

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING
 BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP
 26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

PRESENT:

Lincolnshire County Council: Councillors S R Dodds, R L Foulkes, Mrs C J Lawton and R Wootten

District Council: District Councillor Mrs S Waring

Representative appointed by Police and Crime Commissioner: Marc Jones

Also in attendance:-

Chris Cook (Independent Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board), Barry Earnshaw (Independent Chairman, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board), Simon Evans (Health Scrutiny Officer), David Hair (Member Services Manager), Clare Rowley (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Business Manager) and Sue Wilson (Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Policy and Audit Officer).

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Sub-Group was invited to nominate a County Council member of the Sub-Group to serve as Chairman for the Council year. Councillor S R Dodds was nominated and seconded and there were no other nominations.

RESOLVED

That Councillor S R Dodds be duly elected as Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18.

COUNCILLOR S R DODDS IN THE CHAIR

Councillor Dodds introduced herself and invited all those present to also introduce themselves to the meeting.

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Chairman invited nominations for the role of Vice-Chairman of the Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18. Councillor R L Foulkes was nominated and seconded and there were no other nominations.

2

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP
26 SEPTEMBER 2017**

RESOLVED

That Councillor R L Foulkes be duly elected as Vice-Chairman of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group for the Council year 2017/18.

3 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE/REPLACEMENT MEMBERS

It was reported that apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Mrs W Bowkett and A P Maughan, Janice Spencer, Assistant Director, Children's Services and from David Culy, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board Business Manager.

It was also reported that Marc Jones, Police and Crime Commissioner for Lincolnshire, would be the Police and Crime Commissioner representative for this meeting in place of Malcolm Burch, Chief Executive, Lincolnshire Police and Crime Commissioner's Office.

4 DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

None were reported.

5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP HELD ON 28 MARCH 2017

The meeting considered the minutes of the meeting held on 28 March 2017. It was recognised that the only member present on 28 March was Councillor S R Dodds. Councillor Dodds confirmed that the minutes were a correct record.

6 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP INTRODUCTION AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

A report outlining the Sub-Group's role and Terms of Reference was presented by Simon Evans, Health Scrutiny Officer. The report highlighted the key focus of the Sub-Group to scrutinise the effectiveness of both the Adults and Children Boards and to satisfy itself that agencies were working together effectively to achieve clear goals. It was confirmed that minutes from meetings of the Sub-Group would subsequently be presented to the relevant County Council scrutiny committee as part of the published agenda for that meeting.

The membership of the Sub-Group was discussed and it was confirmed that a representative from a local NHS organisation had been nominated and that Mr Andrew Burton, South West Lincolnshire CCG, would be in attendance from the next meeting. It was also confirmed that efforts were still underway to identify a Foster Carer representative for the Sub-Group.

The value of the Sub-Group was recognised by those present and the unique nature of the Sub-Group within the world of scrutiny. The existence and flagship nature of the Sub-Group was welcomed by the Chairs of both the safeguarding boards.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP
26 SEPTEMBER 2017

Part of the role of members of the Sub-Group was to attend meetings of the two safeguarding boards. The importance of this activity was discussed and the clear benefit of being able to see the boards in action and to report back on board activity to the Sub-Group.

RESOLVED

The Sub-Group noted its Terms of Reference.

7 INTRODUCTION TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB)

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Clare Rowley, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board Business Manager and Chris Cook, Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board.

The presentation outlined the multi-agency membership of the Board and its overarching role to ensure that multi-agency services were effectively co-ordinated to safeguard all children in Lincolnshire. In addition to the many links already made by the Board it was confirmed that new links had been established with the Lincolnshire Football Association in light of recent national safeguarding cases that had been reported. It was recognised that maintaining a successful multi-agency approach was an on-going challenge but that through hard work and good communication this was achievable.

The role of the LSCB was explained in more detail and key functions highlighted were;

- Developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Lincolnshire.
- Communicating to persons and bodies in Lincolnshire the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so.
- Monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively.
- Participating in the planning of services for children in Lincolnshire.
- Undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

National and local objectives for the period 2016-18 were set out including four specific local objectives to address Child Sexual Exploitation and emerging themes of abuse, to enhance the emotional wellbeing of young people, to promote healthy relationships and to work innovatively to reduce risk taking behaviours.

The meeting then considered the structure of the LSCB including the overarching Strategic Management Group and the Operational Delivery Group and the six subsidiary bodies that considered specific areas of child safeguarding. The challenge of maintaining proper separation between strategic and operational activity was recognised with some occasional overlap considered inevitable.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP 26 SEPTEMBER 2017

Members of the Sub-Group queried how the LSCB and its various structures were addressing emerging forms of abuse. Members were advised that both the Education Sub-Group and the Child Exploitation Sub-Group addressed concerns around 'virtual' abuse. In terms of PREVENT, the anti-radicalisation agenda, there were members of the PREVENT steering group sitting on a number of the Board structures and the work of the E-Safety Officer within schools was discussed. It was suggested that the E-Safety officer should be invited to a future meeting of the Sub-Group to describe their role and impact.

The presentation concluded with a look ahead to the future work of the LSCB and key priorities were;

- Budget setting for 2018/2019
- Business Planning for 2018-2021
- Audit Plan
- Policy Reviews
- Review of Multi-Agency Child Exploitation model.

The Sub-Group agreed that looked-after children were a group at potentially greatest risk and the Sub-Group was advised that discussions were already under-way between the LSCB Business Manager and the Corporate Parenting Manager about developing even stronger links in the future. The Sub-Group thanked both presenters for a very informative presentation.

8 INTRODUCTION TO THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (LSAB)

The Sub-Group received a presentation from Barry Earnshaw, Independent Chair of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board.

The Sub-Group was advised that the LSAB was relatively new compared to the LSCB and that it had only come into existence as part of the recommendations within the Care Act 2014. The Care Act 2014 had defined an adult at risk if they;

- had needs for care and support (whether or not the local authority is meeting any of those needs) and;
- was experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect; and
- as a result of those care and support needs was unable to protect themselves from either the risk of, or the experience of abuse or neglect.

The Care Act 2014 had also set out the three key core duties of an adults safeguarding board;

- To publish a strategic plan for each financial year that sets how it will meet its main objective and what the members will do to achieve this.
- To publish an annual report detailing what the SAB has done during the year to achieve its main objective and implement its strategic plan.
- To conduct any Safeguarding Adults Review.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP
26 SEPTEMBER 2017

The multi-agency nature of the LSAB was outlined along with the key roles played by Lincolnshire Police, the NHS and the County Council in promoting adult safeguarding across Lincolnshire. The LSAB structure was explained in more detail. In addition to the overarching Board, five subsidiary bodies existed below the Board itself to carry out the various adult safeguarding responsibilities.

The LSAB had itself established six strategic aims;

- Community: Improve public awareness of adult safeguarding
- Making Safeguarding Personal: Embed choice and control
- Collaboration: Improve cross partner information sharing
- Assurance: Confirm what we do makes a difference
- Workforce: Ensure a competent and capable workforce
- Prevention: Empowering people to safeguard themselves and others – promoting personal responsibility

Looking ahead reference was made to some of the emerging challenges within adult safeguarding including modern day slavery, PREVENT, domestic abuse, suicide and self-harm, self-neglect including hoarding and cyber-crime.

The Sub-Group recognised modern day slavery as a serious issue which had received considerable media attention following a recent major court case involving criminal activity in Lincolnshire. It was confirmed that there would be a review of the recent criminal convictions related to modern day slavery in the Lincolnshire area and that lessons learned and good practice established would be published to assist other police forces and local authorities locally and across the country.

Cyber-crime and scams were discussed and the risk to those who were already socially isolated. The Sub-Group highlighted the importance of public services continuing to offer face-to-face interaction to members of the public as this might be one of the only opportunities some people had for regular human interaction. The Sub-Group was advised that the Public Health team was currently exploring this issue and what could be done to improve the situation. It was also mentioned that as part of the STP (Sustainability and Transformation Plan) in Lincolnshire, the Neighbourhood Teams were piloting a 'self-care' approach in the Gainsborough area.

The safeguarding challenges faced by those adults with mental health conditions were also raised by members of the Sub-Group who were interested to know more about how mental health was factored into the safeguarding approach. The Sub-Group was advised that representatives from LPFT (Lincolnshire Partnership NHS Foundation Trust – provider of specialist health services for people with learning disabilities and mental health problems) featured on both safeguarding boards. Reference was also made to the 'Toxic Trio' of domestic abuse, mental ill-health and substance abuse and how a combination of some or all of these factors presented a challenge both for adults and children's safeguarding.

The presentation concluded with a look ahead to future priorities in addition to the strategic aims and priorities set out above and these included;

6

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

26 SEPTEMBER 2017

- A review of front-end systems and processes
- Peer Review; Scrutiny, Challenge and Assurance role in respect of CQC Reports and STP;
- New LSAB Strategy 2018/19 – 2021/22;
- Sustainable SAB funding; supporting regional and national developments.

The Sub-Group was advised that the LSAB Annual Report 2016/17 had just been finalised and would be presented to the next meeting of the Sub-Group following approval at the LSAB meeting on 27 September 2017.

9 LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP - DATES OF MEETINGS AND WORK PROGRAMME

The Sub-Group considered a report outlining its future Work Programme which featured a list of standard items for each meeting. A revised list of standard items was agreed as follows;

- Key messages from the LSAB
- Safeguarding Adult Reviews
- Key messages from LSCB
- Serious Case Reviews
- Policy and Audit update

It was agreed that dates of meetings for the forthcoming year would be finalised shortly following discussions between the Chairman of the Sub-Group and the Health Scrutiny Officer. Volunteers from the Sub-Group would also be sought to attend the meetings of the LSCB and LSAB.

RESOLVED

That the Work Programme of the Sub-Group be noted and that dates of future meetings be established and circulated shortly.

The meeting closed at 11.55 am