



Record of Meeting

	NEL Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive
	<p>Venue: Council Chamber, Grimsby Town Hall Date: Monday 17th July 2023 Time: 13:30 – 15:30</p>
	<p>Attendees: C Cook – Independent Chair of NEL SCP J Spencer - Director of Children’s Social Care, NELC D Wildbore – Chief Superintendent, Humberside Police L Clough – Detective Inspector Safeguarding Children Partnership H Davis –Place Nurse Director, North and North East Lincolnshire Places,, HNY ICB H Willis – SCP Manager, NELC Cllr M Cracknell - Portfolio Holder for Children and Education</p> <p>Guest Speakers R Cross - Partnership Lead, People’s Directorate J Swann - Deputy Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children D Marshal – Head of Service, Sector Led Improvement Childrens Services A Harty- Head of Integrated Front Door and Partnerships</p>
	Note Taker – H Willis, SCP Manager
1.	Attendance and apologies
	D Wildbore attended part of the meeting, L Clough in attendance
2.	Minutes from previous SCP Assurance Executive 2.3.2023
	<p>Minutes agreed as accurate.</p> <p>Action 1: H Willis and S Watson to develop a job description and costings for the post of Deputy SCP/SAB Manager. Update: Complete</p> <p>Action 2: J Haxby to forward required corrections and areas requiring inclusion within the SCP Constitution/Governance. Update: Complete</p> <p>Action 3: H Willis to take forward arrangements for the audit of the SCP to place. Update: Complete</p>
3.	SCP Resource Requirements and Funding Update
	<p><u>Finance report</u> H. Willis spoke to the budget report. The SCP have relied on an ear marked reserve to meet budget commitments. The EMR currently sits at £17,914, the drawdown for 23/24 is currently £8,939. In 2024/5 the full remaining £8,975 needs to be drawn down which still leaves a deficit of £11,274. For 2025/6 there is a deficit of £20,249.</p>

The SCP made a decision to commission an independent thematic review or neglect as a recommendation from a local rapid review. An independent reviewer has been identified, (£600 a day) the cost of the review is currently being established but will be in the range of ten to fifteen thousand pounds. There is currently no budget for this. Additional funding will need to be identified to address the deficit and meet the SCP core business needs.

SCP training officer funding

H Willis advised the SCP made a decision that a dedicated trainer was required to deliver and support the development of SCP training. The plan was for the funding to be identified from the bid put into the DFE by children’s services. J Spencer confirmed that the bid had not been successful.

Renewal of eLearning training licences

H. Willis advised it had been agreed at the March Assurance Executive, the police, LA and ICB would each contribute to the cost of virtual college over the next year to provide eLearning at a basic level. The plan going forward is to develop SCP online training. H. Willis advised the LA and ICB have paid, D Wildbore has advised the police are not in a position to meet the cost and don’t provide funding to training in the other cross boundary areas. J Spencer challenged this view and advised each of the three partners needed to contribute.

Action	Lead	Date
Feedback the view of the SCP Assurance Executive in respect of the police contribution to the virtual college funding to D Wildbore	L Clough	31.8.23

SCP Finances

H. Willis confirmed that J Haxby had led a review of the resources for both the SCP and SAB, which included the business case for a deputy SCP and SAB manager. It was confirmed the 20k that went towards the cost of the Safer Assistant Director was now part of the SCP budget. Discussion in respect of the £37.700 LA charges for accommodation and IT support which was also part of the review. Agreement to seek an update from S Hunt. C Cook requested the three executive members meet to discuss the SCP financial situation.

Action	Lead	Date
SCP executive members to meet to discuss the SCP financial situation.	J Spencer H Davis D Wildbore	31.8.23

4.	<p>Strategic Management Group Update Report</p> <p>A Harty gave an update in respect of the development of the SCP core data set. It has been redeveloped, informed by the NEL SCP three priorities, Lincolnshire SCP model and the NEL SCP 6 P plan accountability framework. The police, CSC and health data has been agreed and conversations are taking place with wider agencies re key data.</p> <p>At present this is held as a standalone document which information is fed into, the challenges at present are its sits with one person, therefore it is not seen as a</p>
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partnership tool. In addition, there is a lack of accountability in updating the document. The Police have not been able to update their data for over a year.

