



**Northumberland Safeguarding Children’s Board Meeting
26th September 2017, 1.00 – 4.00pm**

Northumberland Fire and Rescue Headquarters

West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP

Present	Role	Initials
Paula Mead	Independent Chair, NSCB	PMead
Robin Harper-Coulson	Business Manager, NSCB	RHC
Andy Johnson	Interim DCS	AJ
Cath McEvoy	Service Director, Children's Social Care, Wellbeing & Community Health Services, NCC	CM
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Education, Safeguarding & Performance Team, NCC	AH
Jill Scarr	Independent Lay Member	JS
Alyson Raine	Interim Director of Nursing, Northumbria Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust	AR
Lynsey Wafer	Principal Lawyer, Northumberland County Council	LW
Mick Paterson	Northumbria Police	MP
Deborah Brown	Community Safety, Fire & Rescue, NCC	DB
Lindsay Blackmore	Director of Offender Management, Northumbria Rehabilitation Company	LB
Sue Reilly	Independent Lay Member	SR
Ian Billham	Strategic Community Safety Manager, NCC	IB
Nicholas Greenly	Independent Lay Member	NG
Annie Topping	Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Sheila Askew	Senior Operational Support Manager NPS North of Tyne Cluster	SA
Vida Morris	Group Nurse Director in Patient Care	VM
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children’s Services, Action for Children	CJ
Sian Bufton	Assistant Director Children's Services, Barnardo’s North East	SB

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Karen Burns	CAFCASS	KB
Cllr Wayne Daley	Cabinet Member for Children's Services	WD
John Barnes	Seaton Valley Federation	JB
Liz Morgan	Director of Public Health, NCC	LM
Daljit Lally	Interim Chief Executive, NCC	DL
Margaret Tench	Designated Nurse, CCG	MT
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing, NCC	PS
Anna English	Strategic Adult Safeguarding Manager, NCC	AE
Deborah Reeman	Prudhoe Community High School	DR
Julie Dodson	Director, Voices	JD
Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, CCG	NJ

In Attendance		
Abi Ridley	PA to Cath McEvoy - Minute Taker	-

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
1	<p>Welcome, Introductions & Apologies</p> <p>Welcome, introductions and apologies were noted, see above.</p>		
3	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting & Matters Arising & Action Log from 25th July 2017</p> <p>The minutes were accepted as a true record of the meeting.</p> <p>Action log updated, see separate document.</p>	ALL	
4.1	<p>Local Authority Children’s Social Care Improvement Plan – Cath McEvoy</p> <p>CM advised that the Single Inspection Framework (SIF) Improvement Plan had been in place for 18 months and most recommendations had been completed.</p> <p>The decision was made to close down the SIF Improvement Plan and to put those recommendations still open onto a new Service Improvement Plan.</p> <p>This plan has been brought to the LSCB Board meeting for review as a ‘critical friend’ and to assure the Board that the actions have been taken forward.</p> <p>It is in its early stage of development but Cath is clear about which areas need to be covered to take the service forward.</p> <p>In order for the Board to have assurance that the outstanding actions have been completed it is proposed to send the plan to the Board for information and report what has been achieved on a 6 monthly basis.</p> <p>There is a summary of those actions which have been closed down in today’s report.</p> <p>AH advised that the QIP Sub Group monitors the plan and the dashboard will include which action it refers to in the plan.</p> <p>The Board agreed to the proposed new Improvement Plan.</p>		
4.2	<p>Section 11 Audit Report – Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>RH-C outlined the background to the deep dive audit which was sent to all agencies to complete. The results are a snapshot as at 28th August 2017.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The focus was on four key themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The response to children living with domestic violence • Child sexual abuse 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Safeguarding children with disabilities • Neglect • A challenge event is to be held on 31st October as a way of quality assuring the audit. This will look at the following themes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voice of the child within the four audit areas • Ensuring agencies have a robust audit process to inform practice • In house procedures for when child sexual abuse is perpetrated by other children • There were some issues with the return; CAFCASS and NEAS both provided a regional response and NPS, Local Services and Adult Services did not respond. Sheila advised that NPS were not able to access the audit; Robin will follow this up. • RH-C will feed back with a final report after the Challenge Event. • AT asked about the themes over the last few years. RH-C will do some analysis using data from the previous audits. • AJ queried who had completed the audit with regards to schools about safeguarding children with disabilities and will follow up with Jane Walker and Carol Leckie to review their responses. • It was agreed that it was up to each agency to ensure there was internal sign off on their own responses. PMead added that this was an important part of this Board's governance process and why a challenge event was being held. 	<p>RH-C RH-C RH-C</p> <p>AJ</p>	
4.3	<p>Operation Sanctuary Update – Mick Paterson</p> <p>MP provided an update to Operation Sanctuary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operation Sanctuary started four years ago. It has been nationally recognised. • The Police propose to now use Sanctuary as a brand. The Board agreed Sanctuary was not perceived as 'toxic'. • It is a set of principles and will continue to work with partners to keep children and vulnerable adults safe. • It will move to once central investigation base but will keep two victim hubs north and south of the Tyne. • Future work will be mindful of funding; it will continue to work with partners. • With regards Northumberland, issues will be locally specific and likely to emerge in future. 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Met with Children’s Society about the abuse of young males; this is something they would like work on. Bradford had a SCR on ‘Jack’; there is a need to reflect whether we could meet the needs of that young person currently. • There is significant under reporting in the BME community and activity is currently hidden; Sanctuary would like to work on this. • Operation Rose involving CSE in care homes in the region six years ago is going to be reinvestigated. CM advised that this would have a big impact on Northumberland. • AH asked whether online victims had the same access to support as that provided in the hubs. MP said that they did but the perpetrators were different online. The ambition is to take on the work done by Dark Justice and absorb this. 		
4.4	<p>Serious Case Review Update - Robin Harper-Coulson</p> <p>RH-C outlined the key points in the Serious Case Review Sub-Committee report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kirsty: will ensure Mum has the report before is it published after 1pm on 27th September. • Molly: published. • B family: The National Panel believes this meets SCR criteria. The LSCB has written back to advise of work completed, learning and the part Northumberland played and that report will be published on the website. AR asked whether Newcastle would be invited to participate. CM explained why Newcastle are reluctant to be involved but they would be invited to be part of it. AR said that Health would be interested in taking part. • Justine: Northumberland will be looking at the recommendations of Newcastle’s SCR. 		
4.5	<p>NSCB Draft Annual Report – Paula Mead</p> <p>The report is for comment and endorsement by Board. All agencies have had a chance to contribute.</p> <p>There are some amendments to be made as suggested by AJ.</p> <p>PMead thanked RH-C and AH for their work on the report. It feels very accessible to the community.</p> <p>Subject to amendments the Board is happy to endorse the report.</p>		

