



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children’s Board Meeting
20th November 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
Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children’s Services, Barnardo’s’ East	SB
Carly Dobson	Children’s Service Manager, Barnardo’s (shadowing Sian Bufton)	CD
Anna English	Senior Manager, Adult Services, NCC	AE
Trish Grant (for Ellie Monkhouse)	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children, NHCFT	TG
Scott Hall	Detective Chief Superintendent, Northumbria Police	SH
Robin Harper-Coulson	Business Manager, NSCB	RHC
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Dean Jackson	Service Director, Education and Skills, NCC	DJ
Janice Jolley (for Karen Burns)	Practice Supervisor, CAFCASS	JJ
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, Child Protection, CCG	NJ
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children’s Services, Action for Children	CJ
Cath McEvoy-Carr	Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children’s Services, NCC	CM
Ian Moffat (for Deborah Brown)	Community Safety Delivery Manager, Northumberland Fire & Rescue	IM
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Vida Morris	Group Nurse Director, NTW	VM
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Graham Reiter	Service Director, Children’s Social Care, NCC	GR
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS

Margaret Tench	Designated Nurse, Northumberland CCG	MT
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
John Barnes	Head Teacher, Astley High School	JB
Lindsay Blackmore	Director of Offender Management, Northumbria Rehabilitation Company	LB
Deborah Brown	Northumberland Fire & Rescue	DB
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
Julie Dodson	Director, Voices	JD
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Jane Kennedy	Head Teacher, Corbridge Middle School	JK
Ellie Monkhouse	Executive Director of Nursing, NHCFT	EM
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing, NCC	PS
Jan Tilson	IRO Safeguarding Manager, NCC	JT
Annie Topping	Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Adele Wright	Acting Head of Service (Safeguarding), NCC	AW
Julie Young	Strategic Housing Manager, NCC	JY

In Attendance		
Patrick Boyle	Senior Manager, Children's Services, NCC	PB
Adam Hall	Independent Reviewing Officer (LADO), Children's Safeguarding Team, NCC	AH
Jess Matthews	Graduate Management Trainee, Community Safety, NCC	JM
Lesley Pyle	DA & SV Coordinator, Northumberland and North Tyneside	LP
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 everyone to the meeting. 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 20th September 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>New safeguarding arrangements</p> <p>Peter Storey (PS) was unable to attend.</p> <p>CM reported that Early Adopter funding was in place, to assist in the review of safeguarding models. PS has been commissioned to look at all options by March 2019, with the final model decided by June - a steering group meets monthly to discuss. SH mentioned the beneficial ability to share with other LAs who have Early Adopter funding. Radical changes aren't expected and we still meet the requirements of Working Together 2018 - the review appears to be evolutionary rather than revolutionary. RHC noted that themes are being looked at by the 6 LA Business Managers for standardisation e.g. Policies and Procedures, Training and Development, S11 audit, Local Practice Reviews and Performance Scorecard.</p>		
4.2.	<p>Annual Reports (papers)</p> <p>a) <u>Designated Officer</u></p> <p>Adam Hall presented his 2017-18 Report and answered questions. He confirmed that the term 'Designated Officer (DO)' has replaced 'Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)', to fit in with Ofsted's approach. When asked how an allegation is closed when an employee resigns, AH advises employers to continue the disciplinary process. The DO has the ability to present an argument to the DBS for disclosure of information if necessary. AH asked the group to consider the informative service he provides, which is best done proactively rather than reactively.</p> <p>Action: Agencies to consider utilising the training available from the DO.</p> <p>b) <u>Disabled Children & Young People subcommittee update</u></p> <p>NJ presented the first/annual update from the newly formed DC&YP subgroup. She thanked agencies for providing representation for these quarterly meetings.</p> <p>A multi-agency case file audit is taking place on 14th December. PB suggested that it would be interesting to undertake a future audit looking at how many children under S47s were known to have a disability.</p> <p>PM thanked NJ for her excellent leadership in advancing the DC&YP and CM reiterated that the recent SEND Inspection had good feedback for the services supporting this group.</p>	<p>All</p>	

