

# North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board



It is recognised that representatives need to consult with their organisations and express permission is given to them to use NSSCB information for this purpose. In all other circumstances, all documents and correspondence shared in this meeting and all discussions that take place during this meeting are confidential and should not be disclosed outside the meeting without agreement of the Chair.

All Board members are covered by their organisation's indemnity insurance, this is with the exception of lay members. Please note that whilst we value the opinions and professional judgement of our lay members they are exempt from taking any decisions arising from the Boards and its sub-groups.

Date of Meeting	10 <sup>th</sup> June 2019
Venue	National Probation Offices, St Georges, Worle
Chair	Tony Oliver, Independent Chair
Minutes	Lucy Teteris, Safeguarding Boards Co-ordinator

Agency	Membership	Attendance
LSCB Chair	Tony Oliver	Attending
LSCB Deputy Chair (National Probation Service)	Liz Spencer	Attending
DCS, Director P&C	Sheila Smith	Attending
Service Leader Strategic Safeguarding and Quality Assurance	Jo Baker	Attending
Avon Fire and Rescue (Correspondent Member)	Neil Liddington	Apologies (N/a)
Avon and Somerset Police	Leanne Pook	Apologies
Avon and Somerset Police	Victoria Caple	Attending
AWP	Lynne Franklin	Attending
Barnados	Duncan Stanway	Apologies
BNSSG CCG	Jacalyn Mathers	Attending
BNSSG CCG Designated Doctor for Safeguarding)	Richard Williams	Apologies
Border Force	Denise Preston	
Cafcass	Victoria Penaliggon	Apologies
CRC	Peter Brandt	Attending
Lay Member	Anna Curvan	Attending
North Somerset Community Partnership	Mary Lewis	Jos Grimwood

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North Somerset Council, Assistant Director Adult Support and Safeguarding	Hayley Verrico	Apologies
North Somerset Council, Assistant Director Children's Support and Safeguarding	Eifion Price	Attending
North Somerset Council, CSDAT	Jo Mercer	Apologies
North Somerset Council, Executive Member	Cllr Catherine Gibbons	Attending
North Somerset Council, Solicitor	Lorraine Sherman	Attending
Secondary Schools	No representative	
St Francis Primary School	Catherine Hunt	Apologies
South West Ambulance Service	Debbie Bilton	
Sub-Group Chair: Communications	Anne Ray Rowley	Attending
Sub-Group Chair: Early Help	Mike Rees	
Sub-Group Chair: Policy and Procedures	N/a	
Sub Group Chair: SE/Missing	Ruth Sutherland	Attending
Sub-Group Chair: Training and Development	Carolyn Hills	Attending
United Hospitals Bristol Weston	Sarah Windfeld	
VANs	Doreen Smith	
WAHT	Sarah Dodds	
<b>Attending to present to Board:</b>		
North Somerset Council	Helen Caldwell	Attending
North Somerset Council	Wendy Packer	Attending

### Minutes/Actions

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Agenda Item 1: Introduction and Apologies  
Presenting: Tony Oliver

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TO thanked National Probation Service for the room. He asked Board members to note the confidentiality statement on the attendance sheet.

He asked the Board to make introductions and welcomed new members:

Cllr Catherine Gibbons – Executive Member for Children's Services and Lifelong Learning

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Agenda Item 2: Declarations of Interest and AOB  
Presenting: Tony Oliver

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There were no declarations of interest.

There were two items of AOB.

