

# Dudley Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB)

**Annual Report April 2016 to March 2017**



## **Dudley Safeguarding Children Board**

C/O Safeguarding & Review Service, Directorate of Children's Services

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# Foreword



I am pleased to introduce the annual report of Dudley Local Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) April 2016 - March 2017, which details the significant progress that has been made during this period with regard to delivering both the DSCB improvement plan and business plan.

The report also contains artwork that has been kindly produced by a Dudley young health advisor. DSCB is delighted to give the young health advisor a platform to share her talent.

We started the year in the knowledge that we were not delivering our statutory functions and board partners recognised that rapid improvement was also required in the delivery of multi-agency front line services in order to provide the high quality support and protection that we aspire to deliver to our most vulnerable children and their families.

This report sets out the work co-ordinated by the board to support improved safeguarding arrangements and practice during 2016-17 and also provides an analysis of the effectiveness of the local safeguarding system in Dudley.

Good progress has been made in implementing the DSCB improvement plan and I am confident that DSCB has a good understanding of its priorities for the coming year which in summary are to further develop its scrutiny and assurance role and to drive local learning and improvement. This will require board partners to work collaboratively to:

- expand our performance management and quality assurance activity so that it reflects the multi-agency nature of the board and focuses on particular groups of vulnerable children e.g. disabled children
- deliver our Serious Case Review function in a timelier manner, disseminate learning and use single and multi-agency audit activity to test out the desired impact on service provision has been achieved
- use feedback from children and their families to evaluate the impact of services and to inform service development

The next phase of our improvement journey is dependent on the extent to which partners embed the above activity into their core business and, on behalf of children and young people in the borough, I am committed to ensuring a relentless focus on these actions and, provide challenge to board partners to deliver against these actions.

In the coming year, we will also deliver further work to improve key areas of safeguarding practice and in particular:

- improving our response to children living in neglectful circumstances, including unborn children
- improving the quality of the multi-agency response, including information sharing, for children who may be at risk of, or, are being sexually exploited, those who go missing from home, care or education and those who are trafficked
- delivering help to children and their families and the earliest point of need to reduce the likelihood of a need for social work intervention
- ensuring strong management/clinical oversight of services provided to children

Alongside the engagement in core child protection activity e.g. providing reports for and attendance at Child Protection Conferences and core groups, the active engagement of all board partners in delivering the desired improvements is required and I will be working with board members to ensure that there is an appropriate synergy between organisational and DSCB priorities. I will also work with board partners to develop our local response to the revised Working Together document that will be published in 2018 which will require each area to review its multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.

We end the year with me being able to report that arrangements to respond to children who are at risk of, or, who are being abused and neglected are more robust and child centred than they were at the beginning. This is a significant achievement and is attributable to the contribution of all board partners and in particular, the pace of progress the Local Authority has made in delivering its own improvement plan. I would like to place on record my thanks to all partners, including front line staff, board lay advisors as well as staff in the DSCB Business Unit, who have contributed to the improvement journey to date. I would also like to thank the young health advisor for their contribution to this report. The progress to date provides a strong platform to deliver the next phase of our improvement journey.

I will end by sharing some feedback from a Dudley child who powerfully reminds us why DSCB must further develop its role in driving local learning and improvement through case reviews. A child was asked if they had any thoughts or views on a case review report being conducted and said, "It was ok, as more people will know about looking after little people and might know that children cannot be treated like it says in the report".

I look forward to working with you in 2017-18 so that we can continue to improve how we safeguard children and young people in Dudley.

**Liz Murphy, Independent Chairperson**

# Executive Summary

Dudley Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) has had a busy year making strides to progress the priorities for the year, whilst at the same time, implementing the action plan arising from the Ofsted inspection of the council's Children's Services and the DSCB which deemed both areas to be inadequate, and in particular that DSCB was non-compliant with its statutory functions mandated in Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 to:

- (a) coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area
- (b) ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes

On the basis of the above, the functions and activities of the DSCB for this reporting period has been closely monitored under the governance arrangements of the Children Services Improvement Board (CSIB) to ensure rapid and effective progress is being made against the action plans arising from the inspection.

DSCB is heavily reliant on the infrastructure within its business unit to drive and support its activities; this area was found to be ineffective and insufficiently resourced by Ofsted. The DSCB took immediate action and revised the staffing structure within the business unit in June 2016, however, the inability to recruit to key post, resulted in instability and drift in progressing some of the intended activities identified in both the improvement plan and the DSCB business plan.

Despite some initial delay, there has been a period of accelerated progress in the latter part of the year and DSCB is moving in the right direction, and can demonstrate and celebrate the progress made.

During the reporting year, Dudley's Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) has seen significant progress. This newly forged arrangement positions police, children social care and health, along with other partners, in the same arena, where working together has resulted in evidence of more effective, appropriate and timely response to services provided to children and families.

The council has led a refresh of the Early Help services, aiming to make them more inclusive and accessible to partners, and service users alike. The new arrangements place greater emphasis on coordination of collective resources.

The "Graded Care Profile" tool has been introduced as the basis to improve the recognition and response to cases of neglect and is designed to make plans more focused on outcomes for children and young people.

There has been an increase in funding from across the partnership to increase the interventions for addressing issues of Child Sexual Exploitation; we can demonstrate positive progress in raising awareness, responding to, and developing services for victims of child sexual exploitation.

Through the annual report from the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) we can report that through the Management of Allegations process, concerns about the behaviours, attitudes and activities across the children's workforce continue to be reported and investigated through the partnership, and the LADO role working well in terms of providing advice and support.

The DSCB subgroups have shown ongoing commitment and determination by progressing the work-plans and activities to support the board's priorities. This includes increased attention and focus to gain the voice of the child in the work streams.

There is evidence that the prevent agenda is evolving and there are good local arrangements to provide a coordinated approach; similarly this is the case regarding to activity to tackle Female Genital Mutilation.

The DSCB has continued to receive reports from the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) who have reviewed a total of 26 cases for the reporting period, 13 of which were brought forward from the previous year.

The LSCB has commissioned three serious case reviews during the last quarter of this reporting year. However, under the appointment of a new Independent Chair in April 2016, a number of cases were regressed for reconsideration, resulting in a change in status of two cases previously noted to have fallen below the threshold for a full SCR. Both cases were already being progressed using the SILP approach and the change to SCR status did not impact on chosen methodology. Both are now close to completion with publication planned in the coming year.

As will be seen, progress has been made in delivering the actions included in the DSCB improvement plan. Much of the activity has focused on the board's governance arrangements e.g. protocols, constitution, appointment of another lay member, revitalising the memberships of the sub groups, developing sub group work plans and reviewing terms of reference. In addition, the board has coordinated and maintained oversight of activity in relation to its three priority areas of business for 2016-17: Neglect, Child Sexual Exploitation and Early Help and thresholds. This work is described in more detail elsewhere in this report and the DSCB executive has received regular progress reports from sub group chairs or those who are leading the associated work streams. One of the DSCB lay advisors is a member of the DSCB executive and brings robust and child centred challenge and scrutiny to the overview of DSCB activity. The introduction of action trackers for board and sub groups has meant that actions are more robustly monitored.

Challenge has been provided at DSCB meetings about the need to embed DSCB thresholds in practice and partners have responded well to this challenge as evidenced by performance data. The DSCB Chair has also observed two areas of multi-agency practice: Child Protection Conferences and Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings. As a result, Local Authority partners have been challenged about their engagement at these forums and the impact of these challenges will be monitored through the board's performance and quality framework.

Dudley having a single Independent Chair to lead both the Adult and Children Safeguarding boards, has maintained relationships and connectivity between these two strategic board, we will strengthen these channels further with a view to working seamlessly and effectively together to promote good outcomes for vulnerable children and families alike.

In summary, the DSCB has had a busy and challenging year, given the fact that there has been instability within the business unit, we have made significant progress in delivering our improvement plan, business plan and core functions.

During the coming year, we will continue to strengthen the role and functions of the DSCB, and complete the outstanding actions from the improvement plan. We have agreed to extend and further improve the works relating to CSE; and in particular the associated links to Missing and Trafficking, and to strengthen individual partners' awareness and response in this area of our business. We also want to elevate the voice of the child as a thread throughout all areas of our work, and will continue to support partners to increase the visibility of children's voices in service provision.

Though a challenging year, there is evidence of increased attention from partners in terms of contribution, commitment, and the determination to strengthen the local safeguarding arrangements and make a difference to the lives of children, young people and families in Dudley, this progress should be collectively acknowledged and commended by all DSCB partners.

# What does the DSCB look like?

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area, and specified the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) to be represented on LSCBs.

As is mandated, Dudley Safeguarding Children Board was formerly established in May 2006, with a specific remit to co-ordinate the activity of all agencies in the area aiming to keep children safe, and monitoring and evaluating how effective this has been. The formal functions of the DSCB are set out in statutory guidance: Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 (HM Government 2015). It is important to state that each board partner retains their own line of accountability for safeguarding.

The DSCB is independently chaired, and this role is accountable to the Chief Officer of Dudley Council acting on behalf of and in consultation with key statutory partners. The work of the board is driven by senior officers of all the principle stakeholders (detailed below) working together at the board, or via nominated representatives from each core member in contribution to progressing the subgroup activities identified and agreed by the board to safeguard children and young people in Dudley.

## Current membership

**Education**  
including:  
Primary  
Secondary  
Further Education/  
Independent

**Dudley Council**  
including:  
Children's Services  
Public Health  
Housing  
Youth Offending  
Early Help  
Dudley Council's: Cabinet Lead  
Member for Children

**West Midlands Police**  
including:  
Public Protection  
Local Policing  
Child Abuse Unit  
Safe & Sound (Community  
Safety Partnership)

## DUDLEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

**Probation**  
including:  
National Probation  
Service  
Community  
Rehabilitation  
Company(CRC)

**Health**  
including:  
Clinical Commissioning Group  
Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust  
Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust  
Dudley & Walsall Mental Health Trust

**Community and  
Voluntary Sector**  
Lay Members



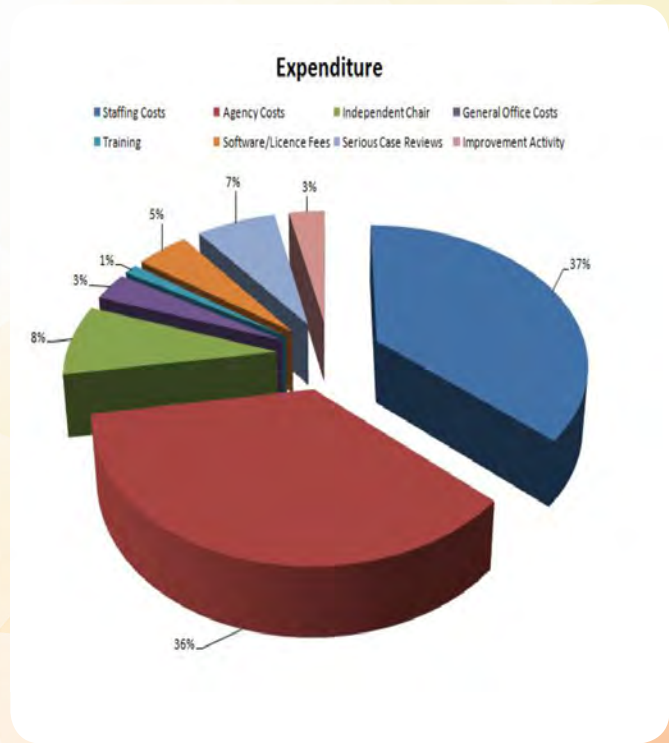
The Chair has regular meetings with the Chief Officer and also the Strategic Director of Children’s Services, and senior officers from member agencies. The Chair has access to and can hold to account chief officers and strategic leads from all partner agencies as and when this is required. An important development in 2016-17 has been the introduction of a Safeguarding Quarterly Review Meeting led by the Clinical Commissioning Group with input from the DSCB business unit and Public Health and designed to support and challenge the contribution made by health providers to operational and strategic safeguarding activity. DSCB also issued a revised escalation policy designed to promote issues of professional difference to be resolved in a timely and child centred way.

