

Children and Families Scrutiny Panel

Thursday, 23rd January, 2020
at 5.30 pm

PLEASE NOTE TIME OF MEETING

Conference Room 3 - Civic Centre

This meeting is open to the public

Members

Councillor Taggart (Chair)
Councillor Mitchell
Councillor J Baillie
Councillor Chaloner
Councillor Guthrie
Councillor Laurent
Councillor Mintoff

Appointed Members

Nicola Brown, Primary Parent Governor
Catherine Hobbs, Roman Catholic Church
Francis Otieno, Primary Parent Governor
Claire Rogers, Secondary Parent Governor
Rob Sanders, Church of England

Contacts

Democratic Support Officer
Emily Goodwin
Tel: 023 8083 2302
Email: emily.goodwin@southampton.gov.uk

Scrutiny Manager
Mark Pirnie
Tel: 023 8083 3886
Email: mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk

PUBLIC INFORMATION

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL

Role of this Scrutiny Panel: To undertake the scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City, including the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), Early Help, Specialist & Core Service, looked after children, education and early years and youth offending services, unless they are forward plan items. In such circumstances members of the Children and Families Scrutiny Panel will be invited to the relevant Overview and Scrutiny Management Committee meeting where they are discussed.

Terms Of Reference:-

Scrutiny of Children and Families Services in the City to include:

- Monitoring the implementation and challenging the progress of the Council's action plan to address the recommendations made by Ofsted following their inspection of Children's Services in Southampton and review of Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in July 2014.
- Regular scrutiny of the performance of multi-agency arrangements for the provision of early help and services to children and their families.
- Scrutiny of early years and education including the implementation of the Vision for Learning 2014 – 2024.
- Scrutiny of the development and implementation of the Youth Justice Strategy developed by the Youth Offending Board.
- Referring issues to the Chair of the LSCB and the Corporate Parenting Committee.

Public Representations

At the discretion of the Chair, members of the public may address the meeting on any report included on the agenda in which they have a relevant interest. Any member of the public wishing to address the meeting should advise the Democratic Support Officer (DSO) whose contact details are on the front sheet of the agenda.

Access – access is available for the disabled. Please contact the Democratic Support Officer who will help to make any necessary arrangements.

Mobile Telephones:- Please switch your mobile telephones to silent whilst in the meeting

Use of Social Media:- The Council supports the video or audio recording of meetings open to the public, for either live or subsequent broadcast. However, if, in the Chair's opinion, a person filming or recording a meeting or taking photographs is interrupting proceedings or causing a disturbance, under the Council's Standing Orders the person can be ordered to stop their activity, or to leave the meeting.

By entering the meeting room you are consenting to being recorded and to the use of those images and recordings for broadcasting and or/training purposes. The meeting may be recorded by the press or members of the public.

Any person or organisation filming, recording or broadcasting any meeting of the Council is responsible for any claims or other liability resulting from them doing so.

Details of the Council's Guidance on the recording of meetings is available on the Council's website.

Business to be Discussed

Only those items listed on the attached agenda may be considered at this meeting.

QUORUM The minimum number of appointed Members required to be in attendance to hold the meeting is 3.

Rules of Procedure

The meeting is governed by the Council Procedure Rules and the Overview and Scrutiny Procedure Rules as set out in Part 4 of the Constitution.

Smoking policy – the Council operates a no-smoking policy in all civic buildings.

Fire Procedure – in the event of a fire or other emergency a continuous alarm will sound and you will be advised by Council officers what action to take

The Southampton City Council Strategy (2016-2020) is a key document and sets out the four key outcomes that make up our vision.

- Southampton has strong and sustainable economic growth
- Children and young people get a good start in life
- People in Southampton live safe, healthy, independent lives
- Southampton is an attractive modern City, where people are proud to live and work

Dates of Meetings: Municipal Year

2019	2020
6 June	23 January
25 July	26 March
26 September	
7 November	

DISCLOSURE OF INTERESTS

Members are required to disclose, in accordance with the Members' Code of Conduct, **both** the existence **and** nature of any "Disclosable Pecuniary Interest" or "Other Interest" they may have in relation to matters for consideration on this Agenda.

DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

A Member must regard himself or herself as having a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter that they or their spouse, partner, a person they are living with as husband or wife, or a person with whom they are living as if they were a civil partner in relation to:

(i) Any employment, office, trade, profession or vocation carried on for profit or gain.

(ii) Sponsorship:

Any payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than from Southampton City Council) made or provided within the relevant period in respect of any expense incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member, or towards your election expenses. This includes any payment or financial benefit from a trade union within the meaning of the Trade Union and Labour Relations (Consolidation) Act 1992.

(iii) Any contract which is made between you / your spouse etc (or a body in which the you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest) and Southampton City Council under which goods or services are to be provided or works are to be executed, and which has not been fully discharged.

(iv) Any beneficial interest in land which is within the area of Southampton.

(v) Any license (held alone or jointly with others) to occupy land in the area of Southampton for a month or longer.

(vi) Any tenancy where (to your knowledge) the landlord is Southampton City Council and the tenant is a body in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interests.

(vii) Any beneficial interest in securities of a body where that body (to your knowledge) has a place of business or land in the area of Southampton, and either:

- a) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that body, or
- b) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which you / your spouse etc has a beneficial interest that exceeds one hundredth of the total issued share capital of that class.

Other Interests

A Member must regard himself or herself as having an 'Other Interest' in any membership of, or occupation of a position of general control or management in:

Any body to which they have been appointed or nominated by Southampton City Council

Any public authority or body exercising functions of a public nature

Any body directed to charitable purposes

Any body whose principal purpose includes the influence of public opinion or policy

Principles of Decision Making

All decisions of the Council will be made in accordance with the following principles:-

- proportionality (i.e. the action must be proportionate to the desired outcome);
- due consultation and the taking of professional advice from officers;
- respect for human rights;
- a presumption in favour of openness, accountability and transparency;
- setting out what options have been considered;
- setting out reasons for the decision; and
- clarity of aims and desired outcomes.

In exercising discretion, the decision maker must:

- understand the law that regulates the decision making power and gives effect to it. The decision-maker must direct itself properly in law;
- take into account all relevant matters (those matters which the law requires the authority as a matter of legal obligation to take into account);
- leave out of account irrelevant considerations;
- act for a proper purpose, exercising its powers for the public good;
- not reach a decision which no authority acting reasonably could reach, (also known as the "rationality" or "taking leave of your senses" principle);
- comply with the rule that local government finance is to be conducted on an annual basis. Save to the extent authorised by Parliament, 'live now, pay later' and forward funding are unlawful; and
- act with procedural propriety in accordance with the rules of fairness.

AGENDA

1 APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)

To note any changes in membership of the Panel made in accordance with Council Procedure Rule 4.3.

2 DISCLOSURE OF PERSONAL AND PECUNIARY INTERESTS

In accordance with the Localism Act 2011, and the Council's Code of Conduct, Members to disclose any personal or pecuniary interests in any matter included on the agenda for this meeting.

3 DECLARATIONS OF SCRUTINY INTEREST

Members are invited to declare any prior participation in any decision taken by a Committee, Sub-Committee, or Panel of the Council on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

4 DECLARATION OF PARTY POLITICAL WHIP

Members are invited to declare the application of any party political whip on any matter on the agenda and being scrutinised at this meeting.

5 STATEMENT FROM THE CHAIR

6 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING) (Pages 1 - 4)

To approve and sign as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 7 November 2019 and to deal with any matters arising.

7 SOUTHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19 (Pages 5 - 38)

Report of the Independent Chair of the Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnership recommending that the Panel receive the LSCB Annual Report and utilise the information contained to inform its work.

8 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC - EXEMPT PAPERS INCLUDED IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM

To move that in accordance with the Council's Constitution, specifically the Access to Information Procedure Rules contained within the Constitution, the press and public be excluded from the meeting in respect of any consideration of the exempt appendix to the following item.

Appendix 1 is considered to be exempt from general publication based on Categories (1 and 7) of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. Category 1 relates to 'Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual', whilst Category 7 relates to 'Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.'

9 CHILD EXPLOITATION IN SOUTHAMPTON - INCLUDING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION (Pages 39 - 46)

Report of the Director of Children's Services providing the Panel with an overview of the multi-agency response to child exploitation in Southampton.

10 CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE (Pages 47 - 68)

Report of the Director, Legal and Governance providing an overview of performance across Children and Families Services since November 2019.

Wednesday, 15 January 2020

Director of Legal and Governance

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 6

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7 NOVEMBER 2019

Present: Councillors Taggart (Chair), Mitchell, J Baillie (except for items 20, 21 and 22), Laurent and Mintoff
Appointed Member Rob Sanders (except for items 18 and 19)

Apologies: Councillor Chaloner, Councillor Guthrie and Catherine Hobbs

18. **APOLOGIES AND CHANGES IN PANEL MEMBERSHIP (IF ANY)**

The apologies of Councillor Guthrie, Councillor Chaloner and also of Appointed Member Catherine Hobbs were noted.

19. **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING (INCLUDING MATTERS ARISING)**

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 26 September 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

20. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE**

The Panel received the report of the Director, Legal and Governance which provided an overview of performance across Children and Families Services since August 2019.

Councillor Paffey, Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Children and Lifelong Learning; Hilary Brooks, Service Director, Children and Families Services; Sharon Hawkins, Interim Service Lead, Children's Social Care; and Phil Bullingham, Service Lead, Safeguarding, Improvement, Governance and Compliance; were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the officers, the Panel noted the following:

- Nationally there had been a 78% increase over the last ten years in the number of people who had contacted Children's Services.
- In Southampton referrals increased by 119% between January and July 2019, compared to the same period in 2018.
- There had been an increase in crime, which had contributed to an increase in referrals from the Police.
- There had also been an increase in low income families in the city.
- There had also been media coverage of a serious incident where a child was murdered and these events tended to cause an increase in contacts.
- In Southampton the group with the largest increase in referrals was teenagers. There had also been a significant increase in referrals that featured mental health, domestic abuse and neglect.

- Referrals from schools had also increased and a strategy had been implemented to support community organisations and other services to manage risk in the community.
- The occurrence of repeat referrals remained within normal ranges, the spike in referrals between January and July 2019 had been caused by an increase in new referrals.
- Three peripatetic teams had been put in place to help manage the increase in referrals and assessments.
- Workshops had been held with team and service managers to calibrate the decision making on referrals and assessments across the service.
- Weekly Performance Improvement Boards had been implemented to monitor the progress of referrals throughout the service.
- Ofsted had been kept informed through monthly reports and the Department of Education were interested in the rich learning that will come from Southampton's Children's Services management of the high increase in referrals.
- The high number of contacts made to Children's Services since January 2019 had transferred into a high number of referrals and this had created pressure on the completion of assessments. Safe planning had been prioritised over rushed planning.
- The retention of social work staff had stabilised and a Smarter Ways of Working refresh was planned for January 2020 as well as a refresh of recruitment webpages.
- A vision for children and a 5 year plan for children in Southampton was in development.

21. **THE VIEWS OF LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE IN SOUTHAMPTON**

The Panel received the report of the Director, Legal and Governance which enabled the Panel to develop their understanding of the views of looked after children and young people aged 4-18 years in Southampton and the improvements planned following the publication of the findings.

Councillor Paffey, Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Children and Lifelong Learning; Sharon Hawkins, Interim Service Lead, Children's Social Care; and Phil Bullingham, Service Lead, Safeguarding, Improvement, Governance and Compliance; were present and, with the consent of the Chair, addressed the Panel.

In discussions with the officers, the Panel noted the following:

- Placement stability was improving.
- The cohort that were surveyed this time included more complex cases who cannot have contact with parents which would have influenced the increase in children saying they want more contact.
- Where there was no contact with siblings, this would have been agreed through assessment and the court process, where there were siblings and plans for adoption togetherness was assessed thoroughly.
- The question of contact with family had been added to each child protection or care plan review.

- A social worker had been allocated to pick up all new court proceedings and deliver life story work with the children.
- The Children in Care Council had carried out a review of the use of language by Children's Services and would be reporting to the Corporate Parenting Board on Language that Cares for Southampton children.
- The Mind of My Own App, that enabled looked after children to communicate with their social workers had been successfully implemented.

22. **MONITORING SCRUTINY RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Panel received the report of the Director, Legal and Governance which enabled the Panel to monitor and track progress on recommendations made at previous meetings.

The Panel noted that all the information requested at previous meetings had been received.

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Agenda Item 7

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
SUBJECT:	SOUTHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (FORMERLY KNOWN AS SOUTHAMPTON LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD) ANNUAL REPORT 2018-19		
DATE OF DECISION:	23 JANUARY 2020		
REPORT OF:	DEREK BENSON, INDEPENDENT CHAIR OF SOUTHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Natalie Johnson	Tel: 023 8083 2995
	E-mail:	Natalie.johnson@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Hilary Brooks	Tel: 023 8083 4899
	E-mail:	hilary.brooks@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>This report presents the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report 2018-19.</p> <p>In July 2018 the government refreshed statutory guidance <i>Working Together to Safeguard Children</i> and introduced some changes to the former LSCBs. The main changes were that LSCBs were required to become Safeguarding Children Partnerships, with the three key Safeguarding Partners (Local Authority Children's Services, the Clinical Commissioning Group, and Hampshire Constabulary) taking equal responsibility for strategic oversight of safeguarding work involving children. A National Panel has been introduced to conduct reviews on cases of national interest, and local Safeguarding Partnerships have been given more autonomy over Serious Case Reviews which are now known as Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews. It was recognised that Serious Case Reviews could often take long periods (sometimes years) to complete, and often picked up on recurring themes. The new arrangements emphasise that learning and improvements should be shared as quickly as possible. By giving the local Safeguarding Partnerships more autonomy, the intention is a more dynamic approach delivering better results, quicker.</p> <p>The LSCB has now transitioned to the new arrangements and the Annual Report shows the activity in the final year of the LSCB.</p> <p>This Annual Report was approved by partners at the Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Group meeting of 12 November 2019 and is published on line at http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/</p> <p>The Panel is asked to consider the contents of the Annual Report and present any questions on content.</p>			

RECOMMENDATIONS:	
	(i) That the Panel receive the LSCB Report and utilise the information contained to inform its work.
	(ii) That the Panel note changes to statutory guidance relating to partnership arrangements for safeguarding children and young people.
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS	
1.	To ensure the information contained in the report and learning is embedded in scrutiny functions and future work.
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED	
2.	None.
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)	
3.	The 2018-19 Annual Report is attached as Appendix 1.
4.	It is recommended that the Panel review the LSCB Report revised statutory guidance – Working Together 2018 and utilise the information contained to inform its work.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
5.	None.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
6.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
7.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
8.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
9.	Improving the effectiveness of the political scrutiny of children’s safeguarding will help contribute to the following outcomes within the Council Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people in Southampton get a good start in life • People in Southampton live safe, healthy, independent lives.
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	

1.	LSCB Annual Report 2018-19	
Documents In Members' Rooms		
1.	None	
Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?		No
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?		No
Other Background Documents Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/729914/Working Together to Safeguard Children-2018.pdf	

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**Southampton
Local
Safeguarding
Children Board**

Annual Report 2018-19

Foreword

This is the fifth year I have served as Independent Chair of Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board. As I write this, the Board enters a period of significant change following the passing of the Children and Social Work Act 2017 and as such, this will be the last report of its kind to be produced by Southampton LSCB before responsibility for this partnership working transfers to the three Safeguarding Partners in September 2019.

In my time as Chair I have been very impressed by the quality of partnership working in the City, this is second nature to the Board members who offer high level of support and challenge to each other and to our committed workforce and communities who are dedicated to keeping children safe.



Southampton continues to face complex social issues that impact on children's wellbeing and safety. Child poverty rates in the city are high and many families experience deprivation and the number of children in the city that are in need of help and protection is also above national and statistical neighbour averages. The numbers of children and families referred for statutory services is high as a result. This places pressure on the local system that cannot always be matched with resources at a time when investment in public services nationally has reduced. Key frontline services have faced additional challenges this year particularly in the recruitment and retention of qualified and experienced staff. These issues have regularly been reported to the LSCB, where multi-agency action is coordinated to improve and develop services and responses continue to be monitored. However we know that this is a problem that is reported regionally and nationally and continues to be reflected in our LSCB.

This year the LSCB were made aware of tragic circumstances that have led to harm to children and referred to the LSCB for case review to ensure that any learning for our services is identified and actioned to prevent future similar harm. I would like to take this opportunity to pass on condolences to individuals, families and communities affected. Where appropriate, it is our job as an LSCB to coordinate action in response and also to seek assurance that all systems of safeguarding and protection are effective and proportionate to needs of children and families, and this continues to be a focus for the new arrangements and coming year. Our work has drawn out some notable themes for learning and improvement, which will focus our responses and continue our work as champions of children's safeguarding in Southampton. Southampton LSCB is a learning partnership and will continue to ensure that action is taken where learning from our reviews indicates change is needed.

I have been impressed to see the way that Southampton has worked together to plan improvements and respond to key priorities; particularly the Working with Families Project ensuring a citywide approach to ensuring restorative and whole family approaches to safeguarding. The LSCB has modelled both approaches, working closely with our Adults Board colleagues, operating a shared executive group and delivering joint audit work to test this. We have also focussed on preparing for the transition to the new arrangements ensuring that close working with our neighbouring LSCB's provides benefits the residents of Southampton. I write this with knowledge that I will step down as chair once new arrangements for the safeguarding children partnership are in place. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Board Members for their continued and passionate efforts to keep children in Southampton safe. I have hugely valued my time working in the City, in particular the opportunities I have had to engage with children and their families, as well as the times that I have been fortunate to discuss key issues with professionals of the city. Partnership working in Southampton is of a strength not commonly seen and I know that this will continue to improve the safety of children in the city. I hope that you find this annual report of the work of the Board informative and wish the Safeguarding Partners and those leading the Safeguarding Partnership well in their future work.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Makin', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Keith Makin, Independent Chair of Southampton LSCB

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Who are the LSCB?

Children in Southampton can only be kept safe if all professionals and services work together. Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) operates to provide a way that this can be done. This is currently called 'the LSCB', but will likely change during the coming year as statutory changes are taking place which mean that in every area, three safeguarding partners (the Local Authority, Police and Clinical Commissioning Group) must come together to make new arrangements to ensure children are safeguarded.

