



Blackburn with Darwen Local Safeguarding Children Board

Key Messages – 16th September 2014

Annual Reports

The board received and discussed a number of annual reports:

- Child Death Overview Panel – the report outlines the data relating to all child deaths in the 2013-14 year and an overview of the work of the Panel. The CDOP Annual Report will be shortly published on the LSCB website.
- Private Fostering – the report outlines the work social care teams undertake to manage private fostering cases and the promotional work undertaken to continuously remind the public and agencies to report private fostering arrangements.
- Youth Justice Service – In addition to reporting on the good progress the service has made to meet its performance targets, the report also highlights the innovative projects and initiatives to stop or reduce children from offending. The service has retained, for the fifth consecutive year its 'Investors in Children' accreditation.
- Participation of Vulnerable Children – the review outlines the range of activities undertaken in 2013-14 to encourage participation of children in decision making. The activities have also included training for both children and practitioners to become more skilled in being involved and running participation events. Children's involvement in the Council's Scrutiny Committee during 2013-14 has had a significant impact on setting the agenda to scrutinise services and re-designing them.
- Blackburn with Darwen Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) – the CCG presented two reports outlining their overall safeguarding activity and the activity undertaken by their Looked-After Children service.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) & Children Missing From Home/Care

The Board discussed the work of the Police's On-line Child Abuse Investigation Team (OCAIT) and the complex investigations this team undertakes to investigate and prosecute offences happening through digital media. The Board will receive regular performance reports from the team to monitor performance and ensure partners can co-ordinate their activities to safeguard children.

The Board also received the Pan-Lancashire problem profile on CSE. The profile sets out the characteristics of CSE reported to the Police across the County including the different methods used to groom children. The Board requested all agencies to ensure training of practitioners and information for

parents and children clearly outlines the different methods used in grooming and remain vigilant to new or emerging methods.

The Pan-Lancashire Joint Protocol on children who run away or go missing from home or care was agreed by the Board. The revision of the Protocol followed the revision of the national guidance. In Blackburn with Darwen, the new service offer for children who runaway or go missing has been operational since April 2014.

LSCB Logo

The Board approved the new design for its logo. The logo was designed by a former pupil of St Silas CE Primary School. The school will receive an ipad for the winning design at a presentation in October 2014.

Safeguarding Theme:

(i) Criminal Justice Structural Changes

Lancashire Constabulary, National Probation Service, Cumbria & Lancashire Community Rehabilitation Company, BwD Youth Justice Service and BwD Community Safety Partnership presented to the Board an outline of the structural changes these services are currently undergoing. The Board discussed how safeguarding responsibilities in these services had been impacted and the arrangements, both single and multi-agency, that are being delivered to strengthen the protection of children.

(ii) Prevention of Terrorism

Lancashire Constabulary and the Council's Prevent lead discussed with the Board the Pan-Lancashire work to deliver initiatives and services to children who present with extremist/radicalised views and behaviours. Ensuring practitioners in all agencies are being trained to identify the signs of risk factors and have the knowledge to refer to the correct services remains a priority.

Documents agreed and noted by the board include:

- Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) 2013-14 Annual Report
- The new LSCB logo
- Children who runaway or go missing from home or care joint protocol
- Annual Reports on Private Fostering and Children's Participation and from the Youth Justice Service and the Clinical Commissioning Group were noted.