

Windsor and Maidenhead
LOCAL SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN BOARD

Annual Report 2018-19

Please note this Annual Report was written and produced under the “Working Together To Safeguard Children 2015” guidance. This has now been superseded by “Working Together To Safeguard Children 2018”. Both available at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

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1. Preface

This report covers the period 1st April 2018 to 31st March 2019 in accordance with the Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 guidance. As required, it will be submitted to the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead (RBWM) Managing Director, Leader of the Council, the Local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Well Being Board. It will also be presented to the Boards of the CCG and Berkshire Healthcare Trust and to the boards of all partner agencies.

2. Terry Rich, Independent Chair's Report

2018-19 has been a year where potential and actual organisational changes within partner agencies and in the structure of the Board itself have been significant factors. The local authority's emerging plans for a new children's safeguarding partnership arrangement to replace the LSCB has been subject to discussion between partners and as the year comes to a close, it is hoped that a consensus has been reached on a way forward.

The departure of the long serving Managing Director, Alison Alexander, from RBWM was also significant. Alison was a driving force behind many of the changes and reforms that have taken place over a number of years – including the move of children's services to Achieving for Children in 2017.

There has also been consolidation within the local NHS Clinical Commissioning Group with a greater degree of integration across the east of Berkshire.

However, despite this backdrop, the LSCB has continued to exercise its key functions of promoting good partnership working for the benefit of children and young people, keeping a track on performance of the partners against the outcomes framework, identifying emerging risks and holding agencies to account.

The Board has continued to receive progress reports from Achieving for Children. There are indications that children's social care services are benefiting significantly from the move, particularly as the service becomes more embedded within the AfC structure. There have been visible improvements in the stability and consistency of management, and reports of improved recruitment and retention rates. Whilst a full external assessment has yet to take place, it is to be hoped that when OFSTED return to measure progress in the Windsor & Maidenhead area, there will be evidence of significant improvement supporting a "Good" judgement.

Last year I reported that a formal challenge had been raised by the Board with the local authority over their decision not to implement the NHS "Children Information System". This is a project which enables information sharing on children subject to Child Protection Plans to be available in all non-planned clinical environments – i.e. A&E, walk-in centres, minor injury units. It is now live for all Berkshire local authorities with the exception of RBWM. The Board has been advised that money for replacement of the Council's Client Information System has been allocated in 2019-20 and that once a new system is deployed it will enable implementation of CISP for Windsor & Maidenhead children. This remains a risk that partners should keep on their radar, despite changes to LSCB structures and routes for cross agency scrutiny.

During the year the LSCB became concerned at reports of increased numbers of families being subject to homelessness and that some were being accommodated in non-self-contained (B&B type) accommodation, and some out of borough. The Board examined the issues closely and encouraged the local authority to review its procedures and to make increased efforts to ensure that families subject to homelessness were housed close to their home community and in accommodation more appropriate to family life. We have been encouraged by progress made and recent reports confirmed no families with children are now housed in B&B type accommodation.

Plans to launch a Serious Case Review Group across East Berkshire reached their final stages during the course of the year. However these plans are currently on hold, due to uncertainty across the three local authority areas around future post-LSCB arrangements and how such a joint SCR group could operate with the new Rapid Review process for consideration of Serious Case Reviews. It is hoped that once organisational arrangements settle down the enthusiasm for joint case reviews and learning across the wider East Berkshire area will still be there and progress towards a joint group will resume.



Finally, I retired as Chair of the LSCB on 31st March 2019. After 5 years in the role, I have seen great examples of partnership working and a growing willingness for openness to challenge and scrutiny. We have seen improvements in the consistency and challenge. As I said last year - which was also to have been my final annual report - I am confident that the strength of partnership that exists will be sufficient to weather the changes that are to come. There is a real commitment across the Royal Borough that children and young people should be kept safe, and that there should be every opportunity to succeed. I am pleased that the LSCB has played its part in promoting those objectives and wish partners well in the future.

