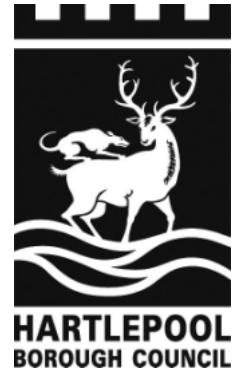


CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM AGENDA



Wednesday, 4 November 2009

at 4.30 pm

in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

MEMBERS: CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM:

Councillors Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, Coward, Fleet, Griffin, London, Preece, Shaw and Simmons

Co-opted Members: David Relton and 3 vacancies

Resident Representatives: Joan Steel, Sally Vokes and 1 vacancy

Young People's Representatives: Michael Burford, Karen Forcer, Arran Frame, Chris Lund, Rebecca Richards and 1 vacancy

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. TO RECEIVE ANY DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST BY MEMBERS

3. MINUTES

3.1 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 1 October 2009

4. RESPONSES FROM THE COUNCIL, THE EXECUTIVE OR COMMITTEES OF THE COUNCIL TO FINAL REPORTS OF THIS FORUM

No items.

5. CONSIDERATION OF REQUEST FOR SCRUTINY REVIEWS REFERRED VIA SCRUTINY CO-ORDINATING COMMITTEE

No items.

6. CONSIDERATION OF PROGRESS REPORTS / BUDGET AND POLICY FRAMEWORK DOCUMENTS

- 6.1 Children's Services Department: Budget and Policy Framework Initial Consultation Proposals 2010/11 – *Scrutiny Manager*

7. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

- 7.1 Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and Business Plan 2009 - 2010 – *Assistant Director (Safeguarding and Targeted Services)*

8. ISSUES IDENTIFIED FROM FORWARD PLAN

9. ANY OTHER ITEMS WHICH THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS ARE URGENT

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

- i) **Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday, 12 January 2010 at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber, Civic Centre, Hartlepool

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

MINUTES

1 October 2009

The meeting commenced at 4.30 pm in the Civic Centre, Hartlepool

Present:

Councillor: Jane Shaw (In the Chair)

Councillors: Aiken, C Akers-Belcher, Coward, Fleet, Griffin, London, Preece and Simmons

Co-opted Member: David Relton

Young Peoples Representatives:

Rebecca Richards, Karen Forcer and Michael Burford

Also Present:

Councillor Ann Marshall, Community Network Officer
Tracey Herrington, Community Network Co-ordinator
Kelly Goulding, Participation Officer, Barnardos
Laura Bennett, TFM Radio

Officers:

John Robinson, Children's Fund Manager
Peter Davies, Principal Youth Officer
Beth Storey, Youth Development Officer/Operations Manager
Zoe McKenna, Participation Worker
James Walsh, Scrutiny Support Officer
Denise Wimpenny, Principal Democratic Services Officer

21. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Resident Representatives Joan Steel, Sally Vokes and Young People Representatives, Arran Frame and Chris Lund.

22. Declarations of interest by Members

None.

23. Minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2009

Confirmed subject to the following amendment to Minute No 17 Paragraph 2:-
The word stake be replaced with the word skate.

24. Responses from the Council, the Executive or Committees of the Council to Final Reports of the Forum

No items.

25. Consideration of request for scrutiny reviews referred via Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee

No items.

26. Consideration of progress reports/budget and policy framework documents

No items.

27. Scrutiny Investigation into Detached and Targeted Youth Work – Setting the Scene – Covering Report
(Scrutiny Support Officer)

As part of the Forum's investigation into Detached and Targeted Youth Work, the Principal Youth Officer had been invited to the meeting to deliver a setting the scene presentation on the differences between detached, targeted and outreach youth work, an overview of how detached and targeted youth support was delivered in Hartlepool together with statistical information on the Youth Service.

The Principal Youth Worker provided a detailed and comprehensive presentation which included the following issues:-

- Local Authority's duty to provide Section 507B Education Act 1996 – provide access to sufficient leisure time and recreational activities for 13-19 age range for improvement of wellbeing;
- Types of educational and recreational leisure time activities
- Other duties – support participation of young people at risk of negative outcomes, publicise positive activities, secure views of young people on existing provision and their access to it;
- Core purpose of youth work
- Distinctive features – young people's involvement in different features of decision making, use of informal education and activity as the main methods of delivery, flexible/responsive approach to the way youth work is provided.
- Key areas of delivery

- Building-based youth work – Throston, Brinkburn and Rossmere
- Details of further building based youth work
- Young people's participation in decision making
- Detached and mobile work
- Outreach work – distinctive features
- Detached/mobile programme
- Targeted youth work – aimed at young people at risk of not achieving full potential
- Detached youth work sites – details of days, times and localities as set out in the Scrutiny Officer's report on site visit arrangements
- Vision towards integrated youth support services
- Youth matters Green Paper – revision for reform of targeted youth support by Dec 2008
- Benefits of early intervention – youth exclusion
- Model developing in Hartlepool including timescale
- Youth Service outturns 2008/09
- Case studies outlining the contribution youth work can make to young people's development

Discussion ensued in which the following issues were raised:-

- In response to a Member's request for further statistical information, the Principal Youth Worker agreed to provide details of the number of young people accessing generic building based youth work activities under separate cover.
- A Member queried the effectiveness of building based and mobile based activities as a comparator. The Forum was advised that both were aimed at targeting different groups of young people. The Principal Youth Officer agreed to circulate details of numbers of young people accessing building based youth provision to Forum Members.
- The benefits of utilising the Youth Service resources effectively to develop young people's creative skills was highlighted. A number of potential opportunities/activities that the Youth Service should encourage and further explore were suggested which included inspiring young people to play a musical instrument, dancing, painting as well as encouraging involvement in acting/performance activities.
- A representative from TFM radio who was in attendance at the meeting referred to a number of Beat the Boredom events such as creative writing and street dancing which was currently working well in Stockton area and the potential of this facility being provided in Hartlepool was highlighted. The Chair suggested that further discussions in this regard be held with the Principal Youth Officer direct following the meeting.
- The importance of young people developing skills to gain an accredited qualification was highlighted.

- With regard to the number of young people using the youth bus, the Chair requested that average figures be provided for consideration at a future meeting of the Forum.
- The Chair made reference to an issue of underage drinking in one of the youth centres in the town and highlighted the importance of ensuring future incidents of this type were carefully managed. The Principal Youth Officer agreed to explore this issue further and report back to the Chair direct.
- Concerns were expressed regarding the difficulties accessing youth services in the evening as a result of the limited bus service provision in the town. In light of the transport difficulties, it was suggested that the opportunity to utilise the yellow bus service currently operating during the day in the evenings be examined.
- The Forum commented on a need for the provision of youth activities on Sundays and the advantages of multi-purpose youth centres.

Recommendation

That the information given, be noted and the comments of the Forum be used to assist with the scrutiny investigation.

28. Scrutiny Investigation into Detached and Targeted Youth Work – Site Visit Arrangements (*Scrutiny Support Officer*)

The Scrutiny Support Officer provided background information, as set out in the report in relation to the proposed site visits as part of the Forum's investigation into detached and targeted youth work.

Detached Youth Workers were supported in their work by the provision of the Youth Bus in the locality where they worked which allowed valuable relationships to be engendered with young people. Table 1 outlined details of the days, times and localities covered by the Detached Youth Workers. It was proposed that detached youth work site visits take place during weeks commencing 2, 9, 16 and 23 November 2009 and Members were requested to contact the Scrutiny Support Officer to agree specific dates in case of any changes to the programme.

In relation to targeted youth work site visits, for young people with additional needs, Table 2 in the report detailed the venues, days, times and type of targeted youth work in operation. It was proposed that targeted youth work site visits take place during weeks commencing 18 and 25 January 2010 and Members were requested to contact the Scrutiny Support Officer to agree specific dates in case of any changes to the programme.

The Scrutiny Support Officer sought volunteers for the proposed site visits referred to above.

Recommendation

That Members interested in attending the site visits contact the Scrutiny Support Officer to confirm arrangements.

29. Issues Identified from Forward Plan

None.

30. Date and Time of Next Meeting

It was reported that the next meeting would be held on 4 November 2009 at 4.30 pm in the Council Chamber.

The meeting concluded at 4.15 pm.

CHAIR

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

4th November, 2009



Report of: Scrutiny Manager

Subject: CHILDREN'S SERVICES: BUDGET AND POLICY
FRAMEWORK INITIAL CONSULTATION
PROPOSALS 2010/2011

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the opportunity, as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, for the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum to consider the Child and Adult Services Department's pressures relating to the provision of Children's services.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 At a meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee held on 16th October, 2009, consideration was given to the Executive's Initial Budget and Policy Framework consultation proposals for 2010/2011 to 2012/2013.
- 2.2 At this meeting it was agreed that, as in previous years, each of the Standing Scrutiny Forums will consider the budget proposals covering the service areas within their remit. Given the recent restructure of departments within the Council, and creation of the Regeneration and Neighbourhoods Department and Child and Adult Department, presentations will also be given by Directors to provide an overarching view of the general risks facing their departmental budgets and key policy issues for this year. Any comments / observations will then be fed back to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 27th November, 2009 to enable a formal response to be presented to Cabinet on 14th December, 2009.
- 2.3 Appended to this report, for consideration as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, are details of the pressures relating to the children's services areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Services Department:-

Appendix A - Schedule of Budget Pressures 2010/2011;

- 2.4 Cabinet is proposing that the pressures identified are funded.
- 2.5 At this stage of the budget process Cabinet have not identified specific efficiency proposals for individual departments as it is envisaged the savings necessary to balance the 2010/2011 budget will be achieved from the Business Transformation Programme. This position assumes pressures will not exceed the available budget head room and the Government confirm the grant increase for 2010/2011.
- 2.6 To assist Members of this Scrutiny Forum in the consideration of the initial proposals, arrangements have been made for the Director of Child and Adult Services to be in attendance and an invitation to this meeting has also been extended to the relevant Portfolio Holder(s) (attendance subject to availability).

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 It is recommended that the Children's Services Scrutiny Forum: -
- a) as part of the Budget and Policy Framework initial consultation proposals for 2010/2011, consider the pressures relating to the children's services areas of service provision within the Child and Adult Service Department; and
 - b) formulates any comments and observations to be presented by the Chair of this Scrutiny Forum to the meeting of the Scrutiny Co-ordinating Committee to be held on 27th November, 2009 to enable a formal response to be presented to the Cabinet on 14th December, 2009.

Contact Officer:- Joan Wilkins – Scrutiny Manager
Chief Executive's Department - Corporate Strategy
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523 647
Email: joan.wilkins@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

No background papers were used in the preparation of this report.

INITIAL PRESSURES 2010/11**6.1 Appendix A****CHILDREN'S SERVICES**

	£'000	Description
Brierton School site pre Dyke House decant	125	Part year costs of the LA operating the site whilst construction works are undertaken until Dyke House School moves to Brierton on 1st September 2010 - Rates, energy, caretaking, security etc. May be possible to fund part of these costs from alternative funding sources, such as DSG and these options are currently being explored in more detail.
Home to School Transport	220	Part year costs of transporting Dyke House pupils from home to the Brierton site wef 1st September 2010. Significant additional costs are likely depending on what Members agree regarding an exceptional rule to the Home to School policy. Legally we are only obliged to provide free transport to pupils travelling beyond 3 miles although the limit is 2 miles for low income families. (Again possibility that this could be DSG funded) Costs would be for 2 academic years only, spread over three financial years and would cease when Dyke House school reopens in September 2012. This figure is an initial costing and will be reviewed once Cabinet has determined a transport policy for decant period of Dyke House school.
Total	345	

CHILDREN'S SERVICES SCRUTINY FORUM

4th NOVEMBER 09



Report of: Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Targeted Services

Subject: HARTLEPOOL LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD ANNUAL REPORT AND BUSINESS PLAN 2009 - 2010

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to introduce the Annual Report and Business Plan of Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board 2009 – 2010 for consideration by Children's Services Scrutiny Forum.

2. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- 2.1 The Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to co-ordinate the local arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The requirements for the delivery of the LSCB are laid out in the Government statutory guidance 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2006).
- 2.2 The LSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how local organisations will work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring this is carried out effectively. The remit of the LSCB is to ensure that work to protect children is properly coordinated and effective. The LSCB has responsibility for:
- Producing the local child protection procedures and other procedural and practice guidance documents regarding safeguarding;
 - Ensuring these procedures are complied with;
 - Monitoring and reviewing the quality of child protection and safeguarding work in the local area;
 - Delivering a multi agency training programme;
 - Undertaking serious case reviews or management reviews where a child has died or has been severely injured and there are concerns regarding the protection of the child.
- 2.3 Organisations represented on Hartlepool LSCB include strategic and lead managers from:

- Children's Services with the Director of Children's Services as Chair;
- Health organisations including the Primary Care Trust, North Tees and Hartlepool Foundation Trust and Tees Esk and Wear Valleys Foundation Trust;
- Police - community and child protection;
- Probation Service;
- Voluntary sector including Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency and Barnardos;
- Education;
- Fire Service;
- Children and Family Court Advisory Support Service (CAFCASS);
- Other Council departments, including Housing, Community Safety and Adults Services.

- 2.4 The work of the LSCB needs to be properly planned and LSCB's should have a clear work programme including measurable objectives and a budget. 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' outlines the responsibility on the LSCB to produce a work plan which is endorsed by all Board members and made publicly available. It details that the Board, in any plan or annual report should include:

'Relevant management information on activity in the course of the previous year; and a review of its work in the previous year – for example progress against objectives. This will enable the LSCB's work to be scrutinised by the local authority (perhaps by the overview and scrutiny committees), by other local partners and by other key stakeholders as well as the inspectorates.'
(Section 3.84)

- 2.5 Attached at **Appendix 1** to this report is the Annual Report and Business Plan of Hartlepool LSCB 2009 – 2010. This document includes, amongst other things, details of the structure of the LSCB, a review of management information and child protection activity in 2008/09, membership of the Board and a review of the work programme for 2008/09. The report outlines the work of the LSCB, the priorities and work plan in 2009/10 and how the key partner organisations in the town are working together to ensure the arrangements for safeguarding children are effective.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1 That Members of the Forum note the content of the report to support their scrutiny of the Annual Report and Business Plan of the LSCB and where appropriate seek clarification.

Contact Officer: - Sally Robinson – Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Targeted Services
Child and Adult Services
Hartlepool Borough Council
Tel: 01429 523732
Email: sally.robinson@hartlepool.gov.uk

BACKGROUND PAPERS

The following background paper was used in the preparation of this report:-

- (i) Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and Business Plan 2009 – 2010
- (ii) HM Government (2006) Working Together to Safeguard Children. The Stationery Office.



Annual Report and Business Plan

2009 - 2010



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Foreword

Report from the chair

It is a pleasure to introduce the Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) 2008/2009 Annual Report and 2009/2010 Business Plan. This report reflects the achievements of the past year and sets priorities for the coming year to build on progress made to date and further strengthen the arrangements for safeguarding children in Hartlepool.

Safeguarding children is everyone's responsibility and Hartlepool LSCB provides the mechanism to ensure that the safety and welfare of children is at the heart of every organisation's work. The LSCB drives the safeguarding agenda in the town and in partnership with Hartlepool Children's Trust ensures that every child matters.

Over the past year the LSCB has undertaken self evaluation through a section 11 audit and completion of the Department for Children Schools and Families Challenge and Improvement Tool. These self assessments have supported the Board in evaluating its effectiveness and identifying key priorities for further development. This activity is being carried forward into the coming year with a strengthening of the Board governance arrangements.

The past year has seen, amongst other things, the following achievements:

- The development and implementation of a new procedure for managing allegations against those who work with children;
- The development of a Hidden Harm Strategy and the launch of an inter agency guidance and assessment tool for children living with parental problem drug and alcohol use;

- Participation in a Tees wide collaboration to implement responsibilities related to deaths in childhood;
- The development of an e safety group and vision.

The safeguarding agenda continues to face many challenges and work is already underway to look at how recommendations from the Laming Report can be implemented locally to improve services delivered to children, young people and their families. In preparation for the extent of the work ahead, the Board has increased its meeting frequency to bi monthly and created a number of task and finish groups.

The forward work plan for Hartlepool LSCB reflects the challenges outlined in the Laming Report including the formation of a Serious Case Review Implementation and Review Group, the establishment of a quality assurance framework and the implementation of a reporting mechanism to the Board from partner agencies about frontline services and the effectiveness of these in safeguarding children.

