



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children’s Board Meeting
20th September 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
John Barnes	Head Teacher, Astley High School	JB
Lindsay Blackmore	Director of Offender Management, Northumbria Rehabilitation Company	LB
Ian Billham	Strategic Community Safety Manager, NCC	IB
Julie Dodson	Director, Voices	JD
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Scott Hall	Detective Chief Superintendent, Northumbria Police	SH
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Robin Harper-Coulson	Business Manager, NSCB	RHC
Jane Kennedy	Head Teacher, Corbridge Middle School	JK
Jackie Jollands	Nurse Director, NTW NHS Foundation Trust	JJ
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, Child Protection, CCG	NJ
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children’s Services, Action for Children	CJ
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Emma Ramsay	Assistant Director Children’s Services, Barnardo’s East	ER
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Graham Reiter	Service Director, Children’s Social Care, NCC	GR
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing, NCC	PS
Margaret Tench	Designated Nurse, Northumberland CCG	MT
Jan Tilson	IRO Safeguarding Manager, NCC	JT
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
Dean Jackson	Service Director, Education and Skills, NCC	DJ
Cath McEvoy	Executive Director of Children's Services, NCC	CM
Ellie Monkhouse	Executive Director of Nursing, NHCFT	EM
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
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		
Fiona Brown	Senior Manager, Wellbeing and Community Health Services Group, NCC	FB
Louise Gray	Public Health Speciality Registrar, NCC	LG
Yvonne Hush	Public Health Manager, NCC	YH
Jess Matthews	Graduate Management Trainee, Community Safety, NCC	JM
Jane Walker	Virtual School Headteacher, NCC	JW
Sandra Blackwood	NSCB Business Support (Minute Taker)	SB

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 19th July 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>Northumberland School Health & Wellbeing Survey – presentation by Yvonne Hush and Louise Gray</p> <p>YH and LG presented the 2017 survey results (distributed post meeting with the minutes). This survey was a more streamlined survey to the Health & Wellbeing Questionnaire undertaken in 2013 and 2015. It was an anonymous survey; the school was identifiable to public health though, which helped to feedback on any important issues picked up from students’ responses. Children completed the responses themselves, but there was a teacher on hand to help depending on the child’s needs.</p> <p>A few things to note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 55% of primary school children said they get help in a group, 36% said a teacher sits with me in class and 9% answered I have a plan that tells everyone how to help me. • 45% of secondary children get help in a group, 44% said a teacher sits with me in class and 11% said I have a plan that tells everyone how to help me. <p>Only 1 special school was involved in the survey. SR asked if it was possible to differentiate between the children attending a special school and those in mainstream e.g. a difference in bullying. After the meeting, the following information was provided by YH and LG: <i>In terms of the SEND analysis, there were only actually four children in special schools who responded, so I think those numbers are too small to carry out any meaningful evaluation.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alcohol responses were surprising. LM suggested that more work should be done on alcohol intake in children, promoting the message with parents. • 81% of primary aged pupils and 48% of secondary aged pupils responded they think their school takes bullying seriously. <p>The Board agreed that this result needs to be looked at further i.e. 52% of secondary schools consider that the school does not take bullying seriously.</p>		

- In answer to 'Have you ever deliberately hurt yourself' (Secondary): 72% said no, 20% yes but not recently, 3% yes I do this a lot, and 4% yes recently.

Self-harm is on the radar of Public Health - looking at improving resilience and self-esteem.

JJ: Self-harm cases are seen by Universal Services and trailblazer work was suggested with these services.

The Board asked if there was any relationship between children who disclosed self-harm and children who disclosed bullying and the following information was provided after the meeting:

I've looked at two different questions that looked at bullying and compared the responses of children who disclosed current or recent self-harm versus those who said they did not self-harm or had not done so recently and there does indeed appear to be an association:

When asked if they were ever afraid to go to school due to bullying, children who self-harmed a lot or recently were statistically more likely to say that they were always afraid, or afraid on most days compared to children who never self-harmed or had not done so previously (34.23% vs 9.02%, $P < 0.001$).

When asked if they had ever been bullied and why, children who disclosed that they self-harmed a lot or had done so recently were statistically less likely to have never been bullied compared to children who had never self-harmed or had not done so recently (11.15% vs 43.75%, $P < 0.001$) - and therefore for the reverse of this, they were more likely to select one of the various options available for bullying.