Terry Rich

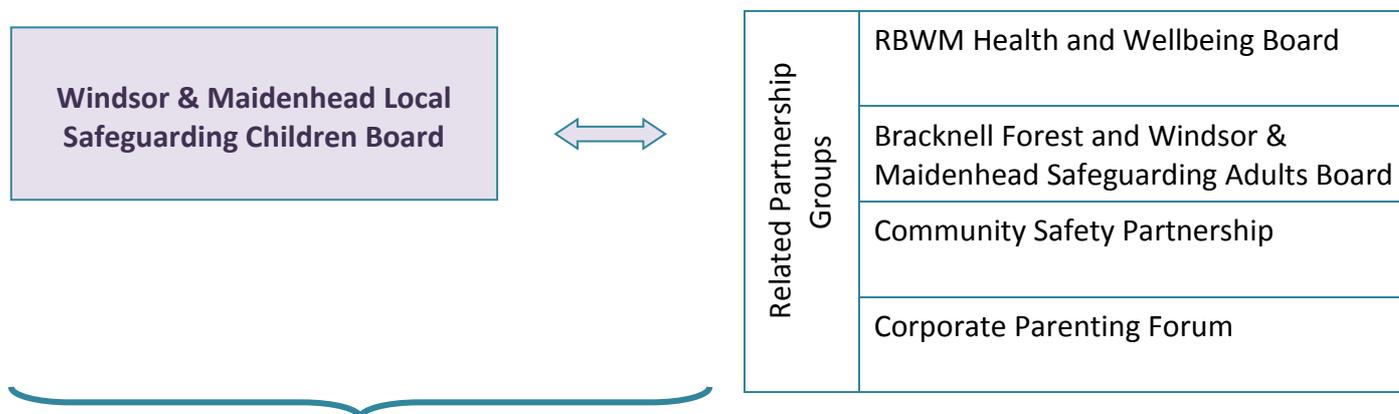
Independent Chair, Windsor & Maidenhead LSCB

3. Local Context

3.1. Local Arrangements

3.1.1. Windsor & Maidenhead’s Local Safeguarding Children Board oversees the local multi agency child safeguarding arrangements and is made up of senior leaders from both statutory partners and a range of organisations involved in supporting children and young people. The Children Act 2004 gives the Board two basic objectives – to co-ordinate the safeguarding work of agencies and to ensure this is done effectively. Regulation 5 of the *Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006* sets out that the functions of the LSCB in further detail¹. The Government also publishes statutory guidance on inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children² – a revised version of Working Together was published in July 2018 and is being implemented.

3.1.2. The structure of the Board and it’s sub groups in 2018/19 was as follows:



SUB GROUPS

Windsor & Maidenhead Sub Groups	Pan Berkshire Sub Groups
Serious Case Review Sub Group	Section 11 Panel
Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group	Policy and Procedures Sub Group
Promotion Sub Group	Child Death Overview Panel
Task and Finish Groups as required	LSCB Child Exploitation Sub Group

¹ <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/90/contents/made>

² <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

- 3.1.3. The Board was chaired by Terry Rich who has been the Board's Independent Chair since May 2014. He worked closely with all LSCB partners and maintained regular liaison with the local authority Managing Director Alison Alexander and the Director of Children's Services, Kevin McDaniel within Achieving for Children.
- 3.1.4. During the year RBWM's Lead Member for Children's Services, Cllr Natasha Airey continued to attend the LSCB as a 'participating observer', asking questions and seeking clarity. This role provides an additional scrutiny function to the Board and has provided a useful channel of additional communication both from and to the local authority.
- 3.1.5. The LSCB had two Lay Members whose role is to help make links with community groups and support stronger public understanding and engagement in local child safety issues and the LSCB's child protection work. Their contribution to the work of the Board is invaluable, particularly their involvement in case reviews and sub groups. Unfortunately for the LSCB, one of the Lay Members retired and moved away during the summer of 2018. The second Lay Member in her role as Chair of the LSCB Promotion Sub group has made good progress in raising awareness of safeguarding children in out of office environments and on some community profiling work.
- 3.1.6. Throughout the year, the Board has been supported by partner agencies at the appropriate level of seniority for it to make the necessary strategic decisions. Board Members have demonstrated this through their attendance and effective engagement, providing expertise to scrutinise and challenge the local multi-agency safeguarding arrangements and holding their own organisation to account in terms of safeguarding practice. In addition, Board Members have actively contributed to the planning, implementation and monitoring of the LSCB Business Plan.
- 3.1.7. The Board met five times during the year with an additional business planning session and was attended by senior managers from statutory agencies, Lay Members and the Lead Member for Children's Services. Appendix A contains information about attendance at Board meetings in 2018/19.

3.2. Changes in 2018/19

- 3.2.1. In September 2016, the Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead agreed to enter into a partnership with the Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames and the London Borough of Richmond upon Thames to deliver its children's services through Achieving for Children, the community interest company now jointly owned by the three councils. The outgoing Chair reflected (see Section 2, above) that the period since then represented the most encouraging period of his tenure. There had been clear progress in recruiting and retaining staff and in establishing a stable and experienced management team. He also felt that the benefits of being part of a larger organisation had benefits in relation to sharing of good practice and quality standards.
- 3.2.2. The Windsor, Ascot & Maidenhead, Slough and Bracknell Forest Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCG) joined to become one East Berkshire CCG as from 1 April 2018. This has had minimal impact on the designated safeguarding functions as the Designated Doctor and Designated Nurse were already contracted to provide their function across east Berkshire.

