

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

**WEDNESDAY 29 JANUARY 2014, COMMITTEE ROOM 3, COUNTY OFFICES,
NEWLAND, LINCOLN**

PRESENT: Councillors D Brailsford, S R Dodds, Mrs H N J Powell (Vice Chairman), C R Oxby and Mrs S Ransome.

In attendance: Councillor P J O'Connor (Observer)

Also In attendance: Elaine Baylis (Independent Chair, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board), Chris Cook (Independent Chair, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board)

Officers in attendance: Mandy Cooke (Head of Safeguarding), Simon Evans (Scrutiny Officer), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Andrew Morris (LSCB Business Manager), Janice Spencer (Assistant Director, Children's Services) and Catherine Wilman (Democratic Services Officer).

21. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was reported that the previous Chairman was no longer a member of the Sub Group and therefore, it was necessary to elect a new chairman.

AGREED

That Councillor C R Oxby be elected as Chairman for the remainder of the Council year.

COUNCILLOR C R OXBY IN THE CHAIR

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs L A Rollings.

Apologies were also received from Emma Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Representative).

23. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared at this stage in the proceedings.

**24. MINUTES OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY
SUB-GROUP HELD ON 30 OCTOBER 2013**

AGREED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 30 October 2013 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record. **Page 69**

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

JOINT BUSINESS

25. USING THE OFSTED INSPECTION FRAMEWORK AS A BASIS FOR SCRUTINY

The Sub Group considered a report which included an extract from the Ofsted inspection framework for local safeguarding children boards, which was published in December 2013.

Janice Spencer gave a presentation to the Sub Group which covered:

- The basics of the framework;
- The areas of Children's Services inspectors would focus on;
- The areas of the LSCB the inspectors would focus on;
- What was important to inspectors.

After the presentation, Members were given the opportunity to ask questions and the following was noted:

- The care-leavers' structure within Children's Services was now recognised as being one of the best in the country;
- Families were required to give their consent to have Ofsted inspectors undertaking any part of their inspection activity in their homes. Feedback was being encouraged from parents/carers;
- The LSCB led on multi-agency training. There was a range of training opportunities available and details of these would be brought to a future meeting. All staff working within safeguarding were required to undergo safeguarding training;

The Sub Group discussed the appendices to the report: *Top 10 questions to ask when scrutinising children's safeguarding arrangements* and *Key questions to ask when scrutinising adults safeguarding arrangements*. The Scrutiny Officer would seek to structure the Sub Group agenda, so that it focussed on some of these questions at every meeting.

AGREED

1. That the report be noted;
2. That the ten suggested questions derived from the Ofsted framework, as a basis for developing and supporting the Sub Group's future scrutiny activity of both the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Children Board and the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board be adopted.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD BUSINESS

26. KEY MESSAGES FROM LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

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

This was Andrew Morris' first meeting of the Sub Group since commencing in the post of LSCB Business Manager. This report reflected the business which had occurred during the period since his appointment.

Since November 2013 the Board had been carrying out an internal review of children's safeguarding which had discovered certain processes requiring attention. In addition, the constitution had been revised and a performance framework had been created.

A Child Death Overview Panel had been recently held where the links between suicide and social media had been examined. The Sub Group reflected on the number of children who had committed suicide over the last 18 months in Lincolnshire. However, this number was not unusual compared to national figures. There were more young males committing suicide than females, who tended more towards self-harming.

Discussion took place regarding female genital mutilation and the systems in place to help girls exposed to it, however with a relatively small ethnic minority population, this was not too much of a concern for Lincolnshire. As the practice was illegal in the UK and considered abuse, any child subjected to it would be taken into care. The importance of education was stressed as a means of reducing female genital mutilation.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

27. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD BUSINESS PLAN 2013-2014

Consideration was given to a report which invited the sub group to look at the LSCB Business Plan for 2013-14, in particular considering progress in delivery the actions in the business plan.

The business plan had recently been revised incorporating statutory objectives and local objectives specific to Lincolnshire agreed with partner agencies.

It was felt the local objectives should be listed first in the business plan so as to give them more emphasis.

AGREED

1. That the report be noted.
2. That the Sub Group be reassured that the work of the partners in helping, protecting and caring for children in Lincolnshire is being co-ordinated through the objectives and actions in the Business Plan and that there are mechanisms in place to monitor the effectiveness of those arrangements.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

28. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK 2013-14

The Sub Group considered a report which provided the LSCB Performance Management Framework for 2013-14.

As this version of the performance figures did not include those from December 2013, a further report would be brought to the next meeting of the Sub Group.

Issues were raised regarding the Children and Young People's Scrutiny Committee having already scrutinised some of the indicators presented in the report. After a discussion, it was agreed the Scrutiny Officer would isolate those indicators relevant to the Sub Group and present them at the next meeting.

AGREED

That the report be noted and that the relevant performance indicators be identified and presented at the next meeting.

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD BUSINESS

29. KEY MESSAGES FROM LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD

The Sub Group considered a report which provided an update on the work currently being undertaken by the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board and its sub groups.

The most important aspect of the Board's operation was its current preparations for its operation as a statutory function, in line with the LSCB which currently had a higher profile and a higher level of funding. Work was in hand to ensure that the LSAB operated in a similar way to the LSCB.

Mandy Cooke was currently undertaking the work of a LSAB business manager as well as her responsibilities as Head of Safeguarding, however a post had been created for a Business Manager which was currently being advertised.

The results of a recent peer review had been favourable for the service, however it had highlighted a need for better scrutiny.

In response to a question, it was explained that adult safeguarding had a different perspective to children's due to the issue of consent required from vulnerable adults and their ability to make choices owing to the Mental Capacity Act.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

30. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD BUSINESS PLAN 2013-14

LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP

The Sub Group considered the LSAB Business Plan for 2013-14 which illustrated what the Board should be able to achieve. It had been formulated by adapting the principles from the LSCB business plan.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

31. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD LINCOLNSHIRE ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK BUSINESS PLAN 2013-14

The Sub Group considered the first draft of the framework which was still a work in progress. It had been created by taking the common areas from other independent frameworks.

A further updated version would be brought to the next meeting of the Sub Group.

AGREED

That the report be noted and a further updated version of the framework be submitted to the next meeting of the Sub Group.

JOINT BUSINESS

32. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARD SCRUTINY SUB GROUP WORK PROGRAMME 2014

The Sub Group considered its work programme for the coming months and representatives to attend the LSCB and LSAB meetings were sought.

AGREED

That the report and amendments to the work programme be noted.

The meeting closed at 12.15pm

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