2011/12 ANNUAL REPORT
and
2012/13 BUSINESS PLAN

Funding Partners:

Peterborough City Council
Cambridgeshire Constabulary
NHS Peterborough
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Probation Trust
Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)

Board Partners:

As above
Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Foundation Trust
Schools
NSPCC

Contents:

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FOREWORD:

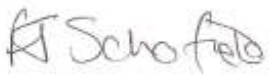
Welcome to the Peterborough Safeguarding Board's 2011-12 annual report. This has been another challenging year for partner agencies across Peterborough, with continued resource constraints and major organisational change, especially across the health service, the police and children's services.

At the beginning of the year, the death of a child from abuse and the subsequent serious case review shocked and distressed us all. However, partners have responded by working together in a challenging and constructive way so that lessons have been learnt and subsequently implemented.

Also, as this year began, we became aware that the improvements within children's social care which had been reported during the previous year had run into difficulty and that the service's ability to respond to safeguarding referrals was deteriorating. However, the true extent of these difficulties did not become apparent to either the Board or to individual partners until the Ofsted inspection of safeguarding in August 2011, which judged safeguarding services to be inadequate. Whilst the improvements made by the Board itself and the work of partners were both judged to be satisfactory, the extent of the challenges facing children's social care were huge.

It is difficult to overstate the turmoil that results from such an inspection outcome, not only across children's services but across the partnership, making 'normal service' almost impossible. However, by December 2011 we had a new interim director of children's services and some stability and a sense of direction was becoming more evident. This sense of purpose, together with optimism for the future, has continued through the remainder of the year with the arrival of two new assistant directors both of whom demonstrated their commitment to partnership working at an early stage.

Throughout this difficult year, partners have continued to demonstrate their willingness to support both the work of the Board and to improve safeguarding services for children and their families. I should like to thank everyone from front line practitioners through to senior managers for their continued hard work and dedication.



Felicity Schofield
Chair
June 2012

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to

- Provide an outline of the main activity and achievements of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) during 2011 – 2012
- Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding activity in the city
- Provide the general public, practitioners and main stakeholders with an overview of how well children in Peterborough are protected
- Identify gaps in service development and any challenges ahead.

The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) is established under section 13 of the Children Act 2004 which required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) by the 1 April 2006. Detailed guidance, issued under section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, is contained in Working Together to Safeguard Children; Chapter 3 (revised 2010)

The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 introduced a requirement for LSCB's to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. Subsequently the Government's response to Professor Munro's review of child protection (2011) was to agree that the annual report should be submitted to the Chief Executive and Leader of the Council.

THE BOARD OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board's purpose is to co-ordinate and to ensure the effectiveness of local arrangements and services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- protecting children from maltreatment; and
- preventing impairment of children's health and development; and
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

Our Vision is to safeguard and protect all the children of Peterborough

This is achieved through:

- engaging in activities that safeguard all children and aim to identify and prevent maltreatment or impairment of health and development
- leading and co-ordinating proactive work that aims to target particular groups
- leading and co-ordinating arrangements for responsive work to protect children who are suffering or at risk of suffering maltreatment (Working Together Chapter 1 paragraphs 1.20 – 1.24)

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board undertakes its work recognising the diverse needs of children and will promote equality of opportunity.

In order to promote the highest standards of safeguarding work Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board encourages a culture of constructive challenge and continuous improvement by and between member organisations.

STRUCTURE CHART

PSCB Office:
Business Manager Full Time
Training & Development Mgr 3 days
Business Support Officers 1 Full time
1 x 20 hours

The main board, the operational chairs group, serious case review panel, child death overview panel and each subgroup have their own terms of reference, annual work plans and reporting expectations. The work plans of the groups are the way in which the PSCB business plan is progressed.

Each subgroup is chaired by an agency representative and each has multi-agency representation. Groups are supported by the Business Manager and Business Support Officers. The Independent Chair of the Board meets with group chairs on a bi-monthly basis. The Board receives reports on a regular planned basis from the chairs of the groups.

MEMBERSHIP

Name	Agency
Felicity (Flick) Schofield	Independent Chair
Malcolm Newsam	Executive Director Children's Services
Sue Westcott	Assistant Director Safeguarding Families & Communities
Jill Houghton	Director or Nursing and Quality, NHS Cambridgeshire and Peterborough
Mark Hopkins	Assistant Chief Constable Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Ian Clift	Associate Director - Patient Experience, Cambs & Peterborough Foundation Trust
Chris Wilkinson	Director of Nursing, Peterborough & Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Mike Dyson	Assistant chief Probation Officer, Cambridgeshire
Issy Atkinson	Service Manager, CAFCASS
Emilia Wawrzkowicz	Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children, NHS Peterborough
Nick Edwards	Service Manager, NSPCC
Tim Bishop	Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning, Adult Social Care
Chris Emerson	Lay Member
Iain Easton	Head of Youth Offending Service
Kathy McDermott	Head Teacher; Representing Primary Schools
Georgie Billin	Asst. Principal; Representing Secondary Schools

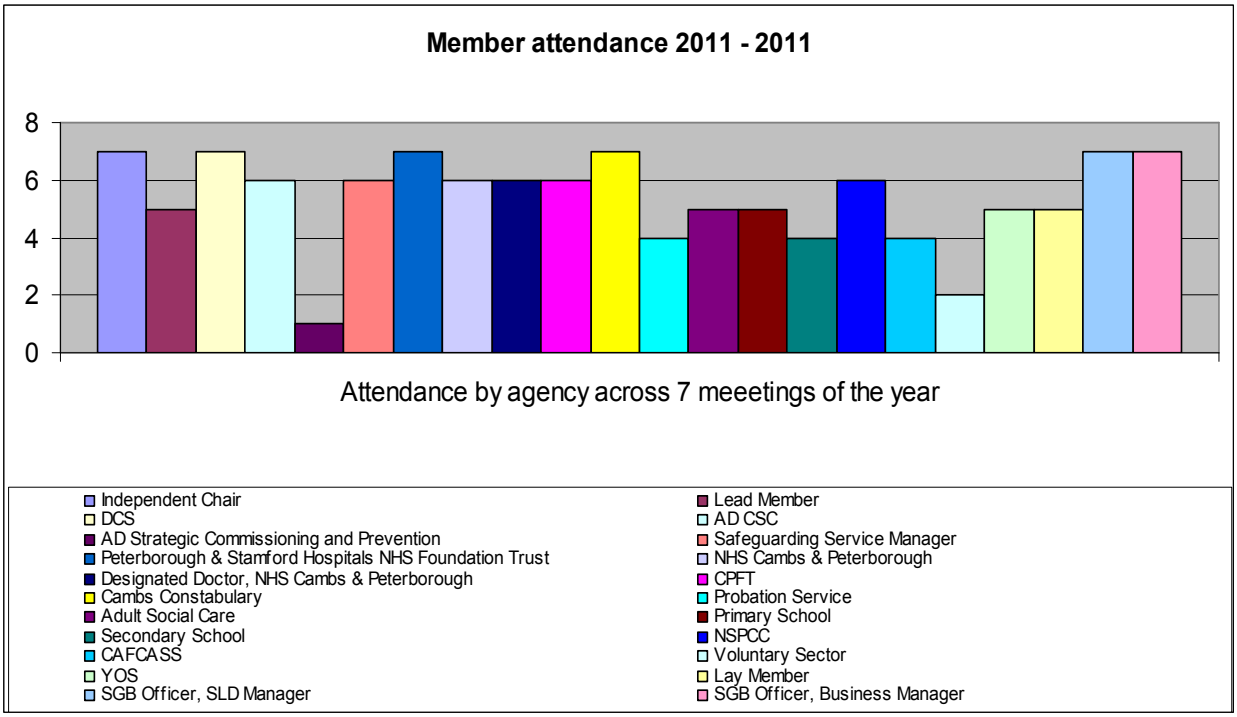
The membership has changed considerably during the year as a result of organisational change across the partnership.

A Lay member was recruited during the year who attended a development day and sits on the communication and information subgroup as well as on the Board.

Peterborough City Council has two lead members who have shared the responsibilities. Councillor Sheila Scott, lead member Children's Services and Councillor John Holdich OBE, lead member Education, Skills and University. They attend as participant observers. Elaine Lewis from Legal Services at Peterborough City Council is the Legal Adviser to the Board.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

The PSCB met 7 times during the year, one of these meetings being the development day. Regular and consistent attendance does make a difference. Analysis of the attendance for 2011-12 is good as can be seen below. Members who had not attended were contacted by letter and subsequently two members ceased to have membership of the Board



BUDGET 2011 - 12

The budget is made up of contributions from partner agencies as shown below. The year began with an under spend which has been carried forward and will be partly used in 2012 – 2013 to pay for a half time Quality Assurance & Performance Officer (for one year) and will also be protected to pay for any further Serious Case Reviews which may need to be undertaken

Contributions from partner agencies:

Income in £ from Agency	**2011 - 12**
Peterborough City Council:	75,911
PCT	47,812
Police	37,773
Probation	9,664

CAFCASS		550
	TOTAL	**172,710**

Costs:

Staff Costs (inc. on costs)	74,989
Independent Chairing – LSCB	37,796
Consultants (Overview Author)	8,296
Training (Trainers ,venues & refreshments)	7,597
Computer Equipment & Programmes	8,579
Other Supplies and Services (includes 2 Business Support Officers and photocopying, stationery etc)	37,896
TOTAL	**175,153**

MEASURING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE BOARD

The table below provides a self assessment of the PSCB and includes findings (in italics) from recent inspections, using the model developed by the centre for Research in Social Policy in their Research Report "The evaluation of arrangements for the effective operation of new local safeguarding children boards in England" (March 2010). This model is based on research which identified the factors which were more likely to ensure the effectiveness of an LSCB as a strategic partnership.

Effectiveness Factor	**Effectiveness Indicator**
Chairing, Governance and Accountability	
Strong Leadership of the Independent Chair	The current Chair has been in post since May 2010. *"Progress has been made in establishing the PSCB which is now operating in an adequate manner"* Ofsted Sept 2011
Clarity of Governance	PSCB has a comprehensive governance document. The Board has a "Memorandum of Understanding" with the Children's Trust about respective roles which will need updating when the new arrangements are in place.
Understanding roles & responsibilities of Board members	The governance document is provided for all board members. An induction workshop has been developed this year for new members.