Southampton's safeguarding partners have agreed that the local partnership for safeguarding children in the city will change from the current Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) to Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP). To complement this local arrangement the safeguarding partners in Southampton have joined forces with our neighbouring authorities to form a Hampshire and Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton safeguarding children partnership arrangement known as 'HIPS' to enable larger scale strategic development of partnership working beyond the our city boundaries and improve our ability to influence practice and positive outcomes for children across local borders. Alongside the local change of identity the partnership will develop in structure and function to enable a greater focus on influencing practice development and local improvement to outcomes for our children.

During 2018-19, the LSCB operated according to statutory guidance and best practice with a Board of senior representatives from the services that work to safeguard and protect children in Southampton (including social care, health, voluntary sector, the police, probation service and family courts. Southampton LSCB is also fortunate to have Lay Members that offer their time as volunteers to bring a valuable and independent perspective to the meetings and work.

During this year the LSCB continually checked that what is done in Southampton to safeguard children works. For example, ensuring that services are working safely, that the procedures we publish are clear and help staff and volunteers know what to do when they are worried about a child, or that staff and volunteers receive the training they need to undertake their roles. We focus our attention and efforts on a range of agreed priorities taken forward by 'sub groups' and occasionally issues focussed 'task and finish' groups of the main LSCB. A structure chart and explanation of the sub groups can be found in Appendix 4.

Southampton Context and Demographics

The current population of Southampton is 252,800¹, with:

57,600 children and young people aged (0-19 years)²
53,000 residents who are not white British (22.3%)
43,000 students.

The city has a young demographic with 20% of the population aged between 15 and 24 years compared to just 12.4% nationally. 33% of school pupils in Southampton from an Ethnic Group other than White British³ (compared to 26.3% in 2010) and for 25.7% of pupils their first language is other than English.

Using Child Health Profile data for England, the health and wellbeing of children in Southampton is below average. In recent years there have been 6 child deaths (1-17 year olds) each year on average and more information can be found in the CDOP section of this report (page 21).

¹ Source: LG Inform, 2019

² Source: Southampton City Council website (www.southampton.gov.uk)

³ Based on those with an ethnicity recorded

The teenage pregnancy rate in Southampton is higher than the England average with 110 girls becoming pregnant in a year. Levels of child obesity are higher than the England average with 11% of children in reception year and 21.9% of children in Year being classed as obese. The rates of child inpatient admission for mental health are higher than the England average as is the rate for self-harm⁴.

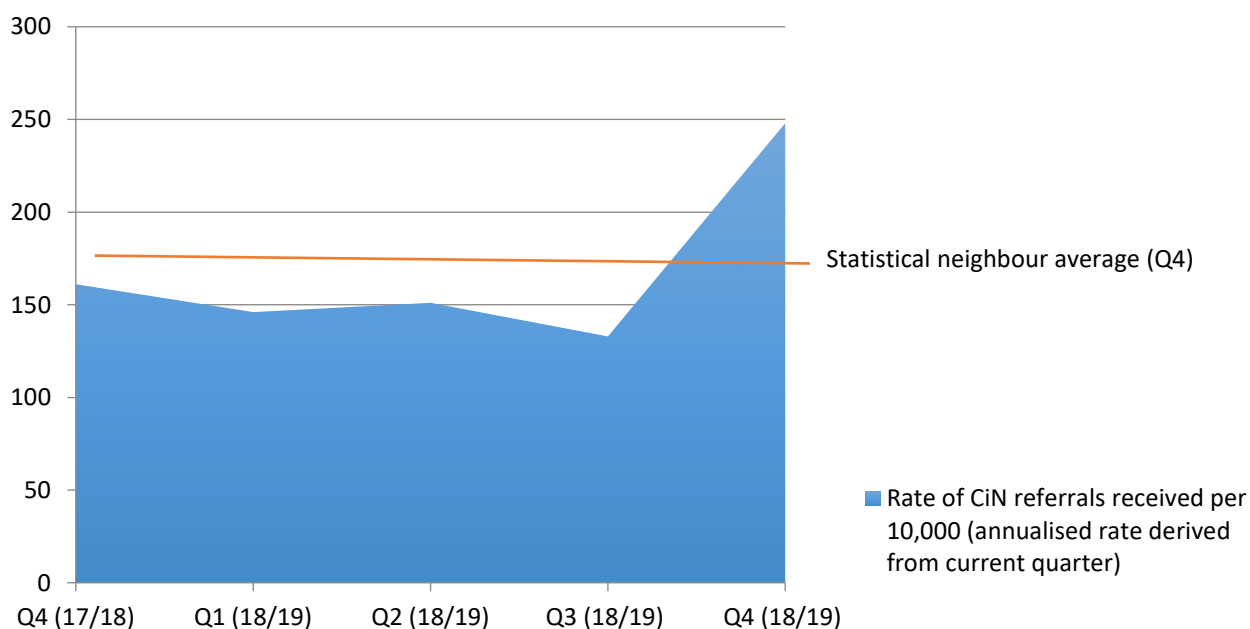
20.1% of children in Southampton live in poverty compared to an average of 17% average for England. In 2015 Southampton was ranked 67th out of 326 Local Authorities in England for deprivation, Millbrook ward being amongst the most deprived in the country.

Indicators of Outcomes for Children

The LSCB regularly analyses a multi-agency dataset containing some key performance indicators for outcomes for children as well as the quality of local provision. It enables the board to understand the impact of its work, and that of services, including changes where transformation projects take place. Tracking and analysing local data provides the Board with key information about areas of concern and changing trends. Data is analysed by the LSCB in its Monitoring and Evaluation sub group (soon to be renamed the Safeguarding Practice Improvement (SPI) Group) at the end of each quarter, key issues are then highlighted to the Local Safeguarding Board Executive. The data reviewed by the LSCB concentrates on tracking the child’s journey through the safeguarding system and is linked to the LSCB’s priority areas of concern. Below is a summary of annual data for some of these key measures.

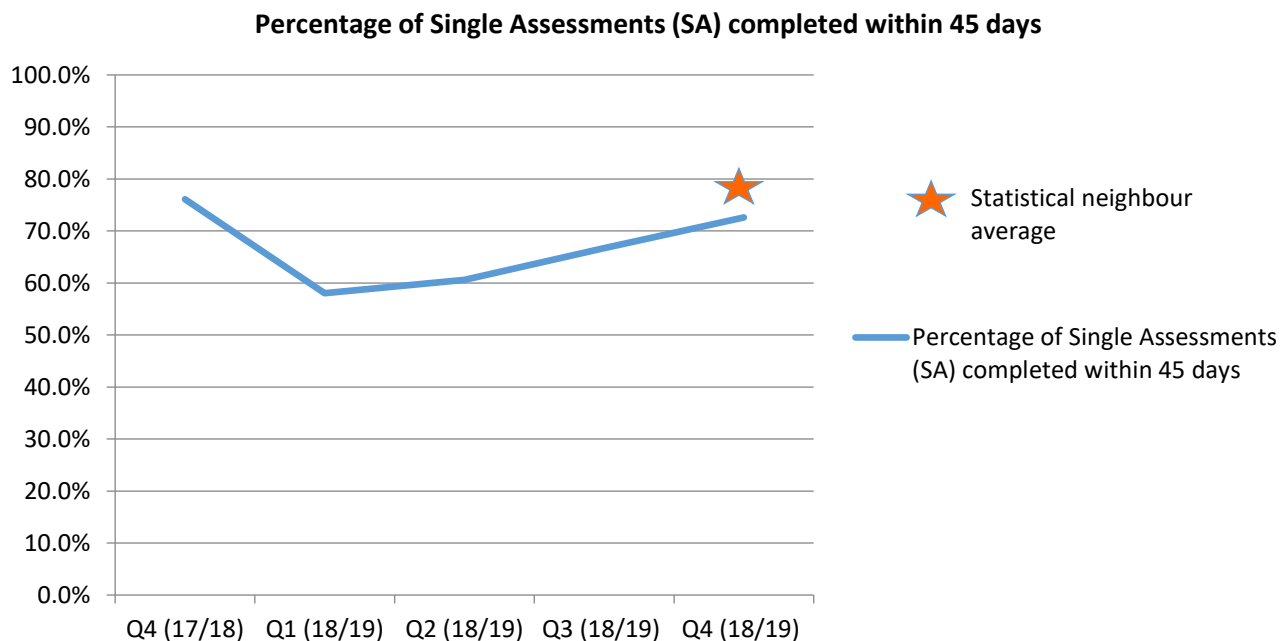
Children in Need (CiN) of Help and Protection

Rate of Children in Need referrals received per 10,000 population



⁴ Child Health Profile – March 2019, www.gov.uk/phe

The rate of children in need based on 10,000 population (of children under 18) is monitored by the LSCB as a key measure of the needs of Southampton children and therefore the demand placed on the local children’s services system. This is also an indicator of the success or otherwise of early help⁵ interventions within the local system. As the graph shows, the rate of referrals at this level remained steady throughout the year and below the statistical neighbour average, until the final quarter when numbers rose drastically. This is of concern to the LSCB and will be discussed and monitored closely in 2019-20.



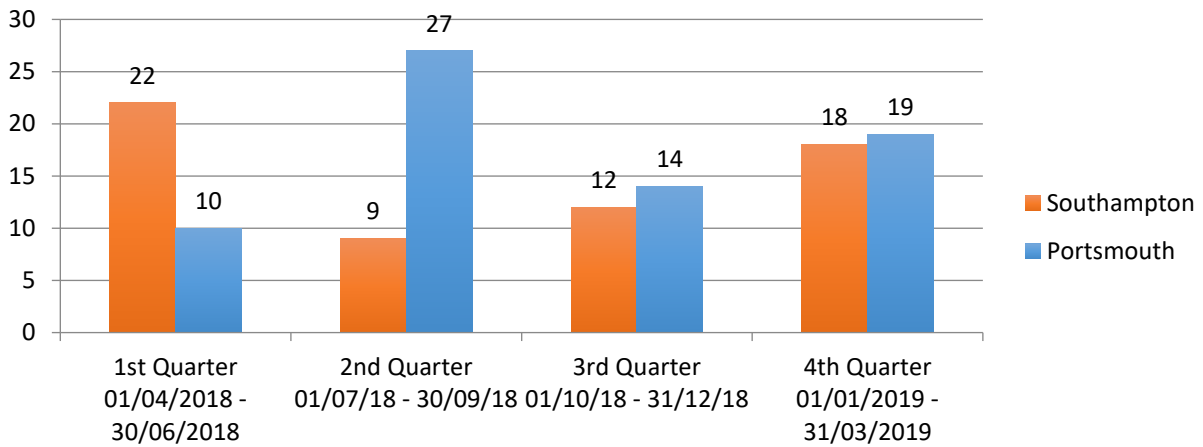
One of the measures that the LSCB uses to monitor the quality of local provision is the percentage of single assessments completed within the statutory timescales of 45 days. As the chart above demonstrates the LSCB has seen variable performance reported during this year with Q1 seeing the lowest number completed. Southampton performance in this area varied between 58% in Q1 and 72.6% in Q4 –the statistical neighbour average of 87.2%. The variable performance in this area is an on-going concern to the LSCB for the following year, although the picture improved in Q4.

The varying performance and data in this area was explained to the LSCB throughout the year as being due to service pressures relating to high numbers and varying quality of safeguarding and child protection calls and referrals to the ‘Front Door’ and MASH (Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub) alongside challenges with recruitment and retention of experienced and qualified social work professionals. The LSCB requested and was presented with improvement plans to tackle performance in this area, and continues to monitor this.

⁵ Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years. Early help can also prevent further problems arising; for example, if it is provided as part of a support plan where a child has returned home to their family from care, or in families where there are emerging parental mental health issues or drug and alcohol misuse. Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2019.

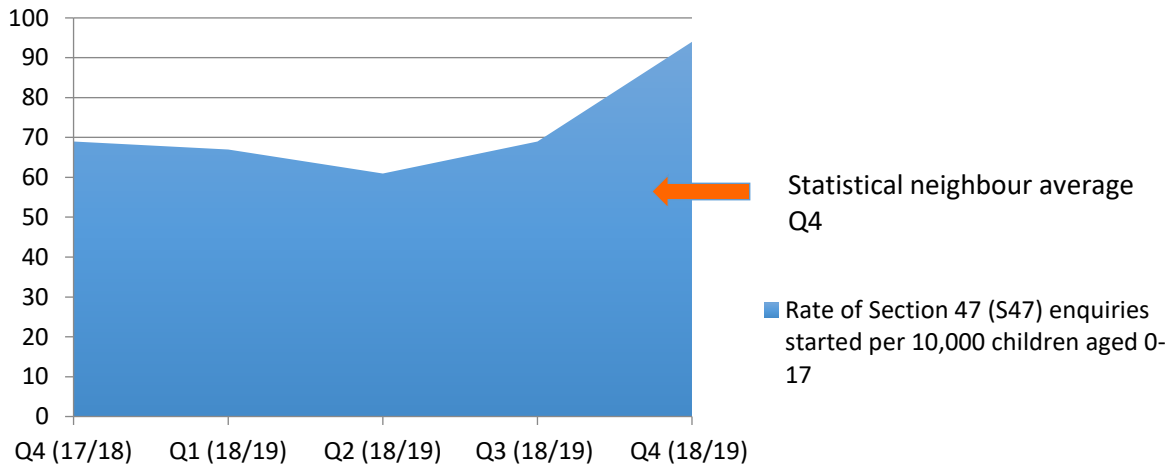
Child Protection

Number of children taken into police protection



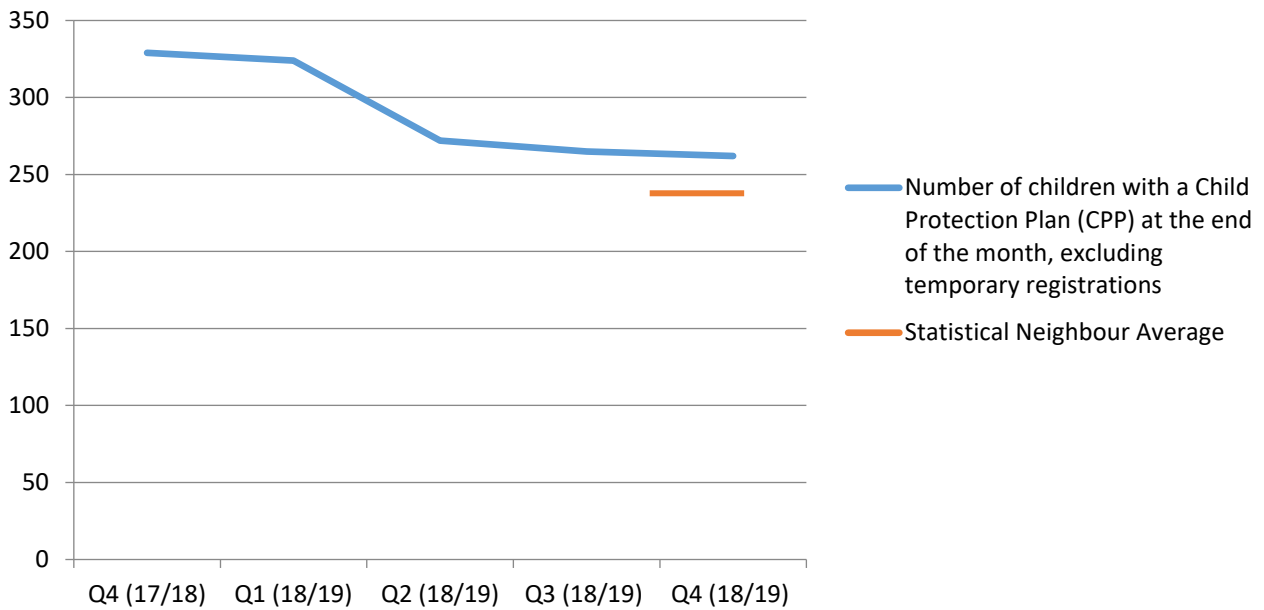
The number of children taken into police protection this year totals 61. Portsmouth city is a comparable authority and a statistical neighbour, and given their proximity and coverage by the same police force as Southampton it can be useful to track comparisons as above. Portsmouth had 70 children subject to police protection during that time.

Rate of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started per 10,000

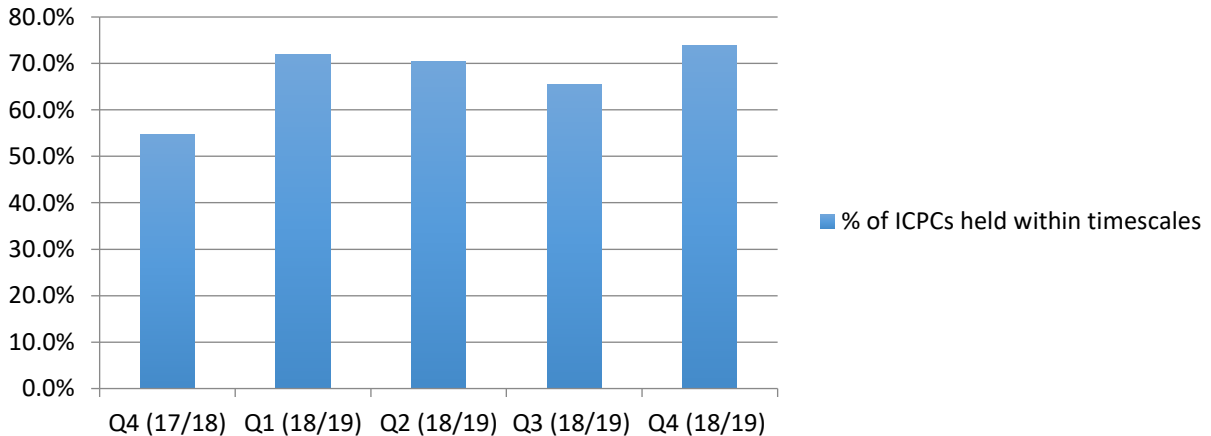


Where there are child protection concerns (reasonable cause to suspect a child is suffering or likely to suffer significant harm) Local Authority social care services must make enquiries and decide if any action must be taken under section 47 of the Children Act 1989. This is an essential area of the safeguarding system that is of interest to the LSCB. The above graph represents the level of activity in Southampton relating to enquiries started during the year. Throughout the year Southampton has continued to have a rate per 10,000 children high above the statistical neighbour average rate of 51 at the end of Q4. The Southampton figure for this at the end of Q4 was 91. This matches a similar upward trend seen in Children in Need (CiN) referral rates and in particular a high rise in numbers at the end of 2018-19. Again, this can be seen as an indicator regarding the impact of early help system, and shows the increasing levels of demand. The LSCB will continue to analyse and investigate the variations in rates shown.

