**AGENDA ITEM 6**

**Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB)**

**Minutes from the meeting of Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB), held on Friday 14th June 2013, 10:00am – 12:30pm at Riverside House**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In attendance:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alan Hazell - Chair</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sonya Chambers – Minute Taker</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Burton - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kevin Stevens - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simon Goacher – in attendance to present agenda item 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clair Pyper - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Cassin - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil Morris - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Juliette Greenwood - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Anne Riley - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sue Wilson – in attendance to present agenda item 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave Stopford - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pete Horner - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Warren Carratt - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn Peet – Deputy for Steve Green</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catherine Hall - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maryann Barton - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nick Whittaker - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Radford - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sarah Mainwaring - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shona MacFarlane - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Deborah Wildgoose - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Thacker - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Paul Lakin – Participating Observer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Williams - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Polkinghorn - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff El-Reefee - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Grimwood - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Holmes - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Skupien - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zafar Saleem - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morri McDermott – agenda item 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Smith - Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Apologies:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Joyce Thacker - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Councillor Paul Lakin – Participating Observer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin Williams - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Polkinghorn - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sheriff El-Reefee - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paul Grimwood - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy Holmes - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jane Skupien - Member</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zafar Saleem - Advisor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morri McDermott – agenda item 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dorothy Smith - Member</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**In attendance:**

- Alan Hazell - Chair, Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Sonya Chambers - Minute Taker, Administrative Officer, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Richard Burton - Member, Lay Member, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Kevin Stevens - Advisor, Safeguarding Quality Assurance Officer for Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and Children and Young People's Services
- Simon Goacher – in attendance to present agenda item 3, Partner with Weightmans Solicitors
- Clair Pyper - Member, Interim Director of Safeguarding Children and Families, Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Sue Cassin - Member, Executive Lead for Safeguarding at the Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham
- Phil Morris - Advisor, Business Manager, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Juliette Greenwood - Member, Chief Nurse, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
- Anne Riley - Member, Service Manager, Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)
- Sue Wilson – in attendance to present agenda item 2, Performance and Quality Manager, Resources Directorate, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Dave Stopford - Member, Detective Chief Inspector, South Yorkshire Police
- Pete Horner - Member, Public Protection Unit Manager, South Yorkshire Police
- Warren Carratt - Advisor, Service Manager - Strategy, Standards and Development, Children and Young People's Services and Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Dawn Peet – Deputy for Steve Green, Member, Safeguarding Officer, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
- Catherine Hall - Advisor, Nurse Consultant for Safeguarding Children, Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham
- Maryann Barton - Member, Service Manager, Action for Children
- Nick Whittaker - Member, Headteacher, Hilltop and Kelford Schools
- John Radford - Member, Director of Public Health, Rotherham Public Health
- Sarah Mainwaring - Member, Head of Probation – Rotherham, South Yorkshire Probation Trust
- Shona MacFarlane - Member, Director of Health and Wellbeing, Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Deborah Wildgoose - Member, Deputy Director of Nursing, Rotherham, Doncaster and South Humber NHS Foundation Trust (RDASH)
- Joyce Thacker - Member, Strategic Director of Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Councillor Paul Lakin – Participating Observer, Lead Member for Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Robin Williams - Advisor, Service Solicitor for Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- David Polkinghorn - Member, General Practitioner, Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham
- Sheriff El-Reefee - Advisor, Designated Doctor, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
- Paul Grimwood - Member, Youth Offending Services Manager, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Tracy Holmes - Advisor, Head of Corporate Communications and Marketing, Chief Executive's Department, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Jane Skupien - Member, Headteacher, Sitwell Infants School
- Zafar Saleem - Advisor, Community Engagement Manager, Community Engagement Team, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Morri McDermott – agenda item 4, Operations Manager, Children's Residential Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
- Dorothy Smith - Member, Director of Schools and Lifelong Learning, Children and Young People’s Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
## AGENDA ITEM 6

