

## Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board

### Minutes from the meeting of Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board (RLSCB), held on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September 2013, 10:00am – 12:30pm at Riverside House

#### In attendance

Steve Ashley – Chair	Independent Chair, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Stacey Attenborrow – Minute Taker	LSCB Administrator, Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board
Richard Burton – Member	Lay Member, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Kevin Stevens – In attendance to present agenda item 10	Safeguarding Quality Assurance Officer for Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board and Children and Young People's Services
Sue Cassin – Member	Executive Lead for Safeguarding at the Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham
Phil Morris – Advisor	Business Manager, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Tracey McErlain Baines - Member	Interim 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 4	Performance and Quality Manager, Resources Directorate, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Warren Carratt – Advisor	Service Manager - Strategy, Standards and Development, Children and Young People's Services and Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Sarah Mainwaring – Member	Head of Probation – Rotherham, South Yorkshire Probation Trust
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
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
Debra Wadsworth – Member	Lay Member, Rotherham Local Safeguarding Children Board
Jason Harwin – Member	Chief Superintendent, District Commander, Rotherham South Yorkshire Police
Sam Newton – Deputy for Shona Macfarlane - Member	Service Manager, Safeguarding Adults, Neighbourhoods and Adult Service, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Cath Toovey – Deputy for Steve Green – Member	Group Manager, Emergency Response and Intervention, South Yorkshire Fire and Rescue
Sue Wynne - Member	Voluntary Sector
Tracey Slater – In attendance to present agenda item 12	Patient Experience Manager, Nursing Directorate, NHS England (South Yorkshire & Bassetlaw)
Liz Thackray – In attendance to present agenda item 2	Childline, NSPCC
Linda Alcock – In attendance to present agenda item 5	Safeguarding Children Unit Manager, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Alan Windle – Observer	Safeguarding Adults, Rotherham CCG
Deborah Johnson – In attendance to present agenda item 4	Quality & Performance Officer, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Anna Clack – Deputy for John Radford	Director of Public Health, Rotherham Public Health

## **Apologies:**

Catherine Hall – Advisor	Nurse Consultant for Safeguarding Children, Clinical Commissioning Group, Rotherham
Mark Monteiro – Member	Detective Inspector, Rotherham Public Protection Unit, South Yorkshire Police
Nick Whittaker – Member	Headteacher, Hilltop and Kelford Schools
Pete Horner – Member	Public Protection Unit Manager, South Yorkshire Police
Clair Pyper - Member	Interim Director of Safeguarding Children and Families, Children and Young People's Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Sherif El-Reftee - Advisor	Designated Doctor, The Rotherham NHS Foundation Trust
Shona MacFarlane - Member	Director of Health and Wellbeing, Neighbourhoods and Adult Services, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council
Anne Deeney – Advisor	Service Manager, Children's Social Care, Rotherham Metropolitan Borough Council

## **Agenda Item**

### **1. Welcome/Apologies and Introductions**

Attendance and apologies were noted as above.

For the benefit of the new RLSCB Independent Chair, Steve Ashley, introductions were made by all.

Steve Ashley clarified his expectations of the board as being an opportunity for members to make positive changes, challenge decisions and resolve issues. The board needs to remain focussed on evaluating performance, reviewing action plans and ensuring their compliance.

The work of Alan Hazell, previous Independent Chair, was acknowledged, along with the assistance he provided to ensure a smooth handover took place.

### **2. Childline Schools Service Presentation – Liz Thackray**

Attendees were provided with a report and information from Liz Thackray regarding the work being undertaken by Childline in schools.

Dorothy Smith asked what help Rotherham Council could provide to support Childline to access schools. Liz Thackray responded that at present Childline are using word of mouth to promote their services, attending head teachers meetings and liaising with the healthy schools coordinators.

Jane Skupien enquired what capacity the project had to deliver sessions. Liz Thackray explained that the project is delivered by volunteers. The process is that they apply to deliver the sessions, attend a group interview, an enhanced DBS check is carried out along with the relevant NSPCC checks, an online training course is completed, followed by 2 days of in house training, then coaching in schools, before the volunteers are signed off and split into pairs to deliver the training.

Kevin Stevens questioned if parents are required to 'opt in' for their child to attend the session. Liz Thackray clarified that parents are asked to return a slip if they choose to opt out of their child

attending the sessions. This number has been relatively low, and schools are encouraged to discuss with parents why they have chosen to opt out.

Anna Clack suggested that she meet with Liz Thackray to discuss how Public Health can assist Childline to deliver the sessions in schools.

Liz Thackray left the meeting.

### **3. Revised Public Law Outline – Anne Deeney**

This item was rescheduled for the December board meeting.

### **4. Safeguarding Children Performance National Indicators – Sue Wilson & Deborah Johnson**

The above report was explained in further detail by Deborah Johnson.

Steve Ashley queried if the data could be matched locally. Ms Johnson responded that they have access to this information from a national database for Looked After Children, however the national database only produce figures annually. The team are currently in the process of comparing Rotherham data against national data set to evaluate how accurate Rotherham data is.

Steve Ashley went to say that he would be asking the chair of the performance sub group to consider this information, analyse it and prepare a report for the RLSCB highlighting areas for concern. **ACTION No3.**

Steve Ashley queried if the performance team ever received performance information from any other agencies, if not this should be the responsibility of the performance sub group. Deborah Johnson responded that the information received by her team relates only to Rotherham Council. **ACTION No4.**

Phil Morris commented that whilst some indicators are anomalous they are driven by the Munro report, whilst others are driven by using data to look at outcomes. Steve Ashley responded that there is a need to look at local and national indicators to ensure an improvement in outcomes.

Dr Polkinghorn queried the availability of social care statistics considering how prominent this is in the media at present, information relating to vacancies and sickness levels for social workers is not easily found. He requested that this information be made available at the next RLSCB meeting. Sue Wilson replied that this information is made available to DLT, but this is in a format that would not be appropriate for the RLSCB meeting. Joyce Thacker also added that social worker positions are very tightly managed with a vacancy figure of below 5%.

This information prompted Steve Ashley to add that performance reports should be cascaded to agencies and lay members to allow individuals to analyse, query the reports, and provide feedback on how easy to understand they are. **ACTION No2.**

Jason Harwin questioned if there was a similar Safeguarding Board in England to compare with Rotherham, Sue Wilson answered that we are comparable to Doncaster, Barnsley, Wakefield , and Wigan.

Deborah Johnson and Sue Wilson left the meeting.

## **5. Management of Allegations Against Professionals & Carers**

Linda Alcock presented the annual report for 2012-13 on the above topic.

This report will now be discussed annually.

Richard Burton queried who would be responsible for investigating an allegation against a professional out of area who was caring for a Rotherham Looked After Child. Linda Alcock explained, if a LAC child placed out of authority made an allegation against a professional, it wouldn't be a Rotherham Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) case, but would be the responsibility of the area in which the allegation was made. Rotherham would offer advice and information to the LADO in that area.

Richard Burton went on to say that a report has been published today regarding children who are placed out of area. Joyce Thacker countered that she had seen this report, and was reassured that Rotherham only have a small percentage of LAC children placed out of authority, which is well within guidance.

Steve Ashley queried in LADO cases that were found to be substantiated, would this information transfer onto a Disclosures and Barring Service (DBS) check. Linda Alcock explained that all LADO findings are reported to DBS.

Debra Wadsworth requested information relating to the previous year's data for comparison, she felt that 25% of cases substantiated against foster carers and children's centres was relatively high.

Deborah Wildgoose oversees the LADO role across a number of localities for RDASH. She commented that the lack of referrals from health could be interpreted as both good and bad. Across RDASH there is awareness of the LADO role, however an on-going programme of training and practice development across agencies including RDASH would be beneficial. With the appointment of a new LADO this would be an excellent time to consider this.

Warren Carratt suggested that LADO data should be a function of the performance sub group to support the investigation of data gathered. Steve Ashley added that the data should be submitted on a quarterly basis. Brief information reports could then be produced to allow members to review and question the data and findings without the need for lengthy reports. Board members agreed with this suggestion. Steve Ashley went on to credit Linda Alcock with providing a very comprehensive report which documents the progress of LADO.

Linda Alcock informed board members that the new LADO is Jill Brookes.

Linda Alcock left the meeting.

## **6. Previous RLSCB Minutes From 14.06.2013**

Updates on action points are covered in the table at the end of the minutes

## **7. RLSCB Business Plan 2013-16**

Phil Morris described the main update to the plan from March 2013 being a result of the latest version of Working Together to Safeguard Children. Any additional priorities have also been incorporated. On 18<sup>th</sup> September the Business Plan is being presented at Scrutiny Panel.