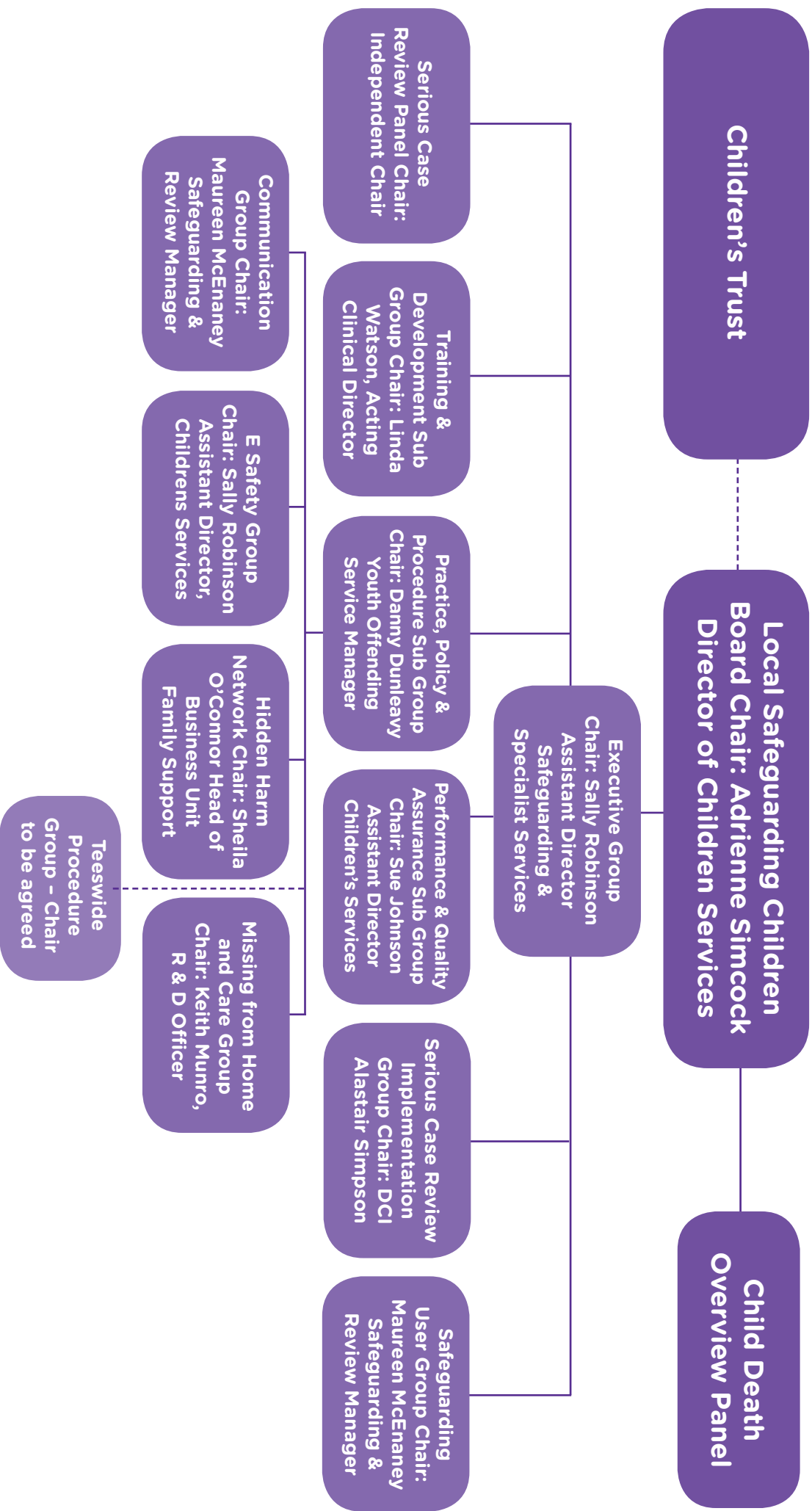
I wish to thank colleagues in all partner agencies and those who have worked on behalf of the Board for the hard work and commitment they have given to the Board and its subgroups to enable the work plan of Hartlepool LSCB to be achieved. I know you are all committed to working together effectively in order to safeguard the children in Hartlepool.



Adrienne Simcock

Chair of Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board.

1. Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Structure



2. About Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board

2.1 The Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board meets bimonthly, and is chaired by the Director of Children's Services, following a review of the arrangements and a Board decision September 2008.

The work of the Board is achieved through a number of sub groups as follows:

Executive Group

2.2 The Executive Group was formed in August 2008 and its remit is to progress the business of the Board.

The membership of the group includes:

- Assistant Director of Safeguarding and Specialist Services (Chair)
- Safeguarding Manager
- Chair of Performance and Quality Assurance Sub Group
- Chair of Practice, Policy, and Procedure Sub Group
- Chair of Training Sub Group
- The LSCB Development Officer
- Police
- Others as necessary and where there is a direct link to a particular service.

The objectives of the group are to:

- Ensure the coordination and effective implementation of the business of the Board
- Promote enhanced accountability to the LSCB from its partner representatives
- Ensure the production of outcome focussed plans for the sub groups clearly linked to the work plan of the LSCB and provide a scrutiny function to their work
- Provide a business group function for the LSCB to increase effectiveness
- Increase shared responsibility for the delivery of the business plan
- Be accountable for the production and oversight of a forward annual plan for

LSCB meetings

- Provide a partnership approach to the production of the annual report and business plan
- Enhance ownership of the key priority areas for the LSCB
- Contribute to the delivery of action points identified from the LSCB development day
- Ensure there is increased understanding within the partner agencies of the role of the LSCB and promote active participation in its activities

Training and Development Sub-Group

2.3 The objectives of the group are to:

- Undertake an annual training and development needs analysis
- Develop and commission a programme of multi-agency training to meet identified needs
- Monitor agency attendance at training
- To quality assurance single agency and multi agency child protection training across Hartlepool.

Practice, Policy and Procedures Sub-Group

2.4 The objectives of the group are to:

- Ensure that any practice, policy or Procedures relating to Safeguarding in Hartlepool are compliant with national requirements and Hartlepool Safeguarding Board agreements
- Developing, where appropriate, practice guidance to complement national guidance and/or Hartlepool Child Protection Procedures
- Ensuring that existing policies, practice and procedures are fully disseminated across Hartlepool, including the voluntary and community sector.

Performance and Quality Assurance Sub-Group

2.5 The objectives of the group are to:

- Maintain a multi-agency performance assessment framework, collating and reporting the management information to the main Board
- Monitor the development of safe recruitment practice across the whole children's sector in Hartlepool
- Undertake or commission joint audits of records or case files

Serious Case Review Panel

2.6 The Serious Case Review Panel will be convened if a child dies and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor. It may also be convened if a child sustains a potentially life threatening injury or serious and permanent impairment of health and development, or has been subjected to particularly serious sexual abuse, and the case gives concerns about inter-agency work to protect children. The remit of this panel is to commission and oversee the conducting of reviews under Part 8 of the guidance contained in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' (2006)

The objectives of the group are to:

- Further responsibilities as set out in Hartlepool Child Protection Procedures
- Monitoring the implementation of action plans arising from Serious Case Reviews

Child Death Overview Panel

2.7 The Child Death Overview Panel's duties became statutory from April 2008.

Hartlepool has joined with Stockton and South Tees (Middlesbrough and Redcar and Cleveland LA's) LSCB's to form an overarching Panel.

The objectives of the group are to:

- Review the deaths of all children, 0-18 resident in Hartlepool at the time of death using information available from those who are involved in the care of the child before and immediately after the death, including the Coroner
- Consider whether and how such deaths might have been prevented and how similar deaths might be prevented in the future
- Identify any patterns or trends in local data and report them to Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board
- Advise as per Working Together, the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board if at any time it is thought that the criteria for a Serious Case Review might apply

3. Child protection data 2008/09

3.1 The work of the LSCB is informed by accurate and timely information which profiles the work of the agencies in the town to safeguard children. The use of management information by the Board is essential to measure and evaluate the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements in Hartlepool. To this end, the Performance and Quality subgroup have begun work on the identification of a dataset to provide up to date management information on safeguarding performance to the Board on a regular basis.

3.2 As part of the annual workplan for the LSCB, a reporting structure has been identified for each of the key partners to report on the effectiveness of safeguarding activity within their service area. This will allow Board members to receive information on the performance of individual organisations, to understand their priorities and pressures and to challenge and act as a 'critical friend' in relation to individual agency performance. This reporting arrangement will also be useful in identifying trends and issues within safeguarding in Hartlepool to inform future service development.

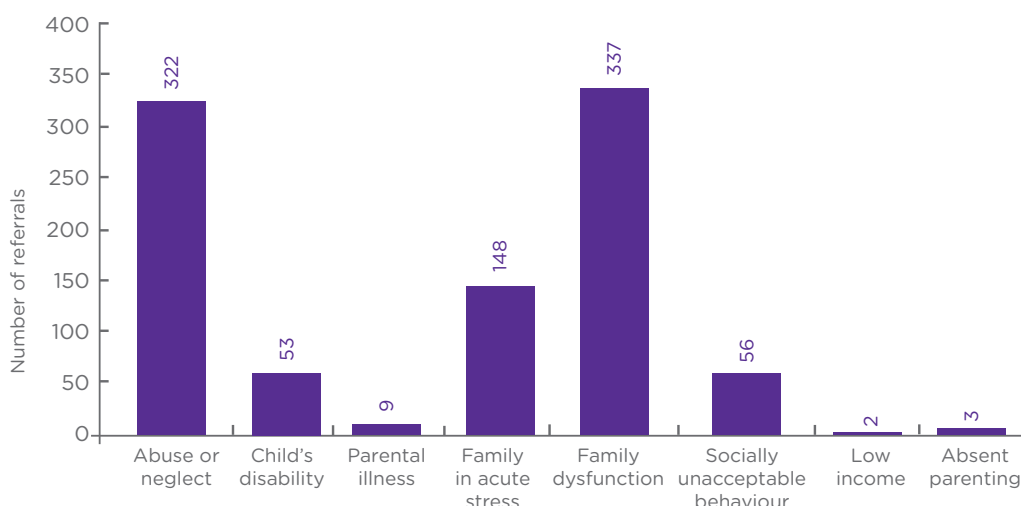
3.3 The following data outlines child protection activity in 2008/09 and has been collated from Children's Social Care records.

Referrals to Safeguarding and Specialist Services

3.4 **Figure 1** shows the referral profile to safeguarding and specialist services in 2008/09. Over the course of the year, a total of 930 referrals were received regarding children in need, of these 322 (35%) were referrals regarding children in need of protection. Abuse and neglect and family dysfunction account for 71% of the referrals to children's social care. A further 16% of referrals are regarding families in acute stress. This referral profile reflects the levels of deprivation in the town and the high levels of acute need.

3.5 In response to the referrals, a total of 721 initial assessments were undertaken in 2008/09. In respect of the child protection referrals, 255 strategy meetings or discussions were held leading to the completion of 214 section 47 enquiries/core assessments.

Figure 1



Children subject to protection plans

3.6 From 1 April 2008, all children subject to significant safeguarding concerns have been made the subject of child protection plans. During 2008/09, a total of 102 children (59% male, 41% female) were subject to child protection plans.

The vast majority (90%) of these children were White British with only 8 children (8%) being from the black and ethnic backgrounds and 2 children (2%) of mixed heritage.

This ethnic breakdown reflects the population of Hartlepool, although does demonstrate a slight over representation of children from black and ethnic backgrounds subject to child protection plans compared with the general population of the town, a statistic that will be monitored.

3.7 The age profile of children subject to child protection plans is shown in **Table 1**. As would be expected, 58% of children subject to protection plans are under 5 years of age reflecting the vulnerability of very young children.

Table 1

Age Band	Number	Percentage
Under 1	15	15%
1 to 4	44	43%
5 to 9	31	30%
10 to 15	12	12%
Over 16	0	0%

3.8 Figure 2 shows the numbers of children subject to child protection plans from 2004/05. Over this period of time there have been some fluctuations in the figures, most noticeably in 2006/07 and 2007/08 when the numbers of children subject to plans over the year fell.

Over these two years, a review was undertaken of children subject to child protection plans who were simultaneously looked after and arrangements were put in place for children to be safeguarded either through protection plans or by virtue of being looked after.

This led to a net reduction in the numbers of children subject to child protection plans. 2008/09 has seen a significant rise in the number of children subject to plans

Figure 2

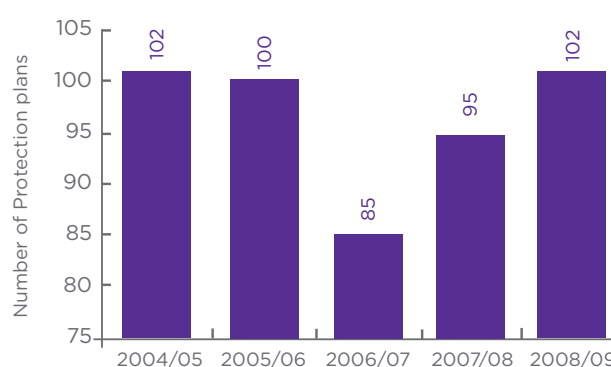
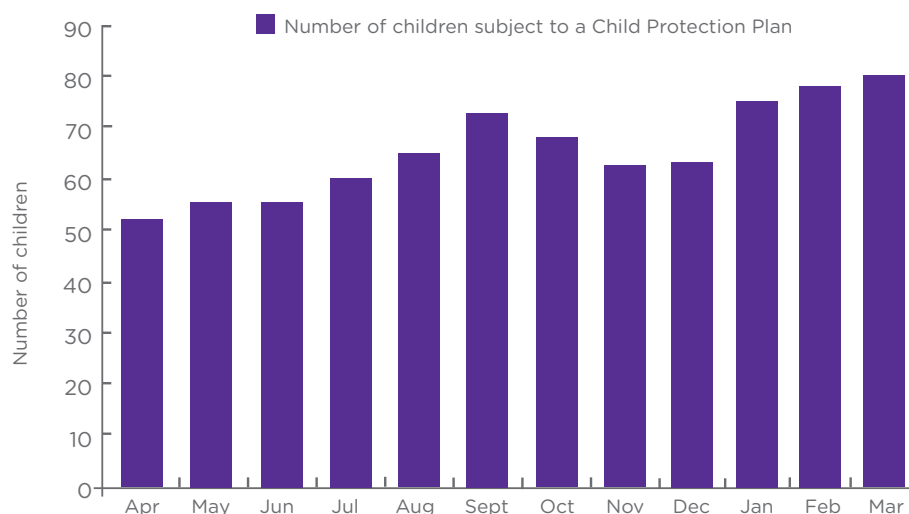


Figure 3



3.9 Figure 3 shows the monthly breakdown of children subject to protection plans over the course of 2008/09 and maps more clearly the trend over the year and when the increase in numbers of children subject to plans occurred. At the start of the year, 51 children were subject to a protection plan and this has gradually risen over the year to 80 children by April 2009. January 2009 saw a very high level of safeguarding activity with a significantly higher number of initial child protection conferences being held and a total of 23 children becoming subject to a protection plan compared with an average figure of 8 in the preceding 9 months.

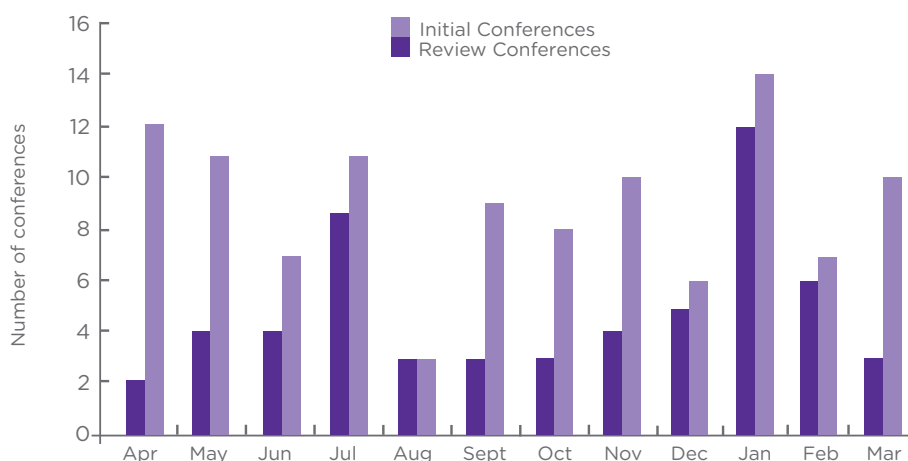
As the number of children who ceased to be subject to plans in that month remained in line with the yearly average there was a significant net increase and this increasing trend continued to the end of the year. National drivers and a heightened focus on children in need of protection in light of the

death of Baby Peter are the most probable cause for the increase in numbers of children subject to protection plans and is a pattern that is reflected certainly regionally and anecdotally nationally.

Child Protection Conferences

3.10 Figure 4 breaks down more clearly details of the child protection conferences held over the year. From this table, the spike in initial child protection conferences in January 2009 leading to the increase in numbers of children subject to protection plans is clearly evident. This month saw a 200% increase in the number of initial conferences compared with the average for the preceding 9 months and the same month in 2008. The increase in the numbers of children subject to protection plans inevitably led to an increase in the numbers of review child protection conferences required in the last few months of the year.

Figure 4



Categories for Protection Plans

3.11 Of the children subject to protection plans during 2008/09, 72% were subject to plans due to concerns regarding neglect, 11.5% as a result of physical abuse, 10.5% due to emotional abuse and 6% due to sexual abuse as shown in **Figure 5**. These statistics continue the patterns of previous years where the vast majority of children subject to plans are due to concerns about neglect.

The issues leading the protection planning under the category of neglect most frequently arise as a result of children affected by parental substance misuse and the impact of this upon their ability to care for and meet the needs of their children. Hartlepool LSCB has recently ratified a three year 'Hidden Harm Strategy' and a revised 'Inter Agency Guidance' and 'Assessment Tool' which has been issued to support all multi agency staff working with children affected by parental substance misuse.

Number of Child Protection Plans by category type 2008/09

Figure 5

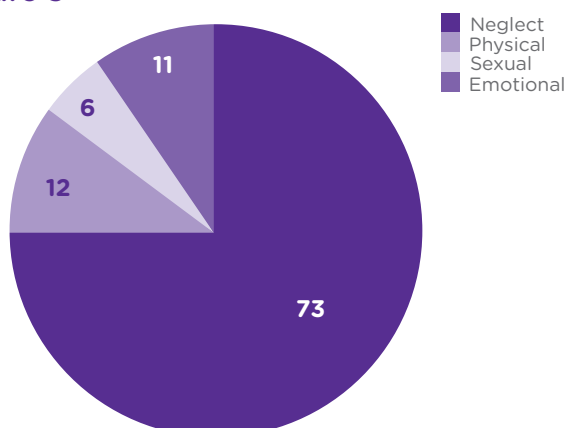
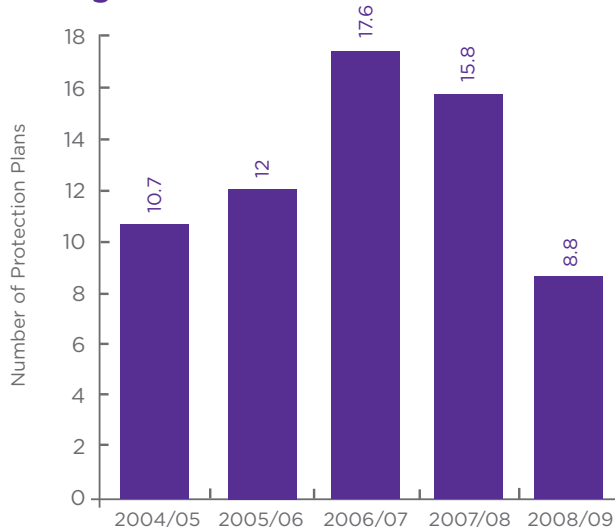


Figure 6



Subject to Protection Plans for a second or subsequent time

3.12 **Figure 6** details the outturn for Hartlepool in terms of children who become subject to protection plans for a second or subsequent time. This indicator is important as it demonstrates the effectiveness of protection planning for children. Over the past 3 years performance against this indicator has consistently improved. Over the coming year further analysis is planned in relation to this indicator to maintain continuous improvement.

4. Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Membership April 2009

4.1 In order to ensure continuity and consistency the Board is made up of named representatives who have strategic responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisation. The Board includes statutory partners set out in s13(3) of the Children Act 2004 as well as other relevant partners highlighted in Working Together.

4.2 The individual members of the LSCB have a duty as members to contribute to the effective work of the LSCB.

Hartlepool Local safeguarding Children Board Membership 2009/10

Hartlepool Borough Council	Job title
Adrienne Simcock (Chair)	Director of Children's Services
Danny Dunleavy	Youth Offending Service Manager
Penny Garner-Carpenter	Strategic Housing Manager (Housing Division)
Sue Johnson	Assistant Director: Children's Services
John Lovatt	Acting Assistant Director – Operations (Adult & Community Services)
Alison Mawson	Head of Community Safety and Prevention, Regeneration and Planning
Maureen McEnaney	Head of Safeguarding and Review Unit
Sally Robinson	Assistant Director: Children's Services
Jacqui Rogers	LSCB Development Officer
Health	
Dr Kailash Agrawal	Paediatrics and Child Health
Alex Giles	Tees Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children (PCT)
Cath Siddle	Deputy Director of Nursing (North Tees and Hartlepool Foundation Trust)
Linda Watson	Acting Clinical Director, Community Services (North Tees and Hartlepool Foundation Trust)
Bob Craig	Associate Director of Nursing (Tees, Esk and Wear Valleys NHS Foundation Trust)

Cleveland Police		Job title
Alastair Simpson		Detective Chief Inspector - Public Protection
Phil Veitch		Chief Inspector -Neighbourhood Manager
Probation		
Julie Allan		Assistant Director National Probation Service
CAFCASS		
Alison Wild		Service Manager
Education		
Margaret Bousfield		Headteacher - Fens Primary School
Carole Horseman		Vice Principal - Hartlepool Sixth Form College
Cleveland Fire Brigade		
Dave Turton		Hartlepool District Manager
Adults Substance Misuse Use Service		
Karen Clark		Substance Misuse Treatment Centre Manager
Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency		
Andrea Fletcher		Community Network Officer

5. Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Board Attendance 2008/09

Board Attendance 2008/09

Hartlepool Borough Council	June 2008	Sept 2008	Nov 2008	Jan 2009	March 2009
Adrienne Simcock (Chair)		X			
Sue Johnson			X		
Alison Mawson	X	X			X
Maureen McEnaney	#				
Teresa Devito		#	#	#	#
Jacqui Rogers					
Sally Robinson					
Danny Dunleavy		X			X
Health					
Dr Kailash Agrawal					X
Bob Craig (TEWV)	X			*	*
Alex Giles					
Cath Siddle					X
Linda Watson			X		
Cleveland Police					
Alastair Simpson			*	*	
Phil Veitch	X		X	X	X
Probation					
Julie Allan	#				
Tina Beckett		#	#	#	#
CAFCASS					
Alison Wild	*	X	X	X	
Education					
Margaret Bousfield	X				X
Carole Horseman	X		X		

Cleveland Fire Brigade	June 2008	Sept 2008	Nov 2008	Jan 2009	March 2009
Dave Turton			X	X	
Hartlepool Voluntary Development Agency					
Andrea Fletcher	#	#	#	#	
Tracey Herrington	X	X	X	X	#
NSPCC					
Bernice Gallagher			#	#	#
Irene Boyd	#	#		#	#
Nominated Substitutes					
Karen Agar (TEWV) For Bob Craig					
Jason Dickson (Cleveland Police) For Alastair Simpson					
Brian Brown (CAFCASS) For Alison Wild					

Key		Attended
	X	Did not attend
	*	Sent representative
	#	No longer a member of LSCB

6. Annual reports from the subgroups

Training and Development Subgroup

Annual Report for the Board for period 2008/09

6.1 The Training and Development Subgroup has met on 5 occasions during 2008/09: 5th June 2008, 31st July 2008, 18th September 2008, 28th November 2008, 13th January 2009.

Membership and attendance

6.2 The membership of the group has been reviewed and increased during 2008/09, the possible attendance of each member (or their representative) is shown and their actual attendance given in brackets. Some members joined part way through the year, and this is highlighted with an asterisk.

Name	Title / Organisation	Attendance
Linda Watson (Chair)	Acting director of Clinical Services, NTH	5(3)
Ann Brock (Vice Chair)	Senior Nurse Child Protection, NTH	5(3)
Maureen McEnaney*	Safeguarding and Review Unit	5(3)
Maria Richardson	LSCB Training Coordinator	5(5)
Jacqui Rogers	LSCB Development Officer	5(4)
Louise Hurst	Community Safety and Prevention	5(3)
Dave Turton	Cleveland Fire Brigade	5(2)
Sheila O'Connor/ Elisa Arnold	CSD Social Care team Representative, HBC	5(3)
Heather Duckers	Service Manager paediatric Unit, NTH	5(2)
Julie Allen	Probation Representative	5(0)
Lynda Smith / Sue Lewins*	Childcare Providers Representative	4(3)
Mark Smith*	Connexions Representative, HBC	4(1)
John Robinson*	School/ Education Representative	4(3)
Jenny Riley*	Safeguarding & Review unit, HBC	3(1)
Sharon Pennick*	Community Psychiatric Nurse, TNEY	2(1)

Achievements

6.3 The group have considered a range of issues during the year including the training and development needs identified by or as a result of the work of the other subgroups. For example training on using the updated Hidden Harm Assessment Tool.

Achievements of the group include

Membership of LSCB Training Subgroup: in order to revise and strengthen multi agency contribution to the subgroup agenda, the group have invited representatives from additional organisations on to the subgroup and now has a variety of key agencies represented at the LSCB Training and Development Subgroup Meetings.

LSCB Training Strategy: the group have developed an Inter-agency Training Strategy which is awaiting final agreement by the full subgroup.

Delivery of an Inter-agency Training Programme: the group have successfully co-ordinated, promoted and delivered a comprehensive inter-agency safeguarding and child protection training programme, which included the wider safeguarding agenda.

Safeguarding and Child Protection training programme for schools: the group has supported schools in developing a safeguarding and child protection training programme for all school employees and school governors.

Quality Assurance of Training Providers: the group has developed a quality assurance process in line with Hartlepool Borough Council procurement procedures to ensure only qualified training providers of a high standard are delivering LSCB safeguarding and child protection courses.

Evaluation of Training Course Delivery: the group have undertaken and reviewed observations at LSCB; inter-agency training sessions and impact Evaluations have been developed to assist with additional evaluation of all LSCB inter-agency training to ensure practitioners are able to incorporate the learning into effective working practices.

Data Recording: the group have ensured that all LSCB inter-agency training requests and practitioners' attendance is recorded on the ONE database, which can produce registers, certificates and reports of continuous professional development for individual practitioners.

Tees Wide Inter-agency Safeguarding and Child Protection training: the group has supported the vision of presenting Safeguarding and Child Protection training across Tees and contributed to the delivery of appropriate training sessions on a Tees wide basis.

Priorities

6.4 In 2009/10 the priorities will be to:

Deliver a varied and appropriate inter-agency training programme to ensure training and development in child protection and the wider safeguarding agenda is available to all practitioners in the children's workforce and wider services working with families on an inter-agency basis.

Incorporate training in relation to Serious Case Reviews throughout the LSCB inter-agency safeguarding and child protection training 2009/10 programme.

Support schools and childcare providers in accessing safeguarding and child protection training on an inter-agency basis.

Undertake procurement and evaluation of training providers to develop a framework agreement with high quality, qualified training providers to deliver safeguarding and child protection training.

Process and monitor impact evaluations to ensure Hartlepool LSCB inter-agency safeguarding and child protection training is effective in improving working practices.

Develop a quality assurance tool to assess how single agency safeguarding and child protection training is implemented within the children's workforce and ensure it is effective and of a quality to meet the Hartlepool LSCB's requirements.

Practice, Policy and Procedure Sub Group

6.5 The Practice, Policy and Procedure Subgroup has met on 5 occasions during 2008/09: 8th May 2008, 10th July 2008, 11th September 2008, 13th November 2008 and 13th January 2009.

Membership and attendance

6.6 The membership of the group has been reviewed and increased during 2008/09, the possible attendance of each member (or their representative) is shown and their actual attendance given in brackets. Some members joined part way through the year, and this is highlighted with an asterisk.

Name	Title / Organisation	Attendance
Alex Giles	Tees Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children	5(3)
Anne Brock	Named Nurse Child Protection	5(4)
Danny Dunleavy	Youth Offending Service Manager HBC	5(2)
Dr Kailash Agrawal	Clinical Director – Paediatrics and Child Health	5(2)
Jacqui Rogers	LSCB Development Officer HBC	5(5)
Jason Dickson (Vice Chair)	Detective Inspector Cleveland Police	5(4)
John Robinson	Children's Fund Manager HBC	5(3)
Maureen McEnaney*	Head of Safeguarding and Review Unit	3(2)
Karen Agar*	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children	1(1)
Sheila O'Connor	Head of Business Unit (Family Support)	5(4)

Achievements

6.7 The group has considered a range of issues during the year which has included some Tees wide work where members of the PPP sub group have worked with other professionals across the Tees Valley. This work has included:

The Fabricated and Induced Illness Protocol and Procedure. This work was lead by health. This involved the production of a flowchart to supplement the existing statutory guidance.

The Tees Pre Trial Therapy Procedure. This work was lead by the Police. The purpose of this procedure is to ensure that children who have been abused, and would benefit from therapy receive that therapy in an appropriate and timely manner.

6.8 Other issues that have received particular attention by the PPP include:

The Hidden Harm Strategy, Inter agency Guidance and Substance Using Parents and Carers Assessment Tool: The Hidden Harm Strategy 2008 – 11 and action plan

was published by the Hidden Harm Network during 2008 to improve and develop services for children living with problem parental drug and alcohol use. This was complimented by the redevelopment and publication of the Inter Agency Guidance and Substance Using Parents and Carers Assessment Tool. The launch of these documents was timed to coincide with an LSCB inter agency substance misusing parents and carers training course. The PPP monitored the development progress of these documents and reported back to the LSCB.

E Safety: The task group has been established to ensure that policies, procedures, protocols and practices support the children and young people of Hartlepool in accessing and utilising technology safely and so to aid their enjoyment and achievement. Work on an e safety strategy is on going. The PPP is responsible for the work around e safety on behalf of the Board and ensures the Board is updated on its progress.

Communication: The importance of effective communication was highlighted by members of the LSCB at the development day held in January, and was one of the priority areas identified for action. As a result a Communications Task Group was established, to ensure the LSCB is successful in its communication at all levels. The PPP holds the responsibility for this work and ensures the Board is kept informed of the progress made. Initial work has been on the development of a communication strategy and the introduction of branding for the Hartlepool Board can be expected in the near future.

Priorities

6.9 In 2009/10 the priorities will be to:

To continue the work of the Communication Task Group ensuring any communication strategy and action plan include: a website, public information, branding, newsletters and an induction pack for the board.

The development of a risk management strategy for the LSCB

To continue the work of the E Safety Group to ensure the implementation of the e-safety strategy and action plan.

To formulate a local policy and procedure with regard to children who go missing from home and care.

To develop a local procedure to supplement the statutory guidance around forced marriage

Collate a library of policies and establish a process of review

To develop a child trafficking strategy for the LSCB

6.10 These areas of work will be included on the 2009/10 work plan. Appropriate reports will be taken to the Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board during 2009/10.

Performance and Quality Assurance Sub-Group

Annual Report for the Board for 2008/09

6.11 The Performance and Quality Assurance Sub-Group has met on five occasions during 2008/09; 8 May 2008, 10 July 2008, 11 September 2008, 13 November 2008 and 15 January 2009.

Membership and attendance

6.12 The membership of the group has been reviewed and increased during 2008/09, the possible attendance of each member (or their representative) is shown and their actual attendance given in brackets. Some members joined part way through the year, and this is highlighted with an asterisk.

Name	Title / Organisation	Attendance
Sue Johnson	Assistant Director, HBC	5(4)
Jacqui Rogers	LSCB Development Officer, HBC	5(5)
Anne Brock	Named Nurse Child Protection	5(4)
Heather Duckers	Senior Clinical Matron	5(4)
Louise Allen	Inclusion Co-ordinator (Anti-bullying)	5(5)
Pip Harkness	Clinical Nurse Specialist, CAMHS	5(5)
Jim Murdoch	Head of Business Unit, Young Person's Team, HBC	5(5)
Alex Giles	Tees Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children	5(3)
Danny Dunleavy	Youth Offending, HBC	5(2)
Jason Dickson	Cleveland Police	5(4)
Judith Stout	Community & Birthing Centre Midwifery Matron	5(3)
Maria Richardson	Training Co-ordinator, HBC	5(4)
Maureen McEnaney*	Safeguarding & Review Unit, HBC	3(2)
Carmel Jackson*	Independent Reviewing Officer, HBC	3(1)

6.13 The group has considered a range of issues during the year including scrutinising progress in relation to the work of the Multi-Agency Looked After Panel, the roll-out of the Common Assessment Framework and the development of the Hidden Harm assessment tool. Issues receiving particular attention are given below.

Consideration of an independent chair for the LSCB: the group considered a report which examined the possibility of Hartlepool LSCB having an independent chair. On the basis of the evidence presented the decision was made by the group that there was no need, in their opinion, to change the current arrangement whereby the

Director of Children's Services chairs the LSCB. This report and the sub-group's recommendations were submitted to the Board on 18th November 2009.

Child Death Review Panels: the sub-group has monitored the progress in the establishment and implementation of the Child Death Review Panel for the Tees Valley area. One member of the sub-group is a member of the panel (Alex Giles) and the chair of the sub-group is the substitute member for education issues.

The development of a data set and management information: the sub-group has continued to work on the production of a fit for purpose data set, which will provide relevant information to inform the LSCB about performance in a range of areas related to safeguarding children and which can inform decisions about where further scrutiny might be needed.

The sub-group has identified that there is a wealth of data potentially available but in some circumstances this may not be sufficiently robust to provide useful information, e.g. in relation to the harm presented to young people by alcohol, Health Service data can show where young people are admitted to hospital specifically because of alcohol poisoning but accidents related to alcohol may not be recorded as such, as the presenting problem/injury is what would be recorded.

LSCB challenge and improvement tool: the sub-group considered this national improvement tool and recommended its use on the LSCB's development day which was held on 14 January 2009.

Communication strategy: a task group has been established for members of the group to support work on a communications strategy for the LSCB.

Priorities

6.14 In 2009/10 the priorities will be to:

An audit of children subject to protection plans for a second or subsequent time.

Consideration of access criteria and child protection referrals.

Single agency work assessed and findings brought to the Board

The Section 11 audit, looking at clear findings from the audit for each agency considering strengths and weaknesses and identifying areas for development.

How effective has the action plan based on the 2006 Serious Case Review report been?

An audit of supervision – learning the lessons.

6.15 These areas will be considered as required by the Executive and prioritised accordingly with appropriate reports being taken to the Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board during 2009/10.

7. LSCB achievements 2008/09

Communication

7.1 The importance of effective communication was recognised by members of the LSCB at the development day held in January and was one of the priority areas identified for future action.

7.2 As a result a communications sub group was established and has met on three occasions since January 2009. This group is attended by representatives from the LSCB partner agencies as well as working in partnership with a private company specialising in marketing.

7.3 The group has identified the following vision:

To promote the safety and well being of the children and young people living in Hartlepool, by effective communication and awareness raising, to make a positive difference to their lives.

7.4 Initial work has been targeted on the need for a clear identity for the LSCB and a tendering process has been completed in order to identify a provider who can assist with the design and development of appropriate branding for the LSCB. It is anticipated that a number of initial design ideas will be available for LSCB members to view at the July meeting.

7.5 A communication strategy is being formulated and the associated action plan will detail how key communication developments will be progressed. These will include the development of a website, a range of public information leaflets, an induction pack for Board members and an LSCB newsletter.

7.6 Links will be maintained with other LSCB sub groups to ensure key activities and developments are widely communicated to the workforce and general public. The aim is to include children and young people in the

work of the group, as will be specified in the strategy.

Managing Allegations against Staff.

7.7 A priority identified within the 2008/2009 LSCB workplan was to:

“Ensure the implementation of responsibilities related to management of allegations against those working with children”

7.8 As a result new guidance was drafted in July 2008 and distributed across the partner agencies for consultation and feedback. The completed guidance entitled “Arrangements for managing allegations against people who work with children or who are in a position of trust ” has now been approved by the Board and provides detailed and comprehensive advice with regard to this particular area. A number of familiarisation sessions were held for staff in order to raise awareness about the existence of the new guidance and to ensure staff were informed about its content and application.

7.9 Any allegations made about people working with children are now managed and investigated under the terms of this guidance.

Hidden Harm

7.10 The Hidden Harm Strategy 2008 – 11 and action plan was published by the Hidden Harm Network during 2008 to improve and develop services for children living with parents and carers with problematic drug and alcohol use.

7.11 Commissioned in 2007 by the Local Safeguarding Board and Safer Hartlepool Partnership, this strategy and action plan was to address the 48 recommendations

highlighted in the 2003 Advisory Council of the Misuse of Drugs report 'Hidden Harm: Responding to the needs of children of problem drug users' and the 2007 report 'Hidden Harm three years on: Realities, challenges, and opportunities' published by the working group established to promote the implementation of these recommendations across the UK.

7.12 The Strategy looks in some detail at the national and local context, it describes the current services in Hartlepool and identifies the gaps in provision. Finally the strategy acknowledges the serious harm parental substance misuse can cause to children, and looks at the strategic aims and priorities needed to ensure the children in Hartlepool affected by adult drug and alcohol use receive the care and opportunities they require to enable them to achieve the five outcomes as set out in Every Child Matters.

7.13 An additional piece of work in 2008 has been the re launch of the Substance Using Parents & Carers Assessment Tool to be used as an additional tool in the practitioners' assessment process. A survey of practitioners across the children's work force identified that the original 2006 tool was not being used and the reasons why. The tool has been rewritten to enable the perspectives of all involved parents, children and practitioners to be recorded and used in the assessment, in addition giving adult agencies the opportunity to use the tool in their assessment processes thus enhancing multi agency working between partner agencies.

7.14 The Parental Substance Misuse Inter Agency Guidance was also brought up to date and re launched alongside the strategy and tool.

7.15 The Hidden Harm Network continues to monitor the strategy action plan, ensuring the highlighted outcomes are achieved in the timescales agreed.

E Safety group

7.16 Hartlepool Local Safeguarding Children Board Strategic e safety group was established in September 2008 and is chaired by the Assistant Director, Safeguarding and Specialist Services. Membership of the group reflects key stakeholders in e safety and includes representation from the council, schools, Northern Grid for Learning, the voluntary sector, IT specialists, and two young apprentices. Members of the group have undertaken specialist training in e safety delivered by BECTA and are part of the BECTA LSCB online forum.

7.17 To date, the group has achieved the following:

- The development of an e-safety vision for Hartlepool

'Children and Young People in Hartlepool are actively encouraged and supported to enjoy the benefits of new technologies, whilst being provided with the guidance and skills to avoid risk and harm.'

Parents and carers are provided with the skills and knowledge in e-safety issues to protect their children

Organisations in Hartlepool will work together to support the e-safety strategy.'

- The development of a draft e safety strategy
- The development of an e safety project plan
- The delivery of e safety training within the LSCB annual training programme
- A survey on e-safety issues of a citizen's panel consisting of approximately 1,200 residents who are a representative cross section of the Hartlepool community.

7.18 In 2009/10, the focus of the group will be to

- Finalise the e-safety strategy and develop an implementation plan for the strategy.
- Ensure LSCB minimum standards and supporting guidance on e-safety are in place for all staff working with children and young people and families. This will mean the production of LSCB minimum standards and the supporting guidance for:
 - safeguarding children in their use of digital technologies
 - acceptable use policies for all staff and volunteers across all sectors of the children's workforce in using digital technologies
 - Provide clear expectations and minimum standards for individual agencies that need to develop policies and procedures and
 - Provide a rating standard to organisations and schools to show that standards have been met.
- To deliver an awareness raising campaign for communities, children, families and organisation in relation to e safety making use of existing e-safety resources
- To develop an e safety charter for children in the town
- To deliver training to all staff and volunteers who work with training in relation to e safety

Training and Development

7.19 The LSCB Training and Development Subgroup have considered a range of issues during the year including the training and development outcomes from the other LSCB Subgroups, which included additional training in relation to Hidden Harm and using the updated Hidden Harm Assessment

Tool and also, Managing Allegations Against Staff, Fabricated and Induced Illness and E Safety training sessions.

7.20 The subgroup has undertaken a full review of the current training providers and have implemented a quality assurance process for procuring high level training providers and ensuring cost effective delivery, whilst maintaining a high standard of training and development activities.

7.21 The development of the LSCB Training Strategy has ensured a clear guide to enable the LSCB Training and Development Subgroup to deliver an effective, comprehensive inter-agency training programme which includes aspects of the wider safeguarding agenda and is currently accessed by a variety of key front line workers within the Children's Workforce.

In 2008/09 there was an increase in the take up of LSCB interagency training by all agencies

7.22 The LSCB Training and Development Subgroup has encouraged front line practitioners to support the delivery of the LSCB inter-agency training which has enabled attendees to draw upon their experience and obtain advice and guidance to assist them in their current working practices.

Child Death Review Project

7.23 Following agreement by the 3 Tees LSCBs that South Tees LSCB would be the host authority for undertaking the Child Death Review functions across Tees, two posts were established to deliver the project. These are the Child Death Review Project Manager and the Child Death Review Project Administrator.

7.24 An independent review is currently underway to assess progress to date and to consider options for how the project may be developed in the future, and is currently under the direction of an interim manager.

7.25 Child Death Advisory Group (CDAG)

The CDAG was initially established to provide support and leadership to the Project Manager, in the implementation stages of the project. However, as the project has progressed and processes developed, the work of the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) has superseded the CDAG.

7.26 Local Case Discussions (LCDs)

On the unexpected death of a child, a Local Case Discussion is convened to gather as much information as possible to help everyone understand why the child died at that time. The Chair of the LCD seeks reports from all the agencies involved with the child and the family and, following the discussion meeting, translates the information onto case analysis proforma for presentation to the Child Death Overview Panel. Currently there is a pool of four LCD Chairs across Tees.

7.27 Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The CDOPs meets bi-monthly and the terms, conditions, standard operating procedures and panel membership have been agreed. An interim chairing arrangement is in place, pending the recruitment of an Independent Chair.

7.28 CDOPs are responsible for reviewing the available information on ALL child deaths be they expected or unexpected deaths. . The panel reaches a view on 'preventability', identifies local trends and themes which may help to prevent future child deaths and identifies any case giving

rise to the need for further exploration such as serious case review.

7.29 Activity

From 01 April 2008 to 31st March 2009 there have been 52 child deaths across Tees. 21 of the deaths were unexpected, 30 were expected and 1 is awaiting confirmation of the category.

- 20 of the children resided in the Middlesbrough Area (9 unexpected)
- 5 in Hartlepool (1 unexpected)
- 12 in Redcar (8 unexpected)
- 15 in Stockton (3 unexpected).

7.30 Publicity

Information leaflets are available for parents/carers and professionals. Each Tees LSCB website has information on child death review procedures and the Project Manager has delivered a number of presentations and training sessions to professionals.

8. Financial arrangements

Hartlepool LSCB Funding and Expenditure

8.1 All financial arrangements are based on a jointly funded LSCB budget, which enables any unspent sums to be carried over to the next financial year. This is particularly useful as LSCB's do not necessarily face the same expenditure each year.

8.2 Funding 2008/9

Breakdown of Expenditure	Amount
50% Managers salary	*47,947
50% Training Officer salary	17,458
Employee costs (development officer and LSCB clerk)	52,549
SUBTOTAL	117,954
Multi agency training	4,473
Supplies and services	8,711
Child death contribution	17,000
SUBTOTAL	30,184
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	148,138
TOTAL INCOME	210850
CARRY FORWARD	62,711

*Please note the Managers salary for 2008/09 was high due the employment of an interim manager April - August '08.

8.3 Funding 2009/10

Breakdown of Expenditure	Amount
Agencies	
Hartlepool BC	88,150
Cleveland Police	13,725
Hartlepool PCT	44,909
CAFCASS	513
Probation	743
Child death Contribution	17,000
INCOME	165,039
CARRY FORWARD 08/09	62,711
TOTAL INCOME	227,750

Breakdown of Expenditure	Amount
50% Managers salary	29,360
50% Training Officer salary	18,622
Development officer salary & LSCB admin salary (+on costs)	65,826
SUBTOTAL SALARIES	113,808
Multi Agency Training	16,770
Supplies and Services	12,000
Professional Fees	10,000
Child Death Contribution	17,000
SUBTOTAL EXPENDITURE	86,770
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	200,578
UNCOMMITTED BALANCE 09/10	58,172
Planned spend 09/10	
Branding	5,500
University fees for quality assurance work	10,000

9 Conclusions

9.1 As can be seen from the information contained within the Annual Report this has been a year for consolidation for the LSCB in Hartlepool. Membership of the LSCB has been reviewed to ensure compliance with Working Together, with new members being welcomed on to Board.

9.2 LSCB members have contributed with commitment and enthusiasm to the formulation of the workplan for 2009 /10

and this has led to the sub group workplans having a clearer focus on the work to be undertaken in the coming year. The workplans for the LSCB and its sub groups are attached at the end of this report and there is little doubt that a busy year lies ahead for group members. All involved however recognise that this is a challenging agenda but that the safety and well being of the children and young people of Hartlepool remain a central focus for the continued work of the LSCB.

Workplan : Board Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review
<p>To produce and implement a communication strategy and action plan re development of:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Website 2. Public information 3. Branding 4. Newsletter 5. Induction pack for board 	That awareness of the work of the LSCB, by all services and sectors including the wider community is strengthened and enhanced.	<p>Communication Task & Finish Group</p> <p>Practice, Policy & Procedure</p>	<p>Progress report to the Board Sept 2009</p> <p>Work completed 31/3/10</p>	
To ensure the effective implementation of the recommendations from local and national Serious Case Reviews and monitor the impact and outcomes.	That lessons learned from serious case reviews improved safeguarding practice in Hartlepool	<p>SCR Implementation Group</p> <p>Executive Group</p>	<p>Establish Group: 01/07/09</p> <p>Report to Board by 31/03/10</p>	
To develop a risk management strategy for the LSCB	That identified risks are effectively managed by the LSCB	Practice, Policy & Procedure	Report to Board Jan '10	
To review the Terms of Reference of the Board taking into consideration governance, accountability and scrutiny between the Children's Trust and the LSCB	That there is a clear distinction of between the roles and responsibilities between the LSCB and Children's Trust to ensure appropriate challenge, scrutiny and impartiality.	Executive Group	Report to Board Nov '09	
To establish a quality assurance framework for the LSCB and implement a programme of regular audit to ensure scrutiny of multi agency practice	That the LSCB has in place a quality assurance framework and completes an annual audit programme of safeguarding activity. That the findings of the audits will be used to drive development and improvement in safeguarding practice.	Performance and Quality Assurance	Regular reporting of audit findings and programme completed by 31/3/10	

Workplan : Board Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review
To establish and implement a reporting mechanism to the LSCB from partner agencies about frontline services and the effectiveness of these in safeguarding children.	That the LSCB will receive reports from key agencies regarding the effectiveness of safeguarding practice and make recommendations on the findings of such reports.	Executive Group	All agencies to report by 31/3/10	
To implement the E Safety Strategy and action plan	Children and Young People in Hartlepool are actively encouraged and supported to enjoy the benefits of new technologies, whilst being provided with the guidance and skills to avoid risk and harm. Parents and carers are provided with the skills and knowledge in e-safety issues to protect their children, and Organisations will work together to support the e-safety strategy.	Strategic E Safety Task and Finish Group Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be reported by 31/3/10	
To review commitment of partners in the Children's Trust to promote improved practice by the consistent application of the information sharing protocol.	That all agencies share information in accordance with the protocol and information sharing is improved.	Practice, Policy & Procedures	To be completed by 31/3/10	
To formulate and implement a local policy and procedure with regard to children who are missing from home or care	That a multi agency policy and procedure is in place for responding to children missing from home or care. That the policy and procedure is implemented in Hartlepool and children who go missing are receive a consistent response and are effectively safeguarded	Task and Finish Group Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be completed by 31/10/09	

Workplan : Board Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review
To develop and implement a child trafficking strategy	That a strategy is in place and effectively implemented with regard to child trafficking	Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be completed by 31/09/09	
Collate a document library of all Hartlepool LSCB policies, strategies, procedures and practice guidance. Establish and implement a programme of review	That all strategies policies, procedures and practice guidance are accessible and up to date.	Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be completed by 31/07/09 To be completed by 31/03/10	
Production of a local procedure on forced marriage to support statutory guidance	That a local procedure is in place based on the statutory guidance for responding to forced marriages.	Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be completed by 31/12/09	
Ensure the availability of high quality multi-agency training in safeguarding and child protection for those who work with children and young people	Undertake a training needs analysis and compile a training strategy. Increase liaison with other sub groups to identify and deliver training needs resulting from work carried out in their sub group	Training Group	To be completed by 31/03/10	
Develop joint working arrangements for children affected by Domestic Abuse	Ensure procedures are produced and adopted. That all relevant agencies are aware of their responsibilities. Ensure robust reporting mechanisms are in place from the Domestic Abuse Forum and MARAC to the LSCB.	Practice, Policy & Procedure	To be completed by 31/03/10	

Workplan : Practice, Policy and Procedure Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
To produce and implement a communication strategy and action plan re the development of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Website Public information Branding Newsletter Induction pack for board 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established task and finish group Produce strategy and action plan Implement action plan 	Communi- cation Task and Finish Group PPP Group	Progress report to the Board Sept '09 Work completed 31/3/10	Communication group established. Draft strategy to be presented to August meeting. Preferred provider identified and contract in place. Branding options to be considered by the LSCB in July 09.	
To develop a risk management strategy for the work of the LSCB	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce a draft risk management strategy for the Board 	PPP Group	Draft strategy to Board Nov'09	Membership of task group identified at June meeting.	
To implement the E Safety Strategy and action plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy to be produced Draft strategy and action plan to be reviewed by LSCB Action plan to be developed to implement strategy 	Strategic E Safety Task Group PPP Group	May 2009 Sept 09 July - 09 March 10	Draft strategy completed. To come to LSCB meeting in September.	
To review commitment of partners in the Children's Trust to promote improved practice by the consistent application of the information sharing protocol.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To identify information sharing policies between partner agencies. To work with the Children's Trust to review and update information sharing protocols Identify examples of cases where information sharing is problematic and use these as learning tools to improve practice 	PPP Group	September 09 Sept - March 09	To be discussed at October meeting.	

Workplan : Practice, Policy and Procedure Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
To formulate and implement a local policy and procedure with regard to children who are missing from home or care	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish a Tees wide Task and Finish Group Complete needs and gap analysis Produce policy and procedure Policy and procedure implemented 	Task and Finish Group PPP Group	May 09 June – Sept 09 Oct 09 Jan 10	Group in place July '09	
To develop and implement a child trafficking strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strategy to be produced Strategy implemented 	PPP Group	July 09 Aug 09 onwards	Scoping work underway	
Collate a document library of all Hartlepool LSCB policies, strategies, procedures and practice guidance. Establish and implement a programme of review	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Create a list of all strategies, policies, procedures and practice guidance of LSCB Create a document library collating copies of all documents in one place Establish review programme Commence review programme 		May 09 June 09 June 09 July 09 – March 10	List of documents created Document library in place paper copies and electronically	
Production of a local procedure on forced marriage to support statutory guidance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review statutory guidance Produce local procedure to support guidance 		Sept 09 Nov 09		
Production of local procedures around domestic abuse Establish a robust reporting mechanism between both the Domestic Abuse Forum and MARAC to LSCB.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure supplementary procedures are adopted and relevant agencies are aware of their responsibilities. Report on current arrangements in relation to domestic abuse, purpose and remit of existing groups, what information is currently shared and how data is used and evaluate the impact of current services. 		Sept 09 Jan 10		

Workplan : Performance & Quality Assurance Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
<p>To establish a quality assurance framework for the LSCB and implement a programme of regular audit to ensure scrutiny of multi agency practice. Audits to be completed in respect of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re – registrations • Access criteria, thresholds and decision making • Discontinuation of child protection plans 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop and audit framework for the LSCB in partnership with the University of Teesside • Develop an audit tool against which to measure and evaluate practice and compliance • Agree the audit size and sample to be examined • Undertake audit and report findings to the Board: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Re-registrations • Review access criteria, thresholds and decision making • Discontinuation of Child Protection plans 	Performance and Quality Assurance	<p>June 09</p> <p>June 09</p> <p>June 09</p> <p>Sept '09 Jan '10</p> <p>Mar '10</p>		
Ensure the effectiveness of the implementation of the 2006 SCR findings	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review and analyse the action plans for the implementation of SCR recommendations in relation to MB and KF • Review and analyse the effectiveness of the action plan • Undertake an audit of compliance with the recommendations • Review and analyse the impact of the recommendations in practice 	Performance and Quality Assurance	Report to Board by 31/03/10		
Ensure the actions arising from the section 11 audit are implemented and embedded across all agencies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the findings of the section 11 audit and actions required to ensure compliance 	Performance and Quality Assurance	Report to Board July '09		

Workplan : Training & Development Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
Develop a LSCB Training Brochure for the 2009/10 training plan providing detailed course information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Produce and distribute paper versions as appropriate and publish an electronic version on the LSCB website. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup	To be completed by May 2009		
Compile a Hartlepool LSCB Training Strategy for 2009/10	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review the current procedures and practices taking into account new government guidance and legislation. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / LSCB Development Officer	To be finalised at T & D Subgroup 10th June 2009		
Process for automatically feeding training recommendations from serious case reviews into the Training Sub Group.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review of outcomes from Serious Case Reviews, Consultancy Report & input from LSCB Board. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Safeguarding Team	To be reviewed at each Training and Development Subgroup.		
Develop an appropriate Safeguarding and Child Protection training programme for schools.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Proposal to be presented to Designated Officers and Head Teachers. 	LSCB Training and Development Subgroup	September 2009		
Develop a process for ensuring appropriate staff access courses, i.e. minimum places allocated for health, social care, police, voluntary sector, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consider an appropriate split of places on each proposed 2009/10 training course at Sub Group meeting. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup	10th June 2009		

Workplan : Training & Development Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
<p>Ensure single agency training is implemented and effective and of a quality to meet the Hartlepool LSCB's requirements.</p> <p>Identify single agency training programmes of all agencies to compare course content and ensure no duplication of courses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewing Stockton's LSCB Quality Assurance Tool and adapt to suit Hartlepool LSCB. • Consultation with LSCB member agencies. • Gather information on current single agency training programmes and collate information. • Analyse collated information to establish way forward. • Where possible combine training and deliver on an inter-agency basis. • Consultation with LSCB member agencies. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup.	<p>July 2009</p> <p>To commence June 2009</p>		
Develop a quality assurance process for all training providers and content.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to commissioning, to compare a minimum of three trainers where possible in terms of cost, experience, qualifications, quality and proposed course content. • Benchmark training content against national standards where possible. 	<p>LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup</p> <p>LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup</p>	<p>April 2009</p> <p>To commence July 2009</p>		
Evaluate the effectiveness of training, including managers' evaluation toolkit.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establish evaluation monitoring spreadsheet for analysis. • Develop a procedure for the distribution and collating of Impact Evaluations. • Distribution Impact Evaluations. • Record and report impact evaluation results. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup	Commencing April 2009		

Workplan : Training & Development Priorities

Priorities	Outcome	Who	Timescale	Review	RAG Rating
Consider options for E-learning Safeguarding and Child Protection Training.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review priorities to commission e-learning in 2009/10 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup	Review October 2009		
To explore joint inter-agency training across Tees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Representation at Tees Safeguarding Meetings 	LSCB Training Coordinator / LSCB Development Officer	Commencing April 2009		
Identify the course requirements and volumes for the 2010/11 training plan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake a training needs analysis. Consult with Safeguarding Team and Organisational Managers. Consider training recommendations from Analysis of Serious Case Reviews 2001 – 2007 Report and Taking Action: Ofsted's Evaluations of Serious Case Reviews 1st April 2007 to 31st March 2008. Establish expected costs and request funding from Hartlepool LSCB for Inter-agency Training Programme 2009/10. Consultation with LSCB member agencies. 	LSCB Training Coordinator / Training and Development Subgroup	Completed by December 2009		
Access to multi agency training for schools	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To look at the way single agency / role specific child protection training can be delivered on a multi agency basis for both teaching, non teaching staff and volunteers in Hartlepool schools. To scope what training is required by the designated teachers and how this can be delivered 	LSCB Training Coordinator / LSCB Development Officer	To be completed 31 March 2010		

Notes



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