- TO reminded the Board that early 2018 Dr Christine Barter from UCLan (University of Central Lancashire) made a request to include Weston-super-Mare in research she was carrying out on CSE in seaside towns. This should have been presented over a year ago and despite chasing Dr Barter verbally and by email no report has been forthcoming. TO suspects that Weston-super-Mare did not compare with the other

seaside towns as a CSE hotspot. To formalise the process he therefore proposed to close the on-going action and asked the Board for their agreement. **Board agreed.**

- TO reminded the Board that although legislation is changing in September and the LSCB will be disbanded there is still an expectation that an annual report is produced for 2018/19. He therefore proposes to follow the same format as last year and LT will forward templates to sub-group Chairs. He requested the Board's support for a rapid response and intends to sign-off the report at September Board. **Action LT/TO.**

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Item 3: Presentations and Good Practice Examples:  
Presenting: See below:  
Discussion/Challenge:

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**One Front Door (1FD) update:** TO introduced Helen Caldwell and explained that this item was deferred from March Board due to Ofsted's visit to the local authority. Helen gave a verbal update.

She reminded the Board that North Somerset is one of seven sites piloting 1FD. The pilot is now nine months in. The following agencies/services all contribute to the 1FD process: Social Care (adult and children), A&S Police, Gemini, AWP, Addaction, High Impact Family, Early Help, schools and Housing.

The pilot focuses on domestic abuse referrals coming from the police. All agencies look at the referrals against their own records and RAG rate the risk. If red (or amber for social care) the referral progresses to an afternoon meeting.

There have been 275 referrals to 1FD (this relates to 864 individuals as 1FD looks at all family members connected to the victim to build up a whole picture). Cases relate to predominantly female but since April there has been an increase in male victims. Around 50% of referrals progress to the afternoon meeting. 85% are male perpetrators.

Seven cases were looked at last week by 1FD.

The Operational Board priorities are:

- Audits on rereferrals
- Look at progression to services and how other agencies are responding.
- A new electronic logging system is planned to sit alongside EHM. This will be an efficient way of tracking and monitoring everything that comes to 1FD
- Training is being undertaken on "coercive control".
- Considering future referral pathways.

Challenges:

- Ensuring that all relevant agencies are taking part.
- Ensure changes of MARAC and 1FD are smooth and effective
- As well as Early Help, what is happening when the referrals don't progress to other agencies and ensuring families are getting the support they need.
- North Somerset still doesn't have a MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) making sure that families and children are seen in timely appropriate way.

She let the Board know that she had received a call from SafeLives and of all of the seven sites, North Somerset is closest to the proposed model and they expressed that they were impressed with the pilot. They are sending a senior director to visit next Friday.

TO, on behalf of the Board, thanked Helen for all the work put into 1FD pilot and stated how he likes how it links into the Think Family process and Early Help.

#### **ITEM 6 (ii) Policy and Procedures (virtual sub-group)**

Helen went on to update on the draft Sexual Abuse and Violence Strategy. This was circulated hard copy to the Board. The document draws together national guidance and where relevant adopts the same strategic priorities. It refers to Ofsted's JTAI. The strategy is relevant to all.

JB reminded that it was at the Board's request to produce a multi-agency action plan. It was agreed that HC will introduce JB to the Survivor Pathway Group where she will present this strategy and request to join the group. She will be the link to the Board. **Agreed.**

She let the Board know that we are the first nationally to produce a joint strategy.

It was also agreed that this needs to be added to the LSAB agenda. **Action.**

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Agenda Item 4:	Minutes of Safeguarding Board 18 <sup>th</sup> March 2019
Presenting:	Tony Oliver

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The minutes were signed-off as an accurate record by the Board.

TO went through the outstanding actions, these were either complete, agenda items or updated as detailed below:

Item 6 (v): **Update:** JW will attend the Comms sub-group to raise awareness around the Escalation Policy.

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Item 5 :	Standing Items
Presenting:	TO
Discussion/Challenge:	

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#### **5 (i) Executive Group:**

TO let the Board know that the LSCB Executive met on 14.05.19 and that the minutes are attached for information. Actions from the group have either been completed or agenda items.

He highlighted Item **6.1 Headline data:** JMa presented a report to the Executive on the status of CAMHS across BNSSG. TO confirmed that he is in the process of meeting with Lynn Franklin, AWP to discuss Level 1 and 2 early interventions and CAMHS. **Addendum:** *TO met with LF after the Board.*

#### **5 (ii) Safeguarding Partners update:** Sheila Smith updated:

Chief officers from nine agencies which include five local authorities; three CCGs and A&S police have formed Executive Board which will meet twice a year.

