



Leicester
Safeguarding
Children Board

Annual Report 2017/18



Report Author: Beverley Czyz, LSCB Manager

C contents

	Page Number
Foreword by Independent Chair	02
1. The Board	03
<i>a.</i> Key Roles and Relationships	03
<i>b.</i> LSCB Structure 2017-2018	05
<i>c.</i> Board Membership and Attendance	06
<i>d.</i> What our Lay Members say	07
2. What does Leicester look like	08
<i>a.</i> Leicester's demographics	08
<i>b.</i> Leicester's safeguarding 'Snapshot'	09
3. Priority 1 – Safeguarding Effectiveness	11
<i>a.</i> Children in Specific Circumstances	12
<i>i.</i> Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficked and Missing	12
<i>ii.</i> Children with Disabilities	13
<i>iii.</i> Domestic Abuse and Violence	14
<i>iv.</i> Emotional Wellbeing Health and Mental Health	18
<i>b.</i> Allegations against people who work with children	23
4. Priority 2 – Early Help	29
5. Priority 3 – How do we Learn and Improve?	31
6. Priority 4 – Governance and Assurance	40
7. LLR Training and Development	52
8. LSCB Priorities 2018 and Beyond...	56
Appendix 1 – LSCB Membership List 2017/18	58
Appendix 2 - Financial and Staffing Arrangements	59
Back Page – Further Information LSCB	60

Foreword by the Independent Chair

**Jenny Myers MA CQSW ASW
Independent Chair Leicester City LSCB**



Welcome to the 2017/18 annual report of the Leicester Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). As part of statutory duties set out in Working Together 2015, the LSCB is required to produce an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The LSCB annual report from 1 April 2017 to 31 March 2018 sets out to provide readers with a transparent assessment of the effectiveness of the multi-agency response to keeping children safe and to promote their welfare across the city of Leicester against the priorities set within the LSCB Business Plan for 2016-2018. Our key priorities during 2017/18 were as follows:

LSCB Strategic Priority - 1

The LSCB is to be assured that there is evidence to consistently demonstrate that children and young people are effectively safeguarded.

LSCB Strategic Priority - 2

To be assured that 'Early Help' services are accessed and delivered effectively and thresholds are understood and consistently applied.

LSCB Strategic Priority - 3

LSCB is to be assured that there is a culture of continuous system of single and multi-agency learning and improvement.

LSCB Strategic Priority - 4

LSCB is to continue to improve its governance, performance and quality assurance process and to be assured of the effectiveness of the LSCB.

This report therefore considers how well the Local Safeguarding Children Board delivered against these priorities throughout 2017/18. I am pleased to say that this annual report demonstrates that significant progress has been made in the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements. The assurance work of the LSCB this year has been thematic and ensured that we took a deeper dive into the key issues we wanted to know more about. I have been struck by the continued passion and commitment of staff across the partnership to try and work together to keep children safe, without this approach in such times of austerity, financial constraints and workforce capacity it would be impossible to make progress.

There is evidence that for children living in Leicester their lives are getting harder, the impact of poverty, poor housing, and neglect alongside other stresses is having an impact on their emotional health and well-being as we heard when the young advisors planned and facilitated the making Minds Matter conference last November 2017 (see page 36). The rise in young people waiting for CAMHS (Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services) has increased again and unless we are able to support their emotional health and well-being earlier then this will not reduce quickly. There has been significant progress made in the one front door approach and the Early Help support (see page 28) but we still need to do more to get a broader range of practitioners taking on the lead professional role.

This report presents a summary of the key achievements, challenges and reflections on the work of the Safeguarding Board and wider partnership and ends with a summary of those challenges that we will be working to over the next year.

1 *The Board*

The LSCB comprises of several local organisations and agencies that work in diverse ways with children and their families. Board members are either senior representatives or the most relevant representatives of these organisations and agencies.

The LSCB is the key statutory partnership with the responsibility for overseeing the multi-agency response to children's safeguarding arrangements in the local area and during 2017/18 was governed by the statutory guidance in Working Together 2015 and the Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006. The role of the LSCB is to co-ordinate the activity of all agencies in the City aiming to keep children safe in Leicester and monitoring and evaluating how effective multi-agency safeguarding is.

K *ey Roles and Relationships*

LSCB Independent Chair

The Independent Chair remains accountable to the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Leicester City Council, acting on behalf of and in consultation with the statutory partners. Over the last year the Chair has held regular meetings with the COO, the Strategic Director of Children's Services, and other senior officers from member agencies.

The Independent Chair is a member of the Children Trust and was an active member of LCC Improvement Board (LCCIB), which ended in June 2017, contributing to the support and challenge that assisted the local authority in their improvement journey and the recognition by Ofsted in improvement plan following their Ofsted inspection in 2015. The LSCB Chair has had regular consultation with the Chair of the LCCIB. The LCCIB received regular reports on the progress of the multiagency response to keeping children safe from the LSCB.

LSCB Membership

The partner agencies represented on the LSCB are from a range of statutory and non-statutory organisations. They include City Council representatives from relevant departments, Police, Clinical Commissioning Group (NHS), Leicestershire Partnership Trust (NHS), University Hospitals Leicester (NHS), National Probation Service, Community Rehabilitation Company, CAF/CASS, voluntary and community sector representatives, schools and colleges and two statutory Lay Member. **(See Appendix 1).**

The LSCB also benefits from the attendance of a proactive Lead Member for Children's Services who, as a participating observer of the LSCB, routinely attends meetings and receives all written reports and presentation. They engage and bring challenge to discussions but are not part of the decision-making process in order to provide them with the necessary independence to challenge the LSCB members on matters of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The LSCB continued to have a senior strategic membership in 2017-18 with new members retaining a high level of seniority and adding additional value to co-ordinated partnership working. All partner agencies are committed to ensuring the effective operation of the LSCB. The Board is supported by a refreshed and robust constitution that defines the statutory obligations which can be found at <http://www.lcitylscb.org/about-the-lscb/lscb-constitution/>

Lay Members

The LSCB has two Lay Members who are full members of the LSCB, participating in Board meetings, and have a role in serving on relevant sub-groups and contributing to the links between the LSCB and community groups as well as supporting stronger public engagement.

LSCB Business Office

The LSCB is supported by a dedicated group of staff that ensure the smooth running of the Board's day-to-day business. The team includes an LSCB Manager; a Project Development Officer (Training) whose role includes training coordination across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland; a Policy Officer and 1.5 FTE Admin and Business Support Officers.

Joint Working Arrangements

It is recognised that much of the work of both the Leicester Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) and the Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Children Board (LRLSCB) is a shared agenda which features common areas of priority and work across several agencies across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) including many that operate in the geographical areas of both Boards. Therefore, there are a range of joint arrangements and subgroups managed through the LLR Joint Executive Group. This group meets every quarter to ensure effective governance, scrutiny, assurance and challenge across the shared LLR agenda and activities.

The Leicester City and the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCBs (LLR) continue to work closely on policy, procedures, training and development and other work that affect services and practice across the three authorities and the children's workforce. The LLR LSCB partnership is responsible for maintaining and developing the multi-agency safeguarding procedures, as well as agreeing and delivering the training strategy and a shared multi-agency audit programme through the LLR Joint Executive Group.

Relationship with Other Partnerships

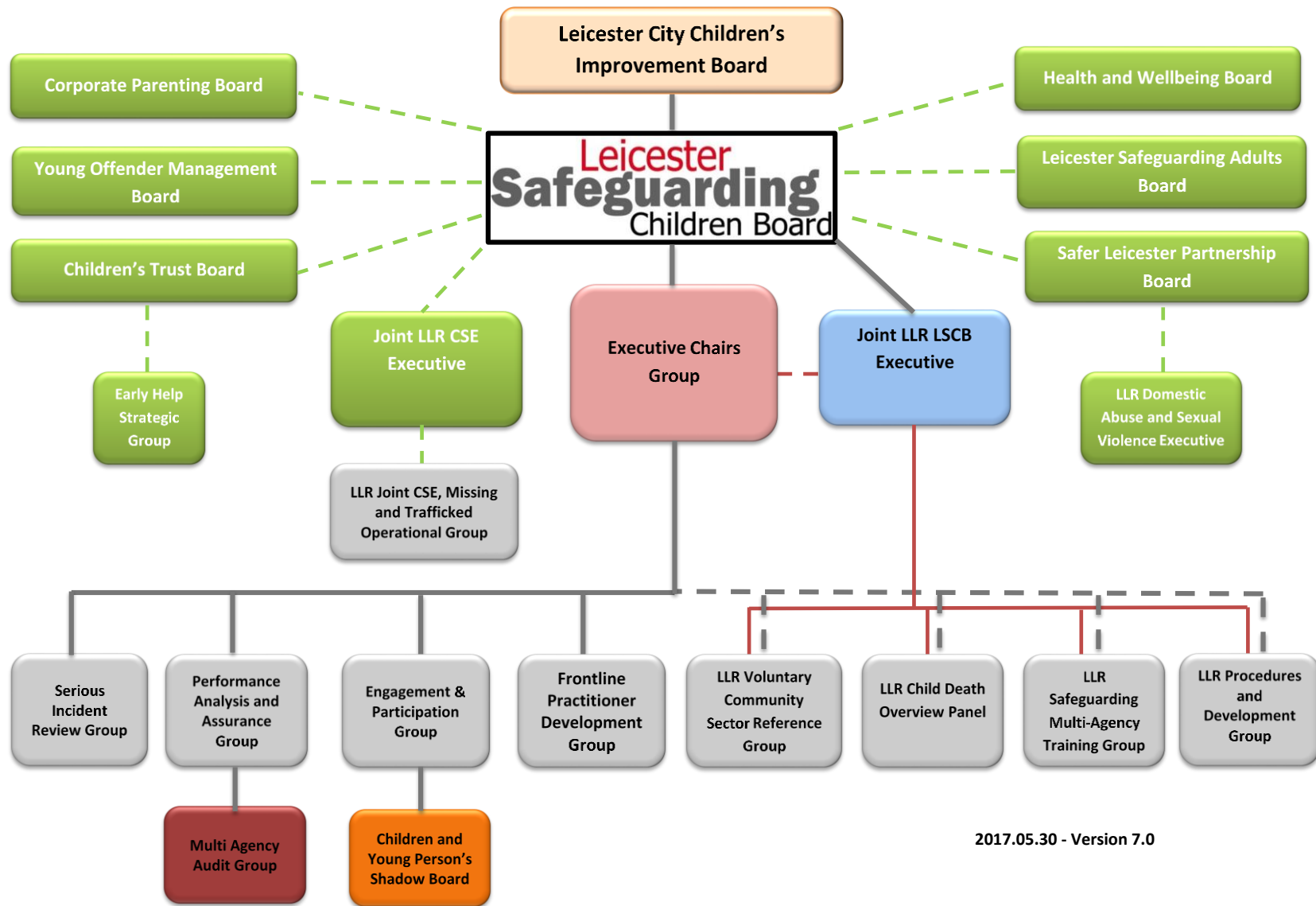
The LSCB has continued to strengthen working arrangements with other strategic partnerships in Leicester that have a significant role in keeping safe vulnerable children, young people and adults. In addition, the LSCB works closely with Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB as well as the Leicester City Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB) and this year has aligned much of the work and reporting processes to reduce duplication.

Closer joint working on performance monitoring, assurance and communications has also been developed through regular meetings of the Business Managers across Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB and Leicester City SAB where joint initiatives are proposed and developed for consideration by the two adult and children LLR Joint Executive Group and for agreement by the respective strategic board.

There remains links and formal protocols with the following partnership structures in Leicester:

- ✓ **Children's Trust Board**
- ✓ **Corporate Parenting Board**
- ✓ **Family Justice Board**
- ✓ **Health and Wellbeing Board**
- ✓ **Safeguarding Adults Board**
- ✓ **Safer Leicester Partnership**
- ✓ **Young Offender Management Board**

The structure chart on the following page illustrates the LSCBs relationship with other Strategic Partnership Boards in Leicester.



2017.05.30 - Version 7.0

NB: The Leicester City Children's Improvement Board ended in June 2017 as it had achieved its terms of reference and action plan

Board Member Attendance

The LSCB met seven times over the course of 2017-2018, this included a business development session and two meetings to receive learning review reports. The Board experienced good attendance from most organisations during 2017/18 with the Independent Chair challenging any poor attendance. The LSCB has a membership made up of representatives from all statutory partners and others concerned with safeguarding children. below. The 🧑 icon in the table below represents the number of seats per statutory member organisation on the LSCB Strategic Board.

Non-agency	Independent Chair 🧑
	Lay Members 🧑 🧑
Criminal Justice	Derby Nottingham Leicester & Rutland (DNLN) National Probation Service 🧑
	Leicestershire Police 🧑
	RRP DNLN - Community Rehabilitation Companies 🧑
Education	Leicester Primary School 🧑
	Leicester Secondary School
	Leicester Further Education College 🧑 🧑
Family Justice	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service 🧑
Health	Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group 🧑 🧑
	Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust 🧑
	University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust 🧑
Local Authority	Lead Member 🧑
	Leicester City Council Adult Services 🧑
	Leicester City Council Children's Services 🧑 🧑 🧑
	Leicester Public Health 🧑
	Youth Offending Service 🧑
PVI Sector	Voluntary Community Sector 🧑

A list of current Board Members is set out at Appendix A. The LSCB constitution sets the expectations around membership and attendance. This can be found on the LSCB website at: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/about-the-lscb/lscb-constitution/> The Independent Chair, Lay Members and the Lead Member do not have nominated deputies and attend meetings in their own right.



What our Lay Members say

During 2017/18 the Lay Members explored how their regular engagement in the community can ensure that they are more connected to the work of the Board, both bringing information from the community to the LSCB and providing updates back to the community. In 2017/18 the Lay Members provided updates to the LSCB to ensure their work is accurately reported and reflects their contribution to meeting the LSCB objectives and priorities.

They also met with and worked with the LSCB Business Manager on reviewing and revising some key LSCB documents and contributed to the development of the LSCB priorities for 2018/19 bringing forward items of concern in communities such as the impact of poverty and lack of recourse to public funds.

Both Lay Members have been engaged in a variety of different forums and have offered a unique perspective to the Board. They have contributed to the work of two LSCB Sub Groups, the Participation and Engagement Group (which provides the interface between the LSCB and children and young people) and the Frontline Practitioners Group (which provides the interface between the LSCB and practitioners). The Board is grateful for their contribution in making links between the LSCB and community groups, supporting stronger public engagement in local child safety issues and an improved public understanding of the LSCB's child protection work

Please see below what our Lay Members say themselves about their work with LSCB.

I am one of two local community Lay Members to the Leicester City LSCB. I am a staunch advocate for improving the lives and educational attainment of Looked After Children and Young People, which is a major area of need in safeguarding.

Having a fit for purpose LSCB is essential for the protection and wellbeing of so many vulnerable children and young people in our society. As well as attending board I've been a member of Participation and Engagement Group where we have received regular presentation regarding how individual agencies hear children and young people which is vitally important. I know this as I am a Care Leaver myself. This is one of the reasons why I wanted to become a member of the board, but also to give back to my local community which needs many improvements to make sure services are safeguarding ALL the children of Leicester City to the best of their abilities.

