



Summary of PSCB meeting held

19th November 2014

1. **CAF Audit Report:** Karen Moody informed members that a 3 day external audit was carried out on CAF, TAC, and MASGs by Dr Kathryn Houghton. Karen Moody explained that the findings had some positive comments and that one case could have had a clearer voice of the child and that the impact could have been measured better. eCAF was implemented in January 2014 and there is comprehensive recording where these have been supported by the CAF team. The audit tracked the child's journey with the CAF now sharing the same database as CSC. Where CAFs have been inadequate, these have been sent back for additional information. Sharon Ward questioned whether meetings not being recorded on eCAF was due to not knowing how to use the system or not realising that they can record it. Karen Moody responded that it is probably down to both explaining that during the training sessions there has been someone to help professionals. [For more details contact Karen Moody 01733 863938](#)
2. **DCS Update Report:** Sue Westcott presented the highlights from her bi-monthly report and explained that the number of contacts have increased but conversions to referrals has not and that the report provides reasons where cases have not been progressed from Referral to Assessment. The number of re-referrals have gone down and a majority of assessments have been completed within timescale. Members discussed families from other countries and commented that requests are sent to embassies who do not respond and that family members may be offenders against children or adults but at the time of a visit there is no idea. Sue Westcott questioned members whether they were confident of CiN as it appears that Child Protection is perceived to be safer. Sharon Ward responded that records show CP conferences are happening and cases are being progressed but is concerned that CiN plans/cases are not robust enough. Sue Westcott raised that this has been discussed at the Board on many occasions and proposed a Multi-agency Task and Finish group is set up to make CiN more robust. [For more details contact Sue Westcott 01733 863606](#)
3. **Private Fostering:** Simon Green presented an update on Private Fostering and informed members that he gave a talk about the arrangements for Private Fostering and their responsibilities to notify the local authority at both the Health Safeguarding Group and School Safeguarding leads. Simon Green informed members that the demographics indicate there should be more private fostering arrangements than what has been notified to the Local Authority. Mark Hopkins questioned what the difference between Private Fostering and Private Children Homes. It was responded that Private Children Homes are for Looked After Children which are run independently from the Local Authority whilst Private Fostering arrangements are made between family members. [For more details contact Simon Green 01733 864571](#)
4. **SARC Update:** Mark Hopkins provided an update to the Paediatric Arrangements within the Sexual Assault Referral Centre. Mark Hopkins commented that the existing arrangements has been extended until April 2015 with contracts having gone out to tender with 2 substantial bidders. Mark Hopkins thanked Emilia Wawrzkowicz and colleagues for their work involved. [For more details contact Mark Hopkins 101](#)
5. **Children in Need Report:** Sharon Hawkins presented an update report and informed members that a piece of work has been undertaken to look at CiN cases open for 9 months or longer and added that cases are being appropriately risk assessed and closed to reduce the number of CiN cases by 75% before the end of December. [For more details contact Sharon Hawkins 01733 864071](#)
6. **Missing Children Progress Report:** Jenny Goodes attended the meeting to provide an update on Missing from Home and Care and informed members that there has been an increase in the number of episodes from previous years which is due to better recording. 40 cases were open to CSC at the time of the missing episode with 55% being in the care of the Local Authority, 5 were subject to CP Plans and 13 were CiN. Sue Westcott suggested the possibility of running a campaign where anyone who has had any concerns about a child and CSE can come forward and make a disclosure and can include historical cases. It was also suggested this should come from the Board rather than from a single agency. Nick Edwards suggested approaching Childline to see if they could offer any assistance. Jenny Goodes added that both her and Jo Bramwell have updated the Protocol for Children Missing from Home or Care. [For more details contact Jenny Goodes 864102](#)
7. **CPFT Presentation:** Rachel Gomm delivered a presentation on CAMHS waiting times and explained that the biggest issue has been the increase in demand and the decrease in capacity. A specialist practitioner on call rota and out of hours doctor rota was developed and previously would have 2 – 3 cases per week which has now risen to 4 – 5 cases per day. It was explained that there is 13 whole time equivalent staff with 342 referrals. Jill Houghton informed members that the CCG are working with CPFT and the Local Authority on the deep dive to see what further investment is required. Rachel Gomm added that 2 bids for additional funding had been rejected and that this is more about sustained investment which has been made clear to the commissioners. [For more details contact Sharon Ward 01733 777961](#)
8. **Pre-Mobile Baby Protocol:** Emilia Wawrzkowicz presented the Bruising in Pre-mobile Baby Protocol and explained that it has been updated. Emilia Wawrzkowicz explained that the protocol needs to be embedded into practice and that frontline Social Workers need to have an understanding. [For more details contact Emilia Wawrzkowicz 01733 673090](#)
9. **Female Genital Mutilation:** Emilia Wawrzkowicz informed members that a Task and Finish group was set up to create practice guidance in relation to FGM. Emilia Wawrzkowicz explained that every agency was represented and that the guidance was purposely kept short and developed from national guidance. Emilia Wawrzkowicz added that a resource pack is being developed for agencies to use for training along with leaflets for professionals and parents. A group of young people is being brought together to create a leaflet for children and young people. [For more details contact Emilia Wawrzkowicz 01733 673090](#)
10. **Escalation Process:** Jo Bramwell informed members that one theme from SCRs has been the lack of escalations and explained that with the help of Sharon Ward, the policy has been updated to include timescales and a form to submit when an escalation has occurred. [For more details contact Joanne Bramwell 01733 863765](#)

Date of next meeting: 14th January 2015, Northminster House, 9.30 – 2.00