	<p>c) <u>Independent Reviewing Service Report</u></p> <p>JT was unavailable to present her 2017-18 Annual Independent Reviewing Officer Report; the group felt that it would be good to have a full scrutiny of this at the next meeting.</p> <p>Action: JT to present this report at the next meeting (22nd January 2019).</p>	JT	
4.3.	<p>Performance and Audit Report (paper) – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented the November 2018 report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Only ‘significant Improved PIs’ had been listed; other improvements in the performance data have been seen. • The Board agreed to the QIP’s suggestion of the removal of 5 PIs. • Working with Fathers/significant males remains an issue and was discussed by the Board. CM recommended a multi-agency deep dive. SB noted that a model is used in Newcastle where a Dad’s worker attends the 20 week scan visit, which usually enhances engagement by the fathers – this is a good model if starting at the very beginning. At the same time, need to ensure that it continues to be built in to the training programme and raised at supervisions. Professional curiosity was mentioned – staff need to follow up ‘absent’ parents more thoroughly. • The joint targeted area inspection of the multi-agency response to sexual abuse in the family in York was published earlier this month. • SH reported that IT systems are being upgraded in the Police force which should make capturing and analysing data easier in the future. Regarding commissioning a CSA problem profile, Northumbria Police are working with other agencies to gather this information. • CPC data – AH will bring data re attendance and reports to each Board meeting. 		
4.4.	<p>LA Improvement Plan (paper) – Cath McEvoy-Carr</p> <p>CM presented her update. Steady progress is being made. A self-assessment was submitted recently, which will be challenged by Middlesbrough and Darlington next month. A new improvement plan will be discussed tomorrow and care planning will be one of the focus areas. This plan will continue to be brought to the Board on a 6 monthly basis, for scrutiny and challenge.</p>		
4.5.	<p>Safeguarding Practice Review Group Update (paper) – Margaret Tench</p> <p>MT presented her report, which was provided to the recent Business subcommittee.</p> <p>The Executive Summary for Natalie has been sent to all parties, requesting final feedback. Ofsted and the National Panel will be notified, with the plan to publish on 12th December. 7 minute guides have been developed and learning is embedded in frontline training.</p> <p>The R family action plan will be discussed at the next SPRG meeting (5th December) and a learning review of a local case discussion is planned for January.</p>		

<p>4.6.</p>	<p>Missing Children – Patrick Boyle</p> <p>PB presented an update on the work undertaken with Barnardo’s around children and young people missing from home, care and education and the completion of Return Interviews (RIs).</p> <p>In the summer of 2018, PB and RHC completed a review of this work (for March 2017 to March 2018), which was shared with the Corporate Parenting Committee, Business Subcommittee and the SE subcommittee. An updated report has just been completed, to cover up to Sept 2018.</p> <p>Developments:</p> <p>Appointed an Early Help Team Manager at MASH and interviewing next month for a dedicated CSE Senior Practitioner within MASH.</p> <p>On 5th November, Operation Endeavour was launched (this started as a pilot with Northumbria Police and NCC, replicating the success of Operation Encompass, where all schools and colleges (Northumberland and Newcastle) and education providers are notified when a child has been reported missing). Early indications are positive, with schools appreciating the additional information and highlighting the importance of children being reported as missing.</p> <p>Northumbria Police hosted and facilitated a workshop last month with the 6 neighbouring LAs, reviewing the RMG process.</p> <p>Data:</p> <p>Police data shows an increase in missing cases over the last 2 years. However, the recent Police data shows a 9% reduction in the region.</p> <p>The majority of children and young people missing are White British, aged 14-16 and male (60% male, 40% female).</p> <p>The data demonstrates that the vast majority are open cases, either Child in Need, LAC or Child Protection; therefore they are supported by multi-agency care teams and oversight from an IRO. LAC children are prioritised for completing RIs.</p> <p>There are a low, but steady number of children and young people who go missing who are not open to Early Help or Social Care and there has been an increase in referrals to Early Help and the Early Intervention Hubs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 572 Missing, 412 RI offered 86%. • 76% completed within 72 hours. • 46% offered and accepted; this has increased. <p>Those offered and refused - evidence of activity to gather evidence and information from other sources and clear communication with the SW.</p> <p>The majority of missing episodes took place in the Cowpen, Kitty Brewster, Newsham and Croft areas and this links to the five LAC who were going missing in June 2018.</p> <p>Spike in missing in June 2018 - linked to a cohort of 5 LAC going missing, all from the SE. Placement match and placement stability seems to be a</p>		
-------------	--	--	--

key factor to reduce missing episodes, especially if placed outside of Northumberland away from their hometown. Some resulted in requiring secure placement, YOI and placement in Scotland.