Priorities and Focus	The PSCB's priorities are outlined in the Business Plan. *"The business plan is good and provides impetus for the continued development and improvement of the board. Agency commitment to promoting safeguarding awareness across the city is good and underpinned by a wide range of accessible inter-agency training and publicity material"* Ofsted Sept 2011
Clear planning and reviewing of work	The business plan is underpinned by the individual work plans for each subgroup. These plans are reviewed at a bi-monthly chairs meeting. *"There has been some effective work undertaken by the board within its subgroups"* Ofsted Sept 2011
Clarity of purpose, values and vision	The governance document which includes the constitution and the business plan, details the vision, values and purpose of the board.
Appropriate levels of seniority	Board members are senior managers within their agencies. Details of membership are on page 6
Stability of Board membership	Membership of the board at agency level has been stable although as a result of organisational change the representation has changed. The graph below demonstrates generally good attendance.
Communication	
Strong partnership exists between LSCB and Safeguarding Operational Teams	The Board produces a regular newsletter for practitioners. Better communication from and to front line practitioners has been identified as an area for improvement the coming year
Open communication and shared language between professionals	The board has held 2 "front door workshops to "hear the voice" of practitioners but wants to improve on this issue in the coming year. It has re-established biannual workshops with practitioners from the voluntary and community sector.
Resources	
The LSCB has capacity to fulfil its responsibilities	The LSCB has a team of 4. Business Manager (full time), Training & Development Manager (22 hours) and 2 Business Support Officers (1x full time and 1 x 20 hour). It has agreed to support a Performance & Quality Assurance Officer for next year to drive the Performance Framework. The budget is currently adequate and enables the work to be undertaken.

EXTERNAL REVIEW OF THE BOARD

An independent review of the safeguarding board was undertaken in March 2012 as part of the work being led by the Improvement Board & the interim Director of Children's Services. The review was generally positive, recognising the journey the Board had been on since the Ofsted inspection of May 2010, when it was criticised. There were a small number of recommendations confined to key issues and these are set out below:

Recommendation 1	The implementation of the elements of the Improvement Plan that specify a role for the PSCB should be the highest priority of the PSCB and should take precedence (along with implementing recommendations arising from the SCR) in its business plan and agendas for the next year. In particular the PSCB should be clear how and when the actions and aims ascribed to it are to be achieved and who is responsible for working on them. Progress on each of the aims and actions above should be monitored at each meeting of the PSCB.
The business plan for 2012 – 2013 references where each objective is linked to the improvement plan	
Recommendation 2	The PSCB should review the monitoring and evaluation function of the main board and sub groups (taking into account the issues raised above) and produce an implementation plan for the further development of the function with immediate focus on key areas identified in the Improvement Plan. Partner agencies should provide additional staffing resources to the PSCB support team over at least the next year to assist with this.
A revised performance management framework and dataset has been agreed. A Performance and Quality Assurance Officer post is being recruited to and reports to the board are being identified as for monitoring effectiveness, decision making and briefing/information purposes.	
Recommendation 3	The independent chair of the PSCB should be a member of the revamped Children's Trust Board.
It has been agreed that the chair will be a member of the new Children's Trust arrangements	
Recommendation 4	In order to strengthen the leadership role of the PSCB and its monitoring function and to ensure key messages from the PSCB reach the highest level of governance and management in partner agencies in a timely way, the PSCB should negotiate with partner agencies changes to the PSCB constitution along the lines set out in the governance section of this report.
It has been agreed that the annual report and business plan will be sent formally to the chief executive and chair of the governing body of statutory partners with a request that it is considered by their senior management team. Any comments will be reported back to the PSCB Chair	
Recommendation 5	• Consideration should be given to there being a senior manager from the education arm of the City Council's Children's Services on the PSCB main board. • The PSCB should commission an annual report which provides an overview of the main issues arising from an analysis of annual reports on safeguarding to school governing bodies. • The Child Protection Information Network (CPIN) should replace the Safeguarding in Education Group and it the

	organiser of the CPIN should be a member of the chairs group. • A member of the PSCB main board should attend each meeting of the CPIN
An Education in Safeguarding report has been requested for presentation to the Board in November. CPIN has now replaced the Safeguarding in Education Group	

PROGRESS AGAINST THE PRIORITIES OUTLINED IN THE 2011 – 2012 BUSINESS PLAN

The Business Plan for 2011 – 2012 was published as an appendix to the annual report 2010 – 2011. It was developed around 5 priorities which in turn informed the work of the sub-committees.

Performance Management

A performance management framework was agreed by the board in February 2011 and implemented. The outcomes from this are described within the framework (page 12-14) and in the report of the work of the Quality Assurance Group (see page 15). However, following the inspection, the Board recognised that a more robust approach was needed and a revised framework was implemented in March 2012 ready for implementation in the coming year.

Improve Processes and Procedures and Practice

The interagency procedures have been reviewed and are regularly updated on our website. New practice guidance has been agreed and implemented (see page 21-22)
Awareness of safe recruitment procedures and practices have been highlighted with a drive to deliver training to a wider audience

Training

A standard level 1 training pack has been developed for use by individual agencies to adapt for their own needs. This ensures a level of consistency across agencies. The annual training programme has continued to be organised to meet the needs of the target audiences laid out in Working Together 2010.

Raise Public Awareness

A communication strategy has been designed to be able to re-act to media interest (such as a Serious Case Review) and to be proactive in communicating information regarding safeguarding to the public and professionals. Increasingly the website is used by professionals and the public as can be seen by the statistics overleaf.

3,228 people visited this site

Visits: 4,440

Unique Visitors: 3,228

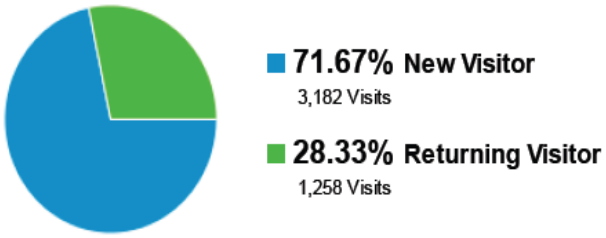
Pageviews: 15,515

Pages / Visit: 3.49

Avg. Visit Duration: 00:02:27

Bounce Rate: 37.68%

% New Visits: 71.62%



THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS OF THIS REPORT WILL COMMENT ON THE STATUTORY FUNCTIONS OF THE BOARD AS OUTLINED IN THE INTRODUCTION.

- To monitor the effectiveness of local work.
- To co-ordinate local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL WORK TO SAFEGUARD & PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

A performance management framework was agreed by the board in February 2011. The table below sets out the Board's progress as measured against that framework. It should be noted, however, that this framework did fail to identify quickly enough the shortfalls in safeguarding performance and, following the inspection in August 2011, a more robust framework was developed ready for implementation from April 2012.

Subject	Report to/ frequency	Responsible	Purpose	Progress
Serious Case Review Action Plans (SCR's)	SCR Group to Chairs Group quarterly and PSCB six monthly	Chair of SCR Group	To enable the Board to monitor progress and impact from recommendations arising from serious case reviews.	The action plan from a previous year was signed off and another SCR was completed during the year. The action plan has been completed.
S11 Audit	PSCB QA Group quarterly, Chairs Group and PSCB six monthly	PSCB chair person, PSCB Manager & chair of QA Group	To enable the Board to monitor partner agencies' progress in fulfilling their safeguarding duties under	The S11 Action Plan regarding Inadequate responses is complete.

			Section 11 of the Children Act 2004.	Further scrutiny was undertaken of 2 specific standards
Single agency audits and quality assurance data	QA Group as and when completed	QA Group	To assure the Board that members are monitoring their own safeguarding practice effectively. Reports to the board will identify any performance area which might be of concern to the Board, together with action being taken by the Agency.	The group received information about children missing education, adoption, an audit of supervision and hospital concern sheets but failed to get agencies to report on their audit work in a way which enabled any emerging patterns across the partnership to be identified.
Multi Agency Audits	2 multi agency audits each year as identified in the Business Plan, plus further audits may be undertaken in response to issues identified through • Serious Case Reviews • Section 11 returns • Inspections • Single agency audits Reporting to Chairs Group and PSCB 6 monthly	QA Group	To enable the Board to monitor key areas of safeguarding activity as identified in the Business Plan.	The QA group struggled to resource the agreed multi agency audits & to gather sufficient information from other audits to effectively monitor performance. However, 2 multi-agency audits were completed with findings reported to the PSCB.
PI's	QA Group to Chairs Group and PSCB quarterly	QA Group	To report to the Board on areas of safeguarding performance which the QA group has	The group reviewed a dataset at each meeting, with quarterly

			identified as priorities for the year.	reports presented to the Board. However it was mainly social care data. A comprehensive multi agency dataset is being introduced in the coming year.
Themed Reports	Child protection conferencing data – quarterly LADO – half yearly Private Fostering – half yearly CAF – half yearly Details of children missing from home and/or care	Board Manager	To enable the Board to monitor performance in areas for which it has a statutory responsibility and/or which are identified in the Business Plan as a priority.	The provision of these reports has been regular as indicated and the format of reports continues to develop. The timeliness of conferences slipped during the year and then improved.
PSCB annual report	Chair of PSCB to Board annually	Chair of PSCB and Board Manager	To assure the Board that the PSCB is providing value for money and is effective in overseeing work undertaken and services provided to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.	The report contains a mix of PSCB and Partner activity and was presented in July 2011
Child Death Overview Data	Chair of CDOP Annually	Chair of CDOP	To provide an overview of activity and highlight any trends	The report was presented in July 2011

THE QUALITY ASSURANCE GROUP

The Quality Assurance Group is responsible for analysing the effectiveness of safeguarding services both in single agencies and across partners. Throughout the year, it struggled to deliver the comprehensive information both the group and the Board needed to confidently monitor the effectiveness of safeguarding practice. Capacity issues across the partnership and some lack of direction within the group resulted in slow progress, although, as can be seen on pages 12-14, overall most actions identified by the framework were completed.