Number of Children with a Child Protection Plan



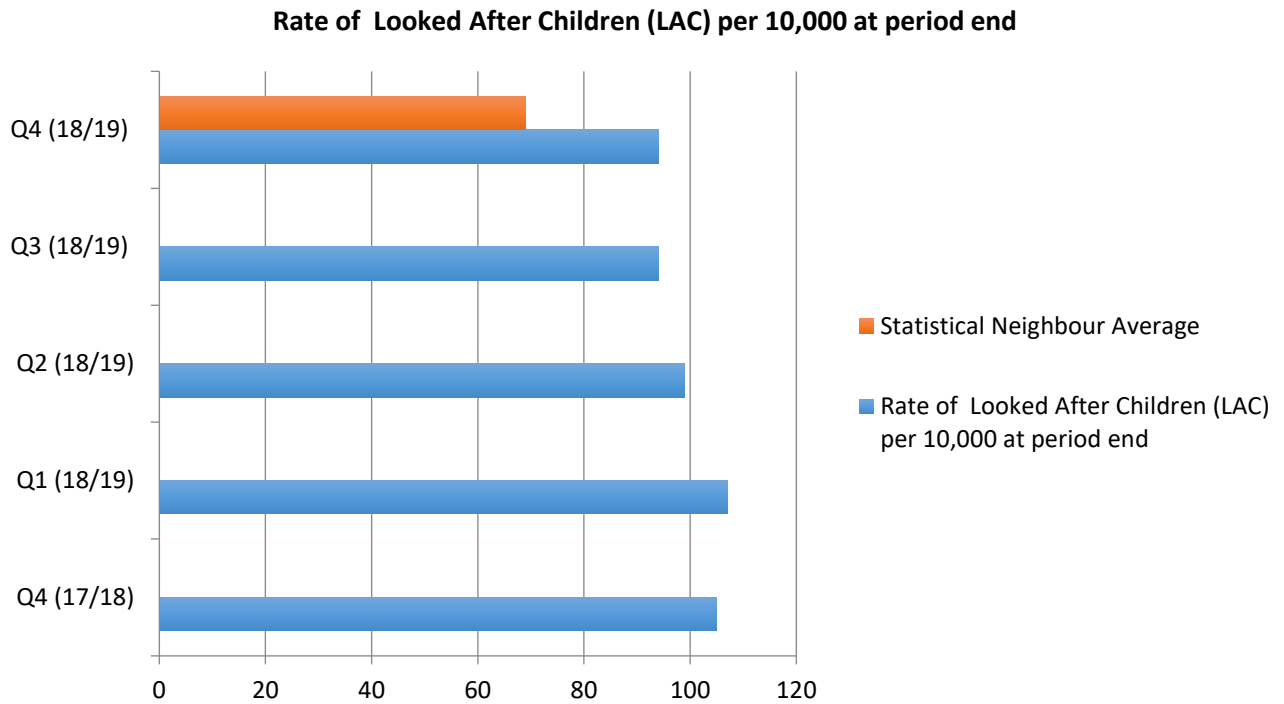
% of ICPCs held within timescales



The number of children with a child protection plan in Southampton (262) has reduced during this year to become closer to statistical neighbour average (236) at the end of Q4. During the year the LSCB has been assured that this reduction is being delivered safely and that multi-agency engagement with this and child protection conferences is maintained despite reducing resources for all services. The Local Authority Quality Assurance Service reports on progress of child protection work to the LSCB throughout the year and raises areas of concern and improvement for multi-agency action. There is a high level of audit activity, engaging families and professionals, which is delivered by the LA in this area and fed in to the LSCB.

The percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences held within agreed timescales has remained close to the Statistical Neighbour average, at year-end being 73.8% (SN 76%). This is despite increased pressure from higher numbers of referrals.

Looked After Children



In recent years Southampton has had an exceptionally high number and rate of children per 10,000 of the population that are looked after compared to national and statistical neighbour averages. The LSCB has continued to monitor this with the Local Authority. This includes results of investigations into the data as well as evaluating the impact of a number of initiatives that strive to safely tackle this issue.

The high number of children that become looked after has also been a focus for the City's Corporate Parenting Board and Children and Families Scrutiny Panel. The LSCB has ensured that links to these strategic bodies are robust to provide a coordinated approach and consistency to this priority issue. The end of year figure was 94 children per 10,000 compared to 69 for our statistical neighbour authorities. The rate still demonstrates high numbers although there has been a reduction from 104 children per 10,000 at the end of the previous financial year.

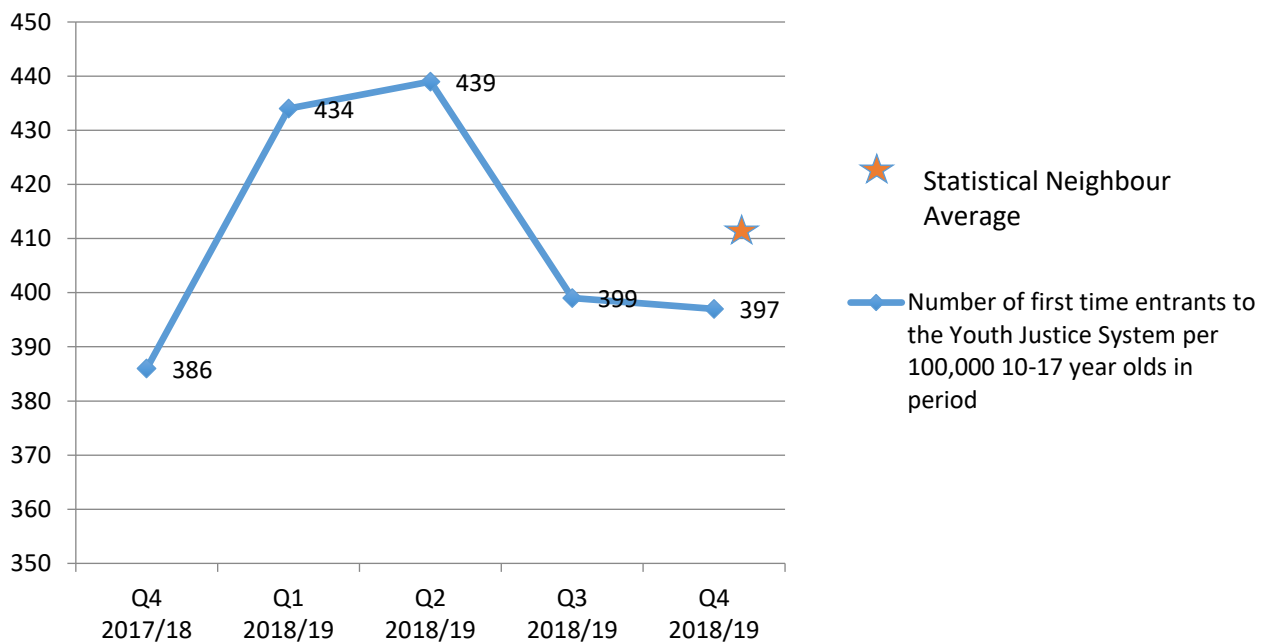
There were 519 Looked After Children at the end of last financial year and this has reduced to 475 this year. The reducing trend has been reviewed regularly by the LSCB including receiving and evaluating commentary from the Local Authority regarding its work on this.

Children with Special Educational Needs or Disability

The City has an increasing number of children of school age children with a learning disability, which has risen from below the national average in 2013/14 to above the national average in 2017. The demand for specialist SEND provision is increasing. It is predicted that the numbers of children being considered for specialist provision / special school places could increase by up to 50% by 2022. Without additional funding this will put further pressure on the High Needs Block⁶ with funding implications across all SEND provisions⁷. Research shows that disabled children are at an increased risk of being abused compared with their non-disabled peers, and that professionals often struggle to identify safeguarding concerns when working with disabled children. The LSCB has focussed on SEND assurance and safeguarding children with a disability to seek assurance of local provision and outcomes for children.

Youth Offending & Criminal Activities

Number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 10-17 year olds in period



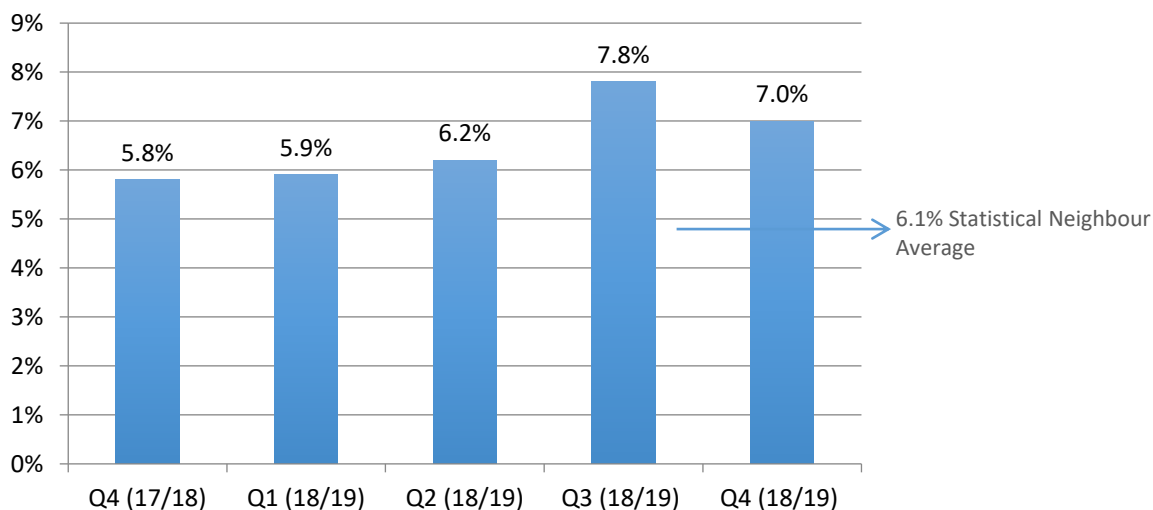
The rate of First Time Entrants to the Criminal Justice System aged 10-17 years old increased in the first 6 months of this year and has now reduced back to a rate below statistical neighbour average. Performance throughout the year has been variable and the LSCB will be seeking assurance that this lower level remains consistent in the coming year from the lead partnership for Youth Offending – the Youth Justice Board and Safe City Partnership.

⁶ Allocated central government funding for children with disabilities

⁷ Southampton SEND Strategic Review 2017-18

Children not in education, employment or training

Percentage of 16-17 year olds NEET or whose activity is not known



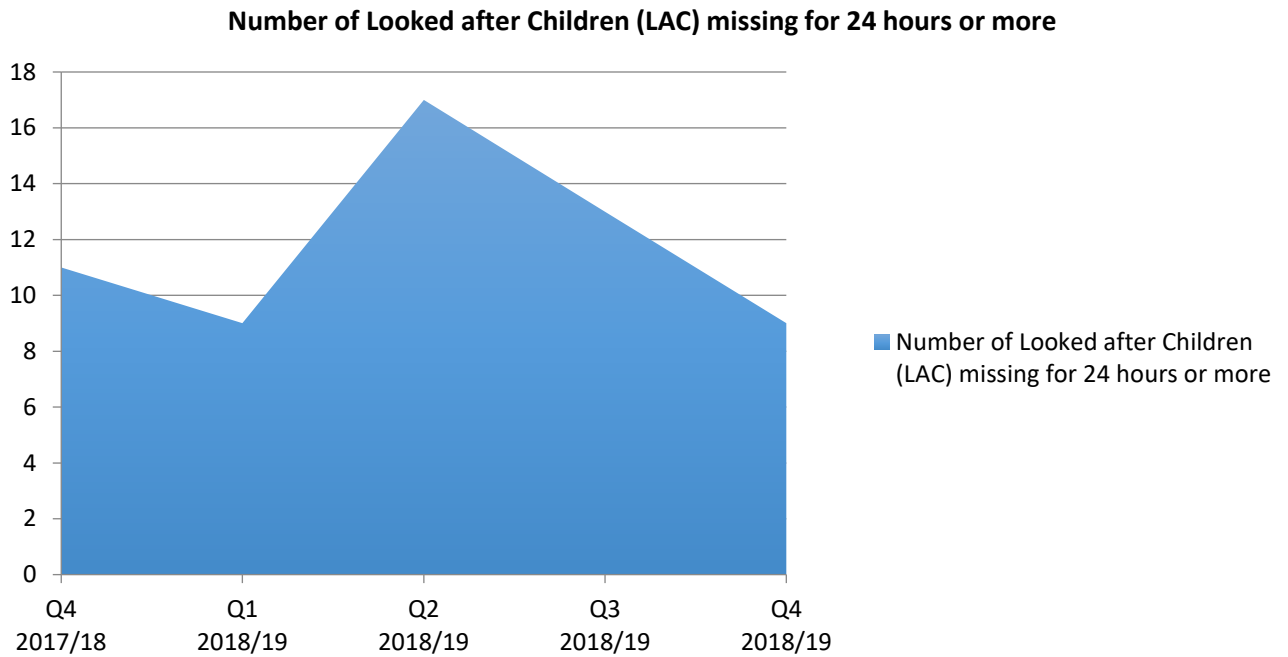
The number of young people (16-18 years) who are not in education, employment or training (NEET) demonstrates a concerning upward trend, peaking in Q3 and remains high in Q4 and above the national average. The picture for care leavers in Southampton is improving slightly compared to the same period last year where 53.7% of care leavers were NEET, reducing to 46% at the end of year this year. This is still a very high number and of concern in terms of positive outcomes for children leaving Local Authority care.

Children missing education

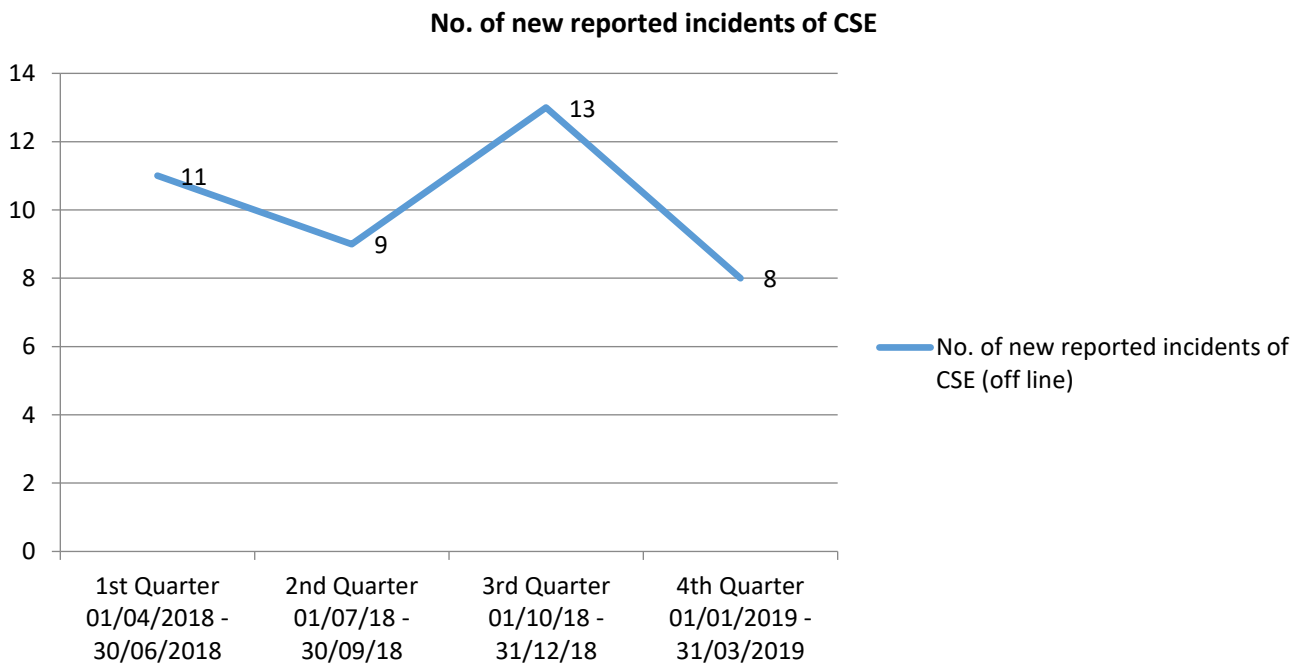
The LSCB reviews and monitors the percentage of pupil absenteeism as a whole; this is an annual measure and is showing an upward and concerning trend. In addition the LSCB requests regular updates regarding Children Missing Education and this information is also fed in to the LSCB via the Missing, Exploited and Trafficked sub group work, given the particular risks in terms of exploitation and missing education.

The rate of children missing education is measured as a whole city percentage of pupil absence. In 2017 this rate was 4.7% and in 2018 this rose to 5%. This equates to a high number in comparison of school days lost per year. The Southampton Attendance Action Group (SAAG) is run by the Educational Welfare Service and is working to improve school attendance – joint work with Southampton Football Club has helped to raise this profile and promote good school attendance. There is also a focus on children with Education Health and Care Plans who represent a high proportion of pupils that have a high percentage of absenteeism.

Children at risk of going missing or being exploited



Child Sexual Exploitation



The LSCB continues to develop its coordination and assurance activities relating to child exploitation. The LSCB has coordinated a multi-agency strategic group to develop and deliver its MET (Missing Exploited and Trafficked Children) Action plan, which was refreshed and published during this reporting year. The statistics above show the relatively low, but none the less important numbers of children where crime or concern has

been reported. The above demonstrates an upward trend in Q3. The LSCB seeks assurance from its members that the agreed processes for responding and protecting children at risk of exploitation are implemented and that professionals working within the city are aware of the indicators of risk of exploitation and how to respond.

The future partnership arrangements will develop this work even further, with a 4LSCB Child Exploitation group developing to encompass the wider range of child criminal exploitation issues (particularly County Lines drug supply) cross geographical boundaries. Southampton LSCB will seek assurance locally regarding operational responses and coordination of activities.

Health agencies have undertaken joint work across the 4LSCB (HIPS) footprint to raise awareness of and the identification of child sexual abuse. The Child sexual Risk Questionnaire (CSERQ4) was developed for use by health practitioners who have “time limited” contact with children under the age of 18 to help them quickly identify the risk of sexual exploitation. The form has been shared across all health agencies and is due to be reviewed later this year by the HIPS Health Sub Group.

Priorities, Projects & Activities

For this year the LSCB agreed to continue with its previous priority themes for its partnership work. This was to ensure consistency and embedded action across the multi-agency partnership, and review progress in the light of new arrangements to be implemented during 2019-20:

Priority Themes:

- Developing a Family Approach to safeguarding
- Child Neglect
- Improving safety and outcomes for vulnerable children including Looked After Children and children at risk of going missing, being exploited or trafficked (MET).
- Development of new safeguarding partnership arrangements

Below is a summary of action taken by the LSCB during this year on the above priority areas:

Developing a Family Approach to safeguarding

1. Work with neighbouring LSCBs and LSABs (Adults Boards) on a Family Approach project. This included:
 - a. Protocol for working together
 - b. Toolkit for professionals
 - c. Launch and training events
2. Development of a joint Southampton training programme with the LSAB, which includes topics such as substance misuse, alcohol use and adult mental health training as a regular feature.
3. Joint auditing with the LSAB to ensure whole family / age approach. This year an audit focussed on transition of Looked After Children from child to adult mental health services
4. Regular assurance reporting to the LSCB from adult focussed services to ensure cross over and family approach to safeguarding children – including:
 - a. Substance misuse and alcohol
 - b. LSAB report
 - c. Domestic abuse including the new High Risk Domestic Abuse system linking the MARAC/MASH process
5. Learning from case reviews on family approach to safeguarding developed and disseminated regularly to the local network of professionals.

Child Neglect

1. Published a web page dedicated to raising awareness of child neglect
2. A new Neglect Strategy and Practitioner's Guide to Neglect have been developed by a multi-agency Task and Finish Group and are now published on the LSCB website.
3. Introduction to Neglect training has been run for a multi-agency audience.
4. A multi-agency Action Plan for Neglect has been developed and progress against this will be monitored by the LSCB Monitoring and Evaluation Group.

Looked After Children (LAC) and children experiencing missing, exploited or trafficked (MET) issues

1. County Lines updates reviewed at Southampton LSCB Main Board, providing partners with up-to-date statistics on where the issues are, number of arrests etc.
The LSCB provide assistance and helped to promote to Police 'intensification weeks' which are a week where a specific issue of concern is tackled by multi agency partners – for example County Lines drug supply, modern slavery.
2. The LSCB arranged workshops in the city to enable staff from all agencies to improve their knowledge of County Lines drug supply (for example how this type of drug supply works and the signs to look out for).
3. The MET Strategic Group met regularly throughout the year, reviewing qualitative and quantitative assurance information, including children missing education, home or care, child sexual exploitation, trafficking and criminal exploitation.
4. The MET action plan was refreshed and aligned with neighbouring authority and Hampshire Constabulary led 4LSCB plan
5. The LSCB delivered audit work for a Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI⁸) into children involved in criminal activity and gangs.
6. Multi-agency training workshops regarding Child Exploitation including MET issues and criminal exploitation delivered
7. Online safety awareness raising work with Designated Safeguarding Lead's in education settings through a workshop and regular feed in to the network
8. Sought assurance and progress updates from the Local Authority regarding plans to safely address the number of Looked After Children.
9. Annual report from the Corporate Parenting Committee with updates on how this work is progressing.
10. Looked After Children data is monitored by the LSCB (including data relating to attainment at school, further and higher education.
11. The Board sought assurance that the Education department have a detailed action plan to address attendance rates and attainment – where information demonstrates 'gap' against national averages and for priority groups including CLA.

Communication

1. Developed further links for LSCB with schools and education settings, including DSL network
2. Delivered a range of multi-agency workshops on key topics to enable networking between services working with families and adults at risk of harm
3. Regular communication with other strategic partnerships including LSAB, Safe City Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Scrutiny Panels regarding issues of concern for the LSCB and to develop peer scrutiny across these boards

⁸ JTAIs assess how agencies work together in an area to identify, support and protect vulnerable children and young people

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4. The 4LSCB areas of Southampton, Portsmouth, Isle of Wight and Hampshire regularly refresh 4LSCB safeguarding policies and procedures and highlight key documents via newsletters.

Impact of safeguarding partners working together

Section 11 Reviews

The LSCB gains assurance of how each agency ensures it is safeguarding and protecting children in a number of ways. For example the LSCB requests reviews from all statutory and other organisations that operate in the city to demonstrate how they are meeting their duties under Section 11 (of the Children Act). This is a self-assessment process - supporting agencies in achieving compliance through:

- Seeking assurance that services are compliant with safeguarding standards.
- Showcase areas of good practice where positive outcomes for children can be evidenced.
- Reflection on their safeguarding priorities and to identify areas for improvement.
- Feedback mechanism to Boards on progress against areas for improvement including any barriers to partnership working.

The 4LSCBs for Hampshire, the Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton deliver this process collectively to reduce duplication for organisations working across the area. For organisations working solely within Southampton their submissions were reviewed locally.

This year, action plan progress was reviewed for the following Southampton organisations:

- Children and Families Service
- Adult Services
- Housing Services
- Libraries
- Arts and Heritage and Libraries
- Licensing
- Youth Offending Service
- Southampton City CCG and ICU
- GPs (summary of safeguarding audit received in Sept 18)

In addition, the following agencies were reviewed through 4LSCB scrutiny arrangements:

- Hampshire Constabulary
- Southampton Central Ambulance Service
- University Hospitals Southampton (UHS)
- Hampshire and IOW Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

As part of the review, site visits took place with Board members and the support teams. The findings and feedback were discussed at Monitoring and Evaluation Subgroup. Written feedback has been submitted to all those that participated and the next round of reviews will take place during 2019.

The following were determined:

- Additional resources around participation of children
- New Restorative Practice / Child Friendly City project is positive investment
- Principal Social Worker resource and the Regional Adoption Agency work are progressing well
- Quality assurance of safeguarding work is increasing positively

-
- Inclusion of safeguarding statements in policy
 - GP lead engagement with Child Protection conferences developing
 - Increase in GP awareness raising and training activities regarding safeguarding issues
 - Safeguarding issues have been made clearer in the Housing service, including within management roles and supported housing staff objectives and appraisals.
 - The City Council Licensing department have demonstrated full engagement in the LSCB process and increased level of awareness of relevant safeguarding issues.

Action required:

- Need to identify clearer links to 4LSCB procedures and awareness of referral thresholds.
- Increase in confidence needed to work with children that have communication needs or English as an Additional Language (EAL)
- Reflective supervision for staff should be implemented to promote staff wellbeing and give the opportunity to reflect and improve on service
- More service led activities to disseminate learning from case reviews
- Annual appraisals to improve and include safeguarding / mandatory training
- Need to ensure Safeguarding messages clear in all staff induction
- Multi-agency information sharing needs to be reviewed
- Further understanding needed of resources for working with disabled children and families, training on safeguarding disabled children is also needed
- More focus needed on examples of good practice
- Further work to ensure dissemination and implementation of LSCB policies, procedures and resources – particularly:
 - Escalation / conflict resolution
 - Safer recruitment
 - Safeguarding supervision
- The inclusion of safeguarding standards within contracted services.

Multi-agency Audits

Joint Targeted Area Inspections (JTAI) are thematic inspections carried out by Ofsted, the Care Quality Commission, Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Constabularies and Her Majesty's Inspectorate for Probation with a focus on multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. The LSCB has aligned its multi-agency audit schedule to undertake a dry run of such an inspection according to national themes. This year the theme was children at risk of criminal exploitation. The findings and recommendations were translated into actions that fed into the MET plan that can be found on the LSCB website. The findings from this were also fed into the 4LSCB Child Exploitation Group, where actions and improvement work is coordinated and monitored.

The LSCB also undertook an independent multi-agency audit, jointly with the LSAB relating to the transition of young people leaving care from child to adult mental health services during this year. An independent person is delivering this and the report is currently being drafted.

Case Reviews & Learning

Learning from cases is a vital way of informing improvements and practice and in preventing future harm to children. The LSCB worked to the following criteria for Serious Case Reviews in 2018-19, which as set out in [Working Together to Safeguard Children and Young People 2015](#) was:

- a) Abuse or neglect of a child was 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.

Serious Case Reviews published 2018-19

The LSCB published the following Serious Case Reviews in the year 2018-19. Below is summary of the subject of those reviews, and a summary of the learning. Full details can be found by using the links to the LSCB website.

Allegations Against Foster Carers (published 2018) - this SCR related to the historic abuse allegations of children whilst in foster care by foster carers working for Southampton City Council & historically Hampshire County Council. The recommendations were largely around the recruitment of foster carers, improvements in the Foster Care service of the local authority, hearing the voice of the child and agencies responses when the abuse came to light. In response to the Review actions taken to improve safeguarding arrangements for children in foster care in Hampshire and Southampton. [6 step briefing](#)

Adam & Anna (published June 2019) - this SCR focussed on child sexual abuse within the family, sometimes known as Intra Familial Sexual Abuse (IFCSA). Adam and Anna (not their real names) were abused by their uncle who was convicted in July 2017 for multiple counts of abuse. The SCR examined the barriers to keeping Adam and Anna safe and the correlation between neglect IFCSA. The review also explored how effectively agencies worked together to identify and address the risk posed to the children and what can be learned to improve future professional practice. The recommendations largely focussed around training to ensure that practitioners can confidently recognise the signs of IFCSA and know what action to take. [6 step briefing](#)

Safe Sleep (published June 2019) - Two young babies, Billy and Reece (not their real names) died in Southampton in circumstances that were thought to be linked to co-sleeping. As well as commissioning a SCR into these deaths and in response to a number of cases related to co-sleeping at the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) the Safeguarding Partnership launched a Thematic Review to examine the issue of safe sleep. The learning and improvements for the SCRs regarding Billy and Reece and the Thematic Review were combined. The main areas for learning were the importance of conveying safe sleep messages to parents and tailoring those messages for the parents' needs. The Safeguarding Partnership undertook to develop a multi-agency

procedure to assist professionals in dealing with disguised compliance and resistant parents. The 6 step briefings are available as below.

Billy – [6 step briefing](#)

Reece – [6 step briefing](#)

Thematic Review – Safe Sleep – [6 step briefing](#)

Themes identified from this year's case reviews

The themes identified this year through all of the LSCB's case reviews and audit work are summarised below, these are reviewed regularly and influence the regular 'Learning from Case Reviews' briefings and workshops that the LSCB hosts:

Taking a family approach - including risks from a combination of domestic violence, substance misuse, alcohol and mental health issues

- Commonality of combination of issues in families, and increased risk of significant harm
- High risks posed to others as well as 'subject' of the casework. This includes wider family members and children where a combination of these issues is present
- Early identification and intervention reduces risk of harm
- Risk escalates quickly particularly where there is a combination of domestic abuse with mental health issue or substance misuse
- There is a need for further understanding of the impact of coercive control on families

Escalation

- Underpins the principle that 'Safeguarding is everyone's business... until the child /individual is safe'
- A need to constructively challenge if response is inadequate – this is both within own and across agencies
- A need to raise awareness of the 4LSCB / 4LSAB Escalation procedures
- Key factor in promoting the welfare of our children and adults at risk

Good communication between agencies and with service users

- When decision making and care planning, practitioners should work with the family determine common goals
- Safeguarding / protection overrides data protection legislation
- Effective communication and healthy working relationships are important part of good multi-agency practice
- Clarity of lead professional role is needed
- Establish the roles and responsibilities of each professional involved.

The importance of the voice of the child

- Professionals must ensure they see the child face to face
- Teenagers should not elicit any less response than a younger child; their voice should be sought & heard

- The child's voice should not be over-shadowed by the parent or care giver. Where this is the case the practitioner should note it as a concern and seek to engage with the child alone. If this is not possible, this concern should be escalated.
- Practitioners should consider the daily lived experience of the child, ie the impact of abuse and neglect and the potential long-term significant harm.
- The practitioner should be alive to non-verbal means of communication, eg actions, reactions, or silence, or inability to engage with the child due to the parent or care giver.

Disguised Compliance & Hostile families

- Professional curiosity is key and professionals should be encouraged to triangulate findings to test a hypothesis.
- Cases show that intentional deception / control of professionals often exists where parents or care givers are minimising or denying abuse and neglect.
- In cases of disguised compliance and/or hostile families parents or care givers can display various levels of engagement with practitioners from different agencies, eg choosing to engage with one particular service to detract from a lack of engagement with another
- Professionals can become over optimistic about progress being achieved, delaying timely interventions for families
- Aggressive / intimidating family members can influence responses in that professionals become hesitate to engage with them, or only 'act on the positives' without challenging a lack of tangible progress for the child.

Intra familial Child Sexual Abuse (IFCSA)

- Awareness of indicators of risk and specialist responses is low
- IFCSA is not always apparent until disclosed and often other presenting factors (such as neglect) are noticed first
- Some children and young people may try and seek help indirectly e.g. unusual or challenging behaviour
- Children and young people may attempt to seek help in non-verbal ways
- Sexual abuse during childhood may be a risk factor for perpetrating IFCSA.
- Childhood Sexual Abuse is strongly associated with the following adverse outcomes in adulthood: physical health problems, including immediate impacts and long-term illness and disability poor mental health and wellbeing, externalising behaviours such as substance misuse, 'risky' sexual behaviours, and offending, difficulties in interpersonal relationships, socio-economic impacts, including lower levels of education and income, vulnerability to re-victimisation, both as a child and as an adult⁹.

Impact of Neglect and Self-Neglect

- Children spend long periods of time subject to interventions from services with limited impact
- Early intervention is a key factor in reducing harm – long term impact = higher risk of harm
- The combined issues of domestic abuse, mental health and substance misuse together with neglect are interlinked and often coexist.
- Housing issues such as rent arrears and anti-social behaviour apparent in many neglect cases.
- There is a link between experience of neglect as a child and in adolescence and self-neglect as an adult.

Using history to inform current practice

⁹ source <https://www.csacentre.org.uk/research-publications/key-messages/intra-familial-csa/>

- Existence of quality chronologies with clearly identified risk factors improves outcomes for child and adults these need to be more than a simple timeline – include qualitative information, analysis and narrative.
- The history of the family should be made available to multi-agency professionals so it can inform all levels of interventions and assessments.
- Need to include patterns or trends noticed for the family / individual. Include patterns of behaviour, crisis times and ‘peaks’ of risk to help predict and prevent future harm.
- Consideration should be given to include previous generational case/family history to form a holistic view.

Regular and effective supervision

- This is an area of repeat concern across agencies in our case reviews. Each agency should have:
 - A written policy for the supervision of staff working with children, young people and families which reflects LSCB supervision standards
 - A process for handling complaints and disagreements with regards to safeguarding supervision.
 - Safeguarding supervision provided by an appropriately experienced supervisor that is regular, planned with protected time & one-to-one or group basis.
 - A written agreement that explains the purpose, value and importance, the roles of the supervisor and supervisee should be agreed. A record of each supervision should be kept in line with the specific organisation’s own supervision policy and/or agreed processes.
- Decisions relating to children, young people and families should be recorded (or cross-referenced) on the child/young person or family’s case file or record. There is a duty to escalate the following concerns should they arise within safeguarding supervision discussion:
 - Child/family member may be at risk of significant harm.
 - There is unsafe practice placing people at risk.
 - There is illegal activity.

Non accidental injury / under two year olds

- Premature babies may be more vulnerable to abuse and neglect, also can present additional challenges for parents/carers to manage
- Professional optimism may lead to risks being underestimated
- Full and robust parental assessment / capacity assessment crucial in predicting risk of harm
- Professionals need to engage with all the adults in a baby’s life, including fathers / partners
- Think whether the “risks” to the infant are being over shadowed by the parental needs, especially where vulnerable parents
- Need to recognise pre-existing patterns in parental / adults behaviour which may pose a risk to the baby.

Safe Sleep

- Safe sleep messages not heard and acted upon when delivered to some parents, particularly where there are additional needs or vulnerability
- Advice should be scaled according to parent’s needs and targeted for those in ‘high risk’ groups (young, Child Protection history, premature babies...etc.)
- Professionals should consider sleeping arrangements in assessments and ask to see these when working with a family with a young baby.
- Risk of overlay increases when a parent sleeps on a sofa, armchair or airbed with a baby

- Increased risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDs)¹⁰ if parents have been drinking alcohol or taking drugs
- Risks also increased if a baby is premature (born before 37 weeks), or has a low birth weight (less than 2.5kg or 5.5lb).

Future Reviews

In 2019-20 the LSCB anticipates there will be a number of Serious Case Reviews published. Recommendations and learning will feature in the Annual Report for that year. The Board is confident that next year's learning and resulting improvements to services will build on those made this year.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

In 2018/19, the 4LSCBs of Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton operated separate CDOP functions. During this year Southampton reviewed 48 child deaths. This number includes all child deaths, many of which were expected, for example due to illness. Overall 23% of the total of 4LSCB reviews were associated with one or more modifiable factors that may have contributed to the death of the child. The top five most frequent modifiable factors were smoking in pregnancy, smoking in the household, substance misuse, care of baby and co-sleeping. The themes will be taken forward are as follows:

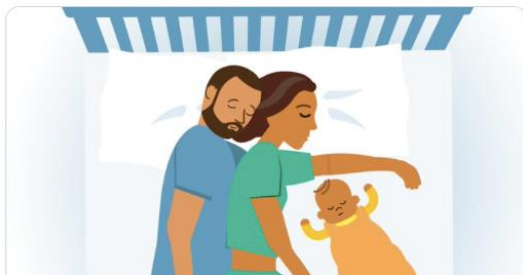
Smoking	Smoking in pregnancy & in the household	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Smoking in pregnancy is associated with adverse outcomes for infants such as a low birth weight – a known risk factor for infant mortality • Mothers from lower socio economic groups are more likely to smoke during pregnancy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on quitting smoking before or during pregnancy through tailored smoking cessation programmes for pregnant women, with targeted support in areas of greatest deprivation. • Greater concerted local action required to help reduce smoking in pregnancy to 6% or less by 2022 as per the Government's Tobacco Control Plan.
Maternal Health	Substance Misuse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maternal health is imperative to the health outcomes of children, particularly in the early years. • Substance misuse (ie taking drugs and alcohol), poor nutrition and obesity during pregnancy are associated with adverse outcomes for infants. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nationally, women should be supported from pre-conception through to the post natal period, for example by investing in the <i>Healthy Child Programme</i>, so that the programme begins prior to conception, extends home visits to beyond 2.5 years, and ensures that children/families receive continuity of care. • Locally, continue to engage clinical, social and public health to encourage women of reproductive age to adopt a healthy lifestyle, stop smoking, and achieve a healthy weight before conception.
Co-sleeping;	Co-sleeping; care of baby	-	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to promote safe sleep messages and support the Lullaby Trust's annual awareness campaign. Ensure that all staff are fully aware of current policies and guidance and communicate the risks of unsafe sleeping with parents and families.

The CDOP arrangements for Southampton will change in line with new statutory guidance. There is a requirement within this that a CDOP operates with a minimum number of child deaths above the rate that Southampton experiences. This is to enable generation of themes according to modifiable factors, and as such it is likely that there will be a regional arrangement with Hampshire to enable the threshold to be met.

¹⁰ Sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) 'sometimes known as "cot death" – is the sudden, unexpected and unexplained death of an apparently healthy baby'. <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/sudden-infant-death-syndrome-sids/>

Engagement and Awareness Raising

Southampton Safeguarding Partnerships @SPSoutham... · Mar 11
 What is co-sleeping? It means sleeping in the same bed as your baby, and it's thought roughly half of parents do it. For more information check out this link for helpful info lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep-ad...
 #SaferSleepWeek #SotonLSB



Co-sleeping with your baby: advice from The Lullaby Trust
 Some parents choose to share a bed or other sleep surface (also known as co-sleeping) with their babies. Read our advice on how to d...

The LSCB engages with the public, professionals and families throughout the year in a number of ways. This is to ensure that its work remains focussed on the issues that make a difference to those working with families and the children at the centre of its safeguarding activities. Public awareness raising takes place through engagement with public facing events and activities, including road shows, training vents and exhibitions as well as direct work via media and social media. During the year the LSCB delivered activities and awareness raising work to mark the following events:

- Maternal Mental Health
- Mental Health Week
- Foster Carer Fortnight
- Child Safety Week
- Clever Never Goes campaign
- Domestic Violence – Football World Cup Campaign
- Safer Sleep Week
- CSE Awareness Raising Week
- Safer Internet Day
- Young Carers Week
- Preventing Violent Extremism
- Love Don't Hate – Hate Crime Awareness
- Anti Bullying Week



The LSCB offers a thorough multi-agency training calendar of events, workshops and core training. This includes 2-hour 'weekly Wednesday workshops', which are learning and networking opportunities for staff and volunteers across sectors and disciplines to attend. These have had good attendance averaging 25 attendees per session. Topics covered include;

- Fabricated and induced illness
- County Lines drug supply and child criminal exploitation
- The role of Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)
- Trafficking
- Safe Sleep
- Mental Health
- Fire Safety



In addition regular half-day sessions are held for topics of local and national interest to the multi-agency audience, these included:

- Introduction to Child Neglect
- Learning from Case Reviews
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Harmful Cultural Practice; Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriage and HBV
- Domestic Abuse
- Substance Misuse

The LSCB works closely with the LSAB to provide a coordinated 'LSB' training offer. This enables a family approach to be taken via the training, and offers networking opportunities across the disciplines working with children and adults.

The LSCB also delivers regular 'Level 3' multi-agency safeguarding training. There are two days available and professionals can decide which is most appropriate for them. The days focus on 'Identifying Needs and Making a Referral' and 'The Child Protection Process'. This was a change from previous years when training lasted two days and it was felt that one day would be more time efficient for professionals, with the option to attend the day most appropriate for their learning needs.

Attendance at the events is generally good, but this can be affected by workload and prioritisation of the sessions. The LSCB is considering options to promote attendance.



Comments from evaluations include:

Thank you, thought provoking

Inspiring and motivating trainer

Very informative and engaging

I understand the different services better

Next Steps and Priorities for 2019-20

The recently announced changes to the safeguarding system set out in new Working Together guidance will be progressed in the early part of 2019-20. At the time of writing the LSCB has agreed to reform as the Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnership (SSCP) during 2019-20. In itself the transition to this arrangement will be a priority project for the partners. In addition, and following analysis of local learning themes and activities described in this report the LSCB has agreed to focus on priority areas as below under the new SSCP.

1. Child Neglect
2. Child Mental Health (Safeguarding)
3. Intra familial sexual abuse
4. Family Approach to safeguarding
5. Exploitation of children
6. Safe Sleep
7. Non accidental injury to under 2 year olds

Within the new partnership arrangements the LSCB (soon to be SSCP) has agreed to focus its work on ensuring 'learning into practice' is a key focus in all its activities. Where priorities are shared with other LSCBs in the Hampshire and Isle of Wight area, collectively to be known as the Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth and Southampton (HIPS) Partnership, there will be joint focus and activities. Where priorities are key for Southampton only, the new SSCP will coordinate assurance and improvement work through a newly formed sub group to be known as the Safeguarding Practice Improvement Group (SPI Group) and the refreshed sub group coordinating activity in response to lessons learned in case reviews.

Priority	Lead	Timescale
Neglect	SSCP	Q1
Child Mental Health	SSCP	Q2
Intra familial Sexual Abuse	SSCP	Q3
Family Approach to safeguarding	HIPS	Q1-3
Child Exploitation	HIPS	Q1-4
Safe Sleep	HIPS	Q1-4
Non Accidental Injury	SSCP	Q1-4

For further details of [new partnership arrangements](#) and plans please see [Southampton Safeguarding Children Partnership website](#).

Appendix 1: LSCB Finance

LSCB partners agreed to the following contributions to cover 2016 – 17:

Board Partner Agency	Contribution 2018-19
Southampton City Council	£82,200
Southampton City CCG	£34,196
Hampshire Constabulary	£13,482
National Probation Service	£2,757
Hampshire & IOW Community Rehabilitation Company	£1,348
CAFCASS	£445
Total:	£134,428

In addition to this, Board partners contributed a supplementary amount for learning and development, totalling £20,144. This funds the multi-agency Level 3 Working Together to Safeguard Level 3 Training and also to help contribute to specialist trainer costs and venues for specific courses and workshops as and when required.

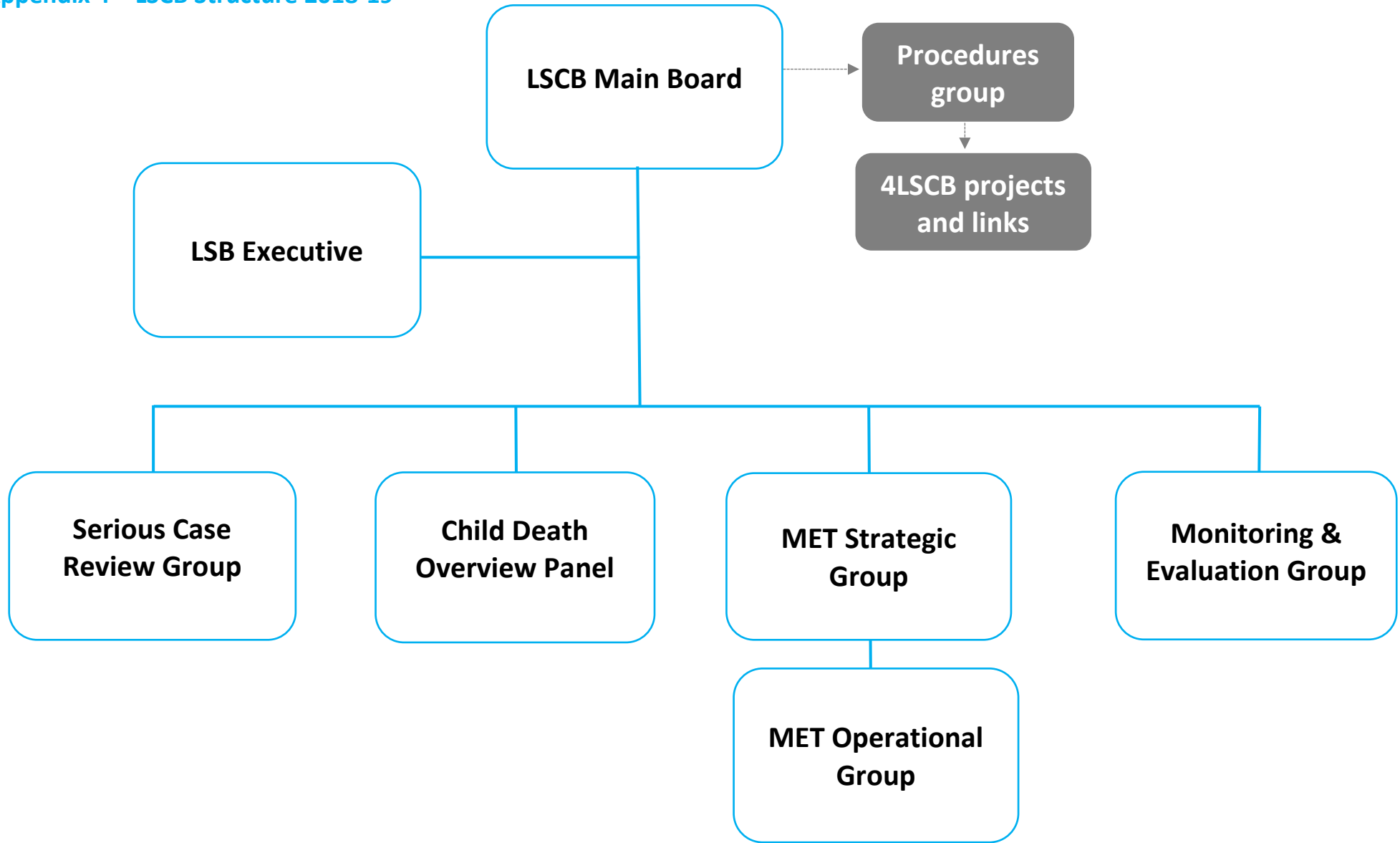
Appendix 2 LSCB Membership

Agency	Position
Independent Chair	Independent Chair
Southampton City Council	Director of Children and Families Director of Housing, Adults & Communities
Hampshire Constabulary	Chief Supt Public Protection
Hampshire Probation	Director of Portsmouth/Southampton LDU
Community Rehabilitation Company	Director of Portsmouth/Southampton
City Clinical Commissioning Group	Director of Quality and Integration/Executive Nurse
NHS England (Wessex)	Director of Nursing
University Hospitals Southampton NHS Foundation Trust	Director of Nursing and Organisational Development
Solent NHS Trust	Operations Director (Children's Services)
Southern Health Foundation Trust	Director of Children and Families Division & Safeguarding Lead
South Central Ambulance Service	Assistant Director of Quality
CAFCASS	Senior Service Manager
Primary School Rep	Primary Heads Conference Representative
Secondary School Rep	Secondary Schools Conference Representative
Special Schools Rep	Special Schools Conference Representative
Further Education Rep	Further Education Representative
Voluntary & Community Sector	SVS – Southampton Voluntary Services
Legal advisor	SCC Legal
Designated Health Professional	Designated Nurse & Designated Doctor
Principal Social Worker	Principal Social Worker
Director of Public Health	Consultant in Public Health
Lead Member for Children's Services	Lead Member
LSCB Business Unit	Board Manager & Business Coordinator
LSCB Lay Member	Lay Member

Appendix 3 - Glossary

4LSCB	Joint working group LSCBs from Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Southampton, Portsmouth
CAFCASS	Children and Families Court Advisory Services
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services
CDOP	Child Death Overview Panel
CPC	Child Protection Chair
CP/ CPP	Child Protection/ Child Protection Planning
CQC	Care Quality Commission
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CYP	Child and Young People
CYP's/CYP Report	Children and Young Peoples 'At Risk' Police Report
EHE	Elective Home Education
GP	General Practitioner
Hampshire CRC	Hampshire Crime Rehabilitation Company
HCC	Hampshire County Council
HFRS	Hampshire Fire and Rescue Service
HMI	Her Majesty's Inspectorate
HMPPS	Her Majesty's Prison and Probation Services
HRDA	High Risk Domestic Violence
ICPC	Initial Child Protection Conference
JTAI	Joint Area Targeted Inspection
LA	Local Authority
LAC	Looked After Child
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
MARAC	Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MASH	Multiagency Safeguarding Hub
MET	Missing, Exploited and Trafficked
MSP	Making Safeguarding Personal
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NPS	National Probation Service
PIPPA	Prevention, Intervention and Public Protection Alliance
RSH	Royal South Hants Hospital
SAR	Safeguarding Adult Review
SCR	Serious Case Review
SCC	Southampton City Council
SCAS	South Central Ambulance Service
SHFT	Southern Health NHS Foundation Trust
Southampton City CCG	Southampton City clinical Commissioning Group
Southampton LSAB	Southampton Local Southampton Adults Board
Southampton LSCB	Southampton Local Safeguarding Children Board
SVS	Southampton Voluntary Services
Transition	Refers to a child / young person moving from children to adult services
UBB	Unborn Baby
UHS	University Hospital Southampton NHS Foundation Trust
YOS	Youth Offending Services

Appendix 4 – LSCB Structure 2018-19



Appendix 5 – Functions of the LSCB and its sub groups

The **Main Board** is attended by panel of senior officers from all safeguarding partners in the city. Together they form the core decision making body for the partnership and have a constitution, which details their responsibilities. Meeting runs quarterly.

The **Executive** incorporates Children's & Adults Boards. It is attended by senior representatives from the three key safeguarding partners (Police, Health & Council) plus the Independent Chairs of both Boards. The Executive plans for Main Board meetings, receives reports on progress from each of the Sub Group Chairs to monitor progress and also controls the budgets for each Board. Meeting runs quarterly.

The **Serious Case Review Group** receives referrals for reviews and determines whether they meet criteria for a Serious Case Review. The Group initiates and monitors delivery for Serious Case Reviews or Partnership Reviews where cases do not meet the criteria. It ensures that resultant learning is shared with partners to help prevent the circumstances occurring again and links with Child Death Overview Panel. Meetings run quarterly.

The **Child Death Overview Panel** reviews all child deaths and in order to identify learning and/or trends. Meeting runs quarterly.

The **Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Strategic Group** provides strategic guidance to the operational MET Group. It sets the MET Action Plan, focuses on issues including missing children, those at risk or involved in gangs, child criminal exploitation (including child sexual exploitation), and children at risk of or subject to trafficking or modern slavery. Receives the Problem Profile from Hampshire Constabulary and considers responses to highlighted problems. Meetings run quarterly.

The **MET Operational Group** meets bi-monthly to consider MET issues within Southampton and operational responses to these. It is attended by agencies including the Police, Children's Services, Voluntary Sector (including Barnardo's ICTA Service and No Limits) and Housing. Patterns, trends and areas of interest identified from the monthly MET case review are considered at this meeting. The MET case review meeting is held monthly and contributed to by key partner agencies to discuss intelligence and oversee local practice/responses to individual children who are at risk of exploitation, going missing from home or from care, as well as looking at perpetrator and location hotspot disruption.

The **Monitoring & Evaluation Group** delivers monitoring and evaluation activity to drive improvements in services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. It receives presentations on Section 11s, has oversight of multi-agency data, delivers thematic audits, and shares good practice. Meetings run quarterly.

The **4LSCB-coordinated work** includes 4LSCB Policy and Procedures Group and Project Management for the future coordination of 4LSCB work.

DECISION-MAKER:	CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL		
SUBJECT:	CHILD EXPLOITATION IN SOUTHAMPTON – INCLUDING CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND CHILD CRIMINAL EXPLOITATION		
DATE OF DECISION:	23 JANUARY 2020		
REPORT OF:	DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES		
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Simon Dennison	Tel: 023 80917796
	E-mail:	Simon.Dennison@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Hilary Brooks	Tel: 023 80834899
	E-mail:	Hilary.Brooks@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
<p>Attached to the report is a confidential appendix. The confidentiality of the appendix is based on Categories 1 and 7 of paragraph 10.4 of the Council's Access to Information Procedure Rules. Category 1 relates to 'Information which is likely to reveal the identity of an individual', whilst Category 7 relates to 'Information relating to any action taken or to be taken in connection with the prevention, investigation or prosecution of crime.'</p>			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
<p>The Local Authority, Police, Health and other partner agencies have statutory responsibilities to identify and protect children from harm. Nationally, in recent years, there has been an increased recognition a focus on protecting children from the risks of criminal & sexual exploitation outside of their homes - 'Contextual Safeguarding'. In Southampton the Council works closely with the Hampshire Constabulary, Health, voluntary agencies and schools to understand the local exploitation problem profile and to coordinate the identification and protection of children at risk. This is steered strategically by the Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton (HIPS) Child Exploitation Group and locally by the Missing, Exploited, Trafficked (MET) Operational Group.</p>			
Child Exploitation (Sexual & Criminal) – CSE / CCE			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children coerced, manipulated, enticed or forced into engaging in sexual or criminal activity. CCE may involve stealing to order, hiding stolen goods, pick pocketing, being used to facilitate burglaries, carrying / selling drugs or weapons, money laundering. • Power imbalance between the child and the perpetrator/s. Perpetrators can be individuals or group/gang. Perpetrators often gain from the situation either financially or in status (money, discharge of a debt, free/discounted goods or services, increased status, personal gratification). • Sometimes children are offered or given something to get them to do these things – tangible or intangible (money, drugs, alcohol, status, protection, perceived love/affection, prevention of something negative happening to them/others). They may be coerced through threats/violence. • Any child under the age of 18 – including 16 and 17 year olds. 			

- Involves differing degrees of abusive activities (threats, violence, coercion, intimidation, enticement, peer pressure, sexual bullying, cyber bullying, grooming).
- Child Exploitation occurs in different settings and contexts - online or face to face, in relationships with children or adults; individuals or groups or gangs, online/social media, hang out spots, parties, parks, hotels, homes, might be a one off or occur over a period of time.