As Lay Member I have shared information regarding the Young Advisers Safeguarding Summit 'Making Minds Matter' and from the LSCB Spotlight on Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing.

This challenge and scrutiny work culminated in board partners reported their safeguarding practices over three days, to a small panel for a Section 11 Peer Challenge Meeting, which I sat on for the second day, alongside our chair and one other board partner. We heard the different safeguarding policies that partners have in place against the 9 required standards. It was really positive to hear much good practice being displayed and to also make some suggestions for improvements.

2 What does the City of Leicester look like?

“Leicester has a young population and the city is seeing major increases in the number of children and young people living here.” JSNA 2017

We are a unitary authority and have had an elected mayor since 2011. With a population of more than **300,000**, Leicester is the **largest city** in the East Midlands and the **tenth largest in the country**. The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment shows the city is seeing major increases in the number of children and young people living here. The city is home to **130,726** children and young people aged up to 24 years, an increase of 12.5% since 2015, which is more than double the increase seen in England. This growth includes a big increase in the number of young **children aged 0-4 years** which rose by nearly **25%** from 20,726 in 2005 to **25,884** in 2015.

There are around **5,100** births in Leicester each year, and the city’s birth rate is **higher** than for England. Although infant mortality rates are not significantly different from the England average, this varies across the city and rates are **highest in the most deprived parts of Leicester**. Although the birth rate is stabilising, forecasts show that by 2025, the population of young people aged 0-24 will increase by a further **138,100 (an increase of 7.4% from 2014)**.

Deprivation has an important impact on children’s lives both in the short and long-term and there is a clear link between how long people live, how good their health is and deprivation. Leicester is ranked **21st out of 326 local authorities in England** and **41%** of Leicester’s children’s population **aged 0-15 years** live within the **20%** most deprived areas nationally. Continuing to tackle child poverty, improve educational attainment, boost jobs and the local economy will be crucial to improving the health of this generation’s children. Leicester also has a **higher proportion of children aged 5-9** years old compared to the rest of England.

Like other cities with a similar socio-economic profile, Leicester faces significant challenges in effectively protecting children who experience neglect, family breakdown or crisis. Child sexual exploitation and female genital mutilation are also key priorities locally understanding the extent of these issues in the city as well as continuing to embed effective identification and management across agencies will be important to support a particularly vulnerable group of children. In the most recent 2011 Census Leicester had:



- A population of **329,900 (an increase of 16.7% since 2001)**
- An aged **19 and under** population of **92,783** which by 2039 is forecast to grow to **106,000**
- **24,500** (7.4%) of the population are children aged **under 5**, an **increase of 5,200** (27%) since 2001.

Leicester's Safeguarding Snapshot 2017/2018 – Between 01 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.

- **Contacts to Duty and Assessment Service (DAS)** –11357 contacts were recorded
- **Referrals and re-referrals** – there were 3580 recorded referrals with 565 (16%) were re-referrals. Showing that referrals are essentially stable and lower for re-referrals
- **Statutory social work assessments completed by CIN** –3875 single assessments were completed across children's services. Showing that more assessments were completed.
- **33 days – average timeliness of assessments** –85.1% of single assessments were completed within 45 working days, with an average of 33 days. Showing that the time taken to complete assessments decreased, with a lower average competition time with an increase in the % of assessments completed within 45 days.
- **Open Child in Need (CiN) cases** – 2585 as of 31st March 2018. This has decreased from the previous year with more cases remaining in Early Help.
- **No. of child protection investigations** – 1903 Section 47 investigations were undertaken. 575 (30%) had an ICPC outcome. This decreased with fewer S47 investigation undertaken but more had an Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) as an outcome. Indicating that the right cases were being taken forward for investigation.
- **Children on a Child Protection Plan (CPP) and LAC** – 619 recorded as CPP and 687 as LAC as of 31st March 18. Showing a decrease in Children subject to a Child Protection Plan down and an increase in Children Looked After.



- **Number of children and young people identified as being at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)** – 54 open CSE episodes at 31st March 18.
- **Children with a Disability (CWD) cases** – 56 social work cases were held by the Disabled Children’s Service as of 31st March 18. *This is a benchmark figure as information not previously available in this way.*
- **Private fostering numbers** – 6 as of 31st March 2018. This is stable as there were 9 children in private fostering arrangement at the end of the previous year.
- **Incidents of children and young people going missing from care** – 94 looked after children were recorded as missing on 878 occasions between 01 April 2017 and 31 March 2018.
- **Incidents of children and young people missing from home** – 610 missing episodes were recorded for 278 children who were not Looked After Children.

As well as the Children’s Social Care dataset the LSCB receives data from a wide range of partners across a range of safeguarding subjects.

The Full LSCB Performance Scorecard and Highlight Assurance Report Template can be found on the LSCB website <http://www.lcitylscb.org/about-the-lscb/>



3 LSCB Strategic Priority – 1

Safeguarding Effectiveness

The LSCB is to be assured that there is evidence to consistently demonstrate that children and young people are effectively safeguarded.

Performance, Assurance and Audit Group (PAAG) is the lead multi-agency group for ensuring that Priority 1 of the LSCB is met. During 2017/2018 PAAG has met on a quarterly basis to review and report on monitoring data, outcomes of audits and reviews and assurance responses from individual agencies. The dashboard has been further refined and now follows the journey of the child utilising performance data from all key agencies alongside commentary and explanation for any significant variations on previous returns.

All data returns by agencies that work across the whole of Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) have been aligned with those of Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB. This has led to an improvement in both the submission of data from partner agencies and the quality of the commentary and analysis both by individual agencies and at PAAG meetings. The Chair of PAAG reports on the key issues identified by PAAG to both the Executive Chairs Group and the LSCB on a regular basis.

During 2017/18 PAAG has highlighted a range of issues to the LSCB and member agencies including:

- **Increasing referrals** and pressure on all agencies throughout the year leading to increasing numbers of Section 47 enquiries, Strategy Meetings and Initial Child Protection Conferences and significant increases in the numbers of children subject to a Child protection plan while the numbers of children being looked after remained high. (The numbers of children subject to a Child Protection Plan rose from **408** at the end of March 2017 to **619** at the end of March 2018 – a **51% increase**. During the same period the numbers of children looked after rose from **659 to 687** – a **4% increase**).
- It has been established that **thresholds continue to be applied correctly** and there has not been any significant variation in individual or partnership agency practice that can explain the reasons for such an increase. It has been agreed that the LSCB will explore and seek to evidence whether austerity measures, increased poverty and deprivation have impacted on families and caused an increase in demand for safeguarding services.
- Identification of **variations across partner agencies in attendance and contribution** at key child protection meetings and the range of contributory factors leading to work within and between agencies to facilitate contributions, refine systems, understand priorities and improve practice.
- Identification of **high levels of self-harm** amongst young people reported by University Hospitals of Leicester (UHL) and concerns regarding effectiveness and timeliness of CAMHS services leading to follow up with CAMHS on outcomes and treatment times.
- Identification of **increasing number of Domestic Abuse referrals** to Children's Social Care and Early Help by the Police and the impact on services' ability to respond appropriately – leading to joint work and piloting of different approaches and triage arrangements.

- Identification of concerns regarding the educational provision, attendance and attainment of *children looked after* leading to detailed assurance from the Virtual School Head.
- Identification in *gaps in performance information* (e.g. children with disabilities) and anomalies and contradictions in data when compared across the partnership (e.g. variation in the numbers of children subject to a Child Protection Plan in health and children's social care) leading to the development of new monitoring processes and validation of existing data.
- *Improvements in the resolution* of issues and concerns regarding threshold and provision of services between Children's Social Care and partner agencies through the effective use of regular partnership performance meetings and escalation processes.

C *Children in Specific Circumstances*

Child Sexual Exploitation, Missing and Trafficked Children

Developments in Leicester's response to children at risk of sexual exploitation (CSE), missing or being trafficked have been sustained in 2017/18. The multi-agency CSE, Missing and Trafficking Hub with the co-location of key professionals has ensured a coordinated response to the identification and response to those children and young people at risk. The LSCB spotlight on CSE received at their Strategic Board in November 2017 reported that:

The LLR CSE hub has ensured a co-ordinated approach to CSE which includes the following multi-agency meetings:

- Daily Risk Management meetings
- Weekly Intelligence meetings
- Monthly Tactical Tasking and Co-ordination Group
- Monthly Performance Meetings
- Weekly Missing Meetings

The CSE, Missing and Trafficked Hub Performance and Quality Assurance Framework has been developed to build upon the multi-agency work of the CSE Operational Group and provide comprehensive performance monitoring and data for 2017/18. The framework includes data across several domains including the numbers and factors of young people at risk, as well as the identification of perpetrators, locations of concern and disruption tactics deployed.

- During the last 12 months in Leicester *176 referrals were made for children/young people at risk of CSE.*
- Approximately *3% (20-30)* of Leicester children in care go missing every month and, for some, it is many times.
- The data also shows that in the final quarter of 2017/18 highlighted that *city referrals remained at 42 per quarter.*
- There was a *total of 167 cases* identified during 2017/18 which is an *overall increase in referrals of 6% in comparison to 2017/18* (158). During 2017/18 the proportion of cases in which a risk assessment tool was completed *remained stable at 92%.*

The sustained increase in the number of risk assessment tools completed continues to suggest that practitioners are more aware of indicators of CSE and referral pathways. There is also evidence of timely intelligence sharing through Leicester's CSE, Missing and Trafficked team being co-located with the Multi-agency CSE team in the CSE Hub.

Partnership Highlight: LLR CSE Executive and Operations Group

Issue: Identifying children at risk of CSE

Resolution: *An Executive Board and operational group established for the CSE hub ensures that the strategy is delivered successfully and that any gaps in provision are highlighted. This enables a needs-led analysis approach to commissioning. The operational intelligence shared across partners has created more opportunities to anticipate risks for children and young people at risk of CSE.*

Children with Disabilities

Research shows that disabled children and young people are more likely to be at the risk of abuse than their non-disabled peers and experience barriers to being effectively safeguarded and protected from child protection services.

During 2017/18 the City Council Children's Services worked with a **total of 371** children in need where a disability was identified. Of these **63 or 17%** were subject to child protection processes or plans and **114** were looked after.

The LSCB undertook a multi-agency Disabled Children audit in early 2017/18 to better understand the protection of disabled children and to seek assurance that there was a consistent application of the LLR LSCB multi-agency safeguarding procedures and threshold. From this the LSCB disseminated the learning to support improvements in practice aimed at strengthening safeguarding for children.

The summary from the audit can be found here: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/media/1366/lscb-multiagency-disabled-children-audit-summary-briefing-v3pdf.pdf>. The report presented to the LSCB Strategic Board in July 2017 provided the current picture regarding what the LSCB knew about service provision and response to disabled children. While the report provided some assurance of the approaches used by agencies in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, it was also acknowledged that more needs to be done in this area and support for further work was agreed. This was particularly around transition into adult services from children's services. It also identified that disabled children and young people need to be engaged in this piece of work.

Further assurance was also requested around Education, Health and Care Plans (EHCP) to ensure that all relevant agencies are contributing to assessments and plans to ensure all needs are met. It was also noted that while education is being asked to take the lead education only forms a small part of the planning and delivery. Subsequently the board have agreed to receive assurance from the multi-agency development work taking place as part of the Ofsted SEND Inspection outcome action plan and to consider what further the partners can do to support the work. The outcome of this work will be shared at a large-scale learning event later in the year.

Domestic Abuse and Violence

Domestic Abuse and sexual violence are a priority of the Safer Leicester Partnership. A Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Delivery (operational) partnership group meets monthly to discuss the issues and members are from a range of key agencies. The LSCB receives assurance reports twice a year to hold the partnership organisations and agencies to account regarding their effectiveness of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

The Board received a detail report to its November 2017 meeting providing assurance on the approach being taken to prevent harm and reduce the risk of Domestic Violence and Abuse including Sexual Violence and Abuse within Domestic Incidents and to promote the wellbeing of victims and families, by providing Governance and Coordination across multi-agency, commissioned and voluntary services. The Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence Executive is coordinating responses across the partnership and a strategic needs assessment to support setting the strategy is the next priority for the group big item on the agenda.

In terms of Violence against Women and Girls, new posts and structures have been created that predominantly relate to Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and how it is implemented. A MARAC operations group is also in place and mapping out how the future MARAC operations will take place.

There was discussion around Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence as a Public Health issue and who are the right partners to take this forward. This aspect is referenced in the Joint Targeted Area Inspection Report on Domestic Abuse and will provide a focus for partners.

Partnership Highlight: Operations Encompass









Issue: Supporting children where an incident of domestic abuse has occurred

Resolution: *The LSCB was pleased to support the Launch of Operation Encompass in February 2018 where schools are notified of reported incidents of domestic violence at a pupils' address to better enable schools to support children at a most difficult time and in the way which meets their individual needs. The LSCB is looking forward to receiving an outcome report on its impact in 2018/19.*

Sexual and domestic violence are both high harm issues, with wide reaching impact. There are significant links with safeguarding children and domestic violence is a common feature in serious case reviews. In Leicester we are working hard to ensure there are adequate prevention measures in place; provision for those affected; partnership work and interventions for those perpetrating through:

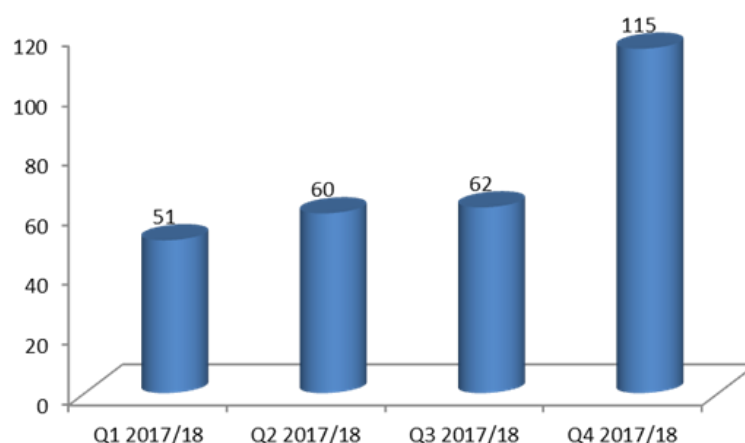
- Funded specialist provision for children, young people and families affected by DVA
- Funded specialist provision for those aged 13 years and over affected by DVA including specialist young people posts
- Funded DVA perpetrator interventions provision, for those wishing to self-refer and for adolescents using violence against parents
- Organising and delivering a comprehensive DVA training programme free at the point of access for city practitioners
- Working in partnership to establish and deliver on priority areas of development for DVA
- Launching a needs assessment to prepare for the next DVA strategy

The following performance information provides the LSCB with a summary of what the emerging and improving situation is for Leicester’s children young people and their families over 2017/2018.