Two multi agency audits have been undertaken in order to check on the quality of practice which had been either highlighted as poor or where there may be concerns. There has been an audit of strategy meetings as a result of a serious case review recommendation and a repeat audit of pre birth assessments following a similar audit last year. The strategy audit results were poor and the group acknowledged that practice has moved on from October 2011, when it took place, and the audit will be repeated in order to compare results. The pre birth audit revealed a more positive picture of multi agency assessments. The group has also developed bespoke audit proformas for the multi agency audits

A S11 audit was completed which is an audit of those agencies who have a statutory responsibility under the Children Act 2004. The results were positive with 43% of the standards being good; 55% adequate and only 2% being judged as inadequate. This was followed by a deeper consideration of 2 of the standards to see if it was possible to tease out good practice which could be shared - in particular how service development can be informed by the views of children, young people and their families.

Following the SCR surrounding the abuse of children in a nursery in Plymouth a review was held to satisfy the Board that safeguards are in place in Peterborough

In addition to social care audits, hospital audits of concern sheets were discussed which gave valuable information regarding the vulnerability of under 5s. Neglect was highlighted as the greatest area of concern.

CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL

The Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) was established in April 2008 as a new statutory requirement as set out in Chapter 7 of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2010. It is chaired by the LSCB independent Chair. Its primary function is to review all child deaths in the area, which it does through two interrelated processes; a paper based review of all deaths of children under the age of 18 years and a rapid response service which looks in greater detail at the deaths of children who die unexpectedly.

Over the last year, twenty children have died in Peterborough, which is the same number as last year. Of those children who died, 70% were babies under a year old with the majority not leaving hospital and dying in the first few days and weeks of life. This pattern is similar to previous years.

Not all the children who died this year have been reviewed by the CDOP panel, which this year reviewed the deaths of seventeen Peterborough children and young people (some of whom will have died the previous year). There is often a gap of several months between a death and that death being reviewed, whilst all relevant information is gathered.

Of the deaths which were reviewed, the pattern of deaths was similar to that noted overleaf with the majority being babies under a year old. The next largest group was teenagers aged 15- 18 years old with five young people dying for a number of different reasons. In the two previous years since figures have been collected there have been no teenage deaths, so this represents a significant change which will be explored further in the coming year.

It is the purpose of the child death overview panel to identify any 'modifiable' factors for each death, that is, any factor which, with hindsight, might have prevented that death and might prevent future deaths. There were only two cases where a modifiable factor was identified, with both cases being very different. Consequently it is not possible to make general statements.
East of England 2010 regional figures suggest that there is only one type of child death which appears as both significantly prevalent and significantly modifiable and this is sudden unexpected death in infancy.

Over the coming year, the CDOP intends to look at what further advice and support can be given to families and professionals on this issue.

THE SERIOUS CASE REVIEW PANEL

The purpose of this sub group is to undertake serious case reviews and other multi agency case reviews where it is believed that lessons could be learned about improving partnership working. A serious case review must be undertaken when a child dies and abuse or neglect is considered to have been a factor in their death.

The main focus of work for the subgroup throughout this year has been to undertake and then implement the learning from a serious case review following the death of a young boy in March 2011. The review was completed in September and subsequently, considerable progress has been made in implementing the learning.

The Serious Case Review undertaken highlighted the importance of conducting thorough assessments in a timely way which include male partners and in particular the significance of domestic abuse. This learning has been translated into workshops for practitioners highlighting the developments in practice required to safeguard children. In conjunction with the Child Death Review Panel, the guidance for practitioners has been clarified to ensure the immediate protection of siblings in cases where a child dies suddenly.

The executive summary and overview report from this review are available on the PSCB website.

The sub group has also discussed the messages arising from other serious case reviews nationally and their implications for Peterborough, and has considered cases where a child has died and a serious case review may have been needed.
All relevant learning has been included in multi and single agency training events to ensure that the messages are fully disseminated.

The sub group has considered carefully the recommendations from the Munro review of child protection with regard to using a different approach to serious case reviews and anticipates adopting a revised methodology in the coming year, once it has been finalised by the Government and new Guidance issued.

PRIVATE FOSTERING

Private fostering is legally defined as an arrangement that occurs when a child who is under 16 (or 18 for a child with learning difficulties and/or disabilities) is cared for by someone other than their parent or a close relative for 28 consecutive days or more. A private foster carer may be a friend of the family or the child's friend's parents. However, a private foster carer is sometimes someone who is not previously known to the family, but who is willing to foster the child privately.

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board has a statutory responsibility to oversee these arrangements. An annual report is presented to the PSCB by the Local Authority officer who has responsibility for private fostering

Figures for the last 2 years are shown below:

April 2010 until March 2011

Notification of new Private Fostering arrangements received during year (01/04/10 - 31/03/11)	**Arrangement began before 01/04/10- and continuing on 01/04/10**	**PF ended during year & Reasons**
26	**4**	**21** Residence Orders: 3 16th Birthday: 5 LA Accommodation: 7 Return to Parent / Close Relative: 6

April 2011 until March 2012

Notification of new Private Fostering arrangements received during year (01/04/11 - 31/03/12)	Arrangement began before 01/04/11- and continuing on 01/04/11	PF ended during year & Reasons
11	**9**	**13** Residence Orders: 3 16th Birthday: 2 LA accommodation: 1 Return to Parent / Close Relative: 7

As can be seen there has been a decrease in notifications in 2011-12. During the year, the private fostering officer moved to the Fostering Team as it was considered this would raise the profile of the arrangements.

MISSING CHILDREN

Having implemented a multi agency protocol for children missing from home and care, a multi agency group meets regularly to review its operation. A single point of contact has been established within the 8-19 Service, which ensures that an impartial return home interview can be offered to all young people. This has proved successful in offering ongoing support to young people who otherwise may have been unaware of services available to them as can be seen from the details below.

This is a new service and details are only available as follows from 1st January to 31st March:

- 26 notifications of young people missing from home and care, regarding 22 young people
- ages ranged from 8 to 18, with the majority being 15-17
- 4 of these went missing more than once, each on 2 occasion during this period. 2 of these young people had previously been missing between June '11 and Dec '11
- 7 of these young people are in care, and a further 3 are open to Children's Social Care

Outcomes:

- 16 return visits have taken place.
- in all other cases follow up takes place via phone, letter and/or contact with Social Worker or other professional involved
- outcomes include
  - in 3 cases, issues have been resolved through the family
  - 3 young people are living/have now moved outside Peterborough
  - 4 young people are actively supported by/undergoing assessment with Children's Social Care
  - 1 young person is working with the Youth Offending Service

ALLEGATIONS MANAGEMENT

Working Together 2010 states that "LSCB's have a responsibility for ensuring there are effective interagency procedures in place for dealing with allegations against people who work with children". An officer called a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) manages this process and the role has the following responsibilities:

a) To advise those involved in the children's workforce about concerns about possible abuse to children by paid or unpaid workers.
b) To liaise with Ofsted in respect of concerns about organisations providing registered services to children.
c) To decide as to whether the allegation should be monitored or managed through the LADO process by making a judgement of the following.

- Has a person working with children behaved in a way that has harmed or may have harmed a child?
- Has the person committed a criminal offence against or related to a child?
- Has a person behaved in such away that indicates unsuitability to work with children?

In the previous 12 months the LADO has dealt with 28 allegations which is a decrease of 11 from the previous year. There has been a reduction in the number of allegations year on year over the past 3 years which have led to the holding of a complex strategy meeting to discuss and make plans. This is believed to be as a result of raised awareness across agencies as the LADO role has become more established. This raised awareness has led to more appropriate notifications.

	April – Mar 11/12
Social Care	5
Education	8
Early Years	2
Health	1
Police	-
Foster Carer	4
Secure Estate	1
Faith Groups	2
Other	5
Total	**28**

Case outcomes (some of the same cases resulted in both/all of the below actions) In comparison with the previous year there were fewer unsubstantiated outcomes and fewer suspensions but more substantiated outcomes, which supports the view that notifications are more appropriate.

	April 2011- March 2012
No Further Action	2
Substantiated	11
Unfounded	5
Unsubstantiated	8
Malicious	1
Suspension	7
Dismissal	2
Resignation	0
Cessation of use	1
Section 47 investigation	10

Criminal investigation	7
Caution	0
Conviction	1
Acquittal	1

CO-ORDINATING LOCAL WORK TO SAFEGUARD AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

As noted earlier the subgroups carry out the work of the business plan which is monitored by the Chairs group who in turn report to the Board on progress. The work of the Quality Assurance Group, Child Death Overview Panel and Serious Case Review Group has already been highlighted. This section will focus on the work of the other subgroups.

STRATEGIC LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP (SLDG)

Working Together 2010 states “it is the responsibility of the LSCB to ensure that single agency and interagency training on safeguarding and promoting welfare is provided in order to meet local needs. This covers both the training provided by single agencies to their own staff and multi agency training where staff from more than one agency train together”. The Strategic Learning and Development Group are responsible for fulfilling this role. The group is chaired by the NSPCC. The Ofsted inspection of Safeguarding In August 2011 noted “safeguarding awareness across the city is good and underpinned by a wide range of accessible interagency training”

During the year 2011 to 2012 a total of 495 individual training places have been filled by 308 individual participants. Across the year 24 training events have been delivered, covering 14 learning topics as follows:

- An introduction to child development 0-5 years
- An introduction to child development 6-16 years
- Child protection refresher training
- Domestic violence and abuse- risk assessing the situation
- Safeguarding children and young people from new arrival communities
- Safer recruitment
- The effects of domestic abuse
- Working together to safeguard children
- Working with people who display sexually harmful behaviour
- Your role at a child protection conference

- Assessment, Intervention and Moving On
- An introduction to safeguarding children
- Designated Safeguarding Officer training
- An introduction to normal child development
- Recognising and responding to signs and symptoms of child abuse
- The impact on children of parental mental health problems
- Working with sexually exploited young people
- Framework for child protection
- Several workshops addressing learning from serious case reviews,

In addition a voluntary sector forum meeting was held to share information, good practice and new initiatives between the rich voluntary sector in Peterborough and the Board.
The PSCB annual conference 'Child Sexual Abuse – an insight to offender behaviour' was held on 3rd November 2011. The attendance of 128 was the largest ever experienced for a PSCB conference. Feedback from attendees was excellent, with good representation from all agencies.

