



CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE'S OVERVIEW AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

NORTH YORKSHIRE LOCAL CHILDREN SAFEGUARDING BOARD

October 2008

Key Points

Purpose of the report
Reconfiguration of the LSCB
Resources
Business Plan.

Recommendations

Scrutiny Committee endorse the work of the LSCB.

Scrutiny Committee invite the LSCB Manager once every 3 months to Panel to update on the work of the LSCB and to answer any questions that members may have regarding the work of the Board.

Report

Purpose

The purpose of the report is to inform Scrutiny of the work of the North Yorkshire LSCB. Also, to inform the Panel of the recent changes to the LSCB constitution and the reason for those changes. Further, to share with the Panel the new 3 year LSCB Business Plan.

Re-configuration of LSCB

The LSCB began life in North Yorkshire in 2004. The membership was based on local needs and an anticipated workload based on the work of the old ACPC. Since that time Government has substantially increased the Board's obligations. The DCSF has made it clear that those obligations will continue to increase year on

year. These include Safer Recruitment, allegations against those who work with children, Licensing, and Child Death Overview Panels. In January 2008 the Board embarked on a re-configuration to meet this changing agenda. The membership mirrored the old ACPC and did not reflect Working Together 2006 which states that membership should be at a strategic level where practice, policy and resources can be agreed by members who have the authority of their organisation.

The first part of the re-configuration was the formation of a new Executive Committee. Membership is drawn from Senior Officers in the PCT, Police, Probation, Social Care and the NSPCC. A new remit was agreed regarding policy and resources. The first meeting is planned to take place in November.

The membership of the main Board will also need to change. However, their role is to agree and monitor the work of the Sub Groups and pass any resource or practice issues to the Executive for action.

There are three main Sub Groups, two Panels and four local Forums. Operational Practice looks at Policies, Procedures and Practice Guidance. It has a number of Task Groups which inform the main body of the group. These include Allegations Management, Information and Communication and E-safety. It has a large practice based membership and is chaired by a Board member.

Performance looks at the effectiveness of the Board, the Integrated Data Set and monitors SCR Action Plans.

The Training Sub Group draws together the Training Strategy. It undertakes a "Needs Analysis" each year and produces from that a Multi-agency Training Plan. It brings together a panel of trainers for level one and two courses. It also commissions courses for level three and four.

There are two standing Panels whose membership is similar. However, they provide two different functions. The first is the Serious Case Review Panel (SCR); if there is a serious incident or a child dies through neglect or abuse the Panel will decide if the incident or death meets the criteria in Working Together. If so the Panel will agree a remit, employ an independent chair and identify report writers for the single agency reports. It will agree Action Plans and send them to the Performance Group for monitoring.

The Child Death Overview Panel looks at all child deaths in North Yorkshire and York between the ages of 0-18. It identifies any patterns and makes recommendations to the Board for action by partner agencies.

There are four local Forums. They are made up of practitioners on the ground, whose responsibility is the local delivery of the Business Plan. They are chaired by a mixture of people from the Board or the Safeguarding Unit.

Once these groups are in place the Constitution will be rewritten and agreed by our partner agencies. Each Sub Group will have an Action Plan linked to the Business Plan. They will report to the Board on a quarterly basis who can ask them to look at current issues or the Sub Groups can ask the Board to take suitable measures.

Resources

The LSCB is resourced from the Safeguarding Unit. The unit comprises of an LSCB Manager, Policy Officer and Training Officer and two full time Administrative staff. In the near future, funded from a ring fenced grant from the Government, there will be a CDOP Manager and Administrator.

The funding for the Board is agreed on a yearly basis. There is no funding formula and this needs to be addressed urgently. At the present moment Children's Services pay 55% of the cost and offer office, legal and finance services and other resources free of charge. "Working Together" states that the main funders should be Children's Services, Police and PCT, with other agencies contributing smaller amounts. However, the obligations being placed on LSCBs has increased rapidly over the past four years. North Yorkshire needs to look with its main partners at funding arrangements that cover existing and new work.

Business Plan

The Business Plan is enclosed with this report. It is a three year plan which is divided into sections based on the "Staying Safe" Action Plan from the DCFS and local needs. Further, the "Stay Safe" part of the CYPP relating to the Board is also enclosed.

Ann McMorris
LSCB Manager
October 2008.



NORTH YORKSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

Report to Executive Meeting

Business Plan 2009/12

17 November 2008

**North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board
Business Planning: 2009 - 2012**

Key Strategic Priorities

1. Help all children and young people to stay safe: road accidents/ accidents in the home/ abuse by strangers/ bullying/ victims of crime/ internet safety/ suicide and harm.
2. Protect vulnerable children and young people – maintain a focus on neglect, substance misuse and domestic violence in families.
3. Respond effectively when children and young people have been harmed.
4. Develop a training strategy.
5. Develop a shared understanding of thresholds for intervention related to the continuum of need.

LSCB means Local Safeguarding Children Board – the term used nationally for safeguarding children’s boards.

*Denotes recommendations from LSCB Training Review (May 2008).

1. Governance Arrangements for the LSCB.								
Objectives	Link	Key Actions	LSCB	NYSCB UNIT	PERFORMANCE SUB	LOCAL FORUMS	OPERATION SUB	TRAININ SUB
Review the structure of the LSCB		Review terms of reference for LSCB	X	X				
		Revise terms of reference for sub groups and forums	X		X	X	X	X
		Agree work plans for sub groups and forums	X		X	X	X	x

		*Develop a communications strategy for the revised LSCB agenda.	x					X Communication Task Group	
		Develop 3&4 tier training for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> LSCB members Sub Groups Local Forums 							X
Develop business processes for the LSCB		To include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complaints FOI Access to personal records Information sharing and recording Research governance Equalities compliance 	X	x	X		X		
External review of the LSCB		Commission annual external review of the work of the LSCB	X	x					

2. Core Statutory Business Objectives of the LSCB.

Link	Objectives	Key Actions	LSCB	NYSCB UNIT	PERFORMANCE SUB	LOCAL FORUMS	OPERATION SUB	TRAINING SUB	THEMATIC REVIEW / BENCH MARK
WT	Safer	Produce policy and procedure for the LSCB	x				x		

CYPP 2.1	Recruitment	Ensure NCSL accredited training is delivered to member agencies						x	
		Agencies to audit compliance against policy and procedure with annual reporting to LSCB	x	x	x				
WT CYPP 2.1	Allegations against people who work with children	Effective Policy and Procedure for the LSCB	x				x		
		Ensure agencies provide training for key staff						x	
		Monitor compliance and consistency to procedure across county. Report to LSCB/ Ofsted		x					
PSA : 13 Indicator 4 - Preventable child deaths CYPP 2.1	Child Death Reviewing Processes	Establish a Child Death Overview Panel					CDOP Sub Group		
		Procedures and training for multi agency Rapid Response processes across the county based at each acute hospital trust.					CDOP Sub Group	x	
		Monitor the effectiveness of the Rapid Response processes across the county.			x		CDOP Sub Group		
		Reporting outcomes from CDOP to LSCB and PSA Board.	x	x			CDOP Sub Group		
WT CYPP 2.1	Serious Case Reviews	Effective Policy and Procedure for the LSCB compliant with new Ofsted requirements (SCR and LAC25, Serious					SCR Sub Group		

		Incidents)							
		Monitoring of individual reviews against Ofsted requirements	x				SCR Sub Group		
		Action Plans from SCRs to be implemented, monitored and reported on.	x	X			SCR Sub Group		
		Lessons from SCRs and from National Survey to be disseminated to staff through briefings and training sessions.						x	X
WT	Multi Agency Training	<p>*Training strategy to be agreed and implemented, underpinned by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identification of training need • Multi agency audit of training provision • Oversight of training and development activity • Evaluation of impact on practise • Maintain delivery of training at all levels • Develop sub group with regard to quality assurance 	x					X	

		<p>*Training strategy to incorporate gaps in provision identified in review of LSCB Training Review (May 2008):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provision of 3&4 tier training • Where there is emotional abuse/neglect in families • “Whole family” focus training (domestic violence, mental illness, substance abuse) • Training for managers 	x					x	
		*Review of the staffing capacity to deliver the training strategy and establish a multi agency training panel to design/deliver training.	x	x				x	
	Preventive Services for children and young people:	Ensure LSCB has effective policies and procedures	x				X x	x	
		Stronger links with the LSP’s leading to closer links with Safer Communities.	X						
		*Further development of thresholds for referral, assessment and intervention within continuum of service delivery	x				x	x	

PSA ; 13, Indicator 2 – Initial assessment within 7 days		Develop regular performance reporting.			x				
		Quality Assurance and reporting performance to LSCB / Ofsted of child protective services	x		x				
PSA ; 13, Indicator 2 – Initial assessment within 7 days	Child Protection Services:	Ensure effective LSCB policies and procedures are in place	x				X	x	
CYPP 2.1		Develop regular performance reporting for the Child Protection Processes			x				
		Quality Assurance of Child Protection Services		x	x				
		Reporting performance to LSCB / Ofsted of child protection services	x		x				
	Monitor statutory and non statutory safeguarding responsibilities:	Ensure effective procedures are in place, that there is regular monitoring and regular reporting for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private Fostering • Licensing • Family Group Conferencing • Forced Marriage / 	x		x		x	x	

		FGM/FII/ Complex Abuse							
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3. FORWARD PLANNING FOR THE LSCB (INCLUDING HORIZON SCANNING)

Link	Objective	Key Actions	LSCB	NYSCB UNIT	PERFORMANCE SUB	LOCAL FORUMS	OPERATION SUB	TRAINING SUB	THEMATIC REVIEW / BENCH MARK
3.1 Help all children and young people to stay safe									
CYPP 2.1	A Safe Workforce:	Ensure that member agencies have effective safer recruitment strategies and training plans	X				X	X	
	New threats to safety: Bullying	Promote online safety and develop a cyber-bullying strategy in response to the Byron Review.	x	x	X		<i>E Safety Task Group</i>	x	
	Reducing numbers of accidents:	Develop new guidance on tackling bullying			x		<i>E Safety Task Group</i>	x	
		Ensure there is an effective local area accident prevention strategy					X	x	

	Children living in rural communities						X CDOP Sub Group		
		With similar LSCB's, identify the safeguarding needs of children living in rural communities and develop appropriate strategies.		x			x		
3.2 Protect vulnerable children and young people									
CYPP 2.1	Improving Safety on the Streets	Develop and implement guidance on Hidden Harm.		x	x		x	X	
	Domestic Violence	Develop with partner agencies a county wide domestic violence strategy with emphasis on safeguarding children.			x		x	x	
3.3 Responding when children and young people have been harmed									
	Youth Justice and children involved in the courts	Highlighting the public role Monitor the effectiveness of guidance about children in care proceedings in the family courts		x			X x	 x	

		Implement actions following the publication of review of protection of children from sex offenders, the co-ordinated prostitution strategy and the sexual violence and abuse action plan			x		X	X	
		New Safeguarding Strategy with YJB / Youth Crime Action Plan		x			x		
	Young runaways and missing children	Effectiveness of the revised Missing form Home and Care guidance.					x	x	

4. Quality Assurance of the CYPP and actions from the NYSCB Business Plan 2007/9:

LINKS	OBJECTIVES	LSCB	NYSCB UNIT	PERFORMANCE		LOCAL FORUMS	OPERATION SUB	TRAINING SUB	THEMATIC REVIEW / BENCH MARK
				SAFEGUARDING PROCESSES	QUALITY ASSURANCE OF CYPP				
NYSCB Business Plan 2007/9	Promote good working relations between professionals. Continue the rollout of "Buddying Schemes" and consider development of the scheme to various professional groups.								

NYSCB Business Plan 2007/9	New procedures will incorporate actions from the NYSCB Business Plan that were not completed i.e, UASC, use of core assessment in residential special schools.									
NYSCB Business Plan 2007/9	Contribute to a public campaign relating to safeguarding children. (Re-launch and update the NYSCB website).									
CYPP 2009/2012	Monitor delivery and effectiveness of the staying safe outcome with the CYPP.									

Appendix 2

Children and Young People's Plan : 2.1 Safeguarding Children

What we will do over the next three years...

- Develop and implement the Safeguarding Strategy, including a focus on safeguarding rural children
- Ensure there are consistent and robust procedures for the monitoring of child deaths.
- Promote consistent safer recruitment practices across the constituent agencies of the Safeguarding Board through advice, guidance and training
- Promote consistent arrangements for the management of allegations across the constituent agencies of the Safeguarding Board through advice, guidance and training
- Ensure there is a robust performance framework for safeguarding activity and that action is taken as a result of performance information.
- Ensure safeguarding requirements are consistently applied to vulnerable children including those living away from home.
- Ensure robust procedures are in place for Serious Case Reviews and Serious Incidents.

What we are going to do this year...

- Ensure quantitative data is available across all partner agencies
- Develop local performance indicators
- Continue the improvement in meeting initial and core assessment timescales
- Evidence that a drop in Child Protection Plans is not putting children at risk
- Review the membership and Business Plan and funding for the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children's Board and make recommendations where necessary
- Develop a draft safeguarding strategy including a focus upon safeguarding local children
- Establish the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and deliver training to CDOP members, monitor implementation of CDOP, identify operational issues.
- Introduce the regional Allegation Management Database and its application in North Yorkshire.
- Monitor performance information and share findings

How we will know we are improving...

Year 1:

- Introduction of the Child Death Overview Panel
- An audit on the referral, assessment and review processes to safeguard children will be undertaken
- Audit of Initial Assessments within a 7 day period will be undertaken.
- Policy on safer recruitment developed and training in place.
- Maintenance of the Allegation Management Database in line with regional agreements and provide regular reports to NYSCB.
- Reduction in the number of children reporting they have been bullied in the past 4 weeks (Tellus Survey) from 28% in 2007
- Audit of LADO arrangements.
- Mapping of services for children who have witnessed Domestic Violence.

Year 2:

- Implement and monitor the Safer Recruitment Policy.
- Monitor the number of Initial Assessments within a 7 day period (PSA 13).
- Reduction in the number of children reporting they have been bullied in the past 4 weeks (Tellus Survey) from 28% in 2007
- Develop Serious Case Review and Serious Incident Protocols.
- Evaluate the impact of Child Death Overview Panel.

Year 3:

- Review the implementation of the Safer Recruitment Policy.
- Monitor the number of Initial assessments within a 7 day period (PSA 13).
- Reduction in the number of children reporting they have been bullied in the past 4 weeks (Tellus Survey) from 28% in 2007
- Implement and monitor the Serious Care Review and Serious Incident Protocols.