

AGENDA FOR

CHILDREN'S SAFEGUARDING OVERVIEW SUB COMMITTEE

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To: All Members of Children's Safeguarding Overview Sub Committee

Councillors: R Caserta, J Grimshaw, M Hankey,
N Jones, Susan Southworth, J Walker and M Whitby

Dear Member/Colleague

Safeguarding Sub-Committee

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Safeguarding Sub-Committee which will be held as follows:-

Date:	Tuesday, 2 April 2019
Place:	Lancashire Fusiliers Room, Bury Town Hall
Time:	5.00 pm
Briefing Facilities:	If Opposition Members and Co-opted Members require briefing on any particular item on the Agenda, the appropriate Director/Senior Officer originating the related report should be contacted.
Notes:	

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of this group are asked to consider if they have an interest in any of the matters on the Agenda and if so to formally declare that interest.

3 MINUTES (*Pages 1 - 4*)

Minutes of the meeting held on the 8th January 2019 are attached.

4 MENTAL HEALTH UPDATE (*Pages 5 - 8*)

Karen Whitehead Strategic Lead Inclusion Health & Partnerships CYP, will report at the meeting. Report attached.

5 UPDATE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE

Karen Dolton, Executive Director Children and Young People will report at the meeting.

6 CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Representatives from the Department for Children and Young People, Susan French and Mel Tunney will report at the meeting.

7 IT UPDATE

This item will be deferred for consideration at the next meeting.

8 URGENT BUSINESS

Date of Meeting: Tuesday 8th January 2019

Present: Councillor Susan Southworth (in the Chair); Councillor Grimshaw, Councillor Hankey, Councillor N Jones, Councillor J Walker and Councillor Whitby.

Also in attendance:
Tony Decrop – Interim Assistant Director (Social Care & Safeguarding)
Janice Barr - Interim Practice Improvement Manager
Bart Popelier, Strategic Lead Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
Sue Harris - Strategic Lead for Placement Services
Julie Gallagher – Democratic Services

Apologies for absence: Councillor R Caserta

CS.01 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

CS.02 MINUTES

The Chair, Councillor Susan Southworth, provided members with an update following her meeting with the Executive Director, Children and Young People.

Items discussed at the meeting included; social worker retention and sickness rates, agency cover and the use of technology.

It was agreed:

The minutes of the meeting held on 16th October 2018, be approved as a correct record.

The Executive Director Children and Young People would be invited to the next meeting of the Children's Safeguarding Sub Committee to provide a further update in respect of the items discussed above.

CS.03 CARE LEVER SERVICES

Sue Harris, Strategic Lead, Placement Services attended the meeting to provide an update in relation to the services and support provided to care levers. The Strategic Lead reported that the Bury Through Care Team provide services to Care Leavers and ensure they assist with developing life skills for independence and provide ongoing support to young adults once they have left care. There are 135 Care Leavers open to the Through Care Team.

An accompanying presentation provided information in relation to:

- Performance data

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- services offered to care leavers
- unsuitable accommodation
- Plans for the integrated team to be based at New Kershaw Centre
- Local Offer for Care Leavers which sets out the services for care leavers available in the Borough.

Those present were invited to ask questions and the following issues were raised:

Responding to a Member's question with regards to the high levels of children not in education, employment and training the Strategic Lead for Placement Services reported that the "breakthrough" programme helps to support and engage young people. The Strategic Lead acknowledged that this is an area of weakness for the service, with only 48.9% of 18+ in EET.

The Strategic Lead reported that in respect of care plans, the school would be involved in the decision the choice of school, including the decision to remain in the same school would be dependent on what was in the child's best interest.

With regards to holiday accommodation for young people at university, the Strategic Lead reported that in some instances the Council would pay for foster carers to provide accommodation, in others circumstances other alternative accommodation would be provided.

Members discussed the 17 young people deemed to be living in unsuitable accommodation. Of these, 8 are in custody, 7 Other young people are living in unstable living arrangements such as between friends, or in temporary accommodation provided by housing which cannot be assessed as suitable. The Strategic Lead reported that this may be due to a variety of reasons. In all instances there is evidence of ongoing work with the personal advisor to provide appropriate advice around accommodation options or advocacy.

Responding to a question with regards to supported lodgings, the Strategic Lead reported that there are only three premises providing supported lodgings currently, a recruitment drive to encourage greater participation will be launched in the new year.

With regards to the development of the care leavers offer, to understand "the voice of the child", the personal advisors would seek views routinely. The Interim Assistant Director acknowledged that there are difficulties involved in capturing the views of those hard to reach groups. This issue has been highlighted with the organisation, Children's Rights to ensure that information and views are gathered from as a wider representation as possible. The Strategic Lead reported that regular meetings have been held with officers, partner agencies, corporate parents and young people to develop the offer.

