



# **Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter**

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## Message from the Editor

We have experienced a very busy few months and despite our best efforts I am later with this newsletter than I would have hoped.

We said goodbye and thank you to Julie Solley who had covered the role of Training and Development Manager for the past 12 months.

At the end of her time she had a really positive send off as the conference "Safeguarding Children in a Technological World" attracted a large audience and the feedback was unanimously positive. There is a conference report later in this newsletter.

We have now welcomed back Jo Bramwell who works Wednesday, Thursday and Friday (and has Monday and Tuesday at home with Daniel and Emilia)

As always, comments on this newsletter and anything you would like to bring to the attention of the Safeguarding Board please e-mail to [judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk) or telephone 01733 863745

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## Making Links

Jo Bramwell and I have been busy meeting services which we have not engaged with before. As a result of a link made by Julie Solley before she left we met with Wendy Coleman, Community Fire Safety Manager for the Fire and Rescue Service and Jo has agreed to develop a basic Safeguarding Course for the service. We were surprised to know about the extensive home fire safety checks which they undertake and of course as they go into family homes they are in a good position to spot matters of concern. We left Wendy with a good deal of reading material and the S11 toolkit for her to assess where the service is at.

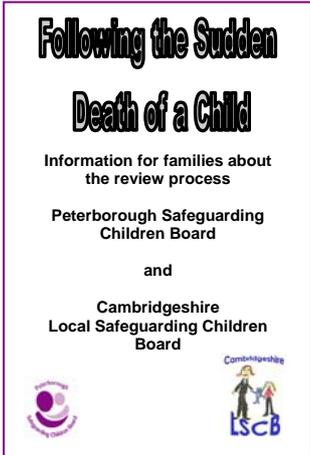
Next we met Wendy Jones, Senior Probation Officer, and her colleague Rachel Bester at HMP Peterborough. They both have responsibility for

safeguarding whether through the multi agency public protection arrangements or broader safeguarding within the prison. We visited the mother and baby unit and also spoke to Ali Swift who is the unit manager and who has already completed our Train the Trainers course. Clearly the majority of women who have their babies with them have valued the support received in what was a very well appointed unit. Again Jo has agreed to develop awareness for the large staff group. Once more a good deal of reading material has been provided along with the S11 toolkit. In addition we have formally invited the Director of the Prison to consider taking a place on the Safeguarding Board,

## Leaflets

We have completed new leaflets "The good parents Job Description" (15), Serious Case Reviews "Information for Professionals Purpose & Process" (16) and Serious Case Reviews "Information for Families" (17). Copies can be ordered through [kay.mayor@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:kay.mayor@peterborough.gov.uk)

We have a DRAFT leaflet for families "Following the Sudden Death of a Child" which will be used only by the Child Death Overview Panel within the process.

		
<p>PSCB15</p>	<p>PSCB16</p> <p>PSCB17</p>	<p>DRAFT PSCB10</p>

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## HONOUR BASED VIOLENCE - NEW HELPLINE 0800 5999 818

Cambs Police are setting up a dedicated helpline for victims of honour based violence. Research into the issue included a visit to Cleveland Constabulary who already have this service operational. Cambs police have created a hotline which went live on 16 June 08 and will be staffed by specially trained women police officers. It will be open 24 hours 7 days a week. Staff received an intensive week long training starting with a conference on 9 June when there were presentations from experts in the field and a woman survivor spoke powerfully about her experience.

In addition to this the Home Office are hosting a workshop and the aims of the day are:

- To bring together front line practitioners from key agencies who have a duty to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults in respect of honour based violence (HBV) and forced marriage (FM).
- Inform participants of forthcoming statutory guidance and increase understanding of HBV and FM and the warning signs.
- To encourage agencies to think about the problems they have when tackling HBV/FM and how to address these.
- For agencies to develop their own and cross agency plans to ensure best practice.