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agenda item</th>
<th>Action</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>1. Welcome, apologies and introductions</strong>&lt;br&gt;Attendance and apologies were recorded as above.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>2. Safeguarding Performance National Indicators - update report – (standing item) – Sue Wilson</strong>&lt;br&gt;It was clarified that the performance figures within this report were still provisional, as the statutory returns were still being undertaken. The 10 performance indicators referred to within the report are the local authority indicators for Children and Young People's Services. Four of these are currently rated as ‘red’, meaning they are below local targets and below the national average. There has been a slight improvement overall regarding the ‘red’ indicators since last year, but they are still below the local target. It was clarified that the benchmarking referred to within this report was not current benchmarking, but benchmarking as at this time last year. Clair Pyper has commissioned an action plan to address the 4 red indicators, and Sue Wilson’s team are currently working on this. A key objective is better understanding and better analysis of performance data, along with more intuitive and responsive tracking systems. With regard to the National Indicator (NI) 60 – ‘Percentage of Core Assessments completed within 35 working days’, current status red - it was pointed out that the difficulty with this indicator was that performance against it is likely to get worse before it gets better. Alan Hazell asked when ‘drag’ will cease to impact upon the performance figures, and Clair Pyper replied that this should happen following implementation of the new performance indicators. Ms Pyper added that a working group had been set up to look at the new indicators, and this group will report to Rotherham LSCB. Work is thereby already being done towards improvement, but it was acknowledged that a more consistent approach is required in terms of monitoring completion of Core Assessments within timescale. With regard to NI 65 – ‘Children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time’, it was pointed out that it is sometimes in a child’s best interests for them to made subject to a plan again, and is not therefore necessarily a negative action. Clair Pyper added that it is particularly helpful to know the stories of the children behind the data, as usually this involves children who were receiving step-down services, who are no longer deemed safe due to something new that has happened. There is a need for a better understanding of the dynamic in Child Protection Conferences as regards keeping children safe. For example, it is still not fully understood how and what partner services contribute to the Child Protection Conference process – i.e. not just local authority services, and there needs to be a better understanding of risk. It was suggested that this be looked at via Rotherham LSCB, particularly with regard to neglect cases, as a better understanding of neglect is required.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Juliette Greenwood said that the Performance and Quality Assurance Sub Group would soon be able to report multi-agency performance information back to Rotherham LSCB.

Given that Rotherham LSCB will shortly be welcoming a new Independent Chair, Richard Burton asked how continuity would be ensured. Alan Hazell replied that he would be meeting with the new chair shortly for an initial handover – further sessions might be required.


Rotherham Council had asked Weightmans Solicitors to undertake a review of the recent security breach regarding information held by services about child sexual exploitation. Simon Goacher from Weightmans had been invited to today’s meeting to present the findings of this review.

Rotherham Council had requested this review given the current high profile of child sexual exploitation in the borough, following the publication of several articles in the national press based on the leaked information. Also, the management of information is a key part of what agencies do, and if there is a lack of confidence in the local authority and its partner agencies to safeguard information, this could result in people being less likely to come forward with information in future. Other local authorities have been fined for failing to protect information. It was hoped, therefore, that this review would go some way to providing reassurance to Rotherham LSCB about what information security measures are already in place, and what improvements could be made.

Mr Goacher explained that the review had looked at the existing information management processes, and key individuals had been interviewed about how information is currently held by their services. A desktop review was also undertaken to look at what systems are in place, in order to test compliance with good practice.

None of those interviewed could confirm how the information was leaked to the press. There was therefore no evidence to show how the journalist had accessed the information. However, given the volume of files that the journalist had access to, it would point to a deliberate act, i.e., that someone had purposely provided him with the information. The decision was taken not to pursue the investigation any further, as this would be a very lengthy and expensive process. Instead, it was agreed that it would be better to concentrate on how to prevent such information security breaches in future.

