



Annual Report on the Effectiveness of Safeguarding Children in Bury 2017/18

Bury Safeguarding Children Board,
c/o Safeguarding Unit,
18/20 St Mary's Place, Bury, BL9 0DZ.
Tel: 0161 253 6153
Fax: 0161 253 7601
E-mail: BSCB@bury.gov.uk

Web : www.safeguardingburychildren.org

Contents

1. Foreword.....	3
2. The role of the LSCB.....	4
3. LSCB partners.....	5
	6
4. How the BSCB undertakes its work	6
5. Challenges the BSCB has set for itself for 2017/18	8
6. Promoting effective partnership working.....	8
6. Promoting effective partnership working.....	9
7. Communicating and raising awareness.....	10
8. Holding partners to account.....	11
9. The effectiveness of safeguarding in Bury	13
10. Reviewing Child Deaths	17
11. Managing allegations against professionals	18
12. Partner compliance with statutory safeguarding requirements	20
13. Evaluating the child's journey.....	22
14. Single Agency Reports	28
15. The effectiveness of Bury Safeguarding Children Board	33
16. Conclusion.....	34
Appendix 1.....	35

1. Foreword

I was appointed as the Independent Chair for both the Bury Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Adult Safeguarding Board in January 2018.

Prior to this in the preceding year there had been many changes in the executive and senior management posts of the Local Authority and partner agencies and the LSCB had been without a Chair for nearly 8 months. Despite this, work had continued to ensure the effectiveness of interagency safeguarding arrangements and evidence of this can be found in this report. However, the changes in leadership and strategic management within statutory agencies have had an impact on the continuity of work, especially in relation to justifying the aims of the BSCB as set out in last year's report. There has also been an impact on the attendance of some partner agencies at key strategic meetings.

The BSCB annual report was a requirement of Working Together 2015 and it must contain a thorough assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. The report gives details of the activity of the Board, which is comprised of the Strategic Board which meets quarterly, the Business Group which meets every six weeks and the sub groups which meet quarterly or as necessary. The report also provides information from single agencies about their contributions to safeguarding children and young people in Bury as well as providing details of how the Board promotes effective partnership working.

Apart from the challenges of 2017/18 the BSCB had to prepare for the implementation of the Children and Social Care Act 2017. Under this legislation LSCBs will be replaced and there will be three safeguarding partners which are the Local Authorities, Chief Officers of the Police and Clinical Commissioning Group. The Safeguarding Partners must make arrangements to work together with relevant agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in the area. The new safeguarding arrangement must be in place by

September 2019. In addition, the new legislation has implication for the Child Death Overview Panels which will operate under a different framework from the LCSB.

Therefore throughout most of 2017/18 the BSCB was preparing for transition and the implementation of the new Working Together which came out in July 2018. In recognition of this some of the content in this report straddles the 2017/18 and 2018/19 year to reflect the fluid changes which are taking place. The terms of reference for the Business Group were updated and approved in March 2018 as they include drawing up a timetable for the effective implementation of the new safeguarding partnerships in Bury and to help generate the plan for submission to the Department of Education.

In June 2018 the LSCB held a development session to review future structures, with particular reference to ensuring closer co-operation with the adult board, a cooperation facilitated by commissioning a single Independent Chair and plans to combine business management and support.

While planning for the future, the BSCB must continue to carry out all of its statutory functions until the new safeguarding arrangements begin to operate. Notwithstanding the changes in leadership and the challenges, staff and managers of all partner agencies have continued to focus on the wellbeing of the children and young people of Bury. The information contained in this report is a testament to their commitment and hard work.

The role of the BSCB is to ensure its final year is characterised by continuing improvement in all safeguarding services to ensure a solid foundation on which the new Safeguarding Partnerships can be established.

Kathy Batt, Independent Chair - August 2018

2. The role of the LSCB

Bury Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) is a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. It is independently chaired and consists of senior representatives of all the statutory partners working together to safeguard children and young people in Bury. Its statutory responsibilities are to:

- Co-ordinate local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- To ensure the effectiveness of that work

The remit of this Annual Report

This report sets out progress made by Bury LSCB in 2017/18 with its partners, and analyses the effectiveness of

- Safeguarding arrangements in Bury.
- The BSCB in supporting and coordinating safeguarding arrangements and in monitoring and challenging those who provide them.

The report has been circulated to BSCB Business Group members and to BSCB members for comment and finalised

during September 2018. It will be submitted to the Bury Council Chief Executive and Lead member. It will be presented to the Bury Health and Well-Being Board on 21 November 2018. It will be submitted to the Greater Manchester Mayor together with a combined Greater Manchester LSCBs Annual Report.

The BSCB structure can be found on page 8.

The BSCB has a rolling programme for audits and reviews so that any weaknesses in interagency working can be identified and remedied as soon as possible.

The annual BSCB Business Plan sets out objectives and tasks within the BSCB's strategic priorities, identifying which sub groups will lead and timescales for completion.

The BSCB engages with other strategic bodies in Bury.



3. LSCB partners

BSCB partners continue to demonstrate their commitment to safeguarding by their attendance and by providing the resources that are needed to ensure an effective LSCB. There has been some difficulties with attendance due to capacity in certain agencies and the Board has challenged this whilst recognising the pressures inherent in all statutory agencies. Continuing financial restrictions on the public sector did result in reduced contributions in 2016/17 from both the Community Rehabilitation Company and the National Probation Service.

BSCB Budget

Local Authority Children’s Services	£72,145.00
Bury CCG	£37,142.00
Greater Manchester Police	£11,850.00
CAFCASS	£550.00
National Probation Service	£896.40
Community Rehabilitation Company	£2,080.80
Direct Schools Grant	£40,000.00
Total	£164,664.20

A summary of projected income and expenditure can be found in [appendix 1](#).



4. How the BSCB undertakes its work

BSCB meets quarterly with Business Group meetings taking place six weekly in the intervening months.

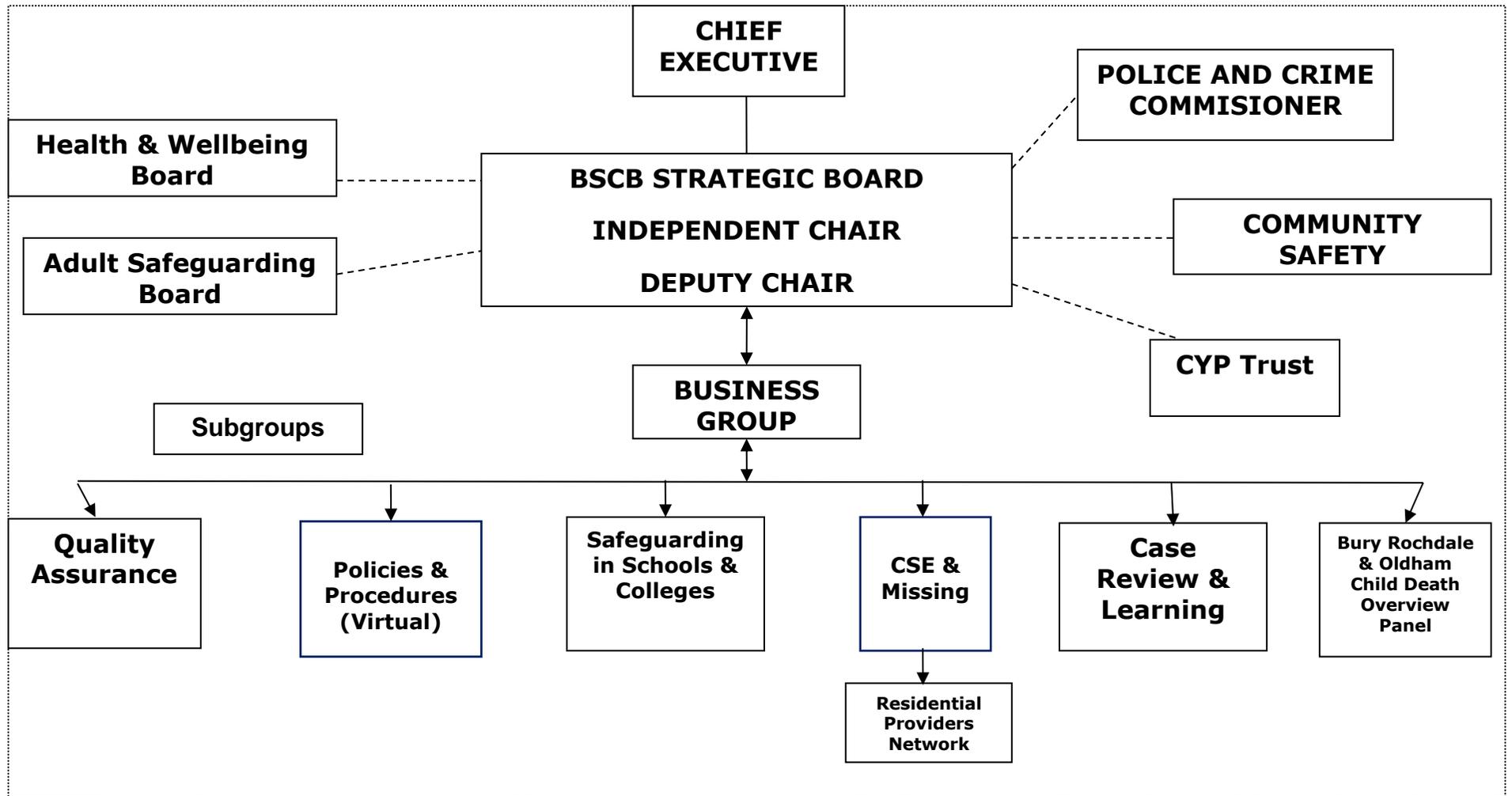
The work of the BSCB is undertaken through its sub groups (see structure on page 8) and is reliant on input from staff from partner agencies supported by the BSCB Team. This year we experienced some instability following the departure of the LSCB Independent Chair in August 2017. In January 2018 we welcomed Kathy Batt as the new joint Independent Chair of both the Local Safeguarding Children and Adults Boards.

In response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and the draft statutory guidance Working Together 2018 the Independent Chair commissioned a Development Day which was held in June 2018 and was facilitated by a neighbouring LSCB Independent Chair. Our partners discussed '**future safeguarding partnership arrangements**' and models for the future.

During the year sub groups continued to report to the Business Groups which then informed the full strategic Board as to the progress and effectiveness of safeguarding in Bury.



BSCB Structure Chart (as of 2018)



5. Challenges the BSCB has set for itself for 2017/18

The BSCB identified four priority areas for action for the forthcoming year (2017/18). During the year the BSCB focused on monitoring and responding to:

1. **Children and young people impacted by domestic violence.**
2. **Safeguarding in the context of technology and social media.**
3. **Mental/health/emotional well-being needs.**
4. **Complex safeguarding issues, including CSE, FGM & radicalisation.**

The Board was not able to make sufficient progress in all these areas but the single agency reports do contain detailed information about how services were provided in accordance with these themes. The lack of progress made could be attributed to the issues of capacity and leadership already noted in this report. One area where there have been major developments is in complex safeguarding.

The Complex Safeguarding Team developed during 2017/18 with the establishment of a seconded Team Manager having oversight for CSE, Missing, vulnerable adolescents and exploitation including county lines, modern day slavery and high level domestic abuse. The team has expanded and is co-located with organised crime officers in Bury Police Station. Through the Strategic Lead, the team is linked into GMP initiatives of Operation Phoenix and Challenger. The Team have also been involved in a

specific targeted Police Operation "Burgos" looking at CSE within specific geographical areas.

A new Domestic Abuse Project was planned throughout 2017 and will be operational in September 2018. All posts have been successfully recruited to. This will focus on direct work with children and non-abusive parents to empower survivors of domestic abuse and will address the cycle of abusive relationships that impact on multiple families and services.

Criminal investigations are all carried out jointly with Phoenix officers and going forward social workers within the team will be trained in 'Achieving Best Evidence'. This is in response to some young people expressing a preference for a social worker to undertake the interview.

The team do not close young people automatically at the age of 18 recognising that some young people retain high levels of vulnerability as they transition into adulthood.



6. Promoting effective partnership working



Widening partnerships on a regional basis has been a priority for the BSCB over the last twelve months.

The GMSP consists of representatives from all Local Safeguarding Children Boards and key agencies across Greater Manchester and coordinates collaborative projects and promotes consistency.

Historically the BSCB has collaborated on a Greater Manchester basis with other Greater Manchester Local Safeguarding Children Boards and with the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Partnership (GMSP). The GMSP has been in place for many years and has supported the work of the ten Local Safeguarding Children's Boards in Greater Manchester with many joint areas of work, including the establishment of one set of safeguarding procedures which are managed and updated through a contract with Tri-x and support from a dedicated group of colleagues. Over the last two years as devolution has become increasingly established in Greater Manchester, the work of the partnership has become overtaken by a range of priorities and partnership arrangements at a combined authority level (GMCA). After eighteen months of seeking additional funding from government to support priority work around children and young people, £7.43m funding has now been agreed, with a key priority being that Greater Manchester will establish a Standards Board and increase their collective focus on safeguarding and the

local authority. In light of these developments a recommendation was accepted to disband the partnership in its current form with effect from April 2018.

Recent examples of BSCB collaboration include the development of a Greater Manchester wide neglect strategy. We continue to collaborate on a GM wide basis with our neighbouring LSCBs to produce and revise the Greater Manchester multi-agency Safeguarding Procedures. In 2016/17 two successful updates of the procedures were completed ensuring that procedures are comprehensive and reflect local and national priorities.

This year the BSCB also participated with neighbouring LSCBs and with our colleagues from the Adult Safeguarding Board in the Greater Manchester wide strategic approach to complex safeguarding including Human Trafficking, Modern Slavery and a coordinated strategic response to children who are 'missing'. Recent practice developments include the 'Footsteps' project funded by the Police & Crime Commissioner that provides an enhanced service to a cohort of children who go missing between 2 to 5 times. We will be scrutinising the impact of this service on children from Bury.

7. Communicating and raising awareness

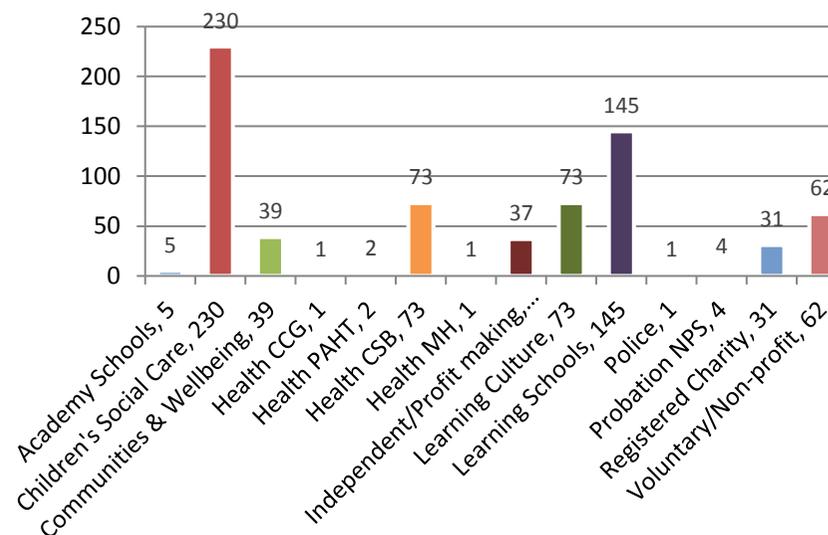
A key function of the BSCB is to ensure that key safeguarding messages and emerging lessons from its activity are disseminated quickly and effectively across the partnership.

Learning and improvement is undertaken in Bury in a number of ways, including reviews of practice, auditing, quality assurance and external learning.

The BSCB Case Review & Learning Sub Group is responsible for coordinating serious case reviews and learning reviews and for monitoring the implementation of all of the review action plans on behalf of the BSCB. The sub group is chaired by the Head of Safeguarding Bury CCG.

All case review learning is incorporated into the BSCB [multi-agency training programme](#). In February 2018 we said goodbye to our Learning & Development Officer. Last year the BSCB delivered a total of 34 courses to 704 participants. The sub group now has responsibility for the quality assurance of multi-agency training and for the evaluation of their impact on practice.

BSCB Course Attendance by Sector 2017-2018



The sub group also leads on the delivery of a BSCB Practitioners' Forum that is usually held quarterly and enables further exploration of the learning.

In 2017/18 we continue to use social media to raise awareness of our work. In April 2016 we began to use

twitter  [twitter @BuryLSCB](#) to raise awareness of BSCB activity, promote safeguarding messages and participate in local and national campaigns. Today we have over 570 followers and aim to raise this number in the next twelve months.

8. Holding partners to account

The BSCB's understanding of and scrutiny of safeguarding practice is informed by the work of the BSCB Quality Assurance sub group. The sub group is chaired by the Strategic Lead for Quality Assurance Children's Social Care. The sub group undertakes its quality assurance functions by two key processes: a programme of multi-agency audits and the monitoring and reporting to the BSCB of a multi-agency data set.

1. Auditing

The BSCB employs a range of methodologies to carry out multi-agency audits. These include audits of case records by partners, feedback from parents/carers to the BSCB Quality Assurance & Performance Officer, feedback from professionals involved, external peer review and direct observations of practice. All learning from audits is followed by an action plan/tracker that is monitored by the most appropriate BSCB sub group. Audits have considered the following practice areas:

- Team around the Family
- CSE Peer Review (Project Phoenix)
- Sexual abuse

We have asked our partners to provide evidence and outcomes in terms of their own single agency audits. Areas for improvement from both our multi-agency and single agency audits have included:

- Non-attendance by partner agencies at meetings
- Action plans not being produced or monitored to improve upon recommendations
- Voice of the child and the participation of children and young people

2. BSCB multi-agency data set

Through the recruitment of a permanent Quality Assurance & Performance Officer we have produced a comprehensive multi-agency data set and exception report for the financial year 2017/18. Concerns have been escalated throughout the year to BSCB partners for response and clarification. Concerns have also been reviewed by partners via the BSCB risk register.

Challenges have included:

- The numbers of PACE and Secure beds requested by GM Police and provided by the Emergency Duty Team (EDT) was queried by the BSCB QA sub-group. There were a number of complex issues including the time of day that the beds are requested and the availability of a secure placement. This issue has

been highlighted and will continue to be monitored by the group.

- Due to the increase in allegations of inappropriate handling of children by school staff, the LADO arranged and delivered a number of sessions along with GM Police colleagues to Bury schools about the use of "Reasonable Force" by school staff.
- The BSCB QA sub-group queried the process for restraining young people in custody, as although the numbers are low, it is still a concern. The group were provided with a detailed response from the Youth Offending Service and Wetherby Prison.
- The midwifery staffing figures for Pennine Acute Health Trust was showing a reduction in the numbers of midwives available for Bury patients. When this was queried a discrepancy was identified in the figures and the method of recording this figure has changed. It now shows the numbers of community midwives available to Bury patients, which is more accurate and no longer a concern.
- The numbers of Looked After Children has shown an increase during 2017/18. A new Looked After Children Strategy is being written to ensure the 'right' children are looked after for the 'right' length of time.
- A general lack of commentary being provided by partner agencies with quarterly data continues to be an issue and will be monitored on a quarterly basis.



9. The effectiveness of safeguarding in Bury

To evaluate the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements in Bury evidence is drawn from a range of sources to form an evaluation of the whole system. This includes:

- Learning from both internal and external reviews and inspections
- Section 11, Section 175 & Section 157 audits
- The Child Death Overview Panel
- Performance management and quality assurance
- Young people, parents and carers
- Audit activity



Ofsted Inspection of Schools

Bury's SEND report

SEND inspection – the OFSTED and CQC carried out a joint local area on 12th and 16th June 2017 to judge the effectiveness of the area and implementing the special educational needs report as set out in the Children and Families Act 2014.

Inspectors spoke with children and young people who have special educational needs/ and/or disabilities, parents and carers, local authority and National Health Services (NHS) officers. They visited a range of providers and spoke to leaders, staff and governors about how they were implementing the special educational needs reforms. Inspectors looked at a range of information about the performance of the local area, including the local areas self-evaluation. Inspectors met with leaders from the local area for health, social care and education. They reviewed performance data and evidence about the local offer and joint commissioning.

Although some strengths were identified for example all EHC plan assessments had taken place within the 20 week period, the plans were very well written with clear outcomes, the inspectors also found some serious weaknesses and gaps with particular reference to the coordination of services to children with disabilities and their families. Therefore the inspectors determined that a Written Statement of Action was required and that both the Local Authority and the CCG were jointly responsible in writing a written statement to OFSTED.

The Written Statement of Action had to explain how the local area will tackle the following areas of significant weakness :-

- The absence of strategic leadership and vision to drive the reforms
- The lack of understanding and practice of co-production at the heart of all strategic considerations
- The failure to ensure joined-up working so that all agencies and services are working together for children and young people who have special educational needs and/or disabilities
- The poor sharing of important information from health services both between different health disciplines and other external agencies
- The widespread unawareness and misunderstanding of the local offer
- The inaccurate and inconsistent identification of special educational needs and/ or disabilities at school level
- The ignorance of children and young people's EHC plans by some key health practitioners
- The defective arrangements for joint commissioning.

The BSCB was reassured by the Written Statement of Action which was completed by 22 October 2017 which addressed all the areas of weaknesses identified by Ofsted and the CQC. The development of these actions has been led by Bury Council and Bury Clinical Commissioning Group with the involvement of a wide range of stakeholders through a series of focus groups. Parents and young people have been spoken to in the Bury area to ensure that children and young people and their families are involved in all aspects of the SEND delivery, and that every child has the opportunity to develop to their full potential.

At the BSC Strategic Board meeting on 14 March 2018 the interim director of Children's Services was able to report that following a 2nd monitoring visit Ofsted found that swift progress had been made and the inspectors highlighted that partners are working well with parents.



Learning from Serious Incidents and Serious Case Reviews.

This year the Case Review and Learning sub group has considered the circumstances of 4 children/ young people. Two of those cases have been screened by an extraordinary panel to determine if the criteria was met for a Serious Case Review. The first case involved concerns regarding online sexual exploitation. A review is underway by the National Probation Service in another area outside Greater Manchester. In the second case a recommendation was made that the criteria was met. A Serious Case Review was commenced in April 2018 and the learning is expected to be published in the autumn of 2018.

In the autumn of 2017 the BSCB completed a joint Learning Review in partnership with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board. In this case although the panel felt that the SCR criteria was not met panel members were of the view that there was wider learning to be gained from the case. This review was conducted by SCIE (Social Care Institute for Excellence) and was commissioned jointly by the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Local Safeguarding Adult Boards. The review was concerned about the effectiveness of joint working between children's and adults' services when working with pregnant women. In this case the mother was pregnant with her third child with older children having been removed from her care. The mother was also a vulnerable adult due to her dual diagnoses of substance misuse and poor mental health. Despite considerable professional activity and intervention the mother did not access any ante-natal or post-natal care and the birth was concealed with the baby being born at home and found in a poorly condition.

Key lessons identified included:

- **There is no joint working culture across adult and child services when mothers are known to have significant mental illnesses, meaning that those with responsibility for care co-ordination only co-ordinate within their own service area.**
- **Staff across all but specialist agencies have a poor understanding of bi-polar, risking an uninformed approach to pregnant women known to have this diagnosis if specialists are not part of assessments and decision-making.**
- **There is limited consideration of the use of advocates in Bury which makes it less likely that mothers with significant mental illness will have the opportunity to contribute to their own plans.**
- **Is there sufficient recognition within all agencies in Bury of the importance of safeguarding supervision and reflective practice, such that practitioners feel supported and the quality of individual and joint working is effectively and consistently tested?**
- **The report findings were accepted at an extraordinary meeting of the BSCB and an action plan has been developed.**

An action plan has been developed by both Bury Safeguarding Children and Bury Safeguarding Adult Board reminding practitioners to 'Think Family'.