It was agreed:

Sue Harris, Strategic Lead Placement Services be thanked for her attendance.

CS.04 LGA PEER REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE UPDATE & QUESTIONS TO THE INTERIM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR SOCIAL CARE AND SAFEGUARDING

Bart Popelier Strategic Lead for Safeguarding gave a presentation setting out details of the recently undertaken peer review. The Peer Review Team focused on front line practice relating children in need, those subject to a child protection plan and protection of disabled children including:

- Effectiveness of management and supervision
- Public Law Outline
- A validation exercise of internal audit methodology

The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding reported that the peer review team spent 5 days onsite at Bury Council (plus 2 days in advance file auditing), spoke to more than 90 people and attended more than 35 meetings, focus groups and site visits.

The team reviewed 30 case files plus 9 audited cases, interviewed 13 allocated social workers/managers and observed 3 child protection case conferences

The Strategic Lead for Safeguarding reported that the review highlighted

- The Local Authority has good insight and understands its strengths and weaknesses.
- There has been a gradual improvement in performance and practice following a decline which has been aided by a robust Quality Assurance & Performance Management Framework.
- Plans were not always consistently SMART or sufficiently outcome focused.
- Partnership working on the whole was found to be strong and effective both operationally and strategically.
- Staff consistently fed back that Bury is a nice place to work with good team working and a management culture that is open and supportive, morale was high.
- No cases reviewed resulted in escalations because all children reviewed were deemed to be safe and secure.

Responding to a member's question with regards to concerns raised in respect of SMART plans, the Strategic Lead reported that this can be attributed, in part, to the current computer software. The Interim Assistant Director reported that work is undertaken with social workers as part of their professional development, to ensure plans are succinct and outcome focused. A new SMART easier to understand template is being rolled out which details clearly how a plan is progressing.

The Strategic Lead reported that there is a robust quality assurance process in place to identify inconsistencies in care plans, regular examples of good practice will be shared amongst the social workers.

Members of the Group discussed concerns in respect of access to adequate IT to enable social workers to effectively carry out their duties. Members complained about problems with accessing WIFI, computer systems that did not talk to each other and out of date hardware. The Interim Assistant Director reported that underdeveloped IT arrangements are a "blocker" to effective agile working.

Responding to a Member's question in respect of work needed to address issues raised as a result of the Peer Review, the Interim Assistant Director

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reported that some of this work can be and has been undertaken immediately. Other recommendations, for example, funding for the social work practice model, Signs of Safety may take up to six months to complete

The Strategic Lead, Safeguarding provided members with an update on performance, this included information in respect of

- Number of Contacts
- Number of Referrals
- Number of Repeat Referrals
- Children in Need
- Child Protection

Members discussed the rise from 25% to 33.5% in the numbers of repeat referrals. The Strategic Lead reported that this is the fourth highest in the northwest and has been highlighted to the Safeguarding Board as an area of concern. Engagement work has been undertaken with partners to minimise repeat referrals and to promote support via the early help and intervention model.

It was agreed:

1. Representatives present be thanked for the update. The Sub Committee would continue to receive regular performance updates.
2. Tracy Keeling, Strategic Digital IT Lead would be invited to the next sub-committee meeting to provide members with information with regards to work being undertaken to address the problems raised in respect of IT.

CS.05 NEXT MEETING AND FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed:

That the next meeting of the Group be held on 2nd April 2019, to consider the following items:

- **Healthy Young Minds**
- **IT Update**
- **K. Dolton to attend**

COUNCILLOR S SOUTHWORTH

Chair

(Note: the meeting started at 5.30pm and ended at 7.10pm)

Mental Health Update

Karen Whitehead

Strategic Lead Inclusion Health & Partnerships CYP

Safeguarding OPG 02.04.2019

1. Key Priorities – 2019/20 and beyond (see Chapter 9 of the draft LTP)

Within the available resource, during 2019/20 and beyond we plan to:

- Deliver a core service in line with the new GM Service Specification for CYP mental health. Most significantly:
 - Increase the upper age eligibility criteria from 16th to 18th birthday for new referrals
 - Widen the service offer to include 8am – 8pm weekday working and weekend cover.

- Continue to deliver against the 5 Year Forward View for Mental Health targets for CYP Access, workforce development and community eating disorder waiting times.

- Deliver on ambitions in the NHS Long Term Plan:
 - Continue to increase funding for CYP mental health services both in real terms and as a percentage of total health spend.
 - Develop services and improve access to timely, effective perinatal and parent-infant mental health care for mothers, partners and children.
 - Transform Crisis Care – this work stream is led through the GM H&SCP with links to LTP.
 - Continue to work with partners to ensure mental health support for children and young people will be embedded in schools and colleges – building on the 'Link Worker' service in place since 2016.