The review looked at all the existing policies and procedures and questioned the interviewees as to how these operated in practice. The review also noted the move away from paper to electronic records, and along with this, the use of passwords and encrypted documents. There was also evidence that training and awareness raising sessions regarding information security were in place.
AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda item:

The assurance for Rotherham LSCB from this review was that robust policies and procedures are in place, but that there is a need to regularly monitor compliance with the framework. Also, whilst an electronic system is more secure than a paper system, it can never be 100% secure, as it is still susceptible to human error / actions.

The review made 7 recommendations for Rotherham LSCB (see report for agenda item 3, section 16). Discussions have already taken place with Phil Morris, Rotherham LSCB Business Manager, with regard to developing an action plan to progress these recommendations.

Alan Hazell questioned whether the CSET (Child Sexual Exploitation Team) mentioned in the review’s recommendations referred solely to the CSE Team managed by Claire Edgar, or whether this also included any other professionals working in the field of child sexual exploitation in Rotherham. Mr Goacher replied that this recommendation could be applied to as wide a range of professionals as appropriate.

It was acknowledged, however, that this review does not guarantee that there will be no future information security breaches. If Board members and advisors were asked to sign a confidentiality agreement which they subsequently broke, they could potentially be disciplined / dismissed / prosecuted. Rotherham LSCB does not currently have such a measure in place, although this is covered by professionals’ code of conduct. It was recommended that something similar be put in place to cover lay members as well, and Alan Hazell confirmed that a sentence to this effect had been added into the recently revised Lay Member Protocol, which Rotherham LSCB lay members are required to sign up to. With regard to the secure handling of data, Mr Hazell added that an update should also be added to the revised Rotherham LSCB Constitution specifically in relation to paper copies of documents.

Alan Hazell asked whether all agencies were happy with recommendation 4 of the review, which was for all Rotherham LSCB members to confirm, on at least an annual basis, that they are fully compliant with information management practices required in Rotherham Council’s Information Security Policy. Pete Horner pointed out that agencies were members of Rotherham LSCB, not Rotherham Council, and Juliette Greenwood replied that agencies would firstly need to know what this policy is - it will therefore be shared with partners. However, it was also questioned whether Rotherham LSCB should likewise be required to comply with its partners’ information security policies.

Clair Pyper suggested that recommendation 4 be picked up via the Section 11 self-assessment audits that agencies are required to complete for Rotherham LSCB, as there is a wider responsibility here, i.e. not just compliance with Rotherham Council policies and not just information presented by agencies at Board meetings. Kevin Stevens agreed that this could quite easily be included in the Section 11 audit process.
In terms of progressing the 7 recommendations of the review, Warren Carratt offered to work with Phil Morris to put together an action plan for presentation at September’s Board meeting. Alan Hazell added that any future work needs to take account of what work has already been done.

Richard Burton asked how Rotherham LSCB would ensure the recruitment of an appropriate person to fill the vacant lay member post – Alan Hazell assured Mr Burton that a robust recruitment process would be followed.

Shona McFarlane questioned what the timescales were for Rotherham LSCB to respond to the 7 recommendations. Alan Hazell replied that Rotherham LSCB needs reassurance before March 2014 that these recommendations have been addressed. The Board therefore ought to be in a position to be provided with an update report at its December 2013 meeting.

Clarification was sought on whether the selling of information to journalists was a criminal or civil matter. It seemed to depend on who had done it – if it was someone in public office, then this could constitute a criminal offence. Everyone was mindful that if there is indeed a leak within Rotherham LSCB, then there are potentially further future implications for the Board.

Alan Hazell thanked Simon Goacher for his report.

4. Children Missing From Home / Care – Morri McDermott

Clair Pyper presented this item on behalf of Morri McDermott, who was unable to attend today’s meeting.