During the year the following has been undertaken in addition to the training delivered.

- A standard training pack has been developed to ensure quality and consistency
- A learning impact tool, which is a web based tool designed to evaluate the impact that training has had on the practice of participants .One month after a training event participants are contacted to complete the tool and a follow up e mail is sent as a reminder one month later. These measures have led to an increase in responses
- A validation panel now sits quarterly to ensure single agency training is validated and revalidated to ensure content is current

Comments from participants regarding training are generally positive, however further work is needed to ensure that the training being provided is meeting all partners' needs as some agencies are under represented.
The SLDG annual report is available on our website www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk

POLICY PRACTICE AND PROCEDURES GROUP (PPP)

This group is a joint group with Cambridgeshire and is chaired by the police. Its overall purpose is to develop local policies and procedures which support effective local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

During the year the following have been completed:

- Revision of the joint working protocol for practitioners working with parents and carers with mental health problems
- Revision of the guidance for professionals working with sexually active young people under the age of 18
- Missing Children Protocol
- Support Policy for Designated Persons in Schools
- Consideration of Single Agency Safeguarding Policies for Fire and Rescue and Youth Offending Service
- Establishment of a task and finish group to develop a strategy on child sexual exploitation (see overleaf)
- Bruising in Pre Mobile babies
- In addition national guidance is reviewed and the following has been placed on our web site. A) Provision of Therapy for Child Witnesses ;B) Child Trafficking

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

Half way through the year, in response to the governments action plan" Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation" 2011, the Policy Practice and Procedures Group established a task and finish group. The purpose of the group is to identify any gaps in service delivery.

A scoping exercise is being undertaken to establish a current understanding regarding the extent of Child Sexual Exploitation within Peterborough and Cambridgeshire including safeguarding professionals' understanding, knowledge and awareness of procedures. The scoping exercise also explores and reports on exploitation methods and aims to identify gaps in agencies' safeguarding procedures and business.
A multi agency strategy, linked to the missing children protocol, will be developed and implemented during 2012/13.

SAFER EMPLOYMENT GROUP (SEG)

The overall purpose of this joint Peterborough/Cambridgeshire subgroup is to promote safe employment standards, monitor partner's compliance with these standards, provide and quality assure safer employment training and develop associated policies in conjunction with Human Resources colleagues. It is chaired by an Education Safeguarding colleague who also regularly delivers training on safe recruitment.

During the year the following has been undertaken:

- Promoting safe employment standards and other safe employment information across LSCB partner organisations.
- Monitoring PSCB partner compliance with safe employment standards.
- Developing associated policies in conjunction with HR colleagues for partner agencies adoption or amendment as appropriate.
- Consideration of regular LADO reports and any identified issues.
- Participation in the regional safe employment forum in order to contribute to and benefit from other Local Authority's safe employment activity.
- Responding to central government consultations as required.
- Revision and updating of the Key Employment Standards .There have been some amendments to policy so as to incorporate changing responsibilities relating to the Independent Safeguarding Authority and Criminal Records Bureau review.
- The Chair of the group continues to deliver safe recruitment training on behalf of the PSCB.
- An audit was undertaken to evaluate the relevance in Peterborough of the North Somerset Serious Case Review Recommendations.

E SAFETY

This group is made up of representatives from both Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Boards and is chaired by the Head of the Education Safeguarding Service in Cambridgeshire.

The purpose of the e-safety sub-group is to ensure that agencies have in place the tools, knowledge and guidance to raise awareness, prevent and manage any safeguarding issues that may arise from the use of technology.

In the last year the group has:

- Produced an audit tool and check list to help agencies gauge their preparedness to deal with e- safety matters.
- Linked with the Internet Watch Foundation based in Cambridgeshire whose Hotline can be used by anyone to report inappropriate, indecent or obscene images found online.
- Developed guidance on the safe use of social networking.
- Provided advice and guidance on maintaining professional boundaries during online communication with children and families, how to keep personal details secure and ensure staff uphold their reputation.
- Future work will include an update of the E-safety pages on the LSCB website including consulting with children and young people about what they would like to see on there.

They also hope to produce comprehensive guidance on how to manage e-safety incidents, which routes to take and who to report to which will be made available to all agencies.

COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION GROUP (C&I)

The overall purpose of the group is to have a communication strategy which will provide an overarching framework for ensuring the work of the board is effectively communicated to agencies and the public. The group is chaired by an Education Safeguarding colleague and the Lay Member of the Board is a member.
The group has recently invited colleagues from adult services to become members as messages regarding safety cross over children, young people and their families and adults with vulnerabilities.

During the year the following has been undertaken:

- Quarterly newsletter highlighting the work of the Board and partners
- Updated web site
- Development of “The Knowledge” a web based quiz to test out professionals knowledge of the interagency procedures
- A drama production on “Sexting” a topic chosen by young people. A DVD has been produced with an accompanying lesson plan for secondary schools. This has been provided for all schools in Peterborough and all secondary schools in Cambridgeshire.(see over page)

THE VOICE OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

In order to understand what the safeguarding concerns of young people are and if the interventions in their lives are having a positive impact two initiatives are highlighted below.

A DVD has been created jointly with the Children's Trust in response to a group of young people who revealed the emerging issue of a new form of bullying, known as 'sexting'.

The DVD has been created to warn children and young people about the risks and implications of sending sexually explicit images online or when communicating with technology.

'Privates in Public' is a 17-minute film created by young people in association with Bluemint Media.

A recent survey by the Beatbullying charity suggested that one in five11 year olds have received a sexually explicit or distressing text or email.

The publicity in the local media following the launch of the DVD, noted the following:

"The sending of such explicit messages is a worrying trend. We should encourage young people to use technology but it's really important they are made aware of the irreversible consequences of their actions too. In some cases a person can face criminal charges for sending 'sexts'."

In 'Privates in Public', a teenage girl commits suicide after images she sent to her boyfriend are circulated amongst peers. Her boyfriend is sent to prison as the sending of such images is an offence.

The DVD and lesson plan has been provided for local secondary schools to be included as part of Personal Social Health and Economic education lessons. It is important children and young people are aware of the legal ramifications and significant social harm 'sexting' can have on their lives.

'Privates in Public' was premiered in March 2012 at a launch event at the Town Hall. Invited guests included the Mayor, Councillor Paula Thacker MBE, Malcolm Newsam, Director of Children's Services, Councillor Sheila Scott, Cabinet Member for Children's Services, Councillor John Holdich, Cabinet Member for Education, Skills and University, Flick Schofield, Chair of the PSCB, members of the Children's Trust and the Safeguarding Board and importantly the young people involved in the drama production.

THE ENGAGEMENT OF PARENTS AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE CHILD PROTECTION CONFERENCE PROCESS.

The child protection coordinators monitor whether reports have been shared with families prior to a conference, whether parents have been invited to conference and how children and young people's wishes and feelings have been gathered.

As part of the introduction of the Signs of Safety Framework (a more interactive way of conducting a conference which is far more family friendly) the child protection coordinators offer to visit families prior to conference as a way of encouraging and enabling more meaningful participation.

A questionnaire is used when a child protection plan has been removed as a result of positive work with the family and the risk has been reduced. Some comments from families are included below:

"It was all spot on! I've stepped up and started to communicate more. My social worker was brilliant she made me confident; thanks for all your help."

"I had a different chair each time, the 1st one was very undermining I felt like a school child in the head's office, I thought it was how I was supposed to feel; the other 2 were superb. The 2nd social worker was fantastic."

"I didn't have a good relationship with my 1st social worker but subsequent workers were more understanding. I couldn't see my own faults but had a feeling something wasn't right. The children's dad should have been invited; I don't think the social worker put enough pressure on him as they did on me."

"It was difficult but it was straightforward, it was as it should be."

"you need to make sure papers are provided in advance, I found it was very much like follow the leader; there's no back up for social workers particularly those who are part time; it is intimidating but having a pot of tea might help."

"I felt misrepresented, social worker said she had been but she hadn't, since change of worker everything changed; I felt still at square 1 because workers hadn't done what they said they would. I enjoyed the work with FAST even though I didn't want to start with. Although it has been really stressful it has been positive and it has also sorted out my marriage. It opened our eyes"

"Taking the time in the first place to explain what the concerns were and why the plan was put in place initially; I am in a better place now than when the 1st conference was held."

"Taking things slowly really helped."

"I had a good social worker who listened to me, although I didn't agree with the plan I am in a better place now because of it."

These comments have enabled conference chairs and practitioners to reflect on and improve their practice.

National Youth Advocacy Service

NYAS is Peterborough's advocacy provider for children and young people within the authority. Advocacy is provided for children and young people who are: looked after by the authority, classified as being "In Need", being dealt with in the child protection system, care leavers, young people with a disability, children being fostered or placed through "placement with parent" regulations, staying with family and friends or who are attending Family Group Conferences. Typically advocacy is offered to children and young people between the ages of 5 and 18, although if the young person has a learning difficulty or disability this can be extended to the age of 21.

In 2011-12 there were 266 referrals to the NYAS advocacy service. Analysis of these referrals shows that the majority of these referrals were linked to providing support to children and young people at Child Protection Conferences, Child Care Reviews and other review meetings (155 cases). There were slightly more referrals for males than females and the vast majority of referrals were for white British young people (222), but the other referrals did reflect the diverse population of Peterborough.

ACHIEVEMENTS AND DEVELOPMENTS HIGHLIGHTED BY OUR PARTNERS

The Board is made up of agencies as outlined and they were given the opportunity to contribute to this annual report. Each agency was asked to state in plain english what their statutory responsibility is and what their key achievements have been in the previous 12 months.