Progress on local arrangements included a workshop on Monday. Lead responsibility moving forward is the three accountable partners. She thanked JMa, VC and JB for leading on this. The proposed local arrangements have been put forward to the CCG and are going to the police next week, and CYP Scrutiny on 20<sup>th</sup> June.

Learning has been taken from early adopters and seeing how we can adapt locally.

Sept 2019 to Sep 2020 is a transitional year and in terms of budget there won't be any significant difference. Funding streams will be looked at during the transitional year.

By the end of September North Somerset will:

- be represented on the Executive Board by the three statutory partners; SS as DCS, VC (police) and the Director of Nursing from CCG. As stated above this group will meet twice a year.
- have in place the unnamed new children's multi-agency partnership group: this will, in essence, be a smaller group than the current board, making local decisions, holding partners to account and driving change.

It has been agreed that the Executive Board will not have deputies. It will drive independent scrutiny making sure, for example, that Operation Topaz gets delivered across Avon and Somerset. Regionally looking at joining learning and development activities and policies and procedures.

She confirmed that this is our penultimate LSCB with the final Board being held in September, TO, as our Chair would like the SCR action plans to be completed and closed by September. By the end of the September the inaugural Executive Board will take place with the new children's partnership arrangements in place.

LF asked how the Executive Board is going to manage without deputies. SS reiterated that the group will only meet twice a year and that by the nature of the representatives' posts, they can never be vacant, therefore if, for example, a member is on holiday, they will contribute to the agenda prior to the meeting.

There was a short discussion about the proposed name for the new local safeguarding arrangements. The Board was asked to send their suggestions through to JB, JMa and VC.  
**Action.**

SS confirmed to TO's query about localism, that the focus on NS would not be lost and that there is a requirement to publish and scrutinise what has been done but the new arrangements are about driving out duplication.

### **5 (iii) Agency updates from inspections and audits:**

**Section 11:** TO thanked the authors of the final report (NSCP) now circulated to Board members. He asked that Board members look at the action plan which had also been circulated with the agenda and to take this back to their organisations to complete prior to September Board. Returns to LT by mid-July. **Action.**

**5 (iv) Partner organisations' annual reports:** A link to the BNSSG CCG Safeguarding annual report was circulated with the agenda. JMa explained that the report is there for Board Members information and asked if there was anything anyone wanted to raise.

VC had a query on Chapter 3: Child Protection Information System (CP-IS). JMa confirmed that all three CCG areas, which at the time of the reporting period were still separate, had now all signed up.

**6 (i) Quality and Performance:**

- Children not in education (update) Wendy Packer.  
Following an audit carried out by the sub-group on Children not in Education, Wendy Packer, was asked to present an update to the Board. She circulated a hard copy snapshot of data on Children Missing from Education (CME). The data was taken on a random day (5<sup>th</sup> May). The recorded data is misleading and does not reflect those who are genuinely CME. The local authority is in the process of working with schools to minimise the number of young people who could be classified as CME. All children are entitled to 25hrs of education.

**Inclusion Panel:** This is a strong group of multi-agency staff ensuring that young people have the right amount of provision. It meets weekly; one week, “secondary” the second, “primary”. She is looking at a representation from the multi-academy trust to attend the panel.

The “secondary” panel is looking to increase its membership to include a health representative, Youth Offending Team, Weston College and someone from the safeguarding team, although RS (SE/Missing Co-ordinator) attends the “secondary” school panel. Nine out of the ten secondary schools attend the panel. (St Katherine’s due to its geographical position close to Bristol and therefore picks up students from Bristol, is the tenth school).

The Primary panel has a core group (as there are 60 plus primary schools) with representatives from each school presenting a case.

WP gave an example of partnership working, where other schools will offer advice and guidance to help a school retain a student.

There are two teams:

Placement teams: Support learning mentors give strategies to manage long term.