3.3. Finance & Resources

- 3.3.1. Working Together 2015 states that 'All LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide LSCBs with reliable resources (including finance) that enable the LSCB to be strong and effective. Members should share the financial responsibility for the LSCB in such a way that a disproportionate burden does not fall on a small number of partner agencies.' (Chapter 3, paragraph 19). However, there is no national formula and levels of contribution are agreed locally. The local authority currently contributes around 70% of direct funding and hosts the LSCB business unit.
- 3.3.2. Whilst it is possible to budget for planned activities, serious case reviews (SCRs) or other learning reviews present unpredictable financial pressures. It is, therefore, essential that the LSCB maintains a contingency to cover for these unplanned eventualities. See Tables 1 and 2 below for a summary of LSCB income and expenditure.

Table 1 – LSCB Income 2018/19

Income	
Agency	Contributions 2018-19 £
RBWM	58,600
East Berkshire CCG	20,869
Thames Valley Police	4,000
National Probation Service	298
Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	478
CAFCASS	550
Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust	1,000
TOTAL BUDGET AVAILABLE	85,795

Table 2 – LSCB Expenditure 2018/19

Expenditure	
Area of expenditure	Actual Spend 2018-19 £
Total employee (including Chair) costs	65,102
Supplies & Services	2,109
Professional Fees	2,054
Training Expenses	4,435
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	73,700

4. LSCB Scrutiny of Safeguarding Performance

4.1. On a day to day basis, the LSCB ensures partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisations by:

- ✓ Undertaking serious case reviews or partnership reviews of cases to ensure that we learn and improve services as a result;
- ✓ Undertaking multi-agency audits to review the effectiveness of services and make recommendations to improve practice;
- ✓ Reviewing and analysing partnership data predominantly through the LSCB Outcomes Framework to ensure the LSCB understands the needs of the local population and is confident about partners' performance;
- ✓ Reviewing premises licensing applications in relation to protecting children from harm and making representations as necessary.

- ✓ Providing a multi-agency safeguarding training programme for safeguarding awareness based on the needs of the local workforce.
- 4.2. The aim of the Outcomes Framework, which was developed initially in the West Midlands and North West, is to provide a multi agency dataset to provide assurance on the whole safeguarding system. It is not intended to include all the measures collected at a single agency level. The framework is structured around eight outcomes ranging from universal through to specialist provision. It is monitored by the Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group and reported to the LSCB quarterly using a dashboard. The end of year dashboard for 2018/19 is attached at Appendix B.
- 4.3. The Board receives inspection reports from inspections carried out on local organisations by national inspectorates and also more informal peer reviews. In December 2018, the National Probation Service provided the Board with the findings of a recent inspection of the NPS South West South Central area which had received an overall rating of 'good' and managing risk was rated 'outstanding'. Some areas required improvement and the Board was assured that an action plan has begun to address these points. Following an inspection of The Thames Valley CRC inspection had resulted a 'requires improvement' rating.
- 4.4. The Board also received the CCG's Adult and Children's Annual Safeguarding Report 2017/18 in September 2018 which highlighted the quality of local safeguarding services for both children and adults and confirmed that the CCGs are fulfilling their statutory responsibilities relating to safeguarding adults and children.
- 4.5. In addition to the Section 11 Panel which operates on a pan Berkshire basis, the LSCB (through the Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group) also receives single agency assurance reports in order to seek assurance on the safeguarding arrangements in place within individual agencies. Questions cover training, audits and Section 10 & 11 co-operation arrangements.
- 4.6. The LSCB also has a business plan and holds an annual business planning review. On 14th March 2018 the Board held a business planning workshop to in order to review progress against the 2016-18 and agree the 2018-20 Business Plan and other key priorities for the work of the LSCB. Table 3 overleaf summarises key outcomes and evidence against the 2018-20 Business Plan.

Table 3 – Delivery of the 2018-20 Business Plan

PRIORITY THEME 1: 18-25 Year Old Care Leavers – Are young people leaving care, fully safeguarded?		
<p>The Board is aware that legislation now requires local authorities to support young people leaving care up to the age of 25. It has been a cause of concern that health checks for children in care are not available for care leavers and the Board has identified a need to review what arrangements are being made by the Local Authority and other statutory Safeguarding Partners to ensure that care leavers are properly safeguarded and supported to achieve their full potential.</p>		
What do we want to have achieved	Performance Measure	Progress
<p>1.1 Partner agencies to review how they have responded to requirements towards care leavers up to the age of 25.</p>	<p>Recommendations for Partners and/or Central government of areas where additional provision or legislation may be required to safeguard care leavers</p>	<p>A report was submitted to the Board on 27 February 2019 outlining the service and support currently offered by AfC which prompted discussion. Transition to adulthood was discussed at the Safeguarding Adult Board meeting on 21st March 2019.</p> <p>The care leavers offer is published on the RBWM website and the CCG has provided specific resource for mental health support for care leavers.</p>
<p>1.2 Consult with young people [care leavers] to identify what works well, where the gaps are and what could be improved</p> <p>Review existing data sources and surveys undertaken and consider bespoke consultation activity to seek evidence directly from young people</p>	<p>Improvements made and gaps plugged on issues identified by care leavers</p>	<p>New AFC post 16 team has actively engaged with young people to shape the local offer, including council tax relief. The care leavers forum will be re-established during 2019/20 as a result of the service outreach.</p>

PRIORITY THEME 2 : Listening to the voice of the child		
<p>In 2016 the Board explored the extent to which agencies sought to include the Voice of the Child in their design and delivery of services. Two years on, the Board wishes to revisit this to gauge how things are today and whether the voices of children and young people are being heard. The Board is also keen to hear directly from young people around the issues that concern them and whether they feel safe.</p>		
What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
<p>2.1 Determine whether the Voice of the Child is being</p>	<p>Evidence from survey/audit of current measures being</p>	<p>A specific question about how organisations take the</p>

<p>heard by key statutory partners in planning and delivering their services</p> <p>Determine how partner agencies engage with young people and hear the Voice of the Child in planning and delivering their services</p>	<p>used and identification of areas of good practice and any gaps</p>	<p>voice of service users into account is included in the single agency safeguarding assurance reports managed by the Monitoring & Evaluation sub group. A summary of the information about the voice of service users supplied by three key agencies in their assurance reports was provided to the Board in December 2018.</p>
<p>2.2 Hearing directly from young people – how safe do young people feel and what do they see as the most worrying threats to their safety?</p>		<p>The new safeguarding arrangements will undertake priority work through task and finish activity which will include young people on an issue by issue basis.</p> <p>One of the lay members of the new arrangements will have a responsibility to ensure that the voice of the child is heard by the arrangements.</p>

PRIORITY THEME 3 : Out of School and Sports Clubs for children & young people

Following national concerns around child sexual abuse in sports clubs, the Board has sought reassurance that our children and young people are properly protected from abuse when they engage in out of school activities, including sports clubs, that clubs are aware of their safeguarding duties, and parents and families fully aware of risks and how to mitigate them.

What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
<p>3.1 Increased levels of awareness by parents and carers of safeguarding risks to their children when engaged in extra-curricular activities [e.g. sports clubs]</p>	<p>Positive feedback from parents and carers</p> <p>Production of materials aimed at providing information to parents and carers</p>	<p>The LSCB Promotion sub group has led a piece of work to improve awareness and provide advice to parents and carers. This has included the production and distribution of materials including information available on the LSCB website. Safeguarding prompt cards were distributed to all schools at the Schools' Designated Safeguarding Leads Network meetings and posters were distributed via police and community wardens to youth clubs, GP's surgeries, coffee shops, libraries, sports centres, community halls.</p> <p>The Promotion sub Group produced a prompt card and posters to raise awareness to parents and carers of the</p>
<p>3.2 Increased awareness by sports clubs and other out of school clubs and activity providers of safeguarding issues including through the use of volunteers</p>	<p>Positive feedback from schools, clubs, societies, parents and carers.</p> <p>The production of materials outlining safeguarding responsibilities including DBS checks and the use of volunteers.</p>	
<p>3.3 Increase awareness of schools of the importance of</p>	<p>Feedback from schools and evidence from the LSCB</p>	

ensuring that tutors and volunteer club leaders are appropriately checked. Discuss with school heads through the Designated Safeguarding Leaders Network and include targeted questions in the School Safeguarding Audit	Schools Safeguarding Audit [Sept 18]	importance of checking the credentials of providers
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PRIORITY THEME 4 : The risks young people face from Exploitation

The Board has become aware of an increasing range of areas exploitation faced by children and young people and want to be assured that multi-agency working and information sharing is fit for purpose and that young +people are as informed as possible about potential risks so that they can be best protected.

