

WELCOME TO THE 6TH ISSUE OF THE NEWSLETTER

This is an exciting edition with some important messages around learning from the LSCB multiagency domestic abuse and child sexual exploitation audits, the implementation of Operation Encompass, and a hard-hitting film regarding the dangers posed to children and young people from Internet grooming. The reviewed LLR LSCB multiagency safeguarding procedures are now available, as is information on the LLR LSCB safeguarding training. We are holding an event for practitioners on children with disabilities focusing on assessments aimed at improving the quality of assessment and practice to safeguard children with disabilities. This will take place on 5th November 2018 and 17th January 2019 - make sure that you book your place. The LSCB Annual Report 2017/2018 has also been published, which is statutory duty. It demonstrates the variety of work that agencies have undertaken to ensure the safeguarding of children and promoting their welfare, as well as highlights existing challenges and emerging themes around emotional health and well-being. The LSCB Annual report is available at: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/news/leicester-safeguarding-children-board-newsletter/>

Please do take time to read this edition and we welcome feedback as well as contribution to the Newsletter, please get in touch with us should you wish to contribute to the next issue.

Jenny Myers, LSCB Independent Chair

This issue covers:

- Youth Service
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Operation Encompass
- LLR LSCB Multiagency Safeguarding Procedures
- LSCB Multiagency Audits: Domestic Abuse; Child Sexual Exploitation
- LLR LSCB Safeguarding Training and Learning
- Information/Resources

Youth Service – Leicester City



Leicester City Council Youth Service support the personal and social development of young people aged 13-19 (25 SEND), and provide an update on the service here.

We offer Open Access Youth Sessions, Targeted Youth Support, sessions for SEND Young people, Young carers sessions and Street Based Youth Work. We also deliver the 'A Slice of Reality' knife crime programme.



Over the summer we have been working in partnership with Leicester Shire Police, Leicester City Football Club and the Office of Police and Crime Commissioner to offer seven youth festivals across the City. These Youth Festivals delivered sports, information about youth services during the holidays, football

zorbing, live music, festival face painting and some interactive activities around knife crime. We have been working tirelessly with our partners to educate young people on the risks and consequences of knife crime and we know that we have much, much more work to do ahead of us.

We also took 20 young people from all areas of the City on a weekend residential to PGL Caythorpe Court in Lincolnshire. The trip aimed to break down barriers between young people across Leicester's diverse communities and encourage social and community cohesion. It also aimed to build confidence, resilience and provide young people with an opportunity to learn from a new experience.

