

Message from the Editor

Our last newsletter was published in August and we noted that we had re-branded all our leaflets. The newsletter is obviously a good advertising medium as we have had loads of requests for them. We of course continue to develop new guidance for example Jenny Parris is working on an E safety policy as technology brings both benefits and unintended consequences. The last newsletter also highlighted our FACT sheet which the NSPCC asked if they could make reference to in their national Exchange magazine. I have already had people saying how good it is to see Peterborough mentioned in a national publication.

As the end of the year approaches we can all reflect on a very busy year which shows no signs of slowing down as we head into 2008. We have welcomed back Charlotte Lucas who having spent a year with Jacob is now back working Monday-Wednesday and who has returned to her task of setting this newsletter up for us.

We now have a separate email address in order to assist in the receipt of reports etc which may have "content" which the firewall blocks. This is of particular significance when we are awaiting reports as a result of serious case reviews. We are still of course on the Peterborough City

Council global system however some of you may be asked to submit reports to us at pscb@peterborough.gov.uk. Our training colleagues have for a while used their dedicated training application line (although not everybody uses it) pscbtraining@peterborough.gov.uk

We are also hoping to have a dedicated web site which should have the snappy address of www.pscb.org.uk. As these things take time you can still of course access us as normal via InSite (internal) or externally its even easier using Google- just type in Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board.

I have included a diagram of our board and groups in this newsletter as I have been asked "how it all fits together" and also the names of all those colleagues who are either on the Strategic Core or Wider Board. As with all things this does change from time to time but as I write this is the state of play.

As always any comments on this newsletter and anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Safeguarding Board please e mail judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

Children and Young Persons Bill: Overview

Care Matters

The Children and Young Persons Bill will play a critical role in the Governments desire to protect the most vulnerable and ensuring children in care have the same opportunities as other young people. The Bill will strengthen the legislative framework underpinning the care system - ensuring the right framework is in place to enable children and young people receive high quality care and support and helping to ensure that those who enter the care system are able to achieve the same aspirations we have for our own children.

The Bill follows the Government's White Paper Care Matters: Time for Change (published in June 2007) which set out an ambitious strategy for transforming the life chances of children and young people in care. The Care Matters White Paper built on responses to the extensive consultation on the Green Paper Care Matters: Transforming the Lives of Children and Young People in Care, and the conclusions of four independent working groups established to investigate best practice in supporting those in care.

The Care Matters strategy is built on four central principles:

- a. uncompromisingly high ambitions for children in care;
- b. good parenting from everyone in the system;
- c. stability in every aspect of the child's experience;
- d. centrality of the voice of the child.

Content of the Bill

The Children and Young Persons Bill focuses almost entirely on this vulnerable group of children, giving them the attention they deserve. The Bill is principally designed to reform and strengthen the statutory framework around the care system. It contains a range of provisions which together will enable children and young people to experience high quality care and support, and to drive improvements in the delivery of services. Key elements of the Bill include:

- enabling local authorities to test a different model of organising social care by delegating social work functions to 'social work practices' (providers of social work services) and (following piloting) enabling regulation of social work practices if pilots demonstrate success in improving outcomes;
- increase the focus on the transparency and quality of care planning and ensuring that the child's voice is heard when important decisions that affect their future are taken, in particular by strengthening the role of the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO);
- improve the experience children in care have at school and increasing their
 educational attainment including by placing the role of the designated teacher on
 a statutory footing and ensuring that children in care do not move schools, unless
 'reasonably practicable and consistent with their welfare', or during GCSE years,
 in 'exceptional circumstances';
- ensure that looked after children (up to 18) are not moved out of an existing
 placement before they are ready by giving them a greater say over moves to
 independent living and ensuring they retain support and guidance as long as they
 need it;
- improve the stability of placements for children in care, limiting "out of authority" placements, securing higher placement standards and ensuring children in care in custody are visited regularly; and

improve the support for family and friend carers including allowing local authorities
to make longer term financial payments to family carers in circumstances where
otherwise the child would be accommodated by the local authority, where this
would be appropriate

The Bill also contains additional measures to support vulnerable children including provisions in relation to private fostering, child death notification to Local Safeguarding Children Boards, emergency protection orders and the powers of the Secretary of State to conduct research.