Leicester City Sexual and Domestic Violence Data – Children and Young People (12 months to March 2018)			
Leicester City Council Commissioned Sexual and Domestic Violence Services			
	288 families referred since April 2017		There were 420 children and young people referred
	84% of children exiting the service said they feel safer following		78% of children reported improved health and well-being outcomes
	Schools report 81% of children and young people improved attendance at school		316 'Troubled families' identified across the children, young people and family service
	284 new children and young people received one to one support (CYPFS contract)		10 service users aged 13-18 accessed support to change their abusive behaviour

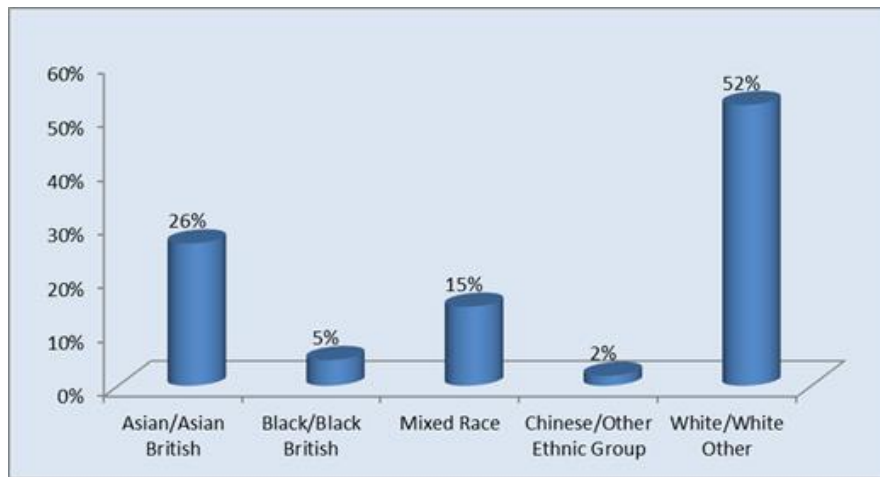
This equates to an increase of 75% in the number children and young people referred in 2017/18 (420) against 239 referred in the previous year.

Families referred in last 12 months









The data above shows that there has been a quarter on quarter increase in the number of families referred and from last year it increased from a total of 214 to 288, which is an increase of 34%.

Children and Young People’s referred Ethnicity in last 12 months



This data shows that the numbers of children from other ethnic backgrounds is increasing with the proportion of those children and young people from white backgrounds making up just over half of those referred. This shows that children from across all ethnic background are receiving a service.

What else do we know about children as victims of domestic abuse?

Safe Lives Children's Insights Data Last 12 months			
	96% of children were 'at home' when the abuse took place		87% of children were a direct witness or exposed to abuse of a parent/family member
	22% of children were direct victims of abuse and were likely to be experiencing emotional abuse by a parent or family member		22% of CYP were exposed to a high level of abuse, 46% moderate and 29% standard
	In 10% of cases the child had been injured as a result of the abuse of a parent (e.g. in arms during assault)		45% of children were subject to emotional abuse as a result of the abuse of a parent

The Insights National Data Comparisons also tells us the following:

- ❖ Outcomes for children and young people in Leicester including feelings safer, improved confidence and making a positive are higher than similar projects nationally.
- ❖ Of children accessing specialist services in the last year, children in Leicester were more often in trouble with the police, at risk of being exposed to crime, more likely to self harm and were more likely to be a looked after child
- ❖ Children in Leicester were more likely than children nationally to have greater parental risks whereby parents previously experienced and perpetrated abuse. The data also identifies that a higher proportion of mothers in Leicester have a disability.

What have Leicester's Children and Young People said about domestic violence services?

"How friendly the staff are here, they had knowledge. I loved and enjoyed all my lessons. My anger has changed after the 5 sessions" (age unknown)

"I liked x coming and helping me out with what happened and reassuring me that u did the right thing (calling the police). The work sheets were helpful because they gave information that is useful. Good that you can ring and text at any time" (aged 15)

"Friendly, helpful, supportive, always available when I need someone. Referrals to appropriate people who can help me to move on. I now have a lot more confidence and feel safer" (aged 17)

Partnership Highlight – Leicester CCG:

Issue: Identifying children at risk of harm from domestic abuse

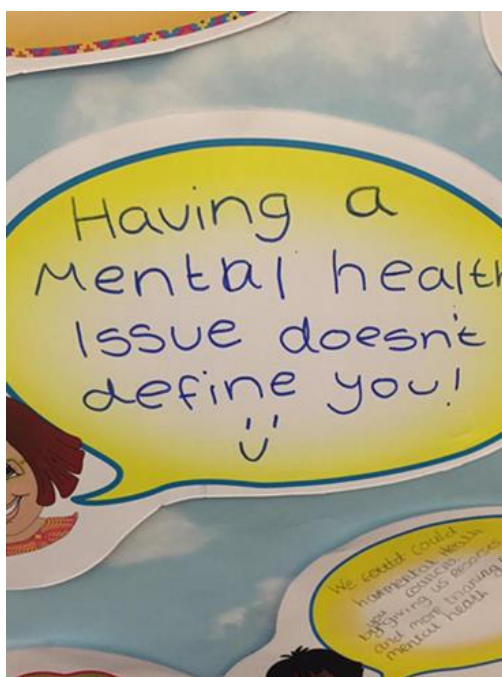
Resolution: The CCG Domestic Violence Health Group has produced a Domestic Violence and Abuse Policy that has been disseminated to all GP Practices across Leicester. The roll out of this has been further enhanced in partnership with the local Domestic Abuse support service 'UAVA' who have been commissioned by the CCG to delivered Managing Disclosures of Domestic Abuse briefings to all GP Safeguarding Leads. UAVA have also provided Train the Trainer sessions to all members of the CCG Safeguarding Team to enable the team to continue to deliver the domestic abuse briefing sessions to GP's beyond the commissioned sessions.

E motional Wellbeing and Mental Health

Understanding the emotional wellbeing and mental health of young people has been a key priority for the LSCB in 2017/18 and the work undertaken on this as a partnership was presented as a spotlight at March 2018 Strategic Board. This included presentations by agencies around early involvement through to learning from suicide of children and young people.

The LSCB had received a report at an Extraordinary Board meeting in February 2017 to receive and considered the learning from a multi-agency learning and improvement review into the tragic death of Brandon Rayat by suicide in August 2017. This report was published in May 2018 and can be found at: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/media/1464/20180501-brandon-summary-report-final-npw.pdf>

A summary of the *Making Minds Matters* was presented on behalf of the Young People's Council by a Young Consultant (a detailed summary is included at page 36). Making Minds Matter was a young person planned and delivered safeguarding conference aimed at children and young people in the city. They identified a lack of mental health awareness in schools and that more awareness raising is required. Also, the participants noted a negative commentary attached to mental health and further work required to ensure that children know 'its ok not to be okay' and to remove the stigma of mental health labels. They also agreed a set of tools that would help address the identified issues.



There was also discussion about the work happening in schools around the *Routes to Resilience Programme* which is an evidence-based and practical approach to supporting schools and families in their work developing the emotional wellbeing and resilience of children and young people.

This fully-funded and accredited programme is being offered to all state-maintained and state-funded primary schools, secondary schools and colleges across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland over the next three-years. Further information can be found at: <https://www.routetoresilience.co.uk/>

The local **Future in Mind** transformation programme established by partner organisations including the NHS Leicester City Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), NHS West Leicestershire CCG, NHS East Leicestershire and Rutland CCG, Leicester City Council, Leicestershire County Council and Rutland County Council was presented; which has sought to improve the local children and young people's mental health and wellbeing pathway through a series of fully-funded strategic commissions against each of the five big themes within the national report.

It was highlighted that early intervention is about providing services to children that need extra help for their emotional health and wellbeing and the programme should be operational by April 2018. By tackling the problems with mental wellbeing in the early years to create a system that brings together the potential of the web, schools, social care, the NHS, the voluntary sector, parents and children and young people themselves. The LSCB has asked for further assurance during 2018/19 regarding how this is being delivered and the triage approach to emotional wellbeing and mental health.

Suicide in Children and Young People: A Local Perspective was also presented, which analysed and summarised the findings from the *LLR Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Suicide audit report 2009 – 2017* regarding suicides that had been reported to CDOP from April 2009 to April 2017.

Common themes from the report (May 2017) of **10** child deaths were:

- **Social isolation**
- Bullying (including online) in **3 children's cases**
- **Autism, personality disorder and ADHD** in **4 children's cases**
- Several of the children were struggling to cope with **negative changes in their environment**, for example separation of parents

The report identified:

“The risk factors for suicide identified from the evidence and case reviews are very similar and include:

Mental illness (personal and in the family), family history, gender (particularly being male), bullying, previous repeated self-harm, substance abuse, poor social and family support, abuse, social isolation, negative changes in the environment, lack of a joined up/family approach (where necessary) in service provision”.

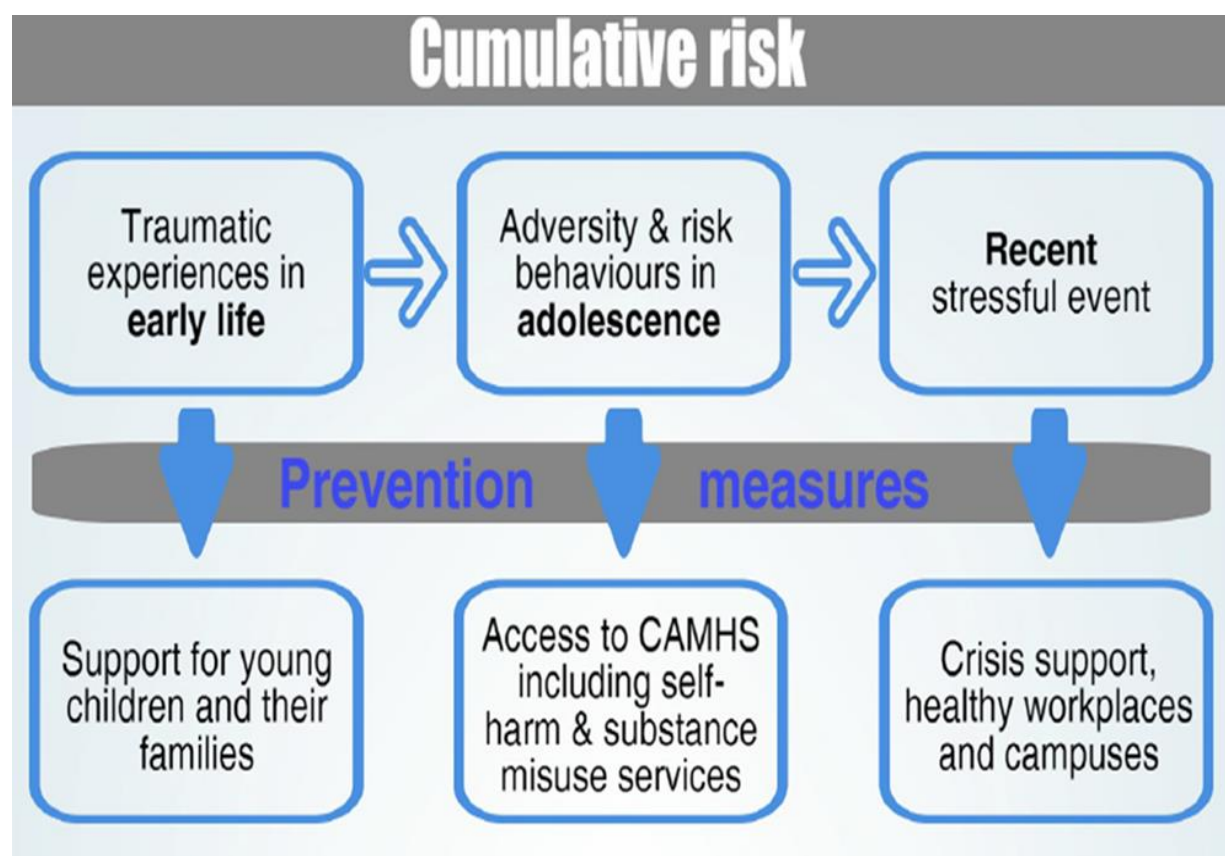
Awareness about these risk factors within families and across statutory services (including schools) may be helpful to identify high suicide risk patients and preventive measures such as therapies, professional support and education can be introduced...

Overall the audit did not find for certain that any of the suicides could have been prevented but it identified a couple of areas for improvement as follows:

- Further education for both adults and adolescents in coping strategies regarding break-ups or bullying. It may be useful to set up support groups (or create stronger links with already existing groups) within schools that pupils can access on an anonymous basis if they are going through stressful situations that they feel they cannot handle.
- There has been evidence to show that discussion about suicide does not encourage/increase the chance of people following through with the act. Being more vocal and discussing the

subject between families/schools may be a protective factor as it gives young adults the chance to have an outlet for their stresses that they cannot bring up in a different light.

The report also looked at the cumulative risk of adolescent suicide and it was highlighted in the presentation that while suicidal thoughts are common completed suicide is relatively rare.



The report concluded that:

- We need to learn from both local and national pictures
- Suicide prevention in children and young people is a role shared by front-line agencies and wider society
- We need to address the underlying risk and protective factors for both mental wellbeing and mental illness
- We also need to improve access for children and families who are struggling with mental health issues and to further develop our risk management skills and support

The following recommendations for action were made:

- Raise awareness with secondary schools (including private and faith schools), further education colleges, and home-schooled children to highlight the services that are available to support students, parents and teaching staff. This is a potential action in particular for the LPT Healthy Together Programme Public Health Nurses commissioned by City and County Public Health Departments.
- Work with front line staff, teaching staff and commissioners to highlight the potential impact on mental health of parental separation – particularly for those children with other risk factors

- Examine the potential to target resilience programmes on children and young people with diagnosed or suspected neurological developmental issues for example Asperger's/Autistic Spectrum disorders and ADHD.
- Raise awareness of the potential impact of the pressure to succeed academically on mental health and wellbeing with both students and teaching staff.

The *review of Children and Young People's Emotional and Mental Health*, along with the LPT response to the CQC re-inspection of CAMHS was presented by the professional leads. The specialist CAMHS provision was discussed with the group and it was confirmed that referrals to specialist CAMHS are raising year on year and the waiting time for treatment is currently 1 year, an improvement on the previous 2 year waiting time. There was challenge regarding how this fits with the CQC waiting time for treatment of 18 weeks in routine cases and within shorter timeframes for children with psychosis or eating disorders.

There was also challenge linked to the findings from the recent LSCB Learning Review regarding advocacy services for children. It was confirmed that currently these are only available to detained children. Challenge was raised as to how other children receive advocacy in accordance with the guidance.

It was noted that the issue around waiting times were raised at PAAG as well as whether there was a need for further assurance requested around those times for routine and urgent appointments following this spotlight.

The THRIVE model was presented to the group and it was emphasised that the longer the waiting list, the more time is spent managing this rather than providing treatment, effectively a very challenging cyclical process. The Chair set a challenge back to the board as to how partners could assist in reducing the numbers on the waiting list and ensuring that those waiting are those who actually required specialist CAMHS services.

It was queried whether there is evidence that preventative resilience measures are working? Are the processes interlinked? Do we know the where the gaps are? What preventative measures are activities are expected to impact upon and how? How is the Board assured? Do people know how to access preventative measures? What is the communication plan? It was noted that it is essential that the pathway for emotional wellbeing and mental health services is known and understood by all practitioners.

It was highlighted that there is an Internal Risk Management approach with a traffic light system that utilises assessment of risk factors against what level of intervention is required to keep these children safe? Challenge was raised regarding, how we are looking at those identified as RED on the waiting list or in Crisis and who is known to other agencies.

