



Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Newsletter

Message from the Editor

We are producing this smaller newsletter earlier than usual as we need to ensure that everybody is aware that our annual report, training strategy and work plan are on the web site and our procedures are now web based.

It is also a busy time for ourselves and our partners as we are conducting a further S11 audit and undertaking work on a "challenge and improvement tool" to see how our members view where the Safeguarding Board is at present and how we may need to modify our structures and working arrangements.

I am consulting also on 2 government documents as follows:

Draft Forced Marriage Statutory Guidance was launched on 23 July for consultation. The consultation runs until October 15 and is available to download from www.fco.gov.uk/fmconsultation.



The Forced Marriage (Civil Protection) Act 2007 provides for the government to issue statutory guidance setting out the responsibilities of all agencies dealing with forced marriage issues.

This consultation is an opportunity for practitioners and the public to comment on the draft guidance. It lays out statutory requirements that agencies must have with regards to tackling this issue, which will build on their existing responsibilities to protect children and vulnerable adults.

The guidance will play a key role in the fight against forced marriage. It will make sure victims and potential victims receive the response and support they need.

To take part in the consultation please visit www.fco.gov.uk/fmconsultation. If you have any questions relating to the guidance, or if you require a hard copy or a copy in another format (e.g. braille, large font or audio) please contact the Forced Marriage Unit at fmconsultation@fco.gov.uk

The consultation on the draft guidance, 'Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation' was launched at midday on 21st July.

The consultation is on the DCSF website at www.dcsf.gov.uk/consultations/ and will run until 10 October 2008.

As always any comments or questions e mail me judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk
tel: 01733 863745

LAUNCH OF NEW ELECTRONIC SAFEGUARDING PROCEDURES 22 SEPTEMBER 2008

Tri X Childcare have been commissioned to produce our web based manual which will go live on 22 September.

This will be the first edition of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board Inter Agency Procedures in its new web-based format.

It is laid out in an easy to follow format however you will be directed to follow some introductory chapters before you start.

Users will see that the manual is divided into two parts - the first part covers those procedures that have been agreed with Cambridgeshire, Bedfordshire and Luton Safeguarding Children Boards. A detailed contents list for this section of the manual can be accessed via 'Core Procedures'. The second part of the manual contains procedures which have been developed locally for Peterborough.

One of the key features of this manual is that we can create links to relevant web-sites.

If you would like contact details or web links to be included in specific Chapters, please notify kay.mayor@peterborough.gov.uk the Board Administrator.

The manual is designed to be viewed on line, not as a 'hard copy'.

However, users may print specific sections or chapters. The best way to do this is to copy and paste the section/chapter you want to a 'Word' document, then save or print it.

When you do this, it will copy as plain text, with paragraph breaks, but any hyperlinks and formatting will be lost.

The manual will be available on PSCB web site www.pscb.org.uk click on the hyperlink www.proceduresonline.com/peterboroughscb.



NEW CONTACT DETAILS FOR CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE TEAMS:

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| Referral and Assessment (previously Intake and Assessment) | 864180 |
| Assessment and care planning (previously Children in Need at Herlington) | 864376 |
| Permanency and children in care (previously Looked after children, Bretton) | 863839 |
| Children in Need (previously Children in Need at Newark) | 864420 |
| Children's integrated disability service (previously Children with Disability at Herlington) | 864397 |
| Fostering (previously Fostering and Adoption at Midgate) | 317427 and 0800 0850713 |
| Adoption (previously Fostering and Adoption at Midgate) | 317448 |
| Access to Resources (ART) (a new service) | 863840 |
| Multi-Systemic Therapy Team (MST) (a new service) | 863846 |

SUDDEN AND UNEXPECTED CHILD DEATHS: LAUNCH OF ARRANGEMENTS FROM 1 SEPTEMBER

Government legislation now requires every Safeguarding Board to review the sudden/unexpected death of all children in their area. Peterborough and Cambridgeshire have established a joint Child Death Overview Panel from 1 April as the numbers of child deaths known over an identified 5 year period has on average only been 73 per year. The panel is chaired by Fay Haffenden - a Consultant in Public Health.