Ms Pyper highlighted the recent Ofsted report on missing children published in February 2013, which contains important recommendations for agencies, particularly for Children’s Social Care and the Police. Sonya Chambers will circulate an electronic version of this report after the meeting.

The government is to publish new guidance this summer to address gaps that have been identified.

In Rotherham, the proportion of missing looked after children is higher than the national average, and more girls than boys are missing overall. With regard to the missing looked after children, it is the same children who go missing time after time. Thematic patterns have been identified for some of these children, e.g. they tend to have repeat episodes of going missing until they are settled in a placement.

It was stated that the processes for when children are placed out of area need to be strengthened, and it was suggested that the Exploitation Sub Group look at this.

Table 5 of Morri McDermott’s report shows a sharp increase in the number of children going missing at age 15 – work therefore needs to
AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda item:

be done to understand why this is such an issue for this particular age group.

Clair Pyper suggested that in addition to the recommendations from the Ofsted report on missing children, Rotherham LSCB may also wish to make its own recommendations based on Rotherham’s own experiences. Ms Pyper pointed out that Rotherham has not yet, as recommended by Ofsted, undertaken an urgent review of the effectiveness of its arrangements to meet the needs of children who are at risk of going missing or running away, including the extent to which it is complying with statutory requirements. This therefore needs to be addressed, e.g. via the Exploitation Sub Group. Alan Hazell asked what the timescale was for this urgent review – Ms Pyper said that she was not aware of specific timescales, but that the review should take place within the next 3 months. However, Rotherham will also need to consider the impact of the new government guidance, which has not yet been published.

Dorothy Smith emphasised the need to look at the reasons why children go missing, as intelligence gathering can play an important role in reducing the risk of reoccurrence.

Maryann Barton said that clarity was needed on terminology e.g. absent or missing? Ms Barton added that this report had already been to the Exploitation Sub Group and questioned whose responsibility it was to take the recommendations forward. Warren Carratt added that this issue had also been picked up at the Corporate Parenting Group.

5. Previous RLSCB minutes from 15.03.2013 and matters / actions arising

A couple of amendments were required on the front page of the previous minutes – Martin Kimber was an ‘observer’ rather than a ‘participating observer’ as stated, and Sue Gittins’ job title was stated but not her agency, which was confirmed as the Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust. Sonya Chambers to amend accordingly.

Alan Hazell asked if there had been any developments following the discussion at the previous meeting about performance indicator NI63 – ‘Stability of placements of looked after children’, which was rated as ‘red’ (under target). Clair Pyper, Joyce Thacker and Councillor Paul Lakin had subsequently met with the Looked After Children Council, and afterwards, Maryann Barton went back to the Looked After Children Council to provide the feedback from Clair Pyper, Joyce Thacker and Councillor Paul Lakin.

With regard to the delay by the Department for Education in responding to Rotherham about the Child S Serious Case Review, Alan Hazell reported that he had drafted a letter to the Department for Education to let them know of Rotherham LSCB’s intention to publish the Child S Serious Case Review following agreement from both Rotherham LSCB and the Children and Young People’s Partnership. Phil Morris would send the letter once finalised.

Pete Horner was to have provided an update at the previous meeting.
regarding the restructure of the Criminal Investigation Department of South Yorkshire Police, which would affect the Public Protection Unit, but at that point the proposals had not been to the Senior Management Team for agreement. Since then, Mr Horner explained the proposals had had to be rewritten, and would be going to the Policing Board on 25 June. Mr Horner would provide an update to Rotherham LSCB when ready.

Alan Hazell reported that the advertisement for a new Rotherham Lay Member would be going out next week, and that the new post holder should therefore be able to attend September’s meeting.

Phil Morris reported that the problems with reception that had been causing meetings to start late had been fed back to the relevant manager. Issues identified were that the reception process has kept changing and there have been several staff changes.

6. Section 11 Audits – report – Alan Hazell & Kevin Stevens

Kevin Stevens apologised for the lateness of this report in being circulated.