What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
4.1 Ensuring the Board and its partners are fully briefed on current and emerging exploitation risks including 'County Lines', 'Cuckooing' and modern day slavery, as well as risks from exploitation, bullying and sexting	Board and partners can evidence they are sharing information and reporting increased staff awareness	Follow the presentation from Thames Valley Police in late 2017, awareness training by The Willow Project has been made available. The Community Safety Partnership continues to support education initiatives to raise awareness of these issues. The formal exploitation forum has been widened to include all types of exploitation in addition to the original sexual exploitation focus.
4.2 Ensure that current partnership and information sharing arrangements are fit for purpose in the ever changing forms of exploitation Review current multi-agency operational and strategic arrangements to combat exploitation	Operational and strategic partnership arrangements are viewed and fit for purpose	The safeguarding arrangements will provide an annual conference for the dissemination of key information and run task work where particular weaknesses are identified through the monitoring and evaluation processes.

PRIORITY THEME 5 : Safeguarding children and young people affected by poverty and homelessness

The Board has been concerned at evidence of the rising impact of homelessness and families being housed in temporary accommodation. This has been linked to an increased in poverty amongst some sections of our community where job insecurity is more prevalent. The Board is keen to understand the implications for keeping children safe in such circumstances and what actions agencies can take to counter associated risks.

What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
<p>5.1 To understand the scale of the problem, the numbers of families affected.</p> <p>Report to the Board by RBWM Housing Service detailing scale of the problem, the reasons behind it and actions planned to address the issues</p>		<p>As reported to the Board in July 2018, following a review of procedures and increased efforts, it was confirmed that homeless families are no longer housed in bed and breakfast accommodation. The availability of affordable housing remains a challenge.</p>
<p>5.2 To gain assurance that those who are homeless and/or are in temporary accommodation are able to access local services within the Borough.</p>	<p>Raised awareness within all agencies of the rights of people to access all services including health and education</p>	<p>At March 2019 there were no children in care or care leavers being accommodated in B&B and all families, including those with no recourse to public funds have school places.</p>
<p>5.3 To explore the additional challenges faced by families placed out of borough in accessing necessary services and support.</p>	<p>As above</p>	<p>When RBWM families are placed in other boroughs, typically neighbouring areas such as Slough and Buckinghamshire, local services remain connected and where appropriate education is maintained. We continue to monitor the placements of vulnerable families in our area by other.</p> <p>The new safeguarding arrangements will consider if this element constitutes a priority for a future task and finish group.</p>

PRIORITY THEME 6 : Young people's emotional health & wellbeing

The Board has been aware of the rising concerns nationally regarding mental health as it affects young people. Whilst the Board has in previous years sought assurances around access to specialist services for children and young people with serious and enduring mental health problems, the Board now want to assure itself that services are in place and available which support the emotional health and wellbeing of children and young people and so safeguard them as far as possible from more serious mental illness during their young lives.

What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
<p>6.1 To increase the Board's understanding of the main issues affecting the emotional wellbeing of children with RBWM – low self esteem, self harm, bullying</p>	<p>There is an effective local plan for young people's mental health.</p>	<p>NHS East Berks CCG, has provided an update on The Local Transformation Plan Children and young People Mental Health and wellbeing. They report that work on</p>

<p>and missing from home</p>		<p>the early intervention support has been a key focus. They have also focused on support for the more vulnerable children and young people, particularly those with more complex mental health needs.</p> <p>Their four priorities were</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Communities, schools, families and young people will work together to build resilience, learning for young people and how to cope with life's ups and downs 2. Children and young people to have access to early help to meet any emerging emotional and mental health needs 3. Better communication, to provide improved and coordinated information about the mental health and wellbeing support available and communicate this to children, young people, families, communities and professionals <p>Good progress has been made on all outcomes and continuing improvement is expected as a these plans become embedded.</p>
<p>6.2 Review of range of services provided by partners aimed at addressing emotional well being</p>	<p>Through a report to the Board explore evidence on effectiveness and reach of these services</p> <p>Testing whether current signposting is effective – do we have the right support for children and young people in place</p>	<p>The new safeguarding arrangements will consider if this element constitutes a priority for a future task and finish group.</p>

PRIORITY THEME 7 : Safeguarding children and young people out of mainstream education

The Board has been concerned to hear how children out of mainstream education – whether formally home-schooled, or absent from school for other reasons - are safeguarded.

