

Northumberland Safeguarding Children Committee
Meeting Minutes
29th June 2020, 2.00 – 4.00pm
Virtual meeting via Microsoft Teams

Present	Role	Initials
Paula Mead	Independent Chair, NSCC	PM
Karen Burns	Service Manager, Cafcass	KB
Joanne Hancox (for Paul Weatherstone)	Probation Officer, National Probation Service (North East)	JH
Robin Harper-Coulson	NSCC Business Manager, NCC	RHC
Alan Hartwell	Senior Manager, Performance, Education & Safeguarding, NCC	AH
Tracey Horseman	Operational Manager, Social Work Learning and Development, NHCFT	TH
Dean Jackson	Service Director, Education and Skills, NCC	DJ
Cath McEvoy-Carr	Executive Director of Adult Social Care and Children's Services, NCC	CMC
Vida Morris	Group Nurse Director, North Locality Care Group, CNTW	VM
Lesley Pyle	Northumberland & North Tyneside Domestic Abuse & Sexual Violence Coordinator	LP
Graham Reiter	Service Director, Children's Social Care, NCC	GR
Donna Rose	Detective Chief Inspector Safeguarding, Northumbria Police	DR
Paula Shandran (for Marion Dickson)	Professional & Operational Lead Safeguarding Adults & Children, Safeguarding Service, NHCFT	PS
Martyn Strike	Deputy Director of Offender Management, Northumbria CRC	MS
Annie Topping	Executive Director of Nursing Quality & Patient Safety, Northumberland CCG	AT
Jane Walker	Virtual School Headteacher, NCC	JW
Karen Wright	Strategic Safeguarding Manager, Safeguarding Adults, NCC	KW

Apologies Received	Role	Initials
Siobhan Brown	Chief Operating Officer, Northumberland CCG	SB
Marion Dickson	Interim Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery, NHCFT	MD
Elaine Henderson	Director of Nursing – Delivery, NHCFT	EH

Naomi Jones	Designated Doctor, Child Protection, CCG	NJ
Catherine Joyce	Operational Director Children's Services, Action for Children	CJ
Phil Soderquest	Head of Housing and Public Protection, NCC	PS
Margaret Tench	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, Northumberland CCG	MT
Paul Weatherstone	Head of North of Tyne, National Probation Services	PW

In Attendance		
Sandra Blackwood	NSCC Business Support, NCC (Minute Taker)	SBI

Agenda Item	Discussion and Action Agreed	A	C
	Standing Agenda Items		
1.	Welcome, Introductions & Apologies for Absence PM welcomed everyone to the meeting and apologies were noted.		
2.	Minutes of Last Meeting, Matters Arising and Action Log The previous minutes of 12 th March 2020 were accepted (minor amendment made: John Gibson was attending for Vida Morris rather than for Shirley May). The action log was reviewed and updated - see separate document.		
3.	SPRG Update and Caitlin report (papers) In MT's absence, RHC provided the group with the update from the Safeguarding Practice Review Group (report dated 23 rd June). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For JT, SMART recommendations for Children's Social Care have been discussed with GR. • For ER, the three statutory partners are meeting on 23rd July to consider CVs and commission an author. Caitlin's review is complete and was signed off by the Committee.		
4.	Reports (paper) a) Subcommittees – DVA & SV update LP presented her 26 th June annual report from the Domestic Violence and Abuse & Sexual Violence Business Group. Last week reported the highest figures for domestic abuse (DA) incidents since lockdown. LP is having weekly updates from the services. The action plan priorities will be reviewed at the DVA & SV Business Group virtual meeting on 21 st July and the needs assessment will be refreshed. Northumberland and North Tyneside have the highest reported incidents for DA; this could be as a result of increased awareness and hence increased reporting. The Committee thanked LP for her report.		
5.	6 monthly scrutiny of LA Improvement Plan, including JTAI Action Plan (papers) CMC gave an update on the Improvement Plan, which was submitted to Ofsted at the beginning of June. Some actions have been delayed because of Covid. GR will continue to review. AH presented his JTAI Action Plan Update, which is being provided to the Families and Children's Overview and Scrutiny Committee on Thursday. Progress reports are provided to the Exploitation Subcommittee and those indicators in red are currently being reviewed.		
6.	Individual agencies' JTAI Improvement Plans Northumberland CCG (AT)		

