

North Somerset Safeguarding Children Board



Date of Meeting	10 th September 2018
Venue	Police HQ, Portishead
Chair	Tony Oliver, Independent Chair
Minutes	Lucy Teteris, Safeguarding Boards Co-ordinator

Agency	Membership	Attendance
LSCB Chair	Tony Oliver	Attending
DCS, Director P&C	Sheila Smith	Attending
Service Leader Strategic Safeguarding and Quality Assurance	Jo Baker	Attending
Avon Fire and Rescue (Correspondent Member)	Neil Liddington	Apologies (N/a)
Avon and Somerset Police	Leanne Pook	Attending
AWP	Jon Peyton	Apologies
Barnados	Duncan Stanway	Apologies
BNSSG CCG	Jacalyn Mathers	Attending
BNSSG CCG Designated Doctor for Safeguarding)	Richard Williams	Attending
Border Force	Denise Preston	Apologies
Cafcass	Victoria Penalggon	Apologies
CRC	Peter Brandt	Attending
Lay Member	Anna Curvan	Attending
Lay Member	Pam Pollard	Attending
National Probation Service	Liz Spencer	Andy Harris
NHS England South West North	Helen Chrystal	Apologies (N/a)
North Somerset Community Partnership	Mary Lewis	Attending
North Somerset Community Partnership	Jos Grimwood	Mary Lewis
North Somerset Council, Assistant Director Adult Support and Safeguarding	Hayley Verrico	Apologies
North Somerset Council, Assistant Director Children's Support and Safeguarding	Eifion Price	Apologies
North Somerset Council, CSDAT	Jo Mercer	Apologies
North Somerset Council, Executive Member	Cllr Jan Barber	Attending
North Somerset Council, Solicitor	Lorraine Sherman	Attending
North Somerset Council, Youth Offending Service	Mike Rees	Apologies

North Somerset Council, Principal Social Worker and representative of Young People's sub-group	Shelley Caldwell	Apologies
North Somerset Council, Service Leader Business Intelligence	Emma Diakou	Attending
Secondary Schools	No representative	
St Francis Primary School	Catherine Hunt	Apologies
South West Ambulance Service	Debbie Bilton	Apologies n/a
Sub-Group Chair: Communications	Anne Ray Rowley	Apologies
Sub-Group Chair: Early Help	Sadie Hall	Attending
Sub-Group Chair: Policy and Procedures	N/a	
Sub Group Chair: SE/Missing	Ruth Sutherland	Attending
Sub-Group Chair: Training and Development	Carolyn Hills	Attending
United Hospitals Bristol Weston	Sarah Windfeld	Apologies
VANs	Doreen Smith	Apologies
WAHT	Sarah Dodds	Attending
Attending to present to Board:		
North Somerset Council	Helen Caldwell	Attending
North Somerset Council	Jackie Milton	Attending
Safelives	Deidra Cartwright	Attending

Minutes/Actions

Agenda Item 1: Introduction and Apologies
Presenting: Tony Oliver

TO thanked Avon and Somerset Police for the room and refreshments. He highlighted to members of the Board that by signing the attendance sheet they were also signing their agreement to the confidentiality statement. He asked the Board to make introductions.

Agenda Item 2: Declarations of Interest
Presenting: Tony Oliver

There were no declarations of interest.

Item 3: Presentations and Good Practice Examples:
Presenting: See Below
Discussion/Challenge:

One Front Door (1FD): (Helen Caldwell, Jackie Milton and Deidre Cartwright):
Jackie Milton and Helen Caldwell gave background to the project. A hard copy of the North Somerset's One Front Door Update report was circulated to the Board.

- One of seven pilots nationally.
- Only pilot that hasn't a MASH (multi-agency safeguarding hub).
- The aim is to start small but the intention is to expand to all children safeguarding concerns within the local authority and eventually to include adults.
- Operational and strategic boards have been held

- In October the 1FD team working alongside SafeLives will start to receive domestic abuse referrals through children's social care. The team will be co-located and include police, health, IDVA, Addaction, housing, adult social care, children social care, probation. There has also been a positive response from all schools and GPs.
- It is felt that the pilot will add value straight away.
- Information governance document is in place and ready to be signed off.
- The pilot will start on 1st October '18.
- SafeLives have carried out a pre-pilot evaluation.

Deidra from SafeLives updated the Board on the pre-pilot evaluation. A hard copy of this update was circulated to the Board. Deidra has been working with North Somerset to develop 1FD. She has worked across all other seven pilot sites. A comparative analysis has been conducted of what is currently in place for safeguarding children and domestic abuse and how this may improve through the 1FD pilot.

The evaluation specifically looks at three key things:

- how integrated are referral pathways for child safeguarding and domestic abuse;
- is collaborative multi-agency working;
- are we intervening in families lives at the earliest possible time or waiting until there is a risk of significant harm.

The aim of the evaluation is to provide wider recommendations as well as to see how we are doing now.

Deidra gave background on:

- the area profile and the domestic abuse dashboards provided by the local authority
- interviews took place with survivors of domestic abuse and with practitioners across all agencies
- workshops and surveys were carried out with practitioners
- in depth audit took place with domestic abuse as the main factor but incorporating other complex needs, for example, mental health, substance abuse.
- Mapping of North Somerset processes across various agencies
- Overview of child safeguarding and domestic abuse
- Currently, due to no MASH, no multi-agency lens on cases, therefore the threshold has to be met before multi-agency input is gained. Family consent is needed. Deidra highlighted other current issues with the police being the main referrer. 1FD will change this.
- Audit highlighted many missed opportunities with agency specific risk assessments. IDVA and MARAC inconsistency of support. Consistent response for high risk but not for low or medium risk. Outreach services available only to those seeking to or had already left abusive relationship. Gap identified in provision.
- Better identification of domestic abuse alongside other special needs.
- Gap also seen in the response to the perpetrator. One of the main recommendations is to hold the perpetrator responsible for their behavior.

Deidra explained that North Somerset has already done a lot to address these issues. With 1FD in place there is a multi-agency lens on referrals into children's social care. Agencies will be able to share information on particular cases/families and will be able to make informed decisions earlier.

The current effectiveness of strategy meetings needs improving. At the moment a social worker needs to phone around multi-agencies and then put the puzzle together, there is no

collaborative round table discussion. The 1FD face to face strategy discussions will give a better perspective on the whole person and a greater focus on the perpetrator.

- Better training on coercive and controlling behaviour
- Better use on Safelives DASH check list
- Referral pathways into Early Help – Early help will be part of 1fd – if the threshold is not met, early help will kick in.
- Specific response for perpetrators of DA
- Lower risk response for children who have long impact of DA
- Information sharing between agencies – cultural shift.

TO thanked Deidra, Jackie and Helen and stated that it was a very interesting project with a huge amount of work already been put into it. He asked the Board for any questions.

JB asked about the “Drive Project”, which is a programme to hold perpetrators to account. Deidra confirmed that this has been developed by SafeLives but is currently difficult to evaluate its effectiveness. HC confirmed that as one of the seven pilots, this is on the agenda. A research programmes has been run by universities with some success. Feedback can be brought back to the Board. **Action.**

JM confirmed that there is a nervousness around working with perpetrators and that there is an onus on the victim to keep themselves safe. There is work on going on lower risk cases, working with fathers and children on positive relationships.

TO asked whether all the pilots were at the same stage. Deidra felt that as North Somerset did not have a MASH it had no perceived idea so was quite significantly ahead and adopted the process close to the theory. Other pilots were adopting elements of 1FD.

JMa highlighted that at the Strategy Board held the previous week an issue was raised around service commitment. The CCG are only able to fund .6 of a post. She confirmed that future commissioning this could be looked at. SS asked and it was confirmed whether this had an impact on the model. Discussion was held about flexible working and ML suggested remote working with a physical presence at the strategy meetings, also she envisaged having an in-built resilience within her team and not relying on one person. Deidra suggested that agencies should build in to the model rather than build a process on one agencies capacity. JMilton confirmed that health was a key partner.

It was agreed for the Board’s assurance that this is kept as an open action until there is a resolution. **Action.**

Item 8 (i): Sub-group reports

Presenting:

Discussion/Challenge:

The sub-groups report updates followed the presentation.

8 (iv) Early Help sub-group: Sadie Hall gave a verbal update. She let the Board know that she is leaving the local authority. Shelley Caldwell, Principal Social Worker will be seconded to her substantive role of Service Leader and will also take on the role of Co-Chair of the Early Help sub-group. The group is looking for another agency partner to co-chair. **Action:** LT to send a request out to all Board members.

Sadie felt that she is leaving at a positive point. Gosha Porth, Early Help Coordinator is very knowledgeable and involved in triage. There is good engagement with schools and data shows increasing early help episodes and that this is a continuing trend. Data does still need a bit of cleansing.

1fd is a positive move for early help. Ongoing multi agency discussion for thresholds is positive. Integrating triage response into 1fd. Early Help representation will be at all the afternoon meetings: Gosha for three days a week; Graham Pascoe for one day and HIF for one day a week.

TO stated that he was sorry to see Sadie go and thanked her personally and on behalf of the Board for the amount of energy and effort she has put into Early Help which he said has been tremendous. He wished Sadie well in her new venture.

There were no other comments or observations from the Board.

8 (i) Quality and Performance:

JB explained that the sub-group has changed its name as her aim is for the group to scrutinise data and then present findings to the Board.

One audit has already taken place on Strategy Discussions. The report will be circulated to the Board shortly. **Action.**

12 cases were selected using cluster random sampling. The findings confirm what Deidra said earlier, that discussions are not joined up. The social worker has separate conversations with different agencies. This is to do with availability. She confirmed that she has linked with JMa and LP and they have drawn up a protocol on what the expectations of Strategy Discussions are.

GP records did not evidence that GPs know whether a Strategy Discussion had taken place or whether they have been involved (JB stated that she can't assume that they aren't being done, just that there is no record). JB stated that she would expect that they should be involved. Education had good attendance. Health visitor, school nurse or police were not easy to get at the same time.

Paediatrician: of the twelve cases and out of the three cases they should have been involved they were only contacted twice.

The final protocol will be presented to the next sub-group.

Analysis of risk: the quality of recording does vary. Information is being brought to the strategy meeting but the protocol will make it clear about what information is needed.

Interim safety plan: eight out of the 12 cases did not evidence plans detailing what kept the child safe. Feedback is required on how those plans are being recorded.

Siblings: Most strategies considered siblings.

Sending out of minutes: Children Social Care records do not evidence that the Strategy Discussion minutes had been sent out to those participating in discussion.

JB suggested that the Signs of Safety methodology within a strategy discussion would be of benefit when analysing the impact on the children. Discussion about agency

sign-up to this methodology. It was noted that it would not be necessary for any significant training.

Action:

- JB, JMa and Victoria Caple to meet re: signs-of-safety buy-in
- Form to be amended to incorporate signs-of safety tool by Systems Project Officer

Children not in Education is next audit. Audit findings will be presented to December Board. **Action**

The Board discussed what is meant by “not in education” and the implications and risk of a small but vulnerable group of people.

JB clarified to Cllr Barber that children “not in education” included: those who are permanently excluded or short term excluded or home educated. Those legally taken off the register.

RWilliams let the Board know of a Private Members Bill: Home Education (Duty of Local Authorities) Bill 2017-19 which has had its first reading at the House of Commons. The second reading is next month.

8 (ii) P&P sub-group.

TO reminded the Board that this is now a virtual sub-group and that the Board still needs a permanent chair and co-chair. He thanked LP, JMa and JB and their teams of their input over the last quarter.

8 (iii) Learning & Development sub-group:

All recommendations from the two SCRs have been incorporated into training for the coming year.

8 (v) Communications sub-group:

ARR on leave. TO noted the report had been circulated with the agenda. One of the recommendations from Ofsted was greater involvement of community groups, TO let the Board know that Nikki Shea from St John’s ambulance has volunteered to sit on Comms sub-group.

8 (vi) Tackling Exploitation and Missing sub-group:

TO attended the sub-group which was held the previous week. He expressed how impressed he was, the group was very engaging and vibrant.

Ruth explained that at this meeting the agenda was more adult focused.

- a speaker talking about loan sharks
- an update from the Topaz team. This is due to go live at the end of September/beginning of October
- risk assessment tools for adults

Audit on Return from Missing interviews. Learning points:

- any return of every child missing has to be offered an interview within 72 hours from being found.
- better quality return if interviewer has been on training.

- a lot of advice is still going out to parents even if they refuse an interview. Ruth was impressed with how colleagues managed to get over information to parents.
- Recommendation to managers: good at stepping up but not so good at stepping down – Early Help. SERAF on Early Help system.
- Number of young people who go missing link-in with street homelessness community. Ruth, with a couple of social workers met with homeless meal provider to let them know to contact Ruth and her team if a child turns up. This has also been conveyed to the street wardens etc.

TO thanked Ruth. He let the Board know that out of approximately forty letters sent to hoteliers, he had received only one response from one of the smaller hoteliers, who was not interested in training around exploitation. He asked the Board if they would like him to follow-up on these letters. RS explained that the CSE coordinator with the police is carrying out work with hoteliers in Bristol. She has asked for feedback and suggested that we could mirror what they have done.

TO agreed. **Action:** Keep as an open item and learn from Bristol.

8 (vii) Young People’s sub-group:

LP has potentially identified a new coordinator for this group. She asked for clarification around the role. **Action:** New co-ordinator to speak to Shelley Caldwell for a handover/update.

8 (viii) SCR Sub-Group:

- Siblings A&B. TO updated the Board. It was agreed not to publish the report. This has been further redacted and this fully anonymised version will be uploaded onto the NSPCC website on 17th September. The action plan has been circulated with the agenda and relevant partners are noted on the plan.
- Darry. TO has now heard back from Darry’s social worker. Darry and family do not wish the report to be published.

Action:

- TO will further redact the report and as Siblings A&B arrange for this to be uploaded onto the NSPCC website.
- TO will notify Ofsted.
- LT to upload action plan with agenda and papers (*this is now uploaded*).
- Learning Review: As Shelley was not at Board TO confirmed that an interim report had been produced. This will be circulated to the SCR panel for comments. Feedback from their comments will come back to the Board in December. **Action**

Agenda Item 4: AOB:
Presenting: TO
Discussion/Challenge:

Peter Brandt let the Board know that Probation and CRCs are out for formal consultation which will affect both organisations. He suggested that Board members go on to the consultation web site and make their views known.

Agenda Item 5: Minutes of Safeguarding Board 11th June 2018
Presenting: Tony Oliver

The minutes were signed-off as an accurate record by the Board.

Board members were asked to complete their outstanding actions prior to the Board, these are detailed below:

		Lead	Outcome	
Item 3: Presentations: NWG Network:	Transition documents to be circulated with the minutes.	LT	June	Complete
SCR Reports: Darry	Publication: SCR panel to decide whether the report should be published or not.	SCR panel	July	Agenda
Item 4: Outstanding actions:	Item 6: TO has written to Ian Weylie, A&S police but as yet has had no response. Open Action.	TO	September	Email from Mike Jackson
	Item 8 (vi): volunteer for Young People sub-group coordinator. Open action.	Board	September	As above.
Item 6: Ofsted Action Plan	1.02: Training Needs Analysis: Returns by December	Board	December	December Action to carry over
	1.04: St John's Ambulance to be involved on sub-groups.	TO	July	TO to update.
Item 7: Standing Items	7 (i) Executive Group: Data discussion – Health analyst to join QA sub-group	Anne Morris/JB	July	On-going health data meetings.
	7 (viii) Police Data: LP to arrange for breakdown of data on Number of Child Suspects of Crimes	LP	July	Completed at Executive in July
Item 8: Sub-group reports.	8 (ii) P&P sub-group. TO to work through QA Performance Framework amendments.	TO	July	
Item 11: Individual Liability	TO to further update the Board in September.	TO	September	Agenda item

Item 6: Ofsted Action Plan
Presenting: Tony Oliver
Discussion/Challenge:

Item 1.01: TO let the Board know that JMa, LP, JB and himself presented the action plan to North Somerset Council's Children and Young People Services Scrutiny Panel in July to ensure they are aware of where the Board is in relation to the action plan.

Item 1.02: Training Needs Analysis. TO thanked Naomi Grace, Safeguarding in Education Lead for getting training into schools for beginning of this term.

There were no comments from the Board.

Item 7 : Standing Items
Presenting: TO
Discussion/Challenge:

7 (i) Executive Group:

TO let the Board know that the LSCB Executive met on 23rd July and that the minutes are attached for information. Actions from the group have either been completed or agenda items.

7 (iii) Consortium Feedback: Working Together update: The Consortium met the previous week. TO did not attend. JB updated the Board:

- Agreement for a project manager to take things forward. JB highlighted at the Consortium meeting that there had been a working group who had done a lot of work. It is her understanding that the Bristol model had been accepted. North Somerset's position has always and remains the same, which is to join as the BNSSG. She made this clear with the Chair.
- JMa was also at the meeting. It was agreed that the consultant would carry out a quick review of the options on the table with the results coming back late November/early December to take into the implementation stage. There was not a lot of agreement and little challenge.
- JB also made it clear about equitable funding. JMa agreed and that this should be in the terms of reference.
- TO let the Board know that he deliberately did not attend as he is independent and therefore had no right to influence any decision making although he would be more than happy to share his observations.

7 (iv) Agency updates from inspections and audits:

Section 11 Walkabout returns and future themes:

JMa, JB and RW carried out their walkabout at Weston Area Health Trust. JB stated that it was very informative with them gathering a real picture of what is going on in the organisation. There was a positive openness to recognise their own strengths and challenges and willingness to listen to observations and take on concerns. She wanted to note recognition and big thanks to the team who demonstrated a real strength. The team included the Safeguarding Adult Named Nurse which demonstrated the Think Family approach.

North Somerset Community Partnership. SS confirmed that she and Simon Eames from the police also had a very positive experience. What she felt was key was that she and Simon had a very useful and clear teleconference with the main players: Mary Lewis and Jos Grimwood so therefore worked out quickly who they were going to see. It was a packed morning session. Feedback was that it was a very positive experience. Mary Lewis agreed.

The National Probation Service is the third audit. This was due to take place this Thursday but has been postponed. The audit will be done by Julie Bishop and Jos Grimwood. TO to speak to Andy Harris in Liz Spencer's absence, about rearranging dates and the involvement of the National Probation Service.

TO confirmed that he has received the two completed reports. He thanked everyone for their input.

7 (v) Partner organisations' annual reports:

All three reports were circulated a pre-reads.

- IRSO – JB noted that this has been presented to DLT and Children Champions group
- DOFA -Julie is presenting her report to agencies. JB let Board members know that if they think it relevant to contact her or Julie for Julie to present to them. **Action.** JB also noted the government campaign on raising awareness around child abuse and knowing how to report it. "Together we can tackle child abuse." **Action** : JB to send out email to strategic leads to forward to their Comms teams.
- CDOP – Conference on 5th October when CDOP will be presenting their annual report.

7 (vi) Headline data:

Q1 Update. Emma Diakou ran through the first quarter headline data. She felt that 18/19 seemed to be following the same trend as 17/18 with decrease in CSC contacts; increase in referrals; increase in early help; increase in children on protection plan. Overall she noted that there was nothing in first quarter that was of particular concern.

ML queried and ED will clarify the decrease in domestic abuse "due to 1FD" as 1FD has not yet started. ED will check and email LT. **Action**

TO queried and SS confirmed that it is the local authority who set the 80% target on the care leavers data. ED to bring context to these figures to the Q&P sub-group and TO suggested that JB will pick this up within a future audit. **Action:**

Cllr JB queried 45 days to complete assessments. SS confirmed that this meant that there may be a heavy work load and therefore a delay before the assessment is signed-off or that there is a delay in information being returned.

7 (vii) Police data: LP explained that the data provided for the Board is the same as for June. New data is due out in October so she will give an update at December Board.

7 (viii) CCG data: JMa explained that there on-going meetings with regional Board Managers and health on what data will be collated for the Boards.

Item 9: Strategic Plan, Risk Register and Annual Report update
Presenting: Tony Oliver
Discussion/Challenge:

Annual Report:

JB clarified to the Board how the annual report is being arranged this year to ensure that it is compliant. The style and format is very much a summary annual report. In the absence of a business manager this is essential. A template has been circulated for completion to all sub-groups. LT is collating into a document. TO confirmed that the content will be compliant but producing a full report is an unfair workload for the Board's co-ordinator. The report will be disseminated to partners seven days before publication. Once published a copy will be sent to BNSSG, The People and Communities Board and the Police and Crime Commissioner's office. **Action LT.**

Further editing needs to take place and once LT is back from leave it is hoped that the report will be published by the end of October.

Risk Register: TO reminded Board members to populate the risk register with any known risks. Also, please forward any comments/observations members may have
 Strategic Plan: The strategic plan was refreshed in July and is circulated for Board members comments/observations. TO thanked JMa, JB and LP for their work on this refresh.

Item 10: Individual Liability:
 Presenting: Tony Oliver
 Discussion/Challenge:

As requested TO contacted the Social Worker’s Union. They are not prepared to cover lay members on the Safeguarding Boards. At the Executive Group EP was going to find out whether cover could be provided by the local authority’s volunteer scheme. TO asked LS whether as a “stop gap” if a decision is made by the Board but it is specifically minuted that the decision was not made by our lay members whether this would be sufficient to cover our lay members.

LS felt that this was an insurance issue rather than legal. She reiterated that as the Board is a partnership its lay members won’t be covered by North Somerset’s Casualty Policy/ Volunteers insurance. She suggested that TO put the above to the insurers. **Action.**

SS wondered whether there was too much emphasis on this subject and that within 30 years she had only come upon it once. The risk is so small and queried the information that our lay members may come into contact with as they do not sit on our SCR panel.

JMa asked whether this had been resolved elsewhere. It was thought that it hadn’t been.

AC voiced her concerns. TO confirmed that he would ensure that he would come up with a resolution, hopefully before December Board.

There was also discussion around formal training on data protection and an induction process for new members. These were points provided by Lorraine previously. TO agreed this would be good practice.

Next Meeting: Monday 10th December 2018 @ 2.00pm, Police HQ, Portishead

ACTION LOG from today’s minutes

		Lead	Date
Item 3 1FD Presentation	“Drive Project” feedback on evaluation to come back to Board	Helen Caldwell	March ‘19
	Health .6 post at 1FD – open action for Board	JMa	Open action
8 (iv) Early Help Sub-Group	Circulate email to Board Members for volunteers for Co-chair.	LT	October
8 (i) Quality and Performance Sub-Group	Strategy Discussions Audit report to be circulated to Board.	JB	October
	Children not in Education Audit to be presented to December Board.	JB	December

8 (vi) Tackling Exploitation and Missing	Hotelier and CSE Training. Get feedback from Bristol's involvement before sending another letter to hoteliers.	RS	December
8 (viii) SCRs	Darry: Further redact and send to NSPCC for upload onto website fully anonymised	TO/LT	October
	Inform Ofsted	TO/LT	October
	Learning Review: Interim report to be forwarded to SCR panel for comment. Update to December Board.	TO SC	October December
7 (v) Partner's annual reports	DOFA: presentation by Julie Bishop to organisation let JB/JB know.	Board	December
	Together we can tackle child abuse – email to strategic leads to link with Comms	JB	October
7 (vi) Headline data	ED will clarify the decrease in domestic abuse “due to 1FD” as 1FD has not yet started.	ED	October
	80% target on the care leavers data. ED to bring context to these figures to the Q&P sub-group	ED/Q&P sub-group	September
10 Individual Liability	TO to resolve with NSC insurers	TO	October