



November 2010 Meeting

The meeting took place on 9th November 2010 1.30-4.30pm

Attendance

The following agencies were represented at the meeting:

- Solihull Care Trust
- West Midlands Police
- Solihull MBC
- UK Border Agency
- NSPCC
- SUSTAiN
- Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust
- Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust
- National Probation Service
- Solihull Community Housing
- CAFCASS (Child and Family Court Advisory Support Service)

Councillor Davies was in attendance as a “participant observer”

Business Updates

The meeting reviewed actions from the last meeting and received reports in respect of the following:

- Performance Monitoring sub group
- Practice and Procedures sub group
- Chairpersons sub group
- LSCB Risk Register
- Training sub group
- Child Death Review Panel
- Solihull Council
- Safeguarding in Education and Early Years sub group

The meeting agreed to explore the referrals to Local Authority Designated Officer by agency in order to satisfy itself that all sectors were taking the action required in the event of a concern regarding the suitability of those who work with children and young people.

The meeting agreed that those who deliver safeguarding training should be supported by provision of a train the trainer programme; however it was not necessary for trainers to go through a formal accreditation process.



SUBSTANTIVE ITEMS

Children and Young People's Plan

The LSCB formally requested that the Children and Young Persons Trust Board (CYPTB) present to the LSCB a report on how the safeguarding priorities identified by the LSCB were considered as part of the refresh of Children and Young Person Plan (CYPP)

The Chair of the Children and Young Person Trust Board (CYPTB) agreed to ensure a report is presented to a future LSCB meeting.

Thresholds for accessing Children's Social Work Services

The LSCB received a report that set out planned revision to the threshold for accessing children's social work services.

The revised referral procedures can be accessed via http://www.proceduresonline.com/solihull/lscb/chapters/p_referrals.html (section 3.1 LSCB procedures)

The change in the threshold along with the co-location of CAF co-ordinators with DART are intended to promote effective multi-agency responses to children and young people at all levels of need.

The revised thresholds will be communicated within agencies by LSCB members and also included in the LSCB revised procedures briefings and designated member of staff (schools) training in January 2011.

Ofsted Evaluation of Serious Case Reviews

The LSCB received a presentation from the NSPCC on the Ofsted evaluation report of Serious Case Reviews 2008/09.

A number of areas of consideration were highlighted including:

- Quantity of evidence presented to support a recommendation that a Child Protection Plan should be discontinued.
- Understanding why children and young people go missing from care and level of consultation with children and young people prior to becoming a 'looked after child'
- The vulnerability of disabled children
- The need to address issues of diversity in inter-agency training



- The conduct of Serious Case Reviews including family involvement

The LSCB agreed to explore the above issues so as to learn from the report and also to review the more recent Ofsted evaluation report of Serious Case Reviews (2009/10) at its next meeting.

Organisational Measures to Safeguarding Children and Young People

The LSCB received a report in respect of its constituent agencies compliance with organisational measures/requirements to safeguard children and young people. Most agencies are under a statutory duty to have these measures in place.

The LSCB noted many strengths identified by the audit. A key area of challenge is the delivery of awareness raising training to all staff.

The LSCB Chair will use the findings in the annual conversation with the Chief Officer of each statutory board partner and it was agreed that each agency will devise an action plan in respect of areas of any further work identified. Progress against the Action Plan will be reported to the LSCB.

The LSCB identified that the provision of safeguarding information for children and young people and families, including in different formats and languages, is a common challenge and agreed to further explore this matter.

Vice Chairperson

The LSCB elected a new Vice Chairperson; Stephen Munday Joint Director of Public Health

The LSCB next meets on 11th January 2011 and observers are welcome; however, advance notification is required.

If you are interested in observing a future LSCB meeting please contact Karen Perry
kperry@solihull.gov.uk .

Elected members should contact mmistry@solihull.gov.uk

Further information on the work of the LSCB can be found at www.solihull.gov.uk/staysafe