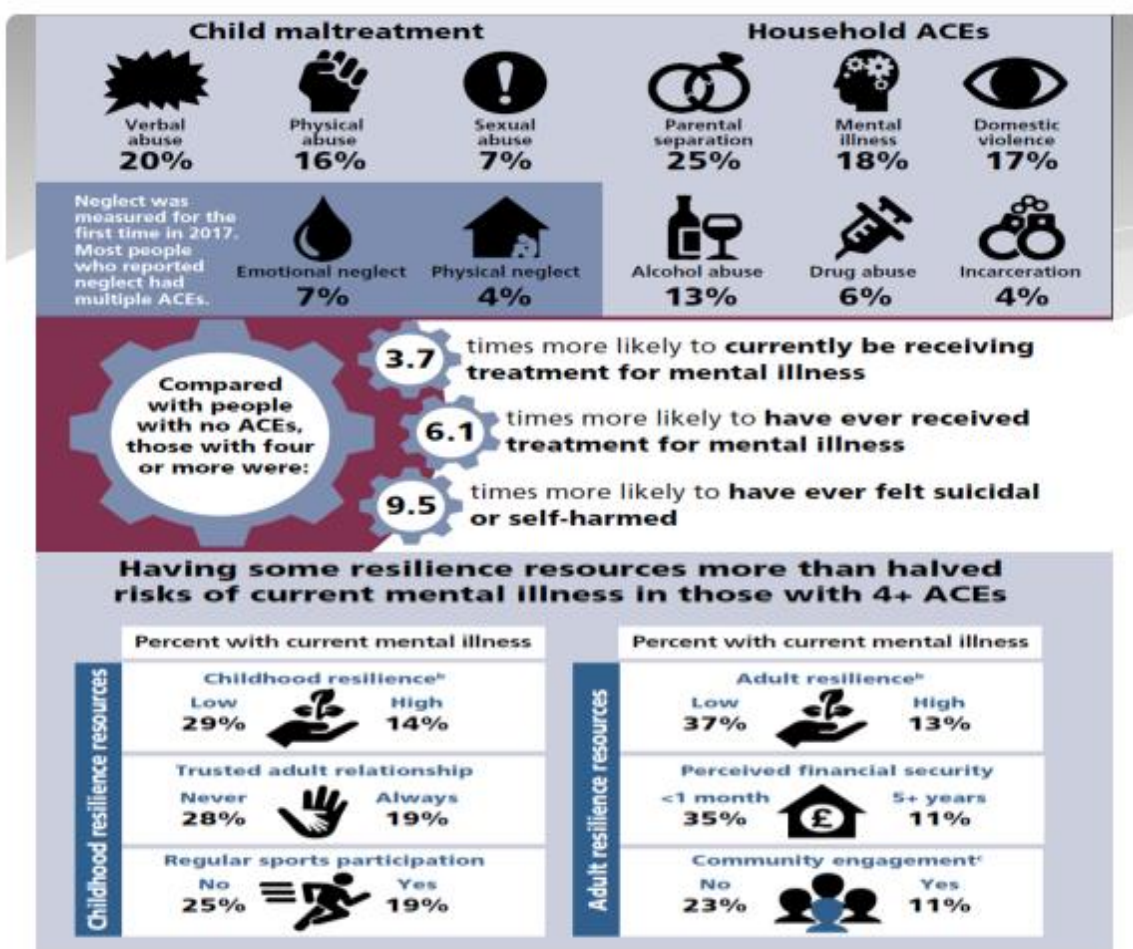
The board agreed that there was a further set of questions that needed to be addressed:

- What is the number of children waiting for CAMHS treatment?
- Who are they in terms of age, gender, factors?
- How long are they waiting?
- Where does the child in need element kick in?

- How do we establish what the CAMHS waiting times mean in terms of safeguarding?
- Are current thresholds correct?
- What happens when there is also a Child in Need or Safeguarding element, which may need a multi-agency response?

It was agreed that the issues raised above needed to be considered at PAAG and further assurance should be requested around the data for those waiting for routine or urgent appointments and what this mean in terms of safeguarding. The LSCB will continue to seek assurance on these issues throughout 2018/19 and to influence developments around this.

The LSCB also discussed link to emotional wellbeing and mental health in relation to Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) and its linkages to resilience as an adult.



During 2018/19 the LSCB are seeking information from other areas that have already adopted work around ACEs and are considering how to use the learning in Leicester.

As part of wider work happening across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland the LSCB is working with agencies to deliver a learning culture around mental health and wellbeing which includes early intervention, specialist treatment and a suicide prevention strategy for children.

Allegations against people who work with children

The role of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) is set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) and is governed by the Local Authority's duties under section 11 of the Children Act 2004 and Leicester City Safeguarding Children Board's Inter-Agency Policy and Procedures. The LADO is employed by the Leicester City Council and its core business is to advise, manage and investigate allegations of abuse made against people who work with children and young people under various arrangements (paid, unpaid, volunteers, casual, agency or anyone self-employed).

The LADO is responsible for:

- Providing advice, information and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations around allegations and concerns regarding paid and unpaid workers.
- Managing and overseeing individual cases from all partner agencies.
- Understanding the child's lived experiences through ensuring appropriate arrangements are made for the child to have an opportunity to express their views (i.e. identifying the adult who would speak to the child at the point of initial meetings/discussion).
- Ensuring there is a consistent, fair and thorough process for all adults working with children and young people against whom an allegation is made.
- Monitoring the progress of cases to ensure they are dealt with as quickly as possible.
- Recommending a referral and chairing the strategy meeting in cases where the allegation requires investigation by police and/or social care.

The LADO is involved from the initial phase of the allegation through to the conclusion of the case. The LADO is available to discuss any concerns and to assist the employers and other agencies (i.e. Police, Children's Social Care) in deciding whether immediate management action is required to protect children.

During 2017/18 the LADO service received 450 referrals which represent a significant increase on the total number of referrals the preceding year (329). Further analysis indicates this increase is linked to our new recording system as all referrals (including the ones concluded with advice and guidance) are now documented on Liquid logic.

Referrals

Year	Number
2015-2016	214
2016-2017	324
2017-2018	450

Referrals by type were as follows with comparator figures for 2016 / 2017:

Type of referral	2016/17	2017/18
Neglect	49 (15%)	90 (20%)
Sexual harm	70 (22%)	104 (23%)
Physical harm	156 (48%)	183 (41%)
Emotional harm	42 (13%)	52 (11%)
Multiple	7 (2%)	21 (5%)
Total	324	450

Who are referrals about?

Employment Setting	2016/17	2017/18
Total referrals	324	450
Foster carers	64 (20%)	89 (20%)
Education (non-teaching)	20 (6%)	29 (6%)
Education (teaching assistant)	26 (8%)	40 (9%)
Education (teaching)	64 (20%)	85 (19%)
Sport	5 (2%)	13 (3%)
Social Worker	12 (12%)	6 (1%)
Health	28 (9%)	14 (3%)
Day care	34 (10%)	23 (5%)
Transport	17 (5%)	24 (5%)
Youth Worker	<5	<5
Faith	23 (7%)	36 (8%)
Clerical	< 5	0
Residential Worker	16 (5%)	30 (7%)
Volunteers	11 (3%)	8 (2%)
Police	<5	<5
Other	0	50 (11%)

NB: Where any occurrence is less than five these are shown as <5 for statistical purposes.

The service maintains a robust but fair and safe process of investigating both current and historical allegations and promoting safer working practices within a range of work places including education and early years' settings, health services, foster carer and residential placements, voluntary activity and faith based settings.

Allegations about staff based in education settings – teachers, teaching assistants and other associated support staff - represent the highest proportion of contacts to the service closely followed by foster carers, and faith settings following. There has not been a significant difference from previous years in relation to who the adult subjects of allegations are about.

There remain high numbers of contacts to the service which conclude no further action by the LADO after consideration. These referrals are concluded via the provision of advice, guidance and support and signposting to internal investigation within the employing agency or to LADOs in other Local Authorities.

Referrals by outcome

Outcome of referrals	2016/17	2017/18
For information only	41 (13%)	44 (9%)
Did not meet threshold for risk of harm (No Further Action with advice and guidance given as appropriate)	128 (40%)	255 (57%)
Unfounded (sufficient evidence to disprove allegation)	27 (8%)	34 (8%)
Unsubstantiated (insufficient evidence on the balance of probabilities to prove or disprove the allegation)	50 (15%)	53 (12%)
Substantiated (sufficient evidence to prove the allegation)	39 (12%)	47 (10%)
Ongoing cases	39 (12%)	17 (4%)
Total	324	450

Despite the increased number of referrals over the last 12 months, there has been a steady reduction in the numbers of cases requiring intervention undertaken by LADO. Alongside this the performance of LADO timescales to conclusion has been more effectively reported upon. Aiming for 80% of cases to be closed within 4 weeks and 95% and above within 12 weeks.

Measures have been taken to improve the LADO's quality of practice, timeliness and workload throughput. These have included a review of internal processes and procedures (March/ April 2018) with the focus on the development on more stream-lined referral and management processes, reflective of the Working Together 2015 guidance/ thresholds. As a result, and as outlined in the table below, the performance in relation to the timeliness of the LADO enquiries has improved significantly.

The LADO has developed a culture whereby professionals are encouraged to approach the LADO when faced with potential concerns relating to adults in positions of trust. Many of

these enquiries are concluded with advice and guidance with employers feeling reassured around the actions that are required to be taken within their own organisations.

Timescales for completion of LADO processes during Q1 & Q2 2018

Referrals in 2018	January	February	March	April	May	June
Percentage Closed in 4 weeks	37%	44%	49%	38%	79%	93%
Percentage Closed in 12 weeks	78%	78%	76%	66%	88%	100%

All aspects of work associated with the LADO process from referrals, case recording, and meeting outcome notes have now been successfully embedded in electronic case recording systems, enabling consistency and ease of data retrieval and supporting timely throughput of referrals and management oversight. In addition, bespoke business support has been allocated to the role in order to improve the interface/communication between the LADO and other professionals. Furthermore, the use of technology (i.e. virtual conference calls) has increased the participation and attendance of partner agencies at the various stages of the LADO involvement.

Training provided

There were three generic training sessions for staff from a range of settings about LADO processes and the management of allegations within the last 12-month period. Further four bespoke sessions were delivered to, for example, educational settings for children with additional needs; an adventure playground and Passenger and Transport Service in order to promote safe and healthy workplace culture.

Training was well received and largely positive feedback gained. Consideration has been given over the last 12 months to widen the training offer, with two further generic training sessions now planned for the coming year and additional sessions to be made available for Designated Safeguarding Leads in education settings; foster carers and their supervising social workers and faith settings.

Multi agency working

- The LADO has maintained and developed links with partner agencies and colleagues over the period. Quarterly meetings with police based in the child abuse investigation unit have been reinstated resulting in more effective partnership working and information flow.
- The LADO and manager have met with colleagues in the fostering service to discuss issues associated with referrals regarding kinship carers and future dates to meet quarterly are now in place.
- The LADO has also attended the Designated Schools Forum and by invitation spent time at a local faith school and post 16 hostel provisions with enhanced working relationships resulting. Links with the Federation of Muslim Organisation (FMO) have been maintained through liaison with FMO officer who has been tasked with specific pieces of work with local madrassahs with positive outcomes.
- The LADO continues to work closely with the adult safeguarding lead /Principle Social Worker and more effective communication is in place where adults subject to LADO processes have a “dual” role working with adults and children
- The LADO has also maintained links with the regional LADO group which has enabled sharing of good practice, gaining updated guidance and effective cross authority working. The LADO service attends the annual national LADO conference and will continue to be committed to this.
- The LADO has also made a presentation regarding allegations management with their Leicestershire counterparts at the LLR LSCB Voluntary Community Sector Reference Group.

Feedback

Response to partner agencies whether through giving of general advice and guidance or in response to specific allegations has been positively received. Feedback from meeting participants has been sought more consistently although there remains a need for improvement with proposals in place to increase feedback by provision of forms as standard when meeting outcome notes are sent out to attendees.

The feedback forms received indicate that meeting attendees continue to feel confidence that interim safeguarding arrangements are appropriate, that vulnerability of children and adults is considered and that diversity and equality factors are addressed.

Overall there has been very positive feedback about chairing styles with comments in response to the question *“what was done well”*:

“organised and well managed” ...

“inclusive chairing”...

“inclusion of all parties at the table”...

“summarising issues at various points of the meeting”...

“allowing feedback and information to be shared and feeling comfortable to do so”...

“facilitating full involvement of participants and info sharing”...

“well conducted”...

“very thorough, went through process / meeting structure beforehand and made sure all clear on way forward” ...

“thanks, moved the case forward”

Other agencies have expressed appreciation for advice and guidance given and the following is an example of feedback received from a local nursery:

“sometimes it’s confusing and as a setting we have so many questions about safeguarding and making sure we get it right !!! but now - with your input I think we certainly feel happier and a lot more clear”...

4 LSCB Strategic Priority – 2

Early Help and Front Door

To be assured that 'Early Help' services are accessed and delivered effectively and thresholds are understood and consistently applied

The Leicester Early Help Strategy Support Strengthen Thrive 2016-19 was developed by partners through the Early Help Strategic Partnership Board (which is underpinned by the Children's Trust and LSCB) and launched in Spring 2017. Partners have ownership of the strategy and are clear on the expectations of them to support families through an early help offer as outlined within the strategy.

Early Help work in Leicester is embedded within a range of strategies: 0 – 5 Strategy, Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, Child Poverty Strategy, Children & Young People's plan, the national Troubled Families Programme and within commissioned services.

In June 2017, the LSCB took over responsibilities to evaluate the current operation of the early help offer, including partners' understanding of their early help responsibilities both in acting as lead professional and the application of service thresholds from the Leicester City Council Improvement Board (LCCIB).

These arrangements have included:

- monitoring the quality of early help assessment, planning and management oversight through effective audit arrangements
- developing and monitoring local quality standards to ensure that early help professionals have access to effective supervision and management oversight
- evaluating effectiveness of the LSCB threshold document to ensure it is understood and used appropriately by all partner agencies and that children and families are helped effectively as a result
- monitoring and evaluating whether children's emerging needs are appropriately met elsewhere when referrals to children's social care do not meet the locally agreed threshold for statutory intervention
- ensuring that all professionals working with families receive effective early help training.

The board has received assurance reports regarding the number of contacts to early help and that a high percentage are supported through Advice Point. The board has scrutinised the number of Early Help Assessments (EHA) taking place and has challenged its partners to consider how it can increase the number of EHA it undertakes and acts as lead professional for. This has remained a risk register item throughout the year with the PAAG taking the lead on receiving assurance and highlighting any issues for early help to the LSCB Strategic Board.

As the data below shows the re-referral rate is low demonstrating that children in receipt of early help support are getting the right help at the right time.

Evidence of impact from arrangements put in place

- Children, young people and families have access to a robust early help offer provided from a range of voluntary, community and statutory partners, with the council being a leading partner in developing a partnership response.
- Families are supported through a whole family approach to:
 - Access early help services at an earlier stage before problems escalate
 - Have early help services involved as part of a statutory intervention
 - Receive transition support from early help services through a step-down approach from specialist services to enable families to meet their needs independently.
- CYP and families are supported to understand the role of Early Help services through a clear understanding from partners on what Early Help is using the same language.