Agency attendance at DSCB meetings for 2016/17 has been detailed in Appendix 1.

### DSCB budget 2016 – 2017

Working Together (2015) states that the financing of an LSCB must be agreed and met by contributions from partner agencies at a local level, with this, organisations’ of DSCB share the responsibility for funding the DSCB’s support functions, this includes, determining how resources are to be provided. The DSCB’s annual budget by and large, meets the cost of the staffing structure within the business unit, training and development opportunities offered across the partnership, and all other cost to enable board to carry out its agreed business plan objectives, which also includes the cost of Serious Case Reviews, as necessary.

<b>2016 – 17</b>	<b>Income £</b>
Dudley MBC	195,523
Dudley CCG	107,100
FE Colleges	7,000
West Midlands Police	28,455
National Probation Service	1,500
CAFCASS	550
Probation Company/ Community Rehab	1,500
Training Income - Internal	7,630
Training Income - External	2,102
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>355,360</b>



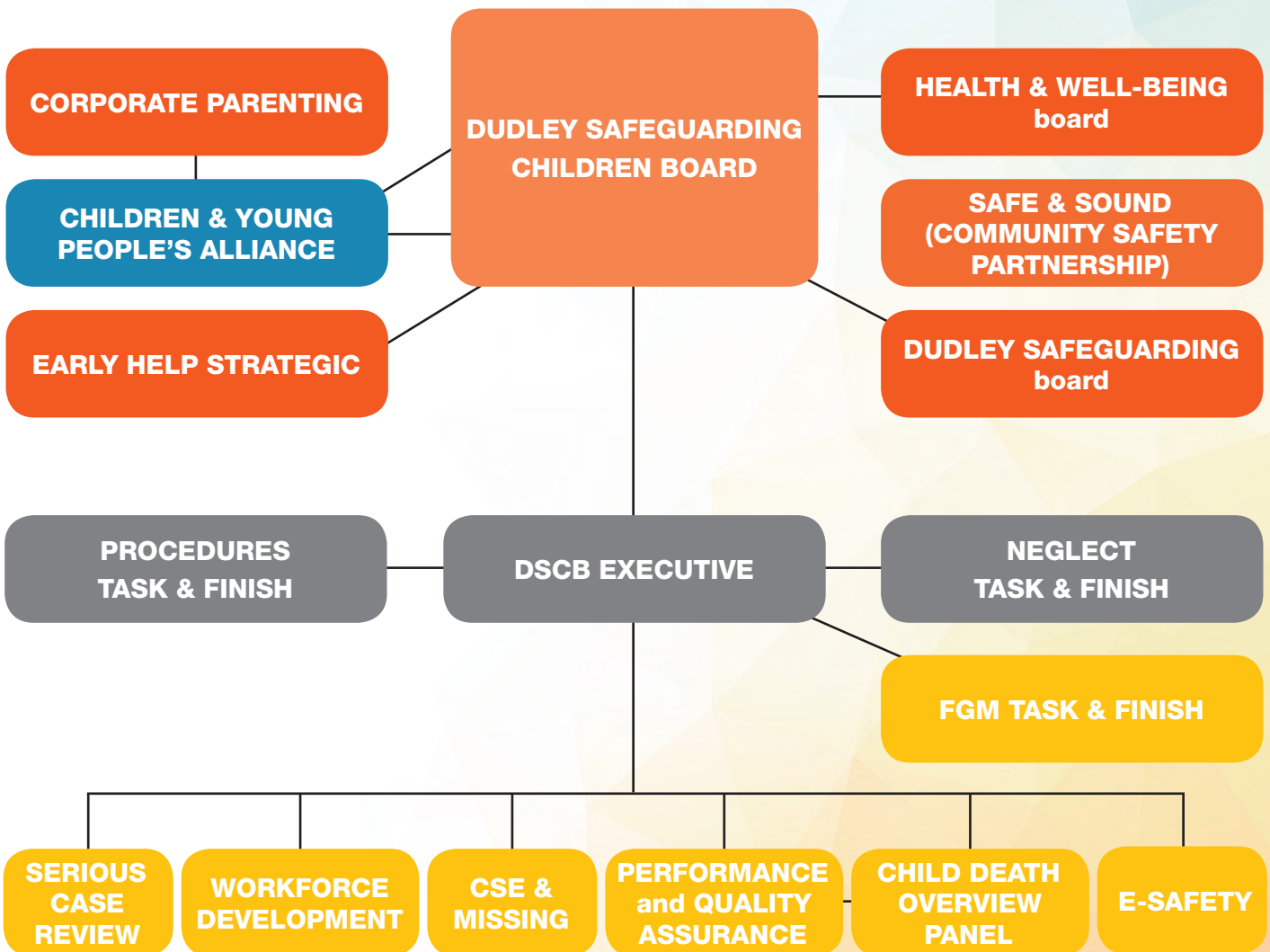
### DSCB Funding

The financial year commences on 1 April until 31 March each year. DMBC is the accounting body for the DSCB budget.

The expenditure against the income for 2016/2017 is illustrated above. Further commitment is provided from partners, who collectively deploy significant support to the DSCB through contributions in kind, in particular the release of staff time to the delivery of DSCB functions, without which, the board would be unable to operate, or meets its statutory objectives.

## DSCB structural arrangements

The structure chart below provides an overview of the links between the Dudley Safeguarding Children Board, its subgroups and key strategic partnership boards, who together, are active participants in local activities to safeguard children across Dudley Council.



## Working Arrangements

As a statutory board, DSCB discharges its functions and deliver its strategic priorities through a number of subgroups and where necessary, short-life task and finish groups as illustrated above.

## Relationship with other partnership structures

DSCB has links and a formal memorandum of understanding exists with other local partnership boards including; Dudley Safeguarding Adults Board (DSAB), the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safe & Sound (Community Safety Partnership), and the Children and Young People's Alliance, together these arrangements ensure that each strategic board:

- contribute a safeguarding perspective to the work of that partnership
- strengthen the effectiveness of the arrangements made by that partnership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- identify any crossover issues which should be jointly addressed

In addition to the above, during 2016-17, arrangements have been put in place to bring together the chairs of all the partnership boards to ensure greater join up and alignment of activity including safeguarding across the partnership landscape.

## Relationship and work with other LSCB's

During the reporting year, the DSCB joined forces and resources with the three other Black Country LSCB's for the delivery of some multi-agency training courses. Though some challenges have been experienced, the benefits of cross border is both recognised and valued.

DSCB is an active member of the West Midlands Regional Safeguarding Procedures Group, that is made up of ten LSCB's, of which the Independent Chair of the DSCB is the 'project sponsor' nominated by the West Midlands LSCB Chairs to oversee both the formation and the implementation of this recent cross border initiative. This new and exciting venture saw the DSCB contributing to the creation and revision of the West Midlands Multi-agency Safeguarding Procedures work which started in the previous year and went live on 31 March 2017: <http://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/>

The DSCB business manager is a member of the West Midlands LSCB's Business Managers Forum, attending meetings on a quarterly basis to share, support and promote best practice, for safeguarding arrangements across the LSCB areas. Much of the agenda and focus for the group during the reporting period has attended to the areas of particular interest and challenges for many LSCB's including, learning and development; to develop and contribute to regional protocols, procedures and guidance as appropriate; as well as sharing the learning from Serious Case and Child Death Reviews.

The Independent Chair is also a member of the National Association of LSCB Chair. This organization promotes learning at a national level in respect of board effectiveness and development.

# About Dudley

## What does Dudley's child population look like?

### Population and Ethnicity:

- a total of 75,267 children and young people aged 0 to 19 live in Dudley (mid-year population estimates 2015). This is 23.8% of the total population in the area
- the number of children in the early years age bands has declined since 2015
- primary school numbers continue to show the historically high figures seen over the last 10 years and these are starting to flow through to secondary school
- the proportion of children and young people from black minority ethnic groups is rising and they now represent 19.1% of the school population
- the diversity of ethnic groups has increased particularly in terms of migration from Eastern Europe
- there has been a rise in the number of children for whom English is an additional language (from 10.7% in 2012 to 12% in 2017)

### Deprivation, child poverty and family income:

- 21.4% of the population live within the 20% most deprived areas of England compared with 24.5% in 2010
- child poverty has remained an issue in Dudley with rates significantly higher than England
- a significant proportion of children and young people live in households where no-one works
- The annual average wage for Dudley residents working full-time was £27,050 in 2016, below the national figure of £28,503

### Education, Employment and Training amongst young people, as of March 2015:

- 95.3% of academic 16 year olds were participating in education, employment or training, compared with 94.6% in the West Midlands, and 88.1% of academic 17 year olds, compared with 86.8% in the West Midlands. This is an increase on the previous year for both ages
- at the end of 2015, 430 young people were Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) (aged 16-18) (3.8%), a reduction from 5.7% the previous year. The number of young people (aged 18-24) claiming

## Health inequalities:

- the infant mortality rate in Dudley is 4.2 per 1,000 live births for 2015-17, slightly higher than the national picture
- smoking in pregnancy in 2015/16 was 13.0%, similar to the West Midlands but higher than England average, though with a downward trend
- emergency hospital admissions has risen slightly in the 2016/17 for all age groups, especially in the most deprived areas of Dudley. There is also an over representation of children from the most deprived areas attending A&E with accidental injuries
- childhood obesity rates are statistically significantly higher in Dudley than in England, at both Reception (11.9% compared with 10.4% in the West Midlands and 9.3% in England) and Year 6 (23.1% compared with 22.1% in the West Midlands and 19.8% in England)
- the proportion of 9 and 11 year olds bullied at or near their school has remained above 25% over the last 8 years
- the rate of children in need in Dudley was 489.7 per 10,000 children (at 31 March 2016) which was higher than the national average of 337.7 per 10,000 children (as at 31 March 2016, latest data, Source: DfE, CIN Census, 2015/16)
- 4,036 domestic abuse incidents where children were members of the household were screened by the multi-agency Domestic Abuse Response Team (DART). This equates to a rise of 52% compared to last year, continuing the rising trend
- in June 2016, 1,455 families across the borough were eligible under Phase Two of the Troubled Families programme for targeted intervention. These families are experiencing inter-related and complex problems; which include truancy and school exclusion, worklessness, crime and anti-social behaviour, mental and physical health problems
- 508 children were made the subject of a Child Protection Plan, and 458 children were removed from their Child Protection Plan when it was judged that they were safeguarded during 2015/16
- overall, the rate of Children in Care in Dudley has increased in recent years, although total numbers have been decreasing gradually from a peak of 755 in 2013/14 to 726 in 2015/16. This represents a rate of 107 per 10,000 children in the population, significantly higher than the national average rate of 60 per 10,000 children
- in 2015 the number of first time entrants to the youth justice system is 385.7 per 100,000, similar to the National figure and lower than the West Midlands rate

# What did Ofsted say about DSCB?

In April 2016, Ofsted published a report of the outcome of the combined inspection of Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council's services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after, care leavers and the review of the effectiveness of DSCB, all of which were judged to be inadequate.