In terms of the platform to support the data set, Power BI will take time to build and develop which is being explored by health. It is proposed that the Children's service, Apex platform is used by partners to update their data, it was used for the previous SCP core data set and can be amended to mirror the current core data set. It is password protected, setting a time frame for the data to be added, using this platform will hold partners to account for updating their data. There also needs to be consideration of a data analyst to review to support in understanding the data.

J Spencer advised the SCP Assurance Executive need to see the core data set to the give a view on which platform it needs to be on. H Davis advised that the quality assurance group can analyse the data into meaning for practice

Action	Lead	Date
Share the current core data set document with the SCP Executive	A Harty	31.8.23

Action	Lead	Date
Raise the lack of police data for the SCP core data set with D Wildbore	L Clough	31.7.23

5. Strategies for sign off

Neglect

J Swan introduced the neglect strategy and highlighted the following points

- The strategy was developed in full consultation with all partner agencies.
- It was informed by local and national learning from practice including line of sight.
- A number of best practice strategies were considered in its development and the previous neglect strategy and joint strategic needs assessment.
- There have been two task groups, one looking at the strategy and the other the toolkit. The toolkit will be ready by September.
- The work has been closely aligned to the early help strategy.
- There is a clear need to focus on the basics including professional curiosity when assessing neglect.
- The next steps are to roll out the delivery plan

J Spencer felt the strategy was good but needed to emphasise and make clear how we intervene earlier. Discussion around the needs for all agencies to understand what needs to happen to prevent neglect. Agreement that the language needed to be strengthened re early help.

Action	Lead	Date
Make the recommended changes to the neglect strategy in ensuring how we intervene earlier is explicit within the neglect strategy	J Swan R Cross	31.7.23

Action	Lead	Date
Take the revised neglect strategy to CSC senior leadership team for agreement	J Spencer	31.8.23

C Cook thanked J Swann for all her work on the strategy and advised the strategy was signed off in principle pending the agreed changes.

Prevention and Early Help Strategy

R Cross introduced the strategy and highlighted the following points

- The strategy has been developed in consultation with all partner agencies.
- The early help assessment was found to be too long, it was revised and piloted by 28 schools as a result of feedback. The pilot was very positive, and the new form will be adopted. Tracker in place re TAFs, closely aligned to front door. As of last week, 101 on tracker and 91 supported, not including TAFs supported by schools.
- Number of task and finish groups, strategy is designed to be family friendly.
- Elements re start.
- for life, TAF, SEND
- In addition, an early help handbook has been developed. Workshops will be held over the summer to support partners in completing the early help assessment and understanding expectations.
- Partners will be supported to complete the early help assessment and new process.
- Going forward partners will be supported with supervision and audit on family's people are worried about
- Allocation of every school to a TAF worker
- The EH assessment and handbook will be launched in September across the partnership.

D Marshal spoke to the early help assessment and integrated front door process

- The proposal is from September the MARF (Multi agency referral form) will be turned off, if there is a safeguarding concern this needs to be called through and taken by a call taker at the front door. A number of questions will be asked, why we are so worried about the Child, the quality of the MARF was an issue, which Ofsted also noted, the new process will ensure the quality of the information.
- There is an exception with certain agencies including the A&E, GPs, police, NSPCC who will have a safeguarding form to complete. If the threshold is not met then the agency needs to have conversation with the family about completing the early help assessment. This will lead to families being supported earlier.
- Where agencies want to request an early help worker they need to complete an early help assessment.
- The assessment, strategy and new early help assessment and integrated front door processes need signing off.

H Davis said huge well done on the strategy which was great and easy to read. H Davis asked if the system was set up to respond to potential increase in demand related to the implementation of both strategies, and can we respond to this. J Spencer advised there are four call takers in the front door trained in a strength-based approach, capacity will be reviewed. There is a lot of modelling in the front door and group learning. Lot of work with the partnership including attending child protections coordinators meetings in respect of the process and supporting them. The front door also gives advice and guidance, there is real partnership working with TAF and early help, want to support partners so more

capacity and support across wider organisations including the voluntary and community sector.

H Willis confirmed that both strategies would report through the 6 p plans to the operational board and strategic management board and through the core data set.

Action	Lead	Date
Take the revised neglect strategy to CSC senior leadership team for agreement	H Willis	31.8.23

Agreement the launch of the early help strategy and revised early help assessment and integrated front door process needs to be communicated to partners by the SCP.

Action	Lead	Date
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	H Willis D Marshal	31.8.23

6. Childrens Services Vision

D Marshal advised work started last year on identifying a children’s services vision. It was found there were a number of brands and the identity had been lost. Consultation and workshops have been held across the service and with children and families/ carers and partner agencies.

The vision identified is North East Lincolnshire Childrens Services “Our Children Our Future”.

The vision will be branded and will replace all other CSC brands. Statements of how we will work are being developed and primary and secondary schools have been asked to design how the vision will look. It will be launched in September; wider partners will be identified.

7. Risk Register

S Hunt advised the risk register has been reviewed and revised. S Hunt and H Willis have met with all risk leads in reviewing the register. The headline risks are,

Neglect – no concerns around progress, draft strategy written and 6P Plan in place needs embedding, monitoring progress.

Early Help – Strategy and 6 P Plan complete, needs embedding and monitoring

Sexual Harm – Strategy near completion, & 6 P Plan complete, practice guidance published, gap analysis and training to be completed.

Ofsted Are Children Safe, strong governance, improvement Plan in place.

Sustainable Workforce – Recruitment & Retention Strategy being developed with SLIP, Induction reviews to be developed.

Partnership Capacity – Escalated and an additional £20k will be added to the budget, challenges remain.

Unallocated cases – Front Door making difference, work within EH & Team Around Family, Care Planning, Commissioner support.

Workforce Development – Learning and Development group 6P plan complete, dedicated training resource agreed, (finance to be identified) offer in place delivered by a range of agencies but not sustainable.

	<p><u>Domestic Abuse</u> – Commissioning in progress, MARAC Self-Assessment, data set, Safe & Together, learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews</p> <p><u>Child Exploitation</u> – Subgroup established, 6P Plan complete, training reviewed, Sept delivery.</p> <p>We will build on the robust check and challenge of the risk register through the operational delivery group and strategic management group. Members felt the risk register was robust and articulated the current risks well.</p>												
8.	Working Together Consultation												
	<p>The Government are currently reviewing the Working Together statutory practice guidance 2018. A consultation is taking place, the closing date is the 6th of September. The consultation has been sent to the operational group and strategic delivery group for consideration and response.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 730 1465 882"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Lead</th> <th>Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>A workshop to be held at the July operational group to respond to the working together consultation and coordinate the response on behalf of the SCP executive</td> <td>H Willis</td> <td>31.7.23</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Lead	Date	A workshop to be held at the July operational group to respond to the working together consultation and coordinate the response on behalf of the SCP executive	H Willis	31.7.23						
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10.	Guidance on bruising/ injuries to non mobile babies												
	<p>A Harty spoke to the policy. The policy was informed by and is aligned to the North Lincolnshire SCP policy in ensuring a consistent approach and practice across the trust. It is based on local and national learning from safeguarding reviews. A working group of the SCP have developed it, which include all key partners, it has been agreed by NLAG.</p> <p>J Spencer agreed with the policy but felt it needed a flowchart that made the CSC expectations and process explicit. Members agreed the policy pending the changes.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1301 1465 1417"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Lead</th> <th>Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Add a CSC flowchart to the policy for bruising/ injuries to non-mobile babies.</td> <td>A Harty</td> <td>31.8.2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1464 1465 1581"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Lead</th> <th>Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>When revised arrange for the policy for bruising/ injuries to non mobile babies to be signed off by CSC SLT and NLAG</td> <td>A Harty</td> <td>31.8.2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Lead	Date	Add a CSC flowchart to the policy for bruising/ injuries to non-mobile babies.	A Harty	31.8.2023	Action	Lead	Date	When revised arrange for the policy for bruising/ injuries to non mobile babies to be signed off by CSC SLT and NLAG	A Harty	31.8.2023
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11.	Internal safeguarding audit												
	<p>H. Willis advised the audit was commissioned by the previous Director of children's services. The audit was agreed in principle.</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="225 1816 1465 1933"> <thead> <tr> <th>Action</th> <th>Lead</th> <th>Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Populate the actions within the internal safeguarding audit</td> <td>H Willis</td> <td>31.8.2023</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action	Lead	Date	Populate the actions within the internal safeguarding audit	H Willis	31.8.2023						
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12	Any other business								
	H. Davis advised NHS England have commissioned a quarterly data return for Looked After Children regarding Initial and Review Health Assessments. H Davis will provide the data spreadsheet to J Spencer for awareness.								
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<u>Next meeting of the SCP Executive:</u>									
<p>Date: Thursday 16th November 2023 Time: 10.00 – 12.00 Venue: Crosland Suite, Grimsby Town Hall</p>									