## New Telephone Numbers

Peterborough City Council has a new telephone system and consequently we all have new numbers:

Judy Jones	863745
Jo Bramwell/Fiona Taylor	863746
Kay Mayor	863744
Charlotte Lucas	863747

In addition the Social Care Teams have new numbers:

Referral and Assessment (previously Intake and Assessment)	864180
Children In Need Herlington	864376
Children in Need Newark	864420
Children with Disabilities	864397
Orchard Street Resource Centre	864333
Youth Offending Service	864210
LAC	864371

## Publicity

In April I provided a half page "advert" for the **Foresters Fund for Children** handbook explaining what the Safeguarding Board does. The money raised through these adverts enabled 21,500 copies to be produced and distributed and I have been advised that the Foresters Fund raised £ 78,500 for children in need. Small voluntary groups are able to apply to this fund using the application form contained within the book.

I plan to do a similar insert in the **Term Times** which should be distributed within schools in July 08.

The Chair of the Communications Group Jim McCrorie is very keen that we use all available media to promote our work.

## TRAINING UPDATE

After a busy year the PSCB training programme for 2007/2008 is now coming to an end and we are busy putting together the training programme for 2008/2009 which will commence in autumn 2008. In order that we can continue to deliver high quality safeguarding training we are currently carrying out an evaluation of the current years training to ensure that delegates can transfer what they have learnt to their job roles. If you do receive a letter from us please ensure that you complete the form as this information is vital for us to update courses.

Although there is an expectation that agencies will deliver their own basic safeguarding training we recognise that some agencies are not in a position to deliver their own courses and we will continue to run a limited number of basic safeguarding courses for people to access. We will also continue to deliver the intermediate and advanced training on a variety of current local and national safeguarding issues.

Due to the current "push" for us to be a paperless office and help the environment the training brochure for 2008/2009 will be emailed to agencies in the summer and available on our website, we will be producing a limited number of hard copies for those agencies who have not got access to email or the internet. If you require a hard copy please email [pscb.training@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:pscb.training@peterborough.gov.uk) or telephone Peterborough 863747.

Thank you for your support over the past year, I hope that any training that you attended was useful and I look forward to seeing you at future PSCB events.

### **PSCB Conference: Safeguarding Children and Young People in a Technological World**

The PSCB's conference in March was attended by nearly 100 people. Delegates praised the content of the day and the quality of speakers, who included the very experienced and highly entertaining, Terry Jones, retired after 30 years with Greater Manchester Police and is currently working within Child Exploitation On Line Protection Centre (CEOP). Workshops ranged from Social Networking and e-Safety Policies to Grooming and Cyber-bullying. Many even complimented the venue and facilities provided by the Kingsgate Conference Centre in Parnwell.

It was particularly encouraging to hear a number of delegates marking their intention to take their interest in the topics covered and learning from the day back into the home and/or workplace.

With 100% of the delegates rating the day as valuable or very valuable the conference was a great success and a positive finale to event organiser Julie Solley's term as maternity cover for Training and Development Manager, Joanne Bramwell.

Fiona Taylor Inter Agency Trainer 863746

### **Web site**

At long last we have our own web site [www.pscb.org](http://www.pscb.org) this is still a work in progress and it may be the end of July before it looks just how we want it.

It is our intention to use the web site to post news, new policies and practice guidance and gradually move away from paper!!!

## ROUND UP OF THE YEAR

The strategic core of PSCB continues to meet bi-monthly. The Chairs of the Operational Work Groups also meet bi-monthly to manage and coordinate the business of the PSCB.

The Annual Report and a first draft of the work programme for 2008 / 09 are in preparation.

### ACHIEVEMENTS 2007/08

This has been a busy year for the PSCB and the following has been achieved:

- A governance pack for all members
- A multi-agency data set
- The pilot of a multi-agency audit tool
- A toolkit for agencies to deliver their own basic safeguarding training
- A 2 day training programme delivered to Peterborough Mosques
- The translation of the 'Safer Parenting Handbook' into Polish, Portuguese, Lithuanian and Czech
- Redrafting of a raft of practice guidance and developing new procedures
- Safe Recruitment Training rolled out to schools in the first instance
- Work to develop a joint Child Death Overview Panel with Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Board

### SERIOUS CASE REVIEWS (SCR's)

Two Serious Case Reviews have taken place over the last year.