Children's Social Care

The agency has a

- Statutory Responsibility for Safeguarding under S11 of the Children Act 2004
- A duty to carry out the functions under the Education Act with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- A duty to ensure all children are protected from harm including disabled children, unaccompanied asylum-seeking or refugee children

Following on from the Ofsted Inspection in August 2011 significant activity has focussed on 10 core tasks and are highlighted as key achievements:

- **Tackle backlogs by bringing in additional staff**
  This additional capacity has been a major contributor to clearing up all of the outstanding initial and core assessments.
- **Make structural changes to front door**
  We have re-engineered the working processes within the Contact Centre and between the Contact Centre and the Referral and Assessment Teams. We have also introduced the Early Intervention Service which has successfully diverted families into the 8-19 service and the early years' service
- **Restore reasonable workloads by rebasing the establishment**

The establishment was increased from 56 staff to 81. This, alongside the clearing up of backlogs has had a dramatic impact on workloads – reducing the caseloads in R and A from on average 30 per worker to 13 and in Family Support from 27 to 20

- **Strengthen the quality of work undertaken in the assessment teams**
  The introduction of the three pod system, a duty manual and three strong managers has considerably strengthened the quality and timeliness of assessments undertaken. We also adjusted the arrangements so that all core assessments are completed within the Referral and Assessment team
- **Reduce workloads by restoring throughput, pruning caseloads and reducing CIN**
  In December we had 1486 open children in need cases- at the end of April this had been reduced to 984; a reduction of over 500 cases
- **Strengthen leadership and accountability**
  We quickly appointed two new and experienced Assistant Directors who commenced end of March/ early April. This has added considerable leadership capacity.
- **Implement an effective quality assurance framework.**
  The quality framework will be a key driver for our work over the next 6 to 12 months
- **Put in place a compelling workforce strategy**
  We have completed the workforce strategy, rolled out a marketing campaign and set up a micro-site. We have moved from a position to no-one applying for jobs in Peterborough to a regular stream of experienced applicants
- **Building an effective commissioning framework and range of preventive services**
  There is still more to be done on this and this will be driven by the Assistant Director Strategy, Commissioning and Prevention
- **Providing front line teams with fit for purpose ICT, business support and working arrangements**
  A new Integrated Children System **(**Liquid Logic) was commissioned to be implemented from April 2012. We have also dispensed with hot desking, relocating the teams into team structures.

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust

Every NHS Trust has a statutory duty to have arrangements in place to ensure that the organisation and all staff working within it have regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The Safeguarding Children Team provides expert advice and support to the Trust's mental health services and child health services in Peterborough.

Key achievements

- We have completed the integration of safeguarding teams from the Trust and Peterborough universal and specialist children's services, including the recruitment of new liaison and supervision safeguarding nurses.
- We have worked with partner agencies to revise and update multi-agency guidance for joint working with families where there are parental mental health problems. This has been accompanied by a programme of training, including a series of dates for social workers in Peterborough and multi-agency courses for the LSCB.
- We have led on the development of new guidance and a standard operating procedure for staff working with peri-natal mental health problems.
- We have developed a new knowledge and competency framework for safeguarding which will form part of the performance and appraisal process

for all clinical and non clinical staff in the Trust. It is currently being rolled out across the Trust.

- We have introduced new measures to improve handover of safeguarding concerns between health visitors and school nurses. The Children's Division have begun a comprehensive review of safeguarding supervision and have completed an audit of current provision.

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Safeguarding vulnerable members of the public is a key priority for the police. All officers and staff have a responsibility to protect children and to support this process the police, with others have developed a Multi-Agency Referral Unit (MARU). Officers send a referral if they have identified concerns with a child that does not require immediate action, and specialist officers and staff within the MARU assess the referral and decide whether a crime has been committed and which other agencies may need notifying.

The police have a dedicated team of specialist investigators that deal with child abuse, based at Thorpewood Police Station in Peterborough. Working closely with this team is the Paedophile Investigations Unit, which investigates child abuse images on the internet.

Additionally the police work with other agencies particularly the Probation Service in managing registered sex offenders who live within the community to minimise their risks to children.

Key achievements

- As part of a redesign process, the Constabulary has reconfigured some of functions that are delivered, moving the investigation of crimes with obvious safeguarding implications into a specialist department.
- The Constabulary has reinforced its commitment to the safeguarding of the vulnerable, expanding the Public Protection department to take responsibility for not only the investigation of child abuse, but for all rape, adult abuse and domestic abuse investigations across Peterborough. Additionally the Constabulary has set up a missing persons unit within Public Protection bringing a common safeguarding focus to missing children investigations.
- Particularly noteworthy is the instigation of the Domestic Abuse Investigations and Safeguarding Unit (DAISU). Domestic Abuse leads to acute and lingering damage to children living in these homes. The DAISU has a dedicated team working out of Peterborough using the intervention of the criminal justice process, to better safeguard victims as well as children.

The new missing person's team is committed to working with colleagues within the Constabulary, partners and third sector organisations to;

- Prevent children going missing, particularly to reduce the instances of repeats.
- Conduct thorough investigation to locate children who do go missing and ensure a good level of service/ support to their families
- Reduce levels of victimisation and criminality amongst those going missing.

This team will manage all high risk missing person's investigations from the outset along with all medium and low risk investigations after 24 hours.

The team will act as a single point of contact for all our partners for concerns in this area. We will work together to reduce the number of repeat cases, requesting and attending strategy meetings and working towards joint action plans.

Peterborough and Stamford Hospitals NHS Trust

The hospital has highlighted 2 aspects of their wide ranging services to be reported in this annual report.

The Midwifery Team for Vulnerable Women (Rainbow Team) provides maternity care to disadvantaged women including those in prison, those suffering from addictions, learning difficulties or mental health problems and those experiencing abuse.
The midwifery team adopts an honest and open holistic approach. Early intervention and signposting to partner agencies is paramount to improve the health and social well-being of mother, baby and their families.

Referrals to the team have significantly increased over the last twelve months the total referrals are anticipated to have increased by over a hundred from the preceding year. This demonstrates that maternity staff now have a greater understanding of issues that can potentially impact on both the health and social well being of families.
This has proven that the targeted training which is now offered to maternity staff has had a direct effect on raising awareness thus increasing referrals to the team.
Because of the positive impact of the training within the maternity service and the acknowledgement of safeguarding, the team has been given the additional resources of another midwife from the community setting to work with them. The aim of the yearly rotation of a midwife from the community is to enable the cross transfer of knowledge and skills in relation to Safeguarding which will allow the acknowledgement of safeguarding issues to be highlighted at an early opportunity and thus hopefully allowing time for additional work to be completed with the prospective parents before the arrival of the baby.

And

The play team together with the safeguarding team have produced age appropriate play packs to use with children in hospital.

This will enable children of most ages to express their feelings via play, using a variety of methods such as happy/sad faces and families
To prompt the staff to improve their documentation for safeguarding and to gather details that may help with a safe outcome for the child, we now have a logo HIPPO, specific to all safeguarding documentation.
All communication, play resources will have this HIPPO stamp.
H - How long visited for
I - Interaction between child and carers
P - Parenting abilities
P - People visiting the child
O - Other concerns

This development followed the recent serious case review held in Peterborough

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Trust

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Probation Trust supervises about 3000 offenders in the county. The Trust aims to protect the public, safeguard children and reduce reoffending. Working in partnership with others Probation manages these offenders on community orders and licence from prison, delivering programmes which support rehabilitation and reduce the likelihood of further offending. Where offenders fail to comply with these requirements they are returned to Court or prison and information on the risks offenders may pose both to children and adults is shared and managed with criminal justice and other statutory partners.

Key achievements

- Whilst the Trust reduces but cannot remove risk of reoffending the number of further serious offences committed by offenders under supervision in Cambridgeshire is the lowest figure for the past five years (3).
- The Trust scored highly in audit by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation in 2010 and has fully implemented requirements for improvement including those linked to safeguarding in 2011.
- The Trust has again sustained high standards of performance for public protection and offender management work evidenced through the national probation trust performance framework (PTRS)
- Staff training remains a priority and 30% of operational staff have received or refreshes their safeguarding training.
- The Trust has extended alcohol and domestic abuse programmes available to the courts to better target interventions towards offenders who are a risk to adults or children.
- The Trust together with local sentencers has reached more than 50 community groups this year to raise awareness and understanding about how Courts and probation work together to safeguard adults and children and in particular reduce the risk which some offenders represent to children
- The Trust has improved systems for communicating and sharing information with key partner agencies about risks to children and adults beyond the statutory meeting of MAPPA and Child Protection Conferences and core groups
- The Trust has reviewed its arrangements for managing offenders convicted of domestic abuse offences, increased the range of sentences available to courts and improved jointly the way in which we manage information in relation to parents risks to children whilst completing our Domestic Abuse Programmes

NHS Peterborough

NHS Peterborough is a commissioning health organisation, often referred to as the PCT. It is responsible for the contracting of health services from provider organisations.
The main health providers include the following:

- Peterborough & Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust, who manage hospital services
- Cambridgeshire & Peterborough NHS Foundation Trust who provide mental health services. Since April 2011, they also provide Peterborough's Health Visiting and School Nursing services, as well as other children community services.
- General Practitioners are independent contractors and are supported by the PCT.

Key achievements

GP engagement and the preparation for transition has continued to be a high priority this year and will continue to be.

- Level 3 training was made available to the GPs over the previous twelve months and this has been positively evaluated, showing an increased awareness of safeguarding children and young people issues.
- The GP resource pack has been updated quarterly and disseminated amongst practices. It includes information to support GP practices in governance related issues and identifying vulnerability in families.
- As a result of a recent serious case review, bespoke training and support has been offered to an individual practice and any further developments will be then disseminated across the wider GP community.
- The Designated Professionals have also continued to deliver advice and consultation when required on a case by case basis.