SH asked about online activity and the following information was provided following the meeting:

Primary school children:

19.99% (492/2461) spend over 3 hours a day online during the week and 32.26% (797/2461) do this at weekends

26.05% (641/2461) spend 1-3 hours a day online during the week and 37.87% (932/2461) do this at weekends

42.95% (1057/2461) spend up to an hour a day online during the week and 22.75% (560/2461) do this at the weekends

10.52% (259/2461) don't spend any time online during the week and

6.50% (160/2461) at the weekend

(some children left bits of this blank, which is why it doesn't quite add up to 100%).

Secondary school children:

42.76% (1477/3454) spend over 3 hours a day online during the week and 61.83% (2135/3453) do this on a weekend

31.11% (1351/3454) spend 1-3 hours a day online during the week and 29.54% (1020/3453) do this on a weekend

15.69% (542/3454) spend up to an hour online a day during the week and 6.78% (234/3453) do this on a weekend

2.43% (84/3453) don't spend any time online during the week and 1.85% (64/3453) do this on a weekend.

SH also asked if it was possible to have more detailed questions on online games and predators in the next survey. The survey will be undertaken biannually and YH agreed that things can be looked at in more detail.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They will be exploring shared learning and cross boundary work • Prevent training is being looked at – the Police are training graduates to assist • Agencies confirmed they all have their own procedures relating to Prevent – the core responsibility is with Safer Northumberland • JM is assisting IB with this review <p>The Board to note updated information.</p>		
4.4.	<p>Threshold criteria and effectiveness review/audit – Graham Reiter</p> <p>GR suggested the Board commissions a multi-agency review of the <u>application</u> of the thresholds document (not the document itself). The Board agreed to this proposal.</p> <p>RHC: The MASH Audit Group undertake regular audits and thresholds may already have been considered.</p> <p>Action: RHC and AH to investigate the MASH audits and present findings or suggestions of a new audit to the Business subcommittee.</p>	<p>RHC and AH</p>	
4.5.	<p>Performance (paper) – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented the September report.</p> <p>PM noticed that the NSCB priorities have not been updated on page 2. Action: AH to update the NSCB Priority table.</p> <p>To note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Social Worker caseload has decreased • EHAs are below target <p>The group discussed AH’s question: <i>The Board may wish to consider what can be done regarding the issue of continuing low rates of EHA registrations.</i></p> <p>JB: The low number of EHAs may possibly be due to a breakdown in communication between Schools and Social Services, on the understanding of processes and the onus of responsibility. School capacity may also have an impact on workload; there has been an injection of resource into schools recently to help provide support, but this may not be enough.</p> <p>Action: GR to discuss the Early Help process with Mary Connor. AH to discuss the school situation with JW. To report back to the Early Help subcommittee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CPPs have increased 88% <p>The group discussed AH’s question: <i>What observations do partners have regarding factors behind the increase in the numbers of children and young people subject to CPPs?</i></p> <p>MT suggested that this rise could be due to the learning from SCRs at carousel events around this time, increasing awareness.</p> <p>PM noted that this increase may therefore be a positive development based on better identification of significant harm.</p> <p>GR informed the group that the CPP process will be reviewed; it will be good to have more of an understanding on the graph’s peaks and troughs over time.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>GR AH</p>	

