



West Berkshire Local Safeguarding Children Board

BUSINESS PLAN 2015 – 2017

Version 3 – November 2014

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Introduction

Version 3 of the Business Plan for 2015/17 is designed to support the West Berkshire Safeguarding Children Board in achieving its aims in the forthcoming year.

The Business Plan has four parts:

- The Vision of the West Berkshire Safeguarding Children Board
- The Statement of Intent
- Key strategic objectives
- The detailed Work Plan for the next year

The Vision

Our vision continues to be that every child and young person in West Berkshire grows up safe from maltreatment, neglect and crime. We aim to sustain a strong safeguarding culture and arrangements where the focus is firmly on the experience of the child or young person and their journey to getting effective early help and support.

Statement of Intent

The West Berkshire Safeguarding Children Board will provide strong and effective leadership in order to co-ordinate and ensure effectiveness of the work done by agencies for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. We aim to ensure that children and young people in West Berkshire are adequately safeguarded at all stages of their journey through universal, targeted and specialist services. The Board believes that everyone is responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. We will achieve our vision by:

- Working with partner agencies to improve the quality and effectiveness of safeguarding practice
- Monitoring and where necessary challenging the performance of agencies in relation to safeguarding
- Developing and implementing effective policies, guidance and procedures.

- Implementing an effective Quality and Performance Framework that enables us to learn from good practice and also from when things go wrong and which enables us to influence the delivery and commissioning of services in the Area.
- Analysing, reviewing and understanding the key factors identified in cases where children have been harmed and the changes that can be made to all agencies services to address these factors.
- Providing high quality multi-agency training to the children’s workforce.
- Promoting awareness of safeguarding within agencies and in the wider community.

Strategic Priorities

The LSCB held its annual development day in July 2014 to review progress on the priorities from 2013/14, consider key challenges and how to make best use of its resources and to set its future priorities. In setting the priorities for 2015/17 the Board considered a number of presentations and information sources.

The following top level strategic priorities were agreed:

- 1. Early help**
- 2. The child’s voice and journey**
- 3. Child sexual exploitation and missing children**
- 4. Domestic abuse and vulnerable groups**
- 5. Effectiveness of the LSCB**

Other key priorities include:

6. Further direct involvement of children and young people in the work of the Board
7. Improving support for children whose parents have mental health issues
8. Further development of the LSCB Quality and Performance Framework

These priorities reflect a number of drivers including the Ofsted Inspection held in 2013, areas for improvement arising from the LSCBs self-assessment, Learning Lessons and Serious Case Reviews as well as the LSCBs response to the revised ‘Working Together’ (2013) and ‘Facets of an effective LSCB’ published by the National Association of Independent LSCB Chairs.

Supporting information sources included:

- Achievement against the 2013/14 priorities
- LSCB multi-agency Dataset
- Quality and Performance Management Framework
- Early Help Action Plan
- National Government drivers
- Local knowledge (e.g. Serious Case Reviews, learning lessons reviews)
- Outcome of single and multi-agency audits and Section 11 audit
- Performance management reports

Theme 1 Early Help

Ref	Desired outcome	Action	Lead	Timeframe	Progress
1.1	Referrals to Children's Services meet the threshold criteria and are consistently applied by all agencies and front-line practitioners	Carry out a multi-agency audit on threshold criteria for Children's Services	M Evans	May 2015	
1.2	Health Visiting and School Nursing services are provided in line with identified need	Ensure commissioning arrangements are in place for health visiting and school nursing	I Mundy	March 2015	
1.3	An effective Tier 2 mental health service is provided by Education in order to relieve pressure on Tier 3 services	Evaluate impact of the Tier 2 mental health/anxiety project	I Pearson/ M Sancho	January 2015	
1.4	Health in Schools Co-ordinator has a positive impact on young people's wellbeing	Clarify the expectations of the Health in Schools Co-ordinator role and produce quarterly performance report	I Wootton/ I Pearson	January 2015	
1.5	All West Berkshire schools (including academies and independents) sign up to an exclusion protocol in relation to substance misuse and deliver a decrease in exclusions	Monitor sign-up to protocol in relation to substance misuse by West Berkshire schools and the number of exclusions	C Burnham/ D Oku	March 2015	

Theme 2 – The Child’s Voice and Journey

Ref	Desired outcome	Action	Lead	Timeframe	Progress
2.1	Children have a positive journey through the child protection process and their voice is central to this	Carry out a multi-agency audit to measure effectiveness of child protection conferences for young people	L Campion/ Quality & Performance Group	July 2015	
2.2	Young people are directly engaged and contribute to the LSCB	Identify young people who may be interested in fulfilling this role and agree options for their engagement	C Gill	March 2015	
2.3	Looked after children’s health needs are met by receiving a medical which is of a good standard and within prescribed timescales	Health and Children’s Services work together to address issues around provision of medicals	I Mundy/ M Evans	January 2015	
2.4	Young people who present self harm receive appropriate assessment and support services	Benchmark and audit current provision identifying gaps/barriers	I Mundy/ S Murray	May 2015	
2.5	Children and Adult Services work effectively together where there are parents with mental health issues	Develop, implement and monitor a Protocol for these services working together	L Campion/ A Luke	January 2015	
2.6	Police attend all initial Child Protection Conferences and reviews as per invitation	Thames Valley Police provide a police officer to complete reports and attend when required	L York	March 2015	
2.7	GPs attend all initial Child Protection Conferences and reviews as per invitation		D Daly		

Theme 3 - Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Ref	Desired outcome	Action	Lead	Timeframe	Progress
3.1	Information from safe and well checks and return home interviews is used to safeguard young people	Monitor implementation of safe and well checks and return home interviews and the impact on safeguarding	L Finch/ M Evans	January 2015	
3.2	Young people receive appropriate support where CSE is identified	Carry out a multi-agency audit on cases where CSE has been identified to ensure effective intervention	M Evans/ Quality & Performance Group	January 2015	Audit completed by D Pearson – presented to Quality & Performance Group 19/11/2014
3.3	Relevant staff are trained in Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	Monitor and promote use of the LSCB CSE e-learning package	C Gill/ CSE Sub- Group	January 2015	
3.4		Develop face to face training package on CSE for appropriate agencies	C Gill/ CSE Sub- Group	July 2015	
3.5	There is a good shared understanding of the nature and prevalence of CSE across West Berkshire	Update local analysis from front line staff and services about the prevalence and nature of Child Sexual Exploitation across West Berks	CSE Sub- group	May 2015	
3.6	Increased levels of community awareness of child sexual exploitation	Further develop prevention and awareness advice on CSE for children, parents/carers and wider community	C Gill/ CSE Sub- Group/ Public Health	October 2015	

Theme 4 – Domestic Abuse and Vulnerable Groups

Ref	Desired outcome	Action	Lead	Timeframe	Progress
4.1	Domestic abuse has a high profile in all education settings	Promote and train domestic abuse champions for each setting	I Pearson/ C Burnham/ J Boden	July 2015	
4.2	Health professionals have access to domestic abuse notifications for cases they are working with	Monitor flagging of domestic abuse cases on RIO database	I Mundy/ G Garnett	January 2015	
4.3	Schools have access to domestic abuse notifications for children on their roll	Provide domestic abuse information sharing training to all schools	J Boden/ C Burnham	May 2015	
4.4		Carry out a survey of schools to assess impact of the information sharing system	J Boden/ C Burnham	December 2015	
4.5	MAPPA effectively safeguards children and young people	Carry out a multi-agency audit of MAPPA cases	M Evans/ Quality & Performance Group	October 2015	MAPPA cases to be anonymised to avoid issues around confidentiality
4.6	MARAC effectively safeguards children and young people	Share learning from Wokingham on effectiveness of MARAC	C Gill	January 2015	

Theme 5 – Effectiveness and impact of the LSCB

Ref	Desired outcome	Action	Lead	Timeframe	Progress
5.1	LSCB operates effectively and members are fully engaged	Carry out a survey of members on LSCB effectiveness	F Gosling-Thomas	October 2015	
5.2	Partner agencies have good awareness of the work of the LSCB and the Berkshire Child Protection Procedures	Publish a LSCB newsletter three times a year and distribute weekly information updates to members with request to cascade through agencies	C Gill/ C Fletcher	On-going	
5.3		Carry out a survey of front-line staff to assess their knowledge of the LSCB	C Gill/ Quality & Performance Group	October 2015	To tie in with item 5.1
5.4	All agencies meet Section 11 requirements	Agencies complete Section 11 self audits on a three yearly basis, to be reported into the Quality & Performance Sub- Group	C Gill/ Quality & Performance Group	October 2015	
5.5	Training provided by the LSCB is effective and meets identified needs	Develop a system for on-going evaluation of LSCB training courses to measure impact for staff + services	C Gill/ M Butler	October 2015	
5.6	Partner agencies are aware of learning from case reviews and incorporate this into their practice	Case Review Group to use thematic tool to monitor implementation of learning from case reviews Multi-agency audit programme	J Selim/ Case Review Group	July 2015	