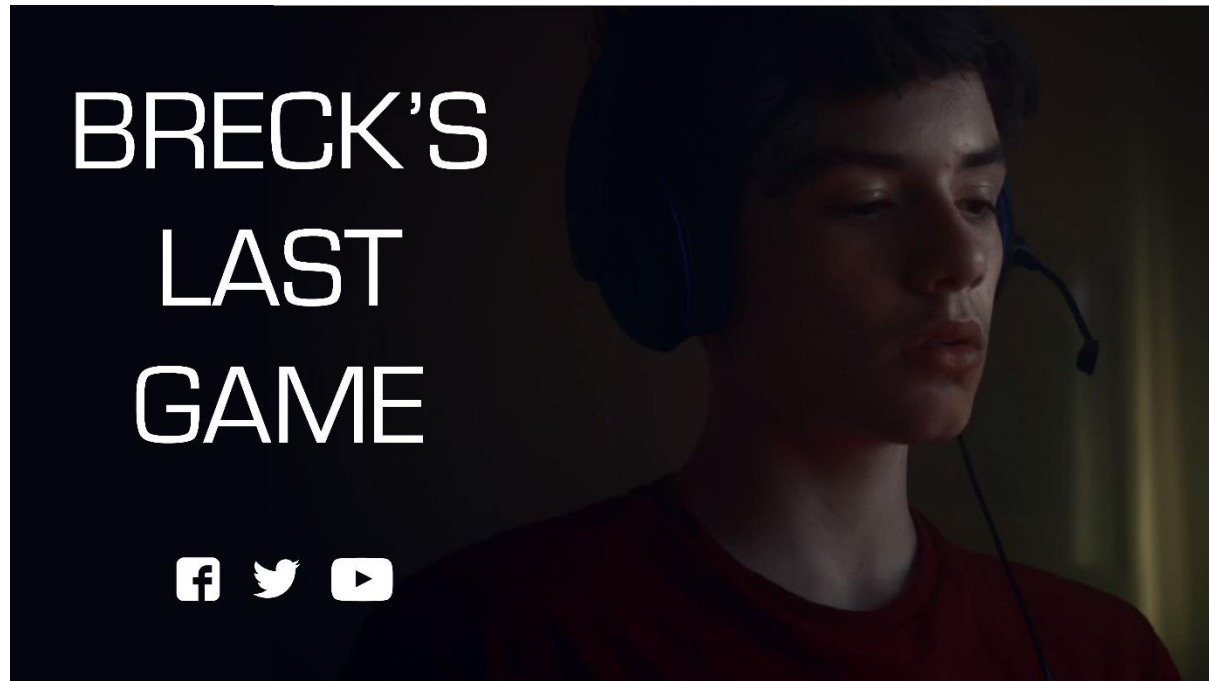


We have now secured a strong partnership with Leicester City Football Club and over the coming months we will be more than doubling our offer of open access youth sessions and covering much more of the City. The project is called 'Youth Power' and will be officially launched on 1st November 2018.

If you want to keep up with our developing service and for more information, you can follow us on Facebook (Leicester City Youth Service), Instagram (Leicester.Youth.Service) or visit our website,

<https://www.leicester.gov.uk/schools-and-learning/support-for-children-and-young-people/youth-services/>

Child Sexual Exploitation



Launch of major campaign aimed at helping protect children online

A major campaign called *Breck's Last Game* has been launched, to help protect children in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland from online grooming.

At its centrepiece is a short film which tells the true story of Surrey teenager Breck Bednar, who was killed by Essex computer engineer Lewis Daynes in 2014 after months of online grooming. Daynes ran an online server where Breck, and several of his friends, played games online. It was through this forum that Daynes groomed the teenager over 13 months – telling him a series of lies, turning him against family and friends, and eventually luring him to his flat on the promise of handing over a fake business.

Breck's Last Game is a collaborative project between Leicestershire, Northamptonshire, Essex and Surrey police forces. Twelve months of consultation with nearly 1000

experts affirmed the need to make the film and to show it to children, in a supportive and controlled way, with the underlying message: do you really know who your online friends are?

Breck's Last Game follows on from the highly acclaimed *Kayleigh's Love Story* which has directly led to children coming forward to disclose grooming or abuse. It is hoped *Breck's Last Game* will have the same impact and will especially lead to increased reporting from boys – research shows that nationally 33% of all victims of sexual exploitation are believed to be male. However, less than 12% go on to report abuse.

A series of media launches have taken place in each of the four force areas and the film will now be rolled out to secondary schools in these areas. It will be accompanied by comprehensive resource packs including lesson plans, advice for parents and information sheets.

A trailer for the film can be seen here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alwl6roEmKO>. At the time of writing, this had been viewed 190k times.

The full version of *Breck's Last Game* will not be released online until early 2019, to allow

time for it to be shown to students in schools in controlled, supportive environments.

For more information about the campaign, contact:

claire.tompkins@leicestershire.pnn.police.uk

Operation Encompass

Joining up support for children with Operation Encompass



Children are affected by witnessing violence in their home.

We know children are affected when they witness violence in their home. Imagine what it must be like for a child or young person having to cope with going to school the day after a domestic violence incident. Schools can make a difference to that child, and are better prepared to support them if they know about the situation.

Operation Encompass is an initiative to notify schools following a police call-out relating to domestic violence at a home of a child or young person the evening before. The initiative has been running for about six months in Leicester, and currently up to 20 schools are being contacted every day.

Quick facts

- 70-90 primary and secondary schools in Leicester get at least one notification over a month.
- Mondays are busy - there can be three times as many notifications after a weekend as on other school days.
- 20% of the referrals are about children and young people who aren't known to Leicester's Social Care and Early Help services.

Jackie Difolco, Head of Early Help service at Leicester City Council explains the scheme: *"We've always had information from the police regarding domestic violence, but now through Operation Encompass when we receive that information we make contact with all of the schools. The reason we do that is to notify them that there's been an incident, and for them to have the information to be able to support that child or young person in school. Support would range from a very young child maybe being given a toy to help comfort them in class, or maybe an older child or young person to think about having some time-out from lessons, or someone to talk to about what's happened the previous evening."*

"On the whole schools have received it as a very positive way of working. It also enables schools to build a picture around other things that have been happening in the school, and to think about whether they need to do any follow-up action as a result."

