

Record of Meeting

NEL Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive

Venue: Crosland Suite, Grimsby Town Hall

Date: Thursday 16th November 2023

Time: 10:00 – 12:00

Attendees:

Chris Cook - Independent Chair of NEL SCP

Janice Spencer - Director of Children's Social Care, NELC Darren Wildbore - Chief Superintendent, Humberside Police

Helen Davis - Place Nurse Director, North and North East Lincolnshire Places, HNY ICB

Helen Willis - SCP Manager, NELC

Cllr Margret Cracknell - Portfolio Holder for Children and Education

Guest Speaker:

Emma Wragg - Learning & Development Advisor (Safeguarding), NELC

Note Taker - Katelynn Wilkinson SCP Business Specialist

1. Introductions and apologies

All introductions were made.

Adele Harty - Strategic Lead Safeguarding Partnerships, NELC sent apologies. Phil Booker – Detective Superintendent, Protecting Vulnerable People Unit, Police

2. Minutes/Actions from Assurance Executive 17/07/2023

Minutes from the previous meeting on 17/07/23 agreed by all attendees.

Action 20: Feedback the view of the SCP Assurance Executive in respect of the police contribution to the virtual college funding to D Wildbore **Update**: In other authorities the Police do not contribute towards funding eLearning and do not want to set a president.

Action 21: SCP executive members to meet to discuss the SCP financial situation **Update**: Complete

Action 22: Share the current core data set document with the SCPO Executive **Update**: Complete

Action 23: Raise the lack of police data for the SCP core data set with D Wildbore **Update:** The vulnerability Hub DASH Board is now used internally within the police. There is work ongoing to enable external access. Complete

Action 24: Make the recommended changes to the neglect strategy in ensuring how we intervene earlier is explicit within the neglect strategy **Update**: Complete

Action 25: Take the revised neglect strategy to CSC senior leadership team for agreement **Update**: Complete

Action 26: Take the revised strategy to CSC senior leadership team for agreement **Update**: Complete.

Action 27: Draft a communicate to partner agencies in respect of the launch of the early help strategy and revised early help assessment and integrated front door process **Update**: Complete

Action 28: A workshop to be held on the July operational group to respond to the working together consultation and coordinate the response on behalf of the SCP executive **Update**: Complete

Action 29: Add a CSC flowchart to the policy for bruising/ injuries to non-mobile babies **Update:** Complete

Action 30: When revised arrange for the policy for bruising/injuries to non-mobile babies to be signed off by CSC SLT and NLAG **Update**: Complete

Action 31: Populate the actions within the internal safeguarding audit Update: Completed

Action 32: Helen Davies to report to the improvement board in respect of the new quarterly returns **Update**: Complete

3. | SCP Resource Requirements and Funding Update

Finance report

- H. Willis presented the finance report.
 - It was agreed at the SCP Assurance Executive in July that the £20,000 for the Safer AD would part of the SCP budget which has now happened. This has resulted in the SCP no longer being in deficit during 2023/24, and not needing to draw down from the EMR but instead having to add to it
 - The EMR currently sits at £17,914 and is projected to sit at £26,639 at the end of the financial year. £8,725 is projected to be left over at the end of 2023/4, £149 will need to be drawn down from the of 24/25 and £149 in 25/26. A decision needs to be made by the SCP how the EMR will be used to increase capacity and SCP resources.
 - J Spencer discussed that she had had a conversation with finance about the internal charges to the SCP for accommodation, HR ICT etc.
 - View that the SCP should not be charged, this does not happen in other areas including Lincolnshire. D Wildbore advised the police do not charge agencies to use the police station, J spencer advised the LA don't charge other agencies for using their facilities and this is a mechanism used by finance
 - Discussion how best to escalate the issue, as the SCP Executive felt the SCP should not be charged, and the monies are essential to meet the SCP core business it was agreed it was a matter for the SCP and SAB chairs to write a joint letter to the Chief Executive Rob Walsh
 - The monies for the internal charges could be used to employ a dedicated training officer on an ongoing basis.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|--------------|------------|
| Write a joint letter on behalf of the SCP and SAB to | Chris Cook / | 30.11.2023 |
| the Chief Executive Rob Walsh, to raise the issue of | Darren | |
| both boards being charged fees by the LA for | Downs | |
| accommodation, IT finance etc | | |

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Add finance and budget as a standing agenda item to | K Wilkinson | 13.02.2024 |
| the SCP Assurance Executive. | | |

SCP training officer funding/ gaps, delivery, charging report.

E Wragg presented the report and highlighted the following, discussion included

- Training task and finish group is up and running.
- Decision made by SCP Assurance Executive in December 2022 to appoint a dedicated training officer.
- Agreement for Police, ICB and Children's Social Care to provide trainers to deliver SCP multi agency training in the interim, this has been in place a year and has gone well, the trainers work well together, and attendees have benefited from the inter-agency approach.
- A Train the trainer course taken place today to train more staff to deliver training.
- Neglect training is not currently being delivered and is being re developed by the SCP neglect group.
- Safeguarding Level 1 & 2 are running but we need to put more dates in due there being a waiting list again. Refresher courses ceased to ensure courses are continually refreshed and current, however this has impacted on waiting lists building again.
- E Wragg recommended that in future the SCP commission courses which the SCP are unable to develop locally such as familial sexual abuse
- There is need for a Safeguarding Level 2 Training as only 1 trainer able to deliver at current.

Training charges are charged to external agencies but not internal agencies.

- Domestic Abuse Training is facilitated by Women's Aid and is part of a paid contract.
- Local training within the area is localised to our area.
- E Wragg explained that the charging structure had been in place and was no longer fit for purpose. All charges go into the Learning and Development budget within the LA and are used to pay for the eLearning licences and the contract to Women's Aid, there is no profit made. Income from training has reduced over the years and was previously about £30,000 but is half of that now.
- The LA L&D team are developing local eLearning safeguarding courses, the
 contract with virtual college runs out at the end of March 2024. However, we will
 run out of licence before then, the groups this will impact on is child minders,
 foster carers and schools and is a risk.
- H Davies asked if there was a training strategy in place. E Wragg confirmed SCP training strategy was developed by the Learning and development group. D Wildbore asked if the training plan was clear in terms of required resources and capacity needed. E Wragg confirmed the plan and sets out the intention of a dedicated trainer, aligned to the 3 priorities, safeguarding themes, single agency, inter agency training and need for review of charging process

- Discussion in respect of whether training should be charged for or should be free, in Lincolnshire there is a fee but not in north Lincolnshire, further discussion is needed by the SCP Executive
- Consideration whether agencies will carry on paying for the training or are they going to find free training?
- SCP funding for training needs to be clearly shown where this is coming from and how we utilise the money for training. Funding for Virtual college also needs to be clear.
- If a decision were made that training is free the SCP would need sufficient resources to enable this

There was an agreement for the SCP Executive to consider the SCP Training Strategy and training deliver plan to understand what is in the training plan as this will identify the resource needed and numbers of trainer within the key agencies.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|--------------|------------|
| The SCP executive to consider the learning and | H Willis / E | 30.11.2023 |
| development training plan and to identify what further | Wragg | |
| details are needed to then agree to identified | | |
| resources requirements re trainers etc | | |

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|--------------|------------|
| Provide J Spencer with detail of the LA income and | H Willis / E | 30.11.2023 |
| expenditure in respect of safeguarding training | Wragg | |

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|---|-------------|------------|
| Send a copy of the SCP training strategy to the SCP | K Wilkinson | 30.11.2023 |
| Assurance Executive members | | |

6 P plan

The SCP Executive requested a meeting was held to consider how the 6 P Plans aligned to the children's services transformation plan. A meeting was held on the 8th of November with Phil Booker, Roz Cordy and Helen Willis and Jamie McMann from Power as requested by the SCP Executive. Jamie McMann has reviewed all the SCP 6 P Plans and there was nothing contrary to the transformation plan.

Agreement for Jamie McMann to work with the children's social care representatives on each of the SCP subgroup to identify the 3 children's social care action are to achieve outcomes. Starting with Neglect, prioritising these subgroups accordingly. Decision that the 6 p Plans continue during this period.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|----------|------------|
| Provide an update from Jamie McMann on the 6 P | H Willis | 31.12.2023 |
| Plans progress | | |

4. | Child Sexual Abuse Group/ Child Exploitation Group

The 3 SCP priorities are Early Help, Neglect and Child Sexual Abuse, time limited Task Groups task and finish groups were developed to develop the respective strategies. The child sexual abuse strategy has been developed supported by the NSPCC.

A child Exploitation Group was set up chaired by Lauren Clough which has not been successful. At the last CSA meeting on 19/10/2023 and at Child Exploitation meeting held on 30/10/2023 there was a discussion on merging the Child Exploitation and Child Sexual Abuse group meetings into one. The rational was that the two 6 P Plans from the groups overlapped. There was a challenge and concerns raised at the exploitation group by partners as CSA and exploitation are very different areas. Discussion included,

- H Davies felt it was appropriate to review the number of subgroups and to consider if all the subgroups were all needed.
- D Wildbore agreed with the merging of the CSA and exploitation groups as there were lots of cross overs
- It was identified that the membership of the 2 groups would also be similar.
- C Cook suggested having one meeting, chaired by one person with one terms of reference and two agenda items for CSA and exploitation
- There was agreement that this should work well.

The decision made in todays meeting was to merge the CSA and exploitation groups together but have a split Agenda, t was recommended that Leanne Murphy could possibly lead on this.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|------------|------------|
| Speak to Phil Booker in respect of DCI Leanne Murthy | D Wildbore | 30.11.2023 |
| chairing the joint CSA/ Exploitation group | | |

5. **NEL SCP Subgroup Attendance Audit**

There was a recommendation made by the Strategic Management Group on 14/09/2023 for an audit of agency attendance of SCP subgroups to be undertake, to ensure the right level of agency representation.

The Overall findings of the audit were that attendance by the SCP Executive Agencies across all groups was more than 60%. Attendance by agencies across the subgroups were variable which has impacted on the rate of progress.

- Police at 78%
- Children's Social Care 69%
- Integrated Care Board 83%

Members flet the audit was really helpful and highlight where there had been gaps in attendance. It was agreed the important element is that the right person attended the group from agencies and was able to contribute fully and make decisions. The groups Terms of Reference have been sent to the Executive so they can ensure they have the right level of representation.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|--|---------|------------|
| Raise issues re NAVIGO attendance at the SCP | H Davis | 13.02.2024 |
| operational board, with the service | | |

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|---|-----------|------------|
| Review Children's Social Care representation at the | J Spenser | 31.12.2023 |
| right level for the subgroup meetings | | |

5. Strategic Management Group Update Report

H Willis gave presented the report, discussion included:

- The risk register is working well, it was recommended that the early help risk be removed, this was agreed by the executive.
- The SMG report to the Assurance Executive report now includes progress against the priority area are for each subgroup, outcome were and impact as requested by the strategic management group.
- Issues were raised around representation as some groups have not met regularly these being the Safeguarding Reviewing Group, Child Exploitation and Education Subgroup.
- H Willis met with Donna Phillips to Designated Nurse the new Safeguarding Reviewing Group chair, the scope is being reviewed and will review all serious incidents, the Line of Sight will come under This group
- C Cook advised there were concerns around Education not being as effective as it could be. H Willis confirmed a meeting took place this week and the membership and terms of reference is being reviewed and strengthened

6. Core Data Set

Helen Willis gave an update, discussion included.

- The core set was last updated in September 2023.
- The indicators were chosen by the subgroups in discussion with Adele Harty in align to the 3 SCP priorities and key area of focus.
- Most of the required agency data has been received, the data set will be analysed on a quarterly basis by the Quality Assurance Group and the findings presented to the SCP strategic management group and Assurance Executive
- A decision needs to be made if Apex can be used as a platform to house the core
 data set. The Apex system belongs to the local authority, partner agencies are
 able to access it to input data in.

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|---|----------|------------|
| Provide a brief to Janice Spencer on the proposed use | H Willis | 30.11.2023 |
| of the LA apex system to house the cordata set | | |

| Action | Lead | Deadline |
|---|----------|------------|
| The final analysed core data set to be presented to the February SCP Assurance Executive and quarterly from that point on | H Willis | 30.11.2023 |

7. Ofsted findings

C Cook advised the findings from Ofsted in respect of the recent monitoring visit were great, Janice had thanked everyone for supporting the local authority. We are now hearing the voice of the children, young people and families now. Ofsted are happy that the improvements made are good.

8. Any other business

No other business.

The Executive thanked Janice Spencer and wished her the best for the future as this is her last Assurance Executive meeting as the DCS. .

Next meeting of the SCP Executive:

Date: Tuesday 13th February 2024

Time: 10.00 – 12.00

Venue: Crosland Suite, Grimsby Town Hall