

# Brighton & Hove LSCB

## Board Briefing June 2019



Welcome to the [Brighton & Hove Local Children Safeguarding Board](#) Briefing for the meeting held on 3 June 2019.

We were pleased to be joined by Gareth Knowles, safeguarding lead for South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECAMB), who presented SECAMB's quarter 4 safeguarding report. Richard Lancashire, Modern Slavery Manager for Sussex Police, also attended the Board meeting to talk to us about work being done on modern slavery and trafficking.

### Message from the LSCB Independent Chair:

#### **Goodbye to the LSCB**

This will be the final LSCB briefing. I wanted to take the opportunity to say what an honour it has been to be the Chair of the Board and to thank every one of you who have given your time and commitment to the work we do. The new arrangements offer a great opportunity to develop our existing partnership and improve outcomes for our children. I know that you will all be as committed to the partnership as we strive to achieve the highest possible standards of safeguarding.

Thank you again for your continued support and I look forward to working with you in my new role.

*Chris Robson,  
Independent Chair of Brighton & Hove LSCB*



### Update from Leadership Group

The Leadership Group<sup>1</sup> last met on 20 May 2019. The group has been reviewed and the LSCB Chair, Chris Robson, and the SAB Chair, Graham Bartlett, have recommended that the group should be disbanded. This decision was agreed by the board. This is because under the new safeguarding arrangements for the LSCB the replacement of the Leadership Group will take the form of subgroup chairs attending a strategic 'Steering Group' with the statutory partners and an independent scrutineer. There will be regular meetings between the Chairs/Independent Scrutineers of the children's and adults' Boards, alongside a representative from Community Safety Partnership. It is hoped this will minimise any duplication for people who sit on both Boards and that this arrangement will be conducive to a more joined up approach across the Board's workplans, especially in areas where work streams merge.

### Update on Serious Case Reviews<sup>2</sup>

The LSCB are currently commissioning a Serious Case Review on 'Family Gray', a case where four children were physically and sexually abused by their mother and step-father. Information Management Reports (IMRs) have been written by all agencies who had involvement with the family, and these are now being received and considered by the independent reviewer. The final review is expected to be published by September 2019.

<sup>1</sup> The Leadership group consists of the chairs of the LSCB Subcommittees and chairs of the [Safeguarding Adults Board](#) Subcommittees and helps us co-ordinate the ongoing work to meet Business Plan objectives.

<sup>2</sup> A Serious Case Review should be carried out for every case where abuse or neglect is known or suspected and either a child dies; or a child is seriously harmed and there are concerns about how organisations or professionals worked together to safeguard the child.

## South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb) Safeguarding Report

Gareth Knowles from the South East Coast Ambulance Service (SECamb) joined us to present SECamb's quarter 4 safeguarding report. SECamb cover 3,600 square miles (a population of 4.15 million people) and receive 1300 referrals each month, which is an increase from 2017-2018.

Gareth talked through some of the strengths and challenges for the service. He highlighted that practice is often commended in case reviews. A recent example was found in the [Baby Alex Learning Review](#) where ambulance staff attended an address and were tenacious in gaining access to Baby Alex when the mother behaved in an evasive manner and tried to send them away.

Some challenges for the service have included:

- There has, until now, been no safeguarding supervision policy in place. This is now being developed
- SECamb haven't provided any data on serious incidents with a safeguarding element, so a process for capturing and recording safeguarding related serious incidents is now being progressed.
- SECamb do not have a modern slavery statement published on the SECamb public facing website. There needs to be a clear statement regarding modern slavery, which is accessible to the public and is reviewed at least annually and this will now be worked on.
- For quarter four there have been no case referrals for either Prevent<sup>3</sup> or Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). This may be because interactions with patients are so brief and paramedics don't perform intimate examinations, so opportunities for identification are very low.

## ICON Programme

Dr Jamie Carter, Designated Doctor for Brighton & Hove CCG, introduced the new programme ICON which aims to prevent cases of abusive head trauma (AHT) in babies. AHT is typified by injuries to brain, eyes, and some other areas, which can lead to death or debilitating injury. 24 of every 100,000 babies are affected each year by AHT and 70% of AHT cases are perpetrated by males. Many parents shake their baby as an impulsive reaction to crying, and many don't understand the consequences of head shaking. The ICON programme is a multi-agency preventative programme based around helping parents cope with a crying baby, which teaches parents the following:

**I:** Infant crying is normal, it will stop!

**C:** Comfort methods can soothe the baby and crying will stop

**O:** It's OK to walk away if you have checked the baby is safe and the crying is getting to you

**N:** Never, ever shake or hurt a baby.

The programme incorporates an additional app called Dadpad which aims to educate fathers to be more aware of the issue as well as learning more about how to cope with crying and understanding safe sleeping for a baby.

The ICON programme is being considered for funding across Sussex and further conversations about how the programme and Dadpad app will be commissioned will take place in the near future.

## Modern Slavery and Trafficking

Richard Lancashire from Sussex Police gave the Board a very informative presentation about the Modern Slavery Act (2015) and how Sussex Police are responding to this legislation through looking at their policies and procedures, training and collaborative working with all agencies. Most crucially, Richard explained Section 52 which outlines the obligation of the local authority and police to refer any potential victim of modern slavery or human trafficking using the National Referral mechanism (NRM) process. [Click here](#) for more.

<sup>3</sup> Prevent is one of the four strands of CONTEST, the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy. The 'Prevent Strategy' is to reduce the threat to the UK from terrorism and aims 'to stop people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism'.

## Update on the New Safeguarding Arrangements

Anna Gianfrancesco, Head of Safeguarding at Brighton and Hove City Council, explained that after many months of work we are very nearly finished work on our [new safeguarding arrangements](#). Our proposal is written, and we are in the process of finalising some small changes. She explained that we know the Board currently functions well, but we have an opportunity under the new arrangements to make it more interactive by holding 'themed' events. The remit of all subgroups will be reviewed over the coming month, and the Business Manager post will become full time and will incorporate work around participation and engagement with a variety of groups and organisations, including youth and faith groups. The new arrangements will be fully in place by the end of September 2019.

[Click here](#) to see our new arrangements.

## Safety Rocks Newsletter

We talked about the Safety Rocks newsletter, which is an extremely valuable resource for parents and carers, produced by Safety Net and part funded by the LSCB and Public Health. It is distributed to all primary and secondary schools and features a wide range of safeguarding related articles including on County Lines, Xanax misuse, children's mental health and well-being, different forms of abuse, online safety and local support services. The director of Safety Net, Teri Fletcher, asked for any relevant articles or safeguarding issues from Board members. [Click here for more about the Safety Rocks Newsletters](#).

## Pelican Parcels Charity

Our Lay Member, Christine Lewis, raised awareness of a new community initiative called Pelican Parcels and we have included details below.

In the most recent Child Poverty Index it was estimated that 19.6% of Brighton & Hove's dependent children are living in poverty. Brighton & Hove as a city has high rates of children in need, in care and with child protection plans and/or who have been referred to children's social care services.

Wanting to get more use from their own children's outgrown things, some local parents set up a charity to work in partnership with local council services such as health visitors, social workers, women's shelters and other charities and agencies, taking pre-loved and new item donations for babies and children up to age 10, and redistributing them to families facing financial hardship via various existing family services in Brighton & Hove.

Since opening in December 2018, over 80 families have been supported by the generosity and concern of strangers. Pelican Parcels is run by volunteers and 100% dependent on fundraising to pay rent/bills, buy fresh cot mattresses and more.

Visit the [Pelican Parcels website](#) to learn more about the charity, or to donate and become a friend. Please spread the word about this important community initiative.

**The minutes from all Board meetings are published on the [LSCB Website](#).  
If you have any further questions about this meeting please contact us at  
[LSCB@Brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB@Brighton-hove.gov.uk)**