All staff need to remember that people rarely live in complete isolation and therefore we need to assess the needs of the wider family when we're working with a child or parent. To

'Think Family' means services putting this into practice and coordinating their work together.

[Working Together to Safeguard Children](#) 2018 states:
'Everyone who works with children or with adults who have children in the family has a responsibility to keep them safe and to share information in a timely way.'

The [Care Act 2014](#) includes provision for where adults pose a risk to children in their care, due to their own needs for support or care. Services working with children should work together with those supporting adults to ensure that care planning and support addresses the need to parent children safely. These adults include parents of children at risk of harm, but also other adults in a household.

What should practitioners do?

When working with a child or an adult, practitioners should: be aware of the individuals in the household; assess any needs those household members may have; consider potential impact of any identified needs on the child or adult; and respond to needs appropriately. A lessons learnt bulletin was formulated by both the Adult and Children Board and was circulated to all agencies. To view the bulletin, follow the link to the BSCB website:- [Lessons learnt bulletin](#)

10. Reviewing Child Deaths

Statute requires that every LSCB establish a Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP). In April 2008 Bury, Rochdale and Oldham joined to form a tripartite arrangement following the recommendation made by the Department for Education (DfE) that CDOPs require a total population of 500,000 or higher. The joint working of the three local authorities provides a wider dataset to conduct analysis and investigate emerging trends. As CDOP is a sub group of each of the LSCBs, the CDOP reports information and themes back to each of the LSCBs via a Greater Manchester and sector annual report and on an ad hoc basis if required. The administrative function for CDOP is now managed by Rochdale LSCB and this arrangement began in January 2018.

In Bury, Oldham and Rochdale (BRO) in 2016/17, a total of 69 child deaths were notified and 71 cases were closed. This is a 39% increase of the total number of cases closed in 2016/17. 46% of cases closed included modifiable factors. The number of cases closed is not reflective of the date of death. Cases cannot be closed to CDOP until all other investigations e.g. Coronial/Serious Case Reviews are concluded. Trends are explored further through the Greater Manchester Annual Report and the local report which will be available on the LSCB websites once available.

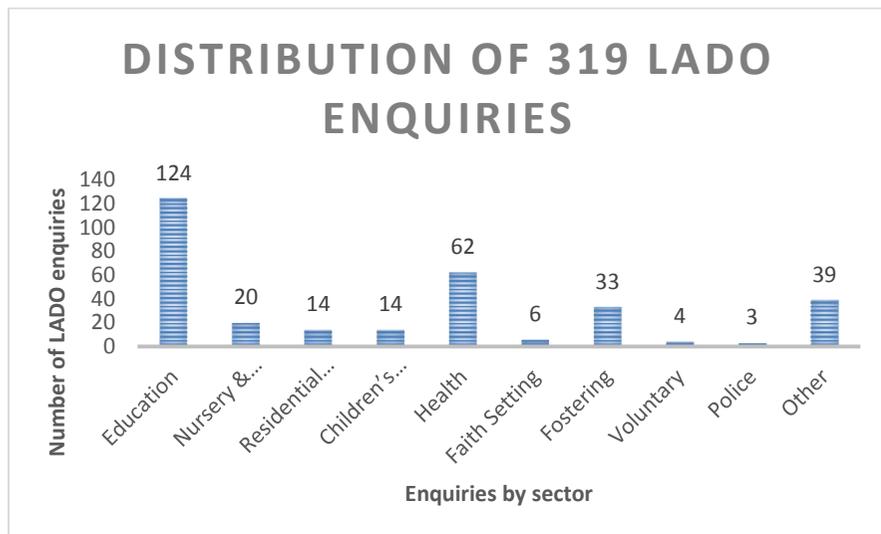


11. Managing allegations against professionals

Allegations management is undertaken in Bury by a part-time Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) employed by Children’s Social Care. Processes in Bury are embedded with a high level of awareness of the role by professionals across the partnership demonstrated by increasing enquiries.

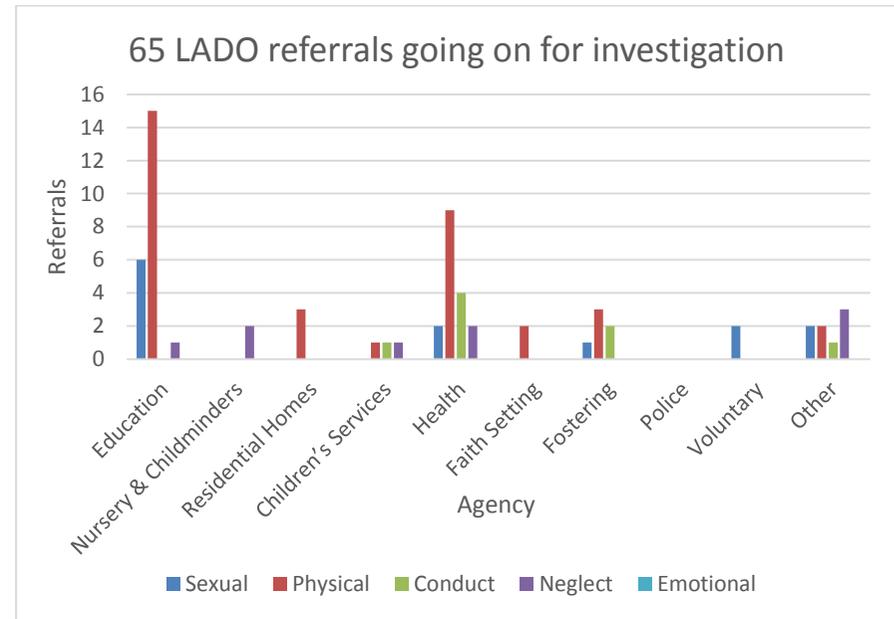
Total number of LADO related enquiries were 319 between 1st April 2017 and 31st March 2018, down 6 from 325 last year.

The below table shows the distribution of the LADO enquiries by sector.



Of the 319 LADO related enquiries, 65 reached the LADO threshold to referral.

going to investigation by each sector.



Training/Development activity

In keeping with the July 2018 changes to DfE Guidance in Keeping Children Safe in Education, Working Together and the Greater Manchester Tri-X Procedures, the LADO continues to deal with cases around the monitoring and removal of persons of possible risk to children from the children’s workforce.

The LADO delivered LADO/Managing Allegations single agency to the Senior Management Team of the Bury Local Authority and as part of the BSCB’s regular commitment to providing managing allegations training to Local Authority staff and other multi agency managers whether part of Bury Local Authority or not.

The LADO currently:-

- Chairs the Residential Providers Network (meets every 6 months)
- Sits on the Northwest Regional LADO Group (23 LADOs) of which he chairs the Performance and Audit sub-group.
- Represents the Northwest Regional LADO Group on the National LADO Network (NLN) which meets every 3 months. Through this group strong links have now been made between NLN and the DfE, Ofsted, Police and NCTL on a national level to hopefully be included in inputting into future safeguarding guidance issued by those agencies.
- Represented the GM LADOs on the Anglican Church Manchester Diocesan Safeguarding Panel, which met every 3 months.

As a result of cases of school staff in Bury engaging in inappropriate interaction with pupils on personal social media/mobile technology and inappropriate behaviour on the internet, the LADO is to resume an offer of delivering an updated presentation on social networking and mobile phone awareness for school staff to Bury High Schools/ Colleges, whether independent or Bury Local Authority.

As a result of an increase in the number of school staff who inappropriately physically handle children in schools, LADO developed with Bury PPIU a presentation taking into account the DfE Guidance on the "Use of Reasonable Force" and delivered presentations to 187 Bury school/ college safeguarding leads as well as Northwest LADOs and other safeguarding leads from other agencies (Health, Early Years and employment agencies) in 2 sessions at the Elizabethan Suite. These are to be continued with the LADO delivering short presentations to high school/ college

staff in the new school year to try and reduce the number of inappropriate physical handling allegations made.

Delivery of training sessions by Bury LADO	Training Sessions
Managing Allegations for BSCB	3
Safer Recruitment for BSCB	2
E-safety Training Day to Professionals	1
E-safety Training delivery for BSCB	2
E-safety Awareness to School Governors	1
Social Networking Awareness to schools/colleges (staff)	3
Managing Allegations to Mental Health Hospital staff	1
Managing Allegations to Bury SMT	1
Managing Allegations to Bury Counsellors	1
Managing Allegations to Bury Foster Carers	1
Use of Reasonable Force Training to Bury School Heads and safeguarding leads from other agencies	2
Use of Reasonable Force Training to PVI Network	1
Total sessions	19

12. Partner compliance with statutory safeguarding requirements

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places duties on a range of organisations and individuals to ensure their functions, and any services that they contract out to others, are discharged having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Section 11 forms the basis of regular self-auditing of compliance.

BSCB partners undertake a section 11 audit every two years. The audit is a multi-agency process consisting of two steps, a self-assessment process and challenge sessions.

- 1. Self-assessment process – each organisation has completed an online assessment tool under three headings:**
- 2.**
 - a. A culture of safeguarding children in the organisation
 - b. A safe organisation
 - c. Voice of the child, staff and community

These three headings are further broken down into 11 sections. Each organisation has provided an explanation of the services or arrangements in place under the 11 sections and evidence to prove they fulfil each requirement. A self-assessed grading was given for each section of red (not met), amber (partially met), green (fully met) or grey (not applicable). Agencies used the sections that were not met or partially met to create an action plan using the online tool to demonstrate how they intended to achieve these criteria's.

The next Section 11 Audit will be completed during 2018/19.

Section 175/157 of the Education Act outlines the safeguarding governance that must be in place within all schools. The BSCB undertakes a section 175/157 audit every two years.

A Section 175 Audit commenced in April 2017. A total of 77 schools (1 nursery school, 59 primary schools, 12 secondary schools and 5 special schools) in Bury were contacted and asked to complete the online self-assessment tool.

They were asked to complete 14 sections, which had been highlighted by NSPCC and Keeping Children Safe in Education.

These were:

1. Details of school
2. Child Protection Policy
3. Designated safeguarding lead
4. Safe recruitment
5. Staff checks
6. Incidents, allegations and complaints
7. Managing allegations against staff
8. Safeguarding and child protection issues off-site
9. Safeguarding and child protection issues on-site
10. Work experience
11. Recording and storing information about child protection
12. Anti-bullying
13. Specific safeguarding issues
 - a. E-safety
 - b. Prevent (Radicalisation and Extremism)
 - c. Early Help

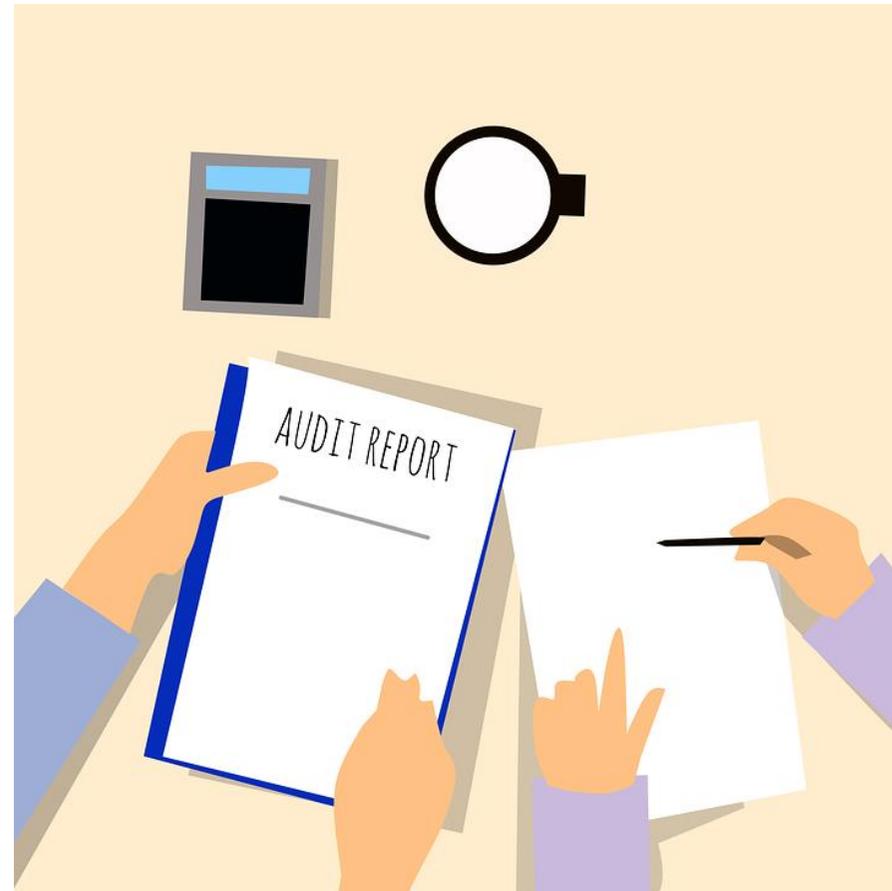
- d. Peer on Peer
 - e. Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
 - f. Forced Marriage
 - g. Practices linked to culture, faith and beliefs
14. Safeguarding training

Of the 77 schools contacted, 49 (64%) completed assessments were returned.

The results show that the main issues for schools were:

FGM	47%
Practices linked to culture, faith and beliefs	41%
Forced Marriage	28.5%
Work Experience	22.5%
Child Protection Policy	20.5%

Any issues that arose from this audit were fed back to the Lead Safeguarding Officer for Schools for further inspection.



13. Evaluating the child's journey

Early Help activity cannot be easily captured as much is undertaken within single agency settings. The emphasis in Bury has however been in ensuring that **'Children and young people will have access to early help: right help, right time, right person'** Priority 1 Bury Children and Young people's Plan.

Bury's Starting Well Partnership Board provides strategic overview of progress and development of Bury's vision for 'starting well'. It focuses primarily on the Early Years agenda (antenatal to school age but also takes consideration of the wider children and young people health improvement agenda (up to age 19 years).

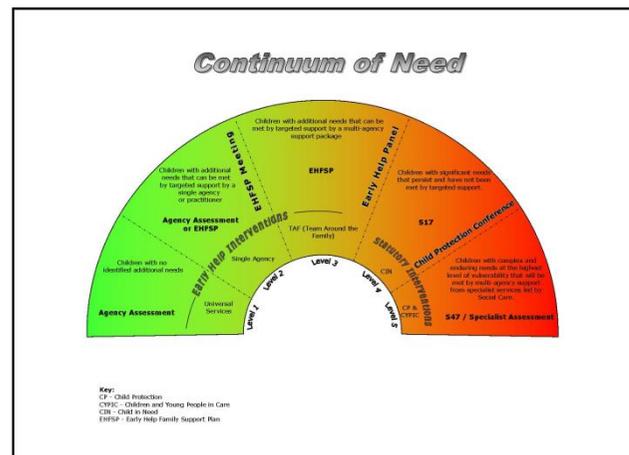
The Board has developed a Children and Young Peoples Outcomes Framework aligned with Bury's Single Outcomes Framework.

The Framework has a focus on 4 key areas:

- Improving Parental and Child Health
- Improving Education for all Children
- Promoting the economic prospects of families
- Effective early intervention in Safeguarding

A primary focus of the Early Years agenda is the implementation of the Early Years Delivery Model in Bury. A self-assessment of our delivery against the model has been completed and the Greater Manchester team have undertaken an analysis of all Local Authority areas. A gap analysis has been completed and the Partnership Board are working towards the delivery of the full model as part of the Early Years Implementation Plan.