A bespoke improvement plan, under the governance of the Children Services Improvement Board (CSIB) was put in place to implement and drive the recommendations made by Ofsted and DSCB became accountable to this independent board for the execution of its plan.

Progressing the actions of the improvement plan is reported to the CSIB at every meeting. Under these arrangements there is a robust framework to monitor and challenge the Independent Chair of the DSCB for advancing the activities. A copy of the updated DSCB improvement plan as of March 2017 can be accessed here: [improvement plan 2016 -2017](#)

Specific to the review of the DSCB, Ofsted highlighted the following areas for action to ensure that the board could fully discharge its statutory duties:

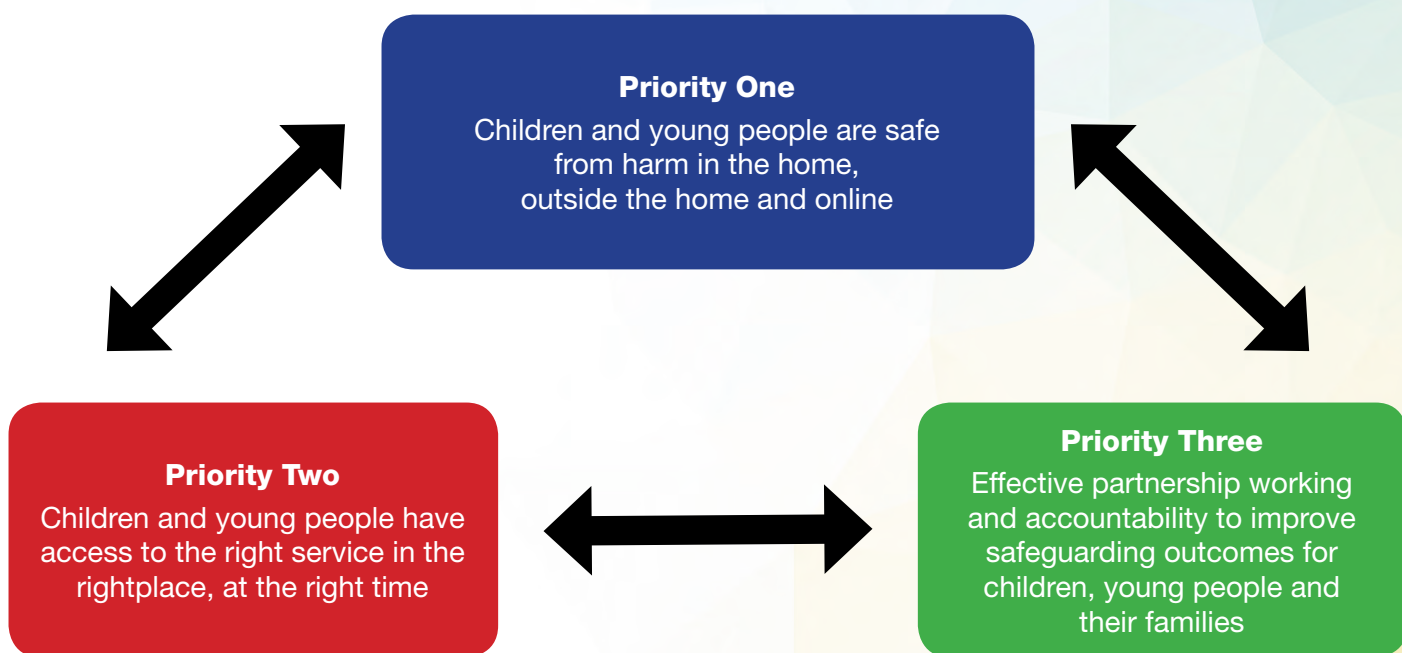
What did Ofsted say?	What have we done?
The local authority and partner agencies should ensure that the board business unit is appropriately structured and resourced to provide effective management oversight and sufficient capacity to support the business of the board.	Increased the DSCB budget by 37% and reviewed and restructured the DSCB business unit to increase staffing levels to support each area of DSCB statutory functions.
The structure of and processes supporting the board should be reviewed by the partnership and developed to ensure that there is outcome-focused, timely and effective activity linked to the board's priorities. This includes engagement with children and young people.	The DSCB reviewed the membership of the board and its subgroups, refreshed its constitution, aligned its work with that of other partnership boards, whilst at the same time seeking new ways to increase the engagement and involvement with children and have signed up to a participation strategy to drive this initiative.
The board should ensure the implementation of an effective quality assurance framework, embedding robust single and multi-agency auditing of practice, effective scrutiny of multi-agency performance data and feedback processes from children and young people, families and staff.	The board has agreed and increased its quality assurance functions, and is implementing a programme of quality assurance activities including receiving performance data at each board meeting.
The board should revise and implement the training strategy to ensure that training is delivered in line with identified priorities and needs and that effective evaluation processes are in place for single and multi-agency training.	The DSCB forged links with neighbouring LSCB's for the delivery of much of its multi-agency training programme. A Black Country wide approach to evaluating multi-agency training has been agreed and adopted by DSCB

What did Ofsted say?	What have we done?
<p>The board should ensure that clear links are in place between the learning and improvement framework, training and quality assurance processes to identify, disseminate, evaluate and monitor effectively the impact of learning and improvement on the quality of service delivery</p>	<p>DSCB has agreed an updated Learning and Improvement Framework and the training programme has been informed by local and national learning. Further work is planned to embed arrangements to ensure DSCB is a 'learning' board and also to test out the impact of previous learning through its scrutiny and challenge functions. The DSCB expects that in all of its learning activities, the voice of children and families is a golden thread, with consultation taking place at every level.</p>
<p>The board should scrutinise all areas of service delivery as required by statutory guidance and where key risks are identified.</p>	<p>The board uses a range of methods to evaluate safeguarding systems and processes its own functions and delivery, and that of partner agencies, and has for example received reports on private fostering, managing allegations and looked after children. The board has also introduced a 'risk register' to capture and monitor threats that are likely to impact of safeguarding arrangements.</p>
<p>The board should ensure the prompt completion of the section 11 and section 175 audit processes and evaluate whether further work is required to support partner agencies to fulfil their statutory safeguarding requirements</p>	<p>The board has conducted a full s175 audit across the local authority's maintained schools, and the academies, and has undertaken a 'challenge' event of partners under the section 11 arrangements, with a full self-assessment due in the coming year in line with the bi-annual schedule.</p>

The identified areas for improvement were converted to a DSCB improvement plan which has endured regularly monitoring through the CSIB. Further evidence in support of progress made is referenced throughout this report.

# DSCB Strategic Priorities 2016/17

## What DSCB wants to achieve





# Strategic Priority 1:

## Children and young people are safe from harm in the home, outside the home and online

### What did we say we would do?

- devise a local CSE problem profile to inform strategy, commissioning and practice
- deliver CSE and missing strategy and embed CSE and missing pathways
- revise and implement a multi-agency neglect strategy
- refresh and deliver the e safety action plan
- provide learning and development opportunities to enable the workforce to safeguard children and young people

### What did we achieve?

The level of risk and harm caused by child sexual exploitation (CSE) decreases for those young people identified as at risk/being sexually exploited.

- there have been substantiation exercises throughout the reporting period with partner agencies to gain a clearer picture of what CSE looks like in Dudley; though we have made significant progress and are better sighted on the 'hotspot' areas, this work will continue to ensure we are increasingly better at capturing all those children and young people at risk

### There is a reduction in the volume of repeat missing incidences

- whilst we have not seen a reduction in the volume of repeat missing episodes, there was a decline in the overall number of missing incidents during 16/17, with a total of 256 reports of children missing in Dudley, this figures equated to 12% of the total children reported missing in the West Midlands Police Force area for the year

	2015-2016					2016-2017				
	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD *	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	YTD *
Dudley children reported missing or absent to the police	64	76	83	112	262	97	81	84	67	256
Missing children (number of individuals)	64	75	83	112	261	97	80	82	67	247
Absent Children (Number of Individuals)	2	2	4	1	9	1	4	4	0	9

\* `As illustrated above, there are more reported missing episodes than reported children this is as some children are repeat missing, the individual ratio rising slightly between 2015/2016 (2.6) to 2016/2017 (2.8)

## **Children are safeguarded from neglect without drift and delay.**

Through a short-life task and finish group affiliated under the structure of DSCB, we were able to drive the development of a Neglect Strategy across the multi-agency partnership. In July 2016, through a collective agreement of partners, we introduced the 'Graded Care Profile' as a model to be implemented to better address and tackle issues of child neglect.

Evidence suggest that this tried and tested model enhances practitioners ability to spot when a child is at risk of neglect and ensure the right help to is afforded to families much earlier. Through a range of resources, practitioners will be armed with the prerequisites to better recognise the early signs of neglect, and ultimately we should see reducing issues of neglect through increased timely support to improve the lives of children and young people.

The Strategy is underpinned by a delivery plan which outlines the actions required to execute the objectives, and will continue to be embedded during the coming year.

## **Children and parents/carers recognise the risks associated with the internet, how to avoid these risks and how best to respond if things go wrong**

Through the e-safety subgroup the following have been achieved during 16/17

- disseminated a minimum of 10 e-safety 'information' papers / articles and press releases, including national and local guidance documents
- developed a 'sexting' action plan, for which all tasks of work have been completed
- delivered e-safety training to practitioners within SPA/MASH, this being very well received
- forged a task and finish group with a specific remit of devising the West Midlands Regional E-Safety Safeguarding Procedures for 10 LSCB's areas
- refreshed and disseminated the 'local' e-safety toolkit
- created and published a local sexting guide
- WMP have reported that, following the launch of the sexting guidance, there has been a significant drop in reports of sexting received by the MASH, which would indicate that schools and others are utilising the guidance when dealing with incidents of concerns
- provided guidance for staff experiencing cyberbullying from service users
- under the CAHMS Transformation Project, conducted an e-safety needs assessment across agencies working in Dudley
- conducted a cybersurvey, reaching in excess of 2000 responses from children and young people
- organised an e-safety conference in February 2017, to disseminate needs assessment and cybersurvey findings
- planned an annual Safer Internet Day debate in February 2017
- initiated work to improve the e-safety section of both the DSCB and Safe & Sound websites

# Strategic Priority Two:

**Children and young people have access to the right service in the right place at the right time**

## What did we say we would do?

- increase awareness and understanding of the revised thresholds document
- evaluate the application of locally agreed thresholds
- implement a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)
- evaluate the accessibility and impact of the early help offer
- increase awareness and understanding of the revised thresholds document

The pathway supporting the threshold model was refreshed to encompass the establishment of the Dudley Single Point of Access and MASH in May 2016. The associating threshold training was revised as of June 2016 and 7 training sessions have been delivered to 210 delegates to the 31 March 2017. Feedback from these sessions was fairly positive, and there is evidence of improved understanding of the application of threshold for elevating safeguarding concerns.