HUMAN TRAFFICKING

On 21 November 2007 PSCB held a briefing for members of our board and other interested parties. We were fortunate to have had Amanda Palmer from the United Kingdom Human Trafficking Centre giving a passionate presentation about their work," Operation Glover" and an equally committed DS Andy Tolley from Cambs Police reporting on the highly successful "Operation Radium". Both of the presentations are available on e mail by contacting judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

As a safeguarding board we recognise that this is an area which can only be tackled through partnerships and as a first step DI Jim McCrorie and Mandy Barker visited Blackpool to see how "Project Awaken" is organised. They will prepare a report initially for Specialist Services and the Police which will inform a scoping exercise to see what the challenges for Peterborough are.

It is likely I will be convening a small group in the future so if you have a particular interest I would be pleased to hear from you. Some of you were involved in the previous sexual exploitation working group and therefore we know there is a great deal of expertise here.

You may have seen in the national press in December that Home Office Ministers had launched an inquiry following a great deal of publicity following the statement from the Chief Constable of N Yorkshire. In addition the NSPCC has launched a Child Trafficking Advice and Information Line (CTAIL), to help provide professionals, and others working with children, to identify and safeguard children who are trafficked into sexual exploitation, forced labour, drugs transport and other crimes.



It has been ages since we held our VIP meeting and I am learning that this has been sorely missed.

We are holding a "Safeguarding VIP" on 4 March. Please keep this day free.

Integrated Processes

The Children Act 2004 places a duty on children's services within local authorities to make arrangements to promote the well being of children through collaborative working with relevant partners. Part of this is to ensure that the children's workforce across the city is using integrated processes to ensure better outcomes for children and young people.

There are four work streams that underpin the integrated processes projects and these are as follows:

Common Assessment Framework (CAF) - a standardised approach to conducting an assessment of a child's needs and deciding how those needs should be met. It is intended to provide a simple process for a holistic assessment of a child's needs and strengths, taking account of the role of parents, carers and environmental factors on their development. Practitioners will then be better placed to agree, with the child and family, about what support is appropriate.

The Lead Professional – will take the lead in the CAF process, acting as the single point of contact for a child, and their family, coordinating provision when a range of services are involved, and an integrated approach is required. Appointing the Lead Professional is central to the effective frontline delivery of services for children with a range of needs. The Lead Professional will ensure that service delivery is co-ordinated and achieves the intended outcomes.

Information Sharing – an effective information sharing framework will underpin all of the key elements of the integrated processes. Peterborough service providers will need to define and agree the common rules, values and principles for information processing / sharing between all service delivery (statutory or voluntary) organisations.

eCAF, ContactPoint - the deployment of a range of secure, electronic systems for information processing / sharing which will underpin the drive toward integrated processes. Development is driven by a number of both national and local initiatives, including:

- **eCAF** A project to deliver the electronic enablement of the Common Assessment Framework in advance of the national system.
- **ContactPoint** a national system, provided by the DCSF, which will record every child and young person in the area enabling practitioners to identify who is working with a child or young person, making it easier to deliver more coordinated support.
- Integrated Case Management System (ICMS) the development of a single case
 management solution across multiple service delivery agencies, enabling a "single view
 of care" concept to be realised.

Since the arrival of Yvonne Field, consultant managing the integrated processes project team, key activities have taken place and the project is now really starting to move forward. There have been workshops and development of the Vulnerability Matrix, review sessions for the Lead Professional role (which has identified areas that need further development), as well as workshops in specific areas on how we can engage parents and carers in the CAF process.

We are now in the process of setting up two reference groups to contribute to the handbook and toolkit for integrated processes. If you would like to be part of one of those groups or would like more information then please contact Yvonne Field at yvonne.field.@peterborough.gov.uk (01733) 746038

Gary Widdows has been appointed as eCAF/ContactPoint implementation manager within Yvonne's team. Gary will be running a pilot implementation scheme for eCAF with an interim system across all partner agencies; this will ensure we are ready for the national system in 2009/2010.