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The overarching action plan is being monitored; the one action from the JTAI was completed a month ago. • There are no health action concerns. <p>NHCFT (PS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most actions are complete. • A criminal exploitation flagging system is now in place for both adults and children and is also captured on the referral form. • An audit is being undertaken with sexual health services around language. • The multi-agency audit tool (outstanding action) will be done with health colleagues. <p>CNTW (VM)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • JTAI actions have been progressing. • Governance meetings have only just restarted and will be seeking assurances. <p>Northumbria Police (DR)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions are being progressed. • Some meetings have been delayed due to Covid. <p>NPS (JH)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk information is being shared following completion of a proforma. • Staff attend MASH every Tuesday. • Online training has been developed. • Increased meeting contributions and sharing of information e.g. MARAC, County Lines etc. <p>CRC (MS)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased communication between the MASH continues and is being further developed. <p>Feedback will again be provided at the next meeting.</p>		
7.	<p>NHCFT Safeguarding Annual Plan 2019-2020 (papers)</p> <p>PS presented the Safeguarding Children and Adults at Risk Annual Report 2019-2020.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All priorities were met apart from the new DoLS legislation (delayed by the Government). • Prevent cases have increased from 0 to 18 new cases. Channel are accepting more referrals for children now. • Referrals have increased for both children (19%) and adults (15%), mainly from NSEC. • Increase in substance misuse in pregnancy; there are monthly meetings to discuss cases. • The target for safeguarding level 3 training has been met. 		

	<p>PM thanked PS for bringing this very comprehensive report to the committee.</p> <p>Action. The safeguarding annual reports from CNTW and Northumberland CCG will be presented at the next meeting.</p>	<p>VM AT</p>	
8.	<p>Performance and Audit Report (paper) – Alan Hartwell</p> <p>AH presented his Performance and Quality Assurance Report June 2020.</p> <p>VM noted that waiting times for CNTW services have been maintained. Safety planning continues for the vulnerable young people involved in a therapy group with the young girl who committed suicide recently; there is tighter management of vulnerable people.</p> <p>Although CPPs and LAC numbers are high, GR confirmed that decision making was appropriate, and cases are being reviewed by the IROs. VM asked whether the figures for new LAC were exacerbated by lockdown/lack of support mechanisms. CMC replied that there are several factors to consider e.g. courts not sitting (resulting in delays with SGOs and adoptions), inability of children being able to get home due to restrictions, and pressures from other areas. GR has reviewed data and it is hard to say if increases were specifically due to lockdown.</p> <p>Data is being collected weekly to look at attendance in school; Northumberland has the largest number of vulnerable children attending than other Local Authorities (39%).</p> <p>AH confirmed that this data will be reviewed at the next Quality, Improvement & Performance Subcommittee; all QIP partners were involved in June’s paper virtually, as the QIP have not met during Covid. Audits are a means of collecting assurance; AH and RHC will review the list of future audits, as agreed in the 2021 multi-agency forward plan. Agencies have been undertaking their own audits in the meantime. RHC mentioned MSET and S11 audits (the latter with the CCG). The CCG are also looking at mental health. LP’s, JW’s and PS’s information discussed at today’s meeting, provides us with evidence.</p>		
9.	<p>Update on Safeguarding Partnership Re-organisation (paper)</p> <p>RHC presented a revised, streamlined membership, which has been agreed by the NSSP. Members have been sent information and were asked to agree their deputy arrangements.</p>		
10.	<p>Annual Report Template (paper)</p> <p>RHC discussed the template for partner information, which can be used to collect information to showcase how agencies safeguard the children in Northumberland.</p>		
11.	<p>S11 Summary Report (paper)</p> <p>RHC presented the regional safeguarding audit report, which was led by Gateshead.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More work is planned on understanding the high numbers for the areas of: ‘Embedding Policy’ and ‘Learning and Improvement’. • The Business Managers will scrutinise other safeguarding audits 		