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) makes it clear that safeguarding children and promoting their welfare is the responsibility of all professionals working with children and that they should understand the criteria for taking action across a continuum of need. The Bury Continuum of Need guidance is intended to provide professionals with clear thresholds that should be applied consistently to ensure the right help is given to a child at the right time.



Team Oasis was established in October 2013 and is a part of the Children's Social Care early help offer in Bury. The main principle of Team Oasis is to prevent children, young people and their families from needing more specialist intervention and to support and empower families in accessing universal provision.

Team Oasis coordinates the provision of Bury's Early Help offer through an integrated coordinated approach. This approach ensures that there is a robust "Team around the Family" (TAF) plan in place with specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely goals and Oasis Social

Workers coordinate services identified through assessment to ensure that families receive appropriate, targeted interventions.

Early Help Family Support Plans

Wider early help provision in Bury is identified via an assessment of need that is called the Early Help Family support plan. Prior to April 2016, the early help assessment was called the CAF.

The Early Help Consultants within Team Oasis have a role in supporting practitioners in the provision of early help. However, in October 2017 they became involved in a pilot between Team Oasis and MASH whereby any Green rag rated contacts received by MASH are sent directly to Team Oasis for screening with a greater emphasis on provision of early help support to these families. During the pilot, that was initially for 3 months the Early Help Panel ceased to sit and decisions around early help provisions are made during the screening of the contacts. Due to the success of the pilot, the process is now embedded in practice. The change in role for the Early Help Consultants has resulted in their core responsibilities in supporting practitioners being diluted; this has left some vulnerability in supporting agencies given that we are promoting early help through the Greens contacts.

Investigation into the poor completion rates of Early Help Family Support plans last year has resulted in feedback being provided from Education that the assessment document (EHFSP) is a barrier to early help mainly due to the length. This has been taken into consideration and a new draft template has been developed that captures the needs of the family without being a lengthy document for professionals and families to complete. The Safeguarding

Lead Officer for schools is taking this draft document to the next designated lead officers meeting for consultation.

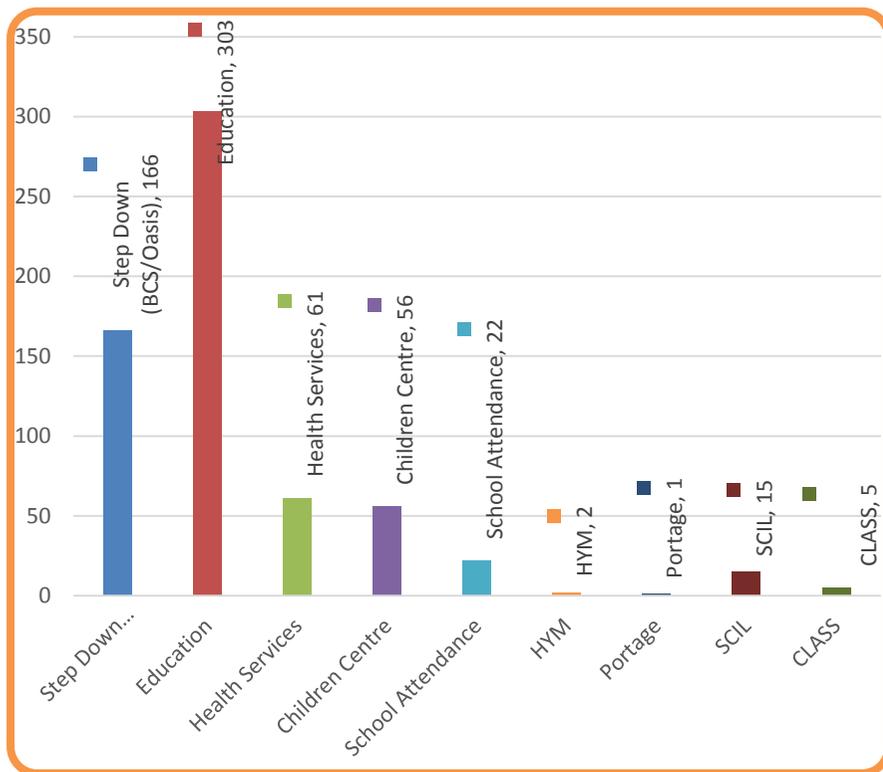
Early Help Family Support Plans; Performance and Activity

Between April 2017 and March 2018 there have been recommendations made for 803 Early Help Family Support plans to be completed which act as the vehicle for understanding circumstances and to provide early support to families. However there have only been 631 of these registered as having been completed. In the last 2 quarters of the year there has been a considerable rise in the recommendations, this coincides with the Greens Pilot commencing where there has been more emphasis and promotion of early help. However the Early Help Consultants who would ordinarily support the early help processes with partners have not been able to fully dedicate time to this due to them being involved in the Greens pilot which has resulted in a poor return on plans. This is a vulnerability that we are aware of and work is underway with schools and other partners to understand what effective early help support is currently being provided and what additional support can be put in place to empower the workforce and strengthen the early help offer.

Agencies completing Early Help Support Plans

Education remains the largest contributor of EHFSPs with the next highest being step down from Children’s Social Care following an assessment that didn’t require further statutory social care intervention.

A comprehensive Early Help report detailing early help domestic abuse initiatives such the Strive Team can be found in the single agency report section of this report.



Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) receives contact and referrals from partner agencies and progresses these according to the BSCB threshold criteria. A total of 11,039 contacts were received during 2017/18 which is higher than the previous year.

Contacts received in the year

A breakdown of contacts per agency is shown below:



Where it is deemed that the threshold criteria is met, a “contact” is progressed to a “referral” to Children’s Social Care. Of the 11,039 contacts received during 2017/18, 2361 (21.4%) were converted to a referral. This is slightly less than the previous year.

	2016-2017	2017-2018
Number of Contacts	10,227	11,039
Number of Referrals	2,273	2,361
Conversion Rate	22.2%	21.4%

Most agencies increased the number of contacts they made to the MASH during the year.

Agency	Number of contacts 2016-17	Number of contacts 2017-18	Rate of increase/decrease in volume
Anonymous	319	411	28.8%
Housing	189	223	18.0%
Schools	1,166	1,348	15.6%
Health (inc. school nurses)	1,456	1,617	11.1%
Individuals (inc. self-referrals)	750	827	10.3%
Local Authority (inc. other LAs)	1,099	1,186	7.9%
Police	3,710	3,978	7.2%
Other (inc. unknown)	721	715	-0.8%
Legal (non-Police)	678	649	-4.3%
Education (non-schools)	139	85	-38.8%
Total	10,227	11,039	7.9%

**Delete rows to bring section to top of page
Assessments authorised (completed) within the year**

	Within 45 days	Over 45 days	Total	% within 45 days
Apr	163	17	180	90.6
May	226	15	241	93.8
Jun	215	27	242	88.8
Jul	200	43	243	82.3
Aug	165	48	213	77.5
Sep	151	46	197	76.6
Oct	192	29	221	86.9
Nov	244	24	268	91
Dec	182	23	205	88.8
Jan	233	36	269	86.6
Feb	233	18	251	92.8
Mar	184	19	203	90.6
Total	2388	345	2733	87.4

During 2017/18 we have continued to improve performance in completing Child and Family (C&F) assessments within the expected timescale of 45 days. This has been achieved through close monitoring by Team Managers who also ensure that the quality of the assessments are good.

Child Protection

The numbers of children who were subject to Child Protection planning increased during the year from 157 in April to 199 at the end of March 2018. This may be as a result of a change in practice taking place at the Safeguarding Unit. Previously the decision to hold an Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) lay with the Child Protection Chairs however this has changed so that if partners recommend that a case is taken to ICPC during the strategy discussion the ICPC goes ahead.

