

Open Report on behalf of Richard Wills, the Director responsible for Democratic Services

Report to:	Adults Scrutiny Committee
Date:	9 September 2015
Subject:	Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group – Update

Summary:

This report enables the Adults Scrutiny Committee to have an overview of the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, in particular the Sub-Group's consideration of adult safeguarding matters. The draft minutes of the last meeting of the Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 15 July 2015 are attached.

Actions Required:

That the draft minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group, held on 15 July 2015 be noted.

1. Background

The Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group considers both adults' and children's safeguarding matters, in particular focusing on the activities of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board and Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

The last meeting of the Sub-Group was held on 15 July 2015 and the draft minutes are attached at Appendix A to this report. As the remit of the Adults Scrutiny Committee includes adult safeguarding, the Committee is requested to focus on those minutes from the Sub-Group, which are relevant to this remit.

2. Conclusion

The draft minutes appended to this report are for the Committee's information.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

This report does not require policy proofing.

4. Appendices

These are listed below and attached at the back of the report	
Appendix A	Minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 15 July 2015.

5. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Catherine Wilman, who can be contacted on 01522 55(3788) or catherine.wilman@lincolnshire.gov.uk.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

**WEDNESDAY 15 JULY 2015, COMMITTEE ROOM 3, COUNTY OFFICES,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN**

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR C R OXBY (CHAIRMAN)

Councillors S R Dodds, Mrs S Ransome and Mrs L A Rollings.

Added Members: Mrs Emma Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Representative).

In attendance: Chris Cook (Independent Chair, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)).

Officers in attendance: David Culy (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board (LSAB) Business Manager), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Caroline Mogg (Child Sexual Exploitation Co-ordinator), Jade Sullivan (LSCB Audit and Policy Officer), Catherine Wilman (Democratic Services Officer).

1. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor S R Dodds be elected as Vice Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Board Scrutiny Sub Group for the remainder of the year.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors D Brailsford and A M Austin and from Councillor C Burke (District Councils Representative), Elaine Baylis (Independent Chair – Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board) and Andrew Morris (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Business Manager).

3. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared.

4. MINUTES OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP HELD ON 7 JANUARY 2015

AGREED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 7 January 2015 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB) BUSINESS

5. UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE LSCB AND ITS SUB-GROUP

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on the work currently being undertaken by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and its subgroups.

The Group received an update on the position of Serious Case Reviews currently being considered by the Board.

There was potential danger of radicalisation of youngsters through the internet, however there had been no cases of this in Lincolnshire as yet. All work undertaken on this issue was being built into an evidence chest.

An update was provided on Section 11 audits which had been taking place. It was reported that both the British Transport Police and EMAS (East Midlands Ambulance Service) had been reluctant to cooperate, however EMAS had now agreed to take part following negotiations by Jade Sullivan.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

6. SERIOUS CASE REVIEW (SCR) – BABY W

Consideration was given to the Serious Case Review of the death of Baby W, who died shortly after his birth. His mother, a 16 year old girl, had concealed/denied her pregnancy and had given birth alone and unassisted in her bedroom at home. Concealed/denied pregnancies were very rare.

The SCR concluded that Baby W's death could not have been prevented due to the pregnancy having been concealed/denied. There was no media interest in the case following this conclusion.

It was reported that a multi-agency task group had been set up as a result of the case to discuss the figures on concealed pregnancies and the potential to not pick up on the early signs. The early help model and the pre-birth protocol would be used for this in future. GPs were unable to force an examination on any patient.

Following a discussion on the issue of concealed/denied pregnancies and gaining proof from patients, the following points were noted:

- It was suggested that GPs ask suspected concealed/denied pregnancy patients for a water sample. This would be taken back to the task group for its thoughts;
- Some of the female members of the Sub Group reported that their GPs often asked them if there was a chance they could be pregnant. It was suggested that this policy should be extended to younger patients too;

- The girl's GP had asked all the right questions during appointments, but as she had been so strongly in denial about her pregnancy, she had not answered truthfully.

It was requested that the findings of the task group be brought to a future meeting of the Sub Group.

AGREED

That the report be noted and that the findings of the task group be brought to a future meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub Group.

7. CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (CSE)

Consideration was given to a report which provided the Sub Group with an update on the work currently being undertaken by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board on Child Sexual Exploitation. The Sub Group received a presentation on the Board's response to CSE in Lincolnshire.

During the presentation, the following points were noted:

- Work was being done on the number of referrals in the county and why certain areas received more than others. A report on this work would be brought to a future meeting;
- Online grooming was more prevalent in Lincolnshire due to its rurality, compared to cities, where street grooming was more common;
- The police was strengthening the role of neighbourhood policing;
- The form of CSE could sometimes be subtle, with some victims not accepting that they had been the subject of exploitation:- jokey photos containing nudity, over the internet, for example;
- Parents tended to take risks online, so their children probably copy them. In addition, teenagers were known to take more risks due to mental development at that age.

AGREED

That the report and presentation be noted.

8. NEGLECT STRATEGY

A report was considered which presented the Neglect Strategy, developed by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board and its partners.

Following on from the publication from Ofsted of "In the Child's Time", it was recognised that all children's boards should have a neglect strategy to monitor, address and coordinate the response and awareness of the signs and symptoms of neglect.

The strategic objectives were:

- Promoting the effects of neglect in an attempt to minimise repeat cases;

- Ensuring plans were put place before a neglect case was closed to ensure it was not repeated;
- Effective training;
- Different tools and mechanisms to look at reducing neglect.

Officers had already received training on the issue and the strategy would be revised and improved to pick up on resource changes.

A recommendation from the audit was to make clear when practitioners needed to utilise Early Help and Team Around the Child (TAC).

AGREED

That the report be noted.

9. EARLY HELP AUDIT

The Sub Group considered a report and presentation on the findings and recommendations from the Early Help audit and Team Around the Child (TAC) audit which took place in 2013.

As part of the audit, 11 families were interviewed including teenagers and children.

TAC cases had brought a lot of positive outcomes for families and individuals. However, it had become apparent that the TAC process was complex and needed to be fully explained to parents, otherwise they struggled to understand it.

A workshop to examine the recommendations from the Early Help audit had been set up.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD BUSINESS

10. KEY MESSAGES FROM THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on the key issues from the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board meetings held in January and April 2015.

A programme of awareness and training events for frontline staff around the Mental Capacity Act had been set up as a part of the Regional Mental Capacity Act Programme. Close to 100 members of staff attended over two days, with two further events planned for October/November 2015 and more to be arranged in 2016.

The number of Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) cases being dealt with by the Council was currently close to 1400. Legal proceedings were underway to ascertain whether the Cheshire West ruling should be altered to reduce the number of applications being made. Councils across the country had been inundated with applications since the judgement in March 2014.

Funds to pay for DoLS applications in 2016 had already been secured by Adult Care.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

11. MAKING SAFEGUARDING PERSONAL

Consideration was given to a report which updated the Sub Group on the guidance supplied by the Department of Health and subsequent implementation of *Making Safeguarding Personal*. This programme was a key component for sector led improvement which was designed to support the implementation of the Care Act 2014 and associated statutory guidance.

It was reported that the Board would achieve the Silver Standard in 2015, for Making Safeguarding Personal.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

12. SAFEGUARDING ADULT REVIEWS

The Sub Group considered a report which provided an update on current Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs), formerly known as Serious Case Reviews. This report would become a regular item on the Sub Group's agenda.

The Care Act provided clear guidelines on what would define a SAR.

Further updates on existing SARs would be provided at the next meeting.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

JOINT BUSINESS

13. JOINT BOARD WORKING

AGREED

That this item be deferred until the next meeting.

14. JOINT DOMESTIC ABUSE PROTOCOL

Consideration of this item was deferred until the next meeting. However, the Sub Group was asked to nominate a delegate to attend the Domestic Abuse Protocol launch event on 29 September 2015. It was agreed that Mrs Emma Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Representative) would attend on behalf of the Sub Group.

AGREED

1. That this item be deferred until the next meeting;
2. That Mrs Emma Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Representative) attend the Protocol launch event on 29 September 2015, on behalf of the Sub Group.

15. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP
WORK PROGRAMME

In order to allow equal time for the business from both Boards, it was agreed to consider items relating to the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board first at the next meeting.

AGREED

That the work programme and changes made therein be noted.

The meeting closed at 4.35 pm.