

Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board Business Development Plan 2018-19

Priority: LSCB1 Partnership transition

Priority Statement: Influencing transition to new effective multi-agency safeguarding children arrangements for Leicestershire and Rutland.

Rationale:

- The Children and Social Work Act 2017 abolishes Local Safeguarding Children Boards and requires the setup of Multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. The nature and operation of these is governed by Working Together 2018 guidance and additional regulation. Arrangements are to be agreed by the statutory partners (CCGs, Police and Local Authorities) by March 2019 and implemented by June 2019.
- The LSCB has experience it can feed into development of new arrangements and would want to be assured that the new arrangements will be effective in safeguarding children in the future.
- Schools' role in safeguarding children is essential and the new legislation and guidance provides an opportunity to clarify and strengthen this within multi-agency arrangements.
- The LSCB will need to support effective transition to the new arrangements.

What do we want to be different?

Comprehensive multi-agency arrangements, focussed on safeguarding children, are ready for implementation at the end of March 2019. The voice of children has been heard in the development of the arrangements and is a visible part of the new arrangements including the independent scrutiny.

Partnership Lead: Simon Westwood, Independent Chair

Board Officer: James Fox

Key delivery mechanism:

| Objective | What are we going to do? | When is it going to be done by? | Who is responsible? | How will we measure progress and impact? |
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| Transition to new multi-agency safeguarding arrangements takes place in line with the Government timetable | Work with the 'safeguarding partners' to develop a transition plan. | Jan 2019 | Independent Chair | Transition Plan agreed by statutory partners and in place. New arrangements implemented by September 2019. |
| | With safeguarding partners implement the transition plan. | Sept 2019 | | |
| New arrangements are focussed on safeguarding children and incorporate the voice of children | Establish a children and young people advisory group to feed into the current Board and the development of new arrangements and seek approval of statutory partners. | July 2018 | Independent Chair and Board office | Children and Young People Advisory Group established. 4 updates considered by the Board in 2018-19. |
| | Receive reports on development of the new arrangements. | Quarterly | | |
| The role for schools in the new arrangements is clear and understood by schools and statutory partners | Make the case to safeguarding partners for an education advisory group to feed into development of new arrangements. | March 2019 | Independent Chair | Arrangements for Schools' involvement in new arrangements are agreed and published. 1 st meeting of the advisory group held and terms of reference agreed. |

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Priority: LSCB2 Multiple Risk Factors

Priority Statement: The impact of multiple risk factors on children is recognised, understood and responded to across agencies.

Rationale:

- Multiple risk factors including, but not limited to, the ‘trilogy of risk’ of mental health, domestic abuse and substance misuse in families multiply risk to children when present together in their family lives. Poverty has been identified as a key risk factor that is often overlooked.
- Case reviews have identified that lack of engagement or disguised compliance by families in services multiplies risk of harm to children.
- Effective information sharing regarding domestic abuse can support reduced risk of harm to children.
- There is a need for agencies to improve understanding of the support resources available to respond to domestic abuse, substance misuse, mental health problems.

What do we want to be different?

Pathways for support for safeguarding children provide guidance and response to lack of engagement or disguised compliance by parents to address the additional risk of harm.

The Board is assured by the measures below that partner agency responses to domestic abuse affecting children are safeguarding them.

Partnership Lead: Head of Children’s Social Care, RCC

Board Officer: Gary Watts

Key delivery mechanism:

| Objective | What are we going to do? | When is it going to be done by? | Who is responsible? | How will we measure progress and impact? |
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| Ensure that the additional risk of lack of engagement/disguised compliance on safeguarding risk is better understood and assessed by practitioners | Research evidence of the impact of lack of engagement or disguised compliance to be included in review of pathway for access to services for safeguarding children. | October 2018 | Board Officer | <i>Research report published in review findings.</i> |
| | Review of pathways for accessing services to include discussion across agencies regarding agency response to lack of engagement and safeguarding. | Dec 2018 | Lead Officer | Review to provide a report to the Board with recommendations for change and learning. |
| | Provide research findings and guidance online for practitioners. | March 2019 | Training group | Online guidance published on the website and through Safeguarding matters. |
| | Develop metrics to assess agencies’ response to lack of parental engagement with safeguarding services. | March 2019 | Business Intelligence Teams, County and Rutland | Proposal for new metrics to be recommended to the Board. |