Comments on the scheme from schools:

- *'The information provided is so valuable. We can keep an eye on the children; some of them need some nurturing during the day.'* A primary school
- *'Operation Encompass is massively helpful.'* A secondary school
- *'Very affective service - it allows us to observe any changes.'* A secondary school

- *'The school feel they are building good relationships with parents due to Operation Encompass.'* A primary school
- *'Teachers are now able to link the child's behaviour to what is going on at home.'* A secondary school
- *'Operation Encompass helps to build a picture of what's going on in a child's life.'* A primary school
- *'It alerts us to children who are not on our radar.'* A secondary school

Jackie has outlined the next plans for Early Help and Operation Encompass:

1. To collect feedback from children, young people and their families about their experience of Operation Encompass and what difference it's made for them.

2. To extend the scheme to cover Early Years: childcare providers and childminders.
3. To support schools in helping children to access help when they need it, especially bearing in mind the 1 in 5 referrals where the children involved aren't already known to Social Care.

Find out more about the scheme by searching Operation Encompass on the Leicester Safeguarding Children Board website lcitylscb.org

Read more about the WRONG domestic violence awareness campaign on the Leicester City Council

website <http://bit.ly/wrongcampaign>

Want to join the Operation Encompass scheme?

Email operation-encompass@leicester.gov.uk

LLR LSCB Multi-Agency Safeguarding Procedures – did you know these have been updated?

The LLR LSCB multi-agency safeguarding procedures have been updated as stated below. The procedures are available at: <http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/contents.html>

Updated Chapters

Assessment Protocol

Referrals to Children's Social Care

Child in Need Assessment and Plan

Strategy Discussions

Section 47 Enquiries

Achieving Best Evidence in Criminal Proceedings

Bullying

E-Safety: Children Exposed to Abuse through the Digital Media

Fabricated or Induced Illness

Gangs, Group Activity, Youth Violence and Criminal Exploitation Affecting Children

Underlying Policy, Principles and Values

New Chapters

Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Removed Chapters

- Culturally Appropriate Practice; Race and Racism – there is now a statement in the values section of the procedure as consideration of diversity and equality factors should ‘part and parcel’ in practice.
- Family Group Conferences/Meetings.
- Harm to Animals and Possible Implications for Children.
- Safeguarding Trafficked Children; Modern Slavery – there is now a new chapter which includes these aspects.

LSCB Multiagency Audits - What is the key learning?

LSCB Multiagency Domestic Abuse Audit: Key findings/learning is stated below – the audit summary/briefing is available at <http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/lscb-multi-agency-audits/>

- No concerns were identified at the audit discussion meeting regarding the children being left at risk or the immediate safety of those children whose cases were audited.
- Compliance to procedures was variable. There was evidence of compliance in some cases and agencies, but not in all cases across the partnership. In one case, there was evidence of the *practitioner's* “...many unsuccessful attempts to liaise with the social worker, but no evidence that the practitioner sought advice around raising this as a concern”. This issue could have been escalated for quicker response. In another case, the mother alleged FGM had taken place on her and her daughter, however, there was no evidence of consideration of the need to report this by the identifying agency as per national guidance. It was also unclear if medical assessments had taken place (as relevant) as part of the intervention by Children’s Social Care.
- Accurate case recording was demonstrated across most cases and agencies, but not all, as issues were identified. For example, religion and language was not recorded in the demographic information (in one case). Meetings and tools used in assessment were not evident on a case record (research and tools were not used in all the cases audited). In two cases, the child was flagged on the GP records as being on Child Protection when following the Initial Child Protection Conference, they were not made the subject of a Child Protection Plan and were Child in Need (CiN). It was identified, that adults who pose a risk to the child(ren) should be flagged on the record, and that adults should be involved in the DASH risk assessment. The audit discussion group was informed that GPs are using UAVA to support them (where required) to complete the DASH assessment, and that other practitioners might also find this support helpful.
- Consideration of the lived experience/voice of the child was evident, but there were also instances where children’s views were not sought/obtained suggesting that practice in this area needs improving.
- There was evidence of effective multiagency working. For example, there was multiagency representation at multi-agency meetings (CiN)/Reviews and clear and concise CiN reports received with key actions sent to partners in a timely way. Assessments and planning considered the child’s SEN needs, the child’s views were sought and life chances were improving. There was evidence of multiagency safeguarding planning (pre-birth assessments, core-groups, plans) for unborn children, where it was identified in the cases being audited, that the mother was pregnant.
- There were also instances identified where practice could be improved. For example, key contacts/agencies were not known by all the relevant agencies and all agencies were not invited to a multi-agency meeting, impacting on contribution to safeguarding planning. It was suggested that the coordination and administration process for Child Protection Conferences could be “SMARTER” to ensure that invitations are sent to the right people, including GPs. In one case an issue around the timeliness of core group meetings following the Child Protection Conference was also identified, despite the first core group date being set at conference. This issue should have been raised by the Chair of the Child Protection Conference at the next Conference. A single agency assurance activity is to be conducted on the timeliness of core groups and effectiveness of plans by the LA’s Safeguarding Unit.
- Information sharing between agencies needs improving; One audit identified that information about a case heard at MARAC did not “filter” down to other relevant agencies. At the audit discussion meeting, the auditors queried:
 - How information on MARAC (i.e. where a case had been to MARAC) could be passed on to the Child Protection Conference Chair and possibly recorded on the on the child’s case file?
 - Who amends the records of children with Children’s Social Care where there has been a change in the child’s GP?
- In one case, where the primary concern seemed to be CSE, the GP was unaware of the issue of domestic abuse.