What do we want to have achieved?	Performance Measure	Progress
7.1 Increasing awareness to parents who are home educating their children on safeguarding including the need for annual safeguarding checks	Every family home educating a pupil knows what safeguarding checks will take place	Revised Department for Education guidance was published in July 2019 and the service is preparing an information sheet for all parent who are known to the home educating their children.
7.2 Increase understanding and knowledge of ‘off rolling’ of pupils attending RBWM schools – report to the Board trends, reasons and recommended actions including those pupils considered to the “medically unable to attend school”.	LSCB partners will understand the causes of pupils not being able to access full education	The new safeguarding arrangements will consider if this element constitutes a priority for a future task and finish group in light of the national priority now afforded to this risk through Ofsted inspection.
7.3 The LSCB review progress of school adoption of the ‘inclusion mark’ [i.e. that children with additional needs feel safe in school]		The first two pilot assessments took place in June 2019, one each in primary and secondary. First report on progress due in April 2020.

5. LSCB Sub Group Activity

5.1. Monitoring & Evaluation Sub Group

- 5.1.1. The role of the Monitoring and Evaluation Sub Group is to receive and analyse performance information in order to assure the Safeguarding Board of the effectiveness of activities to safeguard children and to initiate and carry out multi-agency audits of safeguarding activities to provide assurance around multi-agency practice in line with procedures and standards.
- 5.1.2. The sub group continued to monitor the LSCB Outcomes Framework and the Framework is now managed through the Council's performance management system. The Outcomes Dashboard continued to be used to enable exception reporting to the Board and to provide an overview of progress against each of the eight outcomes. Appendix B contains the end of year dashboard for 2018/19.
- 5.1.3. Following on from the multi agency audit undertaken in the early part of 2018, comparing two groups of children in care [one known to the YOT and the other not known] a task and finish group was formed. The aim was to identify common themes in the young people's life journey which could be shared with practitioners. Ten children and young people were identified and all the cases that were reviewed were 'live' within the last two years. Findings, conclusions and recommendations from the audit were shared with LSCB partners.
- 5.1.4. The bi-annual School Safeguarding Audit was updated and sent to 67 maintained and Academy schools in May 2018 and replies responses were received from 48 – a 72% return. A number of points and issues were identified in the completed audits which were followed up at the Schools safeguarding Leads Network meetings. For example, at the February 2019 Schools' Designated Safeguarding Leads network, a presentation was given on school security by health and safety colleagues which had been highlighted in the audit returns. At the October 2018 meeting a presentation by the LADO had covered a number of other points which had been raised.

5.2. Serious Case Review (SCR) Sub Group

- 5.2.1. The purpose of the group is to ensure that relevant cases are reviewed in accordance with legislation, regulation, government guidance and LSCB policy and to inform the LSCB of any recommendations. This is a standing sub group, separate to SCR Panels which are convened to manage specific reviews that are commissioned by the LSCB. Although a number of cases were brought to the subgroup and discussed, the threshold for a serious case review was not met and the LSCB has not commissioned any serious case reviews during the year.
- 5.2.2. The group reviewed the multi agency action plan that had been implemented following the Child F serious case review, a year after the original action plan had been signed off as complete. It was reassuring to hear that changes to process and practice had been embedded within organisations.
- 5.2.3. The sub group continues to receive reports on local serious incidents and monitor serious case reviews nationally to identify possible learning opportunities for local practitioners. During 2018, the sub group noted that in their summaries of published serious case review reports, the NSPCC recorded a child's ethnicity when they were black or mixed parentage but did not appear to identify a child's ethnicity or colour otherwise. We wrote to them to ask the reasons why and requested that future reporting would include all ethnicity as it is less stigmatising. This has now been recognised by the NSPCC and acted upon.

5.3. Promotion Sub Group

- 5.3.1. The Promotion sub group has responsibility for raising awareness of safeguarding among the public and the wider children's workforce. This includes responsibility to:
 - Provide information and report to key strategic partnerships to ensure that local area strategic plans take account of the need to safeguard children and young people.
 - Coordinate communications and activities to promote awareness about prevention and safeguarding across the local area, for both the workforce and the community as a whole.
 - Keep the LSCB informed of emerging issues regarding safeguarding children and young people across Windsor & Maidenhead.

- Ensure that the sections of the LSCB Business Plan delegated to this group are fulfilled.

5.3.2 This year the group has undertaken a community profiling activity specifically in relation to the safeguarding of children and young people with a disability. The Group developed a safeguarding prompt card and posters raising awareness for parents and carers to check the credentials for out of school activities – including private tuition, sports clubs, youth groups, and offering advice on how to ensure that their child is safe.

5.3.2. The posters have been distributed around the local authority, including to GP's, leisure centres, schools, libraries, community halls and leisure centres. 35,000 prompt cards were printed and these were distributed to schools through the Designated Safeguarding Leads Network meetings.

5.4. Child Death Overview Panel

5.4.1. The six Berkshire LSCBs operate together as a single Child Death Overview Panel for Berkshire (CDOP). The Panel meets quarterly to review the death of every Berkshire resident child under 18 years and complete a national pro forma regarding the findings in relation to each death. A full Annual Report for Berkshire CDOP is published separately, providing an analysis of identified modifiable factors across all cases and setting these in a national context. The CDOP Annual Report 2018-19 is awaited at the time of writing.

5.5. Section 11 (S11) Sub Group

5.5.1. The purpose of this sub group is to:

- Oversee the s11 audit process for the six local authorities and Berkshire wide statutory and voluntary organisations to ensure the effectiveness of their safeguarding arrangements.
- Set clear expectations with those organisations and the LSCBs about the timeframe and process for submission of their self-assessment section 11 audits, and about their ongoing development towards compliance.
- Scrutinise the s11 returns of Pan Berkshire organisations on a three yearly audit cycle, in order to evaluate the agencies' compliance with s11 standards; to provide feedback and identify actions on areas which require more work to be compliant.
- Review the compliance of Pan Berkshire organisations and monitor progress on the actions identified in the s11 audits and provide support and challenge as needed.
- Provide feedback via a 6 monthly update and annual report on the 'effectiveness' of safeguarding arrangements and identify any emerging themes or recommendations to the Local Safeguarding Boards

5.5.2. The Panel has been well supported during the year by a strong and consistent core membership. The same audit tool has continued to be used with added guidance to help organisations. The aim has been to operate a process which is able to provide a high level of challenge with a view to promoting good safeguarding practice and to act as a critical friend - the feedback has been positive. The Panel continues to grapple with the issue of the level of detail needed to be able to reasonably scrutinise and hold organisations to account.

5.5.3. During the period March 2018 to April 2019, the s11 guidance and audit tool have been refreshed to highlight good practice and to support organisations self assessments. The Panel have evaluated 25 organisations progress at the 18 month mid-review point of the 3 year cycle of self assessment and five organisations full s11 submissions. Four of these self assessments were from organisations who had not previously completed self assessments. All organisations receive Panel feedback in regard to good practice and where further work is required. Additionally the Panel review progress of agencies' action plans to scrutinise how they continuous improve their offer to safeguarding children.

5.6. Policy and Procedures Sub Group

5.6.1. The purpose of the Pan-Berkshire Policy and Procedures sub group is to ensure that:

- The six Berkshire LSCBs develop and maintain high quality, up to date, safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures.
- Safeguarding and child protection policies and procedures remain in line with key national policy and legislative changes.

- That policies & procedures are consistently disseminated across the partnership and changes are communicated.

5.6.2. The contract with Tri.x allows for policy and procedure updates to take place twice a year. Tri.x suggest a range of changes prior to the update and a review, changes or query can be raised at any time-

5.6.3. During the period March 2018 to April 2019, the sub group report the key updates to agreed and implemented. These include revising the resolving professional disagreement and escalation guidance. The procedures are now simplified and the language has been clarified to be more inclusive for all practitioners. The chapter covering the response to abuse and neglected was reviewed by the group and significantly changed. Children Living away from home and other families was extensively reviewed and updated with key additions around foreign exchange, boarding schools and fostering. The fabricated and induced illness chapter was reviewed by the Designated Doctor and a number of clarifications and amendments have been made along with the addition of a flow chart. Going forward there are a number of planned changes to procedures to ensure they are in line with Working together to Safeguard Children 2018, including a chapter on criminal exploitation, serious case review processes and CDOP arrangements.

6. In Conclusion

6.1. Finally, the Board continues to recognise the unfailing effort and dedication of staff at all levels and across all agencies in the Royal Borough, in making safeguarding of children and young people an over-riding priority in all their work.

Local Safeguarding Children Board Attendance 2018-19

Organisation	Title	Attendance Total
Windsor & Maidenhead Local Safeguarding Children Board	Independent Chair	6 / 6
Berkshire College of Agriculture	Representative	4 / 6
Berkshire East Clinical Commissioning Groups	Director of Nursing or their representative	6 / 6
Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust (BHFT)	Director of Services for Children & Young People or their representative	6 / 6
Berkshire Healthcare Foundation Trust	Designated Doctor	4 / 6
CAFCASS	Head of Service	0 / 6 ³
Family Friends	Head of Service	3 / 6
Lay Member	Lay Member	4 / 6
National Probation Service	Senior Probation Officer	3 / 6
Nursery Schools & Early Years Settings	Representative	1 / 6
Primary Schools	Head Teacher representative	4 / 6
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead	Director of Children's Services or their representative	6 / 6
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead	Director of Adults Social Care or their representative	4 / 6
Royal Borough of Windsor & Maidenhead	Lead Member for Children's Services	4 / 6
Secondary Schools	Head Teacher representative	3 / 6
South Central Ambulance Service (SCAS)	Head of Safeguarding or their representative	0 / 6
Thames Valley Police	Local Police Area Commander or their representative	5 / 6
Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company	Service Lead or their representative	0 / 6
Windsor Learning Partnership	Representative	3 / 6
WAM Get involved	Strategic Operations Manager	0 / 6

³ A CAFCASS representative attends the Berkshire LSCB Chairs and Business Managers meeting annually as CAFCASS do not have the resources to attend the 6 individual LSCBs.

Windsor & Maidenhead LSCB Outcomes Framework Dashboard – End of Year 2018/19

 <p>Outcome 1 <i>We know about all children and young people in the Borough, what their needs are and how they are doing.</i></p> <p>Green</p> <p>The percentage of children living in poverty in the borough has fallen very slightly.</p> <p>The number of school aged children with an education, health and care plan continued to rise throughout 2018-19 resulting in a significant demand on resources but this is in line with national figures.</p>	 <p>Outcome 2 <i>We know about groups of children and young people with particular needs, including young carers and privately fostered children.</i></p> <p>Amber</p> <p>The number of young carers identified and supported by the Young Carers Project has increased.</p> <p>The number of families in temporary accommodation is gradually decreasing. No households with children were in B&B at year end.</p> <p>Supply and affordability remain the main challenges to securing permanent accommodation. This area continues to be monitored.</p> <p>The number of referrals to health of under 18s presenting with deliberate self harm has increased and this continues to be monitored.</p>	 <p>Outcome 3 <i>We are safeguarding and supporting children and young people in specific circumstances, including victims of crime, children permanently excluded from school.</i></p> <p>Amber</p> <p>The number of first time entrants to the Youth justice System continues to decrease.</p> <p>The number of children electively home educated has increase. An analysis is underway but it is likely to be due in part to children not securing their first choice of school and parents being unwilling to accept the second choice.</p>
 <p>Outcome 4 <i>Children, young people and families are able to access early help when they require it, and it is effective.</i></p> <p>Green</p> <p>There is an emerging pattern of rising numbers of domestic abuse incidents and crimes, crime overall and referrals to the early help hub and children’s social care. Analysis suggests that this is due to better recording, increased partner agency awareness and increased focus on investigation – not necessarily due to prevailing factors in the environment. This continues to be monitored.</p>	 <p>Outcome 5 <i>Thresholds are clear and appropriate; planning and decision making is effective</i></p> <p>Amber</p> <p>Referrals to social care have stabilised and the percentage of social care assessments completed in 45 days has significantly improved compared with last year.</p> <p>No of referrals to safeguarding has increased and the % of completed assessments in timescale has dropped primarily due to increased demand and staffing capacity.</p>	 <p>Outcome 6 <i>We are safeguarding and supporting children and young people who are in need of protection</i></p> <p>Amber</p> <p>The percentage of initial child protection conferences taking place within 15 working days of the strategy meeting has significantly improved from 57.8% to 88%.</p> <p>The number of children and young people at the highest risk of sexual exploitation has fallen compared with the year end figure for 2017-18.</p>



Outcome 7

We are fulfilling our corporate parenting role and children in care and young people moving into adulthood have good outcomes

Amber

The number of children in care living in the same placement for at least two years has improved and it is hoped that this trend will continue.

100% of children in care have an up to date Personal Education Plan.

The number of children in care has increased particularly in older children who are at risk of exploitation.



Outcome 8

Agencies in the local area and the LSCB provide leadership and governance, and agencies work together effectively. Services are judged as safeguarding children and young people and providing early help.

Green

The percentage of RBWM schools judged good or outstanding has now risen to 91% which is the highest it has ever been in the Borough.

The number of referrals to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) has continued to decrease on a yearly basis, potentially explained by LADO awareness training meaning more appropriate referrals are being made to the LADO service.