If you are interested in taking part in the eCAF pilot or would like further information on this then please contact Gary at gary.widdows@peterborough.gov.uk (01733) 746067



A New Vetting and Barring Scheme

The Safeguarding Vulnerable Groups Act has enabled the introduction of a new Vetting and Barring Scheme as from autumn 2008. It is part of series of government initiatives and guidance aiming to prevent unsuitable people working with children and other specified groups. Although the scheme is still in the process of development here is a summary of the basic principles

- The term employers refers to employers and managers of volunteers
- The term employees refers to both paid and unpaid work/activities
- Certain activities are known as regulated activities
 - o involves contact with children or vulnerable adults
 - is of a specified nature such as teaching training care supervision advice treatment or transport
 - o occurs frequently, intensively or overnight
 - o in a specified place such as school or care home
 - o fostering and childcare
 - certain defined position of responsibility e.g. school governor trustee of charity, director of social services
- Persons undertaking regulated activities must be registered with the Independent Safeguarding Authority (ISA)
- A barred person may not undertake a regulated activity
- An employer may not employ in a regulated activity a barred person or someone
 who is not ISA registered and will commit a criminal offence if they fail to check
 the status of an applicant
- Certain activities are known as controlled activities
 - ancillary support work in general health, NHS, adult social care and FE settings (three or more days in a 30 day period)
 - o those working with frequent access to sensitive records
- Employers are required to check the status of those employed in controlled activity
- They can still be employed providing sufficient safeguards have been put in place
- Employers have a duty to refer relevant information to the ISA
- The ISA will inform employers if the status of someone registered with the ISA changes – if they subsequently become barred
- The Criminal Records Bureau will provide the administrative arm to the ISA
- CRB checks will still be a requirement for some posts
- The ISA will be independent and undertake barring decisions previously made by the Secretary of State

Further information

www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/independentsafeguardingauthority
Jenny Parris – Chair Safer Employment Group –
Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board – December 2007

PSCB Strategic Core

Barbara Trevanion: Independent

Chair

Ben Ticehurst: Interim Director

Children's Services

Maureen Philips: Assistant Director

Specialist Services Children's Services

Chris Mackett: Head of Service

Development

National Probation Service

Cambridgeshire

Angela Bailey: Chief Executive Peterborough Primary Care Trust

Tim Bryson: Director of Nursing,

Children's Services

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough

Mental Health

Partnership NHS Trust

Mandy Renton: General Manager,

Women & Child Service

Unit P'boro'& Stamford NHS Hospital

Trust

Paul Ringer: Assistant Director South

and East Region NSPCC

Bob Footer: Manager Youth Offending

Service

Issy Atkinson: Service Manager

CAFCASS

Mel Collins: Assistant Director Learning

& Standards Children's Services

John Raine: CDAIU Detective

Superintendent

Cambridgeshire Police

Rachel Rouncefield: Head of Connexions Peterborough Young

People's Service

PSCB Training Programme 2007/2008

What are we offering?

Uptake of PSCB training courses has been slow since September 2007. This includes the introductory safeguarding training - Level 1 - which continues to be delivered to assist those agencies who presently do not have their own training in place. These courses are also open to voluntary and Faith groups and are delivered free of charge.

Advanced safeguarding training - Level 2 - (for practitioners and managers who regularly work with children and young people and with adults who are carers and who may be asked to contribute to assessments) has been updated. This interagency course provides an opportunity for those who work across agency boundaries to learn together and explore professional dilemmas in safeguarding children. It is a two day interactive course with a quiz, exercises and a case conference involving all participants.

The next course is Wednesday 6th and Thursday 7th February 2008 and there are a few places left. Bookings are taken on a first come, first served basis.

Safeguarding Children and Young people on the Internet

This is a new course aimed at staff that have completed their introductory – Level 1 - safeguarding training, and is based on the NSPCC training package mixed with local issues. What do you know about Habbo Hotel? Bebo? Ceops? What is a cookie? How does online grooming happen? And how do we help children to keep themselves safe?

Want to know more, meet your colleagues from other agencies and hear what they are doing? The next course is Monday 18th February 2008 – book your place by simply sending in a completed application form.

Safe Recruitment Update – December 2007

As you will be aware, there is a requirement for each panel appointing to a post involving working with children to have at least one person who has received safer recruitment training. This is designed to prevent unsuitable persons being appointed to posts where they have access to children and thereby have opportunities to abuse them or otherwise behave inappropriately.

