

**Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards  
Scrutiny Sub-Group**

**Tuesday, 10 January 2012, Committee Room 3  
County Offices, Newland, Lincoln**

**PRESENT:**

Councillors W J Aron, Mrs C M H Farquharson, J D Hough, Mrs P A Mathers and  
S F Williams

Added Members: Richard Childs (NHS Lincolnshire) and Mr Fred Mann JP, Lincs  
Police Authority

In attendance: Councillor A P Williams (Executive Support Councillor, Children's  
Services and Adult Learning)

Officers in attendance: Steve Blagg (Democratic Services), Mandy Cooke (Head of  
Safeguarding), Sheridan Dodsworth (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board  
Business Manager), Simon Evans (Scrutiny Officer), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny  
Officer) and Sue Westcott (Assistant Director Children's Services)

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor S F Williams be elected Chairman of the Lincolnshire  
Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the ensuing municipal year.

2. ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

RESOLVED

That Councillor Mrs P A Mathers be elected Vice-Chairman of the  
Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the ensuing  
municipal year.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillor R A Shore and Steve Tyrell, Foster Carer.

4. DECLARATION OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

Councillor S F Williams declared a personal interest as his wife was a member of the  
Board of Boston Women's Aid.

Councillor J D Hough declared a personal interest in all items on the agenda as his partner was a Non-Executive Director of the Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust and he was a Member.

Councillor Mrs P A Mathers declared a personal interest as a Stakeholder Governor of LPFT (Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust).

5. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP HELD ON 12 JULY 2011

RESOLVED

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 12 July 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

6. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD SCRUTINY SUB GROUP HELD ON 15 JULY 2011

In relation to Minute 6, it was agreed that Councillor H R Johnson should be invited to attend a future meeting of the Sub-Group to report back on his meetings relating to the Integrated Children's System.

Following a request it was also agreed to provide further details of the membership of the Sub-Group.

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the last meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 15 July 2011 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD BUSINESS

Minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board were presented as follows:-

(a) Minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Strategic Management Group – 14 July 2011

Comments made by the Sub-Group included:-

1. Safeguarding concerns about teachers being able to search pupils in the absence of another person in attendance.
2. Progress of the Sub-Groups.

Chris Cook, Chairman of the Strategic Management Group, stated that the new powers in the Education Act 2011 which allow teachers to search pupils without the need for another teacher to be present, and the safeguarding issues around this

change, would be examined by the Group. In connection with progress made by the Sub-Groups, he stated that there had been many organisational changes following the reduction in public expenditure. He had met the chairmen of the Sub-Groups to examine progress and to ensure correct direction of travel. The chairmen of the Sub Groups had been informed about the Strategic Plan and the various themes associated with the Plan. Attendance and commitment of members of the Sub-Groups had improved but there was still room for improvement.

(b) Minutes of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Strategic Management Group – 13 October 2011

In response to comments made by the Sub-Group:-

1. It was agreed that the scrutiny arrangement for the Children and Young People's Strategic Partnership should be examined by the Council's Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee.
2. The Paediatric Service would be examined by the Management Group. It was noted that the Health Service was trying to commission new Paediatric services, had advertised for more Paediatricians to come to the county and that this was an ongoing problem.
3. The shortage of Paediatricians was not causing an operational problem to the Police.
4. The Council was on course in connection with Section 11 and it was noted that accreditation was not expected until March 2012. Eight Moderators had been trained to deal with Section 11.
5. It was noted that Councillor Mrs C M H Farquharson had been appointed to the Private Fostering Group.
6. Councillor involvement at the Board meetings was welcomed.

(c) Minutes of Operational Delivery Group held on 8 September 2011 and 17 November 2011

It was requested that a report on the Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) be brought to a future meeting of the Scrutiny Sub-Group.

RESOLVED

That the minutes and actions arising be noted.

8. THE MUNRO REVIEW OF CHILD PROTECTION FINAL REPORT: EXECUTIVE SUMMARY; GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE REVIEW AND ACTION PLAN

Sue Westcott presented a report on the Government's response to the Munro Review of Child Protection Final Report and commented as follows:-

1. The Board had invited other agencies to comment.
2. Working together and inspection was emphasised.
3. The new Ofsted framework and auditing arrangements against the framework would help the Council for Ofsted inspections.

4. Feedback from children would be examined.
5. In connection with shared responsibility the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board needed to have a bigger role.
6. A report on early help and support services would be taken to the Board.
7. Every single assessment should include seeking the views of the family.
8. Developing the expertise of Social Workers would be considered by the Children's Services DMT.
9. Most of the recommendations affected national policy.
10. Good progress was being made and local and national action arising from the recommendations would be considered by the Board.

Officers responded to comments made by the Sub-Group as follows:-

1. Self assessment procedures were in place and were very good.
2. The Scrutiny Sub-Group were involved in the self assessment process.
3. Representatives from the Scrutiny Sub-Group attended meetings of the Safeguarding Children Board.
4. Reconfiguration would bring Targeted services closer to Social Care.
5. Whole peer challenge would be time consuming for officers.
6. The Action Plan was the responsibility of the Sub Group.
7. The Safeguarding Children Board was overseeing the implementation of the Munro report.

Chris Cook stated that the proposals in the Action Plan would allow a multi-agency approach and for closer contact with frontline staff adding that it was proposed to not use people from outside of Lincolnshire but consultations would take place with colleagues across the Midlands to ascertain their approach. He also referred to the peer challenge process that the Lincolnshire Community Health Trust had adopted to examine front line services which acted as an internal audit.

The Sub-Group accepted that because of the present financial situation it was difficult to undertake a whole peer review although Councillor J D Hough thought that it should occasionally be undertaken. The Sub-Group also accepted that there should not be any involvement by Councillors in any frontline review.

RESOLVED

That the Munro report remain as a standard item on the agenda.

9. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP WORK PROGRAMME 2012/13

Tracy Johnson presented the Sub-Group's work programme for 2012/13.

It was agreed that future meetings of the Scrutiny Sub-Group would be arranged as follows:-

- 2.00pm on Wednesday 11 April 2012
- 2.00pm on Wednesday 4 July 2012
- 10.00am on Thursday 18 October 2012

Attendance by members of the Sub-Group at the meetings of the Safeguard Children Board and Strategic Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board were agreed as follows:-

12 January 2012 – no one available  
26 January 2012 – Mr F Mann JP  
7 March 2012 – Councillor S F Williams  
15 March 2012 - Councillor S F Williams  
19 April 2012 – Mr F Mann JP  
10 May 2012 - Councillor S F Williams

#### 10. SUE WESTCOTT – LAST MEETING

Sue Westcott stated that this was her last meeting of the Sub-Group because she was taking up a new post with the City of Peterborough Council. The Sub-Group thanked her for her contributions and wished her well for the future.

#### 11. LINCOLNSHIRE STRATEGIC SAFEGUARDING ADULTS AND DIGNITY BOARD BUSINESS

Minutes of the Lincolnshire Strategic Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board were presented as follows:-

##### (a) Minutes of the Lincolnshire Strategic Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board – 7 September 2011

Issues raised by the Scrutiny Sub-Group included the following:-

1. The Sub Group focused on the Minute relating to Pilgrim Hospital, Boston, Care Quality Commission (CQC) Report. The Lincolnshire Strategic Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board was reviewing the progress of United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust in responding to the CQC's report. The Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board had been reassured that there were measureable outcomes in connection with the action plan and this was a standard item on the Board's agenda. An "Outcomes Approach" had been adopted in the action plan. The Trust Board was meeting the deadlines and there was no slippage.
2. The Sub Group was advised that United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust Board has been strengthened over the last year. It was confirmed the Trust's Board comprised both Executive and non-Executive Directors.
3. The Sub Group expressed its own concerns about the CQC's report on Pilgrim Hospital.
4. The role of the Sub-Group in scrutinising the plan of action for addressing the CQC's report on Pilgrim Hospital was clarified. The Sub Group requested a more detailed report on the Trust's action plan and the progress being made, including a timetable to complete the action plan; and the re-assurance that matters would improve at Pilgrim Hospital. It was agreed that a report and a copy of the action plan would be brought to the Sub-Group.

5. The Sub Group was advised that United Lincolnshire Hospitals NHS Trust had invested a lot of management time addressing the problems at Pilgrim Hospital and there were some signs of improvement.
6. The Sub Group also focused on care homes for the elderly. All care homes had been subject to a quality framework check and, with the exception of a small number where work was ongoing with the regulator, all complied with safety standard. The Council was working with Health Watch on checking health of people in care homes. With regard to this matter it was requested that the Strategic Safeguarding and Dignity Board should submit a report to the Scrutiny Sub-Group. Reference was made to the detailed information on quality and performance information on the website on this matter.
  1. It was important that lead members of the Sub-Group attended meetings of the Strategic Safeguarding and Dignity Board.
  2. The Sub Group was advised of the position with regard to secretarial support to the Strategic Safeguarding and Dignity Board and the need for continuity in this area.

(b) Minutes of the Lincolnshire Strategic Safeguarding Adults and Dignity Board – 7 December 2011

Issues raised by the Sub-Group included Serious Case Reviews and the effect of family members and other people present unable to speak English; the importance of the developing health agenda; and Narrowing the Gap in deprived areas.

Officers responded that they were examining the personalisation agenda and would come back to the Sub-Group; the Care Quality Commission had done a themed inspection on Learning Disability People and the Sub-Group would be kept informed of developments.

**RESOLVED**

That the minutes and actions arising be noted.

The meeting closed at 11.25am.