A quality monitoring framework has been developed. This provides continued monitoring on Section 11 action plans, along with a series of key performance indicators that provide positive outcomes for children and young people. Quarterly reporting to the PCT, by health organisations who deliver services has been established and will continue following transition to Clinical Commissioning Group arrangements

- In November 2011 all involved partners with the Multi Agency Referral Unit (MARU) supported a health workshop to begin exploring the development of the relationship between health and MARU. Following this a working party has developed a business plan to progress the relationship commissioners. The relationship between MARU and health is significant in the future effectiveness and efficiencies of partnership working, improved communications and risk assessments regarding safeguarding children, adults and domestic abuse.
- The Health Safeguarding Group (HSG) has continued to provide an excellent forum for the sharing of research and best practices across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough health services, the dissemination of learning from serious case reviews and management reviews and importantly the support of safeguarding professionals across the health economy.
- The Sexual Assault Referral Centre (SARC) has continued to provide an excellent service across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It also now provides services for Bedfordshire and Luton, and continues to develop as a centre of expertise and quality service provision.
- As a result of the serious case review the management of sudden and unexpected deaths in children has been reviewed and improved.

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)

Cafcass has a statutory duty to safeguard the welfare of children and young people in all Children and Adoption applications to the Court. We are an independent Government organisation that ensures the voice of children and young people are heard in Court and that arrangements for their care are safe.

We have continued to respond to rising demand in care applications by ensuring that every child has a Children's Guardian at the first court direction. Care applications have increased year on year from an average of 7 a month in 2010 to 13 up to February 2012.
We are working with the Local Practice Improvement Group, part of the Family Justice Council to reduce the time taken for care applications to progress through the court system.

Key achievements

- Our Early Intervention Service in Private Law ensures that all applications for Residence or Contact are screened for risk factors within 24 hours of receipt. A Safeguarding Report is available to the Court at the first directions hearing and a Family Court Advisor is available to ensure the safe progress of the matter.
- All of our work in public and private law is allocated on receipt of a request from the Court and we are currently working with 273 families in Cambridgeshire to ensure any decisions the Court makes are safe and provide an effective and positive outcome for the children and young people involved.

Adult Social Care

Adult Social Care (ASC) moved from the PCT back to the council on the first of March 2012 after being part of the PCT via a partnership agreement for the previous eight years. This has meant that the council has re-established an Adult Social Care Directorate – headed by the Director of Adult Social Care and three Assistant Directors responsible for Care Services delivery; Strategic commissioning; and Quality Information and Performance.

The priorities for Adult Social Care are:

1. Promote and support people to maintain their independence

2. Delivering a personalised approach to care

3. Empowering people to engage with their communities and have fulfilled lives

The ASC directorate is the lead agency for Safeguarding adults at risk of abuse and hosts the Safeguarding Adults Board which meets bi-monthly.

In this very early stage the key achievements have been:

Maintaining continuity and integration of services while moving the service back to the council.

Starting the process of reviewing all our contracts with providers to ensure they are fit for purpose – including around safeguarding.

Young Lives

Young Lives is an organisation which supports voluntary, community and social enterprise organisations working with Children, Young People and Families across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. We have three strands of work.

- Provide support, representation, training and other services to the voluntary, community and social enterprise sector to improve the effectiveness of their work with children, young people and their families
- Enable children, young people and their families to develop their skills and confidence, through a range of engaging active citizenship and participatory activities that help them maximise their potential.
- Inform, advise and provide up to date and relevant personalised information to help parents make informed decisions for their families

Membership of Young Lives opens up a range of services.

Key achievements

- As part of our Support and Development strand, in 2011/12 we focussed on providing Safeguarding Training, CRB checks and Human Resource services to the sector.
- We delivered Warner Interviewing training out of county and also fronted an on line Safeguarding training video for CODE which provides information and support to Dental Surgeries throughout the UK.
- We delivered 12 open courses to 125 individuals. These courses consist of Introduction to Safeguarding, Warner Interviewing, DCPO (Designated Child Protection Officer), and Refresher Safeguarding.
- In addition to this we delivered 14 hosted courses to various organisations ranging from small voluntary organisations to the NHS.
- As part of our role as an Umbrella Body we have carried out 264 CRB checks this year on organisations working in the Peterborough area. These checks are carried out for any agency working with any vulnerable group.

SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE DATA

There are 44,300 children and young people aged 0 – 19 years in the city council area with 24% of this population living in poverty. There are a high number of families from Eastern Europe who have settled in the city but other cultures and ethnic groups are also represented. This brings with it challenges for all of our partners in the city

Within the current child population 99 different languages are spoken and 27% of school pupils have english as their second language. There are marked differences in the levels of deprivation and affluence in Peterborough with some wards represented in the highest quartile of deprivation and others in the top quartile for affluence.

Nationally there has been a rise in the numbers of young people subject to a Child Protection Plan as can be seen below in figures published by the Dept for Education. A new method of calculating these statistics was introduced in 2010.These figures are now taken from the Children In Need Census

National Trends in Child Protection

Category of abuse	**2007**	**2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011**
Neglect	12,500	13,400	15,800	17,200	18,700
Physical abuse	3,500	3,400	4,400	4,700	4,500
Sexual abuse	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,300
Emotional abuse	7,100	7,900	9,100	11,400	12,100
Multiple	2,700	2,500	2,900	3,400	5,000
Total	**27,900**	**29,200**	**34,100**	**39,100**	**42,700**

Peterborough's data is set out below and reveals an increase in the numbers of children subject to a child protection plan this year.

	Apr-11	May-11	Jun-11	Jul-11	Aug-11	Sep-11	Oct-11	Nov-11	Dec-11	Jan-12	Feb-12	Mar-12
Child Protection	140	146	167	153	172	181	185	191	211	219	194	185

Category of abuse or neglect which triggered the Child Protection Plan

Neglect	68	74	74	64	75	80	85	87	99	100	83	86
Physical	15	14	13	15	15	18	16	17	17	28	31	27
Sexual		2	8	7	8	8	8	10	11	10	15	10
Emotional	37	43	61	59	66	71	70	72	79	78	62	60
Combination	20	13	13	8	8	4	6	5	5	3	3	2

Subject of a Child Protection Plan

Temporary	14	17	12	15	14	18	10	10	9	3		

Age

Under 1	8	14	16	14	17	20	19	21	21	23	16	15
1 - 4	58	60	65	59	66	69	70	67	70	75	67	64
5 - 9	43	42	48	43	47	45	48	51	54	56	53	56
10 - 15	29	28	36	35	40	43	43	45	58	56	51	44
16 +	2	2	2	2	2	4	5	7	8	9	7	6

Gender

Male	77	75	87	80	90	96	98	92	99	104	90	86
Female	63	70	79	73	82	85	87	99	112	115	104	98

Ethnicity

White British	102	102	117	107	114	124	125	134	151	148	135	141
Gypsy/Roma							2	2	2	1	2	1
Any Other White Background	15	15	20	19	21	19	17	19	20	32	24	18
WHITE	117	117	137	126	135	143	144	155	173	181	161	160
White and Black Caribbean	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	2	3	1	1	1
White and Black African		1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
White and Asian	6	7	7	5	5	5	5	5	5	2	2	2
Any Other Mixed Background	3	4	4	3	3	4	4	2	1	4	2	2
MIXED	13	16	16	13	13	14	14	10	10	8	6	5
Indian					1	1	2	2	2	2	2	2
Pakistani	5	5	7	5	8	7	9	7	7	7	7	6
Bangladeshi												
Any Other Asian Background		1										
ASIAN or ASIAN BRITISH	5	6	7	5	9	8	11	9	9	9	9	8
Caribbean												
African					2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2
Any Other Black Background	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			1	1	1
BLACK or BLACK BRITISH	3	3	3	3	5	5	5	2	2	3	3	3
Chinese												
Any Other Ethnic Group		1	1	1	1							
Not Stated	2	3	3	5	9	11	11	15	17	18	15	9

In the year from April 2011 to 31 March 2012 the number of children with a child protection plan increased from 140 in April 2011 to 185. In January 2012 the total reached it's highest with 219 children having a child protection plan. Significantly, there have been a number of large families being made subject to a child protection plan, including families with 12, 9 and 8 children.

It is also consistent with statistical neighbours who have all experienced a rise in the numbers of children with a child protection plan. Nationally the Baby Peter Case has

been acknowledged as causing a rise in referrals. In addition, within the city, the effect of the poor safeguarding inspection has had a similar effect.

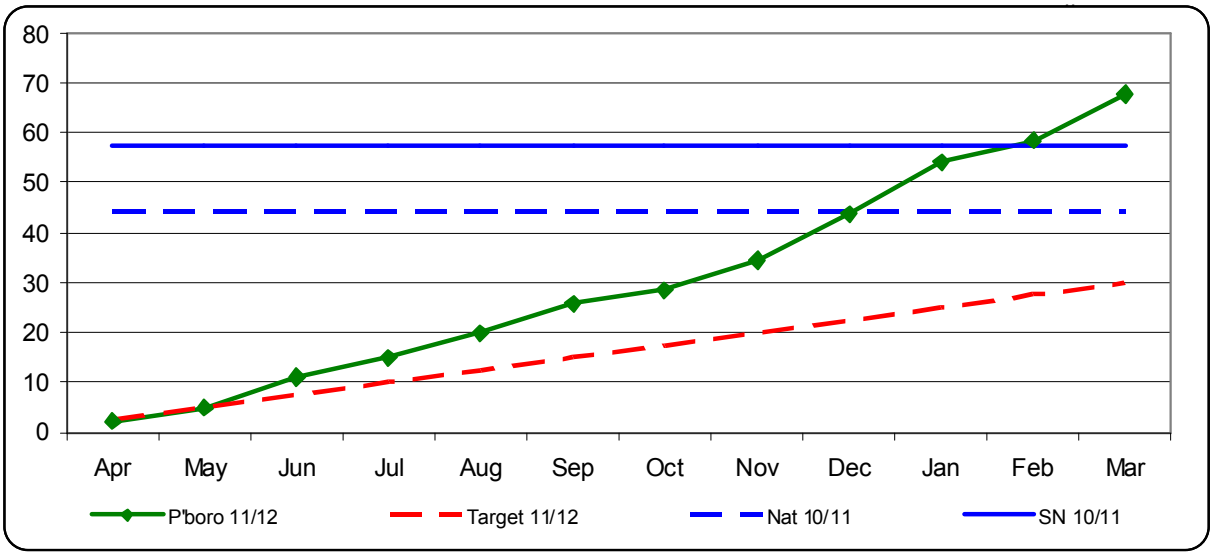
There continues to be a higher rate of males than females with a child protection plan. This has been a consistent feature over the past 4 years.