Most schools in Peterborough have at least the head and/or one governor who have received this training either on line or at the face to face training delivered by Jenny Parris. Jenny is the Chair of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Safer Employment Group. There is another day's training planned for February 28th and further dates later in the year. Please contact the Governor Services Team if you are interested in this training. There is a short multiple choice assessment to be undertaken at the end of the day

There is a requirement that this training be received by all those relevant people throughout the Children's Workforce. Education settings have been prioritised following Sir Michael Bichard's recommendation and Ofsted are asking to see the certificate to confirm the training has been received.

Another Ofsted concern is a requirement for schools and FE colleges to maintain a single central record of the pre employment checks that have been undertaken on staff. School face an adverse Ofsted judgement if they do not comply with this requirement

The Safer Employment Group has amended the recommended reference request form to include specific questions about any past allegations, investigations or concerns. In contrast to previous recruitment practice, references now play an important part in the selection process and should be looked at by at least one person on the panel before the interview. If any concern has been raised, the applicant can then be asked about it at interview. Again in contrast to previous guidance, whilst there will be a core framework of questions put to all candidates, additional questions can be asked at interview to give an applicant the opportunity to give his or her account of information given by a referee and or to explain or clarify information given in the application form – e.g. gaps in employment. Schools can obtain the reference request form from EPM or HR Services at PCC

Finally another important point to note is that if a member of staff is leaving as a result of a safeguarding concern, compromise agreements should **never** be used. Any outstanding disciplinary procedures must be completed and consideration given to referral to the DCSF and other appropriate professional bodies

For further information on any of these topics please refer to the DCSF guidance "Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education" Jan 2007 which can be found on the Teachernet website

Safe employment practice is attaining an increasing priority and the current recommended practice should be adopted with the objective of preventing the appointment of unsuitable people to work with children in Peterborough

Jenny Parris December 2007

Round Up of PSCB Groups activities

Practice, Procedures and Policy Group (PPP)

(Chair: Mandy Barker, Specialist Services)

This is a busy group who have completed new /updated guidance on the following:

- Pre birth assessments
- Working with families affected by Domestic Violence
- Children with a CP Plan who go missing
- Management Assessment Planning Service
- Use of physical contact with children and young people
- Forced Marriages

The group is also working on CIN procedures.

Increasingly we are finding that best practice is the best way forward and we have recently adopted the London guidance regarding Female Genital Mutilation and have promoted the use of the report by Eleanor Stobart report "Child Abuse linked to accusations of Possession and Witchcraft".

This meeting is one where we encourage practitioners to raise any concerns regarding practice issues.

Communication and Information Group

(Chair: Jim McCrorie, Police)

This is the group who oversees the public information we produce and leads on media/communications generally. The group has revamped our leaflets and is now working on leaflets regarding

- Parenting
- Child death reviews
- Serious case reviews

The fact sheet (setting out what a good organisation should be doing) has been sent to a wide range of partners and currently we have an e safety policy in draft .The media strategy has been updated and we are looking at engaging with children and young people and hopefully commissioning a piece of drama around staying safe. The group is trying to encourage all its members to add an article into their agency newsletters about safeguarding board activity.

Quality Assurance

(Chair: Barbara Trevanion)

Barbara has taken the chair of this vitally important group as Martin Harris has taken a new job in Tilbury where he is heading up the NSPCC regional investigation service. The group have devoted their considerable efforts in developing

- An audit tool which has been circulated within the region and is considered to be an excellent model
- A data set which is both user friendly and enables the PSCB to collect data from partners which should enable a clear story to be understood.

The pilot of the audit tool certainly was a success in terms of data collection and analysis. We did learn however that there is a need to communicate better with partners about purpose, timescales and status.

Serious Case Review General Issues Group

(Chair: Maureen Phillips, Specialist Services)

This is the group who meet regularly to ensure we have robust processes in place not to be confused with the Serious Case Review Panel who meet when there is a particular case which it has been agreed should be reviewed. As the membership is the same as for the SCRP members are able to discuss cases which may need to be reviewed. This group has developed

- Templates for Internal Management Reviews and completing chronologies
- Framework for dissemination of messages from SCR's which includes security and access arrangements and dealing with the media with respect to SCR's.
- Adapting an information for families who are the subject of a SCR

Serious Case Review Panel

(Chair: Barbara Trevanion)

The SCRP has been convened on 2 occasions to consider specific cases but as yet we do not have final reports and therefore no executive summaries to publish on our web site. These cases concern the tragic death of 2 small boys and the subsequent death of their mother and the serious abuse of a child by her father. We have just learnt that OfSTED intend to audit the quality of all reports received as a result of the SCR process which I believe will be helpful as the quality of the individual agency reports does vary.

Child Death Overview Process

(Chair; Presently Barbara Trevanion until Feb 08 then Fay Haffenden Director of Public Health Cambs)

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are working together to develop a Child Death Overview Panel and in January will hold a "table top" exercise. In addition heath and police colleagues are working together to respond to the sudden and unexpected deaths of children and young people. The post of Administrator/Coordinator for the panel was advertised in December.

Safer Employment Group

(Chair: Jenny Parris, Learning and Standards)

There is a huge agenda which was highlighted by Sir Michael Bichard following the tragic events in Soham. Jenny has provided a report on the Vetting and Barring Board for the newsletter but in addition the group is working on

- A system for ensuring CRB checks are up to date
- Making representations to National College for School Leadership regarding the provision of more training places in order to roll out training to schools and beyond
- Recruitment Policy/Reference requests
- Positive Trace Assessment (charges v convictions)

Strategic Learning and Development Group

(Chair: Helen Herron, PCT)

- The group is overseeing the transition from delivering training to performing a
 Quality Assurance role for agencies delivering their own training. However
 Safeguarding Children training continues to be delivered to multi-agency groups at
 Level 1 and 2 during this transition. In addition the group has:
- Delivered the Training Strategy to the Chairs group
- Investigated e-learning
- Evaluated the results of a training needs analysis
- Published the new 2007-8 Training Brochure
- Updated Level 1 and 2 training courses
- Arranged the Annual Conference on Safeguarding Children on the Internet for Friday 14th March 2008 at Community Church, Parnwell with Terry Jones providing the keynote speech
- Strengthened ties between messages from Serious Case Reviews and training delivery (e.g. Working with Parents with Learning Disabilities)

Communication and Information Group:

<u>Chair:</u> Jim McCrorie: DI Cambridgeshire Police

Jenny Parris: Special Projects Manager,

Learning & Standards

Leonie Owens: Communications Officer: Information and Research Service Children's

Services

Su Wright: Children's Services Practitioner

NSPCC

Gill Holt: MAPS Co-ordinator, YOS

Rita Mease: Child Protection Named Nurse,

P'boro & Stamford NHS Trust

Rachel Gordon: Media Relations Officer

P'boro City Council

Lynn Chesterton: Safeguarding Manager,

Specialist Services

Engagement Officers: Universal services

Rachel Rouncefield: YP Service

(corresponding)

Chairs Group

Chair: Barbara Trevanion

Jim McCrorie: Communication & Information Mandy Barker: Practice, Procedures & Policy

Barbara Trevanion (interim): Quality

Assurance

Helen Herron: Strategic Learning &

Development Group

Maureen Phillips: SCR

Elizabeth Ingram: VSF

Jenny Parris: Safer Employment

Quality Assurance Group:

Chair: Barbara Trevanion; Ind Chair PSCB

Steve Selves: DCI CDAIU Cambs Police **Jenny Parris**: Special Projects Manager,

Learning & Standards

Rita Mease: Named Nurse CP, P'boro' &

Stamford NHS Hospital Trust

Kirstie Bush: P'boro' Primary Care Trust Named

Child Protection Nurse

Helen Chrystal: Named Nurse, Cambs and P'boro' Mental Health NHS Partnership Trust **Victoria Thompson:** Performance Manager, YOS

Service Manager CAFCASS

Jenny Beechey: Quality & Performance Manager

Children's Specialist Services

Marcia Peterkin: QA Co-ordinator Children's

Specialist Services

Keith Faulkner: Information Officer. National

Probation Service

Rachel Rouncefield: Young People's Service

(corresponding)

Policy, Procedures & Practice Group:

Chair: Mandy Barker: QAST Manager

Elizabeth Deans: Head Teacher Queens Drive West Primary

Pauline Hasted: Children's Services

Practitioner NSPCC

Gisela Jarman: Child Protection Coordinator Children's Specialist Services **Kirstie Bush:** P'boro Primary Care Trust

Named Child Protection Nurse
Lynn Chesterton: Safeguarding
Manager Children's Specialist Services
Darryl Preston: DI Cambridgeshire

Police

Emma Bliszczak: Assistant Education

Officer 'Pupil Support'

Gill Holt: MAPS Co-ordinator, YOS Jackie Perks: Manager Family Care Alison Heron: Project Manager Family

Group Conference Service

Joan Tibbs: Anti-Social Behaviour Manager Cross Keys Homes Andy Jarvis: MAPPA Manager, National Probation Service

Susanne Hackney: Named Nurse, LAC

Operational Groups

Strategic Learning & Development Group:

Chair: Helen Herron: Designated Child Protection Nurse P'boro PCT

Julie Barnard: Workforce

Development Manager Children's

Services

Ben Brown: CAMH Training Consultant, Cambs& P'boro' Mental

Health Partnership Trust **Angela Henderson:** Staff

Development Coordinator, Learning &

Standards

Jonathan Hopkinson: Senior Probation Officer National Probation

Service

Chris Hunt: Schools & Community Swimming Development Officer

Julie Knight: Workforce Development

Programme Manager

Jenny Parris: Special Projects Manager, Learning & Standards Marc Peacock-Smith: Child Protection Trainer P'boro' Primary

Care Trust

Martin Webb: Better Together Mark Heslop: Training Manager

Cambridgeshire Police

Serious Case General Issues Group

Chair Maureen Phillips: Asst. Director, Children's Specialist Services

Issy Atkinson: CAFCASS
Paul Ringer: NSPCC
John Raine: Cambs Police

Tricia Keogh: Learning & Standards **Venkat Reddy:** Peterborough PCT

Prity Patel: Legal Services Peterborough City Council

Safer Employment Group

Chair: Jenny Parris: Special Projects Manager, Learning & Standards

Julie Barnard: Workforce Development Manager, Children's Services Lynn Chesterton: Safeguarding Manager, Children's Specialist

Services

Fernley Copping: Senior Consultant, Learning & Standards

Karen Craig: Senior HR Consultant

Sue Miller: Personnel Advisor, Education Personnel

Management

A representative from Universal Services

Child Death Review Panel

Chair: Barbara Trevanion

From February 2008:

Fay Haffenden: Director of Public Health, Cambridgeshire

Vice-Chair: John Raine: Det. Supt. Cambridgeshire Police

Representation from the following:

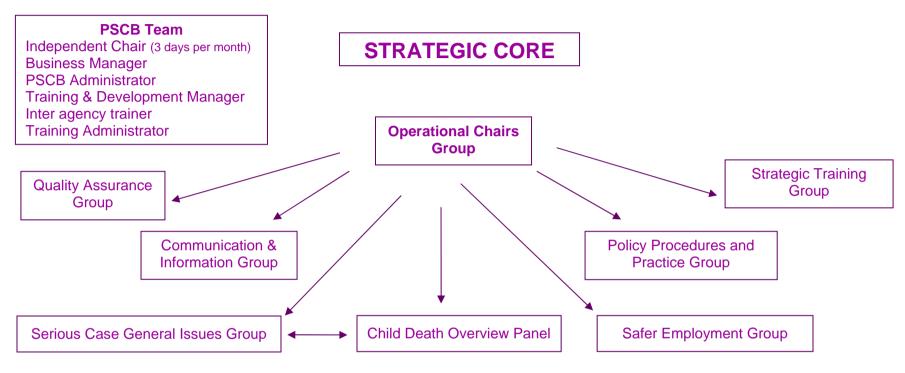
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough PCT's

Children's Social Care (Cambs & Peterborough)
The Coroners Office (Cambs & Peterborough)

The Coroners Office (Carribs & Peterborough)

Designated Paediatricians (Cambs & Peterborough) LSCB Business Managers (Cambs & Peterborough)

STRUCTURE OF PETERBOROUGH SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD



Together these groups are known as the Wider Safeguarding Board.

The following groups are affiliated to PSCB and support in meeting its statutory functions:

- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Team (Health)
- Safeguarding in Sport Group
- Safeguarding in Education Group

In addition links are made with the Voluntary Sector Forum, The Domestic Violence Forum, Faith Communities, MAPPA and other related forums as identified in Working Together