



Solihull Local Safeguarding Children Board

Statutory Annual Report 2010-2011

LSCB Chairperson's Introduction

Dear colleagues

Another year, and another report you may be thinking? Well, if you read only two annual reports in 2011 I suggest it is this one and its companion from the Adult Safeguarding Board. As Chair I take very seriously the responsibility I share, with the Lead Member, the Director of Children's Services and the Board as a whole, for making safeguarding "everybody's business" and this report is one of the means by which this duty is discharged and the work of the Local Safeguarding Children Board publicised. So, please read on.

At both national and local levels 2010-11 has been a significant year.

Nationally, I would draw your attention to three areas that already, or will shortly, impact directly on the quality of safeguarding practices:

- Firstly, the Munro Review of child protection in England concluded in May and the Government published its response at the end of July - with the Children's Minister, Tim Loughton, accepting in principle all the recommendations, and signalling his intention to drive reform hard and fast in both the immediate and longer term. There are significant and exciting implications for LSCBs arising from the report - for example the new role we will have for scrutinising the effectiveness of "early help" to families - so our agenda grows all the time;
- Secondly, the Social Work Reform Board (SWRB) has made significant progress in addressing the improvements agreed by the Task Force at the end of 2009. The SWRB's brief encompasses all of the social work workforce, not just children, and is putting centre stage the importance of reflective practice as a primary tool of driving up standards and improving outcomes for families. LSCBs will benefit from this work as it will influence the ways in which we find out about how well the safeguarding system is working locally;

- Thirdly, the sector-led improvement agenda is progressing at speed and LSCBs will need to take account of the fact that Local Authorities, with their partners, will be placing greater emphasis on their own self-assessments to understand strengths and risks, and Boards will want to think about their role in complementing and challenging these new approaches and ensuring that there continues to be credible, independent challenge locally to these assessments and the improvements plans that will follow from them.

Locally, the Board has been developing too. The added capacity brought by the safeguarding officer role created in 2009 has meant that we have a clearer understanding of what our top three priorities are - namely, domestic violence, neglect and child sexual exploitation. Whilst the Board clearly has a role that encompasses a wide range of safeguarding issues common to all areas, it is also charged with identifying concerns that are of particular local significance and providing an evidence base for commissioners to act on.

As well as these three "subject-based" priorities, we have agreed that there needs to be much more of a focus on the cross-cutting issue of developing the quality assurance framework so that it promotes both the capturing and application of the experiences of those using safeguarding services: addressing our priorities, and further development of policies and practices, must become more deeply rooted in customer feedback. To this end, Board has signalled its intent that all partners should give more consideration to how they can learn better from this rich source of evidence to re-shape the child's journey through the system. And this, of course, resonates with the Munro report which strongly advocates that greater value should be placed on the voice of children and young people, parents and carers and front line workers.

2010 -11 has also been a year in which the Board sought to strengthen its relationship with the Children and Young People's Trust Board. This has been challenging as the Trust Board has been undergoing a period of reform itself, due in part to changes in the statutory framework, but the LSCB can feel

confident that it has provided clear advice to commissioners on the local "stay safe" priorities - and not just children's commissioners, but also those within the community safety partnership, the emerging health and wellbeing board and the Solihull Partnership's overarching governing board. I welcome the commitment made in June 2011 by the new chair of the Children and Young Peoples' Trust Board to bring the two Boards even closer together and, in doing so, ensuring a clearer and more precise focus on the stay safe priorities that will strengthen the already good safeguarding arrangements we have across Solihull.

My final point is to note that the LSCB has also been working hard to influence the new health arrangements that are set out in the Health and Social Care Bill going through Parliament. In particular, the Business Manager, Deputy Chair and I have begun advising the Cluster PCT and Strategic Health Authority colleagues on what needs to be done to make clinical commissioning groups "safeguarding proof" so that as they take on Primary Care Trusts commissioning responsibilities, the LSCB can be assured that the necessary partnership arrangements and understanding are in place to maximise positive outcomes for children and young people.

And so all that remains is to say thank you: to the Board; to the Safeguarding Manager and her team: but - most importantly - to all those out there on the front line from all sectors who, on a daily basis, pull out all the stops to ensure that our children and young people are effectively safeguarded.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "SA Mark Rogers". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line that extends across the width of the signature.

MARK ROGERS
LSCB CHAIRPERSON

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Glossary

C	
Care Quality Commission (CQC)	The Care Quality Commission is the independent regulator of all health and adult social care services in England. It also seeks to protect the interests of people whose rights are restricted under the Mental Health Act.
Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (CAFCASS)	The role of CAFCASS is to safeguard and promote the welfare of children involved in family court proceedings.
Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)	A sub group of the LSCB that reviews child deaths with the aim of identifying modifiable risk factors. All information is anonymised and the aim of the sub group is to identify trends and patterns in the causes of child deaths with the aim of preventing future child deaths.
Child Exploitation and Online Protection (CEOP)	Part of UK Policing; dedicated to eradicating the sexual abuse of children and young people.
Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP)	One plan concerning needs of children and young people in the borough and how services will meet those needs and improve outcomes
Children and Young People's Trust Board (CYPTB)	A partnership body that brings together key agencies to improve outcomes for children and young people in Solihull
Commissioning	The process of assessing needs and planning, delivering and reviewing services to use available resources to get the best outcomes for people. This process applies to all services, whether they are provided by the local authority, NHS, other public agencies, or by private and third sectors.
Common Assessment Framework (CAF)	A generic assessment used for children/young people with additional needs to help early identification of need, promote co-ordinated service provision and reduce the number of assessments that some children and young people have to go through.
Competent Authority	The Competent Authority receives referrals in respect of individuals who may have been trafficked. The Competent Authority is UK Border Agency where there are immigration and

	asylum issues to be considered and UK Human Trafficking Centre where this is not a concern, e.g. for European Economic Area (EEA) nationals. The Competent Authority decides whether there are reasonable grounds or conclusive evidence to believe that an individual has been trafficked.
Core Groups	A clearly identified group of professionals and family members who work together and who have responsibility for the delivery of a Child Protection Plan.

D	
Department for Children, Schools and Families (DcSF)	Former government department responsible for children's services; became the Department for Education in May 2010.
Department for Education	Government department responsible for Children's Services (previously known as Department of Children, Schools and Families).
Designated Member of Staff	Senior member of school leadership team who is designated to take lead responsibility for dealing with child protection issues, providing advice and support to other staff, liaising with Local Authority and working with other agencies.
Domestic abuse	Defined as any incident of threatening behaviour, violence or abuse (psychological, physical, sexual, financial or emotional) between adults aged 18 and over who are or have been intimate partners or are family members regardless of gender.

F	
Fair Treatment Assessment	A localised form of Equality Impact Assessment and a comprehensive way of ensuring that services are inclusive and can be accessed and used by all sections of the community.
Forced Marriage	A forced marriage is one where one or both spouses do not consent to the marriage or consent is obtained under duress. Duress can include physical, psychological, financial, sexual and emotional pressure.

G	
Genogram	A graphic representation of a family tree that displays detailed data on relationships among individuals.
I	
Individual Management Review (IMR)	Report reproduced, usually as part of a Serious Case Review, that details and analyses single agency involvement with a child/family and identifies learning.
Inter-agency working	More than one agency working together in a planned and formal way. This can be at different levels; either strategic or operational.
J	
Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA)	A systematic method for reviewing the health and wellbeing needs of a population, leading to agreed commissioning priorities that will improve outcomes and reduce inequalities.
L	
Lead Member	The lead member exercises local political accountability for children's services and is expected to take a particular role in safeguarding.
Local Authority Designated Member (LADO)	Provides advice and guidance to employers and 3 rd sector organisations, liaises with police and other agencies and monitors the progress of allegations against those who work with children and young people.
Local Government Improvement and Development (LGID)	Local Government Improvement and Development (formally the IDeA) supports improvement and innovation in local government focusing on the issues that are important to councils and using tried and tested ways of working.
Local Integrated Needs – led Coordinated Support (LINCS)	The Solihull Model for multi-agency support of children, young people and their families incorporating the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). Includes agreed procedures to be used in identifying, assessing and supporting children, when more than one agency is involved.

M	
Munro Report	Report of a government commissioned national review of child protection arrangements; made a series of recommendations to support a more child focused system.

N	
National Indicator (NI)	An indicator used to measure progress on national priorities delivered by local councils alone or in partnership.
National Minimum Standards	Standards issued by the Secretary of State under the Care Standards Act 2000. National Minimum Standards, along with Regulations, form the basis of the regulatory framework for the service they cover.
Neo-natal deaths	Death occurring in first 4 weeks after birth

O	
Overview Report	Report produced as part of a Serious Case Review that details and analyses multi-agency involvement with a child/family and identifies learning.

P	
'Participant Observer'	Role of Lead Member at LSCB; attends meetings as an observer, receives all written reports, engages in discussions but is not part of the decision making process.
Persons Posing a Risk to Children (PPRC)	Individual deemed to pose a risk to children and young people either by nature of offending or behaviour; replaced the term 'Schedule One Offender'.
Personal, Social and Health Education (PSHE)	An element of the state school curriculum that covers statutory elements, such as drugs and relationships and many other aspects of health and personal growth.
Privately fostered children and young people	A child or young person under 16 (18 if disabled) and cared for and accommodated by someone other than a parent or close relative ¹ for more than 28 days.

¹ Close relatives defined as step parents, grandparents, brothers or sisters, aunts or uncles.

R	
Rapid response	Professionals (at a minimum health, police and social care) involved when a child/young person dies unexpectedly who come together to enquire into the child's death.
Responsible Authority	Public body that must be notified of premises licence applications and variations and is entitled to make representation to the licensing authority in relation to the application for the grant or variation of premises licences or request a review of an existing license.

S	
Safeguarding and promoting welfare	<p>Defined in statutory guidance as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protecting children from maltreatment; • Preventing impairment of children's health or development; • Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; <p>and undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.</p>
Scorecard	An approach to measuring performance; includes data monitoring/review.
Section 11 Children Act 2004	Places a duty on a number of bodies, including Local Authority, Police, health and Probation to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in the course of their normal duties.
Section 47 enquiries	The enquiries that the Local Authority must make if they believe a child may be suffering significant harm.
Section 157/175 Education Act 2002	Places a duty on all schools, Local Education Authorities, Proprietors of independent schools, Governing bodies of schools and Further Education institutions to make arrangements for carrying out their functions with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people.
Serious Case Review (SCR)	A review which is held when a child dies and abuse or neglect is known, or suspected, to be a factor in the death.
Sexual Exploitation	Exploitative situations, contexts and relationships where children/young people (or a third person or persons) receive 'something'

	(e.g. food, accommodation, drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, affection, gifts, money) as a result of them performing, and/or another or others performing on them, sexual activities.
Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE)	SCIE is an independent charity working with adults, families and children's social care and social work services across the UK. SCIE gathers and analyses knowledge about what works and translates that knowledge into practical resources, learning materials and services. The aim is to improve the lives of people who use care services.
Solihull Partnership	This is Solihull's Local Strategic Partnership and is a non-statutory body which brings together representatives from the community, voluntary, private and public sector to provide a more co-ordinated way of managing services to local people.
Strategic Health Authority (SHA)	Strategic Health Authorities currently manage the NHS locally on behalf of the Secretary of State. This includes developing plans for improving health in the local area and making sure local health services are performing well.
Sustainable Community Strategy	The Sustainable Community Strategy is the vision for a local area, and a map for how to get there. It is based on the needs, concerns and aspirations of local people, and sets out improvement priorities to tackle the most important issues.

T	
Terms of Reference	A document describing the vision, objectives, scope and deliverables of the activity to which it refers and any conditions, roles and responsibilities relating to the person(s) involved.
Third Sector	The term refers to the many organisations and groups that occupy the 'space' between the public and private sectors. The following characteristics are distinctive to the Third Sector: 1. Self-governing organisations, some being registered charities, some incorporated non-profit organisations and some outside both these classifications; 2. A great range of size and structure of organisations; 3. Work delivered for the public benefit, beyond the membership of individual voluntary and community organisations (VCOs); 4. Independence of both formal structures of government and the profit sector and 5. An important reliance on volunteers to carry out its work.
Trafficking	The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring or receipt of person, by means of the

	<p>threat of or use</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • of force or other forms of coercion, • of abduction, • of fraud, • of deception, • of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or • of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.
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U	
Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children have come to this country to escape violence, genocide or hostile conditions in their country of origin. Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are usually referred to Solihull Council by the UK Border Agency and a social work assessment is undertaken for each unaccompanied child to identify individual needs.

Y	
Youth Council	A group of young people from a wide variety of groups of young people e.g. local youth clubs, schools who work to get the voice and needs of young people heard and help them get involved with the local community.

1 Executive summary

- 1.1 Solihull Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is a multi-agency statutory partnership responsible for co-ordinating how agencies work together to keep children and young people safe and for ensuring the effectiveness of those arrangements.
- 1.2 All children and young people have a right to be safe from harm and this report details the work undertaken by Solihull LSCB, during the period 1st July 2010 – 30th June 2011, to promote the safety of children and young people who live, visit or are educated in Solihull as well as those “looked after” by Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council.
- 1.3 The functions of a LSCB are set out in statutory guidance and in relation to the delivery of its statutory functions, Solihull LSCB has:-
- Updated multi-agency safeguarding procedures and reviewed the threshold for accessing a Children’s Social Work Service.
 - Established a child sexual exploitation steering group to promote a more effective approach to safeguarding children and young people from child sexual exploitation.
 - Launched specific communication campaigns aimed at safeguarding children and young people
 - Enhanced capacity to support safeguarding across 3rd Sector organisations
 - Recruited 2 Lay Members to join the LSCB and continued to work with the Youth Council in order to secure the views of the public and to promote greater public engagement in the work of the LSCB.
 - Established a practitioners forum to secure stronger engagement with those working directly with children, young people and families
 - Undertaken significant activity to evaluate the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements including a case review, audits, analysing performance information and monitoring action plans
 - Acted as a ‘Responsible Authority’ under the Licensing Act 2003
 - Received notification of, and, reviewed child deaths

- Appointed a permanent Training and Development Officer and continued to deliver multi-agency training to the workforce on a variety of safeguarding issues and disseminate learning from audits and review activity.
- 1.4 The above achievements represent significant progress against the priority areas identified for the LSCB in the previous LSCB annual report.
- 1.5 Due to a review of the structure and function of the Children and Young People Trust Board (CYPTB), progress against priority areas identified for the CYPTB has not been undertaken at a partnership level; instead individual agencies/partners have taken action. Some priority areas, namely domestic abuse and childhood accident/injury prevention, remain priority areas that need to be progressed.
- 1.6 The significant activity carried out by the LSCB to evaluate the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements has provided a rich source of information to enable the LSCB to identify 3 priority areas of safeguarding for 2011-12:-
- Child Sexual Exploitation
 - Domestic Abuse
 - Neglect
- 1.7 The Munro Report into child protection calls for a greater emphasis on understanding the experiences of children, young people and their families of receiving help, as well as measuring the impact of service provision on improving outcomes for children and young people. The LSCB will need to revise its performance management framework in order to gather this information and a greater emphasis will be needed on such activity by partner agencies, and in particular, the Local Authority.
- 1.8 Changes to the commissioning of health services need to be carried out in a way that promotes the safety of children and young people and work will need to be progressed to ensure this happens; including at the needs assessment stage.

- 1.9 Understanding the development needs of the workforce, supporting them to exercise professional judgement and develop and maintain positive working relationships with children, young people and their families, as well as understanding the impact of training on front line practice, will become more significant given the greater emphasis on promoting professional judgement set out in the Munro Report and the forthcoming changes to statutory guidance that will form part of the government's response to the Munro Report.
- 1.10 Work to continue to support all those in contact with children and young people to recognise and act on safeguarding concerns will also need to be maintained; with a specific focus on sport and leisure providers, early years sector and the health community.
- 1.11 Finally, to promote clarity of role and responsibility, as well as the effectiveness of the LSCB, the Board will need to review its governance arrangements and, in particular, working relationship with the CYPTB.
- 1.12 Fifteen recommendations have been made by the LSCB to progress priority areas of business and can be found below.

Recommendations

- (i) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 is presented to Chief Executive Officer, Solihull MBC and the Leader of the Council
- (ii) The Leader of the Council should ensure a programmed debate of the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 at Full Council.
- (iii) The LSCB Chairperson and Children and Young People's Trust Board (CYPTB) Chairperson should ensure a protocol is devised, between the two Boards, that sets out working arrangements and promotes clarity of role; the protocol should be included in both Board's governance frameworks.

- (iv) The Chairperson of the Solihull Partnership Governing Board should ensure a review of LSCB governance arrangements to ensure that the LSCB is adequately held to account for its functioning as a partnership body; this should include a review of LSCB Chairperson arrangements.
- (v) The Director of Public Health should ensure that the LSCB is a formal consultee to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- (vi) The Director of Public Health should ensure that the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 is presented to the Shadow Health and Well-Being Board and that the development of local health commissioning arrangements actively addresses the safeguarding of children and young people.
- (vii) The LSCB Executive agency representative of all statutory members of the LSCB should ensure a review of own agency performance management arrangements to ensure data is gathered to measure improved outcomes for children and young people.
- (viii) The Director of Children's Services should ensure the development of a quality assurance framework that includes:-
 - The quality assurance activity that will be undertaken in respect of children's plans; including Child Protection Plans and core group functioning.
 - The experiences children, young people and parents/carers have of the helping system; including child protection system
 - The views of front-line staff about how the helping system, including child protection, supports better outcomes for children and young people
- (ix) The Chairperson of the CYPTB should ensure the development of a borough-wide e-safety strategy and the collation of data in respect of

childhood accidents/injury and as appropriate, action should be taken to reduce childhood accidents/injury.

- (x) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure a programme of work is in place to promote increased awareness of child safeguarding in the sports and leisure sector in Solihull, including awareness training.
- (xi) The LSCB Executive representative of all statutory members of the LSCB should review internal arrangements to:-
 - Identify safeguarding training needs
 - Deliver safeguarding training
 - Manage any unmet training needs
 - Produce an annual report, on safeguarding training, as set out in the LSCB training strategy.

Specific emphasis should be given by the LSCB Executive representative of Birmingham and Solihull Cluster PCT to level 1 and 2 training (inter-collegiate guidance) across the health community and by the LSCB Executive representative of Solihull MBC to the Early Years Sector, and in particular the childminding workforce.

- (xii) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure a review of the LSCB Performance Management Framework to ensure a greater focus on measuring the experiences of and improved outcomes for children and young people and their families at *all levels of need*; including the impact of training on front line practice.
- (xiii) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that the LSCB has a Child Sexual Exploitation strategy in place to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation.
- (xiv) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that a work programme is in place to improve identification of and response to children and young people living with neglect.

- (xv) The Chairperson of the Solihull Partnership should hold to account the Chairperson of the Safer Solihull Board to ensure consistent practice to identity, and service provision to support, children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

2 Objectives, Functions and Membership of Solihull LSCB.

2.1 Solihull LSCB has been operational since March 2006 and is a statutory body established by the Children Act 2004.

2.2 The core objectives of a LSCB are to:

- (i) Coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority; and
- (ii) Ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for that purpose

2.3 The functions of a LSCB are defined in statutory guidance² and are to:-

- Develop policies and procedures
- Participate in the planning of services for children in the area of the local authority
- Communicate the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- Have procedures to ensure a co-ordinated response to unexpected child deaths.
- Monitor the effectiveness of what is done to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- Undertake Serious Case Reviews
- Collect and analyse information about child deaths
- Publish an annual report on the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

2.4 Appendix 1 sets out how the above functions are intended to deliver the core

² Working Together to safeguard children: A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children (2010)

objectives of a LSCB and so promote the well-being of children and young people.

2.5 Solihull LSCB is made up of named representatives from partner agencies. These individuals form the Executive Membership of the LSCB. A number of other individuals, referred to as non-Executive Members, attend the LSCB because of the significance of their role to the work of the LSCB.

2.6 A list of members of the LSCB can be found below:-

Executive Member
<i>Solihull MBC (including children and adult services YOS & Connexions)</i> Lesley Heale, Director of People
<i>West Midlands Police</i> DCI Sue Holder, Public Protection Unit (previously DCI Billing)
<i>Solihull Care Trust (now Birmingham and Solihull NHS Cluster)</i> Stephen Munday, Joint Director of Public Health
<i>Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health Foundation Trust</i> Paul Warwick, Safeguarding Lead, Children and Young People (previously Denise Roach)
<i>Solihull Community Housing</i> John King, Director of Housing
<i>Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust</i> Jane Connelly Head of Probation
<i>CAFCASS</i> Helena Kirk Service Manager (until April 2011) (previously Suki Lali)
<i>Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust</i> Mandie Sunderland, Chief Nurse
<i>West Midlands Strategic Health Authority</i> Helen Hipkiss, Programme Consultant, Children Services

The following are non-executive members of the LSCB: -

Non - Executive Member
<i>Solihull LSCB team</i> Liz Murphy, Safeguarding Children Business Manager, Sally Andrews, LSCB Training and Development Officer, Paul Nash, Safeguarding Officer
<i>Chief Education Welfare Officer and Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) and Chairperson of Local Authority Education and Early Years Safeguarding Group</i> Steve Martin
<i>Service Director for Children and Young People, Solihull MBC and Chairperson of Practice and Procedures sub group.</i> Vanessa Bishop
<i>Designated Nurse – Solihull Care Trust (now Heart of England NHS</i>

Foundation Trust – Community Services)

Tina Barber, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding

UK Border Agency

Dewan Choudhury, Regional Safeguarding Co-ordinator (Previously Sandra Tilley)

Third Sector representative – Claire Milican, SUSTAiN (joined May 2010, Left May 2011).

2.7 The attendance data for Executive Members of the LSCB can be found at Appendix 2.

2.8 The LSCB has a unique role within local partnership arrangements and is intended to bring an “independent voice” and provide “challenge” to enhance the safety of children and young people.

2.9 By carrying out the functions referred to above and in particular, its ensuring effectiveness role, the LSCB is well placed to identify future priorities that will make a difference to how those working with children, young people, parents and carers can work together effectively to provide support to children, young people and their families.

2.10 In the following sections, you will read about how the LSCB has delivered its statutory functions between 1st July 2010 – 30th June 2011, an update on the work carried out in respect of last year’s priorities and finally priority areas of action for 2011-12.

3 Delivery of LSCB statutory functions/training

3.1 The LSCB is supported by a number of officers and sub groups who drive forward the delivery of LSCB statutory functions as set out in the LSCB annual business plan. The LSCB structure can be found at Appendix 3 whilst Appendix 4 sets out the dedicated support arrangements provided to the LSCB.

4 Thresholds, Policies and Procedures function

- 4.2 The LSCB identified the need for a review of the threshold for a referral to Children's Social Work Services. This was in response to a review of a particular case. As a result, the LSCB approved a revised threshold in July 2010. The revised threshold is reflected in LSCB procedures and embedded in multi-agency training.
- 4.3 Work has been carried out in respect of updating existing procedures following a revision to statutory guidance. Amendments were made to a significant number of chapters.
- 4.4 Furthermore, new procedures have been devised and agreed in respect of:-
- (i) Children and young people missing from home or care
 - (ii) Working with unco-operative families
 - (iii) Information sharing arrangements for a person who poses a risk to children (PPRC)
- 4.5 A standard report template to be used by professionals to share information at child protection conferences has been launched.
- 4.6 The LSCB has also decided to pilot a data collection tool devised by the University of Bedfordshire in respect of sexually exploited children and young people.
- 4.7 The LSCB was also asked to submit a survey to the University of Bedfordshire regarding current arrangements to prevent and respond to child sexual exploitation. The survey identified some key gaps and as a result a multi agency Sexual Exploitation Steering group has been established to ensure the LSCB delivers its statutory functions as set out in the government guidance *"Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation: Supplementary guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children."*

4.8 The need for LSCBs to exercise leadership and have robust arrangements in respect of child sexual exploitation has also been highlighted in a recent report published by Child Exploitation and Online Protection (2011).

4.9 Finally, officers that support the LSCB have revised and commented upon safeguarding procedures from a number of fostering and adoption agencies, as required by Standard 22, Handling allegations and suspicions of harm, National Minimum Standards 2011.

5 Communicating and raising awareness function

5.2 The LSCB has launched the Sleep Safe! Campaign aimed at providing parents/carers with information regarding safe sleeping practices with the aim of reducing sleeping practices associated with Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy.

5.3 Furthermore, the LSCB has continued to run the choosing safe activities campaign aimed at providing parents/carers and children and young people with information about how to safely choose activities e.g. leisure outside of school. This campaign has more recently been linked with work to support 3rd sector organisations to review/develop safeguarding arrangements.

5.4 The LSCB, has along with the Children and Young People's Trust, funded the post of Development Officer for 12 months to work with a number of 3rd Sector organisations to ensure that the following are in place:-

- Child protection policy/procedures
- Safe Recruitment procedures
- Procedures to manage concerns about those who work with children and young people
- Awareness level training for all those who work with children and young people.

5.5 Organisations have been identified as eligible for local support if they are not affiliated to a governing body or operating as part of a national

movement/organisation that provides support and resources regarding safeguarding.

- 5.6 The NSPCC, Child England and Child Accident Prevention Trust (CAPT) have set up Safe Network to provide safeguarding information to the community and voluntary sector. The Development Officer will use Safe Network resources in their work. The LSCB has also identified that in order to be able to gain a better understanding of the needs of the whole sector, a questionnaire will be distributed to all community and voluntary groups working with children and young people. The information obtained will be used to plan further support to the 3rd Sector.
- 5.7 A further piece of work is planned in respect of sporting organisations; some of whom are affiliated to a governing body and so have adopted Clubmark standards. Potential gaps in safeguarding arrangements e.g. awareness level training need to be explored, and if identified, addressed.
- 5.8 The LSCB maintains and regularly updates its website and has in 2010-11 approved a communication strategy; including an approach for responding to high profile childcare incidents.
- 5.9 The LSCB is aware of the complexity of the task it faces communicating in a meaningful way with all citizens regarding safeguarding; including about local priority issues.
- 5.10 A community approach to safeguarding i.e. embedding a collective responsibility to safeguard children and young people is our vision. For this reason and to support the notion of safeguarding being recognised as a “civic duty”, the LSCB values the support and engagement of Elected Members in its work. In December 2010, Full Council received a drama presentation delivered by a group of students from a local college of some key issues identified in last year’s LSCB Annual Report.
- 5.11 Elected Members are invited to observe LSCB meetings and the Chairperson of Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Board attends the LSCB

Chairpersons sub group; whilst the Lead Member, as required by statutory guidance, attends the LSCB as a 'Participant Observer'.

- 5.12 Elected Members are also requested to complete Level 1 safeguarding training. Currently 44 Elected Members have completed Level 1 training.
- 5.13 Two Lay Members have been recruited and will shortly join the LSCB to support stronger public engagement in local child safety issues with the aim of achieving an improved understanding of child protection work in the wider community.
- 5.14 The LSCB has continued to develop its relationship with the Youth Council. The Youth Champion previously sat on the LSCB and acted as a formal link between the LSCB and Youth Council. The Youth Champion is no longer in post and instead a dedicated LSCB Youth Council sub group has been established. The Youth Involvement and Democracy Co-ordinator attends the LSCB to act as a link between the LSCB and Youth Council sub group. Priority safeguarding issues identified by the Youth Council sub group are:-
- E-Safety; including how personal images sent to one person can be misused /abused.
 - Domestic abuse
 - Effective Personal, Social, Health and Education (PSHE) Curriculum
- 5.15 Finally, the LSCB has established a Practitioners Forum which brings together those who work with children, young people and parents/carers to network and explore safeguarding issues; including local challenges. This group is facilitated by the Safeguarding Children Business Manager and provides an invaluable opportunity for the LSCB to seek the views of frontline practitioners.

6 Monitoring and evaluation function

- 6.2 Until February 2011, the LSCB had a sub group to support the delivery of its monitoring and evaluation function. Following a development session in May 2011, the LSCB has decided to use guidance from London LSCB/Local

Government Improvement and Development (LGID) “Improving local safeguarding outcomes - developing a strategic quality assurance framework to safeguard children” to inform its work to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements. As a result of this new approach, a decision was made that a distinct sub group was not required and instead data will be reported directly to the LSCB. A revised performance management framework, including scorecard, will be agreed by the LSCB in the near future.

6.3 Under the previous arrangements, the LSCB carried out extensive work, led by the Safeguarding Officer, to monitor and evaluate local safeguarding arrangements.

6.4 Work undertaken includes:-

(i) Monitoring LSCB Scorecard

6.5 The LSCB scorecard is made up of “high level” indicators to monitor key aspects of the safeguarding system. A summary of the scorecard can be found at Appendix 6. The LSCB has observed:

- a) An increasing number of referrals to Children’s Social Work Services.
- b) Some reduction in the re-referral rate to Children’s Social Work Services.
- c) Ongoing challenges regarding the timeliness of initial assessments, with the trend improving
- d) A continued increase in the number of children/young people subject to Child Protection Plans
- e) A reduction in the number of repeat Child Protection Plans.

(ii) Multi-agency supervision audit

6.6 This audit was conducted via an electronic survey and was open to practitioners, who work with children, young people and parents/carers. Key findings include:

- a). Most respondents are satisfied with the supervision they receive with near half indicating they are “very satisfied”
- b). Most respondents felt their level of supervision was “about right”
- c). The majority of respondents indicated that supervision assists to make evidence based decisions, remain child focused and to understand their engagement with children and families as well as supporting them to cope with the emotional impact of the work

6.7 Key learning points were to reinforce to employers that supervision should address personal development and support issues as well as management functions and also for services that do not provide formal structured supervision to ensure adequate arrangements are in place to support those who work with children and young people.

(iii) Multi-agency safe recruitment audit

6.8 This audit was conducted across a number of partner organisations and reviewed compliance with safe recruitment procedures using a sample of recent appointments within each organisation/setting. Key findings include:

- a). Virtually all the audited appointments had been made using a standard application form including full employment history, a face to face interview, and a thorough process of selection.
- b). Planned appointments and thorough preparation for recruitment support safe recruitment activities.

Learning points include:

- a). The need for agencies and organisations to apply robust safer recruitment processes when recruiting all staff including temporary, casual, seconded, and volunteer posts
- b). References should always be written and include specific questioning about the referees view about the applicant’s suitability to work with children and young people

c). The need to ensure application forms have a signed declaration by the applicant in respect of suitability to work with children and young people.

(iv) Audit of repeat referrals to Children's Social Work Services (in cases of neglect)

6.9 This audit looked at a sample of cases that had been subject of repeat referrals to Children's Social Work Services and were open cases in the 3rd quarter of 2010-11. Key findings include:

a) A focus on the presenting issue could unintentionally result in the cumulative impact of neglect on children and young people being overlooked.

b) The significance of the contributions of universal services to the social work assessment for children/young people living with neglect; given their knowledge of the child's functioning on a day to day basis.

6.10 The LSCB will use the findings in its work to improve outcomes for children and young people living with neglect and plans to engage frontline children's social work services staff in exploring how to better respond to the cumulative impact of neglect in an incident focused child protection system.