County Lines

‘County Lines’ is a method of drug related criminal activity which involves criminal gangs setting up dealing operations in a place outside their operating area (crossing ‘county lines’) with the aid of dedicated mobile phone lines or ‘deal lines’. Often moving drugs from bigger cities e.g. London, Manchester, Liverpool, Birmingham etc. to outside areas to make more money. Generally involves Class A drugs such as heroin, crack cocaine due to it being most lucrative. Likely to exploit children and vulnerable adults to move and store the drugs and money and they will often use coercion, intimidation, violence and weapons. Young people exploited in this way are also at risk of being trafficked – travel arranged or facilitated for the purposes of them being exploited.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

	(i)	That the Panel understands child exploitation in relation to Southampton’s children, the multi-agency response and the city’s compliance to local procedures and national statute.
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REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

1.	To enable the Panel to develop their understanding of the exploitation risks for Southampton children and the agencies response and the context of increased national focus on criminal and sexual exploitation.
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

2.	None.
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

Southampton overview

3.	CSE risks appear to remain relatively steady, and within the last 12 – 18 months we have seen that the workforce are increasingly identifying CCE risks in addition to CSE and are alert to the presence of county lines activity in the area. County lines is an issue within Southampton, with multiple lines active at any one time. In addition to local children, children from other areas such as Birmingham, Kent, London have been located within the city in addresses linked to drug supply / found in possession of drugs, likely to have been criminally exploited and trafficked. Southampton children have also been found in other areas e.g. Croydon, Portsmouth with evidence this is linked to county lines. Currently Southampton have 21 children regarded as high risk CSE/CCE (11 CCE, 10 CSE or combination of both) and 42 as medium risk.
4.	The current Hampshire and IOW Police Problem profile compares threats and risks across the force area. This reports Southampton, Portsmouth and Havant as the districts having the greatest number of children at risk of CSE

	residing in their areas. The complex nature of criminality, transport links and varied community profiles (including perpetrators) all contribute to the increased level of understanding of the threat in these areas. This allows professionals to focus engagement and diversions towards those children most at risk. A higher percentage of Black Asian Minority Ethnic (BAME) young males are criminally exploited: 26% of CCE flagged children are from BAME communities compared to 9% of the population. Those children flagged at risk of CSE are mainly white females around the age of 15 years.
5.	For 2019 the police recorded 1329 missing episodes for under 18s in Southampton. These involved 527 young people (this includes temporary residents of Southampton). This is a slight increase from the missing episodes and people reported in 2018. When intervening to support children at risk of exploitation missing episodes are commonly found to be precursors to exploitation and therefore accurate recording, assessment and engagement with children who go missing is crucial to understanding and managing the threat of exploitation as well as other forms of harm. Children's Social Care have a record of 619 missing episodes for children in the last 6 months.
6.	A significant proportion (20-25%) of all reported missing episodes in Southampton are children placed in the city by other local authorities (accounting for 146 of 619 missing episodes recorded by Children's Social Care in last 6 months – 23%). These children are treated in the same way by the Police, Health, schools & voluntary agencies but the Council has limited responsibilities as the 'host' local authority.
7.	Furthermore an assessment of those children identified at risk of exploitation commonly identifies other precursor traumatic events in their home life such as domestic abuse, being a victim of assault or being linked to drugs intelligence. All of this information is used to assess the risk to the young person. Hampshire police, Social care and other agencies are working to understand opportunities and implement systems of early intervention and engagement with these young people where data shows will be at risk due to their existing experiences.
Southampton response	
8.	Since 2015 Southampton City Council has had a dedicated team to promote the response to child sexual exploitation issues, and since Oct 2017 the remit of this team was extended to respond to missing children and those at risk of /experiencing criminal or sexual exploitation. The team was renamed the MET Hub and currently has 5 FTE staffing plus 1 FTE Lead/Assistant Manager. Being a 'MET' team allows a response to different risks in a more coordinated way and feedback from the recent Ofsted inspection has reflected the well-developed and effective nature of services and leadership delivered by the team in order to reduce MET risks to children.
9.	The MET Hub provide Return Interviews (RI) for children who have been missing from home or care (for Southampton children, including those in care placements within 30 miles of the city) in order to ensure SCC fulfils its statutory duty to offer Return Interviews to these children. Statutory guidance states these discussions should take place within 72 hours of the child's return from missing – this is a challenge due to slow reporting processes

	<p>between Police and Children’s Services, impact of weekends and limited capacity of MET Hub. In the last 6 months, for cases where RI deemed appropriate, they have been offered in relation to 450 of 452 missing episodes (99.5%), and gone on to be successfully completed with the young person in relation to 389 episodes (86%) – this is an extremely high uptake rate in comparison to other Local Authorities. The MET Hub Return Interview monthly uptake rate has been up to 96%. Return Interview offers for Children Looked After placed some distance from Southampton has also proved challenging due to logistics but rates for these children have significantly improved in line with overall rates (98% offer rate and 64% uptake rate in last 6 months). Ofsted feedback has commented on the effectiveness of the MET Hub Return Interviews and subsequent direct work to support families as well as “clear analysis of risks”. Their report further states that “arrangements for vulnerable groups of children who go missing and who may be at risk of exploitation are well developed and effective” including those living at home or in care.</p>
10.	<p>MET Hub gather significant intelligence from Return Interviews with children linked to missing/exploitation and other community issues which is shared with Hampshire Police to help inform the local picture – Police have commented on the quality of intel submitted by the MET Hub. There has also been a significant overall increase in intelligence submissions across partner agencies due to considerable efforts by both Police and partner agencies to promote use of the Community Partnership Information form.</p>
11.	<p>The MET Hub also provides intensive 1-1 support to those at risk of criminal or sexual exploitation, guided by the risks and vulnerabilities, and building on strengths and diversion. Both the recent Ofsted inspection and the HMIC inspection of the Youth Offending Service have commented in the effective and positive impact of the interventions from the MET Hub staff.</p>
12.	<p>Southampton’s response to MET issues was strengthened by the Council’s MET Procedures, developed in 2018. The Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Framework (SERAF) has been adapted to include indicators more aligned to CCE/county lines risks which is promoting increased recognition of young people at risk of CCE and also offers a contextual focus on peer groups and locations to aid disruption activity. As a result of this increased awareness and adaption of tools and processes there is positive identification of children at risk of both CSE and CCE and examples of planning and intervention which has assisted in reducing risks to them (recognised within Ofsted inspection).</p>
13.	<p>The Hampshire, Isle of Wight, Portsmouth & Southampton (HIPS) Child Exploitation Group provides a strategic lead on priorities and planning to improve the joint response to protecting children at risk of exploitation – Southampton has a strong representation on this group.</p>
14.	<p>In the city, the Council leads the Missing Exploited & Trafficked Operational Group and a monthly Case Review meeting focused on Southampton risk, intervention, planning and specifically assessing and reviewing the children at high risk of exploitation. Due to capacity the monthly Case Review cannot have oversight of the medium risk cohort which therefore is tracked and managed by the lead professional, usually the allocated social worker – this is recognised by Police and MET Hub as an area of vulnerability.</p>

15.	There are positive and effective working relationships between the respective Police and Children's Services MET Teams, and development activity focused on building collaboration with Neighbourhood Police Teams. Regular discussions take place in order to ensure coordinated responses to disrupt risks. The Police MET Team staff covering Southampton have been given access to the Civic building to strengthen joint working further.
16.	A number of recent and ongoing awareness raising activities are taking place within Southampton schools in relation to knife crime, gangs and exploitation. St Giles Trust delivers sessions in schools, including Compass PRU, supported by MET Hub staff. Workshops on both CSE and CCE are planned for all Year 10 students at Cantell School in Jan 2020. The work of the Violence Reduction Unit is already making a positive impact on promoting coordination across agencies and partners and supporting creative ways to respond to and prevent risks.
17.	The MET Hub lead on providing local training in relation to missing and exploitation risks to staff within SCC and some partner agencies. The capacity of the team does impact on their ability to meet this need however feedback on the quality of the training is consistently good.
Future plans to improve outcomes	
18.	There is a need to think differently and creatively about engaging with risks affecting adolescents, particularly those outside of the home.
19.	The city is currently planning to develop the MET offer in Southampton. This is designed to meet the compliance requirements, increased volume and focus of this important safeguarding work. The proposed development currently includes the addition/integration of social work, management and business support resource, as well as further alignment with the Police and increased integration with Youth Offending Service & Education Welfare whilst retaining the close operational relationship with the MASH and frontline social work teams.
20.	SCC applied for funding for a Frankie worker to strengthen local therapeutic support offered to children victims of sexual exploitation and abuse.
21.	Work is underway to look at ways to strengthen collaborative working and information sharing with Neighbourhood Police Teams.
22.	There is a drive to strengthen relationships with CAMHS and local youth organisations.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>	
23.	Not applicable.
<u>Property/Other</u>	
24.	Not applicable.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
25.	A range of statutory powers are relevant to child exploitation, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory guidance on children who run away or go missing from home or care (DfE, 2014)

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Statutory guidance for local authorities on the care of unaccompanied migrant children and children victims of modern slavery (Dfe, 2017) • Safeguarding children who may have been trafficked Practice Guidance (DfE & Home Office, 2011) • Child sexual exploitation: definition and guide for practitioners (DfE, 2017) • Criminal Exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance (Home Office, 2018) • Modern Slavery Act 2015 • Working Together 2018 • Children Act 1989 • Children Act 2004 • Care Act 2014
Other Legal Implications:	
26.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
27.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
28.	None
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Confidential - Initiatives to tackle child exploitation
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents	
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Document is Confidential

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DECISION-MAKER:		CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SCRUTINY PANEL	
SUBJECT:		CHILDREN AND FAMILIES - PERFORMANCE	
DATE OF DECISION:		23 JANUARY 2020	
REPORT OF:		DIRECTOR – LEGAL AND GOVERNANCE	
<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
AUTHOR:	Name:	Mark Pirnie	Tel: 023 8083 3886
	E-mail:	Mark.pirnie@southampton.gov.uk	
Director	Name:	Richard Ivory	Tel: 023 8083 2794
	E-mail:	Richard.ivory@southampton.gov.uk	
STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY			
None			
BRIEF SUMMARY			
Attached as Appendix 1 and Appendix 2 are the key data sets for Children and Families up to the end of January 2020. At the meeting the Cabinet Member and senior managers from Children and Families will be providing the Panel with an overview of performance across the division since November 2019.			
RECOMMENDATIONS:			
	(i)	That the Panel consider and challenge the performance of Children and Family Services in Southampton.	
REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS			
1.	To enable effective scrutiny of children and family services in Southampton.		
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED			
2.	None.		
DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)			
3.	To enable the Panel to undertake their role effectively members will be provided with appropriate performance information on a monthly basis and an explanation of the measures.		
4.	Performance information up to 31 December 2019 is attached in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2. An explanation of the significant variations in performance will be provided at the meeting.		
5.	The Cabinet Member for Aspiration, Children & Lifelong Learning and representatives from the Senior Management Team, Children and Families have been invited to attend the meeting and provide the performance overview.		
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS			
<u>Capital/Revenue</u>			
6.	None.		
<u>Property/Other</u>			

7.	None.
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
8.	The duty to undertake overview and scrutiny is set out in Part 1A Section 9 of the Local Government Act 2000.
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
9.	None
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
10.	None
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
11.	Improving the effectiveness of the political scrutiny of children's safeguarding will help contribute to the following priorities within the Council Strategy: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and young people get a good start in life
KEY DECISION	No
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	None directly as a result of this report
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	Children and Families Monthly Dataset – December 2019
2.	Early Help Dataset – December 2019
3.	Glossary of terms
Documents In Members' Rooms	
1.	None
Equality Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessments (ESIA) to be carried out?	No
Data Protection Impact Assessment	
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out?	No
Other Background Documents	
Equality Impact Assessment and Other Background documents available for inspection at:	
Title of Background Paper(s)	Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	None

Qualitative measures:			Key to direction of travel:			
Positive	Similar	Negative	Increase 10% or more	↑	Similar →	Decrease 10% or more

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
M1	Number of contacts received (includes contacts that become referrals)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	<i>There is an effective 'front door' with which anyone with a concern about a child can engage and receive appropriate advice, support and action.</i>	1535	1123	1219	1354	1323	1258	→ -5%	↓ -12%		1340	1546	-	-	-	-		The number of contacts in December decreased slightly. The schools closed for the Christmas break and other organisations close which probably accounts for the dip in referrals. The Early Help Hub is now well established and is receiving more referrals which is likely to have impacted on the number coming through the MASH.
M2	Number of new referrals of Children In Need (CiN)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	<i>Referrals for children in need of help and support are accepted appropriately by the service.</i>	523	346	427	416	380	309	↓ -19%	↑ 147%		398	523	-	383	359	468		This figure has reduced once again this month indicating that we are only accepting the appropriate referrals for statutory intervention. The conversion rate for contact to referrals remains at an average of 30% in line with other Local Authorities.
M3	Percentage of all contacts that become new referrals of Children In Need (CiN)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	<i>Children and families receive the help they need at the right time, and from the best possible resource - in line with the established continuum of need.</i>	34%	31%	35%	31%	29%	25%	↓ -14%	↑ 182%		30%	36%	P	-	-	-		As above - the figure continues to reduce indicating we are meeting the needs of the right children.
M2-NI Page 49	Number of new referrals of Children in Need (CiN) rate per 10,000 (0-17 year olds)	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	<i>Referrals for children in need of help and support are comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.</i>	122	90	110	82	75	61	↓ -19%	↑ 61%		91	122	-	58	46	46		As a Local Authority we need to work with our partner agencies to understand our threshold and for them to provide support to children and their families. The data shows that whilst we convert fewer contacts into referrals for CIN than other Local Authorities, we do in fact receive a higher percentage of contacts than other Local Authorities.
M8-QL	Percentage of referrals dealt with by MASH where time from referral received / recorded to completion by MASH was 24 hours / 1 working day or less	Sharon Hawkins	Jacquie Schofield	<i>The safety of children is supported by referrals being dealt with in a timely manner.</i>	86%	90%	95%	88%	94%	97%	→ 3%	→ 9%	▲	89%	99%	P	-	-	-		The Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub continue to complete the appropriate checks and tasks in a timely manner ensuring children receive a service without delay.
M6-QL (val)	Number of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	<i>The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.</i>	17	8	20	13	23	7	↓ -70%	↑ 40%	▼	21	40	-	-	-	-		
M6-QL	Percentage of referrals which are re-referrals within one year of a closure assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	<i>The service is effective in helping children and families address their issues, and where there is a re-referral, the issues are understood.</i>	3%	2%	4%	3%	6%	2%	↓ -67%	↓ -33%	▼	4%	8%	P	24%	22%	26%		
M4	Number of new referrals of children aged 13+ where child sexual exploitation (CSE) was a factor	Sharon Hawkins	Simon Dennison	<i>The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.</i>	9	2	6	5	2	2	→ 0%	↓ -67%		5	9	-	-	-	-		
M5	Number of children receiving Early Help services who are stepped up for Children In Need (CiN) assessment	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	<i>The needs and safety of children at risk of child sexual exploitation are responded to effectively.</i>	7	8	7	6	6	5	↓ -17%	↑ 150%		5	8	-	-	-	-		

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
EH2	Number of Children In Need (CiN) at end of period (all open cases, excluding EHPs, EHAs, CPP and LAC)	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	Children in need of help and support receive a consistent and effective service.	1948	1864	1798	1620	1559	1460	→ -6%	↑ 39%	▼	1,537	1,948	-	-	-	-		
EH5-QL	Number of children open to the authority who have been missing at any point in the period (count of children)	Sharon Hawkins	Simon Dennison	The needs and safety of children who have been missing are responded to robustly.	80	56	62	75	66	67	→ 2%	↑ 31%	▼	67	100	-	-	-	-		
EH3	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Children receive a comprehensive assessment of their needs; with strengths and areas of risk identified to inform evidence-based planning.	363	428	393	549	479	379	↓ -21%	↑ 173%		332	549	-	183	346	448		There is always an expected reduction of single assessments in December. This usually increases again in January.
EH3a%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 10 days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	10%	10%	6%	4%	10%	9%	→ -7%	↑ 20%	p	8%	14%	P	-	-	-		The performance on this indicator should improve as caseloads reduce and legacy cases no longer exist.
EH3b%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 11-25 days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	17%	16%	9%	20%	23%	30%	↑ 28%	↑ 12%	p	22%	35%	P	-	-	-		This is in line with the expectation of assessments completed in this timescale.
EH3c%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 26-35 days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	9%	10%	12%	8%	11%	18%	↑ 59%	↑ 78%	p	13%	26%	P	-	-	-		The performance has improved, but not yet in line with expectations.
EH3d%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed within 36-45 days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	12%	22%	19%	12%	16%	12%	↓ -24%	↓ -27%	p	19%	30%	P	-	-	-		The performance is not in line with expectation, however December was the last month of legacy cases.
EH3e%	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed over 45 days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	52%	42%	54%	56%	39%	31%	↓ -22%	↓ -21%	q	37%	56%	P	80%	83%	83%		By the end of December 2019 there was only 5 old assessments in the Assessment Service. There is an expectation set that no assessment should go over 45 days. This is tracked on a daily and weekly basis to meet this expectation.
EH4 (val)	Number of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	174	250	180	244	291	263	↓ -10%	↑ 209%	p	199	291	-	273	286	372		The number completed in timescale has improved
EH4-QL	Percentage of Single Assessments (SA) completed in 45 working days	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Assessments are completed in a timely manner, to ensure that children receive the help they need without unnecessary delay.	48%	58%	46%	44%	61%	69%	↑ 13%	↑ 13%	p	63%	90%	P	80%	83%	83%		The percentage of assessments completed in timescale has improved again in December 2019, this percentage is affected by old assessments being completed. There are about 70 assessments out of timescale on 31st December 2019. These are across the service and focus will continue to reduce these.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
CP1	Number of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Where there are concerns about a child's safety, there is a robust assessment of risk.	182	101	103	106	171	94	↓ -45%	↑ 42%		124	182	-	96	97	126		The number of strategy discussions has significantly improved during December 2019.
CP1-NI	Rate of Section 47 (S47) enquiries started per 10,000 children aged 0-17	Sharon Hawkins	Kerrie Scraton	Safeguarding investigations undertaken by the service are at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	36	20	20	21	34	18	↓ -47%	↑ 38%		25	36	-	16	12	12		The % rate of strategy discussions per 10K of population has significantly improved in December 2019 and is more in line with Statistical Neighbours. Further improvement anticipated after learning circles between managers making the day to day decisions.
CP6B	Number of children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP) at the end of the month, excluding temporary registrations	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Child Protection Plans are in place for children where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep them safe.	403	456	446	474	464	490	→ 6%	↑ 87%		382	490	-	324	354	473		The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to Child Protection Planning has increased this month; corresponding with an increase in ICPCs. From January, all new referrals will be subject to service manager and service lead scrutiny in order to ensure that alternatives to conference are considered, when appropriate.
CP6B-NI	Rate of children with Child Protection Plan (CPP) per 10,000 (0-17 year olds) at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	The number of children who require Child Protection Plans is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	80	90	88	93	91	96	→ 5%	↑ 85%		75	96	-	53	45	46		The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to Child Protection Planning has increased this month; corresponding with an increase in ICPCs. From January, all new referrals will be subject to service manager and service lead scrutiny in order to ensure that alternatives to conference are considered, when appropriate.
CP2	Number of children subject to Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs), excluding transfer-Ins and temporary registrations	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Where it has been assessed that multi-agency intervention is required to keep a child safe, the case is progressed to Initial Child Protection Conference.	64	81	17	34	53	77	↑ 45%	↑ 208%		50	81	-	40	44	54		The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to ICPCs has increased this month. From January, all new referrals will be subject to service manager and service lead scrutiny in order to ensure that alternatives to conference are considered, when appropriate.
CP2-NI	Rate per 10,000 Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	The rate of Initial Child Protection Conferences is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	13	16	4	7	11	16	↑ 36%	↑ 213%		10	16	-	6	6	5		The number and rate per 10,000 of children subject to ICPCs has increased this month. From January, all new referrals will be subject to service manager and service lead scrutiny in order to ensure that alternatives to conference are considered, when appropriate.
CP4 (val)	Number of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.	53	59	14	29	46	66	↑ 43%	↑ 247%		39	66	-	35	38	38		The number of children converting from conference to plan is higher than SN, regional and national averages; corresponding with higher numbers overall. The % conversion is comparable and not assessed to be significant.
CP4	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) resulting in a Child Protection Plan (CPP) (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Decisions made at Child Protection Conferences will result in appropriate, evidence-based plans for children that respond to, and meet their level of risk and need.	83%	73%	82%	85%	87%	86%	→ -1%	↑ 13%	▲	80%	89%	P	86%	87%	86%		The number of children converting from conference to plan is higher than SN, regional and national averages; corresponding with higher numbers overall. The % conversion is comparable and not assessed to be significant.
CP2b	Number of transfer-ins	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.	1	1	3	3	5	2	↓ -60%	- n/a		2	5	-	-	-	-		Two cases were transferred in. Conference chairs have been tasked with reviewing the cases and confirming that the transfer procedures have been followed.

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
CP2b %	Percentage of transfer-ins where child became subject to a CP Plan during period	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Children moving into Southampton receive a good standard of service and protection.	0%	100%	100%	33%	20%	50%	↑ 150%	- n/a		70%	100%	P	-	-	-		Child protection planning was not progressed in one case. The CP Advisor has been asked to review it.
CP3-QL (val)	Number of children subject to Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) which were held within timescales (excludes transfer-ins)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.	35	38	7	19	28	53	↑ 89%	↑ 253%	▲	27	53	-	30	34	40		Timeliness of ICPC improved in December, supported by the detailed focus articulated in last month's commentary. The CP Advisor's report continues to include a weekly update on timeliness, which will support further improvement.
CP3-QL	Percentage of Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPCs) held within timescales (based on count of children)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Child Protection planning is timely, ensuring that the risks to children are discussed and responded to expediently.	55%	47%	41%	56%	53%	69%	↑ 30%	↑ 15%	▲	56%	84%	P	78%	77%	75%		Timeliness of ICPC improved in December, supported by the detailed focus articulated in last month's commentary. The CP Advisor's report continues to include a weekly update on timeliness, which will support further improvement.
CP8-QL	Percentage of children subject to a Child Protection Plan seen in the last 15 working days.	Sharon Hawkins	Sarah Ward	The service is in regular contact with children subject to Child Protection planning to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.	63%	67%	68%	81%	79%	80%	→ 1%	→ -9%	▲	76%	88%	P	-	-	-		
CP5-QL (val)	Number of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time (repeat)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	14	15	4	11	7	20	↑ 186%	↑ 233%	▼	9	20	-	8	8	10		The number and % of repeat plans increased this month. The higher overall number and four sibling groups contributed. Emotional abuse and neglect were the prevalent features within the cohort.
CP5-QL	Percentage of new Child Protection Plans (CPP) where child had previously been subject of a CPP at any time (repeat)	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	The service is effective in managing the risks experienced by children and within families and where there is re-referral the issues are understood.	26%	25%	18%	33%	15%	30%	↑ 100%	→ -5%	▼	21%	41%	P	22%	20%	23%		The number and % of repeat plans increased this month. The higher overall number and four sibling groups contributed. Emotional abuse and neglect were the prevalent features within the cohort.
CP9	Number of children subject to Review Child Protection Conferences (RCPCs) in the month	Phil Bullingham	Stuart Webb	Where children are subject to Child Protection planning, their cases are reviewed regularly to identify progress and any barriers.	91	53	122	132	136	131	→ -4%	↑ 108%	▼	90	136	-	-	-	-		The number of review conferences (RCPCs) decreased slightly, although there would have been more limited opportunity to hold conferences due to the Christmas period. The reduction is not assessed to be statistically significant.
CP7	Number of ceasing Child Protection Plans (CPP), excluding temporary registrations	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Where it is assessed that risks to a child have reduced there is a review of risk and the case is stepped down effectively.	19	23	39	23	62	40	↓ -35%	↑ 48%	▲	29	62	-	36	36	42		The number of plans ending has reduced. In January the service is convening a panel to review all plans over 9 months in length to ensure that there is clear oversight of case progression, ahead of the next conference.
LAC1	Number of Looked after Children at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Where it is assessed that there is no safe alternative, the local authority will take children into its care for their welfare and protection.	509	512	516	512	510	493	→ -3%	→ 4%	▼	498	516	-	41	41	44	420	
LAC1-NI	Looked after Children rate per 10,000	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	The level of children in care is at a level that is comparable with other local authorities like Southampton.	101	101	102	101	100	97	→ -3%	→ 3%	▼	99	102	-	81	64	51		

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
LAC2	Number of new Looked after Children (episodes)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Where children meet the threshold and there are no alternatives, they will be safe and have their welfare needs addressed through accommodation by the local authority.	19	10	13	13	18	8	↓ -56%	↑ 14%	▼	16	24	-	18	18	19		
LAC3	Number of ceasing Looked after Children (episodes)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children will leave care in a planned way with clear networks of support around them.	14	11	10	13	21	23	↑ 10%	↑ 35%	▲	15	24	-	16	16	19		
LAC6 (val)	Number of adoptions (E11, E12)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.	0	4	3	1	1	1	→ 0%	↓ -67%	▲	3	10	-	2	2	2		Whilst there has been one Adoption Order granted this is not a concern. This indicator can fluctuate month to month, though this is the third month where one adoption order has been granted. Perhaps this reflects the national picture around the reduction in adoption orders as highlighted in the recent ASGLB publication. Whilst there is increased activity around early permanence this does not necessarily result in a final care plan for adoption. There are a number of children matched and awaiting a court date, thus we are likely to see adoption orders being granted in the coming months. The permanence panel is tracking progress in achieving permanence via adoption.
LAC6 (%)	Percentage of adoptions (E11, E12)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children who are being adopted will receive timely and effective support.	0%	36%	30%	8%	5%	4%	→ -9%	↓ -75%		18%	42%	P	17%	13%	12%		The percentage of adoptions has fallen in line with one adoption order being granted this month. This is not currently of concern as this indicator will rise again as those children matched become subject to adoption orders.
LAC12 (val)	Number of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.	1	0	0	3	3	3	→ 0%	↓ -50%		2	7	-	-	-	-		This figure is as expected with some care and private proceedings being placed before the courts. As with last month, there are still a number of cases waiting to be heard by the court.
LAC12 (%)	Percentage of Special Guardianship Orders (SGOs) (E43, E44)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	Children subject to Special Guardianship Orders will receive timely and effective support.	7%	0%	0%	23%	14%	13%	→ -9%	↓ -63%		14%	47%	P	10%	12%	10%		As above LAC12
LAC7-QL	Percentage of Looked after Children visited within timescales	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	The service is in regular contact with Looked after Children to ensure that there is ongoing assessment of risk and opportunities to intervene effectively.	83%	80%	80%	76%	82%	79%	→ -4%	→ -1%	▲	79%	83%	P	-	-	-		
LAC10 (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.	92%	95%	94%	95%	95%	94%	→ -1%	→ -3%	▲	95%	97%	P	-	-	-		
LAC10-QL	Number of Looked after Children with an authorised CLA Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Children have good quality care plans, to which they have contributed, and which meet their needs.	470	487	487	484	482	463	→ -4%	→ 0%	▲	470	487	-	-	-	-		
LAC13	Number of current Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) looked after at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.	15	14	15	15	14	12	↓ -14%	→ -8%		14	16	-	2	2	4		

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from Nov-19	% change from Dec-18	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
LAC14	Number of new unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC)	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	<i>Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children are identified and supported by the local authority.</i>	0	0	0	1	0	0	- n/a	↓ -100%		0	2	-	-	-	-		
LAC11-QL	Number of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	<i>Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.</i>	167	168	166	163	161	163	→ 1%	→ -6%	▲	169	175	-	-	-	-		
LAC11-QL (%)	Percentage of Looked after Children aged 16+ or open Care Leavers with an authorised Pathway Plan	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	<i>Care Leavers have a good quality Pathway Plans, to which they have contributed, and which meets their needs.</i>	98%	98%	97%	96%	95%	94%	→ -1%	→ -5%	▲	98%	99%	P	-	-	-		
NI147	Percentage of Care Leavers in contact and in suitable accommodation	Sharon Hawkins	Mary Hardy	<i>Care Leavers are in accommodation that is safe and secure.</i>	85%	83%	81%	81%	81%	77%	→ -4%	↓ -13%	▲	84%	88%	P	82%	-	-	94%	
LAC9 (val)	Number of Looked after Children (LAC) placed with IFAs at end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	<i>Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.</i>	146	153	157	157	154	150	→ -3%	→ 9%	▼	148	157	-	-	-	-	TBC	The use of IFA remains stable, but the total number continues to be high - reflecting the need to identify placements for children who present with complex profiles. The profile of in-house carers remains restrictive in terms of the cohort of children that would be deemed a suitable match. Recruitment and retention of in house foster carers is a priority area for 2019/20.
LAC9 (%)	Percentage of IFA placements (of all looked after children)	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	<i>Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.</i>	29%	30%	30%	31%	30%	30%	→ 1%	→ 5%	▼	30%	31%	P	-	-	-		As above LAC9. Recent research undertaken by SESLIP identified that this percentage is consistent with other LA across the SE - our use of in house fosters carers is at 60% and IFA 40% of foster placement.
LAC16	Number of in-house foster carers at the end of period	Sharon Hawkins	Martin Smith	<i>Our Looked after Children will benefit from high quality fostering provision, with our own carers wherever possible.</i>	166	169	169	168	164	164	→ 0%	→ -2%	▲	-	-	-	-	-	-	200	In addition to this SCC has a further 47 carers whom are caring for specific children as 'connected' carers. Whilst the number of in house mainstream foster carers has remained stable over the year to date, we have seen a slight decrease in November. Approvals have not kept pace with a number of expected resignations. An analysis of resignations in November identified the majority were related to family circumstances, though a small number related to the child's care planning and lack of communication with the child's social worker. A social media campaign in late September has lead to three assessments. This campaign will be revisited in January with some refreshed videos. We are currently estbalishing links with major employers to promote fostering with their workforce. A business case has been approved to enhance the reward and support offered to in house carers to make fostering a more attractive option for those looking to give up work. This is currently in progress with a launch in the new year PENDING the outcome of the public consultation on budget proposals.

Qualitative measures:			Key to direction of travel:					
Positive	Similar	Negative	Increase 10% or more	↑	Similar	⇒	Decrease 10% or more	↓

Benchmarking
(Updated Mar-19, using 17-18 data)

Ref.	Indicator	Owner	Reporter	Outcome (what impact will monitoring these measures have on the experiences of our children)	Jul-19	Aug-19	Sep-19	Oct-19	Nov-19	Dec-19	% change from prev. period	% change from same period prev. yr	DoT	12-mnth avg	12-mnth max.	%?	SN	ENG	SE region	Target 17-18	Target 18-19	Target 19-20	Commentary (Dec-19):
EH1a	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) started in the month	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Children and families benefit from an early help offer that is rooted in a good understanding of their needs.	96	126	41	99	161	127	↓ -21%	↑ 505%		106	270	-	-	-	-				
EH1c	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) completed in the month INCLUDING adults aged 21+	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Assessments are completed for adult family members where a need for support is identified.	217	232	168	192	322	232	↓ -28%	↑ 729%		253	898	-	-	-	-	288	336	TBC	
EH1b	Number of Early Help Plans (EHPs) opened in the month (includes EHPs completed, and those still open at end of period)	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Children and families benefit from early help plans that meet their presenting needs.	245	180	128	221	288	196	↓ -32%	↑ 123%		227	519	-	-	-	-				
EH14b	Number of Early Help Assessment (EHA) completed, EXCLUDING adults aged 21+	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Assessments are completed for a children where a need for early help support is identified..	138	161	111	145	229	172	↓ -25%	↑ 93%		176	560	-	-	-	-				
CIN5	Number of all Children in Need (CiN) (including Child Protection (CP) / Looked after Children (LAC) / Care Leavers	Sharon Hawkins	Stuart Webb	Children and families receive support safely, at the right threshold and in a timely manner; supported by the interface between Early Help and Social Care.	2976	2945	2874	2728	2656	2577	⇒ -3%	↑ 36%		2544	2976	-	-	-	-				
LSCB17a	Percentage of 16-17 year olds NEET or whose activity is not known	Denise Edghill	Debbie Blythe	Young people benefit from an effective work to engage them in education, training and employment.			6.8%			tbc	- n/a	- n/a	▼	6.9%	7.0%	P	6.1%	6.0%	6.4%				
YO2	Number of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System per 100,000 10-17 year olds in period	Denise Edghill	Debbie Blythe	Young people are appropriately diverted from entry into the criminal justice system through the local diversion / prevention offer.			332			tbc	- n/a	- n/a	▼	-	0	-	417	327	256				
FM011	Families attached per quarter	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Families benefit from a robust local Troubled Families offer. (Families Matter)			90			tbc	- n/a	- n/a	▲	108	125	-	-	-	-				
FM012	Payment per result (PBR) claims attached per quarter	Sharon Hawkins	Sean Holehouse	Family engagement in the Families Matter programme translates into PBR, for further investment into the programme.			153			tbc	- n/a	- n/a	▲	85	153	-	-	-	-				

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Abuse

Abuse is the act of violation of an individual's human or civil rights. Any or all types of abuse may be perpetrated as the result of deliberate intent, negligence or ignorance. Different types of abuse include: Physical abuse, Neglect/acts of omission, Financial/material abuse, Psychological abuse, Sexual abuse, Institutional abuse, Discriminatory abuse, or any combination of these.

Advocacy

Advocacy helps to safeguard children and young people, and protect them from harm and neglect. It is about speaking up for children and young people and ensuring their views and wishes are heard and acted upon by decision-makers. LAs have a duty under The Children Act to ensure that advocacy services are provided for children, young people and care leavers making or intending to make a complaint. It should also cover representations which are not complaints. Independent Reviewing Officers (IRO) should also provide a child/young person with information about advocacy services and offer help in obtaining an advocate.

Agency Decision Maker

The Agency Decision Maker (ADM) is the person within a fostering service and an adoption agency who makes decisions on the basis of recommendations made by the Fostering Panel (in relation to a fostering service) and the Adoption Panel (in relation to an adoption agency). The Agency Decision Maker will take account of the Panel's recommendation before proceeding to make a decision. The Agency Decision Maker can choose to make a different decision.

The National Minimum Standards for Fostering 2011 provide that the Agency Decision Maker for a fostering service should be a senior person within the fostering service, who is a social worker with at least 3 years post-qualifying experience in childcare social work and has knowledge of childcare law and practice (Standard 23).

The National Minimum Standards for Adoption 2011 provide that the Agency Decision Maker for an adoption agency should be a senior person within the adoption agency, who is a social worker with at least 3 years post-qualifying experience in childcare social work and has knowledge of permanency planning for children, adoption and childcare law and practice. Where the adoption agency provides an inter country adoption service, the Agency Decision Maker should also have specialist knowledge of this area of law and practice. When determining the disclosure of Protected Information about adults, the Agency Decision Maker should also understand the legislation surrounding access to and disclosure of information and the impact of reunion on all parties (Standard 23).

Assessment

Assessments are undertaken to determine the needs of individual children; what services to provide and action to take. They may be carried out:

- To gather important information about a child and family;
- To analyse their needs and/or the nature and level of any risk and harm being suffered by the child;
- To decide whether the child is a Child in Need (Section 17) and/or is suffering or likely to suffer Significant Harm (Section 47); and
- To provide support to address those needs to improve the child's outcomes to make them safe.

With effect from 15 April 2013, Working Together 2013 removes the requirement for separate **Initial Assessments** and **Core Assessments**. One Assessment – often called Single Assessment - may be undertaken instead.

CAFCASS

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS) is the Government agency responsible for Reporting Officers, Children's Guardians and other Court officers appointed by the Court in Court Proceedings involving children. Also appoints an officer to witness when a parent wishes to consent to a child's placement for adoption.

Care Order

A Care Order can be made in Care Proceedings brought under section 31 of the Children Act if the Threshold Criteria are met. The Order grants Parental Responsibility for the child to the local authority specified in the Order, to be shared with the parents.

A **Care Order** lasts until the child is 18 unless discharged earlier. An **Adoption Order** automatically discharges the Care Order. A **Placement Order** automatically suspends the Care Order, but it will be reinstated if the Placement Order is subsequently revoked.

All children who are the subject of a Care Order come within the definition of Looked After and have to have a Care Plan. When making a Care Order, the Court must be satisfied that the Care Plan is suitable.

Categories of Abuse or Neglect

Where a decision is made that a child requires a Child Protection Plan, the category of abuse or neglect must be specified by the Child Protection Conference Chair.

Child in Need and Child in Need Plan

Under Section 17 (10) of the Children Act 1989, a child is a Child in Need (CiN) if:

- He/she is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision for him/her of services by a local authority;
- His/her health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision for him/her of such services; or
- He/she is disabled.

A **Child in Need Plan** should be drawn up for children who are not Looked After but are identified as Children in Need who requiring services to meet their needs. It should be completed following an Assessment where services are identified as necessary.

Under the Integrated Children's System, if a Child is subject to a Child Protection Plan, it is recorded as part of the Child in Need Plan.

The Child in Need Plan may also be used with children receiving short break care in conjunction with Part One of the Care Plan.

Child Protection

The following definition is taken from Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010, paragraph 1.23.:

Child protection is a part of Safeguarding and Promoting the Welfare of Children. This refers to the activity that is undertaken to protect specific children who are suffering, or are likely to suffer, Significant Harm.

Child Protection Conference

Child Protection Conferences (Initial – **ICPC** and review – **RCPC**) are convened where children are considered to be at risk of Significant Harm.

Children's Centres

The government is establishing a network of children's centres, providing good quality childcare integrated with early learning, family support, health services, and support for parents wanting to return to work or training.

Child Sexual Exploitation

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is a form of child sexual abuse. It occurs where an individual or group takes advantage of an imbalance of power to coerce, manipulate or deceive a child or young person under the age of 18 into sexual activity (a) in exchange for something the victim needs or wants, and/or (b) for the financial advantage or increased status of the perpetrator or facilitator. The victim may have been sexually exploited even if the sexual activity appears consensual. Child sexual exploitation does not always involve physical contact; it can also occur through the use of technology.

Corporate Parenting

In broad terms, as the corporate parent of looked after children, a local authority has a legal and moral duty to provide the kind of loyal support that any good parent would provide for their own children.

Criteria for Child Protection Plans

Where a decision is made that a child requires a Child Protection Plan, the Conference Chair must ensure that the criteria for the decision are met, i.e. that the child is at continuing risk of Significant Harm.

Director of Children's Services (DCS)

Every top tier local authority in England must appoint a Director of Children's Services under section 18 of the Children Act 2004. Directors are responsible for discharging local authority functions that relate to children in respect of education, social services and children leaving care. They are also responsible for discharging functions delegated to the local authority by any NHS body that relate to children, as well as some new functions conferred on authorities by the Act, such as the duty to safeguard and protect children, the Children and Young People's Plan, and the duty to co-operate to promote well-being.

Designated Teacher

Schools should all appoint a Designated Teacher. This person's role is to co-ordinate policies, procedures and roles in relation to Child Protection and in relation to Looked After Children.

Discretionary Leave to Remain

This is a limited permission granted to an Asylum Seeker, to stay in the UK for 3 years - it can then be extended or permission can then be sought to settle permanently.

Duty of Care

In relation to workers in the social care sector, their duty of care is defined by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE) as a legal obligation to:

- Always act in the best interest of individuals and others;

- Not act or fail to act in a way that results in harm;
- Act within your competence and not take on anything you do not believe you can safely do.

Early Help

Early help means providing support as soon as a problem emerges, at any point in a child's life, from the foundation years through to the teenage years.

Effective early help relies upon local agencies working together to:

- Identify children and families who would benefit from early help;
- Undertake an assessment of the need for early help;
- Provide targeted early help services to address the assessed needs of a child and their family which focuses on activity to significantly improve the outcomes for the child.

Local authorities, under section 10 of the Children Act 2004, have a responsibility to promote inter-agency cooperation to improve the welfare of children.

Every Child Matters

Every Child Matters is the approach to the well-being of children and young people from birth to age 19, which is incorporated into the Children Act 2004. The aim is for every child, whatever their background or their circumstances, to have the support they need to:

- Be healthy;
- Stay safe;
- Enjoy and achieve;
- Make a positive contribution and;
- Achieve economic well-being.

This means that the organisations involved with providing services to children are teaming up, sharing information and working together, to protect children and young people from harm and help them achieve what they want in life.

Health Assessment

Every Looked After Child (LAC or CLA) must have a Health Assessment soon after becoming Looked After, then at specified intervals, depending on the child's age.

Indefinite Leave to Remain (ILR)

When an Asylum Seeker is granted ILR, they have permission to settle in the UK permanently and can access mainstream services and benefits.

Independent Reviewing Officer

If a Local Authority is looking after a child (whether or not the child is in their care), it must appoint an Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) for that child's case.

From 1 April 2011, the role of the IRO is extended, and there are two separate aspects: chairing a child's Looked After Review, and monitoring a child's case on an ongoing basis. As part of the monitoring function, the IRO also has a duty to identify any areas of poor practice, including general concerns around service delivery (not just around individual children).

IROs must be qualified social workers and, whilst they can be employees of the local authority, they must not have line management responsibility for the child's case. Independent Reviewing Officers who chair Adoption Reviews must have relevant experience of adoption work.

Independent Domestic Violence Advisor

Independent Domestic Violence Advisers (IDVA) are specialist caseworkers who focus on working predominantly with high risk victims (usually but not exclusively with female victims). They generally are involved from the point of crisis and offer intensive short to medium term support. They work in partnership with statutory and voluntary agencies and mobilise multiple resources on behalf of victims by coordinating the response of a wide range of agencies, including those working with perpetrators or children. There may be differences about how the IDVA service is delivered in local areas.

Initial Child Protection Conference

An Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) is normally convened at the end of a Section 47 Enquiry when the child is assessed as either having suffered Significant Harm or to be at risk of suffering ongoing significant harm.

The Initial Child Protection Conference must be held within 15 working days of the Strategy Discussion, or the last strategy discussion if more than one has been held.

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

A designated officer (or sometimes a team of officers), who is involved in the management and oversight of allegations against people that work with children.

Their role is to give advice and guidance to employers and voluntary organisations; liaise with the Police and other agencies, and monitor the progress of cases to ensure that they are dealt with as quickly as possible consistent with a thorough and fair process. The Police should also identify an officer to fill a similar role.

Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)

LSCBs have to be established by every local authority as detailed in Section 13 of The Children Act 2004. They are made up of representatives from a range of public agencies with a common interest and with duties and responsibilities to children in their area. LSCBs have a responsibility for ensuring effective inter-agency working together to safeguard and protect children in the area. The Boards have to ensure that clear local procedures are in place to inform and assist anyone interested or as part of their professional role where they have concerns about a child.

The functions of the LSCB are set out in chapter 3 of Working Together to Safeguard Children.

See <http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/> for Southampton LSCB.

Looked After Child

A Looked After Child is a child who is accommodated by the local authority, a child who is the subject to an Interim Care Order, full Care Order or Emergency Protection Order; or a child who is remanded by a court into local authority accommodation or Youth Detention Accommodation.

In addition where a child is placed for Adoption or the local authority is authorised to place a child for adoption - either through the making of a Placement Order or the giving of Parental Consent to Adoptive Placement - the child is a Looked After child.

Looked After Children may be placed with family members, foster carers (including relatives and friends), in Children's Homes, in Secure Accommodation or with prospective adopters.

With effect from 3 December 2012, the Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders Act 2012 amended the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970 to bring children who are remanded by a court to local authority accommodation or youth detention accommodation into the definition of a Looked After Child for the purposes of the Children Act 1989.

Neglect

Neglect is a form of Significant Harm which involves the persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect can occur during pregnancy, or once a child is born.

Parental Consent to Adoptive Placement

Parental consent to a child's placement for adoption under section 19 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 must be given before a child can be placed for adoption by an adoption agency, unless a Placement Order has been made or unless the child is a baby less than 6 weeks old and the parents have signed a written agreement with the local authority. Section 19 requires that the consent must be witnessed by a CAFCASS Officer. Where a baby of less than 6 weeks old is placed on the basis of a written agreement with the parents, steps must be taken to request CAFCASS to witness parental consent as soon as the child is 6 weeks old. At the same time as consent to an adoptive placement is given, a parent may also consent in advance to the child's adoption under section 20 of the Adoption and Children Act 2002 either with any approved prospective adopters or with specific adopters identified in the Consent Form.

When giving advanced consent to adoption, the parents can also state that they do not wish to be informed when an adoption application is made in relation to the child.

Parental Responsibility

Parental Responsibility means all the duties, powers, responsibilities and authority which a parent has by law in relation to a child. Parental Responsibility diminishes as the child acquires sufficient understanding to make his or her own decisions.

A child's mother always holds Parental Responsibility, as does the father if married to the mother.

Unmarried fathers who are registered on the child's birth certificate as the child's father on or after 1 December 2003 also automatically acquire Parental Responsibility. Otherwise, they can acquire Parental Responsibility through a formal agreement with the child's mother or through obtaining a Parental Responsibility Order under Section 4 of the Children Act 1989.

Pathway Plan

The Pathway Plan sets out the route to the future for young people leaving the Looked After service and will state how their needs will be met in their path to independence. The plan will continue to be implemented and reviewed after they leave the looked after service at least until they are 21; and up to 25 if in education.

Permanence Plan

Permanence for a Looked After child means achieving, within a timescale which meets the child's needs, a permanent outcome which provides security and stability to the child throughout his or her childhood. It is, therefore, the best preparation for adulthood.

Wherever possible, permanence will be achieved through a return to the parents' care or a placement within the wider family but where this cannot be achieved within a time-scale appropriate to the child's needs, plans may be made for a permanent alternative family placement, which may include Adoption or by way of a Special Guardianship Order.

By the time of the second Looked After Review, the Care Plan for each Looked After Child must contain a plan for achieving permanence for the child within a timescale that is realistic, achievable and meets the child's needs.

Personal Education Plan

All Looked After Children must have a Personal Education Plan (PEP) which summarises the child's developmental and educational needs, short term targets, long term plans and aspirations and which contains or refers to the child's record of achievement. The child's social worker is responsible for coordinating and compiling the PEP, which should be incorporated into the child's Care Plan.

Person Posing a Risk to Children (PPRC)

This term replaced the term of 'Schedule One Offender', previously used to describe a person who had been convicted of an offence against a child listed in Schedule One of the Children and Young Persons Act 1933.

'Person Posing a Risk to Children' takes a wider view. Home Office Circular 16/2005 included a consolidated list of offences which agencies can use to identify those who may present a risk to children. The list includes both current and repealed offences, is for guidance only and is not exhaustive - subsequent legislation will also need to be taken into account when forming an assessment of whether a person poses a risk to children. The list of offences should operate as a trigger to further assessment/review to determine if an offender should be regarded as presenting a continued risk of harm to children. There will also be cases where individuals without a conviction or caution for one of these offences may pose a risk to children.

Placement at a Distance

Placement of a Looked After child outside the area of the responsible authority looking after the child and not within the area of any adjoining local authority.

This term was introduced with effect from 27 January 2014 by the Children's Homes and Looked after Children (Miscellaneous Amendments) (England) Regulations 2013.

Principal Social Worker - Children and Families

This role was borne out of Professor Munro's recommendations from the Munro Review of Child Protection (2011) to ensure that a senior manager in each local authority is directly involved in frontline services, advocate higher practice standards and develop organisational learning cultures, and to bridge the divide between management and the front line. It is typically held by a senior manager who also carries caseloads to ensure the authentic voice of practice is heard at decision-making tables.

Private Fostering

A privately fostered child is a child under 16 (or 18 if disabled) who is cared for by an adult who is not a parent or close relative where the child is to be cared for in that home for 28 days or more. Close relative is defined as "a grandparent, brother, sister, uncle or aunt (whether of the full blood or half blood or by marriage or civil partnership) or step-parent". A child who is Looked After by a local authority or placed in a children's home, hospital or school is excluded from the definition. In a private

fostering arrangement, the parent still holds Parental Responsibility and agrees the arrangement with the private foster carer.

A child in relation to whom the local authority receives notification from the prospective adopters that they intend to apply to the Court to adopt may have the status of a privately fostered child. The requirement to notify the local authority relates only to children who have not been placed for adoption by an adoption agency. On receiving the notification, the local authority for the area where the prospective adopters live becomes responsible for supervising the child's welfare pending the adoption and providing the Court with a report.

Public Law Outline

The Public Law Outline: Guide to Case Management in Public Law Proceedings came into force on the 6th April 2010. An updated Public Law Outline (PLO) came into effect on 22nd April 2014, alongside the statutory 26-week time-limit for completion of care and supervision proceedings under the Children and Families Act 2014.

The Public Law Outline sets out streamlined case management procedures for dealing with public law children's cases. The aim is to identify and focus on the key issues for the child, with the aim of making the best decisions for the child within the timetable set by the Court, and avoiding the need for unnecessary evidence or hearings.

Referral

The referring of concerns to local authority children's social care services, where the referrer believes or suspects that a child may be a Child in Need, including that he or she may be suffering, or is likely to suffer, Significant Harm. The referral should be made in accordance with the agreed LSCB procedures.

Relevant Young People, Former Relevant, and Eligible

- **Relevant Young People** are those aged 16 or 17 who are no longer Looked After, having previously been in the category of Eligible Young People when Looked After. However, if after leaving the Looked After service, a young person returns home for a period of 6 months or more to be cared for by a parent and the return home has been formally agreed as successful, he or she will no longer be a Relevant Young Person. A young person is also Relevant if, having been looked after for three months or more, he or she is then detained after their 16th birthday either in hospital, remand centre, young offenders' institution or secure training centre. There is a duty to support relevant young people up to the age of 18, wherever they are living.
- **Former Relevant Young People** are aged 18 or above and have left care having been previously either Eligible, Relevant or both. There is a duty to consider the need to support these young people wherever they are living.
- **Eligible Young People** are young people aged 16 or 17 who have been Looked After for a period or periods totaling at least 13 weeks starting after their 14th birthday and ending at least one day after their 16th birthday, and are still Looked After. (This total does not include a series of short-term placements of up to four weeks where the child has returned to the parent.) There is a duty to support these young people up to the age of 18.

Review Child Protection Conference

Child Protection Review Conferences (RCPC) are convened in relation to children who are already subject to a Child Protection Plan. The purpose of the Review Conference is to review the safety, health and development of the child in view of the Child Protection Plan, to ensure that the child continues to

be adequately safeguarded and to consider whether the Child Protection Plan should continue or change or whether it can be discontinued.

Section 20

Under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989, children may be accommodated by the local authority if they have no parent or are lost or abandoned or where their parents are not able to provide them with suitable accommodation and agree to the child being accommodated. A child who is accommodated under Section 20 becomes a Looked After Child.

Section 47 Enquiry

Under Section 47 of the Children Act 1989, if a child is taken into Police Protection, or is the subject of an Emergency Protection Order, or there are reasonable grounds to suspect that a child is suffering or is likely to suffer Significant Harm, a Section 47 Enquiry is initiated. This enables the local authority to decide whether they need to take any further action to safeguard and promote the child's welfare. This normally occurs after a Strategy Discussion.

Physical Abuse, Sexual Abuse, Emotional Abuse and Neglect are all categories of Significant Harm.

Section 47 Enquiries are usually conducted by a social worker, jointly with the Police, and must be completed within 15 days of a Strategy Discussion. Where concerns are substantiated and the child is judged to be at continued risk of Significant Harm, a Child Protection Conference should be convened.

Separated Children

Separated Children are children and young people aged under 18 who are outside their country of origin and separated from both parents, or their previous legal/customary primary caregiver. Some will be totally alone (**unaccompanied**), while others may be accompanied into the UK e.g. by an escort; or will present as staying with a person who may identify themselves as a stranger, a member of the family or a friend of the family.

Special Guardianship Order

Special Guardianship Order (SGO) is an order set out in the Children Act 1989, available from 30 December 2005. Special Guardianship offers a further option for children needing permanent care outside their birth family. It can offer greater security without absolute severance from the birth family as in adoption.

Special Guardianship will also provide an alternative for achieving permanence in families where adoption, for cultural or religious reasons, is not an option. Special Guardians will have Parental Responsibility for the child. A Special Guardianship Order made in relation to a Looked After Child will replace the Care Order and the Local Authority will no longer have Parental Responsibility.

Strategy Discussion

A Strategy Discussion is normally held following an Assessment which indicates that a child has suffered or is likely to suffer Significant Harm. The purpose of a Strategy Meeting is to determine whether there are grounds for a Section 47 Enquiry.

Statement of Special Educational Needs (SEN)

From 1 September 2014, Statements of Special Educational Needs were replaced by Education, Health and Care Plans. (The legal test of when a child or young person requires an Education, Health and Care Plan remains the same as that for a Statement under the Education Act 1996).

Staying Put

A Staying Put arrangement is where a Former Relevant child, after ceasing to be Looked After, remains in the former foster home where they were placed immediately before they ceased to be Looked After, beyond the age of 18. The young person's first Looked After Review following his or her 16th birthday should consider whether a Staying Put arrangement should be an option.

It is the duty of the local authority to monitor the Staying Put arrangement and provide advice, assistance and support to the Former Relevant child and the former foster parent with a view to maintaining the Staying Put arrangement (this must include financial support), until the child reaches the age of 21 (unless the local authority consider that the Staying Put arrangement is not consistent with the child's welfare).

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeker

A child or young person under the age of 18 who has been forced or compelled to leave their home country as a result of major conflict resulting in social breakdown or to escape human rights abuse. They will have no adult in the UK exercising Parental Responsibility.

Virtual School Head

Section 99 of the Children and Families Act 2014 imposes upon local authorities a requirement to appoint an officer to promote the educational achievement of Looked After children - sometimes referred to as a 'Virtual School Head'.

Working Together to Safeguard Children

Working Together to Safeguard Children is a Government publication which sets out detailed guidance about the role, function and composition of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs), the roles and responsibilities of their member agencies in safeguarding children within their areas and the actions that should be taken where there are concerns that children have suffered or are at risk of suffering Significant Harm.

Young Offender Institution (YOI)

The Youth Justice Board (YJB) is responsible for the commissioning and purchasing of all secure accommodation for under 18-year-olds ('juveniles'), whether sentenced or on remand. Young offender institutions (YOIs) are run by the Prison Service (except where contracted out) and cater for 15-20 year-olds, but within YOIs the Youth Justice Board has purchased discrete accommodation for juveniles where the regimes are specially designed to meet their needs. Juvenile units in YOIs are for 15-17 year-old boys and 17-year-old girls.

Youth Offending Service or Team

Youth Offending Service or Team (YOS or YOT) is the service which brings together staff from Children's Social care, the Police, Probation, Education and Health Authorities to work together to keep young people aged 10 to 17 out of custody. They are monitored and co-ordinated nationally by the Youth Justice Board (YJB).

Sources

Tri.x live online glossary: <http://trixresources.proceduresonline.com/> - a free resource, available to all which provides up to date keyword definitions and details about national agencies and organisations.

Southampton Local Safeguarding Board <http://southamptonlscb.co.uk/>