	<p>LW: Within the process, we are undertaking more scrutiny before we issue care proceedings. SH: we are also getting better referrals and more information.</p> <p>The CSE figures (page 13) were discussed i.e. an increase in sexual abuse figures. SH suggested this increase may be due to Northumbria Police retrospectively assigning crimes following Operation Iris (a review of Operation Rose – abuse in care homes).</p> <p>AH informed the group that there are now monthly meetings between AH, Patrick Boyle and Northumbria Police re. data sharing.</p> <p>IB asked AH for a breakdown of the performance data on CSE.</p> <p>Action: AH to provide IB with information on how many sexual abuse offences were related to domestic abuse.</p> <p>NJ: The use of written agreements will be reviewed i.e. their reliability in safeguarding children.</p> <p>Action: Written agreements to be added to the next JTAI meeting agenda.</p>	<p>AH</p> <p>SB</p>	
<p>4.6.</p>	<p>Serious Case Review (SCR) Committee Update – Margaret Tench</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Following the publication of Working Together 2018, a new process is now in place nationally regarding the review of serious / significant cases. Whilst strategic arrangements are yet to be decided on a wider regional basis, it has been agreed to re-name the group to the Safeguarding Practice Review Group (SPRG). This will be followed by revised terms of reference in accordance with the new process and related timescales for reviewing cases. • Natalie - Care proceedings complete. RHC and the reviewer will be meeting the parents (Mum = 26th September). On 26th, the National Panel is being asked for their advice on publishing this SCR as it may have implications for the family; they can be reassured that actions plans are almost in place and learning has been implemented via carousel events. • R family – reviewed at the September meeting, this is a large family with neglect and physical abuse. It was not considered a SCR. MT drafted a paper on behalf of the SPRG which will be circulated. Learning will go into an action plan, to be developed to share the thematic learning. • Molly and Olivia – Joint action plan is being closely reviewed. <p>MT reiterated that there is a good interrelationship between the SPRG and the Learning and Development Department (MT sits on the PP&T subcommittee) – we are the only LA that has this close connection to put learning into multi-agency training.</p> <p>MT mentioned a request from a judge, for a child death report. This is to provide assurance re. learning and such requests are becoming more common. MT asked the Board if they are happy for her to share these reports.</p> <p>Action: MT and PM to discuss separately, post meeting.</p>	<p>MT and PM</p>	
<p>4.7.</p>	<p>NSCB Annual Report 2017-2018 and Business Plan (papers) – Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>The Annual Report was discussed and as there were no additional comments the document was endorsed by the Board. RHC was thanked for his work on this. This report will subsequently be presented to the</p>		

	<p>Health & Wellbeing Board, the Scrutiny Committee and the PCC. The Business Plan was discussed and the group agreed that it was good to have the 3 themes of Neglect, Early Help and Domestic Violence linked to the strategies so that updates can happen simultaneously. RHC gave credit to PM and the Board for their safeguarding enthusiasm in driving this plan forward.</p>		
4.8.	<p>CPP Audit (papers) – Fiona Brown FB presented finding from 3 audits (undertaken with Liz Spratt) and the learning from these, collated into 7 minute briefings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Learning from Audit of 20 Initial Child Protection Conferences (May 2018) b) Learning from last repeat Child Protection Plans within 2 years (June 2018) c) Learning from sibling groups and earlier identification of neglect (July 2018) <p>An action plan is in place for all audits and there is a plan to re-audit in the future, looking at different cases. PM thanked FB. SH observed that this information is helpful and the same issues and points likely to apply to all 6 LAs; SA recommends debriefs for all new staff. FB confirmed that the information will be widely distributed e.g. via Senior Management meetings (Social Care), Business & Performance meetings, Learning & Development department, Supervisions, policies and procedures, and a newly set up QA group (set up to gather information and discuss sharing and also drive learning into practice and improvement). This QA group is internal to NCC at the moment and GR suggested it could feedback information into the Main Board or PP&T subcommittee.</p>		
5.	Information Items		
5.1.	<p>Business Subcommittee Meeting Minutes Minutes of 11th September 2018 were distributed previously for information.</p>		
5.2.	<p>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes Minutes of 26th June 2018 were distributed previously for information.</p>		
6.	<p>Any Other Business <u>Future of NSCB</u> PM suggested an update from CM and SH as a standing agenda item at every Main Board meeting. Action: SH will invite Peter Storey (project lead in LSCB changes Tyne and Wear). <u>DHR Carousel events</u> IB thanked Karen Wright, Jan Grey and RHC for their support with the recent carousel events.</p>	SH	

<p>7.</p>	<p>Dates and Times of Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 20th November 2018 <p>2019: 22nd January, 14th March, 16th May, 25th July, 24th September and 21st November (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	✓							
Ian Billham	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓							
Lindsay Blackmore	✓	Gary Connor	Gary Connor	A	✓							
Deborah Brown	✓	Helen Guy	✓	A	DNA							
Sian Bufton/Emma Ramsay	A	A	A	✓	✓							
Karen Burns	✓	A	A	✓	A							
Wayne Daley	A	A	A	✓	A							
Julie Dodson	✓	A	A	A	✓							
Anna English	DNA	A	A	✓	DNA							
Nicholas Greenley	✓	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					✓								
Cath McEvoy	✓	✓	✓	✓	A								
Ellie Monkhouse	✓	✓	Jane Smith	Trish Grant	DNA								
Liz Morgan	A	A	✓	Karen Herne	✓								
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	✓								
Margaret Tench	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓								

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

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies