

# Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2018-19



**Safeguarding doesn't  
have a season**



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## Foreword by Independent Chairperson

Welcome to what will be the final annual report for Brighton & Hove Local Safeguarding Children Board. I have taken the opportunity, having listened to feedback, to produce a report that is more concise. We will deal with the real 'headlines' rather than vast detail. If you feel you require greater subject specific detail, please visit our web site.

Later this year the board will cease to exist as we transition into new arrangements for safeguarding our children. New legislation gives us an opportunity to re-galvanise existing partnerships, implement change and improve outcomes. It has been a great privilege to chair your LSCB for its last 2 years. I have been extremely lucky to work with partners who are so talented and dedicated to safeguarding, I am confident that they will continue to contribute significantly under the new arrangements. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the LSCB Business Support Team whose professionalism and hard work has underpinned the board's success.

There is nothing more important than working together to keep children safe. Each child deserves the right to be safe and have the opportunity to thrive, we must ensure we continue to do everything in our power to achieve this. I write this foreword at a time when new threats and challenges to our children's safety are emerging. Youth violence, knife crime, county lines, e-safety and mental health are all prevalent with the partnership working to prevent the impact they have and support children and families

who are affected by them. Whilst there will always be emerging themes to consider it is important that we do not lose sight of those that are a constant in the safeguarding arena. This report covers the second year of the Board's Strategic Plan 2016 -19 and as you will read we have continued to build on last year's efforts to ensure it is appropriately focused on the outcomes for children and young people. I am pleased to report that we have made steady progress in all areas but acknowledge that we can and should continue to improve. That improvement will only come if we adopt a reflective process to assessing our progress. We must never become complacent and always strive to attain the best possible outcomes for our children.

I would like to wish those charged with building our new partnership every success. I know that they will receive your support.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Robson', written over a white rectangular background.

Chris Robson  
Independent Chairperson  
Brighton & Hove LSCB

# Introduction

This annual report

## Who we are and what we do:

Brighton & Hove LSCB is made up of senior representatives from statutory and non-statutory agencies and organisations in Brighton & Hove with a responsibility for keeping children safe. This includes, for example, the City Council, the Police, Health Partners,

## We coordinate local work by:

- Delivering a multi-agency Business Plan, which outlines how we intend to tackle priority

# Brighton & Hove Figures 2018/19

- Monitoring and scrutinising what is done

## Our vision is that:

*Children and young people in Brighton & Hove live a life free from fear, harm, abuse, and exploitation, enabling every child in every part of the city to achieve their potential.*

children, young people and frontline professionals **England Average 21.9%**

- Publishing this annual report

Advised/Informed 32.8%

Forward to Early Help 13.6%

## Initial Contacts, Referrals and Assessments

Strengthening Families Assessments Completed

2486

Referrals to Children's Social Care

3123

Initial Contacts to Front Door for Families

14237



**440**

Early Help Assessments Completed Year Ending 31st March 2019

4

Children Subject of a CP Plan by Category of Abuse

55  
50

Children Subject of a CP Plan by Age

Unborn 4

## Children Missing from Education



36

Children Missing from Education  
March 2019

**Criteria 1:** 15 pupils known to be not on roll and missing for the period **January to March 2019**.

**Criteria 2:** 21 children who were reported to have come off roll from a school with an unconfirmed destination in another authority.

## Pupils Educated at Home – to end of March 2019



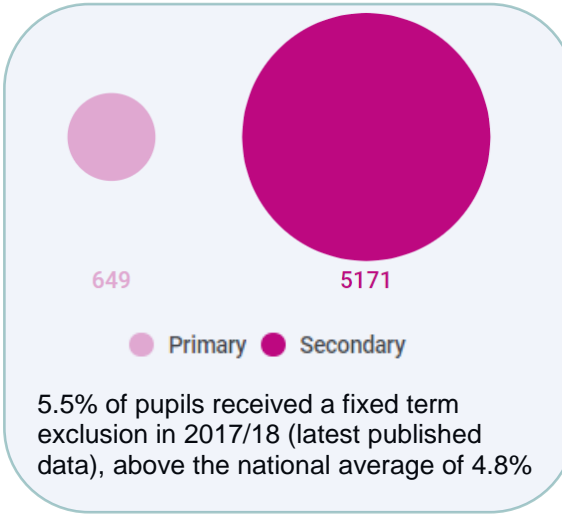
223

Pupils Educated at Home, up from 201 at 31st March 2018

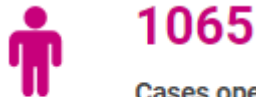
## Permanent Exclusion Rate 17/18

A pupil is classified as a persistent absentee if they miss 10 per cent or more of their possible sessions (i.e. 90% attendance).

## Sessions (half days) missed through fixed term exclusion 2017/18



## CAMHS Caseload (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services)



1065

Cases open to CAMHS at 31st March 2019, up from 906 at 31st March 2018.



10

Young People in the Transition Process at 31st March 2019



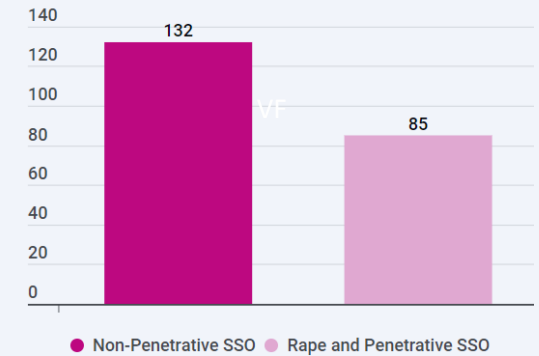
35

Children referred to CSARC year ending 31st March 2019  
7 Children Seen

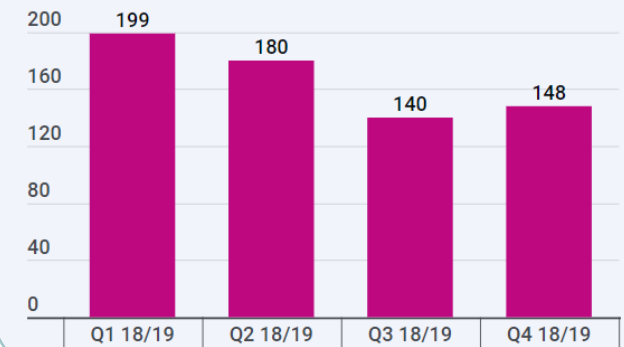
## AVRM (Adolescent Vulnerability Risk Meeting) nominals Q3 2018-19









## Rape & Penetrative Serious Sexual Offences where the victim's Age was 17 years or less







## Crimes where the victim's Age was 17 years or less



## Summary of Achievements

-  Our exceptional training programme has continued with a flexible response to emerging issues from local and national reviews, enhancing input to frontline practitioners in areas such as secondary carers, exploitation and neglect.
-  The development of our neglect strategy has gathered pace with a new neglect assessment tool, Graded Care Profile, (GCP2) purchased our implementation plan is now well underway. We are confident that this will help frontline practitioners improve outcomes for our children in this key area.
-  We have worked hard in developing the City's response to new legislation, achieving a clear plan for the new safeguarding arrangements with our statutory partners and are in position to implement the change in a positive and effective way.
-  We have recognised the need to have a robust multi agency exploitation response to all forms of exploitation, widening the remit of our sub-group that formerly dealt primarily with CSE. We have achieved some excellent joint working with the Safeguarding Adult Board (SAB) and the Community Safety partnership (CSP) in this emerging high-risk area. We are planning a Violence Vulnerability and Exploitation week of action later this year, the theme of the week will be Spotting the Signs of Exploitation.
-  Safety Net produce a 'Safety Rocks' newsletter for parents and careers which is part funded by the LSCB and Public Health. Over the last year the termly newsletter was distributed to all primary and secondary schools and featured a wide range of safeguarding related articles including on County Lines, Xanax misuse, children's mental health and well-being, different forms of abuse, online safety and local support services.
-  We have continued our commitment to provide high quality briefings to front-line staff, delivering face-to face inputs on SCR's and audits. In addition, we have developed on-line briefings to reach a wider audience. We continue to monitor the effectiveness of this input on practice through our audits.

## Summary of Challenges

-  The main challenge for 18/19 has been managing the current Board through the transition into the new safeguarding arrangements. Maintaining the Board's performance to a high level has been managed against a background of significant change through good local partnership consultation and the commitment of LSCB staff.
-  We continue to struggle with hearing the voice of the child and a number of initiatives have as yet not resulted in significant improvement for this area. This has been raised with those who will lead the new arrangements as a priority area of work.
-  We have continued seeking to engage with our hard to reach communities through community, voluntary sector and faith groups.
-  We were unable to undertake our planned trauma review in 18/19 due to organisational issues.

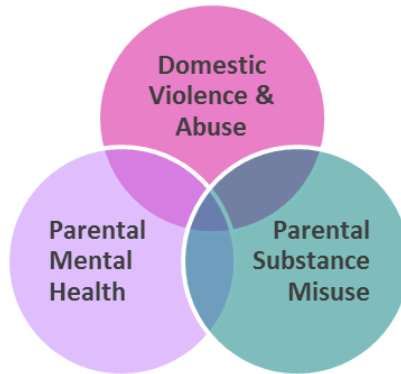
# Priority Area 1: Neglect & Emotional Harm

(Domestic Violence & Abuse, Parental Mental Health & Substance Misuse)

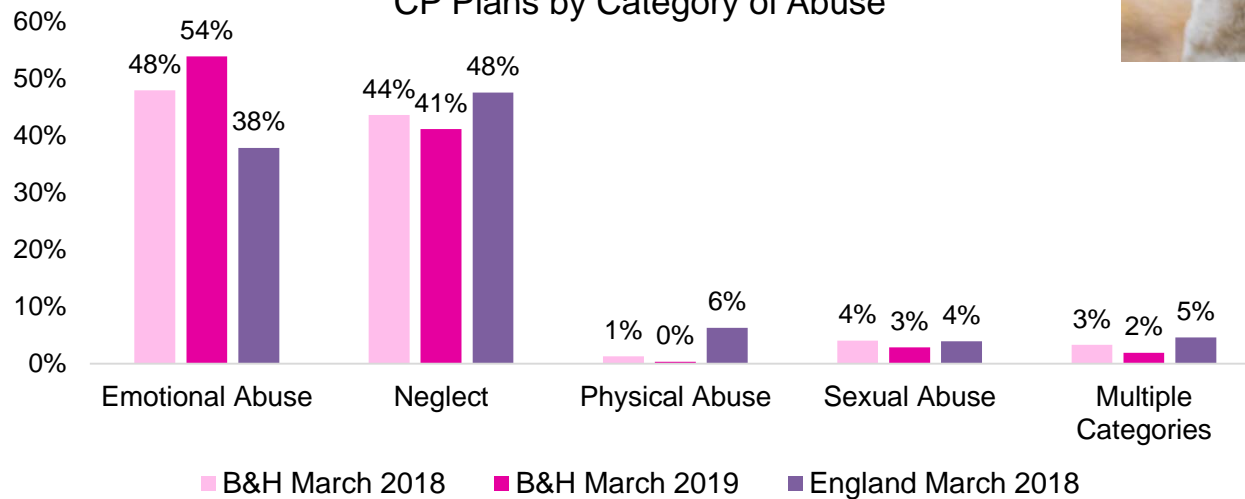
## Why is it a priority?

We focus on neglect because it is one of the highest categories for children and young people in Brighton and Hove on a child protection plan.

Research shows that nationally, neglect is the most common reason for taking child protection action and it is a factor in 60% of serious case reviews (source NSPCC). It remains a constant issue for children, young people and families in Brighton and Hove.



CP Plans by Category of Abuse



## What are we trying to achieve?

We continue to seek avenues to improve practice in this consistent area of concern. Our aim is to improve outcomes for children, support families and recognise neglect at the earliest opportunity, reducing impact and the escalation to child protection interventions.

## *What have we done?*

- Co-Hosted a Pan Sussex Conference to look at all aspects of Safeguarding Adolescents, including looking at Adolescent Neglect, Risk of Suicide, Contextual Safeguarding and exploitation, thus reinforcing that neglect is a priority risk factor.
- Committed to improving practice through the implementation of a new 'toolkit' – Graded Care Profile (GCP2) to benefit early identification and referral of neglect.
- Delivered multi-agency training to all safeguarding partners
- Commissioned multi-agency audit to maximise learning and improve practice.
- Commissioned a serious case review on a family where there was neglect and sexual abuse.
- Multi-agency audit of domestic abuse highlighted the experiences of children living in families where domestic abuse is just one feature of complexity. It recognised the challenges for professionals where there are multiple complexities aside domestic abuse, such as serious neglect issues or parental learning disability. It highlighted the need for equal attention to be given to these issues to avoid them being lost in the planning and decision making.



## *Areas for Development*

We need to ensure our investment in a new neglect toolkit is widely promoted to staff so it can have a positive impact on practice.





## Priority Area 2: Sexual Harm and Violence Towards Children (Child Sexual Exploitation and Child Sexual Abuse)

### *Why is it a priority?*

Sexual harm and violence can have a devastating impact on the lives of children and may have far reaching consequences for their families and our communities. It is not limited to any particular gender, geographical area or social background, but it is clear from the increased awareness arising from a number of high-profile media cases that it remains prevalent throughout the UK.



## *What have we done?*

A Multi-agency audit on intra-familial child sexual abuse was completed which highlighted the need for closer working with the Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARC) – practice changes were made to strategy discussions and SARC information is now included in the data set to monitor practice. Training was delivered at the Front Door for Families and the SARC Open Days and training was promoted.

The Local Authority have considered the findings from a single agency schools audit on 'Peer on Peer' abuse and sexual harassment. The education safeguarding lead is working with local secondary schools on a Learning Review and using the detailed case studies provided as a training resource for school staff.

This year the LSCB Exploitation group has evolved. The agenda has widened to include the Safeguarding Adult's Board (SAB) alongside children's exploitation. This has allowed for a more cohesive and clear approach to Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation (VVE) across the city. The Group holds accountability for the scrutiny and part delivery of the VVE Plan with other stakeholders. In the coming year, the Group will explore issues around licensed premises in the city and 'safe space' guidance.

In collaboration with safeguarding partners there has been a robust exploitation training plan put in place. This has been primarily for taxi drivers, with a future plan to widened out this training to licenced premises and hotels. All of these establishments have a place in safeguarding young people at risk of exploitation. This is alongside the face to face training offered via the LSCB Training Programme.

We continue to monitor children missing education or who are not in school for periods of time, whether this be Elective Home Educated or on part-time timetables, because of the potentially increased vulnerability to harm and exploitation.

We are in the process of building our own e-learning training module, which should be in place by the later part of this year, and which will be offered alongside the face to face training offer provided by our partners from the Wise Project.



## *Areas for development*

Monitoring and Evaluation are planning to undertake a multi-agency audit of children at risk of, or experiencing, exploitation to understand how children in the city are being protected from sexual harm, wider exploitation and violence. We plan to implement the learning from the 2018-19 Domestic Abuse Audit.



## Priority Area 3: Early Help, Pathways, Thresholds and Assessments

### *Why is it a priority?*

Early help is an approach rather than a discrete service. It involves all partners sharing responsibility for intervening as early as possible to help children, young people and families at risk of poor outcomes. Effective early help relies upon partners working together to:

### *What are we trying to achieve?*

Emerging problems and potential unmet needs are identified at the earliest possible opportunity so that families and children receive the right support at the right time.

### *What have we done?*



### *Areas for development*

We need to seek assurance that children and families are getting the right help at the right time. This will be through a multi-agency review of prevention and early help.

We need to continue to develop strong messages to ensure early help approach is delivered across the entire partnership and viewed as everybody's responsibility.

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## Priority area 4: Governance, Quality Assurance & LSCB Scrutiny

### *Why is it a priority?*

Effective governance remains a priority, allowing the partnership to coordinate and challenge multi-agency safeguarding across Brighton and Hove. Without this we are unable to measure our effectiveness and drive improvement.



### *What are we trying to achieve?*

A coordinated approach amongst partners that ensures the best possible multi-agency response to safeguarding and a culture where scrutiny is seen as an essential component of success.

### *Quality Assurance Activity*

Our multi-agency audit programme has continued to thrive. Our audits have highlighted weaknesses in existing systems and processes. They have also made recommendations for action leading to improvement and these have been robustly monitored for implementation, progress and impact, by the Monitoring & Evaluation Subcommittee. We have heard about how well our partner's quality assure their own safeguarding activity. We have undertaken 2 multi-agency audits this year on domestic abuse and Intrafamilial child sexual abuse.

### *Performance Management*

There has been increased focus on using management information to generate hypotheses about practice and the experience of the child. This year, we have continued to review our performance measures to ensure they are closely aligned with our priorities and focused on assessing outcomes for children. We have worked to make this a truly multi-agency dataset to support



Work is still required to engage with faith groups and minority communities.

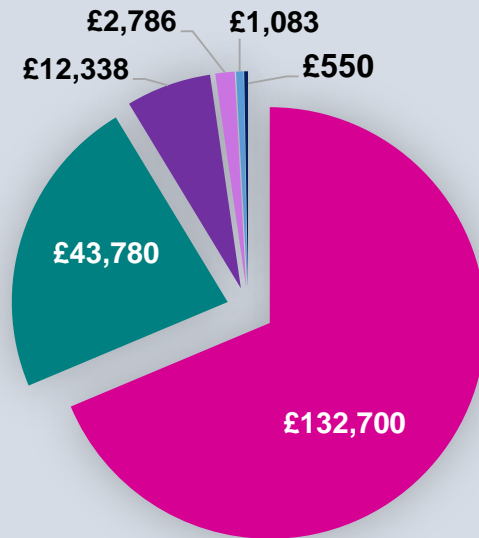
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## Finance

In the financial year 2018/19 our total expenditure was **£205,655** and there was an overspend of **£380**. The training programme self-generated **£12,038** income

### Contributions to the Budget

- Brighton & Hove City Council
- Brighton & Hove CCG
- Sussex Police
- Kent Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Company
- National Probation Service
- CAFCASS



## Expenditure

Staffing	129,900
SCRs/LRs	4,721
CDOP	12,500
Training Expenses	4,949
Transport	£658
Venue Hire	£689
Printing & Stationary	1,040
Conferences	£469
Communications (Internet)	2,150
Computer Costs	£1,029
Telephony	£671
Payments to Other Bodies	£16,080
Hospitality	£406
Support Service Charges	£27,400
Misc.	£2,994

**Total £205,655**

## Priority area 5: Participation & Engagement

### *Why is it a priority?*

Regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards regulations 2006 provides the LSCBs are responsible for “communicating to persons and bodies in the area of the authority the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so”. We believe it is important that our work is communicated across our target audiences so that they feel informed about work we do to improve safeguarding in Brighton and Hove.

### *What are we trying to achieve?*

Learning from LSCB reviews is known, understood and influences the practice of staff across the partnership and learning and improvement is informed by feedback from those who access and deliver safeguarding and child protection services in Brighton & Hove.



- We...
- T... ed its work with Safety Net to produce a parent

### *Areas for development*

- Due to staff changes in LSCB Board Briefings were not consistently produced in 18/19.
- Agencies are asked to consider feedback in their Single Agency audits and the Monitoring and Evaluation group needs to find ways to incorporate feedback into the Quality Assurance Framework.
- Voice of children and Young people has not been developed as we hoped in 18/19 and Community engage at an early stage of development. However, these development opportunities form a significant part of the New Children’s Safeguarding Arrangements for the coming year and will be developed by the Business Manager.
- We plan to update our website so that it is more user friendly and relevant to a wider audience.

# Operation Encompass

## *What have we achieved?*

This year we implemented Operation Encompass in Brighton and Hove, and 88 out of 91 educational establishments have now signed up to the scheme. Since roll out in January, over 350 notifications have been completed by police to schools, promptly informing them of instances where a child has been involved in domestic abuse.

Police have worked with schools to ensure that Operation Encompass is known to parents and children. This has been achieved by incorporating it into the school prospectus, promoting it on school websites, and letters sent to all parents.

A key achievement for Brighton and Hove has been improved information sharing between police and schools. A survey has now also been sent out to all schools participating, seeking their views on the scheme to gauge the effect it has had and to gather any feedback that can help us improve in the future.

## *What is Operation Encompass?*

Operation Encompass connects the police with schools to help protect and ensure better outcomes for children who are subject to or witness to police-attended incidents of domestic abuse. The rapid sharing of information helps the school put in place a plan for appropriate support to be made for the child, safeguarding them against the short, medium, and long-term effect of domestic abuse. Domestic abuse is an Adverse Childhood Experience (ACE) that can lead to emotional, physical, and psychological harm in children who witness it or are subject to it, and Operation Encompass aims to mitigate this harm by enabling immediate support.



## *Areas for development*

- We hope to improve compliance levels (the percentage of relevant reports where the notification is promptly sent by Police officers).
- The School survey will provide a written report that will outline the current situation and any future improvements that can be made.

## Learning & Development

It has been another busy and successful year of multi-agency training. We have increased the numbers of staff that we have been able to reach via the training programme and a total of 1034 staff attended LSCB training between April 2018 & March 2019. It is of note that 403 staff came to mandatory level 2 core training (65 more than in the previous year) and that 631 staff attended the more specific level 3 training offers (again an increase on the previous year).

All our training is child focussed, ensuring the voice of the child and the child's welfare remains paramount. This year we have been able to gain the view and voice of people using services with service users inputting into our Impact of Substance Misuse and Safeguarding Adolescents training. We continue to look at ways of increasing this, working towards a safe and inclusive way of bringing the "voice" into training delivery.

In January, to highlight our commitment to reducing neglect, the LSCB made the decision to sign up to the NSPCC GCP2 neglect toolkit. We now have an implementation working group and a list of 20 trainers. The tool will enable continuity across multi-agency staff and ensure the same language is spoken when it comes to neglect.