- Operationalise the Transition Service, building on the Transition CQUIN for 2017-19. This will significantly improve the experience for CYP and

families and support delivery of the GM service specification for CYP mental health and NHS long term plan ambition for transition.

- Commission specialist neurodevelopmental nurse roles to support the ASD and ADHD assessment and care pathways, including delivery against the GM Standards for ADHD.
- Commission a Sensory Integration service to support those CYP, diagnosed with ASD, with more complex sensory needs.
- Continue to engage with and support local delivery of GM led CYPMH work streams, most notably the Crisis Care Pathway, development of the iThrive Hub, vulnerable groups, GM Mentally Healthy Schools and, the GM Inpatient Mental Health Offer.



HWBB Paper -
2019-20 LTP Refresh.

HYM- Safeguarding processes

Healthy Young Minds

From 01/01/18 to 31/12/18 there was 2465 YP referred to HYM, as the single point of access we redirect some to partner agencies, we currently have 64 on waiting list. The longest wait is 8.7 weeks for a routine assessment, however we offer urgent (within 7 days) and priority (within 2 weeks) dependant on risk. We offer 2 urgent assessments per day and we do not have an internal waiting list from assessment to treatment, the allocation list is allocated weekly to a practitioner who will provide treatment. We redirect to either school nurse, Streetwise, First point family support or Early Break for holistic therapies from referral or step down from our service.

The existing Link Worker offer for schools and any professional working with children and young people has been enhanced with the recruitment of a third practitioner to the team. A key new offer for the Link Worker service from 2018/19 will be BEST - Behavioural & Emotional Skills Training. The BEST group has been developed to help those CYP that experience high levels of distress and intense emotion that lead to urges to harm themselves. The BEST group is a proactive early identification and intervention to school populations where pupils struggle with emotional regulation and managing relationships that in the long term may be at risk of developing behaviours such as alcohol or substance misuse, self-harm or suicidal ideation. The aim is that early intervention and skills will prevent these behaviours exacerbating to unhealthy coping strategies in adolescence and early adulthood. The sessions will initially be delivered by the Link Workers with the aim that educational staff (SENCOs and teaching assistants and potentially school nurses or the designated lead for mental health will be skilled up to deliver the sessions themselves – significantly extending the reach and sustainability of the course.

The offer has been tried in a school with positive outcomes and will be piloted in two schools initially and if successful, will be offered to all. In time, it is expected that this service can be built upon with the roll out of the Mental Health Support Teams as proposed in the government Green Paper - Transforming children and young people's mental health provision (December 2017).

Overview

Safeguarding is an integral part of our work with young people and their families. All clinical staff are required to be up to date with their level 3 safeguarding training.

All staff receive regular managerial and clinical supervision and there is an expectation that all cases with safeguarding concerns are brought to supervision.

We hold a database of all cases at CIN level and above. All staff is aware of safeguarding processes and how to escalate concerns. Staff are aware of local policies and procedures around safeguarding. We frequently contribute to EHC plans, we provide a specialist clinic to Elms bank and offer consultation.

Graduated approach

Staff are aware of raising safeguarding concerns via their line manager and then raising concerns with the local safeguarding nurse and/or making a referral to MASH.

Our link work service provides support to other agencies and often involves advice around accessing early support and raising safeguarding concerns. Staff are expected to prioritise attendance at case conferences. We provide a weekly presence at the locality hubs in work which work MDT approach.

We share information with consent from families to schools and partner agencies to ensure that the systems involved with supporting a family are aware of the work we are doing. We would share safeguarding concerns as a matter of course.

At the initial appointment there would be a discussion with the YP and then the family around the limits of confidentiality and what we would do if there were any safeguarding concerns.

Training

Clinical staff receive level 3 safeguarding training and are regularly notified when their training is due. Non-clinical staff also receive required training for their role.

We hold regular 7 minute briefings in our team meetings.

Information from serious incidents and serious case reviews is regularly cascaded to the team for lessons to be learnt.

Responsive

All YP presenting with significant risk are screened and offered urgent appointments the following day if appropriate. All YP who attend A+E are contacted by the service within 7 days to plan their on-going care. All YP who

are admitted to a paediatric ward following A+E attendance have a 7 day follow up with our service. Our Inreach/Outreach team can offer additional support to YP out of hours if there is significant risk.

We have a duty system that operates Mon-Friday where external agencies can seek advice/ support around YP presenting with risk. This is well used by partner agencies and helps support referrers and ensures a timely response to those who require it.

Staff will be flexible in how and where an assessment is offered. This may involve a home visit or an appointment in school. We also commission Frist Point Support to provide early intervention and post diagnostic support. We provide regular consultation and access to psychiatry to the Look after children's CAMHs.