## **8. RLSCB Sub Group Update Reports**

Steve Ashley explained that each sub group was required to provide a report to the LSCB detailing what actions have been resolved, planned activity for the sub group, and who is attending the meetings. If issues are unable to be resolved at sub groups they should be brought to the RLSCB meetings for discussion.

### **8.1 Performance and Quality Sub Group**

Phil Morris presented an update on behalf of Juliette Greenwood. This group is now being separated, with the final meeting scheduled for October. The meeting will establish how to split the group and which group attendees will report to.

### **8.2 Policy & Procedures Sub Group**

Phil Morris presented this report. He informed board members that this sub group would be disbanding. With the introduction of Tri-X, this sub group is no longer a necessity.

### **8.3 Serious Case Review Sub Group**

Phil Morris presented this update. He reported that Rotherham agencies had recently been involved in contributing to a serious case review in Croydon.

In relation to the 3 hanging deaths over the past 18 months, at this stage there will not be a serious case review, as the deaths are currently being examined operationally. Joyce Thacker added that a lessons learned report would be available in December.

### **8.4 Learning & Development Sub Group**

Warren Carratt presented this report, explaining that 63 practitioners been through the Early Help Safeguarding Workshops during the first part of this financial year. Moving forward, the sub group will also take responsibility for improvement.

Joyce Thacker asked if this group would now address the multi-agency thresholds as discussed in an earlier agenda point, as this is an opportunity to reinforce learning. Warren Carratt responded that this issue is covered in the Core Group 3 workshop, and is already being addressed by this sub group.

## **8.5 CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) Sub Group**

Jason Harwin reported that this sub group was well attended and relevant to the subject matter. The sub group meets every month for 2 hours. With such a plethora of information being continually released on this subject the group needs to be flexible and quick to react. The strategy has been refreshed, taking into account the report from the Home Affairs Select Committee and the Rochdale Inquiry.

Steve Ashley commented that there needs to be an audit trail of these issues raised by the Home Affairs Select Committee, and how they have been dealt with.

Jason Harwin went on to state that the delivery plan for the sub group has been refreshed, with tight timescales introduced. A number of actions remain the same, however over time these will evolve. The minutes of the meeting are available to share. When confidentiality is required there is a closed session.

Steve Ashley added that the CSE sub group filters into the RLSCB, however there are other related groups that will run alongside. The CSE group is strategic and is required to contribute to the RLSCB business plan, and having the correct professionals attend this meeting is key to its success.

Joyce Thacker pointed out that a communication strategy is required to make the remit of this sub group clear. Cllr Lakin agreed that agencies are under pressure to ensure CSE messages are cascaded to the public. This sub group should look at how this can be cascaded along with warnings to the community. Cllr Lakin also questioned if the actions from the extraordinary meeting form part of the CSE delivery plan. Jason Harwin confirmed that the actions are part of the new delivery plan.

In relation to a recent Times article there is an investigation on going. With regards to inspections, the Police Commissioner has ordered 3 reviews in South Yorkshire. A further inspection will look at the role of the Crown Prosecution Service in relation to historical cases. HMIC are planning one of the reviews on the progress of South Yorkshire Police.

Cllr Lakin questioned what the protocol is for reporting back on HMIC inspections. Jason Harwin explained that the format is open and shared with the public. Steve Ashley added that HMIC always publish reports unless there is a specific reason not to. HMIC if invited in to perform an audit will work to Terms of Reference, but may if they decide extend their scope.

Steve Ashley commented that with a large number of national recommendations in place, along with the RLSCB delivery plan, there will inevitably be some contradictions, so it is essential that we are aware of what is happening locally rather than solving national problems.

Joyce Thacker reported that an independent inquiry has been commissioned into child sexual exploitation in Rotherham between 1997 and January 2013. Timescales for the reporting of the inquiry have yet to be agreed, this will take place when an independent professional is appointed to lead the inquiry. The Terms of Reference for the enquiry are thorough and specific.

Joyce Thacker went on to announce that the Government have released a response to the Home Affairs Select Committee report. There is a real possibility of inspection from December 2013 and arrangements are being made to prepare for this.

Steve Ashley added that all LSCB's have issues and areas for concern, it is the LSCB's who aren't aware of their issues that are dangerous. Supporting staff is key to addressing our issues, and if Rotherham can overcome the current challenges we face, we will discover that we have the best teams possible in place.

Joyce Thacker commented that there have been increased number of referrals to social care regarding CSE, this is no doubt result of the increased awareness of this issue and improved processes.

Dorothy Smith left the meeting.

## **9. Revised RLSCB Constitution & Terms of Reference**

Phil Morris explained that the constitution had been updated to include the revision of the RLSCB sub groups, with the main amendments being the introduction of the CSE sub group, and the separation of the performance and quality sub group. The new performance sub group requires a chair.

Steve Ashley asked if any agency wished to put forward a recommendation for a chair for the performance sub group. The response was negative.

Terms of reference for the sub groups aren't prescriptive allowing the sub groups to work together.

Deborah Wildgoose suggested that the signatories on the constitution be redone, as they are dated from 3 years ago. **ACTION No 9.**

## **10. Multi-Agency Review of Serious Child Neglect**

The report was presented by Kevin Stevens.

Cath Toovey left the meeting

Steve Ashley commented on the excellent quality of the report, it focusses people on the outcomes for children. Agreed the report, with a case study, will go to the next Children, Young People and Families Partnership.

Tracey McErlain Baines, Zafar Saleem and Deborah Wildgoose left the meeting.

## **11. HM Inspectorate of Probation Annual Report**

This report was presented by Joyce Thacker.

Phil Morris questioned if the RLSCB should seek assurance from the Corporate Parenting Board. Joyce Thacker agreed, and Sarah Mainwaring commented that there is a real role for the RLSCB to keep a close eye on this.

Richard Burton commented that the public have concerns with private companies offering probation services, due to their lack of experience. He questioned if the RLSCB would be able to influence decisions or make comment to the relevant organisations. Sarah Mainwaring responded that Alan Hazell had previously written a very good letter highlighting this. She also thanked RLSCB colleagues for their support.

Steve Ashley added that if there is evidence that companies such as G4S are not performing adequately the RLSCB will address this.

## **12. NHS England Progress Report**

Tracey Slater presented this report.

Sarah Mainwaring added that there have been some changes in legislation with regards to mental health, which had also affected the Probation Service which were also undergoing considerable change.

## **13. For Information**

### **13.1 Minutes from extraordinary meeting of RLSCB held on 08.07.13**

Joyce Thacker reported that she had been working with Phil Morris following this meeting on the HASC report.

### **13.3 Minutes from Rotherham Safeguarding Adults Board held on 03.07.13**

Phil Morris is in the process of arranging a meeting with the Safeguarding Adults Board Chair

### **13.5 Briefing on CAFCASS Roles, Responsibilities and Priorities**

Attendees were advised to contact Anne Riley with any questions.

## **14.    AOB**

**14.1**    On behalf of John Radford, Director of Public Health, Anna Clack informed the board that Public Health was looking to extend the emergency hormonal contraception initiative, which is aimed at under 16's. John Radford has discussed this with Joyce Thacker and proposes to present a paper on this topic at the Sexual Health Strategy meeting. The rationale behind extending the project is due to the immense impact on teenage pregnancy rates, it also provides an opportunity to access vulnerable young people.

Joyce Thacker added that the planned extension has been debated at the Children and Families Partnership. The project allows Pharmacists to act as a further source of help and support for young people in risky situations.

**14.2**    Richard Burton commented that in light of the recent criticism directed at Rotherham Council, it is disappointing that the appointment of a new RLSCB Chair has not been widely publicised. Steve Ashley responded that he is working with the media team on a communication strategy.

### **Actions Points Raised / On-Going from RLSCB Meeting Held on 14.06.2013**

<b>No:</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Update</b>
1.	Sonya Chambers	Table an update for the RLSCB to be briefed on the progress towards the 7 recommendations	On-going Planned for December 2013 Board meeting
2.	CSE Sub Group	The processes for when children are placed out of area need to be strengthened	On-going - The Exploitation sub group requested that Safe at Last conduct a review requested by Clair Pyper. Has this action been taken forward by CSE Sub group?
3.	Pete Horner	Provide an update regarding the restructure of the Criminal Investigation Department of South Yorkshire Police, which would affect the Public Protection Unit	On-going. The restructure is still on-going. Update to be provided when finalised.
4.	Deborah Wildgoose & Clair Pyper	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.	On-going. Deborah Wildgoose to meet with Clair Pyper to clarify exactly what is required.
5.	Shona Macfarlane	Provide an update to the December Board on the actions taken from the Ofsted – What About Children report	On-going. To be discussed at December RLSCB meeting.  DISCHARGE – as already covered by action point 4 above.
6.	Clair Pyper	Provide an update on how Child S' family would be supported following the publication of the Home Affairs Select Committee report into child sexual exploitation	On-going. Update to be provided at December meeting

### **Actions Discharged from RLSCB Meeting Held on 14.06.2013**

<b>No:</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Update</b>
1.	P&QA Sub Group	Performance and Quality Assurance Sub Group will soon be able to report multi-agency performance information back to Rotherham LSCB.	This group has now been separated, performance information will be the responsibility of the Performance Sub Group
2.	Phil Morris	The 7 recommendations to be developed and progressed through an action plan.	Done – see point 6
3.	Phil Morris	Add an update to the Rotherham LSCB Constitution in relation to the secure handling of paper documents/reports.	Done
4.	Phil Morris	Share RLSCB information sharing practices with RLSCB members	Done
5.	Kevin Stevens	Include the recommended suggestion in the Section 11 Audit Process.	Done

6.	Warren Carratt & Phil Morris	Produce an action plan to progress the 7 recommendations which were a result of the review.	Done
7.	Sonya Chambers	Circulate an electronic copy of Ofsted report to Board Members	Done
8.	Sonya Chambers	Amend the minutes from 15.03.13 to show Martin Kimber as an 'observer' rather than 'participating observer'	Done
9.	Phil Morris	Position for lay member should be filled for the September RLSCB meeting	Done –Debra Wadsworth was welcomed as the new Lay Member
10.	Sonya Chambers	Circulate an electronic version of 'Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the Reformed NHS - Accountability and Assurance Framework'	Done
11.	Phil Morris	Circulate the RLSCB Annual Report to Board Members before the September meeting	Done
12.	Sonya Chambers	Arrange a meeting to discuss the implication of the Home Affairs Select Committee report on sexual exploitation	Done
13.	Phil Morris	Gather nominations for professionals interested in attending the police led MACIE Training	Done – MACIE training has taken place with full representation from Rotherham
14.	Alan Hazell	Consider the impact of changes in organisation structure on the attendance at RLSCB meetings	Discharged – The issue of suitable representation was discussed at September RLSCB meeting
15.	Phil Morris	Provide Richard Burton with leaflets relating to Neighbourhood watch and sexual exploitation	Done – The leaflets are available for Richard to collect. Jason Harwin also volunteered to look at distributing copies.

### **Actions from RLSCB Meeting Held On 13.09.13**

<b>No</b>	<b>From Agenda</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Action</b>
1.	Item 2	Phil Morris	Notify Liz Thackray of the point of contact for feeding back updates on the Childline project.
2.	Item 4	Sue Wilson	Send performance reports to Sonya Chambers for distribution to Board Members, allowing them to review current performance.
3.	Item 4	Steve Ashley	Discuss with Clair Pyper how the Performance sub group are going to review information and ensure that key points are translated into meaningful information for the RLSCB.
4.	Item 4	Performance Sub Group	Performance Sub Group to include all data sets from other agencies.
5.	Item 5	Phil Morris	Provide Debra Wadsworth with the previous year's information relating to LADO cases.
6.	Item 5	Phil Morris	Arrange a meeting for Steve Ashley to meet LADO, Jill Brookes, to allow an understanding of her role and how things are progressing.
7.	Item 5	Steve Ashley	Meet with Linda Alcock to discuss the lack of LADO referrals in certain agencies.
8.	Item 9	Steve Ashley	Discuss potential chairs for the performance sub group with Phil Morris
9.	Item 9	Sonya Chamber	Update signatures on RLSCB Constitution
10.	Item 8.1	Steve Ashley	Attend the Performance Sub group to gain an understanding of the information reviewed.
11.	Item 8.4	Jason Harwin	Provide Sonya Chambers with an updated CSE delivery plan for distribution.
12.	Item 8.4	Sonya Chambers	Circulate the CSE action plan to Board members
13.	Item 8.4	Jason Harwin	For the next RLSCB meeting in December provide a progress update for this sub group along with an agenda item to discuss the delivery plan.
14.	Item 8.4	Sonya Chambers	Circulate the link to the Governments response to the Home Affairs Select Committee report.
15.	Item 10	Steve Ashley	Meet with Kevin Stevens to discuss the Multi Agency Review of Serious Child Neglect report further and establish how it fits into the RLSCB. Table for the December RLSCB meeting.
16.	Item 10	Joyce Thacker & Cllr Lakin	Report to go to the Children, Young People's and Families Partnership on 20 <sup>th</sup> November, 2013.
17.	Item 12	Sarah Mainwaring Tracey Slater	Discuss the issues Probation is having with the new mental health legislation.