## New Courses for Consideration/In Development

### Cultural Competency in Safeguarding

The LSCB Training Officer has commissioned an independent consultant to look at how we might gain better engagement with faith and community groups. There have been around 220 letters/ emails sent out to various groups asking for their views on what safeguarding offers we can make. This project is ongoing, and we are now looking at the potential for an "open" meeting to encourage engagement and look at how we might provide a safeguarding offer.

### Exploitation

This year has seen a complete re write of our face to face training offer for Exploitation, while still looking at CSE, it all looks at the much wider range of exploitative situations young people may find themselves drawn into. We have also worked closely with colleagues in Wise and Community Safety to increase safeguarding partners awareness. We will be adding a new e-learning offer to this by the end of 2019.

### Trauma

The Trauma informed practice training has been extremely well received, and this is delivered in collaboration with Sussex University. The LSCB have also looked at the potential for a research/scoping project to look at the offers currently being delivered across the local authority. This is currently being held back until the new partnership arrangements are finalised.



## Reviews

In 2018/19 we completed a Learning Review and started a Serious Case Review. Details are below:

### Learning Review: Baby Alex

Outline of case:

The Baby Alex Learning Review and Action Plan have been finalised, and a learning briefing has been shared on our website. The key learning points were:

- There is a need for the promotion of communication with GPs if there are concerns in a family regarding domestic abuse.
- When predisposing vulnerabilities are evident, including financial stress due to no recourse to public funds (NRPF), and domestic abuse, these should be considered, and the information shared appropriately.
- It is known that domestic abuse is harmful to children emotionally, but they can also be physically harmed.
- Professional persistence is essential to safeguard children.
- It is good practice to consider the impact of a new baby on fathers or secondary carers as well as mothers. This is particularly the case where concerns have been shared such as about the financial and practical impact of having a baby, or relationship issues. It is understood however that there are limited resources to promote this as standard practice in all cases but telling fathers that how they are feeling is important too is a start.
- Changing practice to ensure that there is a professional focus on fathers/secondary carers, particularly when they are the alleged perpetrators of domestic abuse, would involve action on three levels; as a public health issue, in early help service provision, and with individual practitioners.
- If a professional is referring a child for an assessment or opinion, it is acceptable to state that they do not know what the specific issue is?

### Serious Case Review: Family Gray

This year we commissioned a large Serious Case Review featuring a family of four children with a history of chronic neglect. The family were well known to services in the city. The children had a period of Child Protection planning from 2010 to 2012 under the category of neglect. This was stepped down to Child in Need and closed in July 2013. Concerns began to emerge in August 2013 and resulted in the second period of Child Protection planning in December 2013 again under the category of neglect. The children were removed into care in February 2014 and subsequently began to disclose sexual abuse. In 2017 their mother and step father were found guilty of multiple offences relating to sexual abuse.

Learning from this review will be made available in early 2020.

## Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is a statutory function of the Brighton & Hove LSCB. The overall purpose of the child death review process is to determine whether a death could have been prevented; that is whether there were modifiable factors which may have contributed to the death and where, if actions could be taken through national or local interventions, the risk of future death could be reduced.

### The work of the CDOP

Between April 2018 and March 2019, the CDOP was notified of 15 deaths of children living in Brighton & Hove. The number of children who died has increased from the previous year when there were 8 deaths notified. During this period, the CDOP met 7 times, reviewing a total of 8 deaths. Of these deaths, 4 were deemed to have modifiable factors. Following from these reviews the following recommendations were made by the CDOP to the LSCB:

- The LSCB support the intended Public Health campaign and strategy to refocus on the risks posed by cannabis and other drugs.
- The LSCB to consider whether work should be done to identify the prevalence of street homeless pregnant women with substance misuse problems and whether there are gaps in service provision for these women.
- The LSCB should consider whether current guidance given to parents / carers (via schools and other agencies) provides sufficient focus on the need for parents/carers to work together to ensure a safe environment in which young people can socialise, including safe travel arrangements to and from home.
- The LSCB should work to enable all professionals to understand the risk of Herpes Simplex virus to young babies; and, with Public Health, should consider whether there is a need for a public health campaign to raise awareness of the risks.

The CDOP is well attended. There is a strong commitment from the Independent Chair and multi-agency panel members to carefully consider the information presented about each child death, as this can make a real difference to keeping children safer by informing future practice. The work of the CDOP continued to be strengthened during 2018/19 by a CDOP coordinator that worked across the three areas of Sussex. This has enabled greater sharing of learning and best practice.

It should be noted that from 29 September 2019 the responsibility for reviewing child deaths will no longer be a function of the LSCB, but of local child death review partners: the local clinical commissioning groups and local authority. During the last year the Brighton & Hove CDOP, along with members of the West Sussex and East Sussex CDOPs, have worked together to respond to the national changes to review child death as set out in Working Together 2018 and Child Death Review: Statutory and Operational Guidance 2018. As part of this: -

- An agreement was made to purchase a new Child Death Case Management System (eCDOP). This is a cloud-based system that will streamline the previous management of sensitive information. eCDOP went live in April 2019.
- Child Death Review (CDR) partners agreed to establish a pan Sussex CDOP from October 2019 and developed operational guidance for joint working. It was also agreed to recruit a single Independent Chair for the panel.
- The CDOPs helped support the design of the child death review process in local hospital settings.

## Private Fostering Highlights

### Arrangements to raise awareness about Private Fostering

A private fostering arrangement is one that is made privately (without the involvement of a local authority) for the care of a child under the age of 16 years (under 18 if disabled), by someone other than a parent or close relative, in their own home, with the intention that it should last for 28 days or more.

Given concerns about the level of 'hidden' private fostering, local authorities are required to raise public awareness of the requirement to notify the local authority of private fostering arrangements and therefore to reduce the number of 'unknown' private fostering arrangements.

In 2018-19 a number of initiatives were undertaken to highlight the notification arrangements to existing and potential private foster carers, voluntary and statutory agencies, and members of the public:

- In February 2019 the Private Fostering Monitor delivered training to professionals from services working with children and families in Brighton & Hove. The training is part of a LSCB one day training day called Hidden Children and Young People: Working with Invisible Families
- Information about Private Fostering is regularly shared by the LSCB with professionals and members of the public via social media.
- Information about private fostering has been included in the primary and secondary school admissions booklets 2018-19.
- Brighton & Hove City Council continues to raise awareness about the private fostering regulations with Language Schools and Guardianship Agencies.

### Monitoring Compliance with Duties and Functions

The number of children living in Private Fostering Arrangements in 2018-19 is **31** compared to **30** in 2017-18. During the year, **23** new notifications were received and **20** were confirmed as being private fostering. All new notifications received an initial visit, with **80%** taking place within 7 working days. **17** arrangements ended during the year, leaving a total of **14** children living in Private Fostering arrangements at 31 March 2019.

### Notification Arrangements

The Brighton & Hove Front Door for Families receives all enquiries and notifications about private fostering as follows; by telephone: **01273 290400** or [Online Referral Form](#)

Email: [FrontDoorForFamilies@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:FrontDoorForFamilies@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

## Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Report Highlights



- The total number of referrals (including suitability) for 2018-19 is 380 up 54 from 2017-18 (326). The year saw a continuing pattern of increasing allegations up from 156 in 2017-18 to 195. Since 2014-15 most referrals have been regarding suitability. This year saw this trend reversed. Schools remains the highest employment sector and the proportion of allegations of approximately 45% has remained consistent.
- Of the 380 referrals, 174 were substantiated, 57 unsubstantiated and 81 deemed unfounded. 52 were considered false, 10 malicious and 6 are unknown (ongoing cases).
- 81% of cases were completed within a month and 10% within 3 months.
- There was a significant spike in Q2 from previous years. the main variations attributable to Schools; increase by 32, Residential; increase by 21, and Early Years Services by 12. these increases were across all settings and had no identifiable pattern.
- The LADO audited cases over the past two years involving professional conduct where negligent care could have led to harm of a child, such as leaving a child unattended or providing prohibited food that could cause an allergic reaction. These are now categorised as harm, category 'neglect'.

## Member Organisation Reports

Each year, the board asks partner organisations to provide reports outlining their achievements over the last year. Below is a brief summary of each organisation's achievements. If you wish to see the reports in whole, please email us at [LSCBAdmin@brighton-hove.gov.uk](mailto:LSCBAdmin@brighton-hove.gov.uk)

### BHCC, Education Safeguarding Lead

- ✓ Providing safeguarding training, support and guidance to schools/colleges through termly meetings, email bulletins, visits, phone calls and email.
- ✓ Requesting and assessing information from schools/colleges to support decision-making during screening of referrals to Brighton & Hove Front Door for Families.
- ✓ Participating in LSCB committees/groups to provide an education perspective.
- ✓ Preparation, distribution, collection and analysis of S175/S157 safeguarding audit (completed by 93 schools/colleges).
- ✓ Working with Sussex Police to get almost 100% of Brighton & Hove schools/colleges participating in Operation Encompass.
- ✓ Working with local secondary schools on a Learning Review of peer-on-peer sexual violence and sexual harassment. The detailed case studies provide a training resource.

### BHCC, Safer Communities Team (SCT)

- ✓ Dev Community safety casework team took part in the Home Office violence and vulnerability unit's (VVU) locality review to establish a clear scoping of the impact of County Lines and VVE within the city's neighbourhoods and communities. This led to the development of a city-wide multi-agency VVE strategy and action plan owned by the B&H Community Safety Partnership; signed off by NICE committee. The action plan is divided into four key sections which are: early intervention & safeguarding; disruption & enforcement; communications & education; and data analysis & research. This action plan has activity to ensure early help, referral pathways and safeguarding processes are fit for purpose to address VVE
- ✓ Coordinated and delivered a locality review follow-up event in November 2018 to update workers / services who inputted into the locality review to brief them on the outcomes / recommendations and to identify additional activity to build into the VVE action plan
- ✓ Supported the development of cuckooing guidance describing what it looks like, how to seek help and what will happen to protect children and vulnerable adults in the city found in identified properties
- ✓ Maximised the council's investment in tackling VVE using the £21k underspend from VVE coordinator salary to contribute towards a 'think exploitation' campaign commissioned to WiSE; commissioned 'County Lines and young women' training delivered by Abianda and commissioned VVU exploitation awareness online training to be promoted via the CSP / LSCB / SAB, etc.
- ✓ Regularly attended the city's Adolescent Vulnerability & Risk Meeting (AVRM) to provide input from a community safety perspective into action plans to reduce the risks posed to and from young people in the city related to CCE / CSE / offending behaviour.

### BSUH

- ✓ CP-IS & MARAC flagging has been introduced plus information sharing with schools with consent from the young person.
- ✓ Safeguarding training includes the learning from SCR, and most recently the midwifery documentation was updated to ensure safeguarding aspects of care and potential vulnerability is recorded and reviewed regularly throughout a woman's pregnancy and postnatal care.

- ✓ The well-established health IDVA service continues to respond to victims quickly within the targeted areas of A&E, midwifery and sexual health.
- ✓ Equality and diversity is a Trust value and as such all staff are expected to treat patients as individuals and with dignity and respect. Within the Trust there is a diversity and equality lead who provides support. Patients are involved in decision making about their care to ensure it is as individualised as possible.
- ✓ In addition to the mandatory training a well evaluated specific raising awareness session was held to highlight the topics of modern slavery, sexual exploitation, mental health issues within families, the impact of adverse childhood experiences, being trauma informed and what the SIU team is doing.

#### ESFRS

- ✓ Development and launch of multi-agency Hoarding framework, supported by multi-agency review group.
- ✓ Increased numbers of staff and volunteers trained and improved tracking of training records.
- ✓ Increased number of referrals for Safeguarding concerns from staff
- ✓ Safeguarding roadshows commenced with bespoke training to enhance crew's understanding of safeguarding
- Continuation of iLearn training package
- Increase number of actionable safeguarding alerts submitted by ops crews
- Embedding learning points from SCRs
- Continuing development of Modern Slavery working group
- Increase number of referrals for home safety visits of vulnerable clients to ESFRS from BHCC CSC

#### KSS CRC

We utilised internal communications to raise awareness of the different strands to safeguarding for both children and adults by:

- ✓ Implementing the Safeguarding Campaign (see below)
- ✓ Providing Safeguarding Educational Articles 'Why Domestic Abuse escalates over the Christmas Period' for the staff magazine
- ✓ Cascaded the Bristol University and NSPCC report on 'Partner Exploitation and Violence in Teenage Intimate Relationships' to teams
- ✓ We embedded the use of professional curiosity within probation practice to support both adult and children's safeguarding by ensuring that all responsible officers attend mandatory 'Developing Professional Curiosity in Assessing Risk to Children' training and opening this training to other frontline staff and administrators. As well as holding a number of 'Curious & Curiouser' workshops for responsible officers.
- ✓ We have shared serious case reviews themes and serious further offences with teams across KSS CRC through attendance at team meetings by one of our Safeguarding Leads

#### Safety Net

- ✓ We delivered safeguarding training (introduction and safeguarding lead) to 113 workers and volunteers in the community and voluntary sector in Brighton and Hove from 31 different community sector organisations. This is a lower figure than last year as our support funding from BHCC came to an end in December 2018 and was not renewed.
- ✓ We are now operating a charging model. We undertook 476 DBS checks and provided safer recruitment information and support to 68 B&H organisations last year
- ✓ Our Safety Rocks newsletter for parents and carers, produced by Safety Net and part funded by the LSCB and Public Health, was distributed to all primary and secondary schools. The termly newsletter featured a wide range of safeguarding related articles including on County Lines, Xanax misuse, children's mental health and well-being, different forms of abuse, online safety and local support services.
- ✓ We delivered early help support through individual and small group work to 135 vulnerable primary aged 8 – 14 children through our SNAP Programme (Safety Net Assertiveness Programme). This includes resilience building and safety awareness strategies and skills.

- ✓ We have provided home safety equipment to 97 families with children under the age of 2 to improve safety in the home. This includes 30 families who were supported as a result of referrals following a child protection or child in need process.
- ✓ We delivered safeguarding training (introduction and safeguarding lead) to 113 workers and volunteers in the community and voluntary sector in Brighton and Hove from 31 different community sector organisations. This is a lower figure than last year as our support funding from BHCC came to an end in December 2018 and was not renewed.

#### NPS

- ✓ We delivered safeguarding training (introduction and safeguarding lead) to 113 workers and volunteers Court staff attended a Safeguarding workshop which highlighted the importance of safeguarding children and adults in our day to day work – this was devised from a National Performance Tool concerning Safeguarding procedures and processes. This explored all areas covered in LSCB Priorities and focussed on the 4 R's Recognising, Responding, Referring and Recording.
- ✓ All NPS staff undertake national Safeguarding training every three years. Staff also access LSCB training, as required.
- ✓ Offender managers work in partnership with other agencies, including Children's Services to assess and analyse potential risk to children through attendance at professionals' meetings, core groups and case conferences.
- ✓ NPS co-chair MAPPA Level 2 and Level 3 meetings with the Police, which have particular focus to "the voice of the child" and ensuring that actions are taken by the MAPPA Panel to safeguard children

#### SCFT

- ✓ Early Help: Development of Out of school Drop -Ins for children and young people run by School Nurses in priority Youth service sites including Allsorts Youth Project for LGBT young people & a Young Asylum Seekers group.
- ✓ Development of sound pathways in the HCP Healthy Futures Team to offer enhanced intensive support to over 300 vulnerable children, teenagers & their families Criteria includes: teenage parents, pre-birth assessments, asylum seekers & refugees, travellers, children educated other than school & emergency housing.
- ✓ Neglect: In collaboration with Social care & LSCB researching and committing to the Graded Care Profile 2 Neglect tool - training to be rolled out in the autumn. Named Professionals involvement in the bi-monthly multi-agency neglect consultation group for practitioners or "stuck cases" & the delivery of LSCB Neglect multi-agency training.
- ✓ Child Sexual abuse: The NHS England 5-year Strategic Direction for Sexual Assault and Abuse Services document stated that the Children's Sexual Assault Referral Centre (CSARC) which is operationally managed by SCFT Named Doctor & Specialist Nurse "an excellent example in the care of children with additional needs" and highlighted the "excellent multi-agency working of the CSARC to deliver high quality joined-up care for children"
- ✓ Work with unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people to ensure they are safe sexually, understand healthy relationships and consent. This included the Specialist Nurse Children in Care team publishing a paper "Supporting positive sexual health and healthy sexual development: a relationship and sex education programme for unaccompanied asylum-seeking young people" Adoption & Fostering 2018, Vol 42(4) 432-435. Sexual Health Education Programme for Unaccompanied Asylum seeking Children.