The below table shows how many children are on C.P plans at the end of each month:-

	Child Protection Plans at the end of the month	Rate per 10,000 children
Apr	157	36.6
May	166	38.7
Jun	176	41
Jul	174	40.6
Aug	181	42.2
Sep	174	40.6
Oct	177	41.3
Nov	202	47.1
Dec	192	44.8
Jan	187	43.6
Feb	197	45.9
Mar	199	46.4

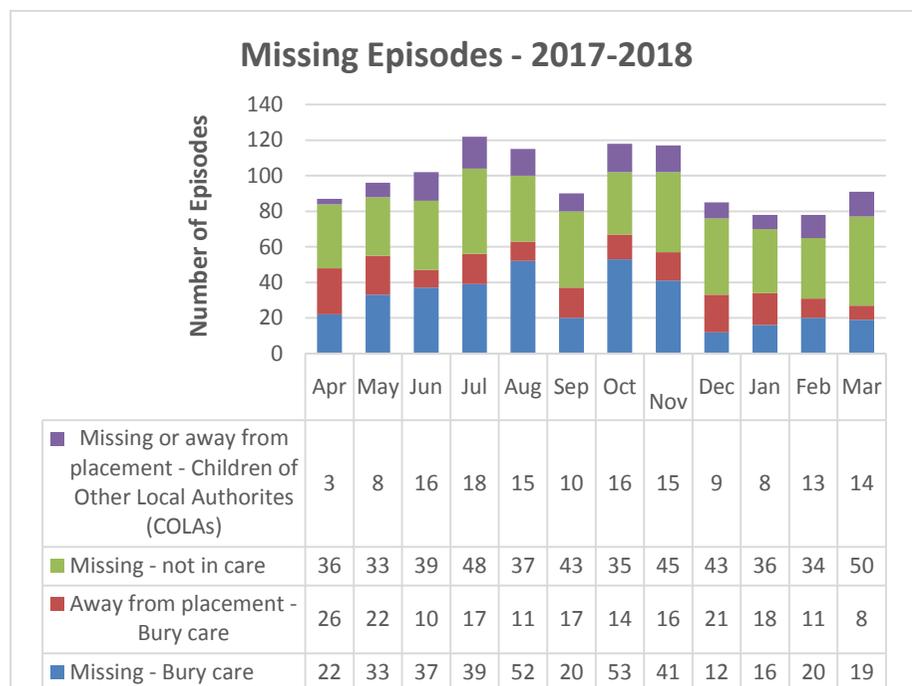
The below table shows how many children are in care at the end of each month:-

	Children in Care at end of month	Rate per 10,000 children
Apr	352	82.1
May	357	83.3
Jun	351	81.9
Jul	349	81.4
Aug	349	81.4
Sep	349	81.4
Oct	337	78.6
Nov	342	79.8
Dec	348	81.2
Jan	341	79.5
Feb	338	78.8
Mar	333	77.7

Looked After Children

The numbers of children looked after by the Local Authority has steadily decreased during the year as a result of the introduction of a LAC Strategy. In November 2017 a resource panel was set up to scrutinise requests by Social Workers for children to be brought into Local Authority care. Alongside this there has been a focus on discharging care orders where children are living within their birth families and the Local Authority believes that it is no longer necessary to share parental responsibility with the children's carers. This work will continue through 2018.

Missing Children and Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)



The chart shows that a high number of children who are reported missing are not in Local Authority care. Where children are in Local Authority care they are sometimes reported as missing when in fact they are not missing, but have left their placement without permission. This group are identified in the chart above.

All children who are reported missing are offered a return home interview when they go home. Looked After Children are visited by the Children's Rights service as soon as they return home and they are encouraged to talk about the missing episode so that information can be collected for future use and risk assessments undertaken.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

	Children with CSE episodes at end of month
Apr	33
May	36
Jun	28
Jul	34
Aug	28
Sep	26
Oct	27
Nov	27
Dec	30
Jan	27
Feb	35
Mar	71

A CSE episode is any contact that has been screened by the CSE Team as requiring further enquiries or assessment is opened as a CSE episode. The number of CSE background factors recorded has noticeably increased lately and at the end of March, we had more than double the number of CSE episodes open than as at the end of February. This may be due to an increased awareness of CSE amongst staff.

A new strategy for 2018-2021 "Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation in Bury" has been introduced which sets out the strategic aims of the Local Authority and its partners in tackling CSE. The strategy is overseen by the BSCB. The Local Authority has recently increased the numbers of Social Workers based on the specialist CSE team "Phoenix".

A comprehensive report from the Bury Phoenix Team can be requested from the Bury Safeguarding Children Board.

14. Single Agency Reports

Greater Manchester Police

Assistant Chief Constable, Debbie Ford is the named strategic lead for safeguarding in GMP. She owns the portfolio for several areas of public protection including child abuse, domestic abuse, adult mental health, human trafficking and sexual exploitation within GMP.

Each Division across GM has a Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and within that team there is a designated officer who sits on the LSCB. The Public Protection Division has a separate SLT structure for central governance. Each division has a Public Protection Investigation Unit with a Detective Inspector leading the team.

In 2017 Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services inspected GMP for effectiveness and published their report in March 2018.

The report stated that GMP is effective in the way it identifies vulnerable people.

The report highlighted areas of good practice, such as evidence that GMP worked effectively with partners and makes effective use of the legal powers available to it. Areas for improvement included a recommendation that the Force should improve its ability to respond to calls for service and improve the initial investigative response. Previous inspections have highlighted the need to increase the capacity of the High Tech Crime Unit (HTCU). The

HTCU are currently expanding considerably in 2018 to meet the increased demand for device analysis.

GMP is undergoing an Investigative Safeguarding Review (ISR) looking at how the Force structures its response to vulnerability and public protection investigation. A pilot at Rochdale has been reviewed and the Chief Officer Group (COG) has approved the rollout of the new model, District by District, across the Force. This involves the gradual upskilling of all Divisional Detectives to deal with the full spectrum of serious and complex crime including offences against children. Public protection investigative capacity should eventually be available from the full cohort of GMP Detectives rather than just in specialised Public Protection Investigation Units (PPIUs).

The Bury Picture

Bury is part of a cluster of Districts, with Bolton and Wigan. That cluster has a DCI dedicated to vulnerability issues. The Bury Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) has been based at Bury Police Station since October 2013. It has been established by co-locating a range of professional and administrative staff from agencies with responsibility for safeguarding children in one building. The Bury MASH is recognised as an example of good practice. Bury is currently developing a Public Sector Reform (PSR) Hub which aims to bring decision makers from a range of partners together at the Police Station. The exact structure and role of this unit is subject to an ongoing project. It will be known as the 'Engine Room.'

There are two Place Based Initiatives (one at Bury East and the other at Radcliffe East) renegotiating the partnership approach to Threat Harm and Risk. This is an area that is also being reviewed as good practice and under the Public Sector Reform to increase its capacity to cover each borough.

The Bury Police CSE team is co-located at the Police Station with the wider Local Authority CSE social workers and family support workers. Its work is overseen by a Detective Inspector.

The Bury Phoenix Social Worker and Family Support Workers deliver direct one to one interventions following assessment. Professionals in education, social care, children's centres, connexions, youth services, police, and voluntary and community sector organisations are encouraged to be alert to sexual exploitation. The team work with these agencies to develop individual awareness packages to ensure that professionals are able to identify the signs and be alert to sexual exploitation and are then equipped to know what action to take in line with our local procedures.

Safeguarding of children is a priority for GMP and we still face many challenges around raising awareness amongst our communities and partners. We have seen many successes since the Phoenix team has been set up in Bury, we have had a significant increase in the number of referrals for and a significant increase in intelligence surrounding CSE. Operation Burgos is an extensive ongoing investigation into CSE in and around some of the

borough's parks and hotels. It is still within the Phoenix CSE team and has been initiated to tackle a specific issue around CSE.

NHS Bury CCG

As commissioners of health services the CCG has a statutory obligation to ensure that the providers we commission are mindful of their requirements to safeguarding children.