In addition to this, during the summer of 2018, another LAC had frequently featured in the Police top 10 missing list, averaging around 10 missing episodes each month. However, when examining these missing episodes, this young person was visiting home and there did not appear to be risks around CSE or exploitation. Many of the missing episodes were reported during the day when the care staff could not locate the child by mobile telephone for 2-4 hours, in line with the care plan, which was reviewed and revised and the missing episodes significantly reduced.

- 9 children responsible for 153 missing episodes. 53 LAC responsible for 233 missing episodes.
- 32% of the LAC missing episodes were in June 2018.

LAC are more likely to be reported missing, often linked to their care plan and their vulnerability. Can be a challenge to complete RIs.

June to Sept: decrease in NCC LAC placed in Northumberland going missing, increase in NCC LAC placed out of Northumberland and a greater increase in OLA LAC placed in NCC.

Although we get OLA notifications, we don't get location risk assessment, risk assessment and care plans. Also, which RMG/MSETs do they belong to? With Police taking control of these meetings, there might be an opportunity to close the gap around this.

The inquiry by the All Party Parliamentary Group found that out of area placements are a contributory factor for missing episodes.

Many go missing to be with friends and family.

Many are missing at weekends, which makes it a challenge to complete the RI within 72 hours, especially if a bank holiday weekend.

Of the majority of children and young people, 65% were missing for less than 24 hours; however, three children were missing for more than 5 days.

56% of children and young people reported during the RIs that they had been offered drugs or alcohol (mainly cannabis) and 15% shared that they had experienced criminal activity, mainly criminal damage, stealing, breaking and entering, although 2 said they had witnessed a stabbing.

Children and young people shared that they felt safe when they returned from the missing episode, however, many shared that they would still go missing again. Of the missing episodes between April and September 2018, 75% who responded scored a 4 or 5 in the safe question, indicating that they felt safe. 22% scored 4 or 5 about going missing in the future, indicating that they would likely go missing again,

The most recent information shared by the Police regarding the CSE profile in Northumberland also highlights the importance of being aware of online abuse. The data shows that between 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018, there were 41 sexual exploitation referrals submitted to Northumberland. Of the 41 referrals, 16 related to online exploitation.

	<p>There has been a dip in the number of RIs completed in April, June and September 2018, however, for these months, the number of missing episodes are lower.</p> <p>In relation to recording and evidencing the RIs, it is positive that over 90% of completed RIs were recorded on ICS within 5 days.</p> <p>Next steps: Northumbria Police, Social Care, the Performance Team and Barnardo's to meet bi monthly to share information and data and undertake a regular, joint analysis of the missing episodes, to include the analysis and impact of the RIs and interventions.</p> <p>The monthly analysis to include checking other LAC placed in Northumberland and those children placed in Ferndene to ensure they are recorded on NCC's ICS and that we have a copy of the up to date location risk assessment, care and safety plan.</p> <p>To consider completing joint RIs with Northumbria Police for those children and young people who are persistently going missing or refusing to complete RIs, for a coordinated and persistent approach to ensure that they are safeguarded and supported.</p> <p>When commissioning placements with private providers and in other LAs, the Missing From Placement Policy to be consistently collated at the start of the placement and for this to be added to the monitoring document and collected and reviewed when the annual commissioning review takes place. Also, to reinforce arrangements for the completion of RIs to be shared with the allocated Social Worker and Barnardo's Workers.</p> <p>The Quality of Practice Audit Group to undertake case file audits regarding the quality and impact of RIs and work undertaken with children and young people who are reported as missing to ensure that they are safeguarded and supported and children and young people have optimal outcomes.</p> <p>Progress the regional work with Northumbria Police and the neighbouring LAs around the RMG and MSETs and develop an implementation plan.</p> <p>As the proposal is for the MSETs to cover children and adults, this provides the opportunity to consider with Adult Care colleagues.</p> <p>Further reports from Children's Social Care, Northumbria Police and Barnardo's around missing will be shared with the NSCB, Corporate Parenting Advisory Groups and the Safer Northumberland Partnership, to include the development of the Missing, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked.</p>		
<p>4.7.</p>	<p>Domestic Violence & Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Strategy (paper) – Lesley Pyle</p> <p>LP presented the Strategy, on behalf of the Domestic Violence Abuse & Sexual Abuse Business Group and noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The action plan will be updated annually. • The Needs Assessment is being reviewed, to improve multi-agency data collection. 		