How do we know it is making a difference?

Early Help Snapshot 2017/18

Measure	Outcome
Contacts to Early Help:	5774 (23334 Individuals)
Supported by Advice Point:	87%
Early Help Assessments started:	169 (700 Individuals)
EH cases stepped up to social care:	98 (256 children)
Transfer/Step Down/Joint work from CSC to EH	696 (1591 children)
Of those re-referred within 12 months:	78 (5%)
0-4 Priority Children Engaged:	739/4410 = 16.8%
0-4 Priority Children Engaged (Including children claiming FEEE): <i>(The 'including FEEE' measure was introduced as those children are considered being engaged elsewhere (if not at Children's Centres)).</i>	2850/4410 = 64.6%
2 Year FEEE take up (as of Autumn 2017) <i>(Cohort is estimated from numbers supplied by the DWP for eligible 2-year olds)</i>	1656/2509 = 66%

5 LSCB Strategic Priority – 3

Learning and Improvement

LSCB is to be assured that there is a culture of continuous system of single and multi-agency learning and Improvement.

Learning and Improvement Framework

The LSCB has agreed a combined Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Safeguarding Children Boards and Safeguarding Adult Boards (LLR LSCB and LSAB) framework which is available within the online LLR LSCB interagency procedures at:

http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/pdfs/learning_improvement.pdf

The Framework describes the processes by which the Safeguarding Boards will review the effectiveness of our local safeguarding partnerships and individual agencies by using a comprehensive range of local information to evaluate the quality of local activity and outcomes, against agreed practice standards. The Safeguarding Boards oversee any areas where single or multi-agency improvement has been identified within safeguarding reviews, audit or safeguarding performance review activity.

Serious Incident Review Group (SIRG)

All Partners working with children and young people have a responsibility to ensure the safety of young people, staff and the wider public within the context of the services they provide. To ensure the SIRG met its Terms of Reference, the group developed a protocol for Serious Incident (SI) notifications to the LSCB to simplify and clarify the pathway in relation to:

- Notifying serious incidents and circumstances that may be suitable for review;
- To create clarity and transparency of what is being commissioned
- To support practical planning and preparation
- To manage and quality assure the process
- To structure reflection retrospectively on the review and identify improvements for future SCRs.

During 2017-2018 the SIRG was notified of six notifiable incidents and received two other possible serious incident notifications from partners. As a result, the LSCB has one Serious Case Review underway and is completing a multi-agency learning review on one other case.

The LSCB also published a multi-agency learning and improvement review in 2017/18 following the death of young person by suicide in August 2016. The learning from this review, other resources and a practitioner briefing can be found at:

<http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/safeguarding-topics/mental-health/>

Evidence of impact from the arrangements put in place

The implementation for the Management of Notifications of Serious Incidents and Serious Case Reviews has resulted in a more robust process to support LSCB Partners to effectively notify the LSCB of cases. It has also provided a framework that provides increased quality assurance to the process, especially how SIRG reviews submissions against the Statutory Guidance Chapter 4, Working Together 2015 to ensure that we can robustly make submissions to the LSCB Chair in relation to individual cases and if they meet the criteria for either a Serious Case Review or alternative learning review.

Where a case does not meet the criteria the pathway allows contrastive feedback to be given to organisations where the criteria is not met or to request additional information to support the SIRG decision making process.

Previous cases commissioned have been reviewed and the learning consolidated. The group contributed to the development of the LSCB Learning and Improvement Framework to ensure key learning from each case can be disseminated to front-line practitioners. The key learning was shared in October 2017 at a joint LLR Learning event, which included themes from Leicester City Cases:

- Compliance with policy and procedures
- Assessment and 'core' skills in safeguarding practice
- Voice of the child and their lived experience being recognised and represented
- Management oversight, supervision and decision making
- Strategic planning and governance
- Neglect, identification and intervention
- Pre-birth assessment and safeguarding babies
- The identification and response to sexual abuse
- Assessment and management of persons posing a risk to children

Performance and Assurance

While PAAG is the lead multi-agency group for ensuring that Priority 1 of the LSCB is met it also contributes to the other priority areas. The LSCB is committed to ensuring that the safeguarding performance and quality of practice by the partnership and all individual agencies is monitored, and reported on, at regular intervals and that individual agencies and the partnership as a whole are held to account for the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements. Through this process the learning arising from all performance and quality assurance activity (e.g. audits, reviews and deep dives) is shared with managers and staff working across local agencies. This enables the LSCB to demonstrate continual improvement across all safeguarding arrangements and the improving effectiveness of our partnership arrangements in protecting children and improving outcomes for children and families at risk.

To further this aim a new Performance and Quality Management Framework was established alongside the creation of the Performance Analysis and Assurance sub group (PAAG). A revised data dashboard was developed. As well as overseeing the monitoring, analysis and reporting of the performance information, assurance returns and outcomes of review and

audit work from individual agencies, PAAG is also responsible for the programme of the LSCB multi-agency file case audits (MACFAs) undertaken by a dedicated sub group. PAAG through the Board Office ensures that the outcomes of MACFAs are summarised and disseminated across the partnership.

Finally, in response to increasing pressure on countywide partner agencies, the need to improve joint working, collaboration and learning across LLR and with an eye on future development following the publication of Working Together 2018, the Chair of PAAG worked with the Chair of L & R SEG (and respective Board Offices) to develop models for a more joined up approach to performance and quality assurance in the future.

Multi-agency Case File Audits

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2015) provides for Local Safeguarding Children Boards to evaluate multi-agency working through joint audits of case files.

The aim of the LSCB multi-agency audits is to:

- Understand compliance and application of the LLR LSCB multi-agency safeguarding procedures and thresholds by practitioners across the partnership.
- Seek assurance that partner agencies are appropriately identifying and responding to cases where there was a safeguarding concern (particularly in relation to specific issues i.e. neglect, CSE, etc.).
- Capture any learning needs which support improvement in practice aimed at strengthening safeguarding for children and young people who are vulnerable to specific issues such as neglect, CSE, FGM, etc. that have impact on their safety and wellbeing.

During 2017/2018 PAAG considered and highlighted the key issues arising out of the MACFA programme during the preceding year and oversaw the undertaking and reporting of three multi-agency audits undertaken – *Disabled Children, Emotional Wellbeing/CAMHS involvement and Familial Sexual Abuse*. The findings of these audits are collated and analysed with other performance and quality assurance information and led to a series of recommendations all of which were endorsed by PAAG and the LSCB. Accessible summaries are available at:

<http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/lscb-multi-agency-audits/>

These are distributed to all relevant staff in member agencies and are used to inform training and further audit work. PAAG follows up and seeks assurance from agencies on their implementation of recommendations.

Section 11 audit

During 2017/18 the LSCB, along with the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB undertook a 'Section 11 peer challenge of statutory partners which looked at compliance against their duties within Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. In previous years this has taken place as a 'desk-top' self-assessment, which has provided limited scope for challenge and further scrutiny.

For the peer challenge process agencies reviewed their compliance against the nine standards

previously tested in the LSCB Section 11 processes. Each agency presented their findings to a panel made up of members of the two Safeguarding Children Boards, including their Independent Chairs, Board Managers and Lay members. The agency presentations took place over three separate panel sessions. This process gave the opportunity for further focussed exploration and challenge of agencies assessments and compliance with safeguarding duties.

Agencies provided evidence of compliance and some good practice that exceeded expectations, which included:

- website development
- safeguarding training
- raising awareness (including with the public and children)
- adopting quality assurance frameworks and processes.

The conclusions of the chairs of the panels were that processes for safeguarding children are in place across the key agencies, but specific improvement or development actions were identified for all individual agencies to take forward.

The peer challenge process also led to further follow up work with the Community Rehabilitation Company in 2018/19 to gain assurance regarding their safeguarding compliance. This Peer Challenge approach was found to be a positive experience and more informative than the previous document based approach. There was a good participation and contribution from partners in this process leading to a balance of challenge and support.

C *Child Death Overview Panel*

The Child Death Overview Panel is a Sub Group of the LLR LSCBs. LLR CDOP is required to review ALL child deaths (from 0 up to 18 years) of any child who is resident within Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. It undertakes a systematic review of child deaths to help understand why children die. By focusing on the unexpected deaths of children, it can recommend any interventions it considers appropriate to help improve child safety and welfare to prevent future deaths. When a child dies unexpectedly, a process is set in motion to review the circumstances of the child's death, which includes the support in place for the family.

The CDOP annual report, which provides a summary of the work undertaken can be found at: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/>. The CDOP has undertaken a significant amount of work in relation to prevention work linked to emotional health and wellbeing of children. A key feature of this work is that on Learning from Suicides **which is included at page 18.**

M *ulti-agency Frontline Practitioner Group (MAFPG)*

A reinvigorated and relaunched Multi-agency Frontline Practitioner Group was established to provide connectivity between the Board and frontline practitioners.

The group is represented by practitioners from a range of partner agencies and reports to the LSCB Executive Chairs Group.

This delivers a sense of purpose for the group and ensures that voice of the Frontline Practitioner is represented at Board level, contributing to the LSCB Business plan and providing a sense check on the activity undertaken. Through this group there has been contribution from practitioners to disseminating learning from multi-agency audits and learning reviews, informing practice improvements, policy and procedures and finding solutions to practice issues within multi-agency working.

Engagement and Participation

The LSCB has a Children's Engagement and Participation Strategy and a Multi-agency Participation and Engagement sub-group. During the year they have overseen the implementation of the strategy and ensured young people are able to meaningfully contribute to the work of the board.

Agencies have continued to share best practice and resources in relation to participation and engagement. Presentations over the last year have included:

- Carefree Young Carers Services (including presentation on health watch looking at whole family approaches and young carers interfacing with primary care.)
- The Reclaim Radical toolkit created by young people and the youth service.
- Leicester Partnership trust presentation highlighting the work being undertaken by LPT to bring service users and staff together to make changes to service provision collaboratively
- The Youth Offending Service presentation was focussed on speech, language and communication
- Adult Social Care in engagement of service users and a refresh of the participation strategy.
- Leicestershire Police spot light presentation covering training materials for police on gaining the voice of the child and development work on Knife crime partnership approach and participation elements to this.
- Presentation by Catherine from Spinney Hills Primary about schools' involvement in Making Minds Matter and the Routes to Resilience programme, this was an interesting insight into ensuring the voices of children are heard through mental health programmes

The group have also overseen the progress of the Safeguarding Summit Making Minds Matter in November 2017 focussing on emotional health and wellbeing of the city's school population as well as the Don't Hate Educate Symposium focussing anti-bullying both delivered and organised by young people, including the Leicester Young Consultants.

The participation strategy has brought more consistency to ensuring the voice of the child and young person is at the forefront of the work undertaken. Their achievements include:

- *How will you hear me?* Which has won the *British Youth Council Youth on Board award for Innovation* in November 2017
- *Reclaim Radical* has been assessed by the DfE and is now featured on their flagship Educate Against Hate website - <https://educateagainsthate.com/teachers/>

- The Commonwealth Youth Forum (CYF) 2018, International Taskforce, Policy and Drafting Committee are producing a document titled "Youth Solutions from the Commonwealth 2018", the document will feature Reclaim Radical as one of 20 youth projects and organisations from across the five regions of the Commonwealth.
- Leicester City Youth Involvement Team hosted a two-day study visit 5th/6th June for colleagues from across the EU on the involvement of young people in counter violent extremism strategies. This informed a good practice paper that is made available to EU colleagues who are members of the Radicalisation Awareness Network.
- *Don't Hate Educate*, was a Hate Crime conference on the theme of 'disability and social courage' organised by youth reps from both City and County U.K. Youth Parliament.
- *Making Minds Matter* report has been shared across all schools in Leicester who have been asked to provide evidence of what changes they are making because of the key messages.
- Leicester City Young People's Council maintained their membership of both Children's and Overview scrutiny panels, ensuring the voices of young people are part of scrutiny of council decision making.
- Leicester City Young People's Council maintained their membership of Police Open Gold, representing the views of young people with police and community safety.
- Young People's Council delivered their day of action, a social media campaign aimed at raising awareness of knife crime across the City.
- Young People's Council reps have spoken at various events, including the Council's Healthy Minds Conference, sharing insight to young people's experiences of mental health issues.
- Young People's Council reps and the Youth Involvement Team manager were key note speakers at a Local Government Association Conference on Youth Services in December 2017, delivering speeches on involvement in youth clubs and participation of young people in the future development of youth services.
- Youth Involvement Team staff delivered lunch and learn presentations to LCC staff on participation.
- Leicester City Young People's Council held a successful election in Feb/March 2018, they held and webcast live an election hustling debate. With nearly 10,000 votes cast they successfully elected 36 new members to the Young People's Council.
- How will you hear me training has continued to be delivered across the authority and with partners, with sessions delivered to newly qualified social workers, LSCB board members, Corporate Parent Forum.
- Big Mouth Forum have continued to deliver outreach to young people about speaking out about hate crime.
- Big Mouth Forum have broadened their offer by updating their website.
- Interview panels have been supported by both Young People's Council and Big Mouth Forum across various levels of posts.
- Big Mouth Forum worked on health reforms and transitions.
- Big Mouth Forum met with Arriva, Stagecoach and Active First to explore independent travel and safety in the community.
- Big Mouth Forum have supported agencies including Sendiass to improve their offer to young people in education.

- Flat 108 has continued to allow young people to develop their skills for independent living, Big Mouth Forum have continued to support with the Flat 108 offer.
- *Make Your Mark*, a city-wide ballot of young people aged 11 – 18 years on behalf of U.K Youth Parliament was carried out across the city August – October 2017, 5,000 young people took part in selecting their top ten issues for the city, this was fed into the national ballot, with Leicester City U.K. Youth Parliament reps attending a debate on the House of Commons in November 2017.
- Leicester Young Consultants carried out a mystery shop commission of sexual and domestic violence services for young people, which included a review of the UAVA website for young people.
- Members of Young People’s Council and Young Consultants were trained as community champions by sexual and domestic violence commissioned service UAVA.
- Youth Involvement Team staff delivered interview training to members of the Children in Care Council.

All partner agencies have demonstrated sign up to the principles set out in the *LSCB Children and Young People Engagement and Participation Strategy* and have shown commitment to delivering creativity and innovation in improving arrangements, establishing relationships and demonstrating to the to the LSCB how practitioners within their agencies and across the multi-agency safeguarding system are, on a daily basis, obtaining the views of Children and Young People. The LSCB is looking forward to working with the Leicester Young Consultants on some themed events during the coming year.

Voluntary Community Sector (VCS)

The LSCB is represented well by the VCS Subgroup and receives regular assurance reports through the LLR Joint Executive Group. The VCS Reference Group selected relevant outcomes within each priority area where they considered they would be able to make an effective contribution to the Business Plan and addressed areas within the VCS workforce that had been identified as requiring additional knowledge, information, support and/or training. Work has been undertaken against the LSCB Business Plan 2017/18 four key priority areas.

In February 2018, the VCS Reference Group focused on the findings of the Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Assurance Report for the Voluntary Sector, in which the group strongly felt that the risks and vulnerabilities within County will be a direct reflection of the same risks within the City. This report highlighted these risks, vulnerabilities and lack of knowledge and awareness regarding safeguarding for many small, informal and large umbrella VCS groups working with children and young people.

The group developed a presentation outlining some of the key areas of concern and this was delivered to both JEG and the VCS Children, Young People and Families Network and Learn session. The assurance report will inform and drive the group’s work in 2018/19, with a focus on developing a VCS safeguarding communication strategy. Priorities for this strategy will be to ensure that the VCS groups identified above are better informed for them to be able to effectively safeguarding children and young people.

The group is represented on the Early Help Allocation Panel and therefore messages in relation to understanding thresholds are shared more widely via the VCS Reference Group.

The VCS Reference Group consistently promoted key single and multi- agency learning events to the VCS via several platforms, including the Children’s Workforce Matters newsletter and website. The group also fed into the Children’s Workforce Early Help newsletter by promoting development opportunities, such as promoting the Teen Parent Pathway. The VCS Reference Group highlight wider issues that relate to keeping children and young people safe, such as homelessness, the role of the LADO and CSE.

The Chair of the VCS Reference Group completes a LSCB Report Card after each VCS Reference Group meeting to highlight concerns, any key issues and provide challenge. The group also contributes to LSCB Board improvement in relation to performance and quality by promoting resources, such as the Neglect Toolkit and ‘Kayleigh’s Love Story’.

Young Advisors (Leicester Young Consultants)

The work of the LSCB Children and Young People’s Shadow Board and arrangements to contribute to the efficiency of the LSCB has progressed well.

LSCB Business Plan Youth Proof

The LSCB Shadow board was asked to youth proof the LSCB Business Plan. The group did this, selecting the key messages and actions that they thought would be relevant to young people. They presented their version to the full board, and it has been agreed to progress this piece of work into the next Business Planning cycle and align it with the redevelopment of the young people web pages.

LSCB Website Youth Proof

The LSCB shadow board undertook a full youth proof of the new LSCB webpages. This included both desktop and mobile sites. The young advisors produced a comprehensive report that they presented to the board and agreed action points to meet with the website developers to progress the Young Advisors recommendations.

Radical V. Radicalised (Prevent) #ReclaimRadical

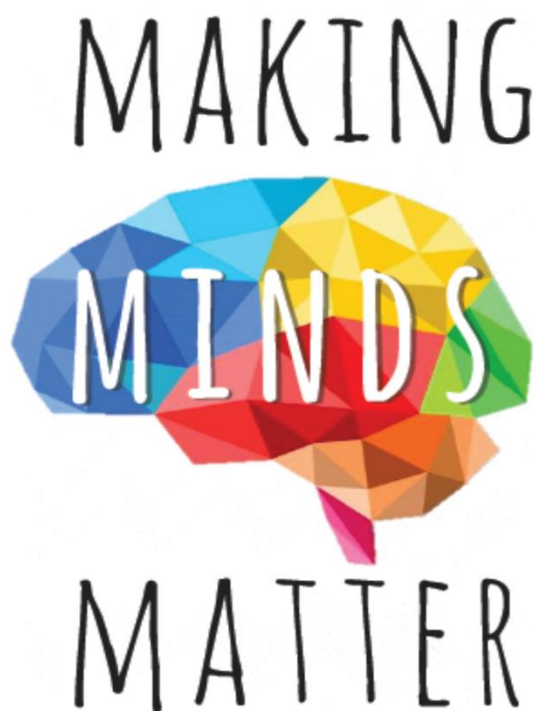
The Young Advisors created a number of short viral adverts to encourage conversations around Prevent and extreme views between professionals and young people and have also developed a toolkit for professionals to go with the films. Within the toolkit Young Advisors have looked at a number of online resources in relation to radicalisation and have given a critique of these resources and how well they are tailored towards young people.

Don’t Hate Educate Symposium

In October 2017 this event explored Hate Crime, and to pledge to be a power for good and was the theme for anti-bullying week this year.

Making Minds Matter

In November 2017, the Young Advisers delivered a Safeguarding Summit entitled *Making Minds Matter*. This was a young person planned and delivered safeguarding conference aimed at children and young people in the city.



The theme for the event was to explore the emotional health and wellbeing needs of the City's pupils, and invited pupils to discuss what impacts on the emotional wellbeing of pupils, bullying and its consequences, and how they can create MINDFUL schools. The event ended with the creation of a MINDFUL school pledge that all delegates took back to their settings to implement.

The full report can be found on the LSCB website. <http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/safeguarding-topics/mental-health/>

During the year the Young Advisors rebranded to be called *Leicester Young Consultants* and are now operating independently to any other third-party organisations in the UK. They have said:

“This is an exciting move for us as we are looking to gain more autonomy over our work, help more and more young people and increase the reach of our work. We are very thankful for all the help we have received from our various partners over the last few years and are hoping to continue all existing partnerships and commissions as we enter a new phase in our journey”.

6 LSCB Strategic Priority – 4

Governance and Assurance

The LSCB is to continue to improve its governance, performance and quality assurance process and to be assured of the effectiveness of the LSCB.

The LSCB has maintained its governance structure and reporting lines throughout 2017/2018 as agreed following the independent peer review which reported to the LSCB and LCCIB in April 2017. The detailed findings from the Peer Review provide a transparent and rigorous assessment and can be found in the full report is available on the LSCB website: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/>.

The peer review found that:

- The Board has benefitted from highly effective leadership of change by the Independent Chair.
- A more robust, systematic and purposeful programme of work is enabling the Board to cover its statutory functions and address key priorities to improve the effectiveness of safeguarding in Leicester.
- There is an improved culture of challenge, accountability, and joint working across the partnership and at all levels. Stronger systems have been established for scrutiny, performance management and quality assurance.
- There is now improved alignment between the Board's strategic activity and the priorities and concerns of young people and frontline practitioners.
- Partner agencies report a more confident, optimistic and outcome-oriented partnership. Good use is being made of joint arrangements across LLR to improve the effectiveness of Board functions and to respond to key safeguarding risks.
- Leicester Safeguarding Children Board has now laid the foundations for assuming responsibilities from the Improvement Board through phased transitional arrangements.

As a result of the report and with the agreement of the LCCIB, the LSCB took back the responsibility for monitoring and evaluating the following key areas of safeguarding:

- Early Help
- Front Door
- Child Sexual Exploitation

Progress with ensuring effectiveness in these areas is included within the specific priority areas above. The LSCB also required that all partners provide updates on developments within their agencies and provide assurance on their inspection outcomes. Assurance was also requested from other strategic partnerships regarding their contribution to safeguarding effectiveness.

PAAG is the lead multi-agency group for ensuring the LSCB is to be assured that there is evidence to consistently demonstrate that children and young people are effectively safeguarded. As well as the summary provided within the priority areas above, the LSCB has received assurance regarding the work of the LSCB partners to promote the welfare of children and to improve safeguarding practice.

This has demonstrated that in responding to the increasing pressures and demand has been monitored and evaluated closely during the year and shown to be effective in maintaining safe services while continually improving the quality. This has been endorsed by positive inspection reports from Ofsted and HMIC. From performance monitoring and both single and multi-agency audits, PAAG on behalf of the LSCB has identified the following:

- Improvements in the availability, accuracy and analysis of performance data – the LSCB knows itself and the work of the partnership well.
- Improvements in the application of thresholds across agencies (though still some inconsistencies) with effective mechanisms to resolve disputes. Positive introduction and implementation of “One Front Door” by Children Social Care and Early Help.
- Improvements in the quality and consistency of assessments and planning.
- Evidence of improvements in identifying the voice of the child and their lived experience by agencies but further work needed to ensure consistency.
- Improvements in effectiveness of strategy meetings but variable attendance and contribution at initial conferences and reviews. A multi-agency task and finish group has been established to address the issues.
- Improvements in the understanding and prioritisation of domestic abuse referrals across police and the council.
- Shortfalls in the safeguarding arrangements for disabled children leading to the planning of a large scale multi-agency safeguarding learning event in 2018.
- Inconsistent use of the Neglect Toolkit leading to improved dissemination and a follow up survey in 2018.
- Updating and improvements to the procedure and approach to FGM following the MACFA Audit.

PAAG will continue to play a key role in the priorities for the LSCB during 2018/2019 focusing on the following:

- Application of thresholds including front door and early help with a focus on particular vulnerable groups – Domestic violence, CSE, neglect, children’s mental health and disabled children.
- Assessment and care planning including quoracy, attendance and contribution to conferences and reviews
- Voice and lived experience of the child
- Impact of poverty, austerity and deprivation on the safeguarding of children
- Increasing integration and joint work across the two LLR LSCBs and future safeguarding arrangements after the implementation of Working Together 2018.

Wider Partnership work

The LSCB works closely with Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children's Board (LRSCB) on several areas of work to support effective working across the two areas. The LSCB and LRSCB have established a Joint Executive Group that oversees joint areas of business for the two Boards. It specifically receives reports from the LLR Multi-Agency Training Group, LLR Procedures and Development Group and the LLR Voluntary and Community Sector.

- ✓ The Board shares its Multi-agency procedures with the LRSCB. Throughout the year the Board has reviewed and revised Multi-Agency Procedures in line with developments in practice and learning from reviews and audits. The group has been chaired by the Head of Safeguarding, Leicester City Council and has involved a number of task and finish groups including partners from across Leicester Leicestershire and Rutland agencies.
- ✓ The Board has developed a standalone procedure about pre-birth safeguarding. The Board updated the thresholds document for referral to children's services and has also revised the inter-agency procedures for a wide range of subjects including those relating to which can be found here: <http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/>
- ✓ Changes to procedures have been communicated through bulletins, large scale events, LSCB newsletter and through other training events.
- ✓ The Board agreed a single Multi-Agency Referral form for all agencies to use to refer into children services front door for any of the Local Authorities in the area and will be launched in 2018/19.
- ✓ The LSCB also works closely with the Safeguarding Adults Board and considers cross cutting themes receiving assurance from these to its Serious Incident Review Group. We have also worked together on several strands of work to achieved shared priorities.

Partnership Highlight – LLR Safeguarding Adults and Children's Boards

Issue: *Identifying children at risk of harm from multiple risk factors*

Resolution: *As part of the work to improve the recognition and response to domestic abuse LSCB contributed to the LLR Adults and Children's approach to research the issues facing adult and children safeguarding and individual agencies with regard to complex cases with multiple risk factors including domestic abuse, poor mental health and substance misuse.*

A 'Trilogy of Risk' task and finish group developed a package of customisable materials for agencies to use as appropriate within their own organisations to communicate key messages and improve practice.

Partnership Assurance Spotlight

As well as the many specific examples of partnership working already highlighted in this report the following has been provided to highlight agencies contribution to safeguarding.

University Hospitals Leicester NHS Trust (UHL)

As part of a multi-agency partnership, we have been assisting in developing a comprehensive tool for collating and scrutinising meaningful safeguarding data in order to create indicators of safeguarding practice. Much work has taken place to ensure that the data collected provides a true reflection of safeguarding work and quality of the service we provide, which in turn will be used to monitor safeguarding performance.

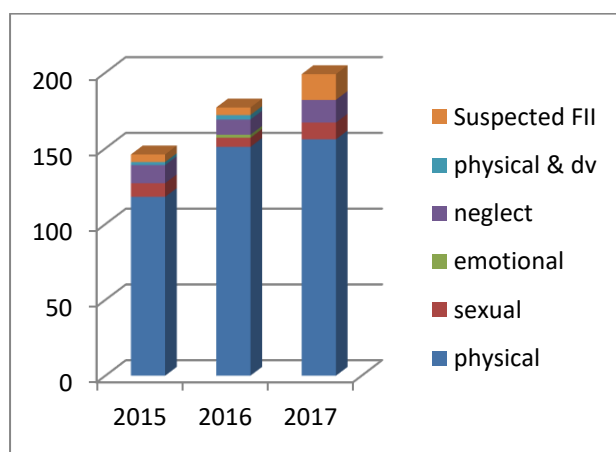
The following data shows key safeguarding children activity:

Number of Safeguarding Children Enquiries to the UHL Safeguarding Team

Year	No of Enquiries
2015	11,686
2016	11,924
2017	9,302

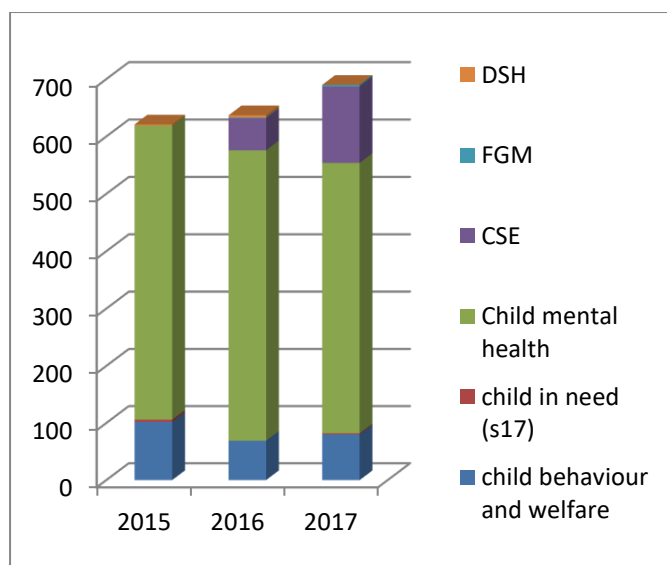
A breakdown of UHL Safeguarding Children figures is provided below:

Fig 1. Child Protection cases managed in the Safeguarding Children Team



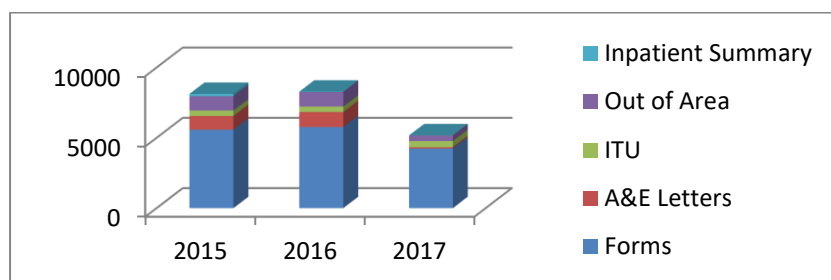
It is of note that the number of child protection cases are increasing each year, but experience is also showing that the complexity of each of these cases and the time required to manage them is significantly increasing. Data will be collated in 2018 to demonstrate the impact this is having on the workload of the Safeguarding Children Team.

Fig 2. Safeguarding Children cases



As the single point of contact for both UHL staff and external agencies for Safeguarding Children work, a significant volume of work is generated outside of direct case work as demonstrated above.

Fig 3. Liaison service case data



The Safeguarding Children Team also runs the Hospital Liaison Service. In 2017 inappropriate referrals made through this route were no longer recorded. This has resulted in a significant reduction in cases recorded on the system. However, it should be noted that these forms still require input from nursing staff in the Safeguarding Children Team to assess and scrutinise the information received prior to deeming a referral as inappropriate and as such the nursing work load for liaison has not in practice, decreased.