SCR 1 relates to the deaths of two small boys and the subsequent death of their mother (inquest yet to be held). The SCR is complete and has been judged 'inadequate' by Ofsted. Ofsted found the overview report to be very good, the SCR process 'robust and thorough' but 4 out of the 6 Individual Management Reviews were deemed 'inadequate'. Previously SCR's were evaluated according to the quality of the overview report.

SCR 2 relates to the sexual abuse of a nine year old by her father. The PSCB has asked all agencies to review their individual management reviews against the new Ofsted evaluators.

It is anticipated that SCR 2 and the action plans for both the SCR's will be completed in July 2008.

PSCB supports Ofsted in seeking to raise standards of SCR's, including Individual Management Reviews however we do not support the retrospective application of their evaluation tool to an SCR which commenced before the evaluation tool was invented. The PSCB Chair, the SCR's and other members of the PSCB met with the OFSTED inspector who made the evaluation.

### CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW ARRANGEMENTS

Peterborough and Cambridgeshire have a joint Child Death Overview Panel in place. Both Peterborough and Cambridgeshire have received monies from the DCSF to fund the Panel and money has also been identified by the DoH to fund the health requirements. The joint panel is chaired by Fay Haffenden Public Health Consultant and it has recruited a part time co-ordinator, Helen Cornwell.

### REGIONAL PROPOSAL

- It has been proposed that the Peterborough PSCB undertakes a piece of work on behalf of the region (and possibly the DCSF) in respect of serious case reviews. The details of this have yet to be agreed.

## National Initiatives

### **Working Together: Listening to the voices of children and young people** (07/05/08)

This guidance is an updated version of 'Working together: giving children and young people a say' (2004).

Giving children and young people a say in decisions that affect them can improve engagement in learning, help develop a more inclusive school environment and improve behaviour and attendance. It promotes the participation of children and young people in decision-making in school, LA and related settings, looks at best practice from schools and LAs across the country who have involved students in decisions which affect them, resulting in a positive impact on local schools and communities and provides advice on the principles and practice that support such involvement.

It highlights in particular young people forums, or school councils where pupils can represent the views of their peers; consultations which take into account issues facing pupils, or gauging their opinion on decisions affecting the school; peer mentoring: young people paired up with peers, to support them and give advice e.g. 'buddying' schemes where older children help younger pupils with basic skills like reading or trained to help mediate disagreements between peers – intervening in quarrels or bullying.

- [www.dcsf.gov.uk](http://www.dcsf.gov.uk)

### **Forced Marriage: Guidance for local authorities and schools**

(08/05/08)

Kevin Brennan, has written to remind all schools and LAs of their responsibilities in relation to the important child protection issue of forced marriage and to alert them to further planned action this year. The Government is committed to safeguarding children from all forms of abuse, including the risk of forced marriage to which it has given particular attention recently in response to a Home Affairs Select Committee Inquiry [www.dfes.gov.uk](http://www.dfes.gov.uk)

### **Safeguarding Children who may be trafficked**

(March 08)

This practice guidance outlines the reasons for child trafficking, the methods used by traffickers, the role and function of the relevant agencies and how practitioners should follow procedures to ensure the safety and well being of children.

It should be used in conjunction with Working Together to Safeguard Children (2006)

PSCB have spare copies if anyone wants a copy. In addition it can be down loaded from [www.ecm.gov.uk/safeguarding](http://www.ecm.gov.uk/safeguarding) Also copies are available from [dcsf@prolog.uk.com](mailto:dcsf@prolog.uk.com)

### **Safeguarding Children in whom illness is fabricated or induced**

(April 2008)

This updates the previous guidance which was published in 2002 and again should be used in conjunction with Working Together (2006)

PSCB have spare copies and again it can be downloaded as above

Copies can be ordered on line at [www.ecm.gov.uk/safeguarding](http://www.ecm.gov.uk/safeguarding)

## NEW GUIDANCE

As many of you will be aware we are busy adapting and developing practice guidance. What follows is the document control sheet which for those of you with hard copies of the procedures we have asked that you put it in the front of your copy.

