



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children’s Board Meeting  
16<sup>th</sup> May 2019, 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
Steve Ammari (for Scott Hall)	Superintendent, Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	SA
Sheila Askew	Senior Operational Support Manager, NPS, North of Tyne	SAs
John Barnes	Head Teacher, Astley High School, NCC	JB
Deborah Brown	Community Safety Department Policy & Team Manager, Northumberland Fire & Rescue, NCC	DB
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Dean Jackson	Service Director, Education and Skills, NCC	DJ
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, Child Protection, CCG	NJ
Lindsey Kirk (for Catherine Joyce)	Children’s Centre Manager, Action for Children	LK
Cath McEvoy-Carr	Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services, NCC	CMC
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Graham Reiter	Service Director, Children’s Social Care, NCC	GR
Paula Shandran	Professional & Operational Lead Safeguarding Adults & Children, Safeguarding Service, NHCFT	PS
Leesa Stephenson (for Vida Morris)	Safeguarding and Public Protection Manager / Named Nurse, NHCFT	LS
Margaret Tench	Head of Quality & Safety (Children), Designated Nurse, Northumberland CCG	MT
Jan Tilson	IRO Safeguarding Manager, NCC	JT
Annie Topping	Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW

Karen Wright (for Anna English)	Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Safeguarding Adults	KW
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Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children’s Services, Barnardo’s	SB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children’s Services	WD
Anna English	Senior Manager, Adult Services, NCC	AE
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Robin Harper-Coulson	NSCB Business Manager, NCC	RHC
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children’s Services, Action for Children	CJ
Jane Kennedy	Head Teacher, Corbridge Middle School, NCC	JK
Vida Morris	North Locality Group Nurse Director, NTW	VM
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
Philip Soderquest	Head of Housing and Public Protection, NCC	PS
Martyn Strike	Deputy Director, North of Tyne CRC	MS

In Attendance		
Dorothy Chambers	Senior Manager – MASH	DC
Tracey Stott	Business Manager, NPS (observer with Sheila Askew)	TS
Sandra Blackwood	NSCB Business Support (Minute Taker)	SBI

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
1.	<p><b>Welcome, Introductions &amp; Apologies for Absence</b></p> <p>PM welcomed everyone to the meeting. 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 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were accepted.</p> <p>The action log was reviewed and updated - see separate document.</p>		
4.	<p><b>Items to Report &amp; Discussion</b></p>		
4.1.	<p><b>SCR Learning Reviews (papers) – Margaret Tench</b></p> <p>MT presented the 2 SILP learning reviews undertaken by Robin (Sean) and herself (Thomas). Learning will be shared via the Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG).</p> <p><u>Thomas</u> MT will be preparing a 7 minute briefing and learning will be embedded in training. SA provided assurance that thorough national as well as local Police checks are being undertaken, in order to provide complete personal information.</p> <p><u>Sean</u> Assurances have been fed back to the CDOP. MT confirmed that a flag can now be put on the GP system to flag up learning disability, although in this particular case, the mother's disability was not evidenced in her medical records and many such disabilities can remain undiagnosed. GR gave assurance of management oversight especially in cases with long term neglect, by challenging thresholds and having discussions and training in supervisions. MT reiterated the importance of seeking supervision around those with low thresholds. SR commented that professionals need to be reminded of the population norm, as sometimes standards are seen to be lowered when working with certain population groups or with families with chronic concerns. SR asked if feedback had been provided on the positive work undertaken by the student Social Worker. <b>Action:</b> RHC to confirm if feedback was provided to the student Social Worker, as well as to the Dentists for their work in referring Sean to Children's Services.</p> <p>The Board thanked MT and RHC; good practice as well as the learning has been identified.</p>	RHC	
4.2.	<p><b>MASH 12 month review (papers) – Dorothy Chambers</b></p> <p>DC presented an annual review of One Call, the single point of access for Children's and Adults' services. Overall, there is a positive picture of good practice. Some future</p>		