## Evaluate the application of locally agreed thresholds

DSCB did not undertake a bespoke evaluation of the application of the agreed threshold during the year and instead received two reports of reviews carried out by external reviewers. In addition, through the quarterly performance data reports presented to the board, there is evidence that the application of the social care referral threshold is better understood and in most cases consistently applied across the DSCB partnership.

Extracts from the DSCB performance dataset, as detailed over the page, enables monitoring and scrutiny of the application of threshold at various levels and entry points as follows:

<b>Number of assessments completed</b> 14/15 – 2127 15/16 – 3438 16/17 – 5194	<b>Number of policed domestic abuse reports leading to Social Care referral</b> 14/15 – 20 15/16 – 248 16/17 – 940	<b>Number of looked after children</b> 14/15 – 741, per 10,000 - 109 15/16 – 726, per 10,000 – 107 16/17 – , per 10,000 - 99
<b>Number of early help assessments</b> 15/16 – 454 16/17 – 1225	<b>Dataset at the end of the Reporting period 31st March 2017</b>	<b>Number of Children Subject to Child Protection Plan</b> 14/15 – 309, per 10k - 46 15/16 – 349, per 10k - 51 16/17 – 437, per 10k - 64
<b>Number of referrals to Children’s Social Care</b> Q1: 1982 Q2: 1323 Q3: 1274 Q4: 880	<b>% of Contacts that led to a Social Work Assessment</b> 14/15 – 15% 15/16 – 26% 16/17 – 42%	<b>Number of Contacts to Children’s Social Care</b> 14/15 – 13,458 15/16 – 13,130 16/17 – 12,141

## What can we glean from the above?

Thresholds for social care interventions are becoming more defined and consistent. Considerable work across the partnership led to the launch of the Early Help Strategy in December 2016 and this has had an impact in terms of what services work with children and when.

Contacts have reduced over the last 3 years and the number of Early Help assessments has increased by 169%, demonstrating that the needs of children and families are being more broadly met by preventive services.

There were more social work assessments undertaken in 16/17 but this represents a much higher proportion of the contacts received, which strongly indicates that professionals approaching children services for social work interventions are making more appropriate referrals.

Services now co-located within MASH are working better to recognise the vulnerability of children living within households where there is domestic violence. In 2015 only 20 Domestic Abuse referrals were responded to, in 2016/17 this number was 940, a much improved response.

Dudley continues to have a higher proportion of looked after children (LAC) and children subject to children protection planning. The LAC population is a reducing trend which follows strong performance in terms of achieving permanency and more robust edge of care delivery. The volume of child protection planning activity is the consequence of legacy issues arising from the audit and review work undertaken during 2015/16, where services were known to be inadequate.

## Key Performance

<p><b>% Contact decisions made within 24hours</b></p> <p>How long it takes for Children Services to decide on what action is needed when professionals and the public call with concerns regarding a child's safety and welfare.</p> <p>14/15 – 69%</p> <p>15/16 – 80%</p> <p>16/17 – 92%</p>	<p><b>% of Single Assessments completed in 45 days</b></p> <p>How long it takes for Social Workers to assess a child's needs</p> <p>-</p> <p>15/16 – 63%</p> <p>16/17 – 83%</p>	<p><b>% of children on Child Protection Plans seen every 2 weeks</b></p> <p>How often Dudley's most vulnerable children are seen.</p> <p>14/15 – 36%</p> <p>15/16 – 65%</p> <p>16/17 – 98%</p>
<p><b>% Children subject to a child protection plan for the second or subsequent time:</b></p> <p>Target: 16.7%</p> <p>Stat Neigh: 17%</p> <p>Ave: 20.3%</p>	<p><b>% % of initial child protection conferences held within 15 working days:</b></p> <p>Target: 75%</p> <p>Stat Neigh: 85%</p> <p>Ave: 71.3%</p>	<p><b>% Stability of placement – number of moves:</b></p> <p>Target: 9.4%</p> <p>Stat Neigh: 9.4%</p> <p>Ave: 12.1%</p> <p>Stability of placement – length of placement</p> <p>Target: 72%</p> <p>Stat Neigh: 68.9%</p> <p>Ave: 61.7%</p>

### What does the above tell us –

Although the data suggests that stability of placement – length of placement: performance has reduced to 61.7% and is behind target (72%), as can be seen number of placement moves: also reducing to 12.1% and is above target (9.4%).

Performance across some of the key indicators tells us that our response to child welfare concerns is sharper, children are assessed in a more timely way and those identified as most vulnerable are seen by a qualified social worker more regularly.

Ofsted monitoring visits during 16/17 confirm that risk is now better recognised and responded to and this is supported by the data.

Children are therefore more likely in 16/17 to receive a more effective and prompt safeguarding response than in previous years.

## Implement a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

In May 2016, Dudley opened its MASH, this new approach brought key professionals together working in the same arena, to enable early, consistent and better quality information sharing, analysis and decision-making, to safeguard vulnerable children and young people.

Information from different agencies is collated within the MASH and used to decide what action to take. As a result, agencies are equipped to act quickly in a consistent and co-ordinated way, ensuring that vulnerable children and young people are provided with the right level of support in a timely way.

In October 2016, Ofsted undertook the first post inspection monitoring visit of Dudley Council's Children's Services, where the MASH was an areas of focus, from this visit the following areas were examined:

- progress made to ensure that services to help and protect children are effective.
- the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH)
- the understanding and application of thresholds for statutory intervention

The visit considered a range of evidence, including electronic case records and interviews with a range of staff, including managers, social workers, other practitioners, children and families.

Summary of findings in relation to the MASH:

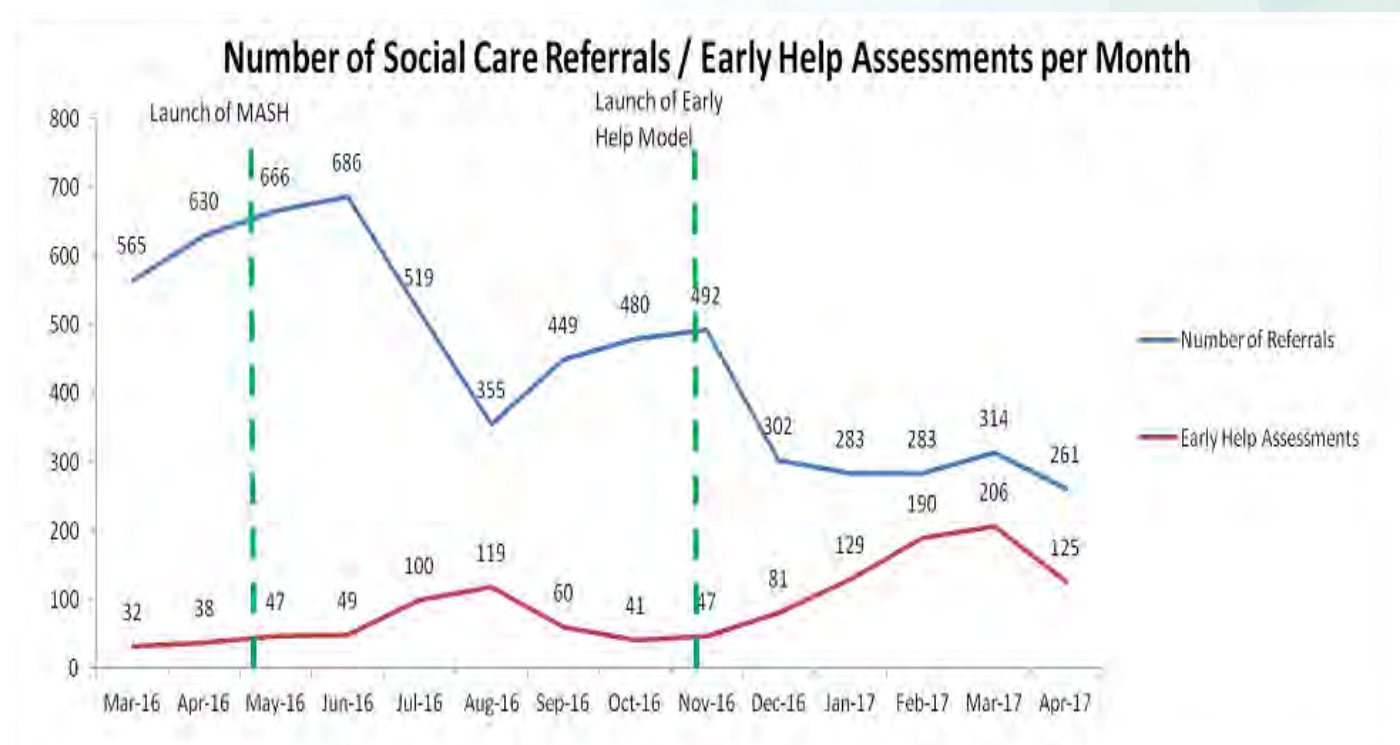
- thresholds for intervention are better understood and applied in the MASH
- the majority of partner agencies share information effectively to support appropriate decision making
- daily and necessary meetings in the MASH ensure that work from the previous day has progressed
- managers in this team are making safe and appropriate decisions
- the quality of multi-agency information gathered by the MASH has improved. Partners share relevant information quickly and this supports appropriate decision making
- strategy meetings convened in the MASH are now led by a team manager from the relevant assessment team, which will take the work forward
- arrangements with the police to assess and respond to incidents of domestic abuse when there are children present need to improve
- daily notifications received from the police are timely
- notifications are triaged every day in the MASH and are dealt with swiftly

**Extract from the summary report, is the following:**

**“ From a very low base, the local authority is making positive progress to improve services for children and the pace of change is appropriately swift’, and summarised that ‘positive progress has been made. The local authority knows that further sustained improvements are needed to ensure that all children are helped and protected effectively.”**

## Evaluate the accessibility and impact of the early help offer

Dudley alongside its partner agencies strengthened the approach for Early Help provision and launched an associated strategy in November 2016. This strategy sets out the pathway for Early Help (EH) in Dudley with an aim of ensuring that children and families receive the right support and the right time. The vision which has underpinned the model adopted is forged on the principle of 'Investing in our children and young people now will ensure we build strong, resilient and thriving communities in the future'.



Since the implementation of the EH approach, we have seen a demonstrable reduction in the number of referrals reaching specialist service, as needs are identified and responded to much sooner and intervention is provided in a timely manner and according to the level of need.

The success of Early Help provision in Dudley is reliant up on its partners, including Children Social Care, education, health and the community and voluntary sector services. Together, significant progress has been made during the reporting year. This was acknowledged and commended in the Ofsted Monitoring visit in February 2017.

### Ofsted Monitoring Visit February 2017

- **The Local Safeguarding Children Board has issued thresholds guidance and training to all partner agencies**
- **Increasing awareness and use of the Early Help Assessment**
- **The threshold for referring children to early help services is now understood by social workers and managers in the multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH).**
- **There are clear protocols and processes for stepping up and stepping down between differing levels of services**
- **Multi-agency allocation meetings are working well**
- **Children have access to early help and preventative services**

# Strategic Priority Three:

## Effective partnership working and accountability to improve safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and their families

### What did we say we would do?

- secure and use the voice of children, young people, parents/carers and front line staff to inform our work; including evaluating the effectiveness of local service provision
- develop supervision standards and support managers to provide reflective supervision/promote reflective practice
- disseminate learning and evaluate its impact on practice
- implement the DSCB Improvement Plan
- adequately resource the DSCB to deliver its statutory functions

### Secure and use the voice of children, young people, parents/carers and front line staff to inform our work; including evaluating the effectiveness of local service provision.

A fundamental element within the 2016/17 Business Plan and strategic priority was to increase the visibility and participation of children and young people's in the work of the DSCB.

Throughout 2016/2017 partners have worked hard to develop the CYP Participation and Engagement Strategy and ensure that all agencies/organisations are actively seeking ways to implement and sustain the strategy as a vehicle for children, young people and families to share their views and more importantly, take seriously and act on those views, and where possible, use them to shape and/or inform the way in which services are delivered and improved upon.

Under the auspices of the Children & Young People's Alliance and DSCB, there is a joint working approach to engage and participate with Children, Young Persons and Families to develop a methodology which is consistent in capturing the voice of the child across the partnership.

In January 2017, the DSCB approved and signed up to a participation model to capture the Voices of children and young people and to support the partnership to:

- enhance their own personal planning
- influence service improvement and design

Using a consistent approach and mechanisms, agencies are now required to demonstrate how the voice of the child is incorporated in to service design and delivery and more importantly, 'what difference is being made' from the child's perspective.

This is an exciting step for DSCB, and though in its infancy, we are determined to make significant progress in the year ahead.



## **Develop supervision standards and support managers to provide reflective supervision/promote reflective practice**

Working Together 2015 states that 'employers are responsible for ensuring that their staff are competent to carry out their responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and creating an environment where staff feel able to raise concerns and feel supported in their safeguarding role.

DSCB requires that agencies have the following in place;

A clear supervision policy, with practice that supports the policy; this should include, a clear statement of the purpose of supervision and why it is important to the organisation, including how it contributes to positive outcomes for children, young people and families as users of services.

Due to the lack of resources available within the business unit to support the DSCB in driving forward some areas of its work, this component did not reach its intended goal, however, this will be high in the work-plan task of the Procedures Sub Group in the year ahead.

Despite the limited progress made by DSCB in this area of work, DSCB is assured that management oversight of social work cases has improved during 2016-17 alongside greater challenge and oversight of cases by Dudley Council's Safeguarding and Review Service.

## **Disseminate learning and evaluate its impact on practice**

This strand of the DSCB business portfolio was reviewed within the reporting period and has since been aligned to that used within the joint arrangements of the Black Country training project. The DSCB Training Strategy has been revised to reflect the new structures to incorporate the outcome of the training needs analysis for each of the Black Country areas, and from which the training programme was tailored. More recently, the DSCB has started to undertake impact assessments; post learning evaluations. However, it is too early to comment on the outcome or results of this new initiative, or to evidence the impact of learning on practice. This will be a key area of progression for the Workforce Development Subgroup during 17/18.

## **Implement the DSCB Improvement Plan**

In September 2015 and prior to the Ofsted inspection, Dudley Council established a Children Services Improvement Board (CSIB) in order to oversee the implementation of the Children Services Improvement journey. DSCB also reported on this work to the board and has reported on the implementation of the action plan that was developed as a result of the Ofsted inspection report rating the DSCB as inadequate.

The CSIB is independently chaired, and is ultimately accountable to the cabinet of Dudley Council. This board brings senior officers from across the partnership with strategic responsibilities for safeguarding system, processes and arrangements together, and as such,

- holds partner to account
- maintains a transparent and robust self-assessment
- challenges the pace and quality of progress
- identifies and monitors risks
- problem solves

The independent chair of DSCB attends, and is accountable for the implementation and progress of the DSCB Improvement Plan and has provided reports to the CSIB. The plan can be found using the following link [improvement plan 2016 -2017](#)

## **Adequately resource the DSCB to deliver its statutory functions**

In June 2016, the DSCB revised the business unit to enable the core business of the board to be effectively delivered. The key aim of the restructure was that the business unit would effectively support DSCB to discharge its statutory functions under Working Together 2015.

The business of the board for the majority of the reporting period relied heavily on interim arrangements, this included the management of the business unit. This arrangement was both costly and created some drift and delay in the pace and progress of planned activities.

DSCB recruited a permanent business manager who commenced in role in January 2017, and whilst this appointment provided some level of stability in driving forward the DSCB agenda, it was identified that the demands and pressures placed on the unit could not be resolved within the structure previously agreed. It was recognised that extra demands resulting from the improvement activity arising from the Ofsted inspection in 2016, and an increase in referrals to the Serious Case Review Sub group meant that additional resources were required to ensure the DSCB can execute its statutory functions.

In March 2017, the partners of DSCB agreed the revised structure which increases the staff resources of the business unit.



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

# Subgroup Activity - implementation and monitoring

The DSCB has a number of well established subgroups that are accountable for ensuring that work of the DSCB is progressed. Each subgroup has a detailed work plan which focuses and drives forward specific areas of the board's strategic priorities. Responsibility for delivering the work plans rests with the nominated subgroup chair, who updates and reports to the DSCB Executive Group on a quarterly basis.

The following area of the report will capture and summarise the activities of each of the DSCB'S subgroup during 2016/17.

## Performance and Quality Assurance Subgroup

LSCBs have a duty to monitor and challenge the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements (Working Together 2015). On the behalf of the DSCB, this work was undertaken by the Performance and Quality Assurance Subgroup (PQA), which is mandated to monitor and challenge the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements across the DSCB partnership.

### How much did we do in the last 12 months up to March 2017?

- extended the quality and performance activity
- a review to refresh the Quality Assurance Framework following the Ofsted's judgement, this work is nearing completion
- made revisions to the Performance Monitoring Dataset, with quarterly monitoring reports presented at each meeting of the DSCB
- strengthened the process and timeframe for obtaining data analysis from partner agencies
- audits: the last full Section 11 self-assessment was conducted in December 2015, a challenge event to scrutinise key aspects of these arrangements was conducted during the reporting period
- contributed to the regional work to create a single section 11 framework to be implemented across the West Midlands region
- section 175: undertaken an audit of section 175 arrangements of school self-assessments, with action plans being scrutinised and monitored through a detailed forward plan
- agreed the implementation a multi-agency case file audit process and calendar
- explored a range of indicators to capture and monitor the 'voice of the child', these will be implemented during 17/18

## Developments for 17/18

- conduct a full section 11 evaluation of partner agencies safeguarding arrangements in line with the bi-annual schedule
- to review performance management information, identifying themes of specific interest to the board requiring attention and reporting these to the board
- to provide challenge to board members, and where required, hold them to account for the quality of safeguarding practice
- to consider the outcomes of single agency audits and ensure findings are effectively communicated
- to continue to provide appropriate challenge and be the 'critical friend' to the board and its members.
- to improve the performance dataset to reflect the services and support provided by the full range of the DSCB partnership; this will enable greater opportunities for monitoring and scrutiny of safeguarding arrangements across the local area
- implement regular events to consult with frontline practitioners to monitor performance and strengthen safeguarding measures

# Workforce Development Strategic Subgroup

The work of the Workforce Development Strategic Group supports the responsibilities as identified by Working Together 2015 and regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children boards Regulations 2006: The LSCB has a responsibility to develop policies and procedures in relation to: 1 (a) (ii) training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children; (regulation 5)

By and large, through the work and activities of this group, the DSCB has continued to deliver a rich multi-agency programme of learning, training and development which coincides with the priorities of the strategic business plan, the findings of Serious Case Reviews and has responded to key areas for heightened attention from a national level, including messages, research and any revisions to legislation and guidance.

The subgroup has adopted and contributed to a themed programme of multi-agency courses jointly agreed between the four Black Country LSCB's. Courses have been delivered by a 'mixed economy' provided by partner agencies, including cross border facilitators. A brief review of the arrangements after six months highlighted that the commitment and contributions afforded to the Black Country training programme were imbalanced. Furthermore, one of the LSCB's temporarily suspending their involvement at the end of the reporting year, pending a full internal evaluation of their commitments.

At a local level, multi-agency training was well maintained, through an established 'training pool' of local professionals from varying disciplines delivering the majority of DSCB courses and specialist providers brought in, where necessary. In terms of the statutory duty to 'monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; DSCB adopted the Black Country wide approach and has put in place arrangements to gather data for this purpose. The Business Unit has faced challenges in securing data from delegates and this will be addressed in 2017-18

## What has changed? How has it impacted on performance?

My practice has changed by listening to the views of the child and using this information to complete a SMART action plan. It enables my practice to provide a positive working environment with child/ family and all agencies involved

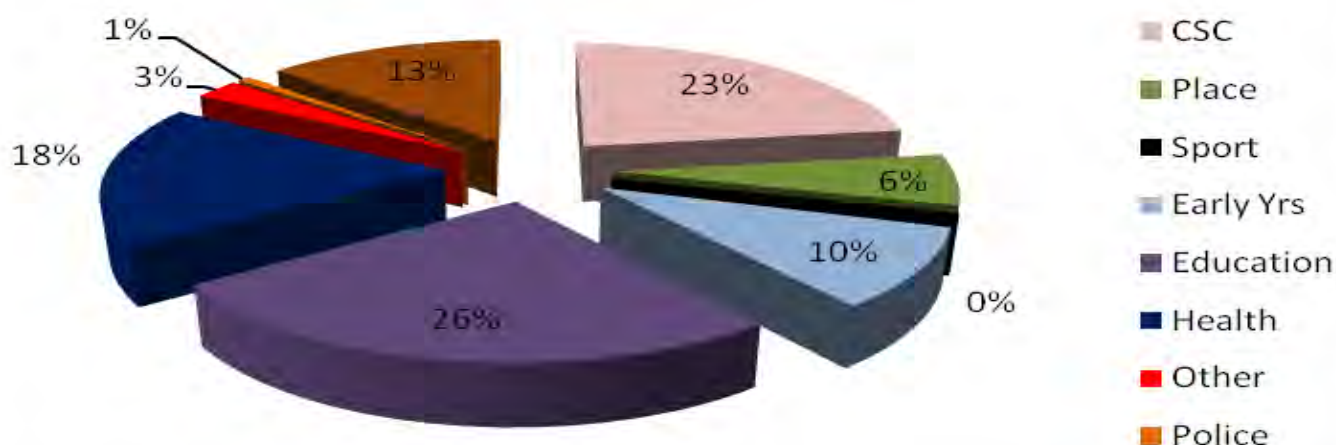
## An example of the difference training has made to a child/family

I work in Adult services - Transition Team...I work with a young person, age 16 who finds it difficult to form and maintain relationships. He displays very challenging behaviour and it has helped me to understand some of his underlying fears in regard to trust

## Key achievements for the year:

- we have developed and delivered a comprehensive programme of multi-agency safeguarding training in line with the strategic priorities, as well as Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 and Government action plans on tackling child sexual exploitation
- we have continued to reach more of the workforce and meet a wider range of training needs
- we delivered 74 multi-agency events, covering 26 different subject themes to 1,791 delegates
- we have registered 879 users for our e-learning package
- we have reviewed the membership and terms of reference of the group

## Multi Agency Training April 2016-March 2017



## Developments for 2017/18

The baseline for the subgroup's work plan for the coming year is forged on the following principles for learning and improvement, in that:

- there will be an increased focus to ensure a culture of continuous learning and improvement across the DSCB partnership where all partners can demonstrate working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, identifying opportunities to draw on what works and promote good practice in line with Working Together 2015
- the group will refresh its training strategy and all activities to support the above approach, with heightened attention given to the impact of learning being transferred into practice to support improved outcomes for children and families

This will also include:

- embedding the learning and improvement framework; and the connectivity with the work-streams of the other subgroup, therefore providing opportunities to maximised the learning from Serious Case Reviews, all themed reviews and audit findings
- reviewing the training programme to ensure the voice and visibility of the child is of central focus
- increasing the work with partners from adult services, trainers, and the wider workforce, to align training and learning, where possible, to support a whole family approach being embedded into safeguarding learning

# Serious Case Review Subgroup

The Serious Case Review Subgroup is responsible for coordinating serious case reviews and learning reviews on the behalf of the DSCB.

A Serious Case is one where

- (a) abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected;  
and (b) either – (i) the child has died; or
- (ii) the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the Authority, their board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

Where the criteria for a Serious Case Review (SCR) are met, the DSCB always commissions an external independent author to conduct a review. The remit in all cases is to review and analyse the learning from the circumstances that resulted in a SCR, so that all agencies can jointly own the outcome of the report and deliver improvements.

Other associated activities of this group involve monitoring agencies compliance with SCR recommendations and single action plans and analysing local and national high profile SCR cases undertaken by other LSCB's for key themes, learning and identifying trends.

The group share lessons to be learnt with DSCB partners in order to disseminate and inform their workforce, and to be incorporated in to single agency training. Lessons are also diverted to the Workforce Development Subgroup (WFD), to be included in to the multi-agency training programme in order to ensure learning is communicated and transferred into practice.

## Objectives for 2016/17

Achievements for 16/17 include

- eleven cases have been referred into the SCR sub group between April 2016 and March 2017.
- two SCR's commenced in 2015-16 have been progressed as Serious Case Reviews using the Serious Incident Learning Process (SILP) methodology; both were presented to the board for approval in 2016-17
- three further SCRs have been commissioned in December 2016
- scoping has been completed for the 3 SCR's commissioned in December 2016, and will be independently led by experienced SCR Chairs and authors. Panel members have been agreed and the first scoping meetings for each review are planned. Timelines have been proposed, however as there are complexities surrounding 2 of these reviews, it is anticipated that more time may be required outside of the preferred timescale for completing SCR's as stipulated in guidance
- an audit of practitioner's involvement in the SCR and review process has been completed. The findings from the audit demonstrate that many practitioners recognise the themes that run through reviews and that the experience of being involved in the review process supported their professional development
- the terms of reference for the group have been updated and ratified. All members have received information on their role and responsibilities and the Local Government Association has supported the SCR sub group to better deliver this aspect of the board's work

- reviewers have contacted the families and subjects children of the commissioned SCRs and with consent, will be incorporating their views into the final report
- single agency action plans have been developed for all five SCRs undertaken during 2016 to 2017 which will be monitored via the SCR sub group
- a single agency review has been undertaken with regards to a case that did not meet the threshold for a SCR but there was considered to be valuable learning from the case. The findings from these 'low-level' reviews will be presented to the SCR subgroup and DSCB Executive Committee and lessons learnt will be disseminated across the workforce

### **Summary of work anticipated for 2017/18**

- publication of the five commissioned SCRs
- monitoring of single and multi-agency action plans
- review and refresh the SCR sub group work plan
- a SCR workshop led by the Local Government Association (LGA) will be held to further develop the work of the SCR sub group
- a full review and refresh of the SCR process and toolkit to ensure timely notification and effective information sharing to support local SCR decision making
- forging closer links with the other DSCB subgroups, in particular the P&QA and WFD sub groups in order to shared lessons and ensure they are used to ensure learning is transferred into practice; and monitor the implementation of practice improvements arising from SCRs



# Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

The Child Death Overview Panel is a sub group of the DSCB, and has a statutory responsibility to review **all** child deaths (from 0 up to 18 years) of any child who is resident within Dudley. It undertakes a systematic review of child deaths to help understand why children die. By focusing on the unexpected deaths of children, it can recommend any interventions it considers appropriate to help improve child safety and welfare to prevent future deaths. When a child dies unexpectedly, a process is set in motion to review the circumstances of the child's death, which includes the support in place for the bereaved family.

## Our achievements in 2016/17 include:

### Child Death Review Process

We have mainstreamed the notification process and developed protocols to address notification of children who die abroad. We have implemented a process to ensure that all Root-Cause Analysis (RCA) are made available to the panel before reviews. This has enabled us to clear the backlog of reviews from the previous year. We have improved the child death notification, rapid response, and all other elements of our protocols.

We have implemented an escalation protocol to reduce the delay in receiving the required information from partner agencies within and outside the borough.

In continuing with our advocacy role, CDOP continues to oversee the delivery of water safety campaign every summer and button battery campaign around Christmas time.

Because we have started to see an increase in the number of sudden infant deaths, we have raised the awareness of the risks of co-sleeping and the link between passive smoking and sudden infant death among front line practitioners such as midwives and health visitors. Furthermore, we are looking at different ways of promoting safe sleep practice.

For the first time since the development of CDOP in 2008, the borough had a death due to suicide. The case was referred to the Serious Case Review panel for consideration but it did not meet the criteria for a serious case review. Because cyber bullying was a contributory factor in this case, CDOP has asked Education to work with schools to raise awareness of the risk of cyber bullying and develop and implement interventions to reduce its occurrence.

## Future developments:

We are committed to further developing alternative approaches to promote our safe sleep policy and address co-sleeping. We are also planning to collaborate more widely with services and the public to raise awareness of the risks related to sudden infant death.

On the system wide front, we are keen to work with all stakeholders to raise awareness of sepsis and cyber bullying across the borough.

Looking forward to the coming year, we are going to continue to support families, who have been bereaved by a child death, and we will review our bereavement services to define what amount and type of support and contact with families is appropriate.

# E-Safety Subgroup

In response to what the children and young people tell us, E-Safety is of huge concerns in Dudley, for this reason, the DSCB has elevated this as a themed area of focus within its strategic priorities.

DSCB has a well-established E-safety Subgroup of partner agencies working together with a strong aim and focus for ensuring that all Dudley children, adults in need of care and support and parents and carers are equipped with the knowledge and skills to safeguard themselves online.

## **The subgroup has met all objectives for 2016/17 and has:**

- increased practitioners awareness of current and emerging issues / trends and how to respond
- provided information of the implications (both personal and legal) of sexting
- devised guidance for practitioners to support children, young people and adults who are experiencing online bullying
- worked closely with children and young people to identify the local trends in relation to internet related safeguarding issue
- extended the reach and raised awareness around identified risks to specific groups within Dudley
- ensured that information 'hits' the 'Front line' around understanding the implications of the internet in relation to safeguarding
- raised the profile of internet safety
- encouraged children to be actively involved in discussing internet safety with their peers and gain experience of attending a debate



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

# Child Sexual Exploitation & Missing Subgroup

As detailed in the Ofsted report published in April 2016, Dudley has made some positive developments in relation to responses to child sexual exploitation and missing children. Although much of the work at that time was in its infancy, it was recognised that further work was required to embed these newly formed processes fully. Given this, DSCB developed an improvement plan specific to this area of the work based on the framework used by the Local Government Association (LGA) to complete LSCB diagnostics to deliver swift improvements to CSE activities across the area.

There have been significant progress made to identify victims of CSE in the borough equating to an increase of 75% in the number of reports recorded, from 121 last year to 212 this year. This is believed to be as a result of a huge increase in reporting arising from much awareness raising events for 'recognising and responding' to CSE across all agencies and the communities alike.

The CSE strategy, action plan and pathway was updated in July 2016 in line with the regional framework to incorporate and respond to CSE through prevention, protection and pursue, this is closely monitored via this sub group.

There has been increased efforts to ensure that the subgroup is representative of the relevant agencies to provide a partnership approach to tackle CSE/Missing. This now sees coordinated working alongside the MASH with additional provisions from the key agencies, including bespoke commissioned services to respond to CSE and Missing from early identification requiring Early Help support through to specialist and therapeutic interventions.

The subgroup has implemented processes to ensure all referrals for CSE are screened in a timely manner and responded to accordingly, with all significant and serious risk cases open to Children's Social Care to have an allocated Social Worker who coordinates the support according to the specific need of each Child/Young person.

During the year, the subgroup has given greater attention to the monitoring of Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meeting to ensure appropriate safeguarding measures are implemented and considers the disrupt and pursue activity by the police.

## Training

Historically, CSE training in Dudley is well established with taxi drivers receiving mandatory CSE training and, effective awareness raising training provided for local hotels. Across the DSCB partnership, the single and multi-agency CSE training sessions to date have been well attended with very positive feedback.

### EVIDENCE OF GOOD MULTI- AGENCY WORKING

CSE Team together with the police and the DSCB lay advisor have supported regional CSE Awareness campaign that took place over two days during the February 2017 half term. This campaign sought to raise awareness through engaging with members to the members of the public in close proximity in both Dudley and Halesowen bus depots which were the targeted areas. The aim of the regional campaign was to focus on public transport.

Dudley Council also supported the regional 'Helping Hands' and See Me, Hear Me campaigns: <https://www.seeme-hearme.org.uk>; and shared the pledges with the region which then was posted widely on social media.

## Plans for 17/18

- more in depth and direct training around trafficking
- greater emphasis on the Missing agenda
- work within communities to raise awareness of CSE
- data set will be improved to become more robust
- to co-ordinate/deliver the training for hotels and taxi drivers
- develop family work; specific support for parents around understanding what CSE is
- support for those parents that have children who have been victims of CSE
- develop a CSE problem profile of the area



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

## Case study

Through intense family support, a robust child protection plan, and CSE intervention, the harm that a young person was experiencing was addressed so that by the end of the intervention, professionals were no longer concerned that she was being sexually exploited.

Professionals were concerned that a young person was being sexually exploited as she was displaying behaviour often associated with victims of sexual exploitation including going missing from home, drinking alcohol and using drugs. The young person made a complaint that she had been raped.

Through Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings the push & pull factors for this young person was established and close working between all partner agencies was required in order to put a robust care plan in for this young person and her family. This did include her coming in to temporary foster placement for a short while due to the breakdown in the family relationships, however after work was completed with both parents and the young person, she returned to the family home. She has been home for some time now, and things have really settled down. She has found a part time job and is attending college on a regular basis.

# Children Missing Operational Group

Across the DSCB Partnership, it is strongly recognised that when children go missing it is a sign that things are not well in their lives. They may be running away from issues at home, and there is a risk that they may be hurt or exploited whilst missing.

Police and Children's Services, care providers and schools must work better together to protect children who go missing. The last decade has witnessed a considerable shift in understanding the vulnerability of children missing from home or care, largely driven by the introduction of a statutory duty for return home interviews (RHIs). Additionally, we have a better knowledge of the links between going missing and child sexual exploitation (CSE), and a greater focus on children missing from care and education. Going forward the challenge is to ensure the connectivity between all episodes of missing no matter where from and recognise the vulnerably facing young people at such times.

In Dudley the DSCB monitors and promotes services and approaches to children who go missing under the CSE/Missing Sub Group. Reporting to the sub group is the work of YPSE (Young People's Sexual Exploitation Meetings) and CMOG (Children Missing Operational Group)

There are excellent joint working relationships in Dudley between West Midlands Police (WMP) and Children Services.

The local authority are notified each morning by WMP of all missing/found episodes which had occurred the previous day. The Adolescent Response Team contacts the child's home or care home. For children known to other LA's residing in Dudley the social worker is contacted immediately. For Dudley children who go missing a notification log is made on the case note and the allocated worker emailed. Senior DMBC officers are notified of any child who is looked after and goes missing.

Further action is triggered against a revised set of thresholds.

Upon a child being found the child should receive a safe and well visit by the police followed by a more in-depth return interview undertaken by the dedicated return interview officer. This interview covers aspects of what were the push pull factors, what vulnerabilities were present at time of missing i.e. CSE screening, refugee status, criminal activity, substance misuse, accomplices, where the child was found.

A weekly (Tuesday Missing) meeting is held to review all episodes of the previous week and determine ongoing risks which result in escalation to other services and CMOG.

CMOG meets every three weeks and reviews ALL missing episodes in the previous reporting period (month). It also reviews those children who appear to be at highest risk or whose behaviour is escalating. It receives progress updates from the return interviews, police and CSE co-ordinator. The main purpose of CMOG is to ensure and monitor that children identified as "in need" receive the appropriate response, referral to; MASE, SPA/MASH for CYPA or Sec 47. CMOG will also refer circumstances/trends to Young People Sexual Exploitation (YPSE) Panel.

In addition a Children Missing Education Group meets every month to review those children without a formal education place.

Dudley is unique in recognising that both missing and absent episodes increase the vulnerabilities of a child regardless of the period of time missing. Any child whose whereabouts are unknown could be vulnerable to many threats and exploitations.

# Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

LSCBs have responsibility for ensuring that there are effective procedures in place for investigating allegations against people who work with children. The annual update from the LADO to the DSCB will ensure that members are fully sighted of all such allegations and can monitor the support, advice and guidance provided to agencies to ensure individual cases are resolved as quickly as possible and the process applied is robust.

## Key developments in 2016-17

### How well did we do?

We have continued to improve the responses to allegations and are complying with statutory timescales for receiving and responding to referrals.

Measures are in place to ensure that the voice of the child is heard in each and every referral, and the adult of concern is appropriately supported.

There continues to be an increase in contacts to the LADO in Dudley with proportionately fewer of these resulted in Position of Trust (POT) meetings.

The referral pathway is now clearly established and the LADO has oversight of all referrals, thus promoting a more consistent threshold.

The LADO has delivered training via the DCSB Multi-agency training programme and has delivered briefings to professionals in a number of sectors as well as continuing individual site visits across sectors to forge better working relationships and help develop good safeguarding practice.

One Mosque in Dudley has agreed to adopt Keeping Children Safe in Education and is keen to work with the LADO

There has also been some positive work with other Mosques.

The regional Safer Sikh Multi Agency Safeguarding Network hosted a conference in Birmingham in October 2016. This event proved to be a good opportunity to foster links with Gurdwara's in Dudley.

There has been positive links with the MASH. A referral pathway between the MASH and the LADO has been developed.

There continues to be positive links with the local West Midlands LADO network and clear partner arrangements for managing allegations across local borders.

In terms of multi-agency working, there remains a very good relationship with members of the local Police child protection command, with good attendance at Positions of Trust meetings and two-way information sharing.

Links have also been made with relevant human resource officers for schools and other Dudley service areas, which include the positive work already done by Early Years provisions in respect of the management of allegations processes.

## Number of Allegations

From the figures in the table below, we can see a total of 304 cases which were recorded as referrals for the 2016/17. The table also highlights an increase in the first two quarters of the year. This is believed to be attributed to the increase in awareness raising sessions delivered locally during these periods.

Of the 304 referrals made to the LADO in the reporting period 232 (76%) of those were referred within the statutory period of 24 hours of the referrer being made aware of the concerns. This shows an increase on the last reporting period and again this could be as result of the drive to raise awareness across the borough.

	2015/16	Total referrals to the LADO 16/17	2016/17 Quarter 1-2	2016/17 Quarter 3-4
Number of allegations referred	111	304	164	140

## Areas of Improvement during 17/18

Dudley has had an interim in the LADO position for some time and the process to recruit a full time LADO has begun. Such an appointment will maintain the momentum afforded to this area of work.

The LADO will continue to roll out management of allegations briefings across the DSCB partnership, as well as to community and voluntary sector agencies, private employers and religious organisations.

The LADO will continue to be involved in efforts to improve practice in Mosque Education Centres and Madrassas and other similar settings by working with key partner agencies.

# Private Fostering Arrangements in Dudley

The Victoria Climbié enquiry recommended that the government take steps to strengthen private fostering arrangements and it clearly made private fostering a potential safeguarding issue.

Ultimately, local authorities are charged with several duties, and provide an annual update report to the DSCB, as in line with legislation. All partner agencies of the DSCB have duties to ensure that privately fostered children are identified and protected and that they are compliant with legislation.

The year-on-year notification figures are as follows:

- 8 in 2011 -2012
- 19 in 2012-2013
- 29 in 2013-2014
- 22 in 2014-2015
- 16 in 2015-2016
- 32 in 2016-2017

## Overview of the key achievements during 2016-17:

- responded effectively within seven days to 30 of the 32 private fostering notifications (16 last year) from a range of agencies
- achieved the completion of 29 assessments within 42 days timescale
- achieved 100% statutory compliance in conjunction with Elmfield Independent Steiner school, in terms of notifications, assessment and support
- achieved 100% statutory compliance in conjunction with The Glasshouse college (work skills training provision for young people up to 18 years of age with disabilities) whose young people live with host families in the borough
- completed risk assessments pending return of Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) disclosures in all arrangements
- effectively safeguarded (32) children living in or being assessed in private fostering arrangements during the course of the year
- sought feedback from young people and their private foster carers on the quality of the service they have received
- ensured a robust approach to the monitoring, reporting and collation of private fostering data throughout the year



- private fostering social worker has liaised with neighbouring local authorities on their experiences of private fostering, noting areas of improvement and what is working well
- continued quarterly awareness raising activity with the 232 agencies identified on the database, including community and faith groups
- remained an active participant in the regional Private Fostering Special Interest Group
- used fostering service recruitment events with the public as opportunities to raise awareness of private fostering
- consolidated the working relationship with colleges, and an effective partnership has now been developed to ensure they meet their responsibilities under the Private Fostering Regulations 2005 for their disabled students in private fostering arrangements

### **During 17/18 we will:**

- continue to raise awareness of private fostering
- continue to monitor and manage compliance and identify and remedy any shortfalls
- continue to forge good partnership working with social workers, including joint visits, and provision of consultation and advice, all of which ensures that children identified in private fostering arrangements receive appropriate social work services where necessary
- finally, it is recognised that further improvements are required, for this, an action plan has been devised and will be monitored for progression during 17/18

# Elective Home Education (EHE)

The local authority has a statutory duty under Section 436A of The Education Act 1996 to make arrangements to identify children who are not receiving a suitable education. It has no statutory duties in relation to monitoring the quality of home education on a routine basis.

The DSCB monitors these arrangements and receives annual updates in regards to local activities, and this year were assured that educational concerns could be raised at any time during the course of the EHE. These come from a range of referrers, including; MASH, Social Workers, School Health, relatives, members of the public (sometimes anonymous), etc. All concerns are investigated.

EHE Academic Year - 1st Sept to 31st Aug	Total Number of Elective Home Education Children
2008/2009	156
2009/2010	175
2010/2011	187
2011/2012	197
2012/2013	196
2013/2014	236
2014/2015	260
2015/2016	256
2016/2017	299



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

The local authority has seen a steady increase in numbers of EHE from 2008 through to 2017 (see table), which reflects the regional and national trend. There has been a noticeable shift from the primary reason for EHE being ideological or religious to other reasons such as; avoidance of fines/prosecution for non-attendance, risk of exclusion, bullying and mental health problems. There is also a greater awareness of EHE due to wider reporting in the media and information shared on social networking sites.

In April 2016, Ofsted stated (Inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers para 54) that:

*“The local authority has processes in place for identifying and tracking children and young people missing education and EHE, and maintains up-to-date records. Effective action is in place to locate children and young people who have not taken up their school places or who are no longer accessing education.”*

*We intend to widen the scope of work in this area in the coming year to include those children and young people that are less visible to the local authority, including those of Gypsy Roma Travelling (GRT), Eastern European, and other ‘hidden’ communities under the radar.*

# Section 175 and Section 157 Functions

Within the statutory functions for LSCBs is the duty to monitor the effectiveness of arrangements in the locality to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. This includes monitoring the effectiveness of organisations' execution of their duties under, and in compliance with, Section 11 of Children Act 2004 and Section 175 of Education Act 2002.

To assist the DSCB to understand single agencies arrangements, and therefore comply with this function, providers of education are mandated to comply with section 175 or 157 of the Education Act 2002. This involves discharging their functions in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. The LSCB has a duty for monitoring the effectiveness of these functions and 'calls for evidence' via the completion of a self-evaluation against a standardise framework of indicators which is analysed and shared with the DSCB, this report also includes associating action plans and monitoring criteria.

## Section 175 Audit

At the beginning 2017, the S175 audit tool was distributed to statutory schools in Dudley, and all but one have completed /responded to this request. Participating schools have received feedback and will be supported to progress and manage their action plans during 2017/18.

Moving forward, we will extend this process to other providers of education, and specifically to the establishments under the 157 duty for partners and non-maintain, independent schools and Further Education (FE) sectors.

# Prevent Duties

In 2015, the Office for Security and Counter Terrorism in the Home Office identified Dudley as one of its “prevent priority” boroughs nationally. This designation provided access to a small amount of funding to support prevent work in the borough. Also from 1 July 2015 the Counter Terrorism & Security Act requires specified authorities to have “due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”.

Dudley is committed to delivering good outcomes against this duty and has established a Prevent Delivery Group made up of those partners with a remit of particular interest in this area to oversee the work done locally and to carry out the actions in the delivery plan, thereby safeguarding our communities from extremism. The group representation includes voluntary and community groups, as well as public sector services.

## Delivery Plan & Strategy

The strategic objectives of the 2016 /17 plan:

- raise awareness of prevent to ensure that vulnerable individuals are appropriately safeguarded
- encourage and equip partners to appropriately refer and support individuals of concern into ‘Channel’
- support schools and other educational settings in fulfilling their statutory duties in respect of prevent
- engage with businesses and community organisations to ensure that their resources are not used to promote extremism
- engage with young people aged 16-25 who are vulnerable to extremism in order to provide safeguarding support

There were 21 actions in the 2016/17 plan, all were completed by the end of the reporting year.

## Safeguarding through Prevent

Channel Panel

Set up to safeguard vulnerable people, the Channel Panel is a multi-agency panel chaired by the local authority which meets to decide on the most appropriate action to support individuals. The objectives of the Channel Panel are to identify individuals at risk of being drawn into violent extremism, assess the nature and extent of that risk, and develop the most appropriate support for the individuals. In the event that they do not meet the threshold then appropriate local support will be agreed dependent on the nature of the particular vulnerabilities.



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

## Referrals

Individuals exhibiting behaviour which is of concern are referred into West Midlands Police Counter Terrorism Unit (CTU) for initial screening and assessment. There are restrictions on the data that the CTU will disclose in relation to the referrals that they receive but the following will be of interest:

- during 2016, our schools have made 47% of our referrals
- police officers have made 22% of our referrals
- a further 11% came from our Further Education colleges
- the remainder are from a combination of local authority officers, health services, and local communities.

Last year we reported that the highest risk age group was young adults aged 19-25, but this has now dropped to children aged 12-18, which probably explains the fact that almost 60% of this year's referrals are from schools and colleges. This is not a local trend but can be seen across the local and national regions.

Also, again in line with a wider trend, we are seeing an increase in the proportion of referrals that relate to extreme right wing concerns, currently around one in four Channel cases are extreme right wing cases.

## Prevent training & awareness raising

In order for vulnerable individuals to be safeguarded, those in contact should be able to recognise the early signs of radicalisation and know how to respond and refer. Dudley has adopted the Home Office approved Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent (WRAP). This specialised training is rolled out across partner organisations, resulting in over 3,000 frontline staff being trained, this includes community groups, voluntary groups, and public services. Schools have received a series of messages through school bulletins and newsletters in order to ensure safeguarding messages and information relating to useful resources are disseminated.

A separate training programme for schools is ongoing with over 2,500 staff now trained in 93% of Dudley's schools.

Dudley College, a participating member of the DSCB, has been commended by Ofsted for its excellent work in ensuring that an embedded training and awareness programme safeguards students from extremism.

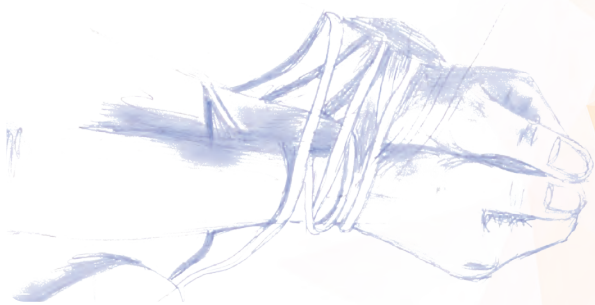
# Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The DSCB is totally committed to working within the context of the existing legal and statutory guidance that FGM is an illegal practice. As a multi-agency partnership, which is responsible for coordinating local arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and ensuring that these arrangements are effective, the board has established a FGM task and finish group with a specific remit and focus to identify and address gaps in service provision to ensure a safe and effective local response to concerns relating to FGM.

## Key developments in 2016-17

- targeting schools, in areas where there are a higher proportion of families from FGM practicing communities, in an attempt to raise awareness
- supported FGM training offered to school children in the form of assemblies
- identified Public Health funding for a programme for education in order that FGM awareness can be delivered to children and young people in the Dudley area
- between September 2016 and March 2017 over 200 members of school staff were trained in recognising and responding to concerns relating to FGM
- identified 'Specialist Midwives' who have updated the maternity guidance and developed flowcharts for health staff, which has been included in the West Midlands Regional Procedures. These also act as a source of advice for staff
- FGM action plan was devised and was maintained
- received positive feedback from the Police and Crime board following the submission of the six monthly update. It would appear that Dudley are ahead of their statistical neighbours with the progress
- identified 'Specialist midwives' to deliver bespoke multi-agency FGM training as part of the DSCB training programme
- worked closely with the obstetrician employed within Dudley Group of Hospitals who has experience in de-infibulation during pregnancy. This means that the procedure can be undertaken locally and negate the need for women to travel to across the local authority border

The support of this task and finish group will continue in the year ahead to ensure that early recognition, help and effective multi-agency response to FGM is provided, to enable and support vulnerable female children and reduce the prevalence of FGM



Artwork designed by a Dudley young health advisor

# Conclusion

In summarising the annual report for 16/17, we have provided a transparent evaluation of the effectiveness and challenges of the DSCB's activities and an outline of the anticipated plans for the year ahead.

Throughout the report, there is the recognition of those areas that have been of particularly challenging, including where drift and delay have had an impact and reduced the level of activities intended and how these will be addressed in the coming year.

We fully accepted the findings from the Ofsted Inspection and have provided evidence on the implementation of robust actions and plans to resolve areas of weakness. The report describes the journey made to date.

We have further developed our range of performance information through a revised dataset, although we know further improvements are warranted to reflect the multi-agency nature of DSCB.

We have made good progress in completing the Section 175 audits and will do more in respect of our Section 11 assurance process to gain greater understanding of the safeguarding systems and processes in place across the DSCB partnership through the forthcoming scheduled full Section 11 audit process due in the early in 2018.

The report defines how the board has positioned itself to ensure the lessons arising from serious case reviews commissioned during this period will be progressed and the learning shared across the workforce. This will aligned to the robust plans for implementing the Learning and Improvement Framework.

We have evidenced positive strides being made in respect of the approach taken to tackle CSE, however, we also acknowledge the need for increased attention in other areas for example missing and trafficking, both of these are incorporated into the work-plan for 17/18.

Strides have been made in terms of driving the neglect strategy and the newly introduced Graded Care Profile 2 tool as the agreed assessment model to aid practitioners understanding and support for cases of neglect; this new approach will be cemented in to practice throughout the coming year.

Leadership and governance arrangements have been strengthened with actions regularly monitored through the reporting channels of the Executive Group. We have introduced greater challenge of partners, alongside the risk register to manage areas of significant vulnerability for the board and/or partner agencies which are likely to impact on the DSCB being able to comply with all of its mandated statutory functions.

We will continue to forge links with other local partnership boards and contribute to cross board initiatives.

## **DSCB Business objectives for 2017/18**

By and large, the 16/17 report activities has identified the areas for improvement/priorities for forthcoming year these are:

- devise a local CSE problem profile and use 'missing' data to inform strategy, commissioning and practice
- join up arrangements to respond to CSE and missing
- continue to deliver the multi-agency neglect strategy
- deliver the e-safety action strategy
- under the remit to ensure safeguards are robust for particularly vulnerable groups, the DSCB will evaluate arrangements to safeguard disabled children and young people
- provide learning and development opportunities to enable the workforce to safeguard children and young people
- update DSCB thresholds document and provide thresholds training
- audit the application of locally agreed thresholds
- evaluate the accessibility and impact of the early help offer
- raise awareness of safeguarding in the local community
- secure and use the voice of children and young people to inform our work; including evaluating the effectiveness of local service provision
- embed a robust pathway for considering cases that may meet Serious Case Review threshold and as required carry out learning reviews in a timely way
- disseminate learning and evaluate its impact on practice
- expand the board's oversight, scrutiny and assurance of the multi-agency safeguarding system
- develop supervision standards and support managers to provide reflective supervision/promote reflective practice
- review and update policy, procedures and practice guidance as required
- carry out a review of all child deaths

Finally, DSCB considers itself well placed to deliver against all of the areas noted above and will publish a comprehensive and evaluative report, providing rigorous and detailed overview against the board's work and understanding of the effectiveness of the local safeguarding arrangement across the partnership throughout 2017/ 18.



# Glossary of Terms

LSCB	Local Safeguarding Children Board
DSCB	Dudley Safeguarding Children Board
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
SCR	Serious Case Review
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CSIB	Children Services Improvement Board
MASE	Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation
DMBC	Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council
NEET	Not In Education, Employment or Training
DfE	Department of Education
CiN	Child in Need
DART	Domestic Abuse Response Team
DSAB	Dudley Safeguarding Adult Board
HWWB	Health and Wellbeing Board
CYPA	Children and Young People's Alliance
RCA	Root Cause Analysis
SPA	Single Point of Access
CAMHS	Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service
LAC	Looked After Children

DA	Domestic Abuse
EH	Early Help
CYP	Children and Young People
LIF	Learning Improvement Framework
QAF	Quality Assurance Framework
MACFA	Multi-Agency Case File Audit
SILP	Serious Incident Learning Process
CTU	Counter Terrorism Unit
WRAP	Workshop to Raise Awareness of Prevent
EHE	Elective Home Education
BAAF	British Association of Adoption and Fostering
DBS	Disclosure and Barring Service
LGA	Local Government Association
POT	Position of Trust
PQA	Performance and Quality Assurance
WFD	Workforce Development
CPS	Crime Prosecution Service
GRT	Gypsy Roma Travelling

# Appendix 1

## DSCB attendance 2016-2017

	Statutory Member	Other Member	Officer/ Advisor to the DSCB	2016 – 2017 Attendance in %
Independent Chair Person		✓		100%
Lay Members		✓		100%
Lead Member for Children and Young People		✓		25%
Dudley Council	✓			100%
West Midlands Police	✓			100%
Dudley Clinical Commissioning Group	✓			100%
Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust	✓			75%
Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust	✓			25%
Dudley and Walsall Mental Health Trust	✓			50%
NHS England Regional Team	✓			25%
National Probation Service	✓			100%
Community Rehabilitation Company	✓			50%
CAFCASS	✓			25%
Youth Offending Services	✓			100%
Voluntary Sector (CVS)		✓		100%
Shropshire Health Trust		✓		75%
Housing		✓		50%
Chief Officer - Children's Services (Dudley Council)		✓		100%
Chief Officer- Education outcomes (Dudley Council)				50%

Public Health		✓		50%
Senior Representative (Early Years)		✓		100%
Senior Representative (Further Education)		✓		25%
Senior Representative (Special School)		✓		50%
Senior Representative (Primary School)		✓		50%
Senior Representative (Secondary School)		✓		25%
Head of Safeguarding Children and Young People – Dudley MBC		✓		75%
DSCB Business Manager			✓	75%
DSCB Learning, Development and Commissioning Officer			✓	25%
Designated Doctor			✓	75%
Designated Nurse			✓	100%
Atlantic Recovery Service			✓	50%
Performance & Quality Assurance Officer				50%
Principal Social Worker			✓	75%