Additional Local Procedures and/or Local Practice Guidance for inclusion in Core Inter-Agency Safeguarding Procedures Manual  
Please insert in new section "Additional Local Procedures after Chapter 11, Appendix 5

<b>Date completed:</b>	<b>Ref:</b>	<b>Title of document:</b>	<b>Date received:</b>
May 07	<b>A</b>	Guidance for professionals working with sexually active young people under the age of 18 in Peterborough.	
June 07	<b>B</b>	Pre-birth assessments	
June 07	<b>C</b>	Working with families affected by domestic abuse	
July 07	<b>D</b>	Children with a child protection plan who go missing	
Nov 07	<b>E</b>	Professionals working with Young People displaying sexually harmful behaviour	
Dec 07	<b>F</b>	Working with hostile, non complain clients and those who use disguised compliance within the context of safeguarding children	
Dec 07	<b>G</b>	Parents/Carers who are involved in the misuse of alcohol and/or drugs	
Dec 07	<b>H</b>	Forced Marriages	
Dec 07	<b>I</b>	Risk of Abuse through Female Genital Mutilation	
April 08	<b>J</b>	Hidden Children	
April 08	<b>K</b>	Referral & joint working arrangements to promote and safeguard the welfare of children who have a parent/carer with a mental health problem or substance misuse problem	See overleaf
May 08	<b>L</b>	Allegations Against Staff Carers And Volunteers	
May 08	<b>M</b>	E Safety	See overleaf
<b>N.B:</b>	<b>ALL PROCEDURES WILL BE AVAILABLE ON THE PSCB WEBSITE: FROM JULY 08 THESE PROCEDURES WILL BE FULLY ELECTRONIC</b>		

Tri X is the name of the organisation that is developing fully electronic procedures for social care services and it clearly makes sense for ours to be fully electronic too.

### **Referral and Joint Working Arrangements to Promote and Safeguard the Welfare of Children who have a Parent or Carer with a Mental Health Problem or Substance Misuse Problem.**

As a result of a recent Serious Case Review, Children's Social Care Services and Cambridge and Peterborough Mental Health Partnership Trust have revised the above

protocol which has been agreed by both Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Boards.

This must be widely circulated as what we discovered whilst undertaking the SCR was that practitioners were not aware of the existence of the original protocol.

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## QUALITY ASSURANCE

The quality assurance group, having piloted an audit tool last year is establishing a plan to hold 2 small audits each year. Agencies will be contacted to explain that the focus of the audit in July will be neglect and in January 2009 it will be thresholds.

The small audit team will look at 5 cases only which will be chosen at random

In addition the data set which has been the focus of a great deal of work is nearing completion. We will plan to advise PSCB of any positive and/or worrying trends.

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## Safer Employment Update

The Safer Employment agenda is continuing to be a priority for the Safeguarding Board with new Procedures on Allegations and Safe Recruitment having been written and recently endorsed by the Strategic Core. Police and Health colleagues are currently discussing them with their HR departments. These will be available on the PSCB website in the additional procedures section.

All schools in Peterborough have at least one member of staff or governor who has received the National College of School Leadership Safe Recruitment training either on line or face to face and have received the all important certificate to show to Ofsted. In large schools, where there are many appointments being made, one person is insufficient and so further opportunities will be offered. Some of these will be in conjunction with EPM and a small charge will be made

In addition, this training needs to be provided for all those appointing to posts working with children and we are fortunate in that we now have additional trainers to provide training throughout the Children's Workforce. How this will be achieved is currently under discussion.

A training day/information briefing for managers in safeguarding board partner organisations is also planned for 16th September – further details will be circulated when the details are finalised but the topics will include

- An introduction to safe employment
- The vetting and barring scheme
- Allegations management

The vetting and barring scheme launch has now been put back to October 2009 but further information on how this will operate is gradually becoming available - for further information see [www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/independentsafeguardingauthority](http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/independentsafeguardingauthority)

Some people will be aware that a recent Freedom of Information enquiry into school CRB checks caused a high level of activity and raised awareness of how schools were complying with the guidance. The LA will need to monitor school pre-employment checks more closely and the required single record of pre - employment checks will be audited in future, as happens in most other local authorities. We hope schools will understand how important it is to get this right particularly as this is such a tangible performance indicator for Ofsted.

Any further queries concerning safe employment issues may be sent to me at [Jenny.parris@peterborough.gov.uk](mailto:Jenny.parris@peterborough.gov.uk)