Mr Stevens reported that this had been a very valuable exercise for Rotherham LSCB to undertake, as it had provided some good key information to the Board in terms of assurance of where agencies were at currently in terms of their safeguarding practices.

As stated in recommendation 2 of this report, there as some work for the Performance and Quality Assurance Sub Group to do in order to move forward.

With regard to the next Section 11 audit in 2014, it was confirmed that advance details would be provided in October / November 2013, so agencies could feel reassured that they would receive plenty of notice.

One of the key issues identified via the Section 11 challenge meetings with agencies was the lack of a ‘central repository’ for reporting in key safeguarding information. Some local authorities have a risk register which partner agencies can use to raise issues for discussion – this is something that Rotherham LSCB could consider. Alan Hazell asked what form this would take, and Kevin Stevens replied that this could simply be an Excel database which could be updated as required and brought to meetings as necessary. Deborah Wildgoose agreed that this was a good idea, but clarified that a risk register is not the same as a risk management tool and should not therefore be treated as such.

Catherine Hall fed back that Mr Stevens’ report was well written and easy to understand.

Maryann Barton reported that the Voluntary Sector Consortium has agreed to go down the Section 11 audit route rather than continue with its current self-assessment toolkit. This would therefore increase the overall number of Section 11 audits for Rotherham LSCB to look at, as this would now cover all of the individual voluntary
organisations. However, Kevin Stevens clarified that the Voluntary Sector would report their Section 11 audits into Rotherham LSCB at a different time from other agencies.

Deborah Wildgoose pointed out that there was a gap in that schools did not complete Section 11 audits, but she accepted that this was not necessarily practical for all schools to do. Kevin Stevens replied that he intends to meet with the Schools’ Forum to discuss this particular issue, and added that there is already a safeguarding audit tool which is sent out to schools, but the results from this are not currently reported to Rotherham LSCB. Nick Whittaker said that there have been significant changes from the schools’ point of view, in that the current audit tool has a level of detail and rigour that doesn’t exist in Section 5. Mr Whittaker added that it may be worth consulting Chairs of Governors in any decision making process.

Alan Hazell concluded that the Section 11 audit process had largely been a positive and reassuring experience for all involved.

7. Complex case update - Clair Pyper

Clair Pyper provided a verbal update on the recent complex case.

3 separate teams had been set up to look at this case:

1. A Joint Investigation Team led by Kelly White from Children’s Social Care and Mark Monteiro from South Yorkshire Police
2. A Strategic Team led by Clair Pyper
3. An Operational Team led by Linda Alcock, Manager of the Safeguarding Children Unit

The Joint Investigation Team is looking to identify themes to ensure that the appropriate services and support are put in place, and a strategic overview is provided via the Strategic Team.

Juliette Greenwood questioned whether the funding reduction for MIND should be a cause for concern. Clair Pyper explained that whilst the local authority had reduced funding for MIND for schools, schools can still purchase this service themselves. However, concern is that schools will not choose to do so. Ms Pyper said that this had been discussed with schools at the Schools’ Forum, and as schools become more independent from the local authority, it is ultimately for them to choose what services they buy in. The local authority can encourage schools to purchase MIND services but it will not be mandatory. Warren Carratt later clarified that MIND was being withdrawn, but the service commissioned from MIND was still being provided.

Nick Whittaker asked whether primary schools had been involved with this piece of work and Clair Pyper confirmed that they hadn’t as yet.

John Radford said it was important to ensure that all schools have a clear response framework in place to deal with such cases.
### Agenda Item 6


The Ofsted report, ‘What about the Children?’, is a study of how children’s and adults’ services work together when parents or carers have mental ill health and / or drug and alcohol problems.

The report found that there was much better joint working between Children's Social Care and Drug and Alcohol Services than between Children's Social Care and Adult Mental Health Services.

Rotherham LSCB can be assured that in Rotherham, Drug and Alcohol Services, Adult Mental Health Services and Children's Social Care are working together effectively to address any safeguarding concerns. The required audits, as stated in the Ofsted recommendations to LSCBs, are underway in Rotherham and the results will be reported back to Rotherham LSCB.

Ms McFarlane explained that in light of the upcoming inspection of fostering services, she had not specified timescales for the recommendations in her report. Clair Pyper agreed with the recommendations and said that they were very timely, as work needs to be done to address the particularly high level of alcohol dependency in Rotherham and the impact this has upon children in terms of neglect. Ms Pyper added that, given that RDASH’s work is adult focused, there is a training issue to ensure that RDASH workers have an awareness of the impact on children.

Juliette Greenwood pointed out that some cases have the potential to slip through the net, e.g. when an adult presents at A and E as a result of alcohol abuse but he / she is not in current receipt of support from specialist alcohol services so is not already 'known'. Consideration needs to be given as to how to bring the process together to ensure all such cases are picked up.

Warren Carratt assured the Board that mental health awareness was already covered by Rotherham LSCB’s current learning and development programme.

Deborah Wildgoose suggested that rather than developing new training, agencies may instead need to look at re-focusing their existing training, to ensure that consideration of impact upon children is a key feature.

Alan Hazell asked whether it was reasonable for Rotherham LSCB to request an update report for December’s Board meeting – Shona McFarlane felt it was.


Catherine Hall explained that the new changes to the NHS came into effect on 1 April 2013, and said that patients shouldn’t actually see too many differences from their perspective.

A diagram showing the new changes was screened at the meeting -
AGENDA ITEM 6

Agenda item:

Sonya Chambers would circulate an electronic version to everyone after the meeting.

Ms Hall explained that multiple name changes had caused a lot of confusion e.g. what was formerly called ‘South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw Area Team’ is now ‘NHS England’.

It was clarified that these are national changes, which Rotherham is now trying to embed locally.

Alan Hazell pointed out that on page 4 of the report, it states that there are 23 Commissioning Support Units – Mr Hazell questioned this given that there 27 NHS areas. Ms Hall explained that this was because in some areas, the Commissioning Support Units had merged – e.g. West Yorkshire had joined with South Yorkshire and Bassetlaw.

Juliette Greenwood reported that further changes were to come in relation to regulations.

Ms Hall said that assurance for Rotherham LSCB was that Margaret Kitching, Director of Nursing and Quality, has been Vice Chair of Barnsley LSCB for some years so has a strong safeguarding background. Ms Kitching is a keen requisitioner of benchmarking exercises to ensure robust safeguarding practices are in place.

With reference to table 1 on page 3 of Catherine Hall’s report, Phil Morris asked why Rotherham was shown as having the least amount of programmed activity. Sue Cassin explained that this issue has been raised but there is currently not the funding to increase this. However, the key question is whether or not Rotherham is delivering as a Commissioning Group. Shona McFarlane added that Rotherham LSCB needs to be assured that children are still being safeguarded under the new NHS arrangements – i.e. are the necessary measures in place?

10. RLSCE 2012 – 2013 Annual Report and 2013 – 2016 Business Plan (standing item) – Alan Hazell / Phil Morris

In relation to the RLSCE Business Plan, Alan Hazell reminded everyone of the discussion at the recent RLSCE Development Day regarding the need to review the current Sub Group structure of the Board.

It had been suggested that South Yorkshire Police’s two Child Sexual Exploitation Groups – ‘Gold’ and ‘Silver’, should report to Rotherham LSCB as Sub Groups of the Board. However, Alan Hazell said that he had still to see the terms of reference for these 2 groups, and that Rotherham LSCB needed sight of these to be able to consider specific proposals for a new Sub Group structure.

The RLSCE Annual Report needed to go out to Board members and advisors before the September Board meeting.

Action:

Sonya Chambers

Phil Morris
AGENDA ITEM 6

11. Agenda item: Action:

11. Appointment of RLSCB Independent Chair / Vice Chair – Alan Hazell

Alan Hazell announced the appointment of Deborah Wildgoose as Rotherham LSCB’s new Vice Chair.

12. For information

12.1 Budget update report (standing item) – Karen Potts

This report had been brought to today’s meeting for information only. Any questions / comments could be put to Warren Carratt to feed back to Karen Potts, the report author.

Phil Morris reported that all LSCBs had received a request from their local Police and Crime Commissioner to justify the amount of funding requested from the local police force to the LSCB budget.

12.2 Minutes from the RLSCB CSE session held on 15.03.2013

Alan Hazell advised everyone to re-read these minutes prior to the proposed extraordinary RLSCB meeting scheduled for 8 July (see 13.1 below). This meeting had been arranged to discuss the implications from the Home Affairs Select Committee’s report on child sexual exploitation.

12.3 Minutes from RLSCB Development Day held on 20.05.2013

These minutes were provided for information only.

12.4 Minutes from the meeting of RLSCB Sub Group Chairs held on 23.05.2013

These minutes were provided for information only.

13. Any other business

13.1 Alan Hazell proposed that, following the recent publication of the Home Affairs Select Committee report on child sexual exploitation, Rotherham LSCB ought to convene an extraordinary meeting to discuss the implications of this report for Rotherham. It was agreed that this extraordinary meeting would take place on 8 July 2013 to avoid clashing with the Fostering Inspection – Sonya Chambers to book a meeting room and email everyone with the time and location of the meeting.

Phil Morris undertook to circulate a précis of the recommendations from the report, to be read in advance of the meeting along with the minutes from the 15 March 2013 meeting referred to in agenda item 12.2 (above). Richard Burton asked about the potential impact of the Home Affairs Select Committee report on the family of Child S – Clair Pyper said that Joyce Thacker was aware of this issue but Ms Pyper was not sure how this situation would be addressed and undertook to check this.

13.2 Ofsted has announced that it will be undertaking an inspection of fostering services in Rotherham week commencing 1 July 2013.
AGENDA ITEM 6

13.3 Pete Horner reported that he had not yet received any Rotherham nominations for the MACIE training and that these are required as soon as possible from interested parties. Phil Morris to chase.

Action: Phil Morris

13.4 Richard Burton noted that certain agencies were struggling to provide representatives at RLSCB meetings following changes to their organisations’ structures, and asked whether the Board could support agencies with this in any way. Alan Hazell agreed to consider this further.

Action: Alan Hazell

13.5 Richard Burton asked why the Crown Prosecution Service was not represented on Rotherham LSCB. Alan Hazell replied that the Board was looking to appoint a CPS representative for the Exploitation Sub Group – Clair Pyper proposed that this point be discussed further at the extraordinary RLSCB meeting on 08.07.2013 – this was agreed.

Action: Clair Pyper

13.6 Richard Burton asked about the role of the Neighbourhood Watch Service in identifying and reporting possible cases of child sexual exploitation. Clair Pyper replied that this system was already in place – Phil Morris would provide Mr Burton with the relevant leaflets for further information.

Action: Phil Morris

13.7 Alan Hazell reported that RDASH and The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust had both been asked to provide an IMR (Individual Management Report) to Croydon LSCB for a Serious Case Review that they are undertaking.

Action: Clair Pyper

14. Future agenda items

- Action plan of the 7 recommendations from the Weightmans Review, followed by an update at December’s meeting – Warren Carratt & Phil Morris
- December meeting – update report on joint working between children’s and adults’ services following the Ofsted report – What about the children? – Shona McFarlane

15. Dates of future meetings

Friday 13 September 2013, 10:00am – 12:30pm
Friday 6 December 2013, 11:30am – 2:00pm