	<p>e.g. Transport Police.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Waiting for the Primary Care S11 in Northumberland. • A challenge event will be developed for Northumberland, to seek assurance. 		
12.	<p>Children, Young People and Families Plan - significant issues for C&YP in Northumberland</p> <p>GR provided a link to the Northumberland Padlet; a means of communicating resources and positive work to our children, young people and parents/carers.</p> <p>RHC suggested that we embed the views of children & young people (already collected when developing the C&YP Plan) and link their priorities with ours.</p>		
13.	<p>Forward plan – setting of next meeting’s agenda (paper)</p> <p>The next meeting on 8th October will possibly be a 2hr virtual meeting. Agenda items were discussed.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Annual MASH report to be pushed back. • Include CCG and CNTW annual reports. • As there is a substantial number of annual reports for the committee to review, some may be provided at the fortnightly Joint Safeguarding Adults & Children’s Partnership Meetings rather than at the quarterly NSCC. 		
14.	Information Items		
14.1.	<p>Northumberland and North Tyneside Safeguarding Adults Board Minutes (paper)</p> <p>The minutes of 10th March 2020 were provided for information.</p>		
14.2.	<p>JustSAY (paper)</p> <p>This is a mobile app, developed from ADAS money, for young adults to access help or to report concerns. This is in the final stages and is being led by Adult Services. Materials will be available for display and distribution. Action: Agencies to identify who this information needs to be provided to - email Catherine.MacDonald@northumberland.gov.uk and copy in Karen.Wright01@northumberland.gov.uk</p>	All	
14.3.	Plans for Easing Restrictions in Prisons (paper)		
15.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>a) Risk Register (paper)</p> <p>RHC thanked partners for completing the NSSP risk register. This is being monitored regularly and agencies were asked to update RHC with any progress. There is also a similar risk register for Adult services and this will be reviewed by PM, KW and RHC after the meeting to ensure consistency between the two registers.</p> <p>b) Safe Week</p> <p>This takes place in November, the week before DA awareness week, and is led by Adult services. RHC suggested involving Children’s services as well, as it meets some of our priorities. AH noted that the event can be</p>		

	<p>used to update the padlet and get C&YP involved.</p> <p>c) CRC changes</p> <p>MS informed the group that the CRC will cease from June 2021; there are discussions with the NPS on future representation at the safeguarding committees.</p>		
15.	<p>Dates and Times of Future Meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8th October 2020 <p>Virtual or 1-4pm at West Hartford Fire Station, Cramlington, NE23 3JP</p>		

Name	22.01.19	14.03.19	16.05.19	25.07.19	24.09.19	9.1.20	12.3.20	29.6.20	8.10.20
Paula Mead	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Sheila Askew	✓	Mark Lennox	✓	✓	✓	✓	Joanne Hancox	Joanne Hancox	
John Barnes	✓	A	✓	DNA	✓	DNA	✓		
Deborah Brown	✓	Charlotte Sayers	✓	✓	✓	✓	A		
Sian Bufton/Emma Ramsay	✓	✓	A	✓	A	A	✓		
Karen Burns	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	A	✓	
Wayne Daley (observer)	DNA	A	A	A	A	DNA	A		
Marion Dickson	Jane Smyth	A	A	Paula Shandran	Elaine Henderson	A	A	A	
Anna English	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	Karen Wright	
Nicholas Greenley	A	✓	A	✓	DNA	A	A		
Scott Hall	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari	Steve Ammari	Louise Cass-Williams	Steve Ammari	Donna Rose	Donna Rose		
Robin Harper-Coulson	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Alan Hartwell	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Dean Jackson	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Naomi Jones	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Catherine Joyce	✓	✓	Lindsey Kirk	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	
Cath McEvoy-Carr	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓	✓	
Liz Morgan	✓	✓	✓	Karen Herne	Karen Herne	A	A	DNA	
Vida Morris	✓	✓	Leesa Stephenson	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	
Vikie Morton					✓	✓	DNA		
Sue Reilly	✓	A	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Jill Scarr	✓	A	A	✓	A	A	A		
Phil Soderquest	DNA	DNA	A	Julie Stewart	A	DNA	A	A	
Martyn Strike	✓	✓	A	Mark Ryland	A	✓	✓	✓	
Margaret Tench	✓	✓	✓	A	A	A	✓	A	
Jan Tilson	Karen MacDonald	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Annie Topping	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	
Lynsey Wafer	✓	✓	✓	A	A	✓	✓		

✓ = Attended DNA = Did not attend A = Apologies