

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP**

**WEDNESDAY 16 JULY 2014, COMMITTEE ROOM 3, COUNTY OFFICES,  
NEWLAND, LINCOLN**

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

Councillor C Burke (District Councils Representative)

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

Officers in attendance: David Culy (LSAB Business Board Manager), Simon Evans (Scrutiny Officer), Tracy Johnson (Scrutiny Officer), Andrew Morris (LSCB Business Manager), Catherine Wilman (Democratic Services Officer).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Mrs L A Rollings and Emma Olivier-Townrow (Parent Governor Representative);

Apologies were also received from Elaine Baylis (Independent Chair, Lincolnshire Safeguarding Adults Board)

2. DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS

No interests were declared.

3. MINUTES OF THE LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB-GROUP HELD ON 30 APRIL 2014

AGREED

That the minutes of the meeting of the Lincolnshire Safeguarding Boards Scrutiny Sub-Group held on 30 April 2014 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD (LSCB) BUSINESS**

4. UPDATE ON THE WORK OF THE LSCB AND ITS SUB-GROUPS

Chris Cook gave an update on the work of the LSCB. During this and the discussion that followed, the points below were noted:

- Two serious case reviews had been commissioned and were due to start shortly;

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- The Pre-Birth Protocol had been borne out of a previous Serious Case Review and had now been introduced. It required auditing to ensure its effectiveness;
- The LSCB Business Manager undertook anonymous spot checks to ensure agencies had the safeguarding procedures in place that they claimed to have;
- It was commented that male children did not exhibit many signs prior to suicide. Similarly, children with autism, who may be very introverted and isolated may not display warning signs openly;
- The Sub-Group considered the Board's Professional Resolution and Escalation Policy which provided the ability to move safeguarding issues forward to a higher level, within agencies, if needed;
- The LSCB Business Manager would ask each agency if they had their own escalation policy to complement that of the Board. However the LSCB Partnership Escalation Policy would be sufficient for all organisations involved. Any organisation that did not have its own policy could adopt the Partnership's policy.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

### 5. TACKLING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION IN LINCOLNSHIRE: CURRENT POSITION AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE ACTION

The Sub-Group considered a confidential report written by Caroline Mogg, the Board's Child Sexual Exploitation Co-ordinator, which provided a picture of what child sexual exploitation (CSE) was currently like in Lincolnshire.

Large houses were being bought in Lincolnshire and converted into private children's homes, due the relatively low price of property in the county. Vulnerable children from outside the county were being placed in homes within Lincolnshire.

A CSE multi-agency hub in the south of the county was being planned which would include police and health workers. Fortunately, however, Lincolnshire had no CSE gangs working within it, as other counties did.

Chelsea's Choice, the theatre-in-education production which aimed to educate children on the dangers of CSE was still being performed at schools in the county.

Issues were raised regarding the report's claim that there was no single data source available which could be used to construct a detailed picture of the nature and prevalence of CSE in Lincolnshire. However, it was confirmed that this was not an issue as Lincolnshire did not have a prevalent CSE problem. In any case, the new multi-agency hub would help create a better data source.

All homes where looked after children resided were subject to Ofsted inspections. Although 70% of CSE victims lived at home with their parent or guardian, and a high proportion of perpetrators were family members.

The risk of CSE could not be eradicated, but it could be minimised through training programmes and education.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

## **LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD (LSAB) BUSINESS**

### **6. KEY MESSAGES FROM LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD**

The Sub-Group was introduced to David Culy, the recently appointed, full time LSAB Business Board Manager. The Board had also appointed a full time administrator.

The report detailed the five sub-groups which currently assisted the LSAB with its business plan. Attendance at these sub-groups had been low and some had been put on a 4 or 6 weekly cycle.

The Lincolnshire Assurance Framework would shortly be finalised through the policy and procedure sub-group in October. In addition, all multi-agency colleagues would be completing frameworks also.

Feedback from the Sub-Group was requested on the Board's website, which sat within the County Council's website and was therefore governed by its rules.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

### **7. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

The LSAB had approved its Policies and Procedures document which had been a fairly lengthy process. Due to its size, the document had not been included with the agenda papers, but was available to view on the Board's website. It was agreed that the document would be emailed to the Sub-Group for information.

The threshold document, which was currently being updated would be ratified at the Board's October meeting. In addition the strategy and business plan would be presented to the LSAB early next year.

AGREED

That the report be noted.

### **8. HOUSE OF LORDS JUDGEMENT ON MENTAL CAPACITY ACT AND DEPRIVATION OF LIBERTY SAFEGUARDS**

Consideration was given to a report which informed the Group about the House of Lords Select Committee findings on the Mental Capacity Act and the Supreme Court Ruling (Cheshire West) on Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS).

The DoLS focussed on those individuals who lacked the capacity, under the Mental Capacity Act definitions to make decisions about their care and treatment when being paid for by the state. The new ruling meant that more people were likely to have been deprived of their liberty unlawfully and as a result a significant rise in the

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number of cases being presented to the Local Authority was occurring. Between 3 June and 17 June 2014, there had been 375 assessments in various stages.

The DoLS team was coping with these to its best ability, and a clearer picture on the situation would be available by the next meeting of the Sub-Group.

AGREED

That the current situation in relation to the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards be noted.

### **JOINT BUSINESS**

#### 9. TEN QUESTIONS FROM THE OFSTED FRAMEWORK

The Sub-Group discussed how it would benefit best from the ten questions from the Ofsted Framework. It was agreed that the questions would be applied to reports for future meetings and a table created showing which questions were relevant to each report. The table would be included in the work programme report.

AGREED

That the ten questions be noted and an effective way of utilising them be agreed.

#### 10. LINCOLNSHIRE SAFEGUARDING BOARDS SCRUTINY SUB GROUP WORK PROGRAMME 2014

The Sub-Group considered its work programme for the coming months. It was noted that the Review of Autism report had been deferred to the October 2014 meeting, and that the Ten Questions from the Ofsted Framework reports would be removed from the work programme.

It was noted that the Business Managers for both the LSCB and the LSAB met with the Business Manager of the Health and Wellbeing Board on a quarterly basis. This was to establish a joint protocol which all could work from.

Dates for meetings of the Sub-Group in 2015 were being identified and would be circulated in due course.

AGREED

That the report and all changes made therein be noted.

The meeting closed at 11.50am