Throughout the year the highest numbers of children with a child protection plan are classified as white/British. Of the total number of children with a child protection plan at 31 March 2012 141 (76%) were classified as white British. At the end of the reporting period there were 5 children with disabilities who were subject to child protection plans. This is an area which will be looked at in greater detail in 2012-13.

The highest category of abuse or neglect which triggered the child protection plan has been neglect. Whilst this has been consistent over the last 5 years there has been a steady increase in the category of emotional abuse, especially in the last 6 months of 2011/12. Physical abuse is the third highest category with sexual abuse the lowest.

There are a higher number of children in the age range 1 to 4 years that are the subject to a child protection plan. At the end of this year children 1 to 4 accounted for 34% of the number of children with a child protection plan. 54% of children with a child protection plan were in the 5 to 9 or 10 to 15 age range. The remainder being under 1 year (8%) and over 16 (3%).

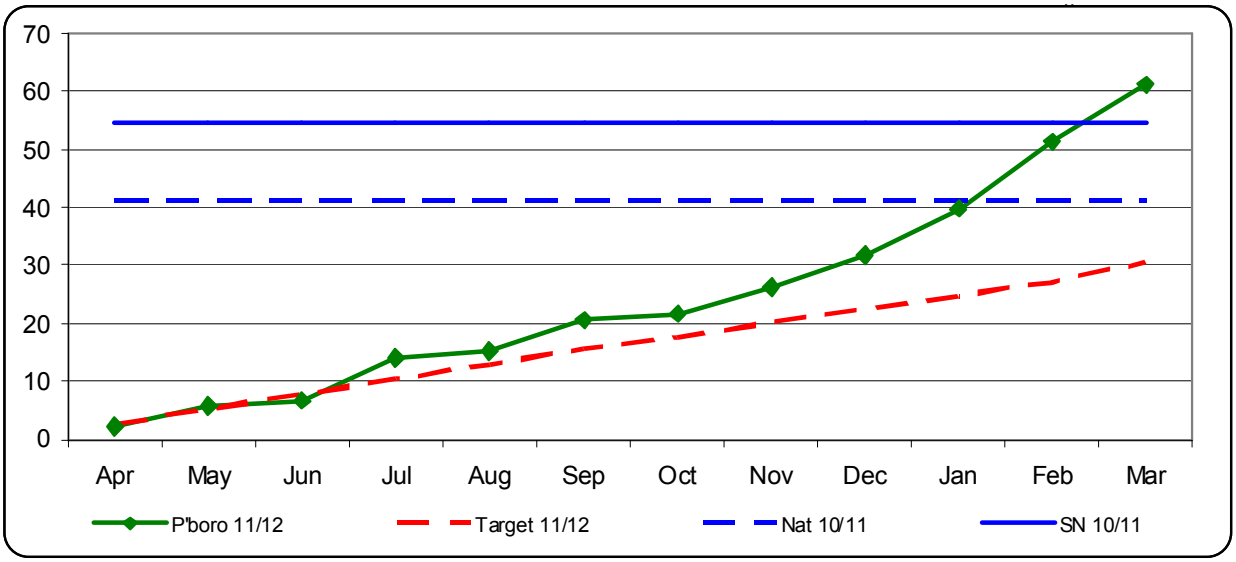
The Number of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan per 10,000 of the local population (aged under 18)



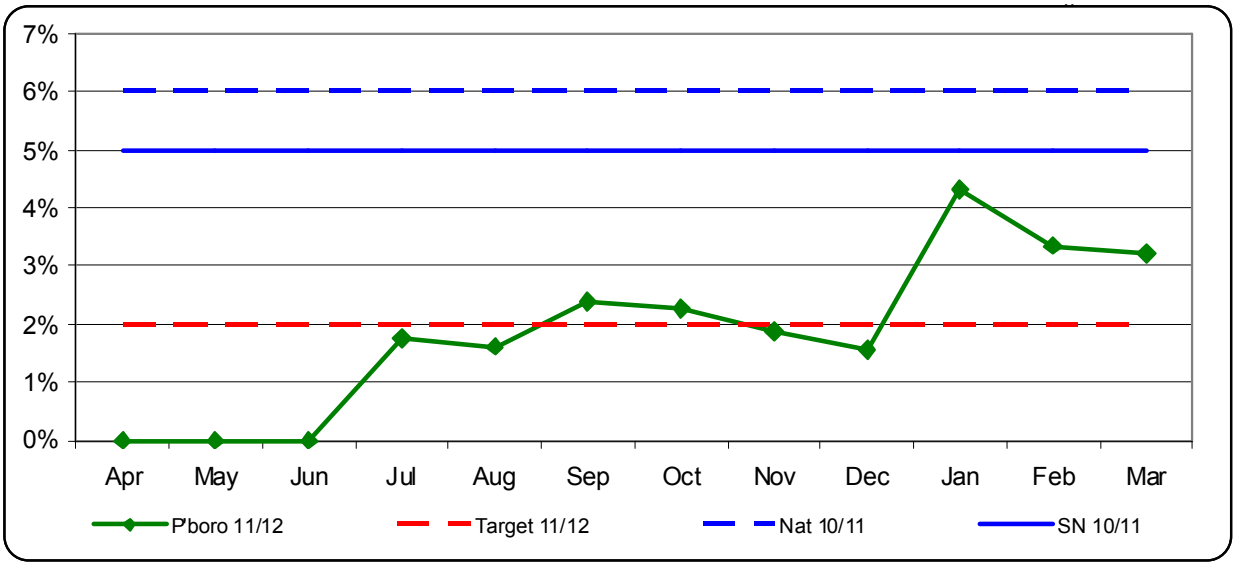
The number who became subject to a CP plan for second or subsequent time

In this year 276 (67%) children became the subject of a child protection plan. This is higher that our statistical neighbours whose 2010/11 target was 60%. Of the 276 children who were made the subject of a child protection plan, 34 children had previously had a child protection plan in Peterborough.

The number of discontinuations of a Child Protection (CP) Plan per 10,000 of the local population under 18



Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more



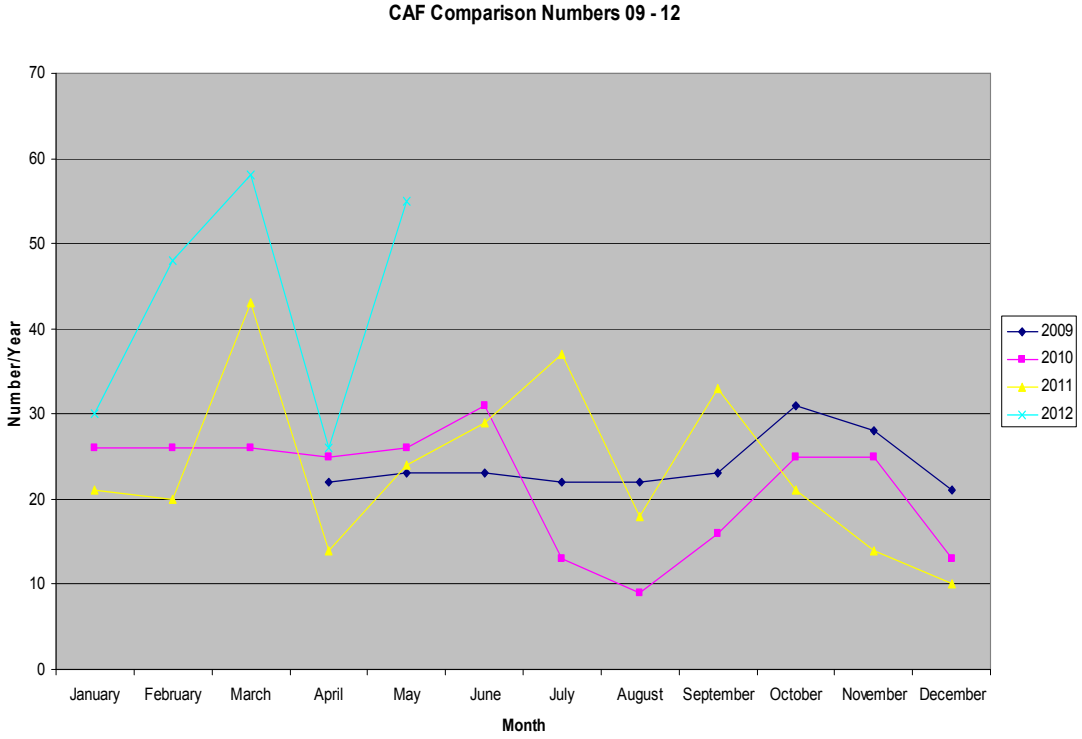
249 children's child protection plans were ended in the year 2011/12. Of those 8 children had been subject to a child protection plan for 2 years or more.

This data demonstrates that the child protection conferencing service has been extremely busy throughout the year. There is a clear focus on child protection plans being reserved for those children who are identified as at risk of significant harm and on removing the plan when evidence shows that the risk has reduced to an acceptable level.

COMMON ASSESSMENT FRAMEWORK DATA

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) for children and young people is an approach to conducting an assessment to identify a child's unmet needs. It has been designed to help practitioners assess needs at a much earlier stage. Professor Eileen Munro in her review in 2011 argued strongly that the provision of early help was not just about preventing abuse or neglect, but improving the life chances of children and young people.

The following graphs show the increase in the numbers of CAFs registered

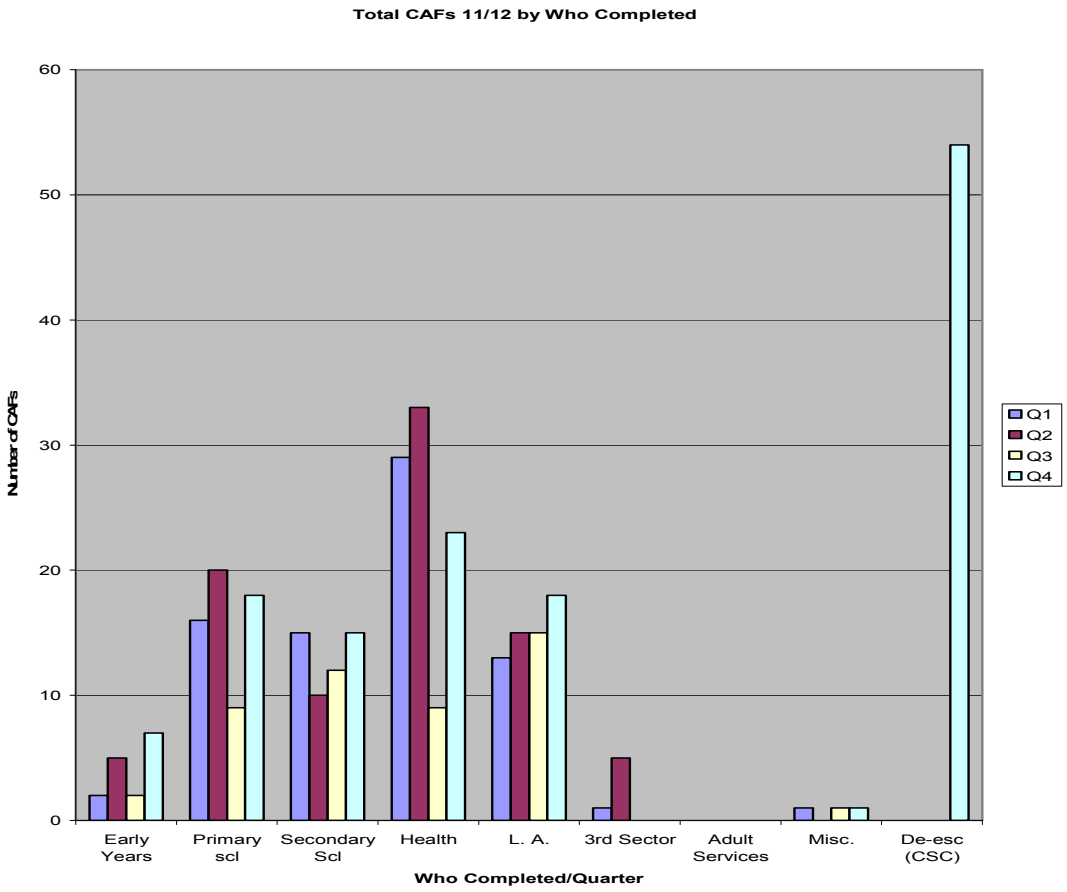


CAF data is currently collected monthly in respect of the number of CAF's registered, who completed the CAF,

The first graph shows the total number of CAF assessments registered on the central CAF database since April 2009. The information can be explained/analysed in the following ways:

- Figures were not available prior to April 09 due to the introduction of a new recording system
- 'Dips' in numbers of CAFs recorded per month can mostly be explained by school holiday periods
- The first few months of 2010 are an average over the quarter and so the numbers appear are the same each month
- 2011 generally shows an increase in the number of CAFs over the year
- 2012 shows a significant increase in the number of CAFs produced so far this year (see below)

The following graph shows where the CAF originated



A new arrangement was put in place between Children's Social Care and the CAF team in Feb 2012 where families being closed to CSC support but who may need continued support at a lower level, were to be 'de-escalated' to CAF. A CSC assessment would be registered as a 'deemed CAF.' As this was only introduced in Feb it accounts for why the de-escalation totals only shows a quarter 4 figures.

- Prior to the introduction of de-escalations CAFs registered by schools account for almost 40% of all CAFs registered (21% primary, 18% secondary)
- The introduction of de-escalation cases has made a significant difference to the number of CAFs registered accounting for 16% of the CAFs registered throughout the whole year even though the system only operated for 2 months of 2011/12
- There are no CAFs instigated by adult services. This is a matter which the Safeguarding Board have the opportunity to highlight when it receives the annual CAF report in September.

The number of CAFs registered by health services is high due to those completed by the 'Vulnerable Women's Midwifery Team' who use the CAF assessment to access Children's Social Care.

FINAL ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Ofsted inspection in August 2011 highlighted a difference between its findings and the understanding of the Board with respect to the effectiveness of safeguarding in Peterborough. The inspection caused the board to reflect on the effectiveness of its governance, monitoring and quality assurance systems and has taken urgent action to improve them. One of the aims of this year's business plan is to ensure that the Board has a more accurate understanding of safeguarding work within and across each of its partner agencies.

Significant progress has already been made in this respect through the introduction towards the end of the year of a more robust and comprehensive performance framework, ready for implementation from April 2012. This framework includes a multi agency dataset which all Board members have signed up to, twice as many multi agency audits and ensures that the views of frontline practitioners are heard through regular workshops.

Overleaf at Appendix 1 is the overarching business plan for the Board for 2012-13

Appendix 1 Business Plan 2012-2013

Our overarching strategic objective is to scrutinise and challenge the effectiveness of services delivered to children and families in Peterborough in order for children and young people to be safe and achieve positive outcomes.

PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT

	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcome
1.	**Embed the monitoring of Quality and Effectiveness** Linked to Children's Services Improvement Linked to the Simpson review of the Board Linked to Ofsted evaluation schedule Jan Linked to existing Working Together 2010	PSCB Quality and Effectiveness Group	See Performance Framework/Monthly Audit Plan	PSCB enabled to have sufficient knowledge and understanding to effectively challenge agencies to deliver positive outcomes
		Communication and Information Group	Ensure voice of children, young people and their families is heard and informs practice	PSCB enabled to challenge agencies to deliver appropriate services to meet the needs of children, young people and families
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Ensure engagement with practitioners to inform an understanding of current practice	Develop the appropriate learning and development opportunities
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Monitor the impact of continuous learning	A more confident workforce

Supported by the work plan for each group

Appendix 1 Business Plan 2012-2013

EFFECTIVENESS OF EARLY INTERVENTION

	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcome
2.	**Monitor the effectiveness and value for money of early help services including early years provision** Linked to Munro Review Linked to Children's Services Improvement Plan Linked to Ofsted Evaluation Schedule Jan 2012	PSCB Quality and Effectiveness Group	Receive regular reports and monitor impact of universal and targeted services	Good quality early intervention will enhance outcomes for children and reduce referrals to statutory agencies
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Ensure training meets the needs of practitioners to manage risk	A more confident workforce
		PSCB	Monitor the impact of current resource constraints on the provision of services	PSCB to satisfy itself that children are not falling through the net

Supported by the work plan for each group

Appendix 1 Business Plan 2012-2013

DEVELOP POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcomes
3	**Ensure PSCB Inter agency procedures and practice guidance are developed, reviewed, implemented and are compliant with equalities legislation** Linked to Children's Services Improvement Plan Linked to existing Working Together 2010	Policy Practice and Procedures Group	Embed revised Working Together and Assessment Framework	Opportunity to review compliance with guidance
			Establish Task and Finish Group to develop and promote guidance in the area of child sexual exploitation	Better understanding leading to targeted services
		Safer Employment Group	Review agencies HR policies	A safer workforce
		Quality and Effectiveness Group	Monitor if thresholds are understood by all	Consistency of referral and response
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Develop training which meets the needs of staff working with child sexual exploitation	Increased knowledge leading to greater protection for this vulnerable group
		E Safety Group	Promote best practice e safety work	Parents, Carers, Professionals and Young People better safeguarded

Supported by the work plan for each group

Appendix 1 Business Plan 2012-2013

LEADERSHIP AND GOVERNANCE

	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcomes
4	Ensure the governance of the PSCB reflects its relationship to other Boards and establishes the framework for its leadership role Linked to the Simpson review of the PSCB recommendation Linked to the Children's services Improvement Plan Linked to the Ofsted evaluation schedule 2012	PSCB Board and Chairs Group	Review membership of PSCB and governance arrangements in line with Simpson review	Safeguarding to be further embedded in the governance of partner agencies
			Establish a "risk matrix"	Awareness of potential risks and remedial action which may be required
			Review the Memorandum of Understanding with the revised Children's Trust arrangements	PSCB and Children's Trust able to work effectively together

Appendix 2

SAFEGUARDING - KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to ensure children stay safe, it is important that everybody knows their responsibilities around safeguarding. This guide is here to help:

1. **Members of public**

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child or young person, or that they may be subject to abuse or harm:

- **Don't ignore your concerns** - contact the Police or the Children's Services Contact Centre (contact details below) who will make appropriate and sensitive enquiries. Your confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- It is better that a nagging doubt is reported, and turns out to be nothing than for nobody to help a child who is suffering harm.

2. **Practitioners**

All those who come into contact with children and families in their everyday work have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This duty extends to your private life as well as your professional one.

We would expect you to:

- Be familiar with and follow your organisation's policy and procedures for safeguarding the welfare of children.
- Know who to contact to express concerns about a child's welfare.
- Attend training that raises awareness of safeguarding issues and equips you with the knowledge and skills you need.
- Never ignore a 'nagging doubt' and to report any concerns you have.

3. **Organisations**

All organisations that work with children and young people need to be aware of how the issues of safeguarding apply to the organisation, staff, volunteers and trustees.

Your organisation needs to make appropriate plans for:

- A member of your staff team reporting concerns about the safety of a child they are working with.

- Your organisation being asked by Children's Social Care or the police to provide information about a child or a family.
- An allegation being made against a member of your staff.

    - To help your organisation deal with these issues you should have a safeguarding policy and a set of procedures that all staff, volunteers and trustees must follow. These should be based on the Safeguarding Board's multi agency procedures (see PSCB website www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk).

- Your organisation should provide appropriate training for staff, to ensure they have the knowledge and skills they need to keep children safe (see PSCB Workforce Development Brochure on the web site).

- You should ensure that you are recruiting safely, so that checks are made for any staff who may have access to vulnerable people during their work.

Appendix 2

- Two key pillars of a safeguarding culture are rigorous risk assessments and a code of conduct. It is essential that everyone involved in your organisation knows what behaviour is acceptable and what is not. Creating a safeguarding culture within an organisation is much easier if everyone is fully aware of the behaviour and conduct that is expected from all.

Useful Contacts:

- Contact Centre Duty Officers 01733 864180 and 864170 (out of hours 01733 561370)
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary 101
- NSPCC 0808 800 5000
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board 01733 863744
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board web site www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board