

Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board



**Monday 25 March 2019, 1.30-4.30pm,
The Great Hall, Moulsecoomb Hub North**

Present:

Chris Robson	LSCB Independent Chair (Chair)
Anna Gianfrancesco	Head of Safeguarding, Brighton & Hove City Council
Chris Shaw	National Probation Service
Darrel Clews	Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO), Brighton & Hove City Council
Daryl Perilli	Performance Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council
David Feakes	Head of Safeguarding, Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust
David Kemp	Head of Community Safety, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
Dawn Siddens	Designated Nurse, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group
Deb Austin	Assistant Director Children's Services: Safeguarding & Care
Debi Fillery	Named Nurse, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust
Diane Williamson	Independent Chair of LSCB Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee
Emma Gilbert	Tenancy Services Operation Manager, Brighton & Hove City Council
Fiona Johnson	Independent Chair of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Child Death Overview Panel
Jo-Anne Welsh	Director, Brighton Oasis Project, and Chair of Brighton & Hove Violence against Women and Girls Forum (VAWG)
Jo Lyons	Assistant Director Children's Services: Education & Inclusion
Jo Player	Head of Safer Communities, Brighton & Hove City Council
Kay Watson	St Luke's Primary School
Kerry Clarke	Public Health Strategic Commissioner Children's Services, Brighton & Hove City Council
Laura Perkins	Brighton & Hove LSCB & SAB Business Manager
Lee Whitmore	KSS CRC Safeguarding Lead for Brighton & Hove and East Sussex
Les Hamilton	Lead Member – Councillor, Brighton & Hove City Council
Lucy Bryson	Community Safety Manager (Refugees and Migrants), Brighton & Hove City Council
Martin McAngus	Lead Nurse Safeguarding, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Ruth King	Blatchington Mill School
Pierre Serra	Detective Chief Inspector, Sussex Police
Pinaki Ghoshal	Executive Director of Children's Services, Brighton & Hove City Council
Tania Riedel	Head of Service (Adolescents and YOS), Brighton & Hove City Council
Tara McGuicken	LSCB Senior Administration Officer (Minutes)

Apologies Received:

Alistair Hill	Director of Public Health
Allison Cannon	Director of Clinical Quality & Primary Care, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group
Elizabeth Cody	Director of Safeguarding, Brighton College
Frankie Howsam	Named Doctor, Brighton and Sussex University Hospitals NHS Trust
Jamie Carter	Designated Doctor for Child Protection, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group
Jo Tomlinson	Designated Nurse, Brighton & Hove Clinical Commissioning Group
Mark Burden	Senior Operations Manager, National Probation Service
Naomi Ellis	Head of Safeguarding and Looked After Children, Sussex and East Surrey CCGs
Steve Marshall-Taylor	Brighton College
Terri Fletcher	Director, Safety Net
Yvette Queffurus	Named Nurse, Sussex Community NHS Foundation Trust

1. Welcome and Introductions

- 1.1 Chris Robson welcomed the Board members and introductions were made.
- 1.2 Chris Robson reminded all members to declare any conflicts of interest should they arise.

2. Minutes of Last Meeting

- 2.1 Minutes from the last meeting on 10 December 2018 were read and agreed for accuracy.



3. Update on Actions

- 3.1 The Action Log was reviewed and updated.
- 3.2 **(Ref 41 – Operation Encompass School Sign Up)** This action has been discharged as Chris Robson wrote to schools requesting they take part on 18 December 2018. One school replied saying that they are 'not officially a school' and therefore felt that Operation Encompass didn't apply. The Board agreed to focus on the schools that have signed up.
- 3.3 **(Ref 45 – YMCA Right Here Leaflets)** The Board felt that dissemination of the Right Here leaflets could be done alongside the launch of the [new safeguarding arrangements](#). This will be discussed in the next Board meeting in June 2019.
- 3.4 **(Ref 46 – Section 157/175)** It has been agreed that if Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Leads (DDSLs) are having difficulties getting places on single- and multi-agency courses they should contact Dave Hunt, LSCB Learning & Development Officer, directly.