- The school (in one case) were aware of some domestic abuse within the home but did not have direct contact or information about the work done with the family.
- Management oversight was evident in most of the cases and agencies. Contradiction between what was viewed as good management oversight and the quality of practice was identified (in one case). For example, the quality of assessment and safeguarding planning and the consideration of the child's views/lived experience was not considered 'good', but management oversight was, as there was regular supervision, both manager and social worker appeared to have good knowledge of the case, and there was evidence of oversight in earlier assessments. In another case, lack of engagement from the parents/family was identified and management aware of this, but it was unclear whether there had been any direction of how to move this forward or to escalate this issue. Use of interpreters where relevant and consideration of the child's culture was evident in some cases. Overall, diversity was not considered in the wider context such as exploring and gaining understanding of the child/family's heritage, culture, religion and community networks, and 'protected characteristics' as stated in the Equality Act 2010.

LSCB Multiagency Child Sexual Exploitation Audit: Key findings/learning is stated below – the audit summary/briefing is available at <http://www.lcitylscb.org/information-for-practitioners/lscb-multi-agency-audits/>

What's working well?

- Communication between agencies including sharing of information. For example:
- Good information sharing, particularly with another area, during transfer.
- Good communication between services
- Multiagency working. For example, meetings were well attended and agencies were committed.
- Records are SMART, show good multiagency information sharing.
- Practice complies with LSCB procedures.
- The risks seemed to be managed.
- Assessments were timely and plans were responsive and addressed concerns. For example:
 - The assessment was up to date and there was a strong genogram (in one case).
 - The child was known to CAMHS, the appointments were timely and the child was seen within appropriate timescales (after threats of suicide). The case was reviewed regularly by CAMHS. There was communication between the CAMHS worker and the carer and good multiagency working.
 - Regular CAMHS assessments.
 - Review Health Assessment taken place.
 - Evidence of 'voice of the child'.
 - Child has strong relation with the CSE worker, very consistent work.
 - Plan in place based on assessment, has been timely, responsive and addressed key concerns.
 - Smart, clear timescales are evident.
- Plan set up with the school if child is absent. Regular 1:1 sessions with staff support and team of support staff to ensure child is safe.

What are you worried about?

- Concerns around multiagency working was raised by one agency – difficulties in getting hold of people they needed to contact.
- No evidence of a health representative at a strategy meeting.
- The School nurse had not received an invitation to the Initial Child Protection Conference (in one case).
- A huge number of professionals were involved in one case and the plan was not cohesive with all the information.
- In one case, although there was an appropriate response to the referral to Children's Social Care:
 - There was no mention of CSE in the assessment and this was raised following the missing episode.
 - No evidence of any updated assessments from the original assessment and consideration of the circumstances of the birth parents and no involvement from the CSE team.
 - The child was identified to be 'not safe' and 'very vulnerable', and an 'in-house' learning review is taking place around this case.
 - Child Protection Plan did not pull everything together and there was no evidence of a cohesive plan.
 - No record that the child was on a Child Protection Plan on the GP system, and learning from the audit will be fed back to the GPs.
 - The education setting was concerned about the child's lack of attendance and concerned that the missing episodes will increase during the summer holiday. They were also unhappy with the provision in place for the child and it was identified that an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP) was currently not in place.
- Current schooling not meeting the child's need (in one case).
- There was no transition plan in evidence, where there should have been, and there was no evidence of any work undertaken on living skills.

What Needs to Happen?

1. Administration of Child Protection Conferences should ensure that all relevant agencies/practitioners are invited to Child Protection Conference.
2. Child Protection Conference Chairs should ensure that where there is involvement from a wide range of agencies/practitioners that all relevant information is pulled together into a cohesive plan.
3. All relevant agencies should be invited to and attend strategy meetings.
4. Children's views need to be taken into account.
5. Agencies involved with a child should share their agency's contact details including who to contact when the named practitioner is not available.
6. Adult Social Care should consider the transition needs of the young person and not that of the parents (adults).
7. LPT to confirm that health summaries take place for children aged between 17 and 18 years old, and that practitioners follow the LPT CSE pathway and also to provide feedback to CAMHS of the abbreviations used by them.
8. CCG to feedback to the GPs that they ensure that Children on Child Protection Plans are flagged on their system/records.
9. Education Health Care Plan to be put in place (in one case).

LLR LSCB Safeguarding Training and Learning – What's happening?

Hi Everyone,

A lot has changed over the last few months around multi-agency learning. The revised Safeguarding Children Competency Framework has been published and is on the website: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/media/1540/competency-framework-02.pdf>.

This is much simpler than before, but is similar in that it is a competency framework and allows you to use different sorts of learning rather than just training to meet the minimum expected safeguarding children standards of the LSCB.

To introduce the revised framework, we are holding some briefing sessions, which will give an overview and will also look at how it can be used: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/lscb-learning-development/training-resources/upcoming-training-events/>.

Please come along and see how the framework looks now and how it will fit into your agency and role.

The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Training Programme is now up and running and there are some training dates on the LSCB website around themed Safeguarding: <http://www.lcitylscb.org/lscb-learning-development/training-resources/upcoming-training-events/>.

We are also looking at having some specific safeguarding training delivered in a tiered way, which is currently being developed, so please check the LSCB website for new dates.

Following multi-agency audits across LLR regarding Children with Disabilities there is an event being delivered: 'Safeguarding Children with Disabilities – Focus on Assessment'.

This event is for anyone who works with children and families and not those who work specifically with disabilities. It is a repeat event, so please only book on to one 😊:
<http://www.lcitylscb.org/lscb-learning-development/training-resources/upcoming-training-events/>

If you have any questions about the above - please do not hesitate to contact me:
elizabeth.dunn@leicester.gov.uk or Khalid: khalid.arif@leicester.gov.uk

Thanks,
Liz

Information/Resources

Action for Children - Research, resources and information

<http://www.actionforchildren.org.uk/policy-research>

Barnardo's - Research and information including fact sheets

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/what_we_do/policy_research_unit/research_and_publications.htm

Sign up for regular Newsletter:

http://www.barnardos.org.uk/email_subscription_form.htm

Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Boards' Procedures (staff can register to be alerted on updates)

<http://lscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/contents.html>

National Children's Bureau - Policy, research and information

National Working Group Network (NWG) – Tackling child sexual exploitation

<http://www.nwgnetwork.org/>

National Referral Mechanism (NRM) - The Government's National Referral Mechanism guidance and referral forms can be accessed at the link below. The referral and assessment forms

should be used to report potential victims of human trafficking

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/human-trafficking-victims-referral-and-assessment-forms>

NSPCC – Information, research, briefings, resources and the [National Repository of published Serious Case Reviews](#)

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Office of the Children's Commissioner for England - Information, briefings and research on issues affecting children and young people, and the final report of the Office of the Children's Commissioner's *Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups* (November 2013)

<http://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk>

Research in Practice - Research, information and resources to support evidence informed practice

<http://www.rip.org.uk/>

(Leicester City Council employees can register using their work email address)

Safeguarding in Education - Further Information

<http://www.lcitylscb.org/safeguarding-learning-development-training/safeguarding-in-education/>

Further information about the LSCB

Information about the LSCB including the Board, sub-groups, information for children & young people, parents & carers and practitioners including news, procedures and useful links is available on the LSCB [website](#).

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