

Report of the Strategic Director of Children's Services to the meeting of Children's Services Overview and Scrutiny Committee to be held on 14th March 2018.

Subject:

AI

Annual Report of the Safeguarding Children Board for 2016/17

Summary statement:

This report provides a summary of the Annual Report of the Safeguarding Children Board to accompany the full report which is provided as an appendix. The report provides a summary of priorities and achievements of the Board in 2016/17, as well as the annual summary of the Child Death Overview Panel.

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Overview & Scrutiny Area:

Children's O&S

1. SUMMARY

The Bradford Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) provides the procedural framework for all partnership work to keep children safe within Bradford and fulfils its statutory responsibility around quality assurance and training. The role of the Board:

- sets the procedural framework for all partnership work to keep children safe within Bradford
- fulfils its statutory responsibility for ensuring that staff receive multi-agency training to support them in their work
- ensures that agencies are held to account for their work and that there is a learning and improvement framework in place to ensure that serious case reviews and other challenge and learning processes are effective.
- conducts a multi-agency review of every child death in the District, carried out by the Child Death Overview Panel.
- In addition, BSCB plays a role in supporting and planning innovative partnership responses to safeguarding children challenges, such as the establishment of the multi-agency CSE Hub.

The Board is required to produce and publish an annual report (found at Appendix 1).. This report summarises the annual report and draws the committees attention to the highlights of the activity this year.

2. BACKGROUND

The work of the of the Board

The annual report summarises the work of the main Board and the sub groups. In 2016/17 theses were:

- The Business Planning Sub Group- Chair David Niven
- The Case Review Sub Group- Chair Dr Kate Ward
- CSE Missing Group- Chair Damien Miller
- Learning and Development Sub Group- Chair Sue Thompson Designated Nurse for Safeguarding
- Performance and Audit Sub Group – Chair Jenny Cryer
- JTAI group – Chair Jenny Cryer
- Safeguarding and Professional Practice Sub Group- Chair Jim Hopkinson
- Child Death Overview Panel- Chair Dr Shirley Brierley
- Education Safeguarding Group – Chair Lyndsey Brown
- VCS Safeguarding Steering Group- Chair Janice Hawkes
- Safeguarding in Health Group- Chair Dr Ruth Skelton

Priorities of the BSCB

The BSCB is committed to improving the welfare and protection of all children and young people in the Bradford District and has agreed to deliver these priorities through its Business Plan. The plan reflects the complexity of safeguarding in Bradford. The plan focuses on the three key areas of responsibility that drive the 'core business' of the partnership. The plan acknowledges that while a substantial number of children are

safeguarded by the core activity of partners, some children have an elevated vulnerability to harm through a range of high risk issues. The aim of the plan is to provide strong and effective safeguarding arrangements to ensure that all children receive the highest quality service at the right time and at the right level thereby promoting their welfare and reducing harm. In 2016/17 the priorities for the Board were to:

1. Ensure the care and protection of children remains the highest priority
2. Improving outcomes and reducing risk for children
3. Reducing risk for vulnerable and marginalised children

Summary of the Board Achievements

Board achievements are covered within the report but highlights include:

JTAI: In February 2017 Bradford received a JTAI inspection and the work of this group was critical to assuring the inspectors that Bradford's partnership was sighted on domestic abuse. "There are very effective multi-agency arrangements within the MASH, particularly between the police and children's social care, with a dedicated domestic violence hub."

https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/609891/Join_t_targeted_area_inspection_of_the_multi-agency_response_to_abuse_and_neglect_in_Bradford.pdf

Bradford Police officer Matt Catlow has been highlighted as national best practice and has led to two National Awards being received, The Lord Ferrers and the National Working Group Unsung Hero Awards. This work will continue in order to help safeguard the vulnerable working with key partners around CSE activity.

The successful delivery of the educative drama "Someone's Sister, Someone's Daughter" has continued throughout the District. More than 4500 students saw this play which was aimed at year 10 students. "Mr Shapeshifter" is currently being delivered across the Bradford district with an aim of reaching 45 Bradford primary schools. Some of these schools will host other primary schools at their performances, which is intended to increase the reach to over 60 schools. Over 4500 Year 6 pupils will potentially be reached over the life time of this project.

The Barnardo's NightWatch initiative, raised awareness of child sexual exploitation by offering advice, guidance, support and training to businesses, services and the general public. The programme has been delivered across Bradford and included those working in fast-food outlets, hotels and bed and breakfast accommodation, accident and emergency services, and security service roles (such as, door staff). The implementation of Nightwatch, has resulted in increased confidence and awareness amongst NTE workers around the issue of CSE and how to identify it as well as through examples of children and young people having been safeguarded from exploitation and abuse.

Bradford Council and Collingwood Learning have developed innovative training and awareness events called Real Safeguarding Stories. These were nationally recognised through Local Government Body as "Effective partnership working" good for Bradford MDC and BSCB. Further details can be found at :

<http://realsafeguardingstories.com/index.php/child-safeguarding/>

Bradford was the first District to undertake a Safeguarding Week, and each year has grown the programme, widening topics to all Safeguarding matters. In 2016 there were

over 2000 attendees at 60 events

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Included within the annual report, and as a stand alone document, the Child Death Overview Panel provides its own annual report.

The work of CDOP:

In summary, CDOP undertakes a comprehensive and multidisciplinary review of every child death under 18 years in the District. Its aim is to better understand how and why children die across the Bradford district and use the findings to take action to prevent other deaths and improve the health, wellbeing and safety of children in the area. The CDOP meets its function as set out in Chapter 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015). It identifies potentially modifiable cause of death and seeks assurance from partners and agencies that appropriate actions have been taken to reduce the risk of similar deaths in the future. The Wood Review (2016) recommended CDOP should move from the Department of Education to Department of Health, it should to continue with a similar remit and be a joint responsibility between Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) and Local Authority. Following national consultation on all aspects of Local Safeguarding Children's Boards, including CDOP, further guidance will be published in May 2018.

CDOP held 8 meetings over 2016/17 and reviewed 63 deaths during this time. An away day was held in May 2016 to look at all the key data and understanding from these reviews and informed the published CDOP report for 2016/17. This annual report highlights key recommendations from all deaths including modifiable deaths and also key themes since 2008 when CDOP began. CDOP has a detailed Modifiable Action Plan and Issues Log which are updated and monitored each meeting. This ensures effective learning from CDOP is disseminated to all key partners and key actions to reduce the risk of child deaths are taken in a timely manner. The group takes an active part in training events and safeguarding week.

In 2016/17, the group undertook a detailed suicide audit of child deaths and fed the findings directly into the Suicide Prevention Action Plan for the district. Also, CDOP has continued to raise awareness around the risk factors associated with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) and co-sleeping deaths. In addition, CDOP continues to monitor the over representation of South Asian children in overall number of child deaths especially in category 7 (genetic conditions) and the work undertaken across the district to raise awareness in this area. CDOP is also currently undertaking further analysis around causes of death in White British children.

Summary of the CDOP report.

Overall, infant and child mortality rates are reducing over time but remain above national and regional rates. Key areas of focus for recommendations arising from modifiable deaths are the following risk factors; smoking in pregnancy (most common risk factor), obesity in pregnancy and consanguinity which all increase the risk of child death. In addition deaths due to SIDS and co-sleeping, with risk factors present such as smoking, continue to occur. Hence, CDOP continues to seek assurance from organisations regarding their actions around these key areas and to raise awareness. In addition, for SCRs and specific clinical incidents CDOP seeks assurance that all key actions have been

undertaken and also for road traffic collisions that all road safety recommended actions have taken place to reduce the risk of similar deaths in the future. CDOP works closely with Born in Bradford and Better Start Bradford to ensure all the learning from research and audit across the district is shared and informs work of key groups. These groups include the Every Baby Matters group, Integrated Early Years Strategy group, Suicide Prevention group and other key groups and networks. CDOP continues to monitor reported and reviewed child deaths closely to identify any new issues that are emerging at an early stage.

The CDOP Annual Report 2016-17 can be accessed at Appendix 2.

3. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In April 2018 the statutory nature of the Board will be changing, replaced by a requirement to have tri partite partnership arrangements in place with the Council, Police and Health. Bradford is committed to continuing robust partnership arrangements around safeguarding, but the way in which this is delivered and in particular linkages with the Adult safeguarding Board and the Community safety Partnership are being explored at present.

4. FINANCIAL & RESOURCE APPRAISAL

The BSCB staffing and operational funding is provided by a pooled budget totalling £337,400, which is reduction of £51,440. A small income is generated by charging commercial organisations for safeguarding training. The contributors to this pooled budget are:

Income £337,400

- Bradford Council Children's Services £166,260
- Health £148,350
- Police £17,550
- National Probation £2,345
- Community Rehabilitation Company £2,345
- Cafcass £550

Total expenditure £565,409

The BSCB has recognised and responded to the financial challenges moving into the following year. Financial planning and staff restructuring has enabled savings to be achieved in line with new budgets. This has been achieved through rationalising of administration posts, a decision not to progress the proposed deputy Board managers post and withdrawal of the Safeguarding advisor for faith settings, which is now overseen by the Local Authority.

5. RISK MANAGEMENT AND GOVERNANCE ISSUES

No issues identified

6. LEGAL APPRAISAL

No issues identified

7. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

None

7.1 EQUALITY & DIVERSITY

No issues identified.

7.2 SUSTAINABILITY IMPLICATIONS

No sustainability issues identified.

7.3 GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS IMPACTS

None

7.4 COMMUNITY SAFETY IMPLICATIONS

No issues identified..

7.5 HUMAN RIGHTS ACT

No issues identified.

7.6 TRADE UNION

No issues identified.

8. NOT FOR PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS

None

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 The committee are asked to consider the annual report of the Bradford Safeguarding Children Board, and comment as appropriate.

10. APPENDICES

10.1 The Annual report of the Bradford Safeguarding Children Board for 2016/17

10.2 The Child Death Overview Panel Annual Report 2016/17