4. Update from Leadership¹

- 4.1 Chris Robson provided an update from the latest Leadership Group meeting which took place on 11 February 2019.
- 4.2 Some groups struggle with low attendance, particularly the Participation & Engagement group² (which is joint with the [Safeguarding Adults Board](#)). Members of the Leadership Group had noted the difficulty in continuing conversations around work streams, and money, whilst awaiting details of the new safeguarding arrangements for the LSCB. Chris Robson felt this may be a factor in low attendance, so stressed that clear direction will be crucial to ensure partners outside of the statutory three remain engaged. The subgroups will all be reviewed under the new arrangements, and it is



¹ The Leadership group consists of the chairs of the LSCB Subcommittees and chairs of the SAB Subcommittees and helps us co-ordinate the ongoing work to meet Business Plan objectives.

² The joint Participation & Engagement Group delivers a communication strategy on behalf of the Boards and works on engaging with the community so as to incorporate the view of service users, children, young people and their families/carers, and various faith and community groups, into our work.

possible that the Participation & Engagement group might not continue as it is.

- 4.3 The trauma review had also been discussed by the leadership members. The review has been delayed due to various factors and will be looked at again under the new arrangements.

5. Update from the Exploitation Group³

- 5.1 Pierre Serra, Chair of the Exploitation Group, provided an update from the latest Exploitation Group meeting which took place on 6 February 2019.



- 5.2 It has been agreed to transition the current 'Exploitation Tactical Group' into an overarching Exploitation Group which will assimilate the adult exploitation group and cover both tactical and strategic elements. The Exploitation Group will hold accountability for the [Vulnerability, Violence and Exploitation](#) (VVE) Action Plan, which will be incorporated into the exploitation action plan once the group has fully transitioned.
- 5.3 Tania Riedel and Lee Horner will be reviewing Adolescent Vulnerability and Risk Meetings (AVRM) with an aim to make them more efficient. The review will involve questionnaires, a review of associated paperwork, a review of the process, and visits to other areas to observe similar processes elsewhere. This review will also look at Red Amber and Green (RAG) ratings (which identify level of vulnerability/risk), and the non-movement of Young People who are consistently RAG-rated red.
- 5.4 A contextual safeguarding network is going to be set up, and preliminary meetings have been organised to begin this process.
- 5.5 The YMCA will be delivering bespoke training sessions to specific groups and will first look at training taxi-drivers. There are also discussions with licensing about making this training part of the taxi drivers' licensing.
- 5.6 The Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse (CSEA) Quarter 3 report identified that indecent images of children are still a big problem and this is continuing to grow, there has been a significant drop in rape of a child, and the removal of the 'Hidden Risks' category has meant that there are now more missing reports and more Single Combined Assessment of Risk Forms (SCARFs) being completed, although some increase in SCARFs could be due to officers getting better at completing them. This will need to be looked at in the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) due to the volume increase of missing reports/referrals.
- 5.7 Chris Robson asked Pierre Serra what the greatest challenges are for the Exploitation Group. Pierre felt that criminal and sexual exploitation, gang culture, and drugs and violence were all significant challenges at present.

6. Modern Slavery Update

- 6.1 Lucy Bryson (Community Safety Manager: Refugees and Migrants) presented a verbal update to the Board on the appointment of a full-time modern slavery coordinator, Tom Bennett. This post will run for 6 months and Tom will be based within Jo Player's team in Safer Communities.



- 6.2 The role is largely internal, and its aim is to ensure that we are complying with the [Modern Slavery Act](#) and that instances are properly recorded for both children and adults. More specifically the role will involve developing and implementing procedures for reporting modern slavery to the national referral mechanism, auditing training on modern slavery locally (which is currently minimal) and establishing what training is needed, working out whether a monitoring system can be put into place to capture modern slavery cases, and exploring housing and victim care pathways within the city.
- 6.3 Lucy Bryson commented that although there is an increasing understanding of the Modern Slavery legislation as it can be used to target perpetrators within county lines, there are other areas including migrant children, cannabis cultivation, and other strands of exploitation and abuse that we need to be sure we are picking up on locally.
- 6.4 At the end of the 6-month post recommendations will be made on the sustenance of what has been put into place via a report which may be provided to the Board. **This will be discussed by the Partnership.**

³ The Exploitation Group is now a joint group with the Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and Community Safety Partnership. The groups main aim is to monitor and challenge the effectiveness of operational and strategic activity undertaken across the partnership to safeguard all people vulnerable to all types of exploitation.

- 6.5 Chris Robson asked whether there was a snapshot on modern slavery in Brighton & Hove; Lucy clarified that the numbers are unclear. [Figures from the National Referral Mechanism](#) show small numbers of modern slavery cases, highlighting concern that cases go unseen.
- 6.6 Pierre Serra noted the prevalence of adult cases of modern slavery and commented that the modern slavery legislation isn't used as much in cases with children, so we don't know the true scale of it. It would be beneficial to widen the scope and clarify pathways for identifying cases.
- 6.7 Jo-Anne Welsh noted the difficulty with confusion around the degrees of exploitation, and that feedback from those being exploited is often that they don't feel they are being exploited.

7. Update on SCRs

- 7.1 Emma Gilbert, Chair of the Case Review Group⁴, updated the Board members on the progress of the new 'Family Gray' Serious Case Review (SCR). The reviewer was present on 12 March 2019 for an Individual Management Review (IMR) Author event, in which Authors met the reviewer and were given a presentation on key chronology events, and guidance on how to respond to the IMR questions. The deadline for the completed IMRs is 13 May 2019, and analysis will be undertaken followed by another meeting with specific IMR Authors on 14 June 2019 (where the reviewer will request further information or clarification on reports). The final report is expected in September.
- 7.2 Jo-Anne Welsh queried whether she had been included on the distribution list of IMR authors.
Action: Laura Perkins to ensure all authors are included in the IMR Author distribution list.



8. Update from Sussex Police Inspection

- 8.1 Pierre Serra provided the Board with an update on the [HMICFRS National Child Protection Inspection of Sussex Police](#) which took place in June/July 2018. The HMIC inspection looked at the effectiveness of decisions made at each stage of interaction with/for children and scrutinised the treatment of children in custody as well as how the police force is structured, led, and governed in relation to child protection services.



- 8.2 The main positive findings of the inspection include:
- The level of commitment and desire to protect children is strong and evident,
 - There is good leadership and strong partnership working,
 - Sussex Police are trying harder to make staff across the board more aware of vulnerability and their safeguarding responsibilities; consequently, staff now better understand the risks faced by vulnerable people, including children, and how to respond when meeting them.
- 8.3 The report found issues with workloads and resourcing in Brighton; Pierre clarified that there is a struggle to fill positions in child protection here. The inspection also found that some staff don't record enough information on systems and improvements are needed in drawing together all available information from police systems.
- 8.4 The inspection resulted in 8 recommendations:
Immediate recommendations (to be solved within 6 weeks) included:
- Reviewing cases dealt by the incident and resolution centre (IRC) (which helps to manage low level incidents and crimes),
 - Improving practices regarding children missing from home
- Recommendations to be solved within 3 months included:**
- Improvement in recording of children's behaviour/demeanour,
 - Improvement of oversight of Child Protection and exploitation investigations, including more comprehensive risk assessments,
 - Guidance to be produced for staff on recording all relevant information properly and making this information accessible,
 - Appropriate information on registered sex offenders to be provided to response and prevention team officers.
- Recommendations to be solved within 6 months included:**
- Examination of referral processes to ensure risks to children are identified effectively and necessary information is shared with partners,
 - Review with children's social care and other relevant agencies how Sussex Police manages the detention of children, including children being detained for the minimum amount of time and the

⁴ The Case Review Group meets on a monthly basis to consider whether we should undertake Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) or Learning Reviews, follow the process of reviews underway, agree final reports and track actions.

need for alternative accommodation.

- 8.5 Pierre Serra noted that recommendations are now being progressed. The Police need to improve putting Strategy meeting minutes onto their system; although the practicalities of this are currently difficult, this is being worked on. Cases will no longer be dealt with by the IRC where there is a named child suspect or victim. With regards to improving practices around missing children, the 'no apparent risk' category has been removed, better intelligence checks at Police Contact Centre will be undertaken, and there will also be training on the use of appropriate language for officers. Regarding oversight of investigations and risk assessments, supervisory practices will be reviewed and peer-reviewed. The accommodation for the detention of children is also being looked at.
- 8.6 Tania Riedel discussed difficulties with the detention of children; a variety of reasons cause issues, including children coming from other Local Authority areas. There are small numbers of these cases, but it is a national problem. The Youth Offending Service (YOS) Multi-Agency Scrutiny Group was mentioned as a possible platform for discussions about this.
- 8.7 Pierre Serra informed the Board members that Sussex Police will be tested against improvements on these recommendations in June 2019.

9. Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Partnership – New Arrangements



- 9.1 Anna Gianfrancesco updated the Board members on the proposals made for the [arrangements for the new safeguarding partnership](#).
- 9.2 The partnership will be known as the 'Brighton & Hove Safeguarding Children Partnership (BHSCP)' and its three lead safeguarding partners are the Local Authority (LA), Sussex and East Surrey Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), and Sussex Police.
- 9.3 Although the partnership will cover the geographical area of Brighton and Hove, there is also the scope to work pan-Sussex both on strategy and on more specific areas, such as learning and development and quality assurance (QA). Where possible we will use the same language Pan-Sussex, including for names of subgroups.
- 9.4 There will be a pan-Sussex strategic leadership group which will have strategic oversight of pan-Sussex work on safeguarding children and will be made up of the safeguarding partners from Brighton & Hove, East Sussex, and West Sussex. This group will meet twice per year.
- 9.5 There will be a pan-Sussex QA framework and timetable so that QA activity is aligned across all three LA areas, and each LA area will also retain its local quality assurance group to undertake local audits.
- 9.6 A pan-Sussex Learning and Development group will be developed to consider learning from county-wide child safeguarding practice reviews (CSPR) and learning reviews, as well as pan-Sussex training offers. The local Learning and Development groups will also be retained for local learning to be reviewed and shared, and for local training to meet local needs.
- 9.7 For BHSCP's governance, there will be a local strategic group called the BHSCP Steering Group. This group will be attended by the three strategic partners, the independent scrutineer, and the chairs of all BHSCP subgroups. The Chairing role will be rotated on an annual basis amongst the three strategic partners.
- 9.8 The independent scrutineer will consider how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership. To achieve this, the Independent Scrutineer will attend the subgroups, where the work of the partnership is undertaken. The Independent Scrutineer will report to the steering group, providing details of where they think there are strengths and challenges.
- 9.9 The BHSCP Board will consist of representatives from organisations across the city and will ensure that the strategic direction as set by the steering group is taken forward and operationalised in all organisations within the city. This group will be similar in make up to the current LSCB.
- 9.10 The current Serious Case Review Group will continue as the Case Review Group under the new arrangements and will be responsible for undertaking Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPRs), learning reviews, and rapid reviews.

- 9.11 The Monitoring & Evaluation Group⁵ will continue and will have some oversight of the pan-Sussex QA framework.
- 9.12 The Exploitation Group and the Child Protection Liaison Group⁶ will remain the same under the new arrangements.
- 9.13 The Learning & Development Group⁷ will continue under the new arrangements but will need to consider pan-Sussex work.
- 9.14 The Participation & Engagement Group will be reviewed for the new arrangements. There is a proposal for the Business Manager role to become full time and pick up participation and engagement work, particularly relating to youth voice representation and faith/community voice representation. The already-established Youth Voice Forum will be extended to incorporate Brighton & Hove safeguarding work.
- 9.15 September 2019 to September 2020 will be considered a transition year for the partnership, with a review at the end looking at the effectiveness of the new arrangements and the roles within it.
- 9.16 Pinaki Ghoshal noted that these are draft proposals at present and are subject to further discussion and agreement. Proposals also need to be signed off by the Health & Wellbeing Board before being submitted by 29 June 2019.
- 9.17 Pinaki Ghoshal noted that although the strategic partnership will be led by the three strategic partners, it is vital that we don't lose the voice of other agencies. We want to ensure that wider partners and all organisations throughout the city are able to provide input into our work and make safeguarding for children as effective as possible. Chris Robson also raised the importance of challenging and voicing opinions during this stage in the process of the new proposals. Pinaki asked the Board members from city-wide organisations for their opinions on the proposals.
- 9.18 David Feakes felt that it would be useful to test the new arrangements as proposed.
- 9.19 Kerry Clarke thought the new arrangements could be considered as an opportunity for an oversight of the governance of the school safeguarding network and questioned where this might be fed into the plans. Anna Gianfrancesco clarified that there have been discussions about bringing Gill Hibbert, Education Safeguarding Officer, into the partnership via the steering group.
- 9.20 It was noted that both Public Health and Housing are missing from the proposed membership of the BHSCP Board.
Action: Laura Perkins to find notes on suggested membership for Board in notes from Development day and to review membership of the Board.
- 9.21 Jo-Anne Welsh asked about community/voluntary sector involvement, including the Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) forum⁸. Laura Perkins commented that she had met with Lindsay Adams, Strategic Commissioner Domestic Abuse & Sexual Abuse, about this. The VAWG forum will be represented in the Board separately from the community/voluntary sector.
- 9.22 Chris Robson questioned whether there was sufficient representation from Education on the strategic Board. Pinaki Ghoshal assured that he will represent both Education and Social Care as the Executive Director of Families, Children and Learning.
- 9.23 Anna Gianfrancesco consulted the Board members for their opinion on the format and frequency of the new Board meetings going forward, and whether they preferred having 'themed events' or regular Board meetings. There had also been a proposal to perhaps have two annual meetings as normal