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| Ensure that pathways for access to services address multiple risk factors | The review of access to services to include a review of the approach to cases where key multiple risk factors exist (trilogy of risk). | March 2019 | Access to Service Task and Finish group | Pathways / Thresholds for access to services published and include reference to multiple risk factors. |
| Ensure that approaches to multiple risk factors are informed by learning from CDOP reviews | Review safeguarding-related findings from CDOP reviews of multiple risk factors regarding suicide and infant mortality. Share the learning from this with Board partner agencies. | September 2018 | Lead Officer / Mike McHugh | (See above) Report to Board in Dec 18 to reference these findings. |
| Provide assurance to the Board that the partnership response to domestic abuse is safeguarding children | Complete a multi-agency file audit on domestic abuse cases affecting children. | July 2018 | Audit Chair (Rebecca Wilshire, RCC) and Board Office | File audit and recommended action plan presented to the Board. |
| | Receive reports from the Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence (DASV) Executive on the effectiveness of information sharing in domestic abuse cases where safeguarding children is a concern. | October 2018 | Chair of DASV Exec | Assurance Reports received by the Board identifying any barriers to information sharing that need to be tackled. |
| | Receive a report from the DASV Executive regarding the impact of domestic abuse provision and approaches to safeguarding children. | Jan 2019 | | Report identifies provision available, any unmet needs and includes numbers of children identified as affected and the type of support provided. |
| | Work with the County Safer Communities Board to make sure leadership and governance for children affected by domestic abuse are clear. | October 2018 | Independent Chair | Leadership and Governance agreed and linked to published future safeguarding arrangements. |

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Priority: LSCB3 Safeguarding Children – Access to services

Priority Statement: Ensure the pathways for access to services for safeguarding children are robust and effective.

Rationale:

- The partnerships have identified across LLR that the current ‘Threshold’ documents require revision and the LLR Procedures Group has this as part of their action plan.
- In addition the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB has adopted this as part of the 2018 -19 Business plan.

What do we want to be different?

- The intention is to ensure that there are revised and published ‘pathways for access to services’ that are compatible with the new Working Together statutory guidance, are clear to staff and cover as broad a range of potential factors and risks as possible.
- The partnerships have identified across LLR that the current ‘Threshold’ documents require revision and the LLR Procedures Group has this in their action plan.
- The revised document will enable practitioners from different partner agencies to discuss children and families using a shared language which will lead to them receiving the right service at the right time.

Partnership Lead: Chris Nerini, LCC

Board Officer: Chris Tew

Key delivery mechanism: Pathways Task and Finish Group

| Objective | What are we going to do? | When is it going to be done by? | Who is responsible? | How will we measure progress and impact? |
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| Updated pathways/thresholds for access to services are developed and published | Gather together examples of ‘pathways/thresholds for access to services’ from other areas to be able to compare with our current procedures and develop updated procedures. | July 2018 | Board Office | Examples of good practice will have been identified and shared with the Task and Finish group. |
| | Convene a Task and Finish group comprising of suitable representatives from key agencies across LLR including Local Authority, Police, and Health (commissioning and major health provider agencies) to review local thresholds. | June 2018 | Board Office | The identified Safeguarding partners will be actively engaged in the task. |
| | Hold sufficient meetings to develop new procedures, taking into account the views of professionals in all key agencies and the provisions of the new Working Together statutory Guidance. Ensure these procedures cover as many of the situations that may be experienced by professional staff dealing with children and families as possible. | June 2018 to October 2018 | Task and Finish Group | Consistent representation from all key agencies on the Task and Finish group. |
| | Complete the new procedures and publish them via the LLR Procedures Subgroup. | By March 2019 | LLR Procedures Group | Pathways / Thresholds for access to services published. |

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| | <p>Test implementation as part of case file audits when in place alongside other Safeguarding Assurance activity including the views of children and families and the workforce.</p> | <p>March 2019 onwards</p> | <p>LLR Case file audit groups</p> <p>SEG / PAAG</p> | <p>Compliance with revised procedures and thresholds.</p> <p>Audits indicate evidence of multi-agency working through timely assessment and access to services.</p> |
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Priority: LSCB4 Child Exploitation (Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking, Missing and Gangs)

Priority Statement: Children at risk of exploitation are effectively safeguarded.

Rationale:

- CSE, Trafficking and Missing continue to be high level safeguarding priorities at national and local levels. During 2016/17 changes to the governance of multi-agency CSE work has focused the LSCB's role on scrutiny and challenge. The Ofsted review of the LSCB in 2016 identified the need to improve details in the analysis of missing return interviews. A multi-agency audit regarding missing children scheduled for 2017/18 is still outstanding.
- Partnership Funding for several projects tackling CSE specifically end in 2018/19.
- Gangs may be an emerging issue in the area.
- Children missing education are particularly vulnerable group.

What do we want to be different?

The Board is assured through the planned actions that children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation are being effectively safeguarded. The operational approach to safeguarding missing children is informed by the outcomes of return interviews and the number of those refusing to participate are minimised. The Board is assured by the planned actions below that partner agencies are working together to ensure children missing education are tracked, and where safeguarding concerns are assessed are referred for support.