Number of Safeguarding Maternity Enquiries to the UHL Safeguarding Team

Year	No of Enquiries
2015	863
2016	1019
2017	1150

National Probation Service - (DNLR)

The National Probation Service (NPS) is a part of Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Service, which is an executive agency of the Ministry of Justice. The role of the NPS is to protect the public, support victims and reduce reoffending. It does this by:

- assessing risk and advising the courts to enable the effective sentencing and rehabilitation of all offenders;
- working in partnership with Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs) and other service providers; and
- directly managing those offenders in the community, and before their release from custody, who pose the highest risk of harm and who have committed the most serious crimes.

The NPS is committed to protecting the right of a person, whether an adult or a child, to live in safety, free from harm, abuse and neglect. It recognises that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility and that children are best protected when professionals are clear about what is required of them individually and how they need to work together. The NPS national policy, "Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children" clearly describes the work, its links to child safeguarding, and how we meet our Working Together Section 11 duties.

The National Probation Service continues to engage positively with the LSCB and with partnership agencies.

In the past year, significant work has gone into further developing the safeguarding processes in an online repository of process maps, documents, policies and guidance called **EQUIP - Excellence and Quality In Processes**. This outlines to staff how to make safeguarding checks, referrals, child protection conference responsibilities, and provides aide memoirs and toolkits. It will be used to inform Safeguarding Quality Assurance tasks that will be scheduled in coming 12 months. Additionally, a new Practice Improvement Tool has been developed to quality assure safeguarding referrals.

In relation to training, all NPS staff, regardless of role, have to complete the Child Protection and Safeguarding Children, and the Domestic Abuse e-learning modules. All front-line staff who supervise or have contact with offenders also have to complete the two-day Safeguarding Children face to face training.

As of April 2018, **no** staff have the e-learning outstanding, and only just under **10%** of staff still require the face to face input. Other training relating to safeguarding children has continued to be offered in the past year such as Working with Sex Offenders, Domestic Abuse. Whilst additional training offered by partner agencies/local authority has been offered to, take-up has been low due to workload demands; this is acknowledged as action required for the coming year.

LLR NPS Senior Management have made efforts to maximise attendance at LSCB Board Meetings, with additional involvement in:

- Stage 3 LSCB Complaint Appeal Panel
- Subgroup review of Child Protection Conferences and Appeals

- Subgroup review of quoracy, partnership representation and contribution to CP conferences.
- Serious incident info requests and data trawls have been returned within timescales.

Staff make referrals, with NPS management support and oversight, where safeguarding concerns arise. Given the nature of the NPS work with adult offenders, accessing tangible information and data pertaining to the effectiveness of the NPS in child safeguarding is difficult.

The annual Offender Survey identifies a number of areas in which offenders feel that the NPS has contributed positively to their lives in ways which, whilst not explicitly about a child, may contribute to improved outcomes for children as a result of positive effects for the parents. For example:

- **50%** reported they were supported by Probation in relation to family issues
- **45%** reported being supported in relation to partner relationships
- **40%** supported by Probation in relation to drug and/or alcohol abuse
- **61%** reported that their time with Probation made them feel more hopeful about the future
- **67%** reported their life had gotten at least a little better during their time on Probation
- **67%** reported that contact with Probation made them better at dealing with things that used to make them offend

Serious Further Offences (SFO) data for Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland indicated there were no Serious Further Offences committed against a child by NPS-supervised offenders in 2017-2018. Local Reoffending data does not separate the data by offence or victim type, to be able to draw more evidence of positive impact for children.

There is a divisional case inspection by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation anticipated in 2018-2019, which will include a review of safeguarding where applicable. This will hopefully identify areas of positive impact on service users, as well as any further areas for practice development. Senior Probation Officers will also be commencing more regular QA tasks, reviewing risk assessments and risk management plans.

The challenges in the year ahead for NPS remain high workloads; with the Leicestershire Cluster being consistently amongst the highest workload in the Midlands region. Additionally, there has been a large intake of staff, with more trainee Probation Officers joining later in the year. Whilst this will hopefully alleviate some of the workload pressure in the future, in the interim two years it presents further workload challenges whilst these new staff are developed, supported and trained.

Inspection Outcomes

Leicester City Council

- In recent years Leicester City Council's children's services has made great strides in creating the environment and conditions to support our children and young people to be safe, to learn, to achieve and to grow.
- The **Leicester City Children's Improvement Board (LCCIB) has challenged and monitored improvement** through the Leicester City Children's Improvement Plan through a set of **12-week action plans** focussed on specific areas of improvement has driven the overarching priority to improve the consistency and quality of practice across the local authority and partnership.
- The success of this approach was recognised during their re-inspection in June 2017 and resulting [Leicester City Council Ofsted Report Sept 2017](#)
- This found that services for children have improved significantly since the last inspection in 2015, which judged them overall to be inadequate. Senior leaders and managers took decisive action following this inspection and have remained clearly focused on securing the necessary improvements. While more work is needed before services are consistently good, sustained progress has been achieved.
- It also found that multi-agency meetings are generally well attended by partners, and information on children's needs and risks is shared fully. This effective communication and partnership working makes a tangible difference to children in terms of risk reduction and ensuring that all of their needs are met.
- The LSCB was also assured in their findings that early-help clusters across Leicester offer a variety of interventions in partnership with health, education and external voluntary services, and most families receive help when they need it.
- There is good use of advice points to ensure a quick response to families with an urgent need and, in spite of rising demand, there is currently no waiting for the early-help service.
- The vast majority of children identified as needing increased intervention are stepped up to social care from early-help services appropriately. This escalation is timely and ensures that children receive more specialist support. There is good use of the multi-agency support panel to inform decision-making.

Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust (LPT)

- The LSCB has sought continued assurance from LPT regarding their progress with the action plan and in particular care planning and risk assessment completeness and content (*Action 1*) and internal waiting list processes and improvement (*Action 3*).
- The LSCB continues to provide scrutiny and challenge to the progress with these actions and has requested detailed reports on any safeguarding implication including its transformation programme for child and adolescent mental health services.
- LPT was re-inspected by the Care Quality Commission (CQC) during 2017/18 with the CQC Findings being published on 30th April 2018.
- CQC rated the Trust as *requires improvement* overall the Community Child and Adolescent Mental Health services moving from *inadequate* to *requires improvement*.
- While the service was meeting the target with a compliance of **99%** for initial assessment

within **13 weeks** of referral, **323** children were waiting for their first appointment through the access team, to complete a core mental health assessment.

- Since the last inspection the service now has a Section 136 suite that meets the standards set out in the Royal College Standards. The 136 suite is a place of safety for those who have been detained under Section 136 of the Mental Health Act. A children's adolescent mental health crisis service had been developed and commenced in April 2017.
- However, the LSCB remains concerned regarding the wait times for assessment and treatment which have not improved over the year and has requested further assurance and recommended some priority actions to improve matters quickly.

Leicestershire Police

- Children are at the heart of the strategic priorities of Leicestershire Police which include Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse, Sexual Offences and Domestic Abuse. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) recognised that Leicestershire Police clearly operate within a culture that recognises vulnerability as a strategic and operational priority during the *PEEL Inspection* in Autumn 2017 which assessed the Force as 'Good'.
- The Forces HMICFRS Child Protection re-visit concluded, 'the force continues to demonstrate a strong commitment to reviewing, improving and implementing changes to its services and to prioritising child protection.'
- The Force has continued to demonstrate its commitment to multi-agency working taking leading roles in developing executive structures to respond to Child Sexual Exploitation, Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse and children linked to 'Urban Street Gangs.' The Force takes an active role in all Safeguarding Children Board activity and has committed an additional Inspector post to support this work.
- In common with the HMICFRS inspection in January 2017, their revisit in December 2017, found strong and supportive leadership and officers and staff who felt valued and were committed, knowledgeable and dedicated to providing the best service and improved outcomes for children at risk.
- The Child Referral Team reviews all public protection notices submitted by Frontline Officers and staff. Through a re-structure and a change in processes it is now able to undertake all strategy discussions on behalf of the Force including those relating to sexual offences and Domestic Abuse. Part of the process redesign included the audio recording of S.47 strategy discussions; HMICFRS described this practice as 'innovative' and 'good practice.'
- Representatives of the force attend the partnership Child Protection monthly performance meeting. The focus of the group is improving engagement and working practices between partners. This group has recently looked at the quality of strategy discussions and the use of thresholds.
- The Forces Communication Department, in collaboration with other forces, have developed a video, 'Brecks Last Game', to highlight online risk to boys. This follows on the success of 'Kayleigh's Love Story' and the recent Sexual Violence Campaign "All is Not Lost".
- HMICFRS found that initial contact had improved following changes in processes, and the provision of additional training and support to call takers. The Force is consistently the agency which identifies and refers the greatest number of referrals and contacts to Local Authority Children's Services. All such concerns for children are identified by Frontline officers and staff who have received specific training to recognise children at risk of harm.
- HMICFRS during their re-visit in December 2017 graded over twice as many child

protection cases as good, and nearly half as many as inadequate compared to their original inspection in January 2017. Despite the improvement, there is clearly more work to be done. HMICFRS were assured of a continuing commitment to make further improvements.

- The Forces Paedophile Online Investigation Team (POLIT) has joined the newly developed Digital Hub. Enhanced processes within the hub and in POLIT, has led to more people who view indecent images of children being identified and more children being safeguarded. The Digital Hub provides a service to investigators which is unsurpassed nationally.
- The Force is committed to meaningful engagement in Child Protection Conferences, particularly pre-birth and initial conferences. Demand in this area has more than doubled. Although resources have been increased, those which are attended have had to be prioritised; all receive a report in respect of Police information about the family. The Force is chairing a multi-agency group tasked to look at alternate options to attendance, including video conferencing.
- The Force has engaged with Leicester City Council's Early Help strategy and invests in educating Children of the real world and online risks through their Neighbourhood teams and Children and Young people's officer. The Forces Communication Department, in collaboration with other forces, have developed a video, 'Brecks Last Game', to highlight online risk to boys. This follows on the success of 'Kayleigh's Love Story' and the recent Sexual Violence Campaign "All is Not Lost".

Turning Point

- Their CQC Inspection took place in June 2017 and the report presented to LSCB in November 2017. The CQC report was noted as positive and *'the service showed outstanding practice in managing the transition from eight separate services into one integrated service'*.
- One issue that arose was issues with agencies referring service users in for access to services. The CQC report states that the transition is being handled well, although there are some issues apparent around facilities, most of which now picked up.
- A key message was that the referral rate particularly around children and young people had dropped off and there is a need to understand why. As a result, a meeting of referring agencies was held to explore this and involve Further Education Colleges, Primary Schools and any services provided for groups for Young Parents.

The Lived Experience of Leicester's Children and Young People

There has been significant improvement from partner agencies to embed a strong culture of engagement with Children Young people and their families (CYPF). Good assessments of risk and need means practitioners seeing, hearing and enabling young people to articulate their lived experience and considering how that experience and the voice of the child may influence their own outcomes and change the service response to their safety and protection needs.

The LSCB Chair challenged partners about how they are implementing the strategy and reaching out to children within their own agencies. Significant improvement has been made by partners in relation to CYP participation and engagement. Partner agency returns about arrangements for engagement and participation of children and young people included:

- ❖ **Leicestershire Partnership Trust** - Service User co-design co-ordinators are both in role and will be working across FYPC bringing people together to shape and create changes within a service. Co-design works by engaging with a range of people to support creating change to services. The

co-design process then supports a mutually agreed service or change that was created collaboratively from the views and opinions of all involved including children and young people.

❖ **Leicestershire Police**

- ✓ The Force has continued to develop a culture of seeing the child in any incident, creating a 'Childs Voice' video which is supplemented by a 'Think victim' booklet which contains specific advice in respect of Children.
- ✓ The Force has invested significant funds to renovate the Child victim suite. Following consultation with local children, the facility has been rebranded as 'Lighthouse,' hosting video interview suites, monitoring rooms, and a live link facility to minimise the impact on children who are required to give evidence to courts. The management of the suite has been aligned with the SARC, which is widely regarded as providing an exceptional service.
- ✓ The Force has worked with partners to strengthen the combined assessment of CSE concerns through a multi-agency daily management meeting, weekly partnership meeting and monthly strategic meeting. Leicestershire Police have redesigned their response to missing people. The Missing Persons Operational Team provides consistency of assessment, whilst the Missing Persons Engagement Team work with partners to reduce the risk to people who repeatedly go missing; children making up the majority of these.
- ✓ The Force is developing a Children's Strategy to ensure the voice of the child is incorporated into every strand of policing. The Police and Crime Plan 2017-21 includes a focus on specific areas where children are affected: Alcohol and drug related incidents; Children and Crime including Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE); Domestic violence and abuse including coercion; Human trafficking and modern-day slavery; Mental health; Missing from home individuals; Prevent strategy and Sexual violence.

❖ **LCC Children's Services** – we strive to put children and young people at the centre of what we do and we know there is always room to do better. Some of our achievements include:

- ✓ a participation framework, developed by our children in care council and young advisors which recently won awards
- ✓ a full joint inspection of youth offending work in the city reported they '*found strengths in the way in which children and young people are engaged and about the support they receive to access education, training and employment*'.
- ✓ In June 2017, Ofsted reported that they '*met with four very impressive and different groups of children and young people who were all willing to share their experiences about what it is like to receive support in Leicester*'. They also noted '*children's views are valued and well respected*'.
- ✓ From Feb 2018 the LCC participation offer has been streamlined under one service that manages YPC, LYC, Children in Care Council, Care Leavers Forum, Children's Rights and Advocacy, and Parent work in early help. This will sit under one strategy and strengthen our offer and increase outcomes for our children and young people.

❖ **National Probation Service (DNLN)** - Given the nature of the NPS work is with adult offenders, it is not usual that NPS staff will come in to direct contact with a child or children as part of their work and it can be difficult to seek their participation.

- ✓ However, front line NPS staff continue to manage high risk violent and sexual offenders, some of whom will pose a risk to children. Staff make referrals, with NPS management support and oversight, where safeguarding concerns arise.

- ✓ There is room to develop NPS staff's understanding and links with the Early Help aspect of Children's Social Care so that we are fully utilising the "One Front Door" approach to address the needs of all children of service users under NPS' supervision and ensure their voices are heard in delivering services.

- ❖ **University Hospitals Leicester** - The most important aspect of our work in safeguarding is to listen to the views of people where work has been undertaken to protect them, even where they don't yet have a voice of their own.
 - ✓ A comment we received in the last year was *"Thank you so much for listening to me and supporting me so that I can see my baby be born"*
 - ✓ This was a case where a father had behavioural problems but desperately wanted to see his baby at the birth. The mother wanted him to be there. The safeguarding team worked together to help him modify his behaviour to protect the baby and mother and to support potential on-going safe relationships and attachments.
 - ✓ Without this work the baby, which could not make its wishes known, would have missed out on vital bonding time with both parents and instead was able to benefit from an improved lived experience.
 - ✓ *'We feel reassured that you have met with us and have listened to our concerns about mum's care, we are really pleased that you have learned from this and have taken steps to change practice'.*



7 LLR Training and Development

The LLR Multi-Agency Training Group (MATG) is as its name suggests a multi-agency group, accountable to two Local Safeguarding Children Boards – Leicester City and Leicestershire and Rutland.