#### Public Health

- ✓ A new and more joined up approach to Adolescent Health for young people who are involved with or at risk of substance misuse/teenage pregnancy is now in place that links health promotion campaigns, Personal, Social and Health Education, diversionary activities, prevention and treatment under one umbrella. This includes a new pathway for young people excluded or at risk of being excluded from schools for drugs and alcohol related incidents.

- ✓ The Public Health Schools Programme has worked with schools and key partners to improve health and wellbeing by continuing to ensure developments are in place attached to early identification and prevention, e.g. a whole school approach to emotional, mental health and wellbeing is embedded in secondary schools and being rolled out to primary, and a new A&E pathway in place with schools for young people who present for self-harm.
- ✓ The Public Health Community Nursing Service is now established to provide four levels of services for children and young people aged 0-19 across the city. Support is available to all families to give children and young people the foundations for good health and identify those who need extra support early. The Healthy Futures Team is now well established and works with the most vulnerable families including teenage parents, those living with a learning disability or open to social work.
- ✓ Improvements in the understanding of young people's needs and working together between Adult Substance Misuse Service and Young People's Substance Misuse Services attached to meeting young people's needs of high-risk young people and prescribing.
- ✓ Secured Innovation Funding for a new approach to identify parents who are alcohol dependent and supporting their access to substance misuse treatment and identifying more children affected by this hidden hard and increasing direct support for them.

### SPFT

- ✓ Promotion of the new Safeguarding team including attendance at Care Delivery Service meetings, team away days, development days and learning events
- ✓ Safeguarding Lead Nurse is a member of the SPFT Policy Forum to ensure Safeguarding, the voice of the Child and Child Not Brought pathway is integral to all relevant policies
- ✓ Patient Safety Learning events on SCR learning
- ✓ Reviewed and updated the SPFT Safeguarding policy and procedure
- ✓ Data capture with Ulysses pilot planned to ensure effective data capture
- ✓ Consultation with staff for safeguarding issues
- ✓ Emotional wellbeing and Mental Health-Launched a new Sussex CAMHS website in February 2019 to mark Young Peoples Mental Health Week to improve access for advice and support for mental health and well-being the site contains useful information for parents and those working with children and young people. The site is divided into three areas to make it easy to navigate: Children and Young People, Parents and Carers and Professionals

### Sussex CCGs

- ✓ in cases of children who go missing from home.
- ✓ The CCG commissions therapeutic interventions for children who have experienced sexual assault (under 14 years old), and this has included education and training around grooming and safe relationships.
- ✓ The CCG have contributed to the funding of a health specialist and admin support for the Front Door for Families (MASH) Liaison Service alongside SPFT/SCFT/BSUH
- ✓ The CCG commissions Health Independent Domestic Violence Advisor services within the acute Trust
- ✓ The CCG commissions mental health services to support staff with children and young people who attend The Royal Alex Children's Hospital – the Paediatric Mental Health Liaison Team
- ✓ The CCG has recruited a Designated Nurse for Looked after Children to assist service planning and to advise clinical commissioning groups in fulfilling their responsibilities as commissioner of services to improve the health of Looked after Children.
- ✓ The CCG was successful in its bid, working with the Local Authority, Sussex Partnership FT and Sussex Community FT, to pilot mental health practitioners and resource being part of the LAC assessments carried out by the LAC nurses. The pilot will start in July 2019 for one year. Evaluation will determine sustainability
- ✓ The CCG is working with partners across Sussex as an independent review of children's mental health services take place. The review will conclude in the autumn 2019.



## Sussex Police

In November 2018 HMICFRS published its CP Inspection of Sussex Police. It does not provide a grading but identifies areas for improvement (recommendations). HMICFRS published 8 recommendations for Sussex Police;

- ✓ Consider whether any CP cases should be dealt with in the Incident Resolution Centre.
- ✓ To improve practices in cases of children who go missing from home.
- ✓ To ensure officers record observations of children's behaviour and demeanour, to better assess needs.
- ✓ Improve its CP and exploitation investigations, paying attention to; risk assessments that consider the whole of a child's circumstances and risks to other children, and improving oversight and management of cases.
- ✓ Ensure all relevant information is properly recorded and readily accessible in all cases where there are concerns about the welfare of children.
- ✓ Sussex Police should review its approach to providing information on registered sex offenders Response and Prevention officers.
- ✓ Sussex Police should undertake a review to examine the referral processes to ensure that they identify risk to children effectively and share the necessary information appropriately with external agencies.
- ✓ Sussex Police should undertake a review (jointly with children's social care and other relevant agencies) of how it manages the detention of children.
- ✓ In June 2019 Sussex Police were subject to a follow up inspection, to assess the progress in these areas. The progress and objectives for the next year are covered in the last section.

## Oasis

- ✓ We delivered the POCAR programme to approx. 80 parents (men and women) whose children were open to children's social care due to their substance misuse (neglect, abuse)
- ✓ We delivered support to parents and children who were identified as being at risk of criminal exploitation (knife crime) with new funding from the Home Office.
- ✓ We delivered Mellow Parenting Programme to 20 mums – this is an evidence-based parenting programme focused on attachment.
- ✓ 61 children affected by family substance misuse received a 1-1 programme of therapeutic support of which 44% had experienced domestic violence and 35% were on Child Protection or Child in Need plans.

## B&H Children's Services

- ✓ We were inspected by Ofsted and our safeguarding services were judged to be Good.
- ✓ We developed the adolescent risk meeting to ensure plans around those at risk of exploitation are multi-agency and robust.
- ✓ We developed a violence vulnerability and exploitation strategy
- ✓ We reduced the number of children on child protection plans and entering care.



YMCA DOWNSLINK GROUP



East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service



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