified gaps in service provision.
- To promote integrated and effective multi-agency working in early help services.
- To monitor the effectiveness of early help provision in Northumberland by:
  - Developing and monitoring an early help data set.
  - By evaluating audits of early help services.
- To enable integration of early help within statutory services.

Chair: Karen Herne (Public Health Service Manager)  Deputy Chair: Julie McVeigh

Membership: Anna English (Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Adults Safeguarding, NCC), Carol Leckie (Education), Helen Guy (Fire Service), Jackie McCormick (Sure Start Children Centres), Kay Vincent (NHFT), Leila Swarbrick (NHFT), Lynne Maughan (Think Family Children’s Services), Jackie Coleman as requested (Police), Jane Abbott (NHFT), Janice McNichol (NHFT), Julie McVeigh (Barnardos), Julie Dodson (VCS), Kathryn Hardy (NHFT), Margaret Tench (Designated Safeguarding Nurse Northumberland CCG), Mary Connor (Senior Manager Children’s Services), Robin Harper-Coulson (Business Manager, NSCB), Sandra Brown (Northumberland CoE Academy), Veronica Hetherington (NHFT). NTW TBC

Objectives: The purpose of the early help and early intervention Sub-Committee will be achieved by:

- Providing and coordinating the collection and sharing of information and data in order to support the review of the impact and effectiveness of early help.
- Ensuring the NSCB are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities to help (including early help), protect and care for children and young people.
- Undertaking regular and effective monitoring and evaluation of the effectiveness of early help to safeguard children identifying where improvement is required in the quality of practice and services that children, young people and families receive.
- Supporting practitioners and managers working with families to be involved in practice audits, identifying strengths, areas for improvement and lessons to be learned.
- Ensuring the experiences of children, young people and their families are used as a measure of improvement.
- To regularly report to the Board on the work of the Sub-Committee, alerting the Board promptly to any emerging issues that may require further investigation or discussion.
- Contributing to the Business Plan and Annual Report of the Board.
- Working within the Learning & Improvement Framework of the NSCB; to Inform and enhance front line practice
- Contributing to the development of early help step up/step down processes
- Developing a work plan with SMART actions to achieve its objectives, outcomes/impacts and the timescale for completion.
Education Reference Group

Terms of reference

The purpose of the Education Reference Group is:

- to develop a framework to support a new relationship between education settings and the LSCB;
- for education settings to use that framework to support each other as peers;
- to develop and implement a safeguarding assurance and improvement framework for education settings in order to:
  o improve the welfare and safety of children and young people (through the delivery of training audit processes and education improvement offer)
  o provide assurance for establishments and the LSCB of the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and practice (through the s175, s157 audit process, external inspections and reviews)
- provide peer support to Headteachers and Further Education representatives on the LSCB to ensure that:
  o the LSCB is aware of key safeguarding issues and challenges faced by educational establishments
  o emerging safeguarding issues are communicated effectively to all educational establishments
  o the representatives challenge the LSCB and vice versa.

Membership

Chair: Jane Walker, Senior Manager Education and Skills Service (NCC)
Vice chair: Robin Harper-Coulson (Business Manager, NSCB)

Membership:
Saira Park (NSCB Development Officer/Safeguarding & LAC Quality Assurance Officer, NCC,
Carol Leckie (Schools’ Health and Wellbeing Team Manager), Mary Connor (Senior Manager Early Help and NAS), Judith Turner (CYPs), Judith Capstick Meredith (Designated Nurse LAC), Michelle Redfern (Community Engagement Officer, Northumbria Police), Jenny Smith (Swansfield Park Frist School, Alnwick Partnership),
Sandra Brown (NCEA, Ashington Partnership), Louise Mallin (Stead Lane Primary, Bedlington Partnership),
Lesley Poulter (St Benet Biscop High, Catholic Partnership), Gary Hilton (St Mary’s First, Berwick Partnership),
Penny Derries (The Grove Special School, Special School Partnership), Shirley Clement (Croftway Primary, Blyth Partnership),
Richard Bolland (Red Row First, Amble Partnership),
Emma Beeston (Eastlea Primary, Craclington Partnership),
Dafydd Jones (Bellingham Middle, Haydon Bridge Partnership),
Amanda Frankish (Hexham Middle, Hexham Partnership),
Neil Richmond (Stobhillgate First, Morpeth Partnership),
Bryan Stewart (King Edward VI, Morpeth Partnership),
Heather Cape (Richard Coates Middle, Ponteland Partnership),
Andy Hudson (Mickley First, Prudhoe Partnership),
Jon Souter (Whytrig Middle, Seaton Valley Partnership),
John Barnes (Astley High, Headteacher Rep on LSCB),
Helen Norris (Northumberland College)

Objectives

- consider, scope, and further research key issues and developments relating to safeguarding standards in schools;
- prepare schools for external scrutiny, including from Ofsted;
- effectively disseminate to education settings learning which emerges from management and serious case reviews;
- provide the Board with a rigorous and effective review of safeguarding practice in education settings;
- maintain, review and produce up to date policies and procedures for education settings;
- promote accessibility to and awareness of information and resources that help to keep children safe and protected in education settings;
- provide a forum where professionals from across agencies and education settings can coordinate and collaborate on strategic plans designed to keep children safe;
- in conjunction with the Business Sub-Committee and other sub committees ensure that activity and outcomes cross reference and complement each other.
Sexual Exploitation Joint Sub Committee

The purpose of the Sexual Exploitation Sub Committee is:

- To provide strategic leadership for all partner agencies on behalf of Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer Northumberland Partnership, supporting each board to promote early identification, prevention and protection of vulnerable children, young people and vulnerable adults from sexual exploitation, promoting recovery and bringing offenders to justice.