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4.6	<p>Performance Report – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented performance report for September 2017:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There was a discussion about the PI highlighted for escalation, percentage of urgent referrals seen within 72 hours (NTW). • Data fell short of target; what were the reasons and actions? • This caused much discussion however this data will be followed up with the Quality Improvement Performance Sub Committee. • AH asked about the data on self-harm and attempted suicide. AR said that there may be better data available after March 2018 due to the new system with better coding; there is an issue with the way it is currently coded and it is difficult to pull out the information. Also questions about what is classed as self-harm and what isn't. AR added that non-reporting is an issue; there is a hidden cohort of young people who are self-harming but not seen. • Vida added that she would ensure that the data which is available is provided to AH as it is included on dashboards. • Vida will follow up on what the Trust is doing about the percentage of urgent referrals seen with 72 hours. • The other PI discussed was attendance at Child protection Conferences and Reviews. • There may be an issue with reports not being received three days in advance of meetings; the list of agencies which need to attend needs to be made available to the Safeguarding Unit along with the policies about attendance by organisations. • MP advised that the Police are stretched with regards to attending Conferences. • IROs are not happy about GPs attending via video conferencing. CM challenged this and will take it up with the IRO Service. • CM raised the issue of using a standard form to collect attendance information and it not being appropriate for some agencies to attend. • AH will provide CM with the correspondence to take forward and then look at the attendance figures to see where the issues are. • AR advised that Health Visitors and School Nurses are now specified as a 0-19 service. PMead will speak to LM about this to seek assurance regarding safeguarding. • AH mentioned the national audit on crime recording. MP advised there were issues of recording timeliness; the ambition is to become 100% compliant in recording but there are administrative issues. 	<p>VM</p> <p>VM</p> <p>CM</p> <p>AH</p> <p>PM</p>	

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4.7	<p>Interim Neglect Audit – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>PMead advised that there was a Task and Finish Group working on behalf of the LSCB to prepare for the JTAI in Neglect.</p> <p>AH added that interim findings were available from a first round of audits; MT and AW will do a 7 minute briefing on the key themes. The second round would be in early November and a further report would follow.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audits were undertaken on 25 cases involving 7 children aged 7 to 15 years old. • Neglect was hard to identify as the term is not being used. There followed a discussion on the use of the word ‘neglect’; it is subjective and more about what practitioners are observing rather than categorising as neglect. • The role of fathers was not always evidenced. CM said this was a significant area and there was a need to think about how this question is reframed; we need to be clear what our data is telling us. • RH-C advised that following the Kirsty SCR and review of previous learning from SCRs a piece had been written about engaging fathers and would be published on the LSCB website on 7th October. • AR advised that the Midwifery Service had improved its documentation about contacting fathers. 		
4.8	<p>Northumbria Police Internal Audit Programme – Mick Paterson</p> <p>MP outlined the report on the proposed timetable of internal Police inspections and reviews:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AT asked about vulnerable adults and children. MP responded that the LSCB would benefit from seeing the outcome of the PEEL inspection as this is completely independent. PMead agreed that the Board would like to receive this. MP will check with the Chief Officer and provide headline feedback at the November Board meeting. • DB advised that the Fire and Rescue Service would be subject to inspections and she would be the lead. 	MP	
4.9	<p>Domestic Violence Briefing – Cath McEvoy</p> <p>CM outlined the report written by Jackie McCormick on the current challenges:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IB advised that there were three meetings coming up that will move the work forward: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Needs Assessment 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Domestic Violence Group • Ratifying the Action Plan • The timeframe of Safer Northumberland Partnership is to have the plan in place and ratified by January 2018. • CM advised that the Domestic Violence Strategy would be pulled together; the current priority is commissioning. • AR advised that the PCC post had been commissioned; this is joint with North Tyneside. • PMead thanked CM and said it would be good for the Board to see the strategy and to keep an eye on progress. 		
5.	<p>Information Items</p> <p>The following documents were noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Business Sub-Committee Meeting Minutes • Safeguarding Adults Board Meeting Minutes: PMead advised there was a good presentation on modern slavery and that the SAB would have a substantive item on it in December; it will be brought to the LSCB is anything is highlighted regarding children. MP advised that there are issues with this in Newcastle whereby there are children living amongst slaves who are not on the radar. It probably doesn't affect Northumberland at present; a brief can be provided to the Board if required. PMead advised that Anna English is the lead for the Local Authority with Patrick Boyle leading for Children's Services. • CDOP Suicide Report: RH-C advised that the report is to be adjusted; the latest report will be circulated; please do not circulate this report. 	RH-C	
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>AT suggested bringing a paper to the next LSCB Board meeting about how joined up the intelligence from Health and the LSCB is. The National Review of Quality Surveillance Group is looking at this and what the process could look like. PMead agreed to a paper coming to the Board.</p>	AT	
7.	<p>Dates and Times of Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next meeting: 28th November 2017 • All meetings are diarised for 1pm to 4pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP. 		

Name	31.05.16	13.07.16	26.07.16	27.09.16	29.11.16	18.01.17	29.03.17	16.05.17	25.07.17	26.09.17
Paula Mead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Sue Reilly	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Ian Billham	✓	DNA	A	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓
Julie Young	✓	A	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	DNA
Annie Topping	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	DNA	✓
Andy Johnson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓
Sharon Dunbar	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA
Julie Dodson	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	A
Barry Frost	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	Zoe Frais	A	A	DNA
Sheila Askew	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓	DNA	✓	✓
Paul Woods	✓	✓	✓	✓	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA	DNA
Alan Hartwell	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Brian Smeaton	✓	✓
Liz Kelly (Replaced by Lindsay)	✓	A	A	✓	A	DNA				

<i>Blackmore)</i>										
Lindsay Blackmore							✓	Natalie Caush	✓	✓
Karen Herne <i>(Replaced by Liz Morgan)</i>	✓	A	✓	✓						
Liz Morgan					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Anne Graney	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	DNA
Deborah Brown	A	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Naomi Jones	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Deborah Reeman	A	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	A	A	A
Catherine Joyce	A	✓	✓	A	✓	DNA	✓	A	✓	✓
Robert Arckless <i>(Replaced by Wayne Daley)</i>	A	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	A			
Wayne Daley									A	A
John Barnes	A	A	A	✓	DNA	A	A	✓	A	A
Carol Goodman <i>(Replaced by Karen Burns)</i>	A	A	✓	A	DNA	A	DNA	DNA	A	

Karen Burns									DNA	A
Margaret Tench	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A
Daljit Lally	A	✓	✓	A	✓	DNA	A	A	DNA	A
Debbie Reape (Replaced by Alyson Raine)	A	✓	✓	✓	DNA	✓	Jane Abbott	Trish Grant	✓	
Alyson Raine										✓
Vida Morris	A	✓	A	DNA	DNA	DNA	✓	✓	Leesa Stephenson	✓
Julie McVeigh (Replaced by Sian Bufton)	A	✓	A	✓	DNA	A	DNA			
Sian Bufton									✓	✓
Cath McEvoy				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Jan Grey	Leesa Stephenson		✓		✓	✓	A	A	DNA	DNA
Anna English					✓	✓	✓	A	DNA	A
Jill Scar					A	✓	✓	A	A	✓
Nicholas Greenly					A	✓	✓	A	✓	✓
Gill Physick						✓	A			

Peter Storey						✓	Phil Mordue	✓	✓	DNA
Mick Paterson										✓
Lynsey Wafer						✓	A	✓	DNA	✓
Phil Soderquest									✓	A

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies