

**Minutes**  
**Meeting Title:** Leicester Safeguarding Children Board Meeting  
**Date:** 29<sup>th</sup> September, 2017  
**Venue:** Room G.02, City Hall, Charles Street, Leicester

**Present:**

The Chair – Independent Chair of the LSCB	
AT – Lay Member	ASp - Consultant/Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Children and Adults, CCG
AEJ - Acting Designated Doctor, CCG	BC – LSCB Manager
CT - Director of Social Care and Early Help	CS - City Primary Heads
CB – Performance Information and QA Advisor	CW - Director of Nursing and Quality
FC – Strategic Director, Children’s Services, LCC	JB – Head of Safeguarding and Professional Standards, LCC
KM – Service Manager, CSC and Early Help, LCC	LB – EMAS
NB - Service Manager, LCC	NT - Children’s Service Manager, Barnardo’s CareFree Young Carers Service
PP – Legal Advisor, LCC	RH – Public Health Consultant
SR - Lead Member, LCC	SCh – Lay Member
SH - Director of Clinical Quality, UHL	SC - Head of Serious Crime, Leicestershire Police
SG - Head of Service, Children’s Safeguarding , LCC	

**Apologies:**

HB – Assistant Director in A4/A5/A10, CAFCASS	SI – Deputy Principal, Leicester College
SA - Vice Principal, Wyggeston QE College	VP – Head of Professional Practice and Education, LPT
WB - Executive Manager - Children, Young People & Families, VAL	

**Minutes:** OR, Admin and Business Support Officer

<b>1.</b>	<b>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies.</b>
1.1	The Chair welcomed attendees and noted the above apologies. ASP confirmed that he will provide feedback to VP, who was unable to attend this meeting.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Matters arising from the minutes of the Board meeting on 06/07/2017</b>
2.1	<p>The Chair discussed the minutes and actions of the Board meeting that took place on 06/07/2017.</p> <p>In regards to AP04/17 (<i>Highlight report and outcomes from audits to be shared with the Health Network.</i>), ASP confirmed that he will have a statement to feedback at the Board meeting in November.</p> <p>FC noted the importance of the Board seeing Improvement Plans from all partners. SC confirmed that the Leicestershire Police Improvement Plan has not yet been published and it will be presented at the next Board meeting in November. <b>AP19/17</b></p> <p>SR suggested that an item around Improvement Plans is added as a standing item to the Board agenda. The Chair and the group agreed to this proposal. <b>AP20/17</b></p> <p>In regards to AP15/17 (<i>JM to write to Police Constable to request a copy of the Improvement Plan and update on progress to date following the HMIC Child Protection Inspection</i>), The Chair confirmed that she has a meeting with MD, Detective Chief Inspector Safeguarding Children, on 30<sup>th</sup> November for an update, however in light of previous discussions, this may no longer be necessary as we have asked SC to present the improvement plan to the Board.</p> <p>The Action Log has been updated accordingly.</p>
<b>3.</b>	<p><b>Chair's Update</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Leicester Education Leaders</b></li> <li>• <b>Government Consultation on revision of Working Together 2017</b></li> </ul> <p><i>JM</i></p>
3.1	The Chair discussed the Leicester Education Leaders meeting where she had been a guest speaker and had highlighted what children say works for them and the need to get better at hearing and seeing things that are not immediately obvious. The concept of what early help means for schools and stated that it needs to be everybody's business at the school and not just Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) was also discussed. The significance

	of obtaining the views of those who would not be the experts regarding safeguarding was raised and the importance of unpicking the issues and not the mechanics was raised.
3.2	The Chair confirmed that her update will take place in afternoon development session.
<b>4.</b>	<b>Ofsted re-inspection and transition arrangements from LCCIB</b> <i>FC</i>
4.1	<p>FC provided the group an update regarding the recent Ofsted Inspection and emphasised that a partnership response is required. FC informed the group of the very ambitious programme for improvement, which has effectively had 6 months' worth of progress within a 3 month period. A lot of challenge from LSCB and Improvement Board was noted, as were the very focussed and targeted improvements over the last two years. FC confirmed that the report reflects the exceptional progress around performance management and governance.</p> <p>In terms of themes, it was noted that the voice of the child was much improved and that staff have a real focus on children; with robust, challenging discussions around how to make things better for children. It was also stated that dialogue and discussions are much improved with schools. Improved supervision, management oversight, and the one phone number for Early Help all contributed to making a difference. Service for children was noted to have improved significantly since the last inspection, while consistency of work is the biggest challenge.</p> <p>It was confirmed that the overall judgement was 'requires improvement', however it is significant and positive that 'good' was given for leadership, management and governance as well as adoption performance. The inspectors are comfortable to go away for two years and be confident that improvements will continue.</p> <p>A focus on disabled children and private fostering require work from the LCC, LSCB and partners. It was noted that outcomes were not great for Looked After Children (LAC), however offering more apprenticeships for care leavers is a step in the right direction. AT informed the group of the Care Leavers Programme based on De Montfort Street, Leicester.</p> <p>In terms of next steps, there will no longer be an Improvement Board. In terms of monitoring performance, an Improvement Plan is to be submitted at beginning of December. FC suggested that Improvement plans need to be monitored and challenged at the Board to ensure they are meaningful and affect change. The Chair noted that although the LSCB is in a much more positive place, there is still much to do and complacency cannot become an issue.</p>

	<p>CW noted that good leadership and governance offer a very strong foundation and the LSCB is in the right place to move to the next stage. SC raised that the process must two way and not just a perspective of partners helping the local authority to improve. The Board also needs to help partners as they go on their own improvement journeys.</p> <p>The Chair confirmed that further discussions around this will take place in the afternoon Development Session.</p>
<p><b>5.</b></p>	<p><b>Executive Chairs Group Highlight Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PAAG Highlight Report (CB)</li> <li>• LSCB Risk Register</li> </ul>
<p>5.1</p>	<p>The Chair noted that the quality of reports are significantly improved and give a good overview of the work actually undertaken.</p> <p>CB presented the PAAG Highlight Report and confirmed that work is being conducted with the County Safeguarding Effectiveness Group (SEG). Steps are being made to refine data to meet the city priorities. Endeavours are also being made to follow the child through the process, which effects all agencies. It was noted that the system is working, but there is a high demand. LPT have been asked to attend the forthcoming meeting to discuss self-harm.</p> <p>The Chair raised issues around attendance and ensuring the right people at the right meetings, with review conferences tending to be a problem. SC noted that attendance should be prioritised in respect of the child and the family. The group discussed the possibilities of virtual conferences and it was noted that discussions are on-going around this. ASP stated that GPs will contribute to conferences if they are able to do virtually, as they want to be involved, but there are time and availability issues.</p> <p>In regards to the number of police contacts/referrals being high, SC stated that he is proud of this as it shows that they are identifying risks. It is seen as very positive and a requirement by HMIC, but the demand it may cause is appreciated. SG noted that it is a difficulty and the group discussed the possibility of low level concerns from Police or CSC going directly to DSLs. SC raised the difficulty of knowing if a lower level concern is not within a higher level concern with CSC. It was confirmed that discussions are on-going around the logistics of the process.</p> <p>The Chair stated that wider discussions are required around domestic abuse and the process needs to be looked at as a whole, not just the initial response.</p> <p>CB confirmed that the PAAG is continually refining information and the figures now reflect a much more accurate picture. It was noted that fixed term exclusions of LAC previously had nationwide figures not just Leicester city. AM noted that the data is difficult to come by and schools are not obliged to provide the information. FC informed the group that a managing body is now in place for the Virtual School and steps are being made to look at</p>

	<p>ways to confirm data. SR raised that the Annual Report from the Virtual School could be circulated to partners which would be one of several ways for the LSCB to have assurance for this. AM confirmed that she is happy for the Virtual School Annual Report to come to the LSCB.</p> <p>CW informed the group of the Crisis In Home Treatment Service, in which children who have presented to Emergency Department (ED), with evidence of self-harming, get a follow up within a week. AEJ noted that only children that present to the ED will be within this process, and the majority of children who do self-harm do not attend the ED. CS stated with children being seen within seven days, it is a much quicker route. The normal process is lengthy if going to a GP and being referred to CAMHS and takes up to three months. CW stated that there are other options out there and she will take this away for further discussions.</p> <p>SC commented about MARAC and UAVA being noted in the Police section of the Highlight Report. It was noted that MARAC is multi-agency whilst UAVA is LCC. This will be updated for accuracy within the Report. <b>AP21/17</b> It was formally agreed that CB will continue to chair the PAAG until March 2018 and funding from Board will be required.</p> <p>The Chair advised that CB will continue chairing PAAG until end of March 2018 unless another partner agrees to take on this responsibility. This will require resourcing as the LSCB will now be responsible for the costs within this following transfer of responsibilities from the LCCIB.</p> <p>The group were informed that the Chair and SW, Chair of the Leicestershire SCB, are having discussions around combining the PAAG and SEG.</p>
5.2	<p>BC presented the LSCB Risk Register and confirmed that no changes have been required with no new risks being identified and everything being managed within register. Partners were reminded to bring any risk that they identify or recognise to the Executive Chairs Group (ECG).</p> <p>SR noted that the transformation around Early Help was on the register and there are other areas of risk around budgets and restructure in other agencies, that may also need to be considered.</p> <p>SC discussed Item no.3 on the register (regarding CSE) and noted he does not feel that it is a risk anymore and was advised that the LSCB is awaiting a report from the CSE Executive Group in November 2017 before this can be removed from the register.</p>
5.3	<p>The Chair offered the opportunity to the group to comment on the Executive Report.</p> <p>It was noted that there could be budget pressures as detailed in the budget report at item 7 and items around the review of the LLR training delivery will be reported at the next LLR Joint Executive Group for further discussion and decision.</p>