⁵ The Monitoring & Evaluation Group oversees the development of a Quality Assurance Framework and undertakes or commissions multi-agency and single-agency audits and reviews of safeguarding activity throughout the city, to ensure compliance to the Child Protection and safeguarding procedures and that the LSCB priorities are worked to.

⁶ The Child Protection Liaison Group (CPLG) is a multi-agency forum that meets on a monthly basis. Its main aim is to review and improve joint working practice in respect of inter-agency Child Protection cases, including analysis of examples of operational practice within the context of Child Protection enquiries and investigations.

⁷ The Learning and Development Group meet 3 times a year to ensure that both single agency and multi-agency training on safeguarding is sufficiently provided, and that learning from case reviews is shared and adopted.

⁸ The Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) Forum share good practice, raise awareness of domestic and sexual abuse and violence against women and girls, and enable practitioners to stay up to date with local, regional and national policies that impact on the sector.

Board meetings, involving updates from agencies and signing off on actions, and two as themed events.

- 9.24 Chris Robson felt that themed events would be beneficial in bringing wider partners together to discuss improving performance in specific areas. Jo Player agreed that there would be more engagement and participation. Ruth King felt that for individuals who attend Board but not the subgroups, the two themed events would be good for keeping them informed about key themes and areas of focus for the partnership.
- 9.25 Debi Fillery expressed concern that it would be difficult to fit all agenda items into two Board meetings per year, when agendas are already quite full. Anna Gianfrancesco suggested that smaller group discussions could be included in the Board meetings to make them more efficient, and to encourage all members to input their thoughts and feedback.
- 9.26 Debi Fillery and Chris Robson both remarked that they were pleased with the Business Manager role becoming full time under the new arrangements.
- 9.27 Chris Robson praised the Business Manager and Senior Administrator for the work they are doing on the new arrangements.

10. Multi-agency Domestic Abuse Audit

- 10.1 Anna Gianfrancesco presented the findings of the Domestic Abuse audit which was carried out in February 2019. See the briefing [here](#).
- 10.2 The purpose of the audit was to examine the effectiveness of responses to children and their families where concerns has been raised about domestic abuse, and to ensure that:
- Concerns are clearly recognised and addressed early enough,
 - Assessments, planning and interventions have used the relevant tools and place the safety of the child at the centre,
 - There is evidence of a whole family approach,
 - There is a multi-agency approach to effectively protect the child,
 - There is effective management oversight.
- 10.3 Seven cases were selected for the audit, covering a range of ages and levels of need. Of these, 4 were considered to need improvement, though none were considered to be inadequate and in all cases the child was safe.
- 10.4 **Positive findings:** There was a clear identification of domestic abuse and referrals were timely and appropriate in all but one case. GP recording systems showed that safeguarding concerns were logged in all but one case, and this has now been rectified with a new system being set up in the practice. In all cases domestic abuse was considered as part of assessments and relevant agencies were consulted. There was clear evidence of multi-agency plans and a whole family approach being adopted in most cases. Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) were also found to be effective in supporting good information sharing and identification of risks for children.
- 10.5 **Issues identified:** Safety plans were not in place in 4 out of 6 cases where they were needed, and in two cases a written agreement was used, which does not follow Brighton & Hove City Council policy. Management oversight required improvement in 4 of the cases. There were also issues identified with male perpetrators who were referred to the Living Without Violence Programme (now called Chance to Change) not completing the programme. The Domestic Abuse coordinator is now working with Social Work to ensure the clients are supported through the programme using a case management approach.
- 10.6 **Recommendations include:**
- All professionals need to be aware of the multiple complexities around domestic abuse and attending to these in planning and decision making,
 - All professionals must fully consider the impact of ethnicity, cultural norms, religion and transgenerational abuse when working with families who experience domestic abuse,
 - The quality of chronologies needs to be improved, recognising their effectiveness in identifying patterns of abusive, coercive and controlling behaviour,
 - Managers should use the Child Protection Liaison Group (CPLG) to discuss cases proactively,
 - Improving understanding of how domestic abuse impacts a child's behaviour and consider how interventions could be used differently to achieve earlier positive outcomes,



- Professionals should be encouraged to develop their understanding of domestic abuse by accessing LSCB training, including [Domestic Violence and Abuse: the Impact on Children and Young People](#).

10.7 Jo-Anne Welsh questioned whether there had been a consideration of drug and alcohol abuse in the audit. Anna Gianfrancesco confirmed that the audit had included completed audits of assessments from 13 agencies (which requested agencies to note awareness of any other agency involvement), and the review therefore explored these to see if other factors had been included in the assessments.

10.8 There is a challenge around evaluating current practice rather than historical practice. Issues in domestic abuse are often accompanied by other issues, and although there is some good practice around identifying and responding to domestic abuse, often responses to other elements of a situation (e.g. neglect) are missing.

10.9 Anna Gianfrancesco noted that an action plan has been put in place, which may be taken to the Leadership Group to have oversight of. There is a challenge for the new partnership to pick up action plans.

10.10 Pinaki Ghoshal expressed concern that the key improvements identified in the audit aren't fully reflected on the action plan. For example, the Living Without Violence (now Chance to Change) Programme needs to be looked at. There also needs to be an action around improving the allocation of safety plans.

Action: Anna Gianfrancesco to review the Domestic Abuse Audit action plan to ensure that it covers all areas of improvement identified in the audit.

11. Management Information Report

11.1 Diane Williamson, Chair of the Monitoring & Evaluation Group, informed the Board members that the Monitoring and Evaluation Group is reviewing the dataset for the Management Information Report (MIR). This is to ensure that the MIR dashboard reflects a multi-agency approach, and that we are measuring and evaluating the right things in reflection to the [LSCB priorities](#). The updated dashboard will be used as part of our overarching framework to generate hypotheses and recommendations for single- and multi-agency audit activity.



11.2 The design of the dataset aims to follow the child's safeguarding journey through services from Early Help to Specialist Services and through the age span of children. The number of indicators has been reduced and are linked to the LSCB Priorities of:

1. Emerging problems and unmet needs are identified so that families and children receive the right support at the right time
2. Children and Young People Protected from Sexual Harm and Violence

11.3 The Neglect priority – Children, where neglect is a feature, are helped and when necessary protected – is captured within priority 1. and will be examined through single and multi-agency audit.

11.4 Diane Williamson presented the group with proposed indicators and explanations for why each indicator is important. This is a work in progress and may change over the next few months.

11.5 We want to get a better picture of how children with mental health needs are attended to, and of the numbers of children transitioning to adult services. We also want to explore the profile of children on Child Protection plans to better understand key patterns and how interventions can be best placed. There are also proposals to include relevant education indicators, including data on children missing education, as these children are more likely to be vulnerable to harm and exploitation.

11.6 Pinaki Ghoshal remarked that he liked the organisation of the proposed dashboard and how it follows the journey of the child through the system. However, he commented that perhaps Health Visiting and Self-Harm indicators are both missing and might be important in identifying areas of concern for safeguarding.

11.7 Kerry Clarke commented that indicators overseen by the joint commissioning group are being revisited and could perhaps be shared with the Monitoring & Evaluation group. These indicators will include some outcome-related data from Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS). Diane agreed that this data would be helpful.

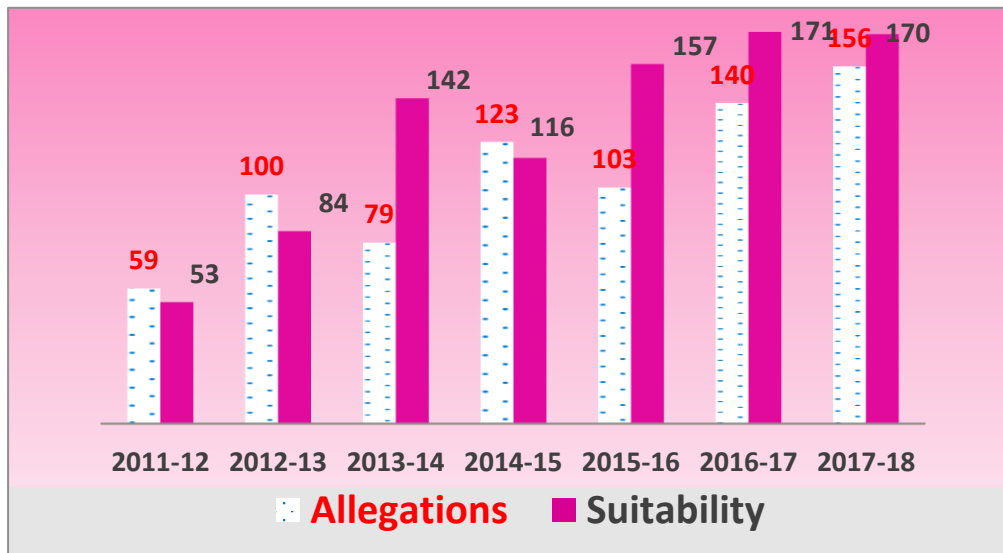
Action: Kerry Clarke to send to Diane Williamson the joint commissioning strategy performance report's dataset.

- 11.8 Diane Williamson expressed difficulties with not currently having a full picture of [early help](#). We want to know what the early help offer is, whether it is effective, and whether there are any missed opportunities.
- 11.9 It was also noted that substance misuse and maternity are also areas which could be explored. Anna Gianfrancesco challenged that we want to keep the dashboard relatively concise, otherwise it may be difficult to assess progress against our priorities.
- 11.10 Tania Riedel noted that Adolescent Vulnerability and Risk Meeting (AVRM) data will be looked at in the Exploitation Group. These primarily include the measurement of RAG rating, understanding this data, and forwarding on to Diane this information presented in a digestible format.
Action: Tania Riedel to send through AVRM nominals to Diane Williamson.
- 11.11 Pierre Serra raised that there are some upcoming reports from Sussex Police which could be helpful to add to the MIR.
Action: Pierre Serra to send Police data Diane Williamson and inform Diane of a commentary lead.
- 11.12 Chris Robson requested Board members to look over the proposed MIR indicators outside of the meeting and to contact Diane Williamson if they felt that there is any data within their agency which could be helpful.
- 11.13 Pinaki Ghoshal proposed that the Monitoring & Evaluation Group receive external reports and do complementary agenda planning, rather than trying to incorporate a lot of external data.

12. Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report

12.1 Darrel Clews, the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)⁹, provided headlines from the LADO Annual report 2017-2018.

12.2 There were 336 referrals to the LADO in 2017-18, which is 15 more than in the previous year. The total increase is proportionately less than in previous years. The graph below highlights the continuing increase in referrals regarding allegations since 2011.



12.3 Schools remains the highest employment sector and the proportion of allegations remains relatively consistent at 46.4% in 2016-17, and 43.3% in 2017-2018. The proportion of school referrals appears to be affected by any significant increase/decrease in other sectors.

12.4 A significant variation is the increase in allegations within the Early Years sector up from 9 in 2016-17 to 21 in 2017-18. This resulting in their percentage increase from 6.5% (joint fourth highest) to the second highest at 13.4%. Allegations regarding the voluntary sector remains low, though there has

⁹ The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) has overall responsibility for the management of allegations of Abuse against Adults who work with Children. The LADO provides advice and guidance, liaises with the Police, Social Care Teams, regulatory bodies such as Ofsted and other organisations as needed and ensures a consistent, fair and thorough process for both child and adult.

been an increase overall; in 2016-17 there were 5 including Suitability, in 2017-18 there were 12.

- 12.5 There is no current nationally agreed data set for allegations against people working with children, making comparison of data between Local Authorities somewhat unreliable.
- 12.6 The threshold for professional conduct and negligence has now been reviewed, and cases that involve 'negligent care' (e.g. incorrect medication, failing to follow safeguarding procedures) will now be categorised as 'Neglect of Duty'.
- 12.7 The wider work of the LADO in providing advice, guidance, challenge and support to employers/agencies is ever increasing and evidenced by the number of consultations regarding an individual's private life and concerns regarding their suitability.
- 12.8 The LADO felt that there was a positive indication that safeguarding in respect of employees appears well embedded across the majority of agencies and employers, and that professionals are consulting and seeking advice from the LADO appropriately.
- 12.9 The Board members were satisfied with the accuracy of the LADO report and didn't have any further questions.

13. Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report

- 13.1 Fiona Johnson, Independent Chair of East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)¹⁰, presented the Board members with the CDOP Annual report 2017-2018.
- 13.2 CDOP is becoming a joint group with West-Sussex, so will cover all Sussex Local Authorities, which will hopefully provide a realistic analysis of Public Health issues. The movement to a pan-Sussex CDOP is likely to have happened by September. The transition to new safeguarding arrangements will hopefully also further steer the group.
- 13.3 CDOP will shortly be rolling out a new online system for the Child Death review process, which includes the notification of a child death, called eCDOP. From the 1st April 2019 all deaths of children who reside in West Sussex, East Sussex, or Brighton & Hove must be reported via the eCDOP online portal.
- 13.4 The biggest change in CDOP (apart from the change in governance under the new arrangements; CDOP will become governed by the CCG) is that child death review meetings will happen for *all* children who die (both expected and unexpected). This will result in a change in responsibilities and workload.
- 13.5 In the Annual report, the CDOP recommended to the Brighton & Hove LSCB that:
The LSCB should undertake some work with the management committee of the Brighton Marina to increase the safety of and or deter young people from involvement in risky activities such as free running. As part of this work the LSCB should check whether the security guards at the marina have sufficient first aid training. Members confirmed that this is now being worked on by the LSCB.
- 13.6 Fiona Johnson raised issues around registration of births where the foetus is less than 24 weeks old; a discussion needs to be had with coroners around what classifies as a death, and this will be explored in more detail in the next Annual Report.
- 13.7 Board members were satisfied with the accuracy of the report and no further questions were asked.



14. Youth Violence

- 14.1 Chris Robson raised the issue of recent reports in the media about stabbings in the UK involving young people as both victims and perpetrators. In light of this and the announcement of the first National Panel Review looking at youth violence, Chris wanted to ask the Board for reassurance that we are managing risk for young people in Brighton & Hove.
- 14.2 Pinaki Ghoshal had noted that we have an integrated and multi-agency Adolescent Service that takes the lead on this issue, which is overseen by an Adolescent Board that includes leads from Health and Police.



¹⁰ The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is a joint inter-agency forum between Brighton and Hove and East Sussex that meets every two months to review the deaths of all children, excluding those who are stillborn, from birth to age 18 years normally resident in Brighton and Hove and East Sussex.

- 14.3 Till Sanderson also provided a virtual update on this, agreeing that the Adolescent Board is probably the right forum to be progressing and monitoring this issue. Till noted that there are many other groups which work with this cohort of young people, including the AVRMM multi-agency group.
- 14.4 The Board were reassured that we are adequately managing the risk for young people in Brighton & Hove and that there is no gap in service provision.

15. AOB

- 15.1 Kerry Clarke and Jo-Anne Welsh updated the Board members that they have secured innovation funding to look at identifying parents who are alcohol-dependent and children that are affected by this, providing support packages. This will be a 2-year project. Jo-Anne Welsh commented that there is also an adult practitioner in [Oasis](#) looking at how to increase alcohol treatment usage by parents; Brighton & Hove are below the national average for number of parents receiving treatment. There will also be well-developed peer-support networks to share information (which unfortunately might mean there is less disclosure about parents in treatment, but this will be reviewed). [RUOK](#) will feed into this project, and promotional materials will be circulated.



Action: Kerry Clarke and Jo-Anne Welsh to circulate promotional materials for project on support for alcohol-dependent parents to LSCB.

- 15.2 Chris Shaw updated the Board that there is an upcoming divisional inspection in the National Probation Service, which will be undertaken in May or June 2019.



- 15.3 Dawn Siddens raised that there is a [national pilot](#) on mental health assessment of children by the Anna Freud National Centre for Children and Families. The mental health assessment pilots will look at providing improved mental health assessments for children entering the care system. Currently an estimated half of all children in care meet the criteria for a possible mental health disorder, compared to one in ten children outside the care system, so these pilots – backed by £1 million announced last year - will identify the mental health and broader wellbeing needs of these children, including whether a referral to a more specialist service is needed.



- 15.4 Jo Player noted that the VVE Action Plan is being worked on and that pan-Sussex awareness of what contextual safeguarding is and how this fits into VVE and county lines is being considered. On the week commencing 24 June 2019 there will be a VVE Week of Action to push the VVE agenda and ensure that all professionals are aware and trained in VVE issues.



Next meeting:

- Monday 3 June, 1.30-4.30pm, Moulsecoomb North Hub, Great Hall

Future Meetings:

- Monday 9 September, 1.30-4.30pm, Moulsecoomb North Hub, Great Hall
- Monday 16 December, 1.30-4.30pm, Moulsecoomb North Hub, Great Hall