

Board meeting MINUTES

Meeting:	NTSCB Board Meeting	Date and time:	28 January 2019 13:00 – 15:30		
Location:	Langdale Centre				
Designated Board Members Name and job title	Agency	Present	Apologies	No apologies	Deputy
Richard Burrows (RB) Chair of the Board	Ind	√			
Angela Yilmaz (AY) Head Teacher – Riverside Primary School	Education - Schools	√			
Paul Weatherstone (PW) Head of North of Tyne National Probation Service	NPS		√		Sheila Askew
Eleanor Reyland (ER) Legal Services	NTC		√		Claire Paczko
Chris Aitken (CR)	Lay Member	√			
Craig Anderson (CA) Policy, Performance and Research Manager	NTC		√		Rob Gilhespy
David Baldwin (DB) Head Teacher – Norham High School and Churchill Community College	Education - Schools		√		
Ellie Anderson (EA) Assistant Director Business Assurance	NTC		√		
Ellie Monkhouse (EM) Executive Director of Nursing and Midwifery	NHCFT		√		Resigned, new representative TBC
Elizabeth Rowan (ERo)	Lay Member		√		Resigned
Jane Scott (JS) Service Manager	NSPCC	√			
Jacqui Old (JO) Head of Health, Education, Care and Safeguarding	NTC	√			
Julie Firth (JF)	NTC	√			

Assistant Director, Children's Services					
Jan Hemingway (JH) Designated Nurse	NHS North Tyneside CCG	√			
Jane Pickthall (JP) Head of The Virtual School	NTC	√			
Jill Prendergast (JPr) Lay Member	Lay Member	√			
Lesley Young-Murphy (LYM) (Vice Chair) Executive Director of Nursing & Transformation	CCG		√		JH
Martyn Strike (MS)	CRC	√			
Martin Bewick (MB) Strategic Housing Manager	NTC		√		
Michael Vincent (MV) Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children	NHCFT	√			
Councillor Peter Earley (PE) NTC			√		
Pete Xeros (PX) YOT Operations Manager	NTC	√			
Steve Ammari (SA) Chief Superintendent	Northumbria Police	√			
Sharon Haggerty (SH) Deputy Director Nursing and Quality	NHS England				To receive minutes
Sue Burns (SB) NTSCB Business Manager	NTC	√			
Suzanne Armstrong (SA)	Cafcass		√		
Vida Morris (VM) Group Nursing Director - North	NTW	√			Late arrival
Wendy Burke (WB) Director of Public Health	NTC	√			
Julie McManus (JM) NTSCB Administrator	NTSCB	√			
Other attendees					
Victoria McLeod (VMc) Senior Mgr CSC (to present agenda item 4.3)	NTC				

Item	Action
1	Welcome and Apologies for Absence
	Welcome and Apologies for Absence Apologies noted above.

	<p>Elizabeth Rowan (Lay Member) has resigned from her role due to additional employment responsibilities. Julie Firth, Asst Director, CSC will represent Early Help Services, NTC and therefore Lesley Davies, Senior Manager Early Help, is no longer a member.</p>	
	<p>Declaration of Interest</p> <p>None declared</p>	
	<p>Correspondence – none to report</p>	
2	<p>Minutes of last meeting held on 26 November 2018</p>	
	<p>Accepted as a true record.</p> <p>Page 4 – Mental Health, Children and Young People – in relation to mental health as a focus of a thematic Board meeting in March, SB has spoken to WB and they are proposing this is postponed this to the May meeting due to on-going work being carried out by the Public Health Team. This can then be incorporated in to the session. JP stated NTC had been successful in a bid for additional funding for a DfE pilot and she will provide an update at the May meeting as part of the session.</p> <p>Page 6 – SCR Kevin – SB confirmed the Executive Summary of the case was published on 19th December 2018 and is available on the NTSCB website: https://www.northtynesidescb.org.uk/about/serious-case-reviews/.</p>	<p>WB/JP</p>
3	<p>Matters Arising</p>	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NTSCB Development Session held on 8 January 2019 – RB thanked those who were able to attend and commented on the success of the event and the contribution made by members. The notes from the session have been previously distributed. The views in relation to future safeguarding arrangements have been fed in to the work of the forum (see agenda item 6.1 for an update of the Forum’s work) • JTAI, familial sexual abuse – RB requested an update on the readiness status. SB explained that the Business Group were able to clarify that Children’s Social Care had not yet set up a task and finish group as previously reported. SB and JF to discuss this matter further to progress a multi-agency meeting. JF stated York CSC has been approached to share their experiences and learning outcomes with NTC CSC. SB noted that the current CP policy and procedure is being reviewed as part of agreeing a set of regional safeguarding procedures. The revised procedure will not change in relation to process but has been updated to reflect learning from local serious case reviews. <p>SA stated that the HMRC Inspection on Child Protection had taken</p>	<p>SB/JF</p>

	<p>place and commented on the Police preparation that had taken place for the HMI, could be shared for the JTAI. SB confirmed the Police will be invited to any meetings.</p> <p>RB explained the JTAI and challenged agencies to ensure they will be ready for it and asked members if they felt confident about this area of work. JO commented on the strengths and areas for development that had been identified.</p> <p>SB explained a focus of the inspection will be the identification of individual cases and quality of practice. In terms of numbers in the child protection system, these remain low although this is only one aspect of the data. SB highlighted the current SCR (Claire/Sarah) and the need to consider any learning. SB/JF agreed to share information as and when it became available before the March meeting of the Board. MS asked about the operating level of staff on the task group. SB stated they would be middle management level to ensure sufficient seniority to agree actions on behalf of their organisation.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practice Week –JF commented on the various activities that took place as part of the week and agreed to share the learning outcomes from the activities. JF informed members the next Practice Week will take place 1-5 April 2019. SB asked about the possibility of partner’s involvement. JO felt that Practice Week was in its infancy and needs to be embedded. JF stated partners were welcome to take part in planned observations. RB noted that it remained an opportunity to reflect on and share joint working practice across the borough. 	
4	Standing Items	
	<p>4.1 Financial Report – SB presented the report to members. She highlighted the additional costs of the new SCR.</p> <p>SB highlighted the on-going work in relation to pan regional(North & South of Tyne) policies and procedures. Currently 50% of current policies have been reviewed by the Business Managers and where local differences are identified they will be highlighted in the procedures if agreement cannot be reached with partners with an agreed process. An example of this is in relation to timescales for an Initial Child Protection Conference work for an unborn child. Timescales vary across the region and the proposal is a timescale of 24 weeks onwards that will need to be agreed with CSC and health partners. SB reported the project is on track to meet the deadline of going ‘live’ on April 2019. A communications plan is being developed to ensure all practitioners are aware of the new electronic procedures.</p> <p>RB reminded members that all LSCBs must agree to this and highlighted the need to ensure that the outcome of the work will deliver the ‘best’ policies and procedures. SB explained all LSCBs are rated ‘Good’ by Ofsted and therefore all policies and procedures meet Ofsted requirements. Boards have previously agreed that LSCB Business Managers will undertake the quality assurance task on their behalf. SB described where significant differences are valid and how these will be agreed and captured when the pan-policies are in place. RB requested</p>	

that where significant differences are identified; these are brought to the attention of the Board, he also felt that board members needed to understand the arrangements, so they could advise their colleagues, and be clear as to how quality assurance would be exercised and reported on.

JO left the meeting
VM joined the Meeting

Board members were asked if there were any further questions re current and forecast expenditure. It was noted that the new SCR would impact on the remaining budget.

4.2 Children's Social Care Transformation and Signs of Safety (SOS)

Presentation given by V McLeod highlighting some of the issues raised by the implementation of the new system and the outcome to date.

She explained the LA are in Year two of the project and progress is being mapped and reviewed across all service areas leading to a Signs of Safety practice implementation plan. Meaningful measures are to be developed and monitored. RB invited comments:

AY asked about induction for social workers who are new to NTC. VMc described the current induction training and the SOS training via the Learning Pool. JF stated that, in future, work can be carried out with universities to raise awareness with undergraduates. PX asked how SOS has been received by the Family Courts. VMc explained the work carried out with Cafcass and mapping with practitioners. JH enquired about further GP training and stated the CCG is keen to get involved. VMc suggested JH link up with B Morris, Workforce Development Lead, NTC.

RG summarised the presentation and the positive outcomes to date, highlighting the joint working arrangements and asked about the next steps in relation to all partners working together with SOS.

JF highlighted that SOS is built into the child protection, child in need and early help processes and that key partners are involved in these which raises awareness and encourages the use of SoS .

WB added that health visitors are using SOS routinely now and it is embedded into health visiting practice.

RG commented on the work being done to produce data via Liquid Logic. RB thanked V McLeod and board members for their contributions. He felt that progress indicated that SoS was being embedded within CSC and at points where partners were directly involved. He noted that there was a stated desire to maintain momentum and continue to invest within the long term strategy adopted. He felt it would be good to be able to see the differences this is making for children, young people and their families especially when focused on early help.

Action: The Board continue to take regular reports and that it incorporate a focus on the impact of and learning from SoS within its scrutiny activity.

4.3 Case Reviews – JH updated members on the following cases

- SCR Claire/Sarah – the next Panel meeting is scheduled to take place on 14th February 2019. The Panel will receive a copy of the fourth draft of the Independent Reviewer's report and it is anticipated this can be agreed by the Panel.
- SCR Harry (Child JA) – JH reported the independent reviewer has been appointed. The first panel meeting is scheduled for 15th

	February.	
5	Items for Scrutiny and Decision	
	<p>5.1 LADO Annual Report 2017/18– JF presented the highlights from the report produced by M Tallack in November 2018. She noted the report is not up to the required standard and there have been issues with being able to access data following the move to Liquid Logic, the electronic recording system. JF highlighted the decrease in the number of referrals that she does not feel this is indicative of all activity. JF reported 10 current cases. JF reported that a new full time LADO is now in place (Joanne Dean) this increases capacity to develop the role. As part of her role, Joanne will be contacting agencies to meet with them.</p> <p>AY asked for assurance re the quality of the data for Quarter 4 . JF informed the members that the Policy and Performance team had agreed to refine the data/performance work as a priority, which will make it more relevant.</p> <p>It was agreed the Quarter 4 report will be tabled at a future NTSCB meeting. Discussions continued culminating in agreement that reports will go to QILP Group for scrutiny prior to NTSCB meetings</p> <p>RB thanks JF for her openness and honesty that highlighted the past issues. He is looking forward to members receiving more in-depth reports drawn from strengthened processes.</p> <p>JP highlighted the usefulness of the school information. JF stated, as previously requested by NTSCB, more information on outcomes will be included in future reports.</p> <p>SB reminded members of the importance of the LADO report which is currently categorised as ‘high risk’ on the LSCB Risk Register. Members agreed this status will remain until further reports are received and the Board is confident about the data.</p> <p>RB Summarised that as a board we should continue to maintain close scrutiny and support of the LADO function, and that we should also be considering whether there were additional ways in which we could be assured that across the partner base there was an optimum response to allegations against adults who work with children?</p> <p>5.2 Quarter 2 Report – RG presented the data set and attached report on behalf of CA and spoke to progress on three issues that have been highlighted by QILP. These are;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Increased Safeguarding Activity – relating to early help and child in need numbers. RG explained the need for a deeper dive into the data by CSC. An Information Officer is in place to support this additional work and more detailed information will be available for Quarter 1 report 2019/20. <p>JS queried the information relating to North Tyneside data showing overall lower level child protection and looked after activity. RG explained the need for better understanding of the data and the reasons for this.</p> <p>JF explained the work taking place in CSC led by V McLeod and work on the Front Door/Mash pathway and the potential impact on referrals</p>	<p>JF/SB</p> <p>Busine ss Group</p>

to Early Help and for assessment. RG stated these actions reflected the discussions that took place at QILP meetings.

RB summarised that from what he had heard it has been recognised that some shifts have occurred (within relatively stable long term trends re the levels and distribution of cases across early help – CIN – Sect 47 and CLA) which seemed to indicate that higher numbers were being held and their needs/risks addressed, outside of the statutory thresholds. It was felt to be helpful and important that further analysis and narrative was undertaken so that the board could be assured that risk identification and management was robust and that multi agency assessment arrangements were of high quality and effective.

- **High level of demand for mental health services** – WB queried the accuracy of the report in relation to the CAMS review. SB stated the CAMHS information is provided by Jane Smyth, NHCFT and QILP Chair, this included information in relation to a review. QILP have highlighted the need to be better sighted on children and young people’s mental health. The sub group have requested a representative from CAMS attends to explain performance as the quarterly data is only aspect. WB commented on the positive feedback from young people on the Kooth service. Discussions took place about access to the service and outcomes from it and this was explained. WB stated quarterly reports are produced.

WB explained the failure of a funding bid to be a ‘trailblazer’ and plans to submit another application in Wave 2 of the bidding process.

RB summarised the discussions so as feedback from NTSCB to feed into the C&YP Partnership, as there was a need to converge the scrutiny being undertaken by the Board with the wider leadership role of CYPL. RB did not feel that as a Board we had yet achieved a sufficient level of scrutiny that could enable a whole system narrative.

- **Rise in sexual offences against children** – RG explained the Police data and stated further breakdown is needed. SA stated he will follow this up and report back to QILP. JS asked about the age of offenders (child/adult). SB stated this is some of the detail requested by QILP Group. PX stated this situation has been around for over a year. SB explained the Police data and the need to ensure the data is interrogated in the correct way.
- RG explained the role of the local authority in this and the pathway they take and how RG can report this in more detail.
- SA described the new systems and assured members that this will allow for more accurate information.
- RG explained the volume of data and the work needed to analyse it into meaningful information.
- RB thanked RG and asked if board members felt that progress was sufficient in respect of each area that is subject to scrutiny? In respect of the reported increase in sexual offences against children he wondered how quickly the data could be checked and whether there was other evidence of this increase in other parts of the system and process?

	<p>SB explained the QILP Chair has resigned from the role and the group due to a promotion and we are waiting for notification from NHCFT as to her replacement and whether this person is willing/able to take on the task. RB asked about continuity of the work. SB stated she and RG will take this forward in the short term. The new safeguarding arrangements may agree a different process for performance management going forward.</p> <p>VM commented that she echoed the comments from members and the need to contextualise the data and highlighted the association of alcohol and drugs with these offences and where they take place.</p> <p>MS stated that the he felt the CRC could be a QILP group member and will discuss within his organisation.</p> <p>RB thanked all concerned and noted that overall he felt the scrutiny activity whilst targeted on areas of specific concern, still seemed to lack pace and clarity. He reminded members that this was a key area of importance for the overall purpose and impact of the partnership (and was likely to remain the case in the new arrangements). He suggested that members should prioritise the chairing and functioning of QILP and ensure that it had the support it needed.</p> <p>Actions</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. the 3 areas of scrutiny to be continued and all to move into more effective analysis so Board can be assured on the basis of an informed narrative about the level of threat and risk the areas of concern represent 2. All partners to re evaluate their contribution to QILP especially in respect of chairing arrangements and capacity to access and process data and information <p>5.3 NHS England North East and Cumbria Safeguarding Annual Report RB reminded members that this was the first annual report following the agreement of a MOU across 12 LSCB's and that this was the agreed way in which NHSE discharged its statutory responsibilities as a member of the Board. He also informed the Board that he spoke with the NHSE lead on a regular basis and a formal follow up call was being arranged re the annual report. RB asked members to read the report and send comment to JM by 11 Feb 2019.</p>	<p>All</p> <p>All</p> <p>All/RB</p>
6	Items for information	
	<p>6.1 North and South of Tyne Strategic Forum – RB gave a verbal update on the work to date of the Forum who has developed an options paper which identified three potential future options:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ No change to current arrangements 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Development of a strategic partnership of the 3 safeguarding partners with some local arrangements. ➤ One arrangement for the whole area, 6+5+1 <p>At the last meeting on 25/01/2019 Option 2 was agreed and detailed plans (Local x 6 and I framework report) have to be agreed by June 2019. RB reported on a meeting with JO and conversations with Police and the CCG in North Tyneside in relation to progressing the arrangements in NT. RB is proposing the 3 partners meet to agree an outline plan with involvement from schools and other partners. JF stated she had experience of the framework model and it worked well. Progress will be reported to the next board.</p> <p>6.2 Sub Group minutes – minutes distributed and no matters were raised</p>	RB/SB
7	Partners Reports	
	No items were reported.	
8	Planned or deferred items	
	Themed meeting – mental health. May 2019	
9	AOB - none	

Date and time of next meeting:

Monday 25 March 13:00 – 15:30 Linskill Centre