6.11 The Safeguarding Officer has also co-ordinated an additional 2 audits of:-

(i) Domestic abuse cases

(ii) Core groups

6.12 These audits are still ongoing at the time of writing and will report to the LSCB in July/September 2011.

6.13 The Safeguarding Officer has also co-ordinated, on behalf of the LSCB, the monitoring of Individual Management Review (IMR) action plans produced as part of a Serious Case Review (SCR) commissioned by a neighbouring authority. The LSCB has endorsed the sign off action plans from the following agencies:-

- Solihull Community Housing
- The Children's Society
- Solihull Care Trust
- Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council – People Directorate

- 6.14 Neighbouring LSCBs have had responsibility for the sign off of IMR action plans produced by agencies who work across a number of LSCB areas.
- 6.15 Linked to agency involvement in the SCR referred to above, and as reported in last year's annual report, Solihull LSCB commissioned its own review of how agencies had worked together in this case in order to explore multi-agency working in Solihull.
- 6.16 An action plan was devised, including commissioning the audit of repeat referrals to children's social work services (in cases of neglect) as referred to above. The review was carried out in 2 stages and the Action Plan for stage 1 has been signed off by the LSCB and can be found at Appendix 5. A further review known as Stage 2 was also carried out and the views of practitioners most recently involved in this case will be sought to explore how the learning can be most effectively used.
- 6.17 The LSCB has also conducted an audit of organisational compliance with Section 11 Children Act 2004/Section 55 Borders, Immigration and Citizenship Act 2009/ Section 12 (1) Criminal Justice Act 2002. This is an audit of each agency's internal arrangements to promote the safety and well-being of children and young people.
- 6.18 The audit was reported to the LSCB in November 2010 and each agency was commissioned to devise an action plan in order to secure full compliance. A review of compliance in June 2011 evidenced increased compliance. The table below sets out the information obtained.

Requirement	Met in Full	Partly Met	Not Met at All
A). Senior Management commitment to the importance of Safeguarding and promoting children and young people's welfare	2	8	0
B) A clear statement of the agency's responsibilities towards children and young people is available for all staff	9	1	0
C) A clear line of accountability within the organization for work on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children	7	3	0
D). Staff training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children for all staff, including volunteers working with children and families	3	7	0
E) Safe recruitment practice	4	6	0
F) Effective Inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people	8	2	0
G). Information Sharing	6	4	0
H). Allegations against staff	5	5	0
I). Addressing issues of diversity	4	6	0
J). Processes and Procedures are in place to create and maintain a safe working environment where activities are provided directly to children and young people	3	7	0

- 6.19 A report was also commissioned in respect of all schools/colleges compliance with their duty to safeguard children and young people. The report found that:
- a). All schools have a Designated Member of Staff and a Child Protection Policy that has been reviewed.
 - b). All schools ensure safe recruitment procedures are in place and have at least 1 member of staff suitably trained in safe recruitment practice
 - c). All schools have procedures for dealing with allegations against staff
 - d). All appointed Designated Members of Staff have attended training within the last 2 years.
 - e). All schools have had whole school training during the last three years
 - f). No schools have been issued with formal notice of improvement for safeguarding.

6.20 Other work undertaken by the LSCB, in terms of evaluating local safeguarding arrangements, includes:-

- Utilising the recommendations of Kyra Ishaq SCR to review safeguarding arrangements in Solihull.
- Commissioning a report on arrangements to safeguard children and young people whose parents/carers elect to educate them at home
- Using the themes identified by Ofsted's evaluation of SCR's (2008/09) to review safeguarding arrangements in Solihull
- Exploring the safeguarding implications of the re-configuration of UASC service
- Exploring the safeguarding arrangements for disabled children and young people who receive respite care
- Commissioning a report on arrangements to respond to children and young people who go missing from home/care
- Receiving a report on the outcome of a qualitative audit of safeguarding arrangements in some schools.
- Receiving a report on the arrangements to safeguard privately fostered children and young people.
- Receiving a report from two Health Trusts on compliance with CQC safeguarding requirements.

6.21 All of the above, along with the pilot of the 'systems' approach to case reviews referred to in Section 9 have provided the LSCB with a sound knowledge base to identify local priorities which can be found at Section 12 of this report.

7 Function of participating in planning and commissioning

7.2 It is set out in statutory guidance that this function is achieved to a large extent by the LSCB contribution to the Children and Young People's Plan (CYPP).

7.3 The report submitted to the Children and Young People's Trust Board (CYPTB) in March 2010 set out a series of recommendations to inform the revision of the CYPP. A clear priority of the revised plan is that children and young people are safe from harm. The Safe from Harm priority sets out that the CYPTB will:

- Ensure preventative strategies keep children and young people safe from maltreatment, neglect, violence and sexual exploitation
- Ensure all organisations in Solihull act according to the Solihull LSCB Safeguarding Standards.
- Support partners to use safe working practices, including safer recruitment and supervision.
- Review the support available for children and young people who experience domestic violence.
- Reduce preventable accidents, including on Solihull's roads.
- Help children and young people to manage risk and keep themselves safe, including from bullying.
- Publish and implement a strategy to help children and young people to use the internet safely.

7.4 In addition, the LSCB Statutory Annual Report 2009/10 was presented to the CYPTB in November 2010 and priority areas of action for the CYPTB in respect of safe from harm were identified in the LSCB Annual Report 2009/10.

7.5 Solihull LSCB is the 'Responsible Authority' for licensing matters relating to the licensing objective 'the protection of children from harm' under Licensing Act 2003 and as such is notified of all license variations and new applications for the sale and supply of alcohol and public entertainment as well as reviews of existing licenses.

7.6 During the period covered by this report, the LSCB was made aware of 17 licence variations, 21 new applications and 3 reviews. Additional information was sought in respect of 15 applications, whilst 3 representations were made in respect of licence reviews.

7.7 Looking forward, the challenge to ensure that safeguarding is embedded in the changes to the commissioning arrangements for local health services i.e. cluster arrangements and G.P commissioning has been highlighted within the Munro report and a recommendation is made to support this to happen at a local level.

8 Functions relating to child deaths

8.1 In 2008, Solihull, Coventry and Warwickshire LSCBs entered into a sub regional arrangement in respect of the review of child deaths. Each area operates its own Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and an annual event is held to bring together the three CDOPs to identify any action that needs to be taken in respect of preventing future child deaths.

8.2 The Solihull CDOP, which reviews the deaths of children and young people resident in Solihull, has met on 6 occasions during the period covered by this report. The data set out below and at Appendix 8 is taken from the annual return to central government and so covers the period 1st April 2010 – 31st March 2011.

8.3 During the period 1st April 2010 – 31st March 2011, 12 deaths were reported through the child death notification arrangements and Solihull reviewed 15 deaths (3 of which occurred in 2009/10 and 5 of which occurred in 2008/09). It is important to exercise caution before beginning to draw conclusions from the data as it is intended that the collation of this data over a number of years will provide meaningful information regarding the trends and causes of child death. Across Solihull, Coventry and Warwickshire, neonatal deaths are the most common category of death of children and young people and the proportion of deaths due to neonatal cause has increased. Sudden unexpected death in infancy is increasing whilst deaths due to road traffic collisions have decreased over the last 3 years. No strategic actions have been identified at this stage to reduce child deaths in Solihull, however in respect of the review of individual deaths, specific actions may be identified and these are regularly monitored by CDOP.

8.4 A summary of the data submitted to the Department of Education for the period 1st April 2010 – 31st March 2011 can be found at Appendix 7.

8.5 The LSCB has also used information from the Perinatal Institute and Office of National Statistics to confirm that all child deaths have been notified as required by statutory guidance.

9 Serious Case Reviews

9.1 Solihull LSCB has not commissioned a Serious Case Review (SCR) during the period covered by this report. However, a Serious Case Review Panel (SCRCP) has been convened on one occasion to consider if the criteria for conducting a SCR had been met. The decision of the LSCB Chairperson was that the criteria had not been met and so the death was reviewed via the child death review arrangements.

9.2 As reported earlier, and in last year's annual report, several agencies contributed to a SCR commissioned by a neighbouring Authority. The Overview Report was presented to Solihull LSCB in July 2010 and the following recommendations were made for Solihull LSCB:

- (i) Probation; Social Care; Health and Police agencies to consider their current practice and the functionality of recording systems in relation to the completion; updating; accuracy and use as an active tool in practice of Genograms within complex families that include half siblings.
- (ii) Solihull Local Safeguarding Children Board to take responsibility for the completion of their action plan, resulting from the collated recommendations from the Peoples Directorate; Children's Society; Solihull Care Trust and Solihull Community Housing, and to report progress to the Coventry Local Safeguarding Children Board in respect of this.

9.3 In respect of the recommendation at Paragraph 9.2i, the Safeguarding Children Business Manager has co-ordinated a review of the use of

genograms and probation, social care, health and police have all agreed to changes to the use of genograms in safeguarding cases. These changes will be reflected in LSCB procedures. Progress against the recommendation at Paragraph 9.2ii can be found at Paragraph 6.13.

9.4 The LSCB hosted a series of dissemination events both for LSCB, Education, Children and Young People Scrutiny Board and practitioners to disseminate the learning from the SCR and as well as the local review. The attendance data for practitioner events can be found below. It is important to note that some agencies will have had their own internal dissemination methods.

AGENCY	7.2.11	8.2.11	TOTAL
3 rd Sector	1	5	6
Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service	1	2	3
Children's Centres	3		3
Community Health Services	18	18	36
SMBC Child Protection and Review Unit	1	1	2
SMBC Children's Social Work Services (CSWS)	2	11	13
SMBC CSWS Learning and Development Team	2		2
Local Integrated Needs – led Coordinated Support (LINCS) Team	1	2	3
Birmingham and Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust		2	2
Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust	2		2
Schools		1	1
Solihull MBC	1		1
Staff Development Unit, Solihull Care Trust	1		1
West Midlands Fire Service	1		1
Workforce Development Team (CYPTB)		1	1
	34	43	77

9.5 At the end of the event, practitioners were asked to identify how they intended to use the information in their practice. A selection of comments can be found below:

“ use of genograms”

“Gain more information of the father's history/family”

“Be very aware of what I don’t know – find out, look at the wider family etc”

“Pursuing non-engagers. Particularly looking at multi-agency involvement – reasons for non-engagement – is it same with other agencies”

- 9.6 During the period covered by this report; Solihull LSCB has been requested to commission an Individual Management Review (IMR) from a local service in respect of a SCR being carried out by another Local Authority. Again the action plan arising from this IMR will be reported to the LSCB.
- 9.7 In the event of needing to commission a SCR, a competency framework for the roles of Independent Chairperson and Independent Author has been devised by the Safeguarding Children Business Manager and endorsed by the Regional Safeguarding Network. It has been agreed to approach the regional group of Directors of Children’s Services to explore a shared approach to the commissioning of these individuals.
- 9.8 In May 2010, the LSCB signed up to pilot the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) model of case reviews. The review was carried out during the period covered by this report. The SCIE model of case reviews uses a ‘systems’ approach to explore all factors that impact on safeguarding practice. The case subject of the review is then used as a lens on the wider system to identify “patterns of influence”. The approach has recently been identified by Professor Eileen Munro in her report as containing the necessary theoretical assumptions that will support continuous learning in the field of child protection.
- 9.9 The key ‘systems’ issues identified by the review because of their influence on the safeguarding system are:
- (i) How to respond to the cumulative impact of neglect in an incident focused child protection system.
 - (ii) How to ensure parental co-operation as a means to an end as opposed to an end in itself.

- (iii) How to adequately assess family and friends who provide alternative care; especially given the legal and policy framework that promotes children and young people being placed with family members.
- (iv) How to ensure multi-agency ownership and implementation of the child's plan.

9.10 An important distinction between the 'systems' approach to learning and the traditional SCR approach is that any learning is presented as 'insights' and so does not easily translate into recommendations and therefore an action plan. Instead the LSCB is left with issues to 'grapple' with. The LSCB will ensure its work programme for 2011-12 is informed by the 'system insights' obtained via the case review.

9.11 Learning from other SCR's and in particular the DcSF Biennial Analysis of SCR's 2007/09 has been reviewed and used to inform the work of the LSCB including the multi-agency training programme.

10 Training and Development

10.1 The LSCB has responsibility for the delivery of inter-agency safeguarding training in Solihull. The LSCB has also continued to provide advice, including training materials, to support the delivery of single agency Level 1 training.

10.2 The delivery of Level 1 training remains the responsibility of individual agencies/services and capacity to meet demand is often stretched; particularly given the revisions to the Inter-Collegiate guidance which increased the numbers of staff working in health settings requiring the equivalent of Level 1 training. Significant progress has been made regarding the roll out of Level 1 training to the Early Years workforce based in settings; a gap remains across the child-minding workforce. As reported earlier the LSCB is working to address the delivery of Level 1 training to third sector organisations; including sports and leisure groups.

- 10.3 During the period covered by this report, the LSCB has refreshed its training strategy to include a series of standards to support the delivery of high quality safeguarding training. Furthermore, the LSCB has also piloted a trainer observation process as a method to quality assure single agency training. The LSCB has decided against prescribing methods of quality assurance for partners and instead has provided tools to enable agencies to undertake their own quality assurance activity. Each statutory member of the LSCB will be asked to report on an annual basis on their safeguarding training arrangements to the LSCB.
- 10.4 With regard to the delivery of inter-agency safeguarding training, the majority of training is delivered by a pool of trainers made up of staff who work in a number of agencies that constitute the LSCB. Local practitioners, therefore, are able to have a direct influence on multi-agency learning and development. The LSCB Training and Development Officer ensures that learning from audit and review work informs the content of LSCB training materials.
- 10.5 Over the last year, significant work has been carried out to increase the pool who deliver Level 2 training and the size of the pool has increased from 3 to 11 trainers.
- 10.6 The take up of Level 2 and Level 3 inter-agency training by agency is set out at Appendix 8 and the LSCB trained 1130 individuals during the period covered by this report. This is in addition to any events held to disseminate learning from case reviews.
- 10.7 The courses received positive evaluations with average scores for how the Level 2 courses met the intended learning outcomes being 4.5 out of 5.
- 10.8 A selection of comments received in respect of Level 2 training include:

Trainers

**“Excellent knowledge of subject and experience is obviously vast.
Answered questions well when asked”**

“Excellent knowledge and experience of safeguarding laws and practice”

Learning

“It has given me more knowledge and confidence in knowing what to do if the matter arises”

“Great training. To be honest was dreading it as thought it would be dull and repetitive but I really enjoyed it. Thanks for a varied 2 days!”

10.9 In terms of Board development, 1 development day has been held to explore the LSCB performance management framework. An event scheduled for November 2010 unfortunately, was cancelled due to the low number of attendees. Dissemination events to share the learning from the SCR referred to in Section 8 have also been held aimed at LSCB members

10.10 An Induction meeting is held between the Safeguarding Children Business Manager and new Board Members. The purpose of this induction is to:-

- (i) Recognise the key purposes, functions and tasks of Solihull LSCB; including role of Lead Member, LSCB and Director of Children's Services
- (ii) Recognise the individual and joint roles and responsibilities of LSCB Members as set out in the Job Description for LSCB Member and LSCB Terms of Reference.
- (iii) Identify how to access LSCB Procedures, training and expert advice from the LSCB
- (iv) Consider how to ensure organisational support to promote effective engagement with the LSCB
- (v) Consider how to promote two way communication between agency and LSCB

- (vi) Recognise individual agency responsibility to ensure the effectiveness of work to safeguard children and young people (single and multi-agency).

10.11 Finally, the LSCB held its annual conference in September 2010 titled “Keeping children and young people safe from sexual harm” The event was attended by 141 professionals.

11 Update on safeguarding priorities identified in previous annual report.

Priority areas for LSCB in respect of ability to safeguard children and young people

11.1 In the annual report 2009/10, 5 priority areas of business were identified for the LSCB in respect of activity to safeguard children and young people. An update on those priorities can be found below.

- (i) To increase the involvement of children and young people, their families and front line-staff in its work.

11.2 The LSCB considered the involvement of family members including children/young people in the pilot of the systems approach to case reviews. An appropriate and child-centred approach was agreed. Young people have been involved in the delivery of some LSCB training, a presentation to Full Council as well as the LSCB annual conference held in September 2011. The revised working arrangements with Solihull Youth Council provide a more structured approach to the involvement of children and young people in the work of the LSCB. The establishment of the Practitioners Forum has provided a mechanism to increase the involvement of front line staff in the work of the LSCB as has the expansion of the Level 2 pool of trainers. An ongoing area of work, reinforced via Munro Report, is how the LSCB obtains information on children/young people’s and families’ experiences of receiving help.

- (ii) To review threshold for accessing a children’s social work service and identify any required amendments to LSCB and/or LINCS procedures.

- 11.3 The LSCB reviewed and agreed a revised threshold for accessing a children's social work service and LSCB procedures were amended accordingly as was the content of the multi-agency training programme.
- (iii) [To increase capacity to deliver inter-agency safeguarding training and appoint to the post of Training and Development Officer.](#)
- 11.4 The size of the LSCB pool of Level 2 trainers has increased over the period covered by this report and following two rounds of recruitment, an appointment was made to the post of LSCB Training and Development Officer.
- (iv) [To continue to exercise leadership and promote awareness of safeguarding across the Solihull Partnership to ensure the safety of children and young people is integral to the work of its strategic groups e.g. young people's safety on public transport.](#)
- 11.5 The LSCB is a well established strategic partnership with responsibility for co-ordinating how agencies work together to safeguard children and young people. The production of an annual report provides a forum for exercising leadership and promoting awareness of safeguarding across the Solihull Partnership. The LSCB presented a paper to the Safer Solihull Partnership in September 2010 in respect of local challenges with regard to domestic abuse. Furthermore, the LSCB has written to the Portfolio Holder for Transport and Highways to request that children and young people's safety on the roads is given due consideration in the revised road safety strategy. The LSCB Chairperson has through a variety of forums exercised leadership and promoted awareness of safeguarding including at the Solihull MBC Corporate Leadership Team. Furthermore, discussions have taken place with the Strategic Health Authority regarding how to ensure safeguarding is embedded into the forthcoming changes to commissioning arrangements for local health provision.
- (v) [To conduct ensuring effectiveness activity that identifies local lessons and also measures how well lessons are being learnt.](#)

11.6 The LSCB has carried out a number of audits including:-

- Supervision audit
- Safer recruitment audit
- Repeat referrals to Children's Social Work Services
- Section 11 Audit, Children Act 2004 Audit.

Two other audits in progress:

- Core Group audit
- Domestic abuse triage audit

11.7 In addition, the LSCB has piloted the 'systems' approach to case reviews. The LSCB has monitored action plans arising from audit/review activity and used the learning to inform the content of its inter-agency training programme.

11.8 An area for further development is measuring the impact of training on front-line practice. An evaluation form has been designed to support this activity and piloted with delegates on 3 multi-agency courses. Further work is required to complete the pilot and has not taken place due to the absence of a full time LSCB Training and Development Officer.

Priority areas for Children and Young People's Trust Board in respect of activity to safeguard children and young people.

11.9 In the annual report 2009/10, eleven priority areas of business were identified for and reported to the Children and Young People Trust Board in respect of activity to safeguard children and young people.

11.10 Following the publication of the Children and Young People Plan (CYPP) in October 2011, a review of the structure and function of the CYPTB commenced and the proposed Stay Safe Outcome group did not therefore meet .

11.11 The LSCB have been informed that given the review of structure and function, the Trust as a partnership has not taken further action against the recommendations made by the LSCB to CYPTB. Instead, individual partners

have taken action in the areas identified as priorities. In the absence of a formal presentation of the CYPP scorecard to the LSCB, it is recognised that the information below may not capture all of the work undertaken by partners in Solihull against the eleven priority areas.

(i) [To address the needs of children and young people living with/affected by domestic abuse.](#)

11.12 The LSCB contributed to the development of the borough wide Domestic Abuse Strategy which was launched in December 2010. The impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and the correlation between domestic abuse and child abuse is set out in strategy and following a consultation exercise, six priority areas of action were agreed by the Domestic Abuse Strategic Group; one being children and young people. A commissioning plan in respect of gathering data and improving outcomes for children and young people affected by domestic abuse was approved by the group in January 2011. Unfortunately, due to a lack of capacity, limited progress has been achieved with regard to delivery of the plan with the exception of the 'Is it Love?' campaign co-ordinated by the Health Promotion Specialist – Teenage Pregnancy and Sexual Health as well as the ongoing delivery of a LSCB Level 3 training course on the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people.

11.13 A Fair Treatment Assessment has identified the specific vulnerabilities of young people affected by violence in intimate relationships including the need to work with lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and transsexual young people.

(ii) [To address the needs of children and young people displaying sexually inappropriate/harmful behaviour](#)

11.14 The Head of Children's Social Work Service (Children in Need) has taken lead responsibility for reinvigorating arrangements to identify and support children and young people displaying sexually inappropriate /harmful behaviour. A steering group has been established including representatives from Children's Social Work Services, Education Welfare Service, Youth Offending Service,

Youth Services and Connexions. Management information will also be collated by the steering group.

11.15 An operational team is in place to deliver direct intervention where any child/young people is identified as exhibiting sexually inappropriate behaviour and the assessed level of risk and need is low to medium. Where the assessment is that the young people presents a high risk of harm to others and the work required is an in-depth direct programme of work to address entrenched or learnt behaviours, the responsible social work team will commission direct work from an external specialist service. Development opportunities have been provided for the operational team and the LSCB has continued to include this topic in its Level 3 training programme.

(iii) [To address children and young people's safety in the digital world; including cyber-bullying](#)

11.16 The People Directorate Early Years and Education Safeguarding Group has established an e-safety sub group and the group has devised an action plan and is in the process of finalising an e-safety strategy that will promote a whole community response to this important issue.

(iv) [To address the needs of children and young people missing from home and care.](#)

11.17 The Local Authority Young Runaways Lead Officer has reported to the LSCB that the Young Runaways steering group has met 3 times during the period covered by this report. Multi-agency procedures have been launched and arrangements are in place to carry out Welfare Return Interviews once missing children/young people return home. This is in addition to safe and well checks carried out by the police. Local needs analysis has been impaired by the unavailability of police data to the steering group and in particular post the departure of the Vulnerable Persons Officer from the Public Protection Unit. Remedial action has been agreed between the Chairperson of the steering group and West Midlands Police. This will allow for quarterly reports on local need to be presented to the LSCB.

11.18 Ongoing areas of work include the development of information for children and young people and parents on the risks associated with running away, use of young runaways resource pack in schools, youth groups and other activities aimed at children and young people as well as the need for on-going awareness across the children's workforce of the risks and factors associated with running away.

11.19 For the reasons outlined above, the data collated by the Young Runaways steering group should be treated with caution as it may well be an underestimate of the extent of local need . During the period July 10 – March 11, 27 children and young people were the subject of welfare return interviews having run away from home and 9 children/young people have been recorded as missing from Local Authority care.

11.20 Being missing from home/care is an indicator of child sexual exploitation and work is in progress to ensure effective sharing of information between the Young Runaways steering group and the recently established LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation steering Group.

(v) To ensure the systematic data in the following area's:

a) Domestic violence

b) Sexual exploitation

c) Missing children and young people

d) Accident Prevention

11.21 As set out above, challenges have been identified regarding the collation of data in respect of missing children and young people as well as those affected by domestic abuse. The LSCB is not aware of any systematic data collection in respect of accident prevention.

11.22 The LSCB has recently established a Child Sexual Exploitation steering group and signed up to pilot a data collection tool in respect of sexually exploited children and young people. A return was submitted on 6th June 2011 detailing the number of children and young people known to the Local Authority for whom there are concerns about sexual exploitation. Between 1st April 2011

and 6th June 2011, 21 young people were referred to the Local Authority because of concerns regarding child sexual exploitation. It is important to highlight, that given data collection arrangements in this area are in their infancy, the data is likely to be an under-estimate of the actual number of children and young people at risk of harm from sexual exploitation and known to the Local Authority.

11.23 It may well also be the case that children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation have not been identified by the workforce. Work is planned by the LSCB to raise awareness of the indicators of child sexual exploitation across the children's workforce.

(vi) [To translate the practice learning from Serious Case Reviews and LSCB ensuring effectiveness activity into training and development for children's workforce \(including those working with lower levels of need\).](#)

11.24 The outcome of LSCB audit activity as well as the learning from participation in a Serious Case Review are continuously used to inform the LSCB multi-agency training programme and a specific course on 'Lessons Learnt from Serious Case Reviews' is also provided

11.25 It is recognised that the whole workforce, as opposed to those working at the highest level of need/risk, are able to use the above local as well as national learning to inform their practice and decision-making. A meeting was held between the Safeguarding Children Business Manager and the Children and Young People's Trust workforce development team to explore key safeguarding messages for inclusion in the common induction programme. Additions have been made to the course material for the Integrated Working Awareness course that is designed for anyone working with children and young people. Greater emphasis is now given to potential risk indicators of significant harm as well as the need for professional curiosity.

(vii) [To monitor local arrangements to ensure children/young people receive the appropriate level of assessment and in a timely manner.](#)

11.26 The LSCB has been advised that, in the absence of monitoring by the CYPTB of the Children and Young People's Plan Scorecard, the Local Authority has continued to monitor that children and young people receive the appropriate level of assessment and in a timely manner. The co-location of the LINCS coordinators with the Duty Assessment and Referral Team (DART) was an initiative undertaken to ensure a timely response to the needs of children and young people who do not require a Children's Social Work Service.

11.27 Given the conclusions of the Munro Report, the LSCB will in the future need to include in its work programme activity to monitor the effectiveness of multi-agency provision of early help to children, young people and their families.

(viii) [To review support available \(preventative and reactive\) to children and young people at risk of self-harm.](#)

11.28 Work led by Public Health has taken place to devise a draft emotional health and well-being strategy. The LSCB has requested that the issue of self-harm is addressed in this strategy.

(ix) [To review the communication strategy in respect of raising awareness of privately fostered children and consider a quality assurance framework for this group of young people.](#)

11.29 The communication strategy has been revised by the Solihull MBC Fostering Recruitment and Promotions worker. There will be planned communication activity every quarter to coincide with key events e.g. new school term. Briefing sessions continue to be delivered to the children's workforce including Designated Members of Staff in schools and social work teams. Management data has continued to be collated and reviewed in respect of privately fostered children/young people; no specific work to review quality assurance arrangements for this group of children/young people has taken place.

(x) To promote and support the need for organisations to address safeguarding as part of procurement and commissioning activities.

11.30 The LSCB has not been made aware of the specific work that has taken place with regard to this activity although the Safeguarding Children Business Manager has offered advice to Solihull MBC procurement and commissioning team on the implementation of the guidance produced by the LSCB for commissioners.

(xi) To support organisations to implement safe working practices by:

a) Promoting compliance with LSCB procedures in respect of managing allegations against those who work with children and young people.

b) Monitoring the take up of single agency level 1 (awareness level) safeguarding training.

c) Incorporating the DcSF 'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with children and young people' within the children's workforce strategy

11.31 In 2010, the CYPTB established a Safe Working Practices group and the remit of the group was to support and advise organisations on single agency Level 1 safeguarding training, to support the roll out of safer recruitment training to the non school's workforce as well as to advise on safe recruitment processes and staff supervision/appraisal.

11.32 The LSCB suggested in its previous annual report that the group may wish to broaden its remit to address all aspects of safe working practices e.g. management of allegations and staff code of conduct.

11.33 Recently, a decision was made to cease the operation of the Safe Working Practices group because the group considered that the LSCB Training sub group was best placed to continue to lead on support and advice regarding Level 1 safeguarding training as well safer recruitment training. The LSCB procedures include sections on:

- Safe recruitment/induction
- Managing allegations against those who work with children and young people
- Supervision

11.34 The Early Years Sector has devised a bespoke safe recruitment course and the LSCB has designed and delivered a non-school's workforce safe recruitment course as well continued to deliver safe recruitment training for the school's workforce.

11.35 The LSCB has continued to provide training on managing allegations against those who work with children and young people and also to receive regular reports from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) on the nature and progress of the management of allegations against the children's workforce. This has included benchmarking data with other Local Authority areas.

11.36 The LSCB has via an audit of compliance with Section 11 Children Act 2004, received information regarding the take up of Level 1 training and has recently revised it's training strategy and agreed the information that statutory partner agencies will return on an annual basis in respect of training activity.

11.37 Furthermore, and as referred to at Paragraph 6.8, the LSCB has carried out an audit of safe recruitment activity during 2010/11

11.38 The LSCB has not been advised if the DCSF 'Guidance for Safer Working Practice for Adults who work with children and young people' has been incorporated within the Children's Workforce Strategy.

Priority areas for CYPTB and LSCB in respect of promoting effective partnership arrangements.

11.39 A number of priority areas of action for both the LSCB and CYPTB in respect of promoting effective partnership arrangements to support the safety of children and young people were also identified by the LSCB. Again a summary of progress can be found below.

- (i) To review and clarify governance arrangements.

11.41 The LSCB has agreed a position statement regarding the governance arrangements of the LSCB and the CYPTB and presented this to CYPTB. Both the LSCB and CYPTB updated their Terms of Reference during the period covered by this report.

- (ii) To define the working relationship between LSCB and CYPTB; including LSCB representation on CYPTB.

11.42 The review of the structure and function of the CYPTB has meant that there has been no progress on this priority area during the period covered by the report.

- (iii) To consider how safeguarding performance management activity is conducted across the Partnership to ensure a co-ordinated approach.

11.43 Again, due to the review of the structure and function of the CYPTB, no joint work by the CYPTB and LSCB has been carried out in respect of this priority area of business. The LSCB has reviewed its own performance management framework and has decided to adopt the Local Government Improvement Agency /London Safeguarding Children Board document: “Improving local safeguarding outcomes: Developing a strategic quality assurance framework to safeguard children” This is to promote a more streamlined approach to performance management.

- (iv) To develop safeguarding knowledge and capacity across 3rd sector.

11.44 As reported at Paragraph 5.4, the LSCB and CYPTB have commissioned SUSTAiN to work with a defined group of 3rd Sector organisations to improve safeguarding knowledge and capacity. This includes the development of a sustainable model of delivery of Level 1 safeguarding training to the Sector.

- (v) To review the current delivery arrangements for inter-agency safeguarding training.

11.45 In light of the review of the structure and function of CYPTB, the Integrated Working Programme Board has been put on hold and so a joint review of the delivery arrangements has not taken place. It is considered that this action is now redundant given that the Munro Report reinforces the pivotal role of LSCBs with regard to the delivery of inter-agency safeguarding training.

Priority areas for LSCB in respect of promoting effective partnership arrangements

11.46 Finally, 3 priority areas of work were identified for the LSCB in respect of promoting effective partnership arrangements to safeguard children and young people. An update against these priorities can be found below.

(i) To develop a funding formula.

11.47 The LSCB requested the Solihull Partnership Commissioning Manager present a report to the Solihull Partnership Governing Board (SPGB) recommending the establishment of a Task and Finish group to establish a 3 year funding formula for both the Children and Adult Safeguarding Boards. A discussion took place in April 2011 at the Solihull Partnership Governing Board. Given the critical significance of future funding arrangements, as well as the current fiscal climate, the LSCB has itself decided to establish a task and finish group to take forward this work.

(ii) To recruit lay members

11.48 The LSCB has appointed 2 lay members who are residents of Solihull and will join the LSCB in the very near future.

(iii) To have the opportunity to comment on the Joint Service Needs Assessment (JSNA).

11.49 The LSCB was advised that the JSNA 10/11 was a refresh of the previous year's JSNA in support of a refresh of the Care Trust Strategic Plan. In the

11.50 A Unified Needs Assessment is currently being completed and the LSCB has been advised that this will incorporate a needs assessment in respect of children and young people. The LSCB would wish to have the opportunity to comment on the Unified Needs Assessment.

12 Priority Areas for 2011/12

12.1 The LSCB has a significant leadership role in improving outcomes for children and young people and over the last 12 months via its ensuring effectiveness activity has identified 3 key issues that should be given priority attention by the LSCB and partner agencies during 2011/12:

- Child sexual exploitation
- Domestic abuse
- Neglect

12.2 It is widely recognised that neglect is an area of child abuse that can be a challenge for the workforce to identify, conceptualise and evaluate the impact upon a child or young person's development. The LSCB will explore a framework to support these activities with the aim of improving outcomes for children and young people living with / affected by neglect.