	The Board thanked LP for her work in this area and on this document in particular; the Strategy will go to all 3 Boards for agreement		
4.8.	<p>Early Help Family Worker Report (paper) – Mary Connor</p> <p>MC presented her Report, for information and questioning and was thanked by the Board.</p> <p>PM asked if the term ‘parents’ also refers to fathers or did it really mean mothers? MC commented that fathers are encouraged to be involved e.g. Incredible Years programme but admittedly more could be done to involve and record their participation. The Board would like to see explicit focus on fathers.</p>		PM
5.	Information Items		
5.1.	<p>Business Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (papers)</p> <p>The minutes and action log from the meeting on 30th October 2018 were distributed previously, for information.</p>		
5.2.	<p>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes</p> <p>None available.</p>		
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Future of NSCB</u></p> <p>CM has received a draft letter following the recent SEND inspection and will bring the SEND Report to the next meeting. Action: CM to present the SEND Inspection Report at the next meeting (22nd January 2019).</p> <p><u>CDOP Annual Report</u></p> <p>The draft Report was made available from the Child Death Overview Panel on 16th November and circulated with the meeting papers. Action: MT to present it at the next meeting (22nd January 2019).</p> <p><u>Domestic Abuse Awareness week</u></p> <p>LP informed the group of the North of Tyne DA Awareness week, from 25th to 30th November, starting with the annual DIVA walk from Tynemouth to Whitley Bay and ending with a lunchtime walk from County Hall to Storey Park.</p> <p><u>Northumbrian Police staff changes</u></p> <p>SH mentioned recent changes with the Police structure; Mick Paterson has moved to another department and Steve Ammari, who started on Monday, will be deputising for SH.</p>	CM MT	
7.	<p>Dates and Times of Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 22nd January 2019 • 14th March, 16th May, 25th July, 24th September and 21st November <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	✓	✓	✓						
John Barnes	✓	DNA	✓	A	✓	A						
Ian Billham	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓						
Lindsay Blackmore	✓	Gary Connor	Gary Connor	A	✓	A						
Deborah Brown	✓	Helen Guy	✓	A	DNA	Ian Moffat						
Sian Bufton/Emma Ramsay	A	A	A	✓	✓	✓						
Karen Burns	✓	A	A	✓	A	A						
Wayne Daley	A	A	A	✓	A	A						
Julie Dodson	✓	A	A	A	✓	A						
Anna English	DNA	A	A	✓	DNA	✓						
Nicholas Greenley	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A						
Scott Hall					✓	✓						
Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓						
Alan Hartwell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						

Dean Jackson	N/A	N/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	✓	✓							
Jane Kennedy					✓	A							
Cath McEvoy	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓							
Ellie Monkhouse	✓	✓	Jane Smith	Trish Grant	DNA	Trish Grant							
Liz Morgan	A	A	✓	Karen Herne	✓	✓							
Vida Morris						✓							
Mick Paterson	✓	Paul Woods	✓	✓	N/A – Scott Hall								
Deborah Reeman	✓	A	A	Retired									
Sue Reilly	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓							
Jill Scarr	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓							
Phil Soderquest	✓	A	Julie Young	A	✓	A							

Margaret Tench	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓						
Jan Tilson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A						
Annie Topping	A	✓	A	✓	A	A						
Lynsey Wafer	✓	✓	✓	Helen Coombs	✓	✓						

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies