



Telford & Wrekin Safeguarding Children Board NEWSLETTER

Issue 3 - Spring 2016

Key messages from the January 2016 Board

The January Board concentrated on four main aspects: safeguarding overview from a health perspective, how children safeguard children through the roll out of Team Safeguarding Voice in schools, Child Exploitation and performance.

The Board highlighted the two key messages to share with practitioners:

- Induction guidance focusing on safeguarding training is available:
 - ⇒ [Information to support mandatory induction to child protection leaflet](#)
 - ⇒ [TWSCB Induction Training - mandatory induction for all staff entering the workforce](#)
- For all staff to ensure that they are aware of the [West Mercia Missing Protocol](#) and their responsibilities. For further information, or to discuss any areas of the protocol please contact Steve Hosking, lead for Missing on steve.hosking@telford.gov.uk

**Don't forget...if it's
not recorded it hasn't
happened!!**

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Scrutiny Review - UPDATE

Update on Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee Review of Multi-Agency Working Against Child Sexual Exploitation

The Council's Children's and Young People's Scrutiny Committee, Chaired by Cllr. Kevin Guy, agreed to undertake a review of multi-agency working against Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) in November 2014. The scope of the review set out to consider: "How well are organisations in Telford and Wrekin working together to prevent CSE, support and protect victims and their families and prosecute perpetrators?"

The evidence the Committee is gathering during this inquiry has been broken down into three separate phases:

The first phase of the review took place between March and July 2015. Representatives from 14 different statutory organisations attended public committee meetings to discuss their work around CSE with the Committee. Minutes of these meetings are available from <http://apps.telford.gov.uk/CouncilAndDemocracy/Committees/Details/NDY%3d>

The second stage of the review has involved Members of the Committee meeting with front line staff and volunteers from a range of organisations across the borough.

The third stage involves consultation with service users and the public. Four online questionnaires were developed seeking the views of:

- victims and survivors of CSE;
- parent and carers of victims and survivors of CSE;
- parents, grandparents and carers;
- organisations that have not already been involved in the review.

Responses have been received to all four questionnaires.

Meetings are also being arranged with children and young people. These meetings took place during November and December. All consultation work has been carried out in line with the Council's consultation and research methodology.

The draft report will be circulated for comment to organisations that have participated in the review during March 2016. The final report will be agreed by the Children and Young People Scrutiny Committee in May 2016. It has been agreed that the report will be presented to the TWSCB to consider the recommendations and co-ordinate the response. The report and response to the recommendations will then be presented to the Council's Cabinet.

Further information about the scrutiny review is available from www.telford.gov.uk/scrutinyreviewofcse or contact Fiona Bottrill, Scrutiny Group Specialist on fiona.bottrill@telford.gov.uk

Community Board Member Profile:

Chanise Evans

As a community member of the Telford and Wrekin Safeguarding Children board my main responsibility is to assist the board by giving the views and concerns of the Telford and Wrekin community. I have varied knowledge and experience to help the board in ensuring the safety and well being of the children and young people of Telford and Wrekin.

Previously I was a West Mercia Police Cadet and graduated as Cadet of the Year Runner Up 2015. Following on from that selection, I work closely with PC Ridgewell and PCSO Jolly as an ambassador assisting with listening to the voice of cadets in relation to concerns or successful work that the cadets engage in within the community, such as The Climbers at St Georges and Millbrook Primary School. I also voluntarily work in a primary school mentoring children with their learning. I work with the police on various cases and case studies as I am now Vice Chair of the Local Independent Advisory Group.



The roles have given me the opportunity to express the views and concerns of the community in terms of their safety and environment.

TWSCB Thematic Sub-groups

Domestic Abuse	Children Harming Children	Child Exploitation	Neglect
<p><i>Chaired by Paul Fenn, Cohesion Locality Manager, Telford & Wrekin Council</i></p> <p>Why: In 2014-15 there were over a thousand incidents of domestic abuse recorded by the Police in Telford and Wrekin where a child was either present or residing at the address; this was a 3% increase on the previous year.</p> <p>Areas to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Voluntary Perpetrator Programme • Operation Encompass • Promoting positive and healthy relationships • Raising overall awareness of domestic abuse • Staff and inter-agency training • Security and safety of victims and their families • Embedding a needs-based approach <p>Key areas of development this Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inter-agency training program for practitioners • Review of Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) quality assurance process 	<p><i>Chaired by Jo Britton, Assistant Director for Children's Safeguarding, Telford & Wrekin Council</i></p> <p>Why: Nationally this area is an emerging safeguarding issue, and learning from the local Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) Discretionary Serious Case Review into the murder of Georgia Williams identified a need to review the local practice for children who harm other children.</p> <p>Areas to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure policies and procedures are fit for practice and develop common multi-agency good practice guidance and practice tools. • Scope what services are available to support children who harm other children and their victims. • Participate in the RIP and NSPCC Harmful Sexual Behaviours Framework pilot and consider any learning to progress upon completion <p>Key areas of development this Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of the online safety TWSCB web-pages and creation of parental briefing notes. • Finalisation of the updated policy and procedures. 	<p><i>Chaired by DCI Dean Jones, Protecting Vulnerable People Unit, West Mercia Police</i></p> <p>Why: Child Exploitation (CE) is a high level safeguarding concern both strategically and operationally within Telford and Wrekin. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and Missing have been thematic areas for the TWSCB and now come together in one group that also looks at Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence.</p> <p>Areas to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Access to appropriate CE victim support services • Support to minimise/eradicate offending behaviour. • Increase awareness of CE risks and provide knowledge to protect against CE in the community • Interagency training programme <p>Key areas of development this Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of CSE pathway • Review of quality assurance process for return home interviews • Development of borough wide CE performance framework. 	<p><i>Chaired by Tina Knight, Principal Officer, Child Protection, Telford & Wrekin Council</i></p> <p>Why: Awareness of child neglect and its consequences has increased during the last two decades and is the most common reason for child protection plans. In line with the national picture neglect consistently accounts for above 50% of the child protection plans in Telford and Wrekin.</p> <p>Areas to progress:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fully implement the Child's Lived Experience model into the daily practice of professionals who work with children. • reviewing the current practice for adolescents living with neglect • Develop the performance framework to illustrate how outcomes for children suffering from neglect are improving. <p>Key areas of development this Spring:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Graded Care Profile—an assessment tool</i> • <i>Embedding the changes in child protection conferences and core groups.</i>

Team Safeguarding Voice Rollout

Team Safeguarding Voice was established four years ago at Holmer Lake Primary School to increase the number of children at school feeling safe. The project is now being rolled out across schools in Telford and Wrekin.. What has happened so far:

- During 2014-2015, nine schools were supported to establish a safeguarding board for children
- In November 2015 a course was run which focused on establishing a safeguarding Board for children.
- A network for all schools with a board, or those who are interested in setting one up, is offered across the local authority, the next one is on 4th February. All staff in the 20 schools have been supported. In addition there are schools who have been supported via e-mail and through the sharing of resources.

If you want to know more information about how your school can be involved please contact Sian Deane on sian.deane@taw.org.uk.



Training

Themed Learning Event - Through my Eyes

On 4 November 2015 TWSCB hosted a themed learning event which raised awareness of the impact of Honour Based Abuse and Female Genital Mutilation on children and young people, providing considerations to inform assessment and to launch the TWSCB FGM Practice Guidelines.

Jasvinder Sanghera (HonDUniv), CBE from Karma Nirvana provided an incredibly moving and informative insight into her personal experience of Forced Marriage and to that of others who have experienced Honour Based Abuse. She enabled attendees to understand the life long implications of this form of abuse and explained that culture should always come second to risk in considerations for the protection of children.

Alison Byrne, a practicing midwife and independent trainer gave a presentation which clearly demonstrated the immediate pain and distress that this form of abuse brings to a child and also provided an in depth understanding of the long term physical and emotional implications.

DCI Dean Jones of West Mercia Police launched the **FGM** Practice Guidance which has been developed through the Domestic Abuse subgroup.

Online training courses are available through the following links:

- [Forced Marriage](#)
- [Female Genital Mutilation](#)

Changes to Child Protection Conferences Core Group practice

A number of practitioners across TWSCB agencies attended briefings led by Tina Knight and Claire Hughes to outline the changes in Child Protection Conferences and Core Group practice being implemented by the TWSCB. During these briefings learning from local research funded and coordinated by TWSCB was shared. This is now embedded as part of the TWSCB training around conferences and core groups.

The new look Child Protection Conferences will support family engagement in the conference and aid the Core Groups to develop and progress the Child Protection Plan effectively, therefore improving family functioning and the daily lived experience of the child(ren) and young people.

If, as part of your role, you attend Child Protection Conferences and Core Groups, and have not received training, the TWSCB do provide a highly recommended 2 day training course "[Working Together in Child Protection Conferences and Core Groups](#)" which will equip you with the knowledge and skills to engage effectively with the process.

Evaluation of training — we need YOUR help

The value of filling in evaluation forms can feel a low priority at the end of a training event, and can easily be forgotten. So why are they important? The information provided on an evaluation form is used in many ways:

- The TWSCB has to demonstrate (including to OFSTED) the impact on practice of single and interagency training. The feedback received through the completed evaluation form is one tool used to achieve this.
- The TWSCB have a multi agency training budget and the information and feedback gained from the completed evaluation form is used in budget reviews and decisions about future training events. One such example, overwhelming feedback from the Sand Stories training influenced the decision to provide additional training dates.
- Information received on the form is used to review the content of training packs enabling the training to remain current, fit for purpose and effective.

In Telford and Wrekin our workforce is excellent at completing evaluation forms on the day of training, providing effective and constructive feedback. Where we need your help is with those forms sent out after the event. These are the ones which ask about impact on practice when you have had the opportunity to think about the learning and reflect on the learning in supervision or team meetings.

Therefore, if you receive an evaluation form after the event we would be very grateful if you can return it promptly, as it really does make a difference.

Training

How to choose your Child Protection training

Universal training is the training which takes place in an organisation (single agency) which provides an overview of Safeguarding considerations, enables the individual to start to become aware of how to recognise child abuse and identifies Family Connect as a single point of contact for children's services in Telford and Wrekin.

Targeted training is delivered by the TWSCB Training Pool, the members of which are experienced practitioners who are subject specialists and have a passion for training. The audience is multi agency. Targeted training provides a basic understanding of different forms of abuse, the indicators to professionals and considers the impact on the child.

Specialist training takes the form of themed one off multi agency events which focus upon specific forms of abuse which have been identified by the TWSCB as key issues for the borough. These are often one off events where an external speaker provides an in depth understanding of a subject area. These sessions are suitable for those involved with assessment of risk and decision making in the Child Protection process.

For further information please refer to the [Training Strategy](#) or contact Claire Hughes, TWSCB Training Coordinator on T&WSCBTraining@telford.gov.uk

Coming up

New Child Sexual Exploitation training provided by Just Whistle. A new 1 day training to [raise awareness of the impact of Child Sexual Exploitation](#) on children and young people. This (Targeted) course is suitable for those who work directly with children and young people and as a result of their role need a wider understanding of the necessary considerations when a child is being sexually exploited.

TWSCB are funding e-learning modules on Domestic Abuse and Child Sexual Exploitation. Both of these are available to those members of the workforce whose role requires them to have a basic understanding of the indicators of these forms of abuse and need to understand what would be an appropriate professional response. Please contact the [training team](#) for further information.

The **Online Safety Event** held on 8 October 2015 enabled 39 practitioners to update their knowledge relating to online safety. We were brought up to speed by considering common apps used by children, being asked to think about if an app is free how is the company make their money and how might this pose a risk to children. Those who attended were provided with links into a treasure chest of resources which can be used to safeguard and protect children. This event will be repeated on [23rd March 2016](#).

Sand stories—A learning outcome from a case review identified the need to provide practitioners with skills to recognise disguised compliance and resistance when working with families in a child focused approach. The TWSCB have funded 6 sessions which has enabled 113 practitioners from a wide range of professional groups to attend a training day which enabled interagency discussion and reminding themselves of elements of their practice which can help keep children visible and protected. Further sessions are currently being run, although all places have been taken please contact the T&WSCBTraining@telford.gov.uk if you would like to register an interest.

Looking Forward

- Joint Targeted Area Inspections were launched by the government in January 2016 and look specifically at how agencies work together to tackle child sexual exploitation (CSE) and children missing from home, care or education.
- The TWSCB will be launching online safety briefing notes for parents and carers as well as updating the current information on the website.
- The National review of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) is currently underway and has been described as a "fundamental review of the role and functions of LSCB. This will include the child death review process and consideration of how the intended centralisation of serious case reviews (SCRs) will work effectively at local level."

Watch this space for updates on these and many other issues.

For further information about this publication or any of the article please contact the TWSCB on:

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