The group has overall responsibility for the development and practical delivery of an annual training and development programme, which reflects the priority elements within the two business plans and national priorities, as well as the learning from national and local Serious Case Reviews as well as learning from other reviews and audits.

The Multi-Agency Training Group (MATG) co-ordinates and oversees the delivery of the Multi-Agency Training Programme. The Group itself has representatives from all key partner agencies and the training has been delivered through these partners offering their resources, in terms of time, space or finance. This allows a comprehensive programme, meeting identified needs, to be delivered. In 2017/18 this programme was free for all those in the children's workforce across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland to access.

The group leads development and delivery of an annual training and development programme. This reflects the priority elements within the two LSCB's business plans and national priorities, as well as the learning from national and local Serious Case Reviews. The training programme is delivered through a 'mixed economy' of partner contributions, commissioned training and national training opportunities, as set out in a partnership agreement.

The LSCB also facilitates a local trainers' network, which supports development of local safeguarding trainers through development sessions and networking.

How much have we done in the last 12 months up to 31 March 2017?

In total **67** courses were delivered across **26** safeguarding themes. This equates to **1047** participants in training, which is multi-agency and therefore promotes networking and partnership working.

The safeguarding themes, linked to the LSCB key priorities included:

- Domestic Abuse
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Parenting Capacity
- PREVENT
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

- Neglect
- Safeguarding CYP with Disabilities,
- Fabricated and Induced Illness (FII)
- Working with Families with Multiple Need
- Working with Hostile Families.

In addition, funding was provided from Leicester City and Leicestershire & Rutland LSCBs to commission the delivery of Essential Safeguarding Awareness Training to the third sector. The LSCBs also delivered large scale events to feedback lessons from Serious Case Reviews and Audits.

An LLR *Sharing Learning from Reviews: Research in Practice Proposal* has been accepted to look at disseminating learning from reviews in a timely way, with a 'cascade' pack of information for safeguarding leads, including a synopsis of the case, detail of the learning, links to research and relevant articles. This information can then be shared widely within agencies.

The membership of the MATG is very active and represents the key partner agencies, including Adult Social Care and is a good example of partnership working across the agencies. Members have the strategic and operational authority to commission and commit resources to the multi-agency programme in order to meet the essential requirements.

The evaluation data taken from the programme indicates that immediately post training learners show improvement in Knowledge, Skills and Confidence. The 3-month evaluation feedback showed that the above post training evaluation scores were sustained, thereby implying successful retention of information and the application of learning to practices in the workplace.

- **33%** of the respondents felt that the training had helped them to improve joint working.
- **70%** of the respondents felt that they had improved knowledge of other roles and the confidence to work together with other agencies.

Participants are asked to identify post training actions. There was a continued shift from cascading learning to specific practice related actions from previous years' results. At the three-month follow up **82%** of participants reported they had implemented the actions they identified in training at least in part.

Where these were not able to be implemented, the key issue was reported as relating to capacity. Capacity of workers across the children's workforce is a barrier to learning, because it prevents workers from attending training and/or committing to the learning when they are there. 'Other work priorities' was given as a non-attendance reason in **42%** of cases with only sickness at **59%** being higher.

The Board undertook some development work with regard to its approach to training during the year, including developing a training strategy for 2018/19 and agreeing a transfer of the support function from VAL to the Leicester City Safeguarding Board Office. The Board will pause delivering on a full training programme for April to July 2018 while the support function is transferred to Leicester City Safeguarding Board Office. An implementation plan has been agreed and is being progressed.

An LLR Sharing Learning from Reviews: Research in Practice proposal has been accepted to look at disseminating learning from reviews in a timely way, with a 'cascade' pack of information for safeguarding leads, including a synopsis of the case, detail of the learning, links to research and relevant articles. This information can then be shared widely within agencies. This will be implemented in 2018/19.

The LSCB would like to express its appreciation to organisations that have contributed to the partnership training programme through trainer time or venues. The estimated value of the in-kind contribution to the programme in 2017/18 from all agencies is in excess of **£11,000** demonstrating excellent commitment to the training delivery.



Evaluation of Impact

Evaluation of the impact of the interagency training programme was undertaken by Voluntary Action LeicesterShire (VAL), on behalf of the two LSCBs. VAL prepared quarterly reports, which enable the identification of in-year trends and contribute to the compilation of a final annual report. The quarterly and annual reports are circulated to all agencies and are extremely valuable to the Training Group in its ongoing work.

This was a **39%** decrease in attendees on multiagency training compared with 2016/17. This was in line with **40%** fewer places available due to running fewer large scale events than the previous year.

In addition, **25** LSCB funded Essential Awareness training sessions for the voluntary and independent sector offering **625** spaces in total supporting consistency in knowledge and skills across the wider workforce across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland. These were well received and almost all courses were full.

Following introduction of a charging policy for no shows in 2016/17 the number of no-shows has reduced further by **25%** this year to **106**, in addition the number of cancellations halved to **71**.

Looking forward:

- The LSCB intends to continually reinforce the need for individual agencies to provide information regarding its single agency training effectiveness.
- The Strategy and Competency Framework need to be completed and launched.
- The new way of working needs to be established so that the Safeguarding Training Delivery Programme can be released. These are planned to coincide at the beginning of July 2018.
- With the capacity of the Children's Workforce diminished, a blended learning approach needs to be more clearly established.
- Learning from SCRs needs to be more swiftly and more widely disseminated. It is thought that the 'Sharing Learning from Reviews Proposal' will support this.
- Links with CYP need to be maintained and ways for them to directly support the learning of the multi-agency workforce considered.



LSCB Priorities 2018 and Beyond...

There is clear evidence in this Annual Report that the progress made since the Peer Effectiveness Review in April 2017 has been far reaching. The LSCB has from the strong foundations laid in the previous year assumed responsibilities from the LCC Children's Improvement Board for the full range of its statutory responsibilities including Early Help, Front Door and Child Sexual Exploitation.

Stronger systems have been established for scrutiny, performance management and quality assurance. There is now improved alignment between the Board's strategic activity and the priorities and concerns of young people and frontline practitioners. Partner agencies report a more confident, optimistic and outcome-oriented partnership. Good use is being made of joint arrangements across Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland (LLR) to improve the effectiveness of Board functions and to respond to key safeguarding risks.

Overall, there is greater confidence in the ability of the LSCB, through its processes, to have an accurate understanding of the strengths and areas for development in safeguarding in Leicester, and to be able to take early action with partners to tackle weaknesses in performance in any of the partner agencies.

There is well-established joint working across LLR, including the LLR LSCB Joint Executive, which will provide a good basis for developing any changes to local safeguarding arrangements following the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and publication of Working Together 2018.

The narrative and data in the report demonstrates that there is an improved culture of challenge, accountability, and joint working across the partnership and at all levels. While progress in both governance and effectiveness has been significant but there is still much to do while the LSCB retains its statutory functions and obligations and to ensure it has strong oversight of the move to the new safeguarding arrangements which must be in place by 29th September 2019.

Looking forward

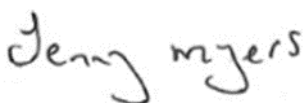
The key challenge for the LSCB over the next year is to continue to meet its statutory functions and build on the improved partnership working whilst the three named partners address the requirement to review local arrangements in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and associated statutory guidance. It is essential that whatever revisions are made they result in improvements to the safeguarding system; and ensure that the agreed published partnership plan continues to place the safeguarding and well-being of children at the centre; has sufficient independent scrutiny and is not driven by austerity and cuts.

There are several areas of focus that have been clearly identified through the Board's assurance work, for example:

- Deprivation has an important impact on children's lives both in the short and long-term and there is a clear link between how long people live – and how good their health is – and deprivation. Leicester is ranked 21st out of 326 local authorities in England and 41% of Leicester's population aged 0-15 years live within the 20% most deprived areas nationally. Continuing to tackle child poverty, improve educational attainment, boost jobs and the local economy will be crucial to improving the health of this generation's children.
- The Board also needs to be able demonstrate that the impact of better Board working is reflected in terms of outcomes for children and young people, particularly around key areas such as mental health, emotional wellbeing, neglect and domestic abuse. The LSCB will review its priorities in September 2018, considering the outcome and impact of the actions plan and findings of the Ofsted re-inspection of the local authority children's services, CQC inspection of LPT and the police child protection inspection and sustainable joint working arrangements.
- An example of future development across children and adults is the Leicestershire Police led project to create a Safeguarding hub encompassing Children and Adults. Building upon the innovative processes adopted by the Child Referral Team, and the multi-agency CSE team, it will also include Domestic Abuse support, MARAC, Adult Vulnerability and Mental Health. It will allow the holistic review, research and assessment of cases, ensuring the response considers the most appropriate response to often complex situations. Some of the existing teams include staff from partner agencies. It is hoped the aligned hub will facilitate further co-location and partnership working.

There is an expectation the main three statutory partners (*Local Authority, Health and Police*) will be the main financial contributors to the children's safeguarding arrangements. True partnership collaboration will be required to maintain the status quo in terms of commitment to the safeguarding agenda. Through 2018/2019 there also will be ongoing discussions with partners to negotiate plans and proposals within the new framework and associated statutory guidance.

Moving forward it will be important to ensure that the scale and pace of work continues to be sustainable and prioritisation is therefore essential. I am looking forward to reporting further on these arrangements as they develop and progress with our Business Plan priorities.



Jenny Myers
LSCB Independent Chair

Appendix 1 - LSCB Membership 2017/18

Member (names in brackets were members for part of the year)	Organisation/Post	Statutory Member	Co-opted Member	Participant/ Adviser
Adele Tilley	Lay Member	✓		
Adrian Spanswick	Consultant/Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Children and Adults, Leicester CCG	✓		
Alun Elias-Jones, Dr	Interim Designated Doctor, Consultant Paediatrician, CCG NHS		✓	
Beverley Czyz (Janet Russell)	LSCB Manager			✓
Bob Bearne (Paul Kennedy)	Head of Service (HoS), DLNR Community Rehabilitation Company	✓		
Carole Ribbins (Sharon Hotson)	Deputy Chief Nurse, University Hospitals Leicestershire NHS Trust	✓		
Catherine Stretton	City Primary Heads Representative	✓		
Caroline Tote	Divisional Director of Children's Social Care & Early Help, Leicester City Council	✓		
Chris Batty	Performance, Information and Quality Advisor, LCC		✓	
Chris West	Director of Nursing and Quality, Leicester CCG	✓		
Julia Conlon	Interim Head of Service, Early Help (Specialist Services, LCC)	✓		
Liz Dunn (Emma Ranger)	LLR LSCB Training Project Development Officer			✓
Steven Forbes (Frances Craven)	Strategic Director Adults, Interim Director Children's Services, Leicester City Council	✓		
Hillary Barrett	Assistant Director, Cafcass	✓		
Jenny Myers	Independent Chair of the LSCB	✓		
Lee Brentnall	Ambulance Operations Manager Communication, Engagement and Safeguarding, EMAS		✓	
Manjit Darby	Director of Nursing and Quality, NHS Midlands and East (Central Midlands)	✓		
Nikki Thompson	Barnardo's Locality Children's Services Manager		✓	
Michael Hopkinson	Senior Operational Support Manager, National Probation Service, LLR	✓		
Pratima Patel	LSCB Policy Officer			✓
Pretty Patel	Head of Law, Social Care and Safeguarding, Leicester City Council			✓
Ruth Lake	Director of Adult Social Care and Safeguarding, Leicester City Council		✓	
Ruth Tennant	Director of Public Health, Leicester City Council		✓	
Sarah Russell, Cllr	Lead Member, Leicester City Council			✓
Shabir Ismail	Deputy Principal, Leicester College	✓		
Sima Chauhan	Lay Member	✓		
Simon Cure	Head of Serious Crime, Leicestershire Police	✓		
Teo Bot (Steven Gauntley)	Interim Head of Service, Children's Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, Leicester CC	✓		
Victoria Peach	Head of Professional Practice and Education, Leicestershire Partnership Trust	✓		

Appendix 2 - LSCB Finances 2017/18

The LSCB Staffing and Financial Arrangements

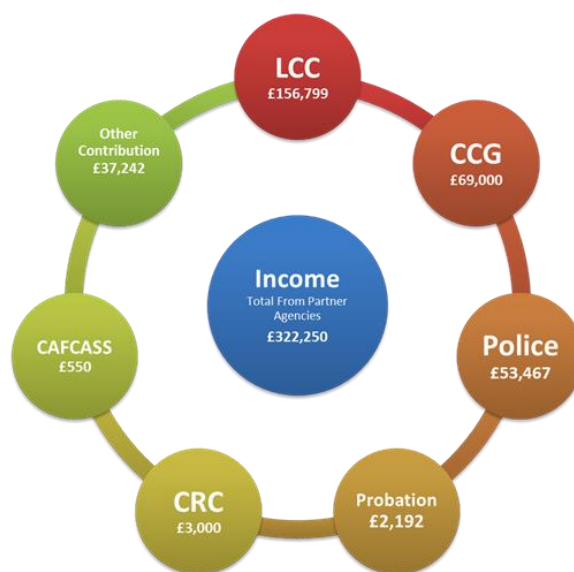
Having the right finances and resources is key for the partnerships success to meet its statutory obligations and have an impact on the delivery of Leicester's children's safeguarding arrangements.

The LSCB annual budget needs to pay for its administrative and business support functions as well as the cost of training and development on a multi-agency basis and to enable it to carry out its agreed business plan objectives. This includes the cost of any Serious Case Reviews and other learning drawn from audit and other review processes. In previous years the LSCB has required an uplift from partners to meet their commitments, however in 2017/18 a fully profiled and balanced budget was achieved.

The LSCB base line budget in 2017/2018 was £322,250 (a reduction of £61,125 or 16% from the previous year). The chart to the right illustrates how the LSCB income was arrived at from partner contributions and other sources.

As can be seen, partner agencies have remained committed to supporting the LSCB arrangements and the funding partners maintained their individual contribution at the same base line level as in 2016/17.

The chart below illustrates the expenditure in 2017/18 against each of the agreed spending strands. This includes all elements of expenditure on staffing, case reviews, staffing and other improvement work.



In house costs were further reduced and managed by LSCB partners providing a variety of resources including administration support for subgroup meetings, free venues for training events and staff time to deliver training and contribute to assurance activity.

A review of the staffing establishment and recruitment of permanent staff reduced staffing costs in 2017/18 by £61,265.

There was also a range of measures taken within the Business Office to ensure that costs were reduced through reducing printing, meeting costs and harnessing technologies.

Therefore, due to these efficiency measures and carefully monitoring of the LSCB activities and total spend the budget was sufficient to meet the LSCB's financial obligations in 2017/18.



Further information about the LSCB

For further Information about the Leicester Safeguarding Children Board including news, procedures and useful links see the LSCB [website](#).

Leicester Safeguarding Children Board

Bosworth House

9-15 Princess Road West

Leicester City Council

Leicester City Council

LE1 6TH

LSCB Office: 01164546520

Office Email: lcitylscb@leicester.gov.uk

Secure Email: lcitylscb@leicester.gcsx.gov.uk