	<p>considerations are around the:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Capture and analysis of data (this is being reviewed by a member of the performance team who visits MASH monthly before each performance clinic)</li> <li>• Development of MARAC arrangements</li> <li>• Consideration of whole family meetings (safeguarding transitions is a priority for Adult Safeguarding Board and there will be discussions around using MASH as a platform for improvements)</li> </ul> <p>SA agreed that the MARAC arrangements offer a more dynamic service and cases are progressed more quickly.                  NJ commented that the responses are more consistent. However there are questions about the coverage across the whole locality which will be discussed further with DC. Outlying areas have been piloting options.</p> <p>The Board thanked DC for the information and asked that updates be provided to the Board on an on-going basis.</p>		
<p><b>4.3.</b></p>	<p><b>HMIC Police Inspection report (paper) – Steve Ammari</b></p> <p>SA provided an overview of the post-inspection of child protection by HMICFRS. To note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 5 key areas of consideration on the action plan</li> <li>• THRIVE and Re-THRIVE are now embedded</li> <li>• Supervised oversight re. missing children</li> <li>• The term ‘absent’ has been removed – this had resource implications and has resulted in changes to processes and cultural attitudes</li> <li>• Risk Assessments are now more in-depth</li> <li>• 3 new Missing from Home Coordinators</li> <li>• Approx. <sup>38</sup>/<sub>39</sub> of those offered a return interview (RI) were from another LA. Gateshead have had a 68% increase in missing children, possibly as a result of an influx of external LAC. It is the responsibility of the LAC’s LA to complete a RI or have an agreement in place for another LA to complete this on their behalf.</li> </ul> <p><b>Action:</b> GR to coordinate a multi-agency focus group/Task and Finish Group to consider how a multi-agency procedure would assist police capacity, with MASH and MSET colleagues and the Missing Children’s Lead</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ISO compliance has been obtained, so a quality standard is in place for tackling the delays with digital forensics</li> <li>• Gaps in the health care provision and assessing needs at time of custody – this service is provided by a third party provider. NTW is looking at streamlining assessments and access to services and support</li> <li>• A new IT system should be in place within the next 18 months</li> <li>• This report is discussed at a strategic forum level; outstanding actions will be completed over the next few months</li> </ul> <p>The Board thanked SA for his review.</p>	<p><b>GR</b></p>	
<p><b>4.4.</b></p>	<p><b>Suicide Strategy (paper) – Liz Morgan</b></p> <p>LM presented a progress report on the Suicide Prevention Strategy and</p>		

	<p>Action Plan, providing the Board with assurance that there is a continued focus around suicides. This is a 5 year multi-agency strategy which reflects national guidance, with a focus on local and national suicides.</p> <p>The mental health Trailblazer project is going well and there is continual commitment to early intervention. Every school in Northumberland has been invited to participate in this project. Work around relationships with the new PHSE guidance from September and the review of social media in young adults, will strengthen the improvements.</p> <p>The Board thanked LM for her update.</p>		
4.5.	<p><b>Performance and Audit Report (paper) – Alan Hartwell</b></p> <p>AH presented the May 2019 report. To note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Recommendation that we use the toolkit from Sunderland as a common template</li> <li>• GR provided assurance that CP visits are being constantly monitored</li> <li>• Care proceeding timelines are often in the hands of the court and Newcastle court has the longest ‘waits’ in the country; a recent report into care proceedings recommended changes that have yet to be implemented. Delays are picked up internally during monthly reviews by LW and the Legal Gateway meetings</li> <li>• Regarding RIs, data sharing has improved and there is more intelligence around problem solving. The Voice of the Child is often being reported. RIs are not being captured on the regional dataset but will be monitored in the LA performance reports</li> <li>• The Board agreed that the LA and Police are focussing on the ‘right’ data</li> </ul>		
4.6.	<p><b>LA Improvement Plan – Improvement framework 2019 (papers) – Cath McEvoy-Carr</b></p> <p>GR presented the Improvement Plan. There are 8 priorities and progress is monitored monthly. Improvements in practice are being seen e.g. work around care leavers, assessments, and AYSE academy. Workforce stability is a major factor; it underpins quality and provides consistency for practice. Practice days are found to be beneficial. Partner commitment is integral in the upcoming Child In Need audit.</p> <p>The Board thanked partners for their support. The evidence supports improvements.</p>		
4.7.	<p><b>Safeguarding Practice Review Group Update (paper) – Margaret Tench</b></p> <p>MT presented an update and informed the Board that the three SILP trainees have passed their final assignments. They will present at the next Policies, Procedures &amp; Training subcommittee meeting and discuss internal sustainability.</p>		
4.8.	<p><b>Annual Reports</b></p> <p><b>CDOP (paper) – Margaret Tench</b></p>		