Partnership Lead: Simon Cure, Police

Board Officer: Sanj Pattani

Key delivery mechanism:

| Objective | What are we going to do? | When is it going to be done by? | Who is responsible? | How will we measure progress and impact? |
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| Gain assurance that the approach to Child Sexual Exploitation safeguards children | <p>Carry out a case file audit regarding Child Sexual Exploitation.</p> <p>Receive reports on the impact on service provision of any changes in funding regarding CSE.</p> <p>Raise awareness through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training opportunities • SPDF CSE Project work stream 'Faith and Communities CSE Champion Service' (operating as EngageME) • CSE communications and engagement strategy and action plan including development of educational resources | September 2019 | <p>Audit Chair: Teo Bott (tbc), audit will be across LLR</p> <p>CSE Executive Chair</p> <p>CSE, Missing and Trafficked Operations Group</p> | <p>Audit outcome and action plan report to Board.</p> <p>Report received and actions to mitigate any risks identified and monitored. Report whether numbers at high and medium risk are being reduced.</p> <p>Quarterly performance reports.</p> |

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| Seek assurance through an audit of return interviews that the approach to children going missing safeguards children | Receive reports on the analysis of return interviews and how this informs work to safeguard children going missing in future. Include in this the number and reasons of any refusal to cooperate. Carry out a case file audit regarding Children going Missing | October 2018 and March 2019 December 2018 | Audit Chair (Leics Police), audit will be across LLR but provide information by LA | Audit outcome and action plan report to Board. |
| To ensure that Authorities placing children in Leicestershire and Rutland notify the LA of any CSE risk assessments | To distinguish in the data analysis risk assessments for children placed in Leicestershire and Rutland from other LAs and report this to the CSE Hub | December 2018 | Police | To have a clear identification of the levels of CSE risk of all children placed in Leicestershire and Rutland from other Authorities |
| Ensure Children Missing from Education are tracked and safeguarded where necessary | Seek assurance from the LAs that children missing from education are identified quickly and that effective tracking systems are put in place to enable effective action to be taken to refer on safeguarding concerns. To ensure that children placed in care in Leicestershire and Rutland from other Authorities are identified as a separate group by Authority. | October 2018 | LA Children Missing education leads | All children missing education are tracked and whereabouts known. The numbers, types of safeguarding concerns are reported and outcomes of those report risks have been addressed. |
| Develop and share learning about local approaches to safeguarding regarding gangs | Monitor emergence of referrals regarding gangs. Seek the views of the Board's Young Persons Advisory group on this matter. Develop safeguarding procedures regarding gangs. | November 2018 March 2019 | Police LLR LSCB | Monitor referrals regarding gangs. Report numbers and types of concern and strategies in place to tackle these. Young people's views reported to Board and priority lead. Joint procedures in place and disseminated. |

Priority: LSCB5 Safeguarding and Children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities

Priority Statement: Improve the approach to safeguarding children with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities.

Rationale:

- The LSCB organisational assessment and case file audit regarding Children with Disabilities in 2017/18 identified areas to further develop practice.

What do we want to be different?

Additional safeguarding risks regarding children with special educational needs and disabilities are recognised and responded to effectively.

Partnership Lead: Carolyn Corbett, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust | **Board Officer:** Helen Pearson

Key delivery mechanism: Task and Finish Group

| Objective | What are we going to do? | When is it going to be done by? | Who is responsible? | How will we measure progress and impact? |
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| <p>Ensure that work with children with special educational needs and disabilities considers and responds to their specific additional safeguarding risk</p> <p><i>Further action may be added when the organisational assessment and case file audit is reported to the Board in July</i></p> | <p>Revive the former Task and Finish group with involvement across agencies.</p> | <p>June 2018</p> | <p>Lead and Board office</p> | <p>Procedures produced in line with standards.</p> |
| | <p>Review safeguarding procedures regarding children with disabilities in line with the organisational assessment findings.</p> | <p>March 2019</p> | <p>Procedures Subgroup / Task and Finish Group</p> | <p>Follow up audit in 2019/10 to check compliance and outcomes.</p> |
| | <p>Review findings to be considered in the access to services review.</p> | <p>March 2019</p> | <p>Pathways Task and Finish Group</p> | <p>Feedback from children with disabilities and families on procedures.</p> |
| | <p>Develop and use awareness raising material to promote good safeguarding of children with disabilities.</p> | <p>March 2019</p> | <p>Task and Finish Group</p> | <p>Increased self-reported awareness and confidence from those attending spotlight event.</p> |
| | <p>All agencies to review accessibility of complaints processes and other information relevant to disabled children and their families.</p> | <p>January 2019</p> | <p>All Board Members</p> | <p>Review completed and action to address any concerns reported to the Board.</p> |
| | <p>Carry out a spotlight event focussed on safeguarding children with special educational needs and disabilities in conjunction with Leicester City LSCB.</p> | <p>September 2018</p> | <p>LLR LSCB Training Group</p> | <p>Event held and practitioner feedback reported to the LLR Children’s Joint Executive.</p> |

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