During the last year, we have successfully built on the work of previous years. We continue to assure the providers who we commission, to ensure that they provide good quality and safe services for the residents of Bury. This work includes working with large providers, such as Pennine Care Foundation Trust and Pennine Acute Trust, but, we also work with nursing and residential homes where Bury residents live.

All contracts with providers include a set of Greater Manchester safeguarding standards and the CCG via an assurance process works with a range of providers to establish the level of adherence to them. NHS Bury CCG is the lead commissioner for Pennine Acute Trust.

As commissioners we do not provide direct services and therefore all our safeguarding is via our contracted services.

NHS Bury CCG is required to provide assurance to NHS England via the safeguarding standards. In March 2018, the CCG were on Green for all standards.

The CCG achieved the target of 80% of staff being trained at Level 1, as required by the NHS Bury CCG training strategy, in safeguarding at the end of March 2018 but this remains a challenge with new starters and staff "timing out" on the 3 year cycle of training. The CCG submit a quarterly assurance to the Greater Manchester Health & Social Care Partnership and met with Head of Nursing from NHS England; no concerns were identified in the meeting.

In 2016-2017 became Primary Care Commissioners and now have an obligation to ensure that Primary Care are sighted on the LSCB objectives. We have completed this via an ongoing programme of training to practices.

The training sessions are well attended and provide a forum for discussion and borough wide learning. Bi-annually, the CCG safeguarding team hosts a practice safeguarding lead masterclass where good practice is shared and emerging safeguarding hot topics are discussed.

During 2017/18 Safeguarding assurance visits were arranged with each of the 30 GP practices within Bury over a period of six months commencing in March 2017. The visits were completed by the Head of Safeguarding, the Designated Nurse for Adult Safeguarding and the Named GP. Visits were undertaken in a supportive manner and the key aims were to identify good practice which could be shared, identify gaps that required practice level support and gaps that may require a CCG response. The assurance visit to all the practices in Bury provides, along with the CQC ratings, a high level of assurance of engagement with

the safeguarding agenda for both adults and children. All the practices welcomed the visits and took the opportunity to explore wider issues than the assurance tool. Occasionally, there were case discussions. The visits were also an opportunity to update on new initiatives, such as, the newly launched pathway for victims of domestic abuse and expand the knowledge of the practice staff.

The following topics are covered in the core training delivered to practice staff and additionally a workshop was held on FGM and there are bi-annual sessions on Prevent that are open to all practice staff. The uptake by CCG staff currently sits at 89%.

- Safeguarding in the context of technology & social media
- Young people in transition
- Safeguarding from abusive relationships
- Complex safeguarding issues including CSE, FGM & radicalisation

The executive lead for safeguarding within the CCG, is also the Chair of the Healthy Young Minds Local Transformation Plan steering group where the focus is on the Bury plan to improve the provision for mental health and emotional well-being needs services. This includes a focus on YP transitioning from and between services. Activity for this financial year includes increasing the availability of evidence based therapies to meet the national target. The Autistic Spectrum Disorder, Sensory Assessment and

Attention Deficient and Hyperactive Attention Disorder pathways are part of the work stream.

During this period of change, safeguarding continues to be a standing item on all Governing Body agendas and the members of the GB had an update on their responsibilities as corporate safeguarding leads.

Education - Schools and Colleges

Safeguarding continues as a priority for Bury's Primary and Secondary Schools and Post 16 providers. This work continues to be well supported by the Safeguarding in Schools and Colleges sub-group and by work of teams such as the Children and Young People in Care Education team, the School Attendance Team and the Integrated Youth Support Service. School Attendance Team support on the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and for the Project Phoenix team dealing with CSE has continued. The Head of the Integrated Youth Support Service also chairs the Early Help Panel which allocates referrals from the MASH to Early Help providers.

Since September 2015, 33 Bury schools (including primary, secondary, special and PRUs) have received a full (Section 5) inspection by Ofsted; 70% of these were judged to be good or outstanding in respect of the personal development, behaviour and welfare of pupils. Four primary schools have been judged outstanding for this aspect (St. John with St. Mark CE, St. Marie's RC, St. Mary's RC Radcliffe and Unsworth).

In the body of inspection reports Ofsted gives a grade for personal development & welfare and a separate grade for behaviour. The ARK (primary PRU) was judged inadequate for personal development & welfare due to safeguarding whilst Broad Oak Sports College was judged inadequate for behaviour due to attendance, punctuality to lessons and lack of engagement in lessons.

Overall absence rates at Bury schools are above national average based on the latest set of national data for the academic year 2016/17. The authority continues to support schools in improving the attendance of those who are defined as persistent absentees though it should be noted that fewer schools are now buying back support from the School Attendance and Education Welfare Team. The level of permanent exclusions from secondary schools has reduced in 2017/18 but remains a key area of activity for the newly developed Secondary SEMH Partnerships. Other developments include the launch of a new Alternative Provision Framework, plans to appoint two Inclusion Leads to support both partnerships, implementation of new In Year Fair Access arrangements, to ensure earlier admittance to schools, and changes to the offer made by Spring Lane School with an increased focus on Key Stage 3 intervention. Exclusions at primary level whilst uncommon are being systematically challenged through the new Multi-Disciplinary Team approach which has resulted in 5 potential exclusions being rescinded or withdrawn. It is envisaged that this role will be taken on by the 4 Primary SEMH Partnership Groups during 2018/19 who will also be supported by the appointment of Inclusion Leads. No

looked after child has been excluded from secondary or primary schools in 2017/18.

Contributions for the BSCB annual report were received from:-

- Pennine Care Foundation Trust
- Adult Care Services
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Private Fostering
- National Probation Service
- CRC
- Team Oasis
- LADO

For further information about these reports please contact BSCB Administrative Officer on 0161 253 6153.

15. The effectiveness of Bury Safeguarding Children Board

Findings and lessons from the broad range of work undertaken by the LSCB and partners are effectively disseminated across the partnership using a range of methods such as:

- Training and development programmes of work for staff across Bury
- Learning from Learning Reviews SCRs and audit activity shared across the partnership
- Bulletins and website

Monitoring actions that are being undertaken to improve services such as:

- Section 11, 175/157
- External Inspections
- Risk register
- Challenge log
- The monitoring of action plans
- The impact on practice, multi-agency working and outcomes for children and young people

Multi-agency policies and procedures that continue to underpin practice and multi-agency working. This significantly helps to consolidate and improve the functioning of the children's safeguarding system in order to better support vulnerable children and young people.



16. Conclusion

The information given in this report highlights the commitment and dedication of all agencies in working together to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Bury. They have accomplished this in an environment which has endured major changes and leadership and which faces further change as well as opportunities for improvement. In developing new structures the Board is determined that, in this final year of its existence under the current structure, interagency safeguarding will be consolidated and improved and there will be rigorous scrutiny once again.



Appendix 1

Projected Income & Expenditure 2018-19

Contributions/Income	£
Children's Services	72,181.00
Prior Year Underspend Brought Forward	23,800.00
Bury CCG	37,142.00
Greater Manchester Police	11,850.00
CAFCASS	550.00
National Probation Service	896.00
Community Rehabilitation Company	2,081.00
Training Income	7,500.00
DSG Contribution	40,000.00
TOTAL INCOME	196,000.00

Expenditure	£
Employee Costs	158,400.00
Multi-Agency Training Costs	14,100.00
Serious/Critical Case Reviews	6,000.00
Independent Chair of BSCB	12,000.00
Travel & Subsistence	1,400.00
Advertising - Staff	0.00
Postage	400.00
Telephone	1,000.00
Office Overheads incl Equipment, Tools & Materials	8,100.00
Printing & Stationery	1,600.00
Central Recharges (Admin Buildings etc)	13,000.00
Staff Training	0.00
Contribution to CDOP Centralised Budget (Oldham MBC)	10,600.00
Miscellaneous	0.00
Employers Liability & 3rd Party Insurance	600.00
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	227,200.00

Total Net Budget 2016/17		31,200.00
---------------------------------	--	------------------