	<p>MT presented the final annual report (April 2017 to March 2018). Co-sleeping is a common theme and was discussed at the Early Help &amp; Early Intervention subcommittee and Child Accident Panel. SR asked about data on breastfeeding but it is unclear whether this is being collected. LM noted that smoking at time of delivery is captured and progress on this could be fed into the Children's and Young Persons action plan.</p>		
4.9.	<p><b>NSSP-HWBB-Protocol revised draft 2019-20 (paper) – Graham Reiter / Cath McEvoy-Carr</b></p> <p>The incorrect paper was circulated with the agenda, so to be added to the next meeting's agenda, for information.</p>		
5.	<p><b>Information Items</b></p>		
5.1.	<p><b>Business Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (paper)</b></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on 23<sup>rd</sup> April 2019 were distributed with the agenda, for information.</p> <p>An outstanding action from Eve's SCR, looking at multi-agency, integrated chronologies, was discussed at this meeting. There would be difficulties and cost implications having one single chronolator. PM has sought written assurance from agencies that their own chronology system is robust. The group agreed that when providing chronology data, the critical point is that it is analysed and challenged. With the risk now manageable and minimised, the Board agreed that this SCR action is closed.</p>		
5.2.	<p><b>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes (paper)</b></p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were distributed with the agenda, for information.</p>		
5.3.	<p><b>NHCFT Safeguarding Children and Adults Annual Report 2018-2019 (paper)</b></p> <p>The Board thanked Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust for their excellent annual report, which was circulated with the agenda, for information.</p>		
6.	<p><b>Any Other Business</b></p> <p>JB provided positive feedback on the recently circulated 7minute briefing on Alcohol Free Childhood and asked if this could be shared with parents. DJ confirmed that it will be publicised through the school bulletins and the schools can add the information to their own social media accounts.</p>		
7.	<p><b>Dates and Times of Future Meetings:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 25<sup>th</sup> July, 24<sup>th</sup> September and 21<sup>st</sup> November</li> </ul> <p>(all meetings are diarised for 1pm to 4pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP)</p>		

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	✓	✓	Mark Lennox	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mark Lennox	✓			
John Barnes	✓	DNA	✓	A	✓	A	✓	A	✓			
Ian Billham	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓	A	A				
Lindsay Blackmore	✓	Gary Connor	Gary Connor	A	✓	A	Now Martyn Strike					
Deborah Brown	✓	Helen Guy	✓	A	DNA	Ian Moffat	✓	Charlotte Sayers	✓			
Sian Bufton/Emma Ramsay	A	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A			
Karen Burns	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓			
Wayne Daley	A	A	A	✓	A	A	DNA	A	A			
Marion Dickson							Jane Smyth	A	A			
Julie Dodson	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	DNA					
Anna English	DNA	A	A	✓	DNA	✓	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright			
Nicholas Greenley	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A			
Scott Hall					✓	✓	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari			

Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A			
Alan Hartwell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Dean Jackson	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓			
Andy Johnson	A	A	Retired-now Dean Jackson	N/A								
Jackie Jollands	Ann Marshall	✓	Ann Marshall	✓	✓							
Naomi Jones	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Catherine Joyce	✓	✓	Julie Ayres	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	Lindsey Kirk			
Jane Kennedy					✓	A	✓	✓	A			
Cath McEvoy-Carr	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Ellie Monkhouse	✓	✓	Jane Smith	Trish Grant	DNA	Trish Grant	Now Marion Dickson					
Liz Morgan	A	A	✓	Karen Horne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Vida Morris						✓	✓	✓	Leesa Stephenson			
Mick Paterson	✓	Paul Woods	✓	✓	Now Scott Hall							
Deborah Reeman	✓	A	A	Retired								
Sue Reilly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓			
Jill Scarr	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A			
Phil Soderquest	✓	A	Julie Young	A	✓	A	DNA	DNA	A			



Martyn Strike							✓	✓	A			
Margaret Tench	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			
Jan Tilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	Karen MacDonald	✓	✓			
Annie Topping	A	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓			
Lynsey Wafer	✓	✓	✓	Helen Coombs	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓			

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies