

**Northumberland Safeguarding Children Committee
Meeting Minutes**

25th July 2019, 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	SAs
Deborah Brown	Community Safety Department Policy & Team Manager, Northumberland Fire & Rescue, NCC	DB
Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children's Services, Barnardo's	SB
Louise Cass-Williams (for Steve Ammari)	Detective Chief Inspector for Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	LCW
Nicholas Greenley	Independent Lay Member	NG
Robin Harper-Coulson	NSCB Business Manager, NCC	RHC
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Karen Herne (for Liz Morgan)	Senior Public Health Manager, NCC	KH
Dean Jackson	Service Director, Education and Skills, NCC	DJ
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, Child Protection, CCG	NJ
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children's Services, Action for Children	CJ
Vida Morris	North Locality Group Nurse Director, NTW	VM
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Mark Ryland (for Martyn Strike)	Reviewing and Quality Assurance Manager, Northumbria Probation	MR
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
Paula Shandran (for Marion Dickson)	Professional & Operational Lead Safeguarding Adults & Children, Safeguarding Service, NHCFT	PS
Jill Stewart (observer with Vida Morris)	Clinical Manager, NTW	JS
Julie Stewart (for Phil Soderquest)	Strategic Housing Manager, NCC	JSt
Jan Tilson	IRO Safeguarding Manager, NCC	JT

Annie Topping	Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Karen Wright (for Anna English)	Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Safeguarding Adults	KW

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Steve Ammari	Superintendent, Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	SA
John Barnes	Head Teacher, Astley High School, NCC	JB
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
Anna English	Senior Manager, Adult Services, NCC	AE
Scott Hall	Detective Chief Superintendent, Northumbria Police	SH
Cath McEvoy-Carr	Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services, NCC	CMC
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Graham Reiter	Service Director, Children's Social Care, NCC	GR
Philip Soderquest	Head of Housing and Public Protection, NCC	PS
Martyn Strike	Deputy Director, North of Tyne CRC	MS
Margaret Tench	Head of Quality & Safety (Children), Designated Nurse, Northumberland CCG	MT
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Corporate Services, NCC	LW
Paul Weatherstone	Head of North of Tyne, NPS	PW

In Attendance		
Kirsten Dent	D/Inspector Tactical Coordination and Support, North East Regional Special Operations Unit (NERSOU), Northumbria Police	KD
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 16th May 2019 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>Criminal Exploitation – Kirsten Dent</p> <p>In view of the recent JTAI outcome and to increase our understanding of Criminal Exploitation (CE), KD was invited to provide information around this topic. She is one of ten regional County Lines Coordinators and covers Northumberland, Cleveland and Durham.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are over 2,000 mobile phone ‘lines’, with each line making approx. £2,000/day profit; this money is difficult to trace. Phone lines are also difficult to trace, although this was challenged; due to resource, it is often easier to turn an identified line off rather than fully investigate. • As the definition of County Lines is not legislated, legislations relating to Modern Day Slavery or drug use have to be used e.g. S45 defence identifies the offender as a victim. • Violence Reduction Unit set up, using the Scottish model, especially for those children excluded from school. Work is being done to reduce the exclusions. Northumberland currently have 90 children who are permanently excluded; DJ would like to know the figures for Scotland, for those excluded and also those who are home educated as this would provide him with evidence to challenge and inform schools. <p>Actions: KD to provide DJ with this data. DJ to look into the reasons for exclusions and check if the Police are informed when ‘drugs’ are noted as the reason.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents can use the following resources for advice: Children’s Society (0300 303 7000, https://www.childrenssociety.org.uk/), Crime Stoppers (0800 555 111, https://crimestoppers-uk.org/) and OneCall (01670 536 400). <p>Action: KD to review local charities and provide the group with a list of other helpful contacts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • KD stressed the importance of flagging up concerns of vulnerabilities or drug trafficking as potential County Lines, as there is currently minimal intelligence in Northumberland and this area is known as having the highest number of drug deaths in England. • Lots of work has been done with the British Transport Police. • There are three School Liaison Officers (from knife crime funding) who will be providing information and advice to schools; DJ recommends discussing resources with him initially, to highlight the most appropriate schools first. • VM suggested discussing early education/intervention work with 	<p style="text-align: center;">KD DJ KD</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">NG</p>

	<p>the new PCC</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> PM suggested the Early Help sub group consider how we empower parents with knowledge of CE so they can have pre-emptive conversations with their children. <p>Action: KH to pick up with Early Help group.</p> <p>PM thanked KD for her very helpful and interesting presentation on increasing our awareness of County Lines and CE more broadly.</p> <p>A fact sheet was provided by KD and this was sent to the group with the minutes, along with a copy of KD's presentation.</p>	KH	
4.2.	<p>Feedback from the recent JTAI – Paula Mead</p> <p>Accuracy comments from key people have been provided on a draft response letter to the inspectors and the finalised letter will be published on Monday 5th August. PM reported that there were lots of key strengths identified in the inspection letter. For the Board in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strong multi-agency commitment to safeguarding children Sexual Exploitation is embedded MASH – systems effective and SE worker beneficial Good evidence provided by multi-agency audits e.g. DC&YP Wide range of performance data, with good challenge Voice of the Child noted Operations Encompass and Endeavour 7 minute briefings – clear and focussed Innovative approaches <p>Improvements recommended in our work are around:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Criminal Exploitation Board challenge re. issue/links to CE of children who are permanently excluded <p>Action planning has already begun.</p>		
4.3.	<p>Safeguarding Board changes (paper) – Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>Unfortunately, the Development Day on 20th June was cancelled because of the JTAI visit that week and was rearranged to 23rd August - the new safeguarding arrangements had to be published by the end of June and our criteria will be checked by the Government. Further discussions e.g. structure review, will be discussed at next month's meeting.</p> <p>Immediate changes are that the Main Board (NSCC) and all Subcommittees now meet four times a year instead of six times.</p> <p>Financial arrangements are in place until the end of September; the 3 Safeguarding partners (NSSP) will decide the budget from this point onwards.</p> <p>A draft Terms of Reference for the NSSP and NSCC will be provided to the group early next month.</p>		
4.4.	<p>Annual Report: Multi-agency Annual Training report 2018-19 (paper)</p> <p>Provided for information.</p>		

4.5.	<p>Performance and Audit Report (paper) – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented the July 2019 report. To note:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Board’s audit forward plan is beneficial and has increased our audit activity. Recommendation to build the current new JTAI theme of Mental Health into the forward plan for November and undertake a multi-agency audit at this point in time. The JTAI group are committed to continue to meet, to review the inspection framework with the purpose of driving improvements. The Force data on CSE offences was discussed; offences in Northumberland have increased from 21 (2107/18) to 36 (2018/19). Identification is positive in light of Operation Sanctuary but it is unclear if it is a real increase or due to recent awareness training. Action: To be discussed at the next QIP meeting. The Police’s CSE Problem Profile should be available in October. Comments to the LSCB dataset have been provided; the consultation closes on 29th July. Some comments were provided during the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CE - to come under MDS because of the legal framework. Include regional data on harmful sexual behaviour from FCAMHS. Include those children on a CPP who have a disability. Although 15-17 years is a national measure for under 18 conception rates, isolate data for those under 16 and those under 18 (collected nationally and also on the Public Health framework). Include indicators of why children are on a CPP. Action: JT to check that the categories are still being used in other LA areas. 	AH	JT
4.6.	<p>Safeguarding Practice Review Group Update (paper) – Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>On behalf of MT, RHC provided the group with an update.</p>		
5.	Information Items		
5.1.	<p>Business Subcommittee Meeting Minutes (paper)</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on 25th June 2019 were distributed with the agenda, for information.</p>		
5.2.	<p>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes (paper)</p> <p>The minutes from the meeting on 18th June 2019 were distributed with the agenda, for information.</p>		
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p><u>Safeguarding children in the voluntary sector (RHC)</u> VoiCeS have stepped down their representation. A new CVS link has been established and RHC has been involved in training staff on safeguarding vulnerable children and adults; further (free) training will be available e.g. eLearning, DSL, and face to face sessions. Feedback has been good.</p>		

7.	Dates and Times of Future Meetings (2019): <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 23rd August, 9-11am (Development session)• 24th September, 1-4pm All diarised for West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP		
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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
Paula Mead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sheila Askew	✓	✓	Mark Lennox	✓	✓	✓	✓	Mark Lennox	✓	✓	
John Barnes	✓	DNA	✓	A	✓	A	✓	A	✓	Left the group	
Ian Billham	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓	A	A	No longer at NCC		
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	✓	✓	✓	A	
Wayne Daley	A	A	A	✓	A	A	DNA	A	A	A	
Marion Dickson							Jane Smyth	A	A	Paula Shandran	
Julie Dodson	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	DNA	Left the group			
Anna English	DNA	A	A	✓	DNA	✓	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	
Nicholas Greenley	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A	✓	
Scott Hall					✓	✓	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari	Louise Cass-Williams	

Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Alan Hartwell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dean Jackson	N/A	N/A	✓	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	
Andy Johnson	A	A	Retired-now Dean Jackson								
Jackie Jollands	Ann Marshall	✓	Ann Marshall	✓	✓	Now Vida Morris					
Naomi Jones	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Catherine Joyce	✓	✓	Julie Ayres	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	Lindsey Kirk	✓	
Jane Kennedy					✓	A	✓	✓	A	Left the group	
Cath McEvoy-Carr	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Ellie Monkhouse	✓	✓	Jane Smith	Trish Grant	DNA	Trish Grant	Now Marion Dickson				
Liz Morgan	A	A	✓	Karen Herne	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Karen Herne	
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	Julie	

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

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies