

**NORTHUMBERLAND, TYNE AND WEAR NHS FOUNDATION TRUST**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

**Meeting Date:** 27 April 2016

**Title and Author of Paper:** Local Safeguarding Children's Board Update Report  
Jan Grey, Head of Safeguarding and Public Protection

**Paper for Debate, Decision or Information:** Information

**Key Points to Note:**

Regular update report for information.

**Outcome required:**

The Board is asked to note the content of this report.

## **Introduction**

This paper provides a brief update on issues raised at each of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards in the area covered by the Trust.

## **Northumberland Safeguarding Children's Board: Vida Morris Group Nurse Director, Trust Representative**

Northumberland Safeguarding Children's Board met on 19/1/2016

### **Protecting Children from Harm:**

A critical assessment of child sexual abuse in the family network in England and priorities for action

This is the first report of the Children's Commissioner's inquiry into child sex abuse within the family and its network. This report calls for the practice of professionals in identifying children who are being sexually abused to be strengthened, children and young people to be equipped with the knowledge to recognise abuse and access help when they are worried, and processes for the investigation of sexual abuse to be improved to minimise their impact on children and maximise their effectiveness.

### **Financial Contribution**

The Board Chair discussed with board members of the NSCB financial contributions in comparison to other regional LSCB. The board debated the NSCB budget in relation to population data for each Local board Authority area. Further work was agreed to evaluate the current position in light of statutory legislation and recent Ofsted LSCB review reports.

### **Assessment of Approach to Prevent**

The Prevent strategy is now drafted with an expectation that all three boards i.e. SNP, NSCB and NSAB will receive regular reports about progress of action plan. A separate training strategy is being drawn up to ensure training delivered at appropriate level to all NCC staff, schools, contractors and partners in line with prevent duty which came into force July 2015.

The outcomes of this strategy are expected to be:

- Development of an effective partnership approach to combat extremism, terrorism and radicalisation. Preparation for future of terrorism and counter-terrorism activity in the light of extremist activities in Iraq, Syria and Nigeria and right wing extremism in the UK to ensure the safety and well-being of the people of Northumberland.
- Engagement with communities to provide re-assurance and increase confidence that SNP can prevent or recover from a terrorist or extremist related incident.

**Newcastle Safeguarding Children's Board: Dr Johnathon Richardson, Group Medical Director, Trust Representative**

Newcastle Safeguarding Children's Board has not met since the last report to trust board

**North Tyneside Safeguarding Children's Board: Dr Jane Carlile Group Medical Director, Trust Representative**

The Safeguarding Children's Board met on 25/1/2016

**Sexual Exploitation**

Members were informed of a proposal to consider a shared sexual exploitation group across partnerships. Members will be aware that the recent Council Scrutiny report contained a recommendation that arrangements for coordinating the response to CSE, monitoring progress against the action plan could be addressed by a shared group from the LSCB, SAB and CSP. The report and the Board had accepted this and the reasons why progress had not been as hoped for. One key feature of the discussions was to ensure that NTSCB were in a position to fulfil the requirement to assess the effectiveness of partnership response to CSE. A formal proposal of the remit and terms of reference to be brought to the next NTSCB.

**Ofsted Inspection Readiness**

NTSCB supports the Association of LSCB chairs and has access to resources and research – regular analysis from published Ofsted reviews of LSCB's circulated with the agenda. It was agreed that the Business group will look at the key points identified in the report to inform and update current risk assessment and development.

**Early Help Assessments**

The Board was advised that this was completed in December 2015 and was the first significant look at this part of the Child's Journey for some time. This was an audit of 16 Early Help Assessments (EHA's) which represented 7% of the assessments completed between April and December 2015.

It was clear from the audits that there were a number of areas of concern re the quality and consistency of the assessments considered. It appeared that 25% of the sample, were requests for a service and it was not clear whether this was acceptable. This raised the issue of where operational responsibility and accountability rested for the Early Help Strategy.

The Board considered the findings and suggested that there may be unmet training needs which if addressed might help improve the quality of assessments but on the basis of this evidence the Board could not be fully assured that standards were being met. It was acknowledged that at present data and information was not available to the board to be able to put this into the wider context of early help arrangements and it was agreed it would be helpful to seek clarification of these as a part of the continued development of the Board scrutiny and assurance arrangements for early help.

### **South Tyneside Safeguarding Children's Board: Ann Marshall, Group Nurse Director, Trust Representative**

The Safeguarding Board met on 11/2/2016

#### Serious Case Review Overview Report

Board members received the final draft report associated action plan of the SCR of a young person in respect of a physical condition in neglectful circumstances. Members agreed to sign off the report.

#### Child Death Annual Report 14/15

Members received the annual report of the CDOP. The SoT CDOP completed the detailed review of 89% of cases between 1 April 2008 and 31 March 2015. 11% of cases are currently ongoing. There is an inevitable time-lag between notification of the child's death to discussion at CDOP but 100% of the cases requiring review from 2008-11 have now been reviewed and 96% from 2011-12. CDOP identified 'modifiable factors' in 19% of completed cases. Modifiable factors are defined as 'one or more factors, in any domain, which may have contributed to the death of the child and which, by means of locally or nationally achievable interventions, could be modified to reduce the risk of future child deaths'. The highest percentage of cases within a category of death with modifiable factors present was the Sudden Unexpected Deaths in Infancy (SUDI) with 62% of these deaths having modifiable factors present

#### Medway Secure Training Centre Implications

Medway is one of three purpose-built secure training centres (STCs) and is situated in Rochester, Kent. The centre is managed by G4S and is designed to accommodate up to 76 male and female young people aged 12 to 18 years who meet the criteria for a custodial sentence or who are remanded to a secure setting.

Implications of the allegations into abuse at Medway Secure Training Centre. A Panorama programme aired in January 2016 uncovered that several young males were subject to physical abuse and emotional bullying by staff at both frontline and Team Leader level.

Young people are not currently being placed at Medway. There is a new management team and several staff are subject to internal; disciplinary procedures and police investigation. The Secretary of State has appointed an Improvement Board.

## Recommendations

- That the Board monitors the placement of young people subject to remand
- That all staff visiting young people in custodial establishments should be aware of the need to ascertain young people's views on their safety and well-being and also note how the establishment is run
- That the Board supports the view of the Youth Justice Service that no young people from South Tyneside should be placed at Medway until improvements have been made and externally validated.

### **Gateshead Safeguarding Children's Board: Dr Damian Robinson, Medical Director, Trust Representative:**

The Gateshead Safeguarding Children Board met on 2/3/2016

#### Evidence of positive outcomes and learning between GPs and Children and Families

CCG Designated Nurse presented a report identifying positive case examples of partnership working between GPs and Children and Families Service in Gateshead. In August 2014 the CQC recommended improved information sharing and increased GP attendance at sub-groups. Good practice examples were provided through a number of case studies. The next steps include Specialist Safeguarding Training for lead GPs which will be rolled out across the CCG in early 2016. In terms of Child Protection Conferences, GPs contribute on average 74% through the report writer administrator. This pilot ends in January but will be extended until the end of March, further information will be brought back to the Board at that time. Commissioning intentions support that role and positive outcomes are evident. The Board noted the progress made against the CQC action plan.

#### LSCB Licensing Application Sub Group

Since the last report to the LSCB, the sub group has considered 14 licensing applications. No safeguarding implications were identified in any of the applications made by third parties for a new premises licence or variation to an existing licence. A number of the applications for new premises licences relate to restaurants due to open as part of the redevelopment of the Metrocentre and all have set out robust processes in their application to keep children safe on their premises. The LSCB Business Manager has also been involved in some discussions around a Public Health England pilot that Gateshead is to be involved in as this relates to licensing in the borough.

#### New / Novel Psychoactive Substances Update

Members were provided with an update in relation to New / Novel Psychoactive Substances (NPS), commonly known as "legal highs". On 28 January 2016, the

Psychoactive Substances Bill received Royal Assent. The Bill will seek to end the trade in harmful psychoactive substances and protect people in the UK from the risks posed – by banning the sale of NPS. The Psychoactive Substances Act 2016, when implemented in spring this year, will prohibit the production, supply and importation of these potentially dangerous drugs. 16 The new legislation will give police and other law enforcement agencies greater powers to tackle the trade in novel psychoactive substances, and will see strong deterrents for offenders, face up to seven years in prison.

**Sunderland Safeguarding Children’s Board: Anne Moore, Group Nurse Director, Trust Representative**

The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board met on 11/1/2016.

**Section 20**

Members were presented with the report in relation to S20 and PLO (Public Law Outline) children.

The Ofsted Inspection of Sunderland Children’s Services raised concerns about the high level of children subject to S20. It highlighted a lack of management oversight, drift in the planning for children and poor decision making resulting in S20s.

A “Head of Service” agreement has been implemented and this is required for any new emergency requests for accommodation.

A Permanence Panel is in operation. Cases are presented to this panel where the plan is for permanence.

The PLO panel sits weekly and is chaired by Strategic Managers. A PLO Case Manager has been appointed. This is a new post.

**Jimmy Savile – NHS Investigations**

The update on the themes and lessons learnt from NHS Investigations into matters relating to Jimmy Saville was presented. The conclusion from the update was that progress had been made against all of the recommendations.

Anne Moore confirmed that all Trusts in this area had given assurance that they are compliant with NHS Requirements.

This will be discussed within the CCG Strategic Meeting in February 2016 and a report would be provided to the SSCB in April 2016.

## SSCB OFSTED Improvement Plan

The SSCB Ofsted Improvement Plan was reviewed on 4th January 2016. Members were advised that Ofsted are returning to Sunderland in February 2016 to undertake further work. The Lead Inspector has confirmed that this work would not involve the SSCB however proactivity would ensure the SSCB Improvement Plan was up-to-date.

## Learning and Improvement in Practice

The Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub Committee have agreed to meet bi-monthly from January 2016 due to the number of SCR's reviews underway.

Agency Action Plans for SCRs are being reviewed and the SCR Toolkit is to be finalised

**Gary O'Hare**  
**Executive Director of Nursing and Operations**