Membership: Members will be of sufficient seniority to be able to effect change, being responsible for raising issues and feeding back to their own agencies. Membership will be drawn from, but not limited to:

Chair: Margaret Tench, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, Northumberland CCG
Deputy: Ian Billham, Strategic Community Safety Manager, Northumberland County Council
Chair of Vulnerable Young Persons Sub-Committee: Jackie Coleman, Detective Chief Inspector, Northumbria Police

Anna English, Adults Safeguarding, NCC, Brian Smeaton, Senior Performance & Development Officer, NCC, Carol Leckie, Team Manager, Education & Skills, NCC, Fiona Kane, Head of Quality and Patient Safety Adults/Designated Adult Safeguarding Manager, Northumberland CCG. Jackie Coleman, Detective Chief Inspector, Northumbria Police. Jane Abbott, NHFT. John Douglas, Detective Inspector, Northumbria Police. John Smith, Deputy Youth Service Manager, Youth Service, NCC. Jan Grey, Head of Safeguarding and Public Protection, NTW. Judith Turner, CYPD. Julie Dodson, Director, Voices. Julie Young, Housing Services Manager, NCC. Karen Herne, Public Health Service Manager, NCC, Karen Hughes, Manager, National Probation Service. Lorraine Topping, Missing Children’s Social Worker, NCC. Mary Connor, Senior Manager, Early Intervention and Prevention, NCC. Maureen Charlton, Head of Student Services, Northumberland College. Naomi Jones, Designated Doctor, Northumberland CCG Patrick Boyle, Senior Manager, Specialist Services, NCC. Robin Harper Coulson, NSCB Business Manager, NCC. Tracey Horseman, Learning and Development Lead, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Objectives:

- To undertake delegated functions on behalf of NSCB, NSAB and Safer Northumberland Partnership
- To take a strategic lead on all issues relating to the sexual exploitation of children and vulnerable adults in Northumberland
- To oversee and monitor the implementation of the Sexual Exploitation Strategy incorporating the views of service users and a multi-agency risk prevalence profile
- To seek assurance that all relevant staff in Northumberland receive relevant training appropriate to their role
- To seek assurance children and young people are being appropriately educated regarding the issues surrounding child sexual exploitation
- To identify and disseminate emerging good practice, risks and areas for development, best practice as well as learning from reviews and research locally and nationally
- To promote the use of high quality and effective risk assessment for sexual exploitation
- To develop a communication strategy to improve general awareness across the population of Northumberland
Communication and Engagement Joint Sub Committee

Purpose:

- To provide strategic leadership for all partner agencies on behalf of Safer Northumberland Partnership (SNP), Northumberland Safeguarding Children Board (NSCB) and Northumberland Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB), supporting each board to promote effective communication with all stakeholders, service users and communities in Northumberland. To actively engage with stakeholders, service users and communities.

Objectives:

- To develop and implement a communication and engagement strategy and underpinning action plan to improve general awareness of board priorities and business
- To undertake delegated functions on behalf of NSCB, NSAB and SNP
- To take a strategic lead on all communication and engagement on behalf of NSCB, NSAB and SNP
- To coordinate all campaigns and events on behalf of SNP, NSAB and NSCB
- To identify and disseminate emerging good practice, risks and areas for development, best practice as well as learning from reviews and research locally and nationally

Governance arrangements:

- To provide regular reports and contribute to the annual reports of NSCB, NSAB and SNP as well as where identified by other boards.
- To share minutes and ensure cross representation of NSCB, NSAB and SNP.
- As required, Task and Finish Groups can be convened to undertake specific, time limited pieces of work

Membership: Members will be of sufficient seniority to be able to effect change, being responsible for raising issues and feeding back to their own agencies.

Membership will be drawn from, but not limited to: Chair: Ian Billham, Northumberland SNP Deputy: Robin Harper-Coulson NSCB Business Manager

Northumberland County Council:
- Strategic Community Safety
- Safeguarding Adults
- Safeguarding Children
- Education
- Strategic Housing
- Communications
- Fire and Rescue Service

Northumbria Police
Northumbria Foundation Health Care Trust
Northumbria Police
Clinical Commissioning Group
Public Health
Review of Business Plan and overall effectiveness

The Board increasingly is focused on supporting members to deliver a coherent and consistent vision and direction in how they work together to ensure children and young people are safe.

This includes supporting a learning and improvement framework, providing qualitative and quantitative review, ensuring that professional judgements are delivered to the highest standard in a timely and effective manner across the children’s workforce. The Board must also provide strategic leaders, professionals and the public with a level of understanding and assurance about how risks are reduced in order that they may have confidence in how children are safeguarded.

An essential part of this is to ensure that we are able to evaluate our own effectiveness and meet the requirements of external scrutiny. Therefore the following will be incorporated in the way that the Board operates:

- The Business Group, Sub Committees and Reference Groups will produce an outcome focused action plan that addresses how they will work towards the identified objectives and how they will recognise achievement in the context of the impact it has and how it contributes to the key functions of the Board.
- The Board will publish an Annual Report in August 2015 and following years
- The Board will amend the Business Plan in the light of this review and report
- The Board will commission an internal audit during the timescale of this plan into the functioning of the sub-committees and the challenge within the NSCB
- The Board will amend the current plan in light of changed circumstances and ongoing learning.