

Newsletter

January 2019

This newsletter is available on the North Somerset Safeguarding Boards website:
www.northsomersetsafeguarding.co.uk



NSSAB

NSSCB

Key messages from the LSCB

The LSCB met on 10th December 2018.

The [minutes](#) are available to download from the Safeguarding Boards website.

To note:

- A summary of the results from the **Early Years audit**, commissioned by the Board, were presented. 100% response rate of 230 providers which included: under 5s groups; nurseries; pre-schools, child minders; out of school clubs.

What is working well?

High level of confidence of interagency working around neglect, sexual abuse and general child protection activity.

What needs to be improved and what is being done about it?

Use of thresholds in Early Help.
Training is being delivered to every single designated safeguarding officer twice a year.
Use of Designated Officer for Allegations. *Awareness raising of the role is being cascaded.*
Supervision of staff around safeguarding; CSE; FGM. *Bespoke training is being put in place;*
Safer recruitment training is being provided.

➤ **The police** gave a presentation on **Operation Topaz** which is now running in North Somerset. Information and intelligence gathering is key to the success in disrupting criminal exploitation of children. [Forms](#) have been made available for partners and professionals to provide information if they believe a child or adult is being exploited.

➤ **Joint Targeted Area Inspection:** The Ofsted led thematic inspection looks at how well local agencies work together to protect children and requires a multi-agency response (local authority, police, probation, health and youth offending team). The current theme is "**Child sexual abuse in the family environment**". To find out more about JTAI and future themes: [JTAI Inspection](#)

The following have been uploaded on the website:

1. Updated multi-agency guidance for injuries for [non-mobile babies](#)
2. [Strategy discussion multi-agency requirements protocol](#)

The North Somerset Safeguarding Children's Board 2016-2017 [annual report](#) has now been published on the website.

SCR and Learning reviews:

Recent SCR learning reflects national recurrent findings from national research into Serious Case Reviews. These are noted below:

- The lack of the voice of the child or young person
- Adult-focused practice
- Agencies not working together in an integrated and co-ordinated way
- Lack of professional curiosity
- Flawed assessments and judgements
- The focus upon support for families rather than identifying, assessing and managing risk
- The lack of management oversight and reflective supervision.

(NSPCC, 2017)

Multi-agency briefings are taking place and action plans are in the process of being completed. These are being overseen by the Board.



INFORMATION, GUIDANCE AND WEBSITE

A governance page has been added to the safeguarding boards website and caveats added to the minutes and agendas. This is in response to GDPR: [LSCB](#) and [LSAB](#)

Please note the following link to trixonline policy briefings: <http://www.trixonline.co.uk/policy-briefings-archive/> This will provide those working with children and vulnerable adults up to date guidance and information. The latest briefings [tri.x December 2018](#) are available to download.

Don't forget to log on to the latest [South West Child Protection Procedures](#) for our region.

Also, don't forget to use the North Somerset Safeguarding Boards website (www.northsomersetsafeguarding.co.uk). If you need to add anything or notice that anything needs to be amended please contact Lucy Teteris, Boards Co-ordinator (lucy.teteris@n-somerset.gov.uk).



Key messages from the LSAB

The LSAB met on 11th December 2018.

The minutes are available to download from the safeguarding boards website.

To note:

- The Manager from North Somerset Council's **Court of Protection Team** (CoP) presented to the Board the work of her team. This included a recent inspection by The Office of Public Guardian which resulted in a very positive report. Below is an extract from this report:

"The visitor's impression was that NSC's Deputyship Team is very well managed and works effectively. The files were organised and the Deputyship Officers had good knowledge of their cases and the client's as people, as well as the MCA. There was evidence that the Officers went out of their way to ensure that the clients' needs are being met, and that decisions are made considering their views and wishes where possible and in their best interests. The visitor had very positive feedback from many of the clients who were able to express an opinion and the carers and the Care Home staff. The Deputy was well informed and works closely with the Team."

- A **Domestic Abuse multi-agency audit** has been completed. A summary of the key findings, learning points and recommendations is being disseminated via Board members and the Communications sub-group. It is also available to download from the website: [**Domestic Abuse Audit - Key findings**](#)
- The next thematic audit for the Quality and Performance sub-group is about "**Think Family**" and how it is adopted within organisations. The [**Think Family multi-agency guidance**](#) is available on the website.

- The **Tackling Exploitation sub-group** summarised a presentation from the Illegal Money Lending team. This highlighted "loan sharks" as a significant problem in some areas of Weston-super-Mare. There is a 24-hour hotline 0300 555 2222 and website www.stoploansharks.co.uk

The Board signed off the revised **Multi-agency procedures**. These are now uploaded onto the North Somerset Safeguarding Boards website.

North Somerset Safeguarding Adult Board 2017-2018 **annual report** has now been published on the website.

Provider Event:

In November the Safeguarding Adults Board delivered a very successful day on the subject "**Sharing Good Practice in Safeguarding Adults**".

The event was attended by a record number of 130 representatives from providers of health, housing and social care services in the private, statutory and voluntary sectors.

It was a truly multi agency event supported by many different speakers who donated their time in the splendid surroundings of the Winter Gardens. Presentations are available on the North Somerset Safeguarding Boards website for you to download: [**training-and-events**](#)

A briefing session about **Mental Capacity, Deprivation of Liberty for Young Persons (16 and 17 year olds) and Parental Consent** is taking place on **Tuesday 5th February from 9:00 to 10:00** in the New Council Chamber.

Places can be booked on CPD on-line [here](#)

The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Bill otherwise known as the **Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS)** are currently being debated in Parliament.

This is a new scheme that is being proposed to replace the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

DoLS is the process by which decisions are made in relation to where people reside for their care and support (i.e. should they remain in a care home / hospital or not?) This decision is made based on the person's capacity and if judged to lack, what is in their best interests.

Supporters of the new legislation state that it is a streamlined process which makes efficient use of limited resources and recognises work that is already done.

Opponents of the legislation state that it weakens existing safeguards and simply moves responsibility from local authorities onto the provider sector.

More information about the debate can be found below:

<https://services.parliament.uk/bills/2017-19/mentalcapacityamendment.html>
<http://www.edgetraining.org.uk/news/>



The next newsletter will be circulated in April 2019.

Lucy Teteris, North Somerset Safeguarding Boards Coordinator (lucy.teteris@n-somerset.gov.uk).