12.3 The LSCB has reported to the Safer Solihull Partnership the need for the local needs assessment, Domestic Abuse Strategy and commissioning framework/ plans to address the needs of children and young people living with domestic abuse.

12.4 The prevalence of child sexual exploitation has recently been highlighted by a CEOP report and, in particular, the need for the LSCB to ensure a coordinated multi-agency response to this issue. The recently established Child Sexual Exploitation steering group has identified significant activity that is required in order to improve identification and response to children/ young people at risk

of/ being harmed via sexual exploitation as well as work to prevent children/ young people from being groomed/targeted for the purposes of child sexual exploitation.

12.5 In terms of learning and development, the LSCB has identified the need for all agencies to continue to collect data regarding the safeguarding needs of the workforce and in particular at Level 1 (equivalent to Inter-collegiate guidance Level 2). Particular emphasis should be given to ensuring Level 1 training is taken up by those working in:

- Health settings
- Early Years Sector and in particular child minders
- Sport and physical activity

12.6 Work to embed safeguarding measures and promote greater awareness of safeguarding within sport and physical activity has also been identified as an area of business that should be addressed over the coming year.

12.7 The LSCB should also ensure a system is in place to measure the impact of multi-agency training practice.

12.8 Previously, the LSCB identified the need for a strategic approach to addressing the safety of children and young people in the digital world, as well as systematic data collection regarding childhood accidents/injury. The LSCB considers these activities to continue to be relevant for the coming year and considers the publication “Advocating child safety: A networking resource to support the development of partnerships for child injury in the West Midlands 2nd edition July 2011 to be a helpful tool to support work on child accident/injury.

12.9 The LSCB has identified the need to better understand the child’s journey during the ‘helping’ process as well as the impact of service provision and the work of the LSCB on improving outcomes for children and young people.

12.10 The Child Protection and Review Unit manages the Child Protection Conference process on behalf of the LSCB and is well placed to quality assure

local child protection arrangements. The Unit should also gather local intelligence regarding the safeguarding needs of children and young people, as well as secure the views of children, young people and their families, regarding their experience and the impact of multi-agency child protection provision.

- 12.11 Much work to secure improved outcomes for children and young people will take place outside of the child protection enquiry and conference process and the LSCB and partners will also need to consider how they will ensure the effectiveness of 'early help' arrangements.
- 12.12 The LSCB has recently agreed to utilise the Local Government Improvement and Development document "Improving local safeguarding outcomes – Developing a strategic quality assurance framework to safeguard children" to maximise the capacity of agencies, as well as the LSCB, to measure improved outcomes for children/ young people. Each statutory partner of the LSCB will need to ensure a performance management framework that includes gathering data to measure improved outcomes for children and young people. The LSCB will too need to revise its own performance management framework to ensure a greater focus on measuring improved outcomes for children and young people; including at 'early help' stages.
- 12.13 In light of the government's response to the Munro report, it is considered that this LSCB annual report should be formally presented to the Local Authority Chief Executive and the Leader of the Council. Given the lead role of the Local Authority in promoting an effective response, including partnership arrangements, to children/ young people at risk of harm, a programmed debate on the LSCB Annual Report at Full Council should be considered.
- 12.14 In order to be able to continue to exercise leadership in respect of children and young people's safety, the LSCB should be a formal consultee in respect of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (known locally as Unified Needs Assessment) so as to ensure that the needs of children and young people are embedded in local commissioning arrangements. The LSCB should also work to ensure that changes in the commissioning arrangements for health services

are made with due regard to the safety and well-being of children and young people and their parents/carers.

12.15 Finally, and in terms of effective governance arrangements, the work with the CYPTB to clarify the working relationship between the LSCB and CYPTB should be completed post the review of the CYPTB. The nature of the working relationship should be formally set out in the governance framework of both Boards. The LSCB should also consider if any changes are required, to its governance arrangements, to promote better accountability for the functioning of the LSCB as a partnership board. This should include a review of chairing arrangements. The LSCB should, via the review of governance arrangements, ensure the maintenance of a distinct identity for the LSCB within local partnership arrangements so as to be able to continue to support and challenge other agencies/ strategic bodies regarding their work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people.

12.16 A set of recommendations is made to secure progress against the priority actions identified above.

13 Recommendations

- (i) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 is presented to Chief Executive Officer, Solihull MBC and the Leader of the Council
- (ii) The Leader of the Council should ensure a programmed debate of the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 at Full Council.
- (iii) The LSCB Chairperson and Children and Young People's Trust Board (CYPTB) Chairperson should ensure a protocol is devised, between the two Boards, that sets out working arrangements and promotes clarity of role; the protocol should be included in both Board's governance frameworks.
- (iv) The Chairperson of the Solihull Partnership Governing Board should ensure a review of LSCB governance arrangements to ensure that the LSCB is

adequately held to account for its functioning as a partnership body; this should include a review of LSCB Chairperson arrangements.

- (v) The Director of Public Health should ensure that the LSCB is a formal consultee to the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment.
- (vi) The Director of Public Health should ensure that the LSCB Annual Report 2010-11 is presented to the Shadow Health and Well-Being Board and that the development of local health commissioning arrangements actively addresses the safeguarding of children and young people.
- (vii) The LSCB Executive agency representative of all statutory members of the LSCB should ensure a review of own agency performance management arrangements to ensure data is gathered to measure improved outcomes for children and young people.
- (viii) The Director of Children's Services should ensure the development of a quality assurance framework that includes:-
 - The quality assurance activity that will be undertaken in respect of children's plans; including Child Protection Plans and core group functioning.
 - The experiences children, young people and parents/carers have of the helping system; including child protection system
 - The views of front-line staff about how the helping system, including child protection, supports better outcomes for children and young people
- (ix) The Chairperson of the CYPTB should ensure the development of a borough-wide e-safety strategy and the collation of data in respect of childhood accidents/injury and as appropriate, action should be taken to reduce childhood accidents/injury.

- (x) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure a programme of work is in place to promote increased awareness of child safeguarding in the sports and leisure sector in Solihull, including awareness training.
- (xi) The LSCB Executive representative of all statutory members of the LSCB should review internal arrangements to:-
- Identify safeguarding training needs
 - Deliver safeguarding training
 - Manage any unmet training needs
 - Produce an annual report, on safeguarding training, as set out in the LSCB training strategy.

Specific emphasis should be given by the LSCB Executive representative of Birmingham and Solihull Cluster PCT to level 1 and 2 training (inter-collegiate guidance) across the health community and by the LSCB Executive representative of Solihull MBC to the Early Years Sector, and in particular the childminding workforce.

- (xii) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure a review of the LSCB Performance Management Framework to ensure a greater focus on measuring the experiences of and improved outcomes for children and young people and their families at *all levels of need*; including the impact of training on front line practice.
- (xiii) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that the LSCB has a Child Sexual Exploitation strategy in place to safeguard children and young people from sexual exploitation.
- (xiv) The LSCB Chairperson should ensure that a work programme is in place to improve identification of and response to children and young people living with neglect.
- (xv) The Chairperson of the Solihull Partnership should hold to account the Chairperson of the Safer Solihull Board to ensure consistent practice to

identity, and service provision to support, children and young people affected by domestic abuse.

14 LSCB Budget

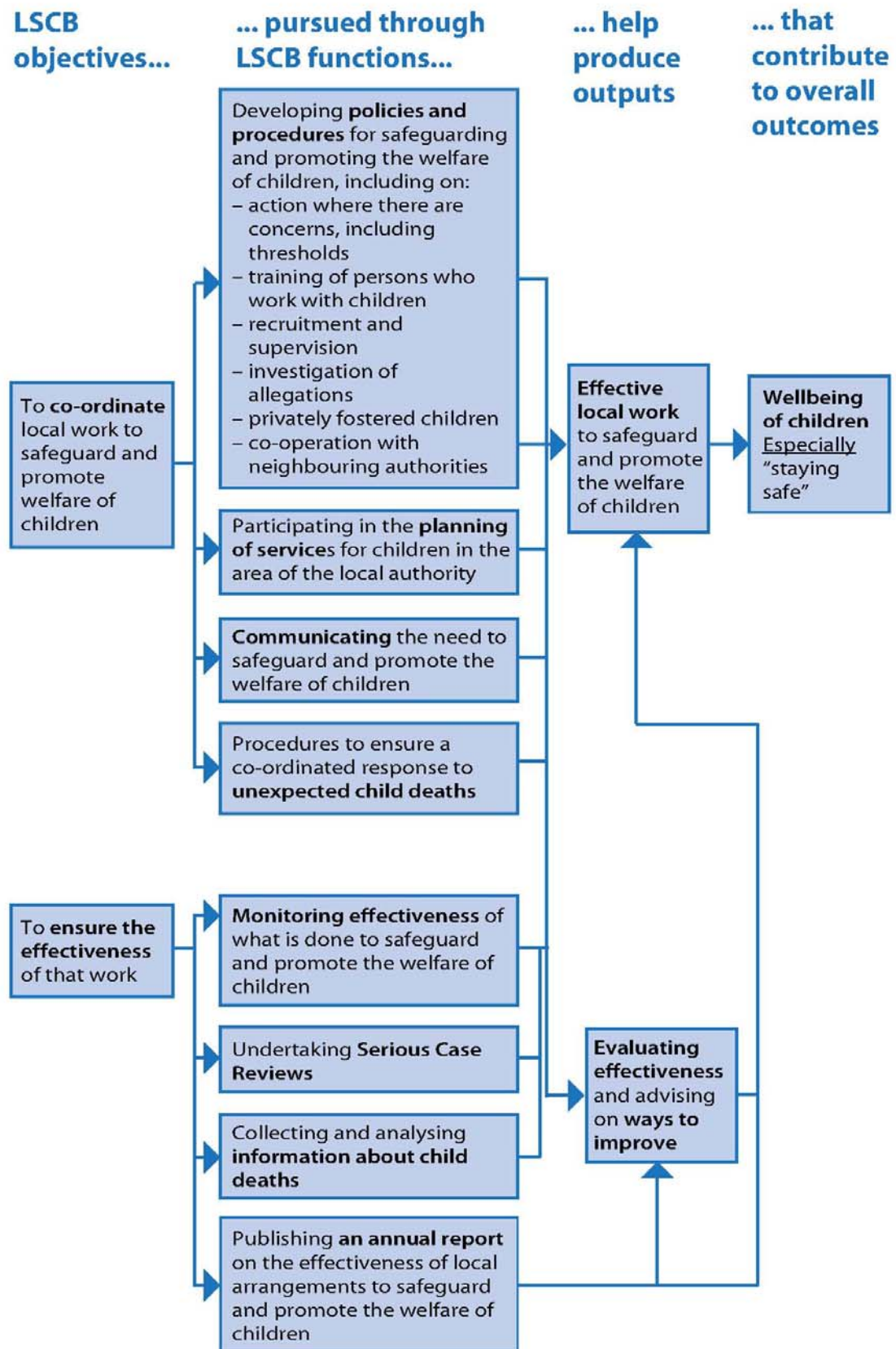
14.1 The LSCB is a multi-agency funded body with the Local Authority (including Connexions and the Youth Offending Service), Police and Solihull Care Trust being the core funders for 2010-11. Financial contributions were received from:-

- Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust
- Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)
- Solihull Community Housing
- Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust

14.2 In 2010-11, both the Police and Solihull Care Trust increased their contribution to the LSCB budget as part of final year of a two year transitional arrangement to increase the size of the LSCB budget in order to sustain capacity within the LSCB team to deliver core functions as well as to move towards a more equitable funding arrangement across the 3 core funding agencies.

14.3 A breakdown of the 2010/11 budget can be found at Appendix 9

Appendix 1: LSCB Objectives



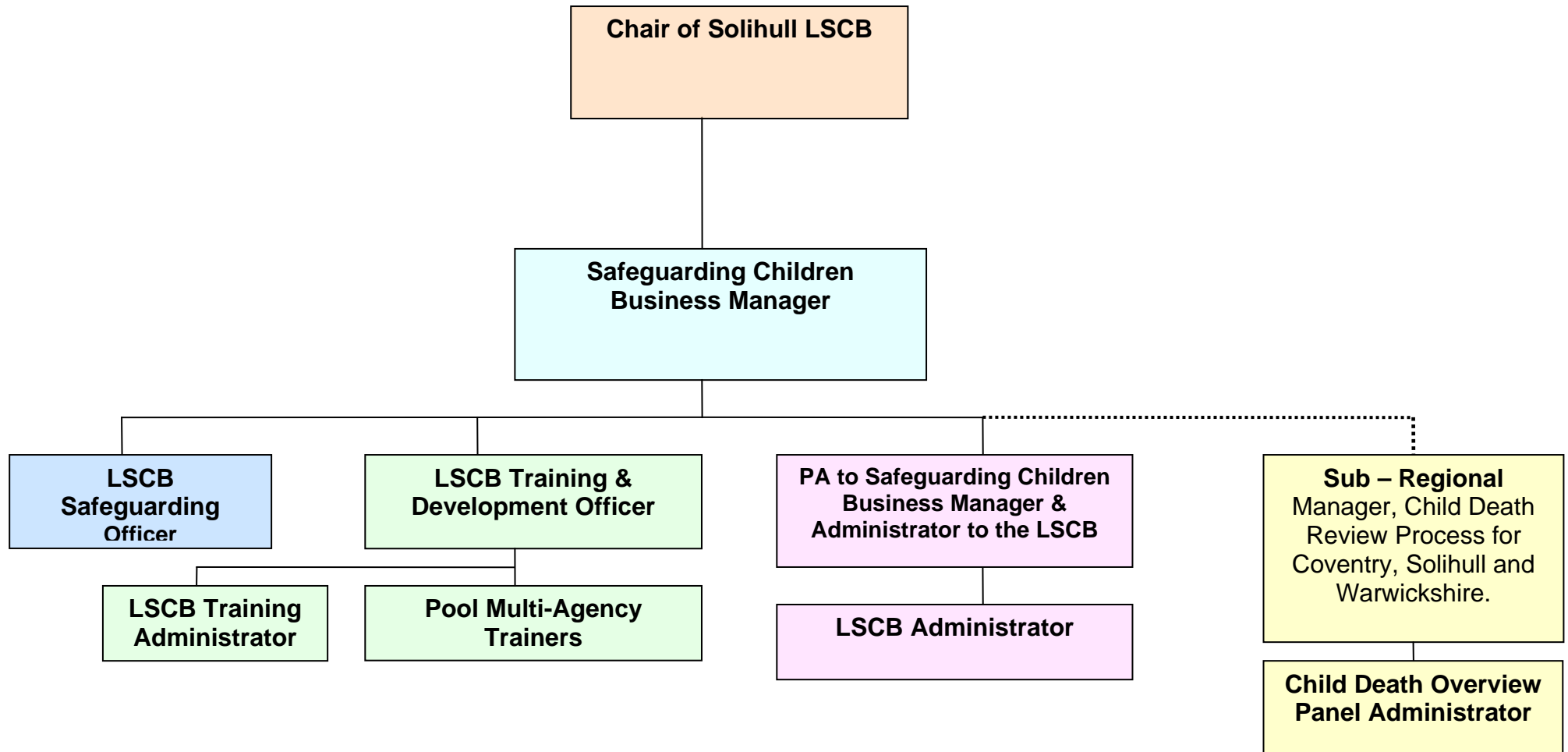
Appendix 2: Solihull LSCB attendance data 2010/11

Attendance at LSCB meetings 2010/11 (1 st July 2010 – 30 th June 2011)	Attendance by Designated LSCB Representative	Agency attendance ¹
Birmingham & Solihull Mental Health NHS Foundation Trust	57%	86%
CAFCASS	57%	71%
Heart of England NHS Foundation Trust	71%	85%
NSPCC	57%	71%
Solihull Care Trust	71%	100%
Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council	100%	100%
Solihull Community Housing	71%	86%
Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust	71%	86%
Strategic Health Authority ²	0%	0%
West Midlands Police	100%	100%
Also the Lead Member has been a participant observer since during 2010/11 and attended 100% of meetings		

¹ Includes when agency represented by a deputy in the absence of Designated LSCB representative.

² There is a regional agreement that SHA are not required to attend every meeting, however, are available to attend upon request

Appendix 4: LSCB Team



Appendix 5: Solihull LSCB Learning Task Group Action Plan

Outcome	Recommendation	Actions	By whom?	By When?	Actions Taken	Information for audit
Recommendation 1 Strategy discussions consider all relevant information about a child/young person and their family	Children's Social Work Services should ensure that Police, Health, referring agency and other appropriate bodies are involved in strategy discussion/ meetings	Reinforce to Social Work staff/managers the requirements of LSCB procedures/statutory guidance	Tina Wakfer, Head of Children in Need Services	End of June 2010	Completed This has been included in the updated LSCB referral procedures and procedure briefing sessions as well as communicated with DART Management Included in the West Midlands Protocol for undertaking S47 enquiries	Audit of this is taking place through routine Children's Social Care / Police audit of S47 enquiries – This is ongoing and will be reported to LSCB on a 6 monthly basis. 1 st report intended Sept 2011
Recommendation 2 Effective multi-agency system for the identification and recording of PPRC	The LSCB Chairperson ensure the full implementation of the PPRC manual in Solihull	Set up multi-agency implementation group to plan and oversee implementation	Liz Murphy, Safeguarding Children Business Manager	End of June 2010	Completed Steering group and action plan established. Action plan	Audit of managing PPRC notifications completed and reviewed by PPRC Steering group

					delivered and decision by LSCB that multi-agency forum no longer required.	
<p>Recommendation 3 The individual needs of children and young people are considered in work to learn lessons from a child death/serious injury where abuse/neglect is a known or suspected factor</p>	<p>The LSCB should ensure that issues of diversity are integrated and actively addressed in serious case reviews/other learning processes.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Terms of Reference of any such pieces of work should record specific issues of diversity e.g. ethnicity, religion and disability. 2. IMRs consider and address issues of diversity 3. Overview Report considers and address issues of diversity 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Liz Murphy, Safeguarding Children Business Manager 2. IMR Authors 3. Independent Authors 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. As required 2. As required 3. As required 	<p>Completed. No SCR has been commissioned by Solihull LSCB. However issues of diversity have been addressed in SCIE Case Learning review and IMR for SCR being carried out by another LSCB.</p>	<p><u>SCRS</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of Terms of Reference • Individual Management Reviews • Ofsted evaluation letter <p><u>Other reviews</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copies of Terms of Reference • Copy of final report
<p>Recommendation 4 Clear framework for identifying the level of need of children and young people</p>	<p>The Children and Young People's Trust Board review the framework for identifying the level of need of children and young people including referral criteria for</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Review existing framework of thresholds. 2. Revise accordingly 3. LSCB/CYPTB approval 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Tina Wakfer/Andy Killeen 2. Tina Wakfer/Andy Killeen 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. May 2010 2. June 2010 3. July 2010 	<p>Completed Revised framework for identifying level of need of children and young people.</p>	<p>Referral data to children's social work services evidences increased collaboration between DART and other agencies.</p>

	Children's Social Work Services.	4. Implement across the Children's Trust	3. Chairperson of LSCB/CYPTB 4. Chairperson of IWPB	4. Sept 2010 onwards	Approved by LSCB in July 2010 Information included in LSCB Procedures and disseminated in Updated LSCB Procedures briefings	
Recommendation 5 Those working with children, young people and their families operate in a child focused way	The LSCB should ensure that the lessons for improving practice identified via the work of the Learning Task Group are reinforced via multi-agency safeguarding training.	1. Review training programme 2. Revise accordingly 3. Deliver revised programme	1. Solihull LSCB Training and Development Officer 2. Solihull LSCB Training and Development Officer 3. Solihull LSCB Training and Development Officer	1. June 2010 2. June/July 2010 3. Sept 2010 onwards	Completed Level 2 training has been updated to include key learning including disguised compliance & ending of core assessments , multi-agency working SCR briefings of learning includes above issues	Copy of revised training programme is available. Impact of training to be measured via future audit activity.
Recommendation 6	The LSCB should	Establish task and	Chair of Practice	1. End July	Completed	Copy of procedures

Issues of disguised compliance and parental non-engagement are actively addressed to promote children and young people's welfare	produce procedures* which sets out the action required in cases where parents/carers have not engaged with services to meet their child's needs	finish group Produce/approve procedures Launch procedures and promote awareness of requirements	and Procedures sub group Task and Finish group Chair of Practice and Procedures sub group	2010 2. End of September 2010 3. November 2010	New procedures devised and approved by Practice and Procedures sub group in November 2010	available. Impact of procedures and training to be measured via future audit activity
Recommendation 7 Effective intervention and service provision for children and young people living in neglectful households	The LSCB should conduct a small scale case file audit in respect of service provision to vulnerable young people living in neglectful households	Scope audit inc audit team Conduct audit Report to Performance Monitoring sub group	Chair of Performance Monitoring sub group Audit Team Audit Team Lead	1. End of Sept 2010 2. End Dec 2010 3. End of Feb 2011	Completed Audit undertaken in December 2010/January 2011. Findings from audit considered alongside leaning from SCIE Pilot	Copy of audit report available; neglect identified as priority area of business for LSCB 2011/12
Recommendation 8 Lessons identified via individual management reviews are learnt.	The LSCB monitors the implementation of IMR Action Plans	Six monthly updates of progress •	Stephen Munday, Solihull Care Trust Adrian Thomas, Solihull Community Housing	1. March 2010 2. Sept 2010 and ongoing until sign off	Completed Children's Society completed Nov 10 Solihull Community Housing	Record of sign off individual agencies endorsed by LSCB

			<p>Steve Collett, Children's Society</p> <p>Tina Wakfer Solihull MBC, People Directorate and Paul Nash, Solihull LSCB Safeguarding Officer/DCI Garry Billing, Chair of Performance Monitoring sub group</p>		<p>Completed Mar 10 People Directorate Completed Feb 11 Care Trust Completed Apr 11</p> <p>Reports made to Coventry LSCB.</p>	
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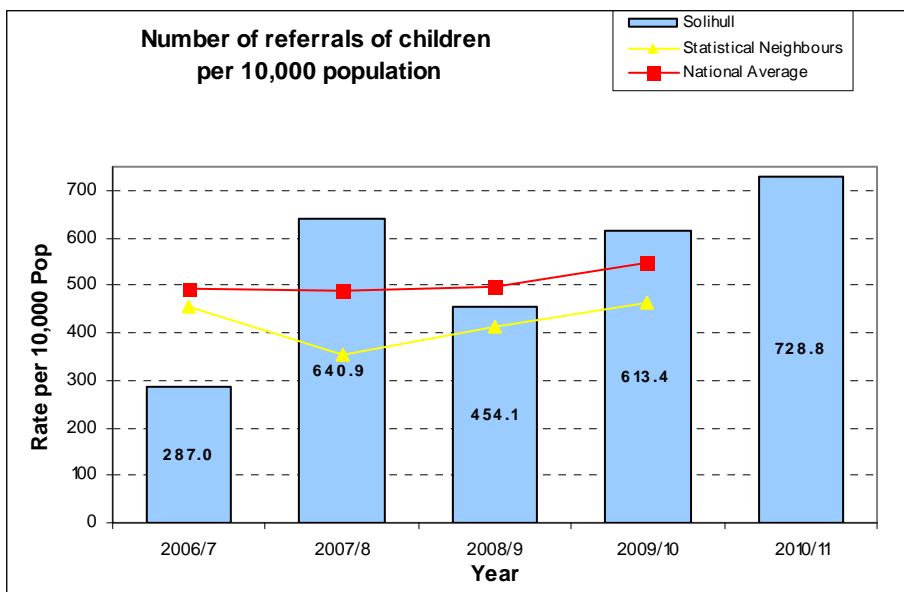
Signed off by LSCB Chairs Subgroup 8th June 2011 and presented to LSCB for ratification 5th July 2011

Appendix 6: Safeguarding Performance Review

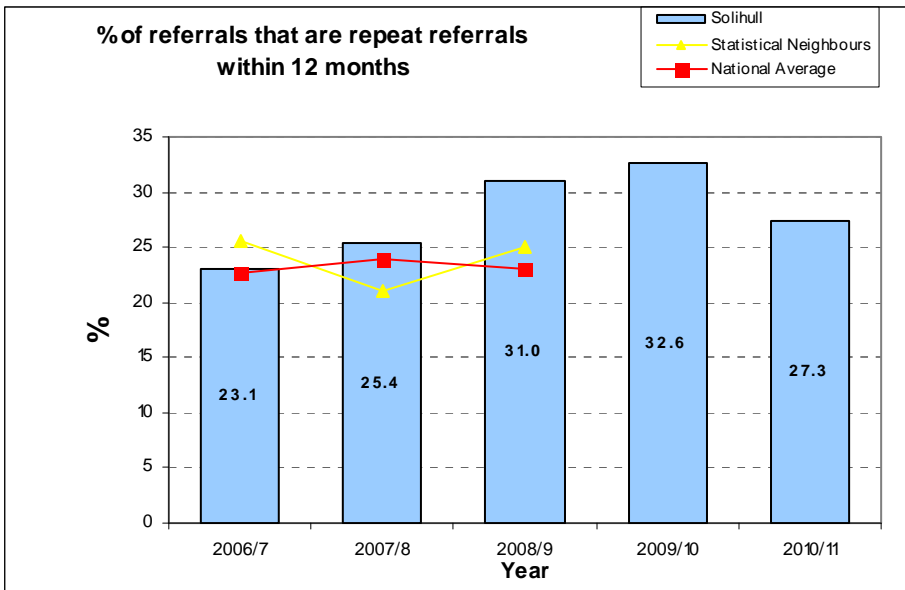
Are children and young people at risk being identified and interventions secured?

The following indicators try to establish whether appropriate thresholds are being used in the cases of children who are in need. Referrals of children to councils are important as a measure of local concerns about children's welfare. They cover a wide range of concerns including potential abuse, disability, family functioning etc. They may be made by other professionals, family members, friends, the general public or children and young people referring themselves.

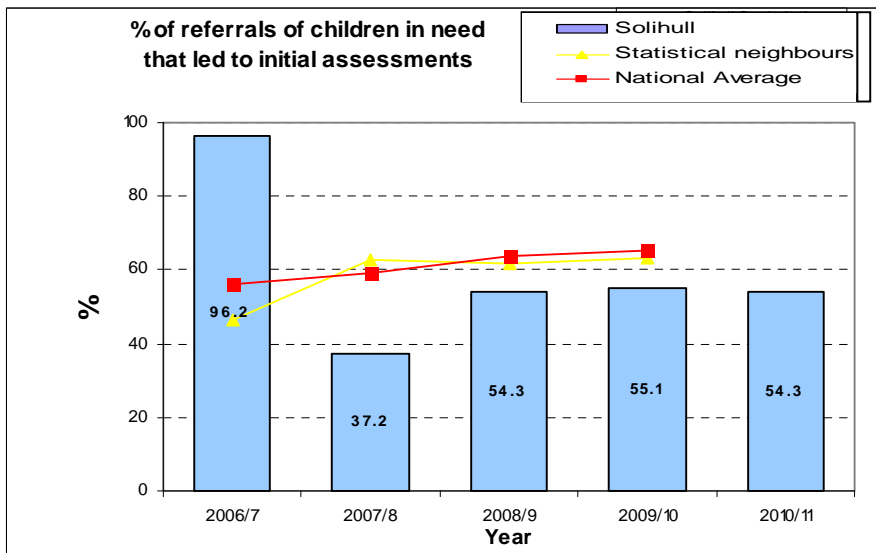
Referrals



Number of Referrals of Children per 10,000(ECS10): This is a useful information measure used to understand the volume of referrals to social care services. The trend over the last 3 years has continued to rise and reflects the national picture and statistical neighbours referral rates. National figures for 2010-11 have not yet been released to show whether this trend has continued across the country.

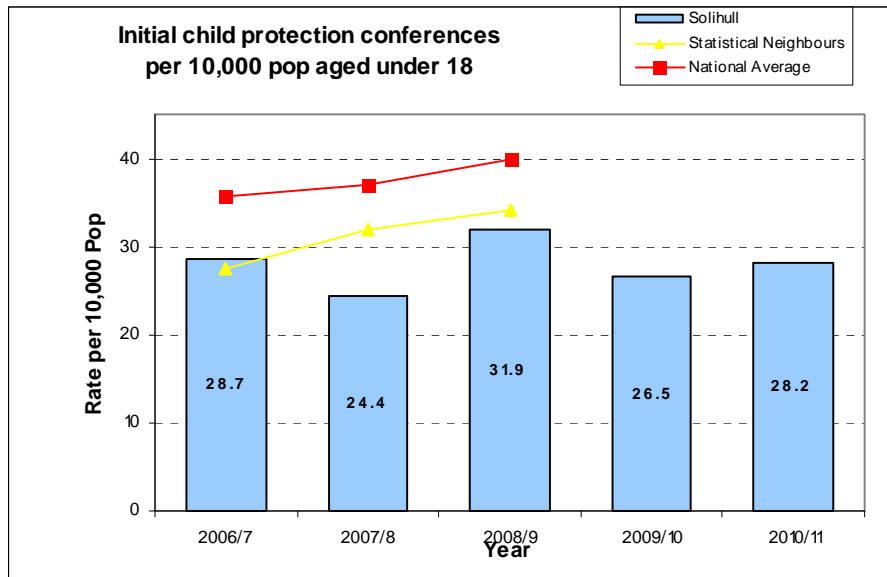


% of referrals that are repeat referrals within 12 months (ECS14) gives an indication of whether appropriate thresholds are being applied to cases of children in need and whether those needs are being assessed properly. A higher than average figure could indicate appropriate services have not been put in place or cases may have been closed too early. National and statistical neighbour's figures for the last 2 years are no longer available. Numbers of re-referrals, whilst above the locally agreed target, have reduced in the last year and endorse the integrated working between Solihull's early intervention services and the Duty and Referral Team as being successful in supporting families to sustain improvements.

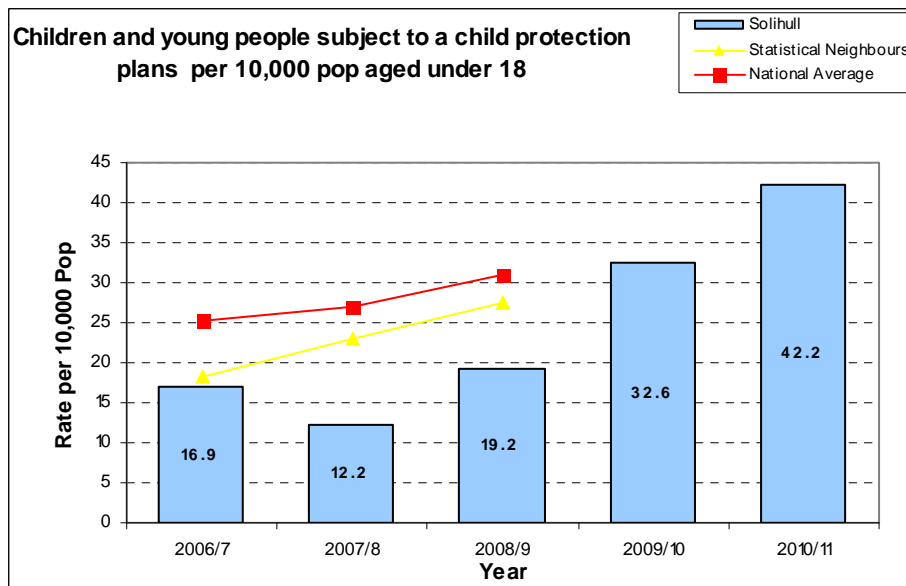


% of referrals of children in need that led to initial assessments (IA's) gives an indication of whether appropriate thresholds are being used in cases of children in need and whether their needs are being assessed properly. A high percentage may indicate good inter-agency understanding of thresholds for social care services. The increase in 2008-09 was due to changes in recording – since then there have been 3 years of consistency in the percentage of referrals leading to initial assessment and these are in line with local targets. National and statistical neighbour figures for 2010-11 are not yet available until later in the year and so it is not possible to make any further comparisons of the 2010/11 output.

Child Protection

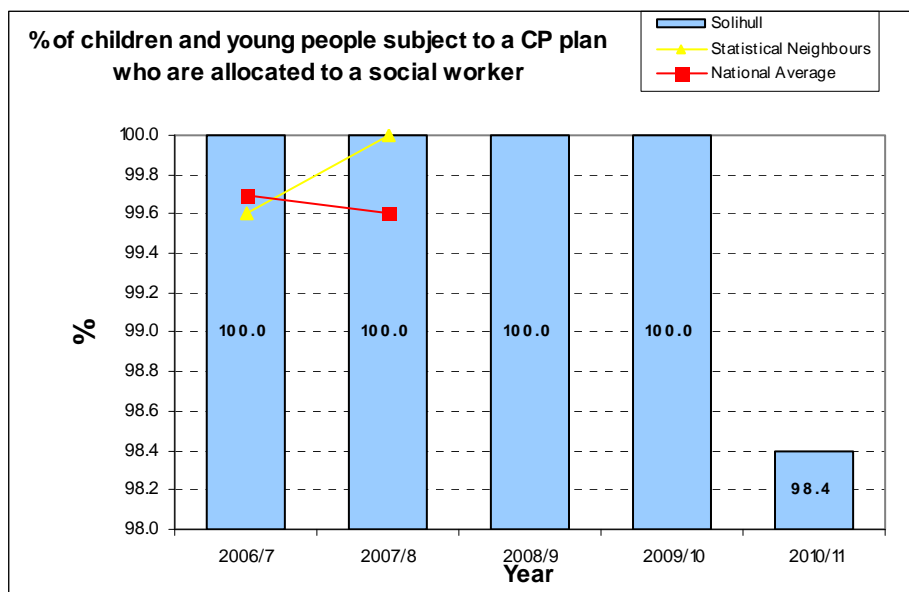


Initial child protection conferences per 10,000 population aged under 18 measures the Number of children who were the subject of an initial child protection conference in the period and is an indication of whether appropriate thresholds are being used in the cases of children who are at greatest risk of abuse. This includes children who may **have been** the subject to a child protection conference, but the decision of the conference is that the **child is not** made subject of a child protection plan. Rates may reflect a range of factors and differences between local areas within the borough, or indeed across councils, such as deprivation.

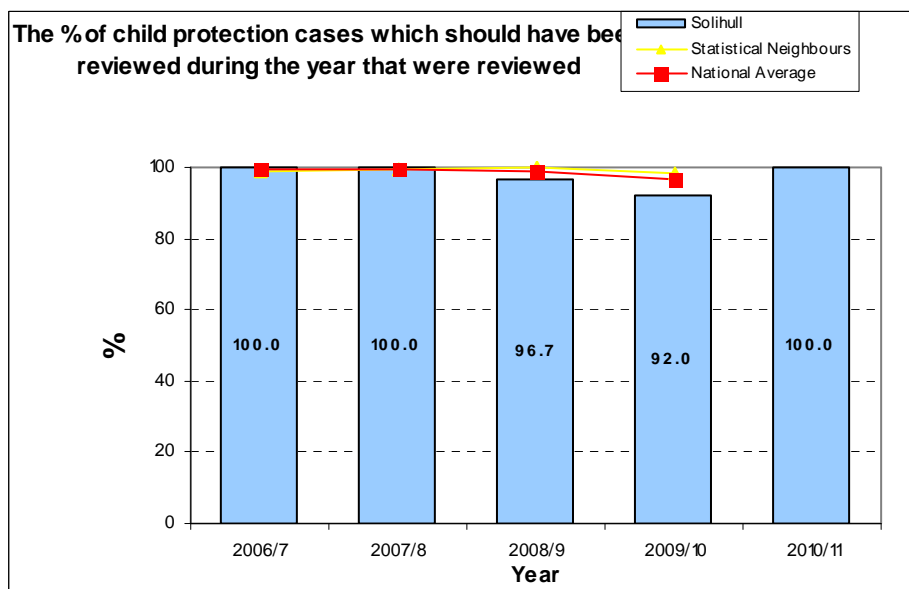


Children and young people subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18: A high rate may indicate that thresholds are set too low and a low rate may indicate thresholds are set too high; equally thresholds may be proportionate to the increase in referrals and initial assessments. The increasing trend has continued during the last year.

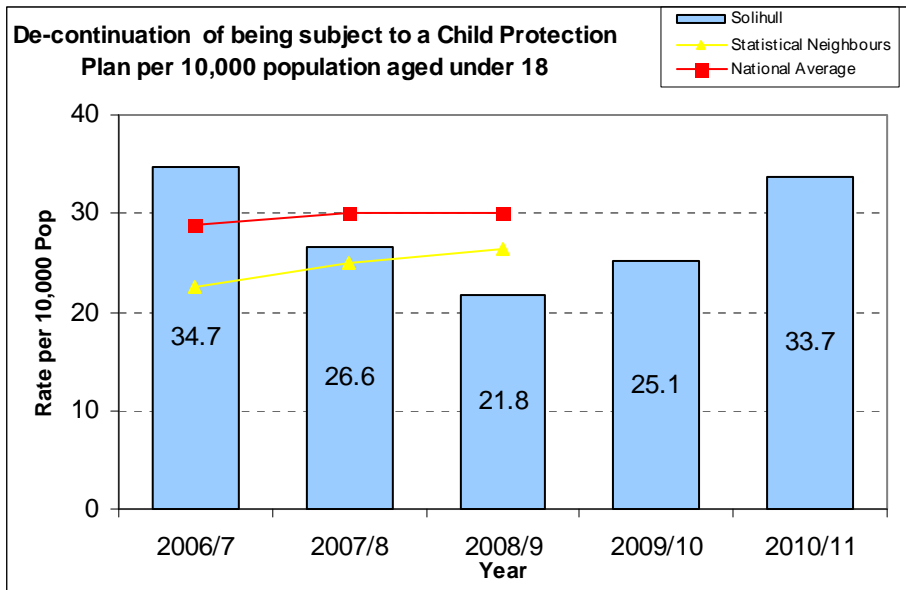
Are good outcomes being secured for children and young people identified as at risk?



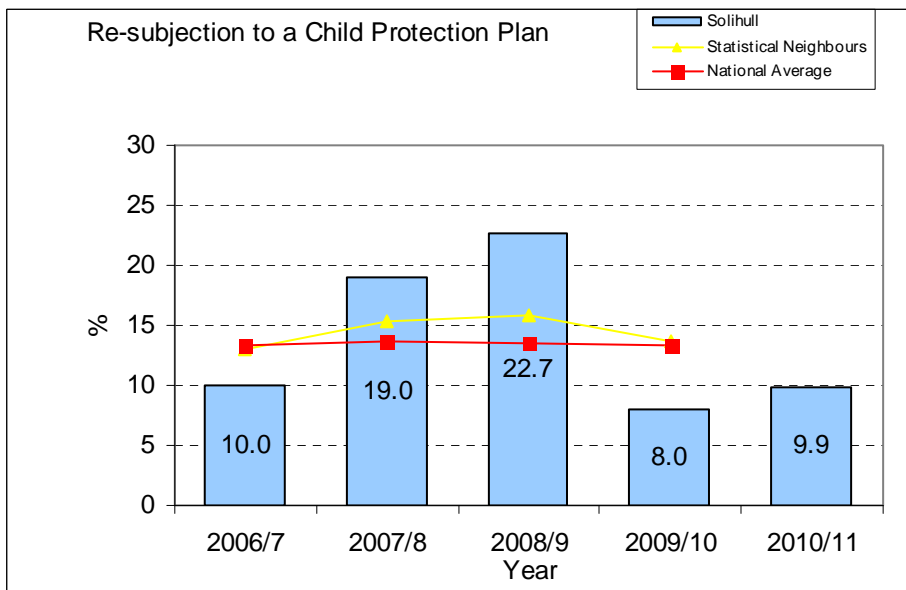
% of children and young people subject to a CP plan who are allocated to a social worker: During the year 4 out of a total of 397 children and young people were initially allocated to a family support worker and subsequently allocated to an assistant team manager. This equates to 98.4% and the excellent figures over the last 5 years reflects the importance in Solihull in ensuring child protection cases are allocated quickly to qualified social workers.



% of child protection cases which should have been reviewed during the year that were reviewed: Reviews are a key element in delivering Child Protection Plans which seek to ensure sustainable improvements in the child's safety and overall well-being. The first child protection review is required within 3 months of initial child protection conference and, thereafter, at intervals of no more than six months. Systems are in place within the Child Protection and Review Unit to promote full compliance. All child protection cases were reviewed within timescales during the year.

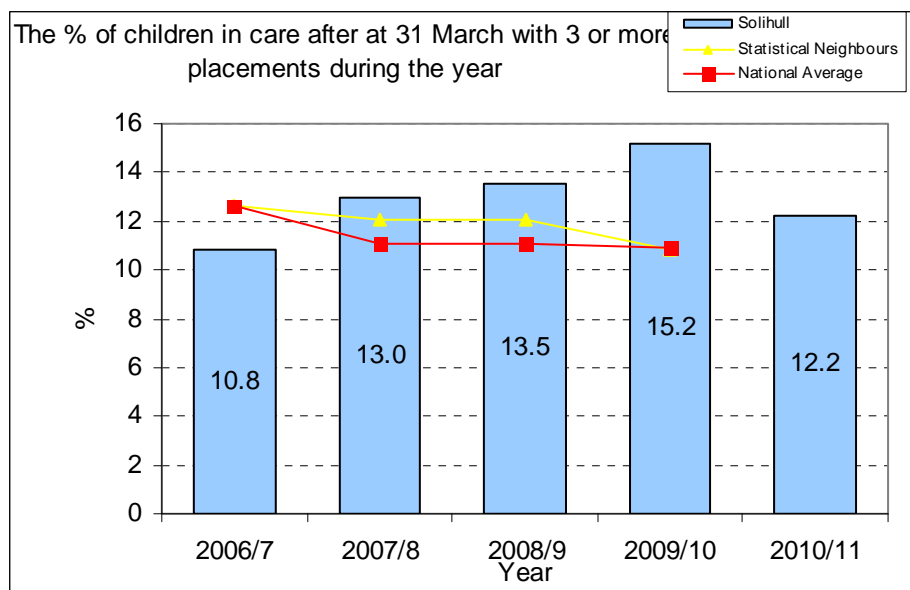


De-continuation of being subject to a Child Protection plan per 10,000 population aged under 18 measures the rate at which Child Protection Plans are discontinued. When a Child Protection Plan ceases, the child is deemed no longer to be at risk of significant harm as a result of multi agency interventions. The number of de-continuations over the last 3 years continues to rise.



Re-subjection to a Child Protection Plan: Measures the percentage of children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan during the year who had previously had such a plan. Figures for Solihull over the last 2 years have improved significantly and are lower than national and statistical neighbours. The figures are consistent with the increase in the de-continuation rate as set out in the graph above.

Placement in Care

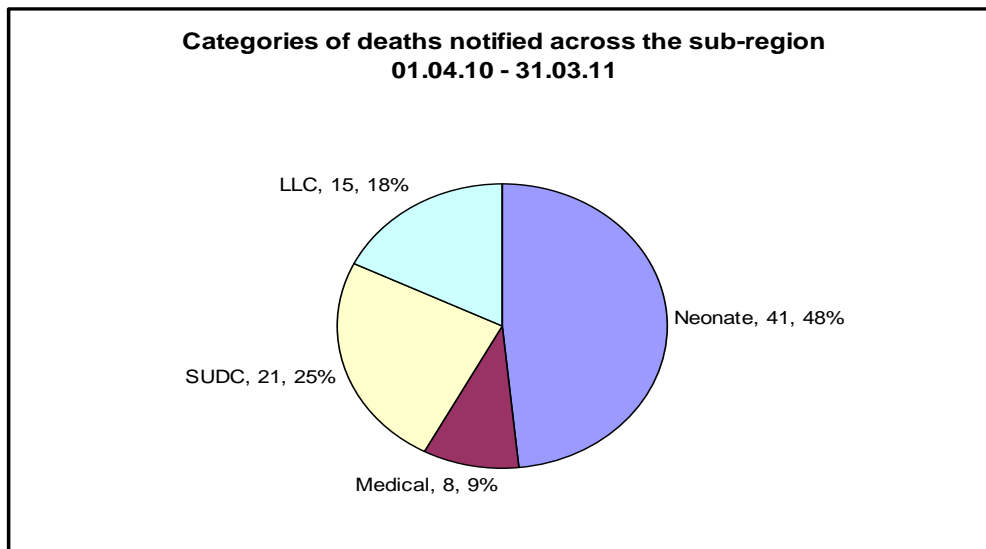


% of children in care at 31st March with 3 or more placement during the year: *This measures the number children in care who move placement 3 or more times within a year. A stable placement is important in supporting the needs of children in care and is associated with a range of better outcomes for looked after children. Historically anything below 16% was considered good. The number of children with over 3 moves had increased over the last few years from 13% in 2007-08 to 15.2% in 2009/10. However, it has now fallen to be very near to the locally agreed target at 12.2% although it continues to be higher for unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC) at 17.7% and it is 9.7% for local children.*

The improvement is in part due to a reduced number of UASC in this cohort. Implementation of the new Fostering Strategy over the next few years should help to stabilise this indicator to around the 10-12% level.

Appendix 7: Child Death Data

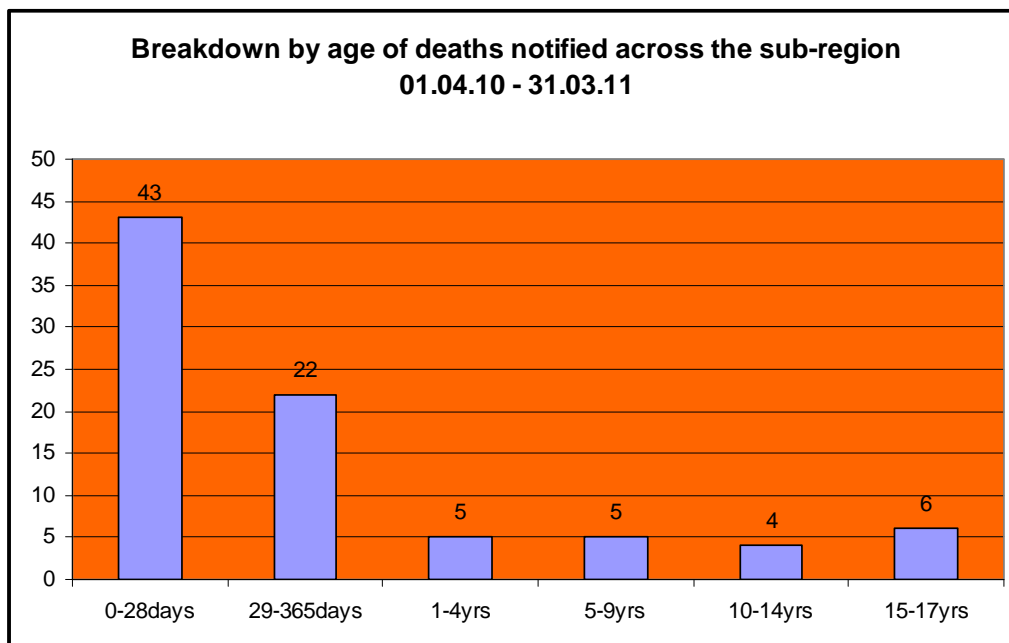
Data relating to child deaths notified across the sub-region during 2010 – 2011.



A total of 85 deaths of children and young people were notified across the sub region and the breakdown of death by category is illustrated above.

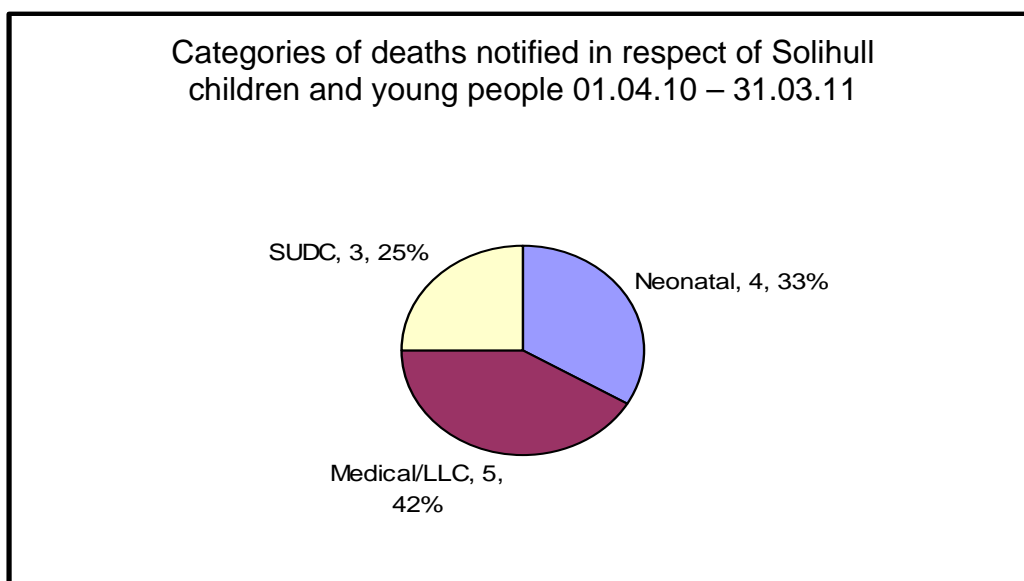
Key:

1. Neonatal – death within first 28 days of life.
2. LLC – Life Limiting Condition
3. SUDC – Sudden Unexplained Death in Childhood
4. Medical – includes death due to Diabetes, Heat Condition, Asthma, Meningitis and Epilepsy

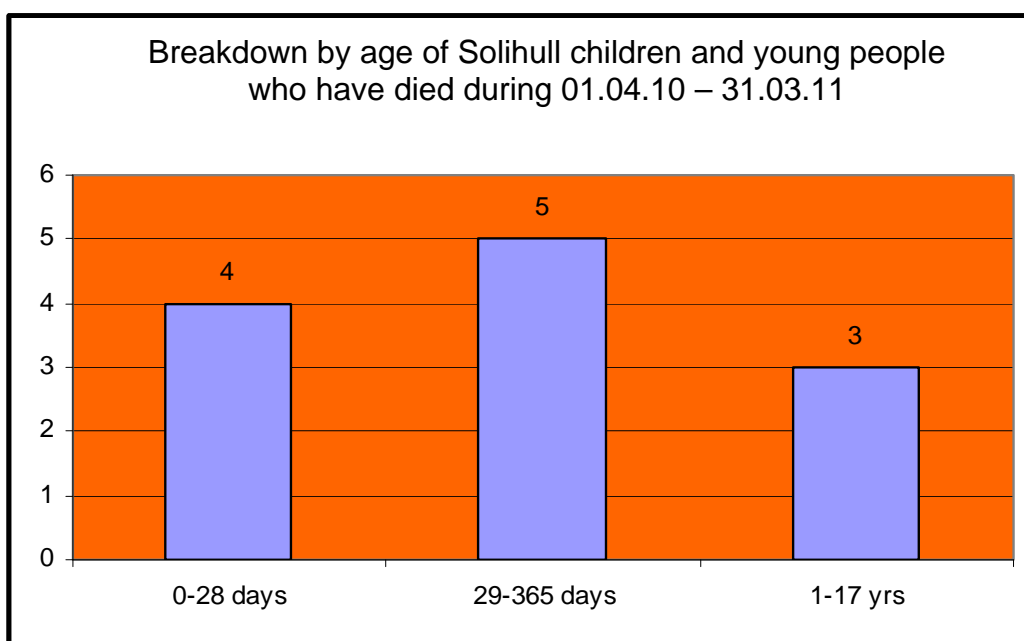


Of the 85 deaths notified, the table above illustrates that the most deaths occurred within the first 28 days of life.

Data relating to deaths notified in Solihull during 2010 – 2011

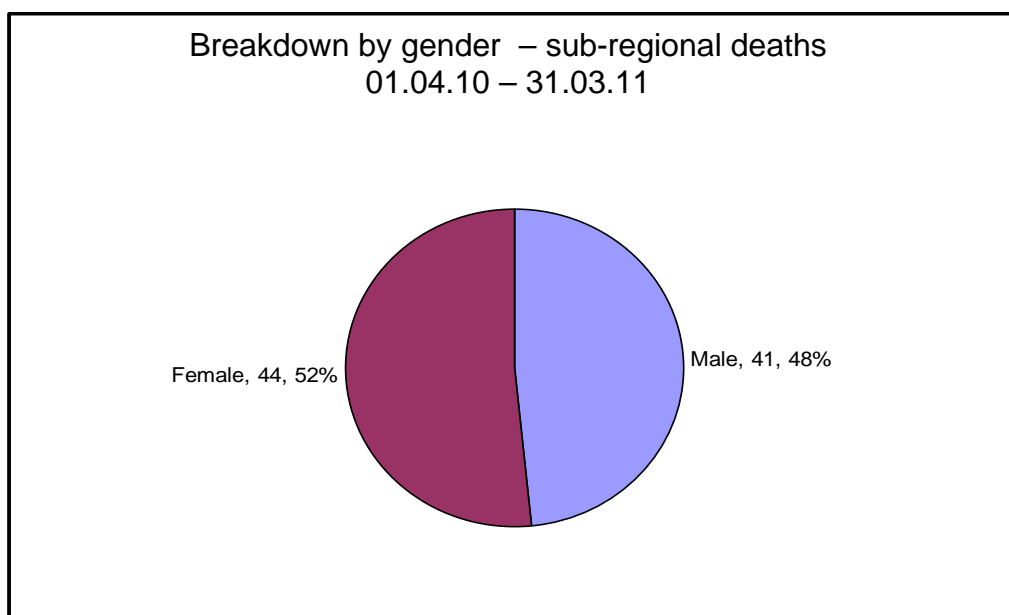


12 of the 85 deaths that occurred across the sub region were children and young people who live in Solihull. Categories that have a total of 2 or less have been merged in accordance with disclosure control guidance issued by the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care.

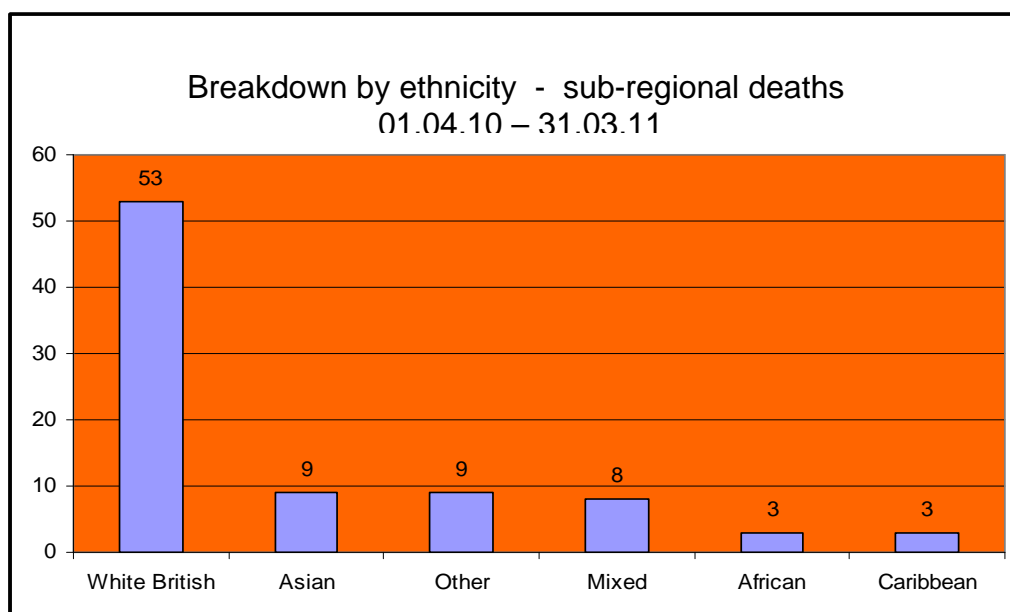


Again, categories that have a total of 2 or less have been merged in accordance with disclosure control guidance issued by the NHS Information Centre for Health and Social Care. Solihull's data on the age of children/young people who die is consistent with the sub regional data.

Data relating to deaths notified across the sub-region during 2010 – 2011.

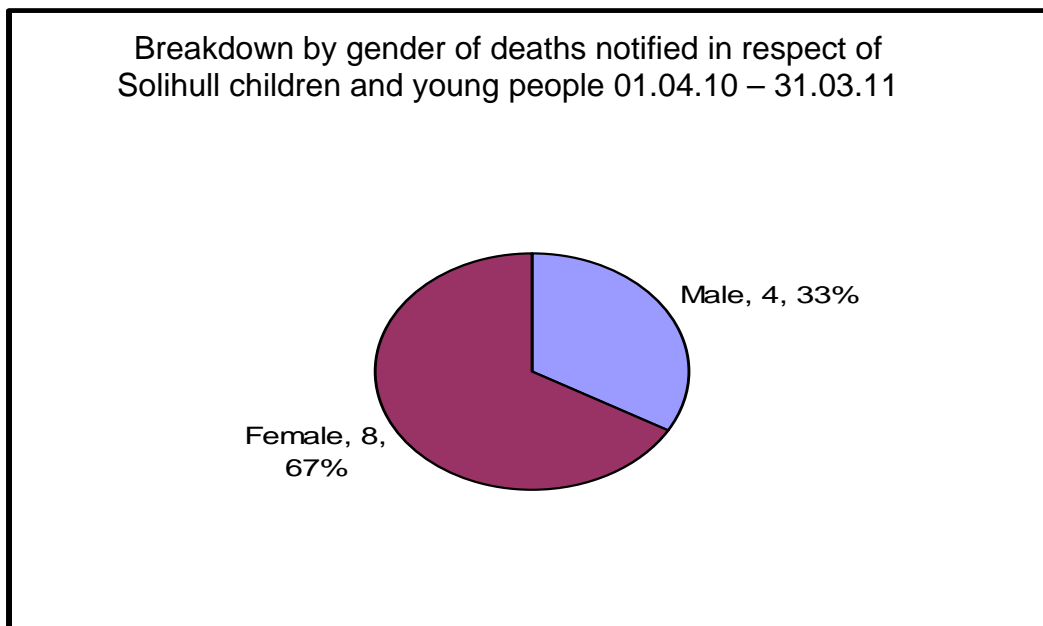


The table above illustrates that the gender of those children/young people who die is split virtually even and consistent with the previous year.

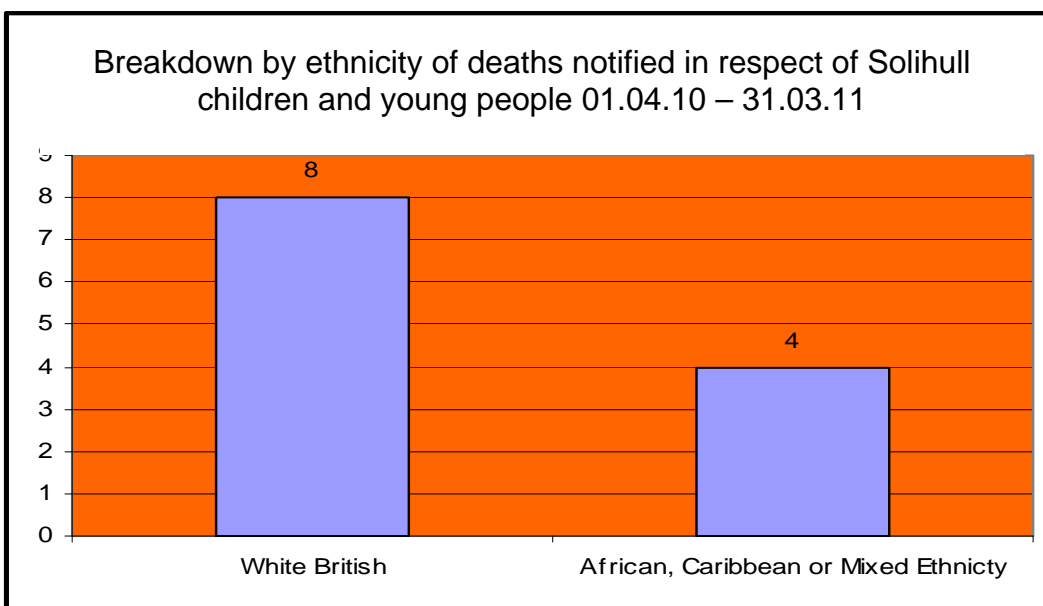


Recording of ethnicity has significantly improved compared to previous years and ethnicity data has been captured for all deaths reported in 2010/11. Children of White/British ethnicity remain the highest category of deaths across the sub-region.

Data relating to deaths notified in Solihull during 2010 – 2011



The table above illustrates that more female children than male children died in Solihull in 2010/11 which is consistent with previous years. However, as the figures are so small compared to the child population and gathered over a short period of time no conclusions can yet be drawn from this data.



The table above illustrates that most children who died were of White/British ethnicity; again no conclusions should be drawn from this data for the reasons outlined above.

Appendix 8: Take up of Level 2 & 3 multi-agency training

Solihull LSCB Training - Level 2 & Level 3 attendance by Agency					
1st July 2010 to 30th June 2011					
	Attended				
	Level 2 (days)	Level 2 Refresher (half day)	Level 3	Conference 27/9/10	Total
BSMHFT	1	0	13	8	22
CAFCASS	0	0	2	1	3
Councillors	0	1	0	5	6
Early Years	45	0	71	5	121
HoEFT From 1/7/10 – 31/3/11	38	2	9	3	52
HoEFT - Acute Services From 1/4/11 – 30.6.11	3	0	0		3
HoEFT - Community Services (previously part of Solihull Care Trust) From 1/4/11 – 30/6/11	1	0	0		1
IYSS (YOS, Connexions, Youth Services)	21	7	28	10	66
Other SMBC staff	11	1	64	16	92
Other	4	0	20	1	25
Schools & Colleges	75	7	136	25	243
SMBC - Adult's Social Care	0	0	5	3	8
SMBC - Children's Social Care	32	17	153	22	224
Solihull Community Housing	10	0	1	2	13
Solihull Care Trust From 1/7/2010 – 31/3/2011	50	2	142	18	212
Birmingham and Solihull PCT (previously Solihull Care Trust) From 1/4/11 – 30/6/11	6	1	6		13
Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Trust	5	2	15	3	25
UK Border Agency	0	0	0	0	0
Voluntary, Private and Independent Sector	28	2	78	15	123
West Midlands Police	0	0	15	4	19
TOTAL	330	42	758	141	1271

Appendix 9: LSCB Budget

The details of the core budget for 2010-11 can be found below:

Core Budget	2009-10	2010-11
Solihull MBC – People Directorate	£104,940	£104,980
Schools Forum	£15,760	£15,800
Solihull Partnership	£22,700	£23,040
Child Death Grant	£21,000	£16,000
Solihull Care Trust	£50,140	£60,640
West Midlands Police	£20,000	£30,000
Carried Forward 2009-10	£43,100	£37,800 (£20k income generation)
TOTAL CORE BUDGET	£277,640	£288,260

The details of the training budget for 2010-11 can be found below:

Training Budget	2009-10	2010-11
Solihull MBC – Childrens Social Work Services	£10,000	£10,000
Solihull Care Trust	£3,080	£3,100
Heart of England Foundation NHS Trust	£4,600	£4,600
Connexions	£3,080	£3,100
CAFCASS	£560	£550
Solihull Community Housing	£4,000	£4,000
Safer Solihull Partnership	£2,050	£2,100
Youth Offending Service	£2,050	£2,100
National Probation Service	£3,080	£3,000
External Income	£3000	£6934
TOTAL TRAINING BUDGET	£35,500	£39,484

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