As from 1 September arrangements have been put in place for a Rapid Response Team of Health and Police representatives who will undertake early home visits to establish the circumstances of the death and to identify support needed by the family. Clearly suspicious deaths will be managed through safeguarding procedures.

Training is being offered to panel members and rapid response personnel and more general awareness raising will follow this year.

The Child Death Overview Panel has appointed a co-ordinator to manage the administration of the panel. For more information contact Judy.jones@peterborough.gov.uk

NEW PSCB LEARNING & DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY

Following recent discussions with the Strategic Learning & Development Group and Workforce Development Colleagues the PSCB Learning & Development strategy has been revised.

The new strategy defines the responsibility of employers to ensure staff have safeguarding knowledge and helps to clarify the relationship between single and multi agency training.

Historically the PSCB has run level 1, level 2 and level 3 training. This has often caused confusion as people have viewed it as a training pathway whereby they complete level 1 courses and progress onto level 2 and 3. Working Together is clear that job roles should be split into their safeguarding responsibilities and staff should access training that is appropriate to their responsibility.

To help to clarify this levels of training have been replaced with a new training framework that focuses on three groups, Group A, B and C. Staff will attend training that corresponds to their job role within the framework

Group A training is compulsory and is basic safeguarding information for those people who come into contact with children, young people and with adults or carers. This training is carried out on a single agency basis.

Group B training is for those who work regularly with children and young people and who may be asked to contribute to assessments of children in need. This training is carried out on a multi agency basis as well as relevant safeguarding training provided by their own agency on a single agency basis.

Group C are those people with particular responsibility for safeguarding children.

It is the responsibility of the PSCB to ensure that all single and multi agency safeguarding training is delivered to a consistently high standard. The process for evaluating the effectiveness of training is detailed within the revised strategy.

The strategy was agreed by the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board on 15 July 2008. The strategy is available on our website (www.pscb.org.uk) or a copy can be obtained from Charlotte Lucas, PSCB Training Co-ordinator. If you have any queries about the new strategy please feel free to contact me on 01733 863746 or email Joanne.bramwell@peterborough.gov.uk

TRAINING BROCHURE 2008/2009

The PSCB 2008/2009 training brochure is now available to view on our website (www.pscb.org.uk). The programme has been developed to help address the training needs of Peterborough staff within the statutory, voluntary and independent organisations who come into contact with children and young people so that they develop the knowledge and skills necessary to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people and achieve better outcomes for them.

In order to meet the differing levels of training needs across the range of agencies and staff roles the courses are targeted according to the level of contact staff have with children and families and their level of responsibility for safeguarding children.

The programme will run from October 2008 - June 2009 and all courses are free of charge to staff from Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board constituent agencies and voluntary agencies.

Due to the current "push" for us to be a paperless office and help the environment the training brochure will not be produced in its usual format. The brochure can be downloaded from our website (www.pscb.org.uk) or if you would like us to email you a PDF version please contact Charlotte Lucas, PSCB Training Co-ordinator on 01733 863747 or email charlotte.lucas@peterborough.gov.uk.

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.

KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE

On 15 September 2008 'Keeping Children Safe', a twelve month child sexual offender disclosure pilot was launched in Peterborough. There are three other pilot areas in the country (Cleveland, Hampshire and Warwickshire).

This twelve month pilot will enable parents, carers and guardians to ask the police if a person has a record for child sexual offences. If police checks show that the person has a record for child sexual offences, or other offences that might put a child at risk, the police will consider sharing this information.

Any member of the public can approach the police with concerns about a named individual and these concerns will be investigated. However, the purpose of this pilot is to see if giving parents, carers and guardians a more formal mechanism to ask about disclosure helps keep children safer.