	<p>CW stated that a scarcity of quality Overview Report authors is a risk across the partnership and there is a lack of consistency in approach and quality of reports. The SIRG proposal to ECG seeks to address this and is currently being scoped. This will be added to the LSCB Risk Register for next ECG meeting. <b>AP22/17</b></p>
<b>6.</b>	<p><b>CDOP Annual Report</b> <i>Rob Howard</i></p>
6.1	<p>RH presented the CDOP Annual Report analysis providing a narrative that considered and amalgamated six years of CDOP activity.</p> <p>The group raised queries around the how Leicester city compares nationally in regards to suicide rates; what the particular factors are within the travelling communities; and whether within the ethnicity breakdown there is an age breakdown or age range. RH will provide further information covering the above queries to the group. <b>AP23/17</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<p><b>LSCB Budget 2018/19</b> <i>SG/BC</i></p>
7.1	<p>BC presented the budget report to the group and set out the likely budget position if all agreed partner budget contributions are not realised and expenditure is not reduced. There are also additional costs not previously profiled such as PAAG charring arrangements and training for SCR Panel members and report authors. This could result in an over spend if not addressed. It was confirmed that a budget meeting will take place on 06/10/2017 led by FC.</p> <p>It was stated that a re-profile to a full committal and income based budget has been undertaken for next year's budget proposal to ensure it reflects the full projected costs including year on year salary increments, cost of living and apprentice levy increases. FC agreed that the budget holds challenges for partners and noted that development of further Leicestershire and Rutland arrangements also need to be factored in.</p>
<b>8.</b>	<p><b>Business Plan Refresh 2016/18</b> <i>JM/BC</i></p>
8.1	<p>BC stated that partners are to be aware of where priorities have been set.</p> <p>SR raised Action Number 1.6, regarding LAC, and that LAC Annual Report, Annual Report of Adoption and Annual Report on Care Leavers will need to be removed as they no longer exist and are reported through the Corporate Parenting Board.</p>

	<p>The Chair confirmed that the Business Plan is held within the ECG and will be re-visited at the ECG meeting on 1/11/2017, with amends being made. <b>AP24/17</b></p>
<b>9.</b>	<p><b>LSCB Annual Report</b> <i>JM/BC</i></p>
9.1	<p>The Chair informed the group that the LSCB Annual Report was discussed at the ECG and partners need to take the Annual Report through their own internal governance processes. The Chair requested that the report is formally signed off.</p> <p>SR confirmed that she is comfortable for the report to be signed off and that the report reads very well and is very accessible. However, she felt that the safeguarding effectiveness section reads as if it is an analysis of the Leicester City Council (LCC) safeguarding performance with highlights of partners' contributions rather than an integrated narrative of how the partnership had contributed to the safeguarding system.</p> <p>SC agreed with this perspective and noted the challenges of properly representing this. SC asked that the information regarding the Police Inspections on pages 39/40 be reviewed to ensure it appropriately represented their inspection outcomes. The Chair noted the difficulties in getting agency contributions, feedback and comments from Board members and that many opportunities to comment were presented. The group agreed that with minor amendments they are group happy to formally sign off the Annual report. Any final minor amends are to be notified to the Business Office by Wednesday 04.10.17. <b>AP25/17</b></p> <p>Going forwards arrangements will need to be made to ensure that the next report reflects the partnership contribution to the safeguarding system and is not focussed on LCC. <b>AP26/17</b></p>
<b>10.</b>	<p><b>Feedback from other Strategic Partnerships and Partners</b> - <i>Opportunity for partners to highlight anything that the Board needs to know about their own agency (inspections, new emerging themes, risk that might impact on delivery of safeguarding services)</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corporate Parenting Board</li> </ul> <p><i>JM</i></p>
10.1	<p>SC informed the group that their Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) Child Protection Inspection took place in October 2016 and they are due to have a review and pre-meet with the Inspectors next month.</p>

	<p>It was noted that neither Leicester nor Leicestershire have had a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) and the current theme is neglect until December 2017. A Special Educational Needs (SEN) Inspection is expected in the near future. SC also requested that the term domestic violence be changed to domestic abuse in any documents to reflect the current statutory definition. <b>AP27/17</b></p> <p>LB informed the group that EMAS have entered into a new performance monitoring system around ambulance response time. It was noted to be a very simple system and effectively looks to get to the most urgent calls more quickly. This was stated to be a big, very exciting change to the ambulance service, ensuring that the critically ill receive the fastest response. LB noted that there are an animated selection of films regarding when to call ambulance which will be provided to Board members. <b>AP28/17</b></p> <p>CW noted NSPCC concerns raised around young children effected by CSE and will provide an update. <b>AP29/17</b></p> <p>BC informed the group of SA's resignation from the LSCB and of WB's resignation from Voluntary Action Leicestershire (VAL) and therefore also from the LSCB. The Chair offered her thanks to both on behalf of the LSCB for their contribution to the work of the LSCB.</p> <p>CW and the group congratulated ASP in regards to his secondment with NHS England for 2 days per week.</p>
<b>11.</b>	<b>Meeting Close</b>
11.1	<p><b>Next Meeting:</b> Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November 2017, 9.30am-12:30pm Room G.02, Ground Floor, City Hall</p>