Small provision at Westhaven run by the local authority for youngsters who can’t be managed in mainstream placement.

She highlighted that academies don’t have to tell the local authority.

Students permanently excluded, the panel places them, unless in extreme circumstances, back in to mainstream.

Voyage Learning Campus (Pupil Referral Unit) if excluded more than twice: If a youngster has been permanently excluded and waiting placement at PRU the panel will try to provide 25 hrs education, but as this is mainly 1to1 support it is quite intense. If the child is of secondary age the proportion of 1to1 support will be on core subjects with the other time on reengagement and mentoring. On-line education for secondary school youngsters is also used, for example, if the youngster won’t interact with a person.

She asked the Board for any questions.

JMa asked who Wendy had approached to get a health representative on Board. She confirmed that this was via the SEND Board. She also noted that the police are not represented and highlighted Missing and criminality. WP confirmed that RS reports back to Operation Topaz and that YOT are also represented, but there was no reason why not.

TO asked WP, as the request originated from the Board, how confident she is that this snapshot represents the greater picture of NS. WP stated that 12 months ago, she would have been reluctant as alternative provision was not in place, but now she is confident that, although some youngsters do not receive 25hrs they are known about.

JB clarified that the update is a response to the report produced by the Q&P audit. She asked how our exclusion rates compare with other areas. WP confirmed that we are in-line with other authorities, with schools managing complex and challenging behaviours and a reduction in funding into schools to support them. Top-up funding for specialist needs is being cut in September. Schools are apprehensive and the number of requests for educational health plans has skyrocketed as schools and families see this as the only support for children with challenging behaviours. There has been an increase in permanent exclusions and it doesn't look set to improve.

Discussion was held around off-rolling and children not being registered and therefore not known about.

- Sexual abuse in a family environment  
JB explained this is the sub-group's current thematic audit. The findings will be feedback to September Board.
- Also carrying out a multi-agency audit "Children living with mental health issues", this is the next JTAI theme. She is hopeful to be able to give an interim update at September.
- Multi-agency data feedback: TO raised a query on previously submitted police data where it was unable to identify the relationship between a victim and perpetrator and if there was a familial link.

VC confirmed that NICHE should always record a suspect and a victim and it should be able to make a familial link. VC to **action**. *Addendum: VC has responded as follows: technically this data is available, but it realises on officers correctly linking associated parties 'behind the scenes' which is not reliable. Children's Social Care capture this information, so maybe use their data to triangulate.*

#### **6 (ii) P&P sub-group.**

- CSA and Violence Strategy (minuted above)
- Early Help Strategy. See sub-group report update.
- Early Help QA Framework. No update was given.
- FGM Guidance and Flowchart. No update was given.

#### **6 (iii) Early Help sub-group:**

- Access to universal services maintaining Early Help provision in some quarters is a challenge and will need be addressed as part of EH Strategy. Another challenge is getting people to use the EHM. This is the only way to gather data/info easily is where universal services use the EHM. Although this is an off the shelf package, quite a lot of training needs to be provided.

On-going and future provision of EH: the NS Troubled Families programme is a significant contributor of the amount of early help provided through the High Impact Families programme. Funding comes to an end March 2020. Post April 2020 serious discussions will be needed with partner agencies and going forward, the new safeguarding partnership will need to address this, as this is an A&S wide issue. **Action.**

**6 (iv) Learning & Development sub-group:**

CH let the Board know that Kate Blackburn, Multi-agency Learning and Development Officer and Joanne Bocko, Safeguarding in Education Officer are now in post. Joanne has sent out this year's audits to all schools and is currently presenting to the Designated Safeguarding Leads forum.

**6 (v) Communications sub-group:**

ARR gave an update. She let the Board know that she will be pulling together a task and finish group to prepare for Suicide Prevention Day in September and Anti-Bullying week in November.

TO suggested she link with Helen Yeo and Howard Potheary. LF confirmed that they have a suicide prevention lead in AWP and will link him with ARR. **Action.**

**6 (vi) Tackling Exploitation and Missing sub-group:**

- Raising awareness with representative of the police with private landlords about CSE. Feedback that it was well received.
- A member of the Education Inclusion team has now joined the sub-group.
- An action was to refresh or go on CSE training. Most members now booked on advanced training.
- Audit Return from Missing interviews. IROs are providing help.
- Linking with commissioning services. Children and adult placements in and out of areas, different requirements.

LS asked about transport links and how are we connecting in with the railway links; motorway links and airport. RS confirmed that she has had a meeting with Border Force, but nothing further.

It is now mandatory for taxi drivers to attend training before they are issued or renew their license.

Discussion about bus drivers allowing children on without any money; children travelling on trains without tickets, so therefore, through their kindness allowing them to go Missing. Drug exchange, county lines etc.

RS will raise at her sub-group. **Action.**

TO mentioned that it has been addressed within the A&S footprint. CI Ben Mosely presented to South Glos adults board last week. This followed an operation in Redcliffe and centres around cuckooing. It was agreed that VC will ask CI Mosely to present to the LSCB in September. **Action.**

**6 (vii) Young People's sub-group:**

TO explained that MJ is in the process of engaging new people for the sub-group and this is work in progress. JB confirmed that this is one of the sub-groups that the new

arrangements will look at to formalise on a wider footprint and to mirror best practice of other Boards. JB stated that with the school holidays, it is likely that this will be picked up again in September.

**6 (viii) SCR Sub-Group:**

- Darry, Siblings A&B action plans: TO asked for the completed action plans to be forward to LT by mid-July. **Action**

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Item 7: Out of Area Placements  
 Presenting: Jo Baker  
 Discussion/Challenge:

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Looked after children. JB updated the Board. She assured members that we notify other local authorities but is not confident that all local authorities are notifying us. JB is in liaison with Bristol in ensuring that there is a robust process in place.

JB asked Sheila whether this concern could be taken to ADCS. SS confirmed that information around this is regularly discussed at ADCS. It is a legal requirement to let local authorities know when placing. She confirmed that she receives emails from other authorities asking her to let them know. She sends these to DECS desk. She mentioned that during the Ofsted Inspection in 2017 that a child placed in our area from Bristol who had gone Missing, Bristol had not notified us.

LS reminded the Board about WP’s presentation earlier and how to assure whether those out of areas had gone back to area.

JMa noted that most new safeguarding arrangements don’t have CLA in their arrangement and asked SS whether it would be an opportunity. SS replied that there should not be any particular focus and that safeguarding has an umbrella responsibility for any child under the age of 18 in North Somerset, whether they live or are just travelling through.

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Item 8: AOB  
 Presenting: Tony Oliver  
 Discussion/Challenge:

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See above.

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Next Meeting: Monday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2019 @ 2.00pm, Probation Offices, Worle

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**ACTION LOG from today’s minutes**

		Lead	Date
Item 2:	LSCB annual report: send out templates to sub-group chairs.	LT	June/July
Item 6 (ii) P&P	JB to present SA & Violence Strategy and link with Survivor Pathway Group	JB	?
	Invite HC to present to the LSAB	LT	July

Item 5 (ii) Safeguarding Partners Update	Suggestions for new name to be forwarded.	Board	June/July
Item 5 (iii) Section 11 action plan	Actions to be completed prior to September Board	LT	July
Item 6 (i) Q&P sub-group	VC to look into NICHE re data and familial link.	VC	July
Item 6 (v) Communications sub-group	ARR to link with Helen Yeo, Howard Potheary and AWP for T&F group (Suicide Prevention Day)	ARR	July
Item 6 (vi) Tackling Exploitation and Missing	Transport links: RS to raise with sub-group.	RS	July
	CI Ben Mosely to be invited to attend LSCB to present.	VC	September
Item 6 (viii) SCR sub-group	SCR action plans to be completed and returned to LT by July	Board	July