

# LSCB Bulletin Frontline News May 2018



## Message from Kate Rose, Chair of the LSCB Audit & Case Review Sub Group



My name is Kate Rose and I work for Cheshire East Council Children's Services and I Chair the LSCB Audit and Case Review sub group. I have responsibility in the Council for all the strategic elements of children and families safeguarding including service quality assurance, our independent Chair and review services for child protection and Cared for children, allegations against professionals and those working with children and young people, advocacy services, CSE, criminal exploitation and missing from home/care. I also have strategic responsibility for the domestic abuse service and LSCB itself. As you know Cheshire East has adopted Signs of Safety, so I have tried to write this in the style of the framework! How are you using it? Have you been to the training/briefing? There is whole webpage you can access to help understand it; <http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/professionals/signs-of-safety.aspx>

What am I worried about	What do I think is going well	What do I need to do
I don't think, as a partnership, we always show the same level of collective 'ownership' and responsibility for the plans for children who require statutory intervention.	I think as a partnership we are using screening tools like the CSE tool, Graded Care Profile and Domestic abuse risk assessment tool more. We will be making it even easier, by having them all together in one place with an explanation of when they need to be used.	I need to work with other strategic leads on the Board to establish if everyone has the same understanding of shared roles and responsibilities and also understand what the obstacles are for achieving this.
I have some worries about how I can work with partners to improve the quality of our shared plans for children in need and core groups (all suggestions welcome).	The experience of children is now represented in child protection conferences really strongly and in imaginative ways. The Board have supported this by producing an animation - have you seen it and promoted it? <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1Lgh2n11Gk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Q1Lgh2n11Gk</a>	I need to look at the actions all partners are taking to improve plans and make sure this is being done in a collaborative way and then evidence through audit that the action has been effective and the quality has improved. <b>What are you able to do?</b>
I don't think we always evidence that what we are doing (as a Board or as a practitioner) is having a positive impact on the safeguarding of children in Cheshire East and how we are making a difference.	There is evidence that the multi-agency teams that we have working together, particularly in the front door, including Domestic abuse, CSE/MFH, are improving a more holistic understanding of the needs, risks and resilience for children, resulting in better decision making.	I need to spend some time with the audit and case review sub group looking at each of the Boards priorities and agreeing how we can evidence the impact of what is being done within multi-agency audits.

And if I was to scale 'how well do I think the partnership safeguard children in Cheshire East, where 0 is 'we leave children unsafe and do not understand their needs or try to meet them' and 10 is all children in Cheshire East who need additional support outside of their family and community, get the right help at the right time at the right level of intervention, I would score us at a strong 6 – where would you score us?

**Welcome to the May edition of the Frontline News. Topics covered include Safeguarding in Sport, LSCB Sexual Abuse Partnership Audit, ILACS Inspection, Written Agreements and Signs of Safety. There is also information on training courses available.**

**Please take time to look at the LSCB website and send us your comments.**

## PROTOCOL ON PROFESSIONAL VISITORS TO SCHOOLS



This guidance is intended to help schools and their LSCB partners to manage professional visitors in a way that ensures the safety of children and adults on the school site.



Protocol on professional visitors t

## OVERVIEW OF MODERN SLAVERY OPERATIONS

You may find this information of interest.



National Police  
Insight Team - Non LE



## SMART PLANNING

SMART planning enables workers to develop detailed, relevant, family friendly plans and to develop measurable plans (enabling a measurement of success)

All workers should be able to create outcome focused plans.

To find out more about SMART planning see the Cheshire East one minute guide which can be accessed via <http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/professionals/assessment.aspx>

## INFORMATION ON SUICIDE AND SELF HARM TRAINING

Please access this link for suicide and self-harm training. All practitioners should be able to access this.

<https://www.minded.org.uk/Component/Details/443468>



## LSCB CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE PARTNERSHIP AUDIT FEBRUARY 2018

The LSCB conducts themed multi-agency case audits and has recently adopted the Signs of Safety to structure these. The most recent audit was undertaken to assess the quality of our support to children and young people where the concern is child Sexual Abuse in order to improve outcomes and practice in this area.

Five cases were audited which covered a range of ages and levels of need. Each agency audited their own agency's involvement based on evidence in their case records against a common audit tool. They all made a judgement on the quality of partnership working. Agencies then discussed their findings and the audit process in a multi-agency meeting.

The audit findings are summarised below in terms of our strengths and areas for improvement.

What are we worried about?	What's going well?	What do we need to do?
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy meetings not involving all relevant partners and minutes not being routinely shared.</li> <li>• Length of time to source work with parents</li> <li>• Lack of focus of religion and culture from front door</li> <li>• Health records repeated difficulties in making contact with social workers, cancelled core groups. This needs a basic exchange of contact details at the outset.</li> <li>• Updates are required on the progress of criminal investigations to core groups to inform case progress.</li> <li>• There needs to be a greater awareness by partners of the work carried out with sex offenders to enable a greater awareness of the progress of the case.</li> <li>• No support for the non-abusive parent</li> <li>• The full implementation of the Signs of Safety into supervision of practitioners.</li> <li>• Community safety and families when ongoing investigation, information changes and evolves so requirements will change</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Evidence of multi-agency working – attendance at ICPC, information sharing,</li> <li>• All cases seem to have evidence of appropriate challenge when in the Child Protection arena</li> <li>• Practitioners at core groups</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Strategy meetings developments to be fully implemented.</li> <li>• Ensure that risk assessments are being routinely used.</li> <li>• Consider the application of the working/ written agreements including monitoring how they are used in practice.</li> <li>• Core groups should set as an action a request for police information when there is an ongoing criminal enquiry.</li> <li>• Pre-birth assessment policy – review the policy, what stage to refer, interventions.</li> <li>• Consider what information partners require to inform them of the implications of work with sexual offenders to the safeguarding of children.</li> </ul>

The following recommendations were agreed and are being taken forward by the LSCB:

- That practitioners have sufficient knowledge of work with sex offenders to understand the implications for Child Protection Planning.
- Police information on criminal investigations updates the core group so that it can inform the plan.
- Strategy meetings routinely involve all relevant agencies.
- A One Minute Guide is created to share the findings.
- Pre-birth assessment policy is refreshed.

Future audits will look for evidence of changes.

## ILACS INSPECTION

**ILACS** (Inspections of Local Authority Children's Services) is a new framework for inspecting local authority services across the levels of need, from prevention and early help, to child in need and child protection, to cared for services and care leavers.

The framework was introduced at the beginning of January 2018 and replaces the Single Inspection Framework (SIF). Although the ILACS inspection is an inspection of the local authority's services, **inspectors will review how effectively we work together as a partnership** to protect our children and young people, and multi-agency workers will be involved in the inspection.

You can read more here and find out how to prepare for an inspection:



Everything you need to know about the ILACS Inspections



How to Prepare.pdf

## WRITTEN AGREEMENTS

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/professionals/written-agreements.aspx>



Written Agreements are used by Children's Social Care when there is a need to ensure the safety and wellbeing of children during periods of assessment and /or intervention. These agreements are meant as a short term arrangements and should not be used as a long term strategy for working with a family. You can get more information and a template here and through our website.



Written Agreements  
Guidance for practitioners

## SAFEGUARDING BRITISH MINORS RETURNING FROM SYRIA

In recent years, a small but significant number of British children under 18 have voluntarily travelled to Syria or have been taken there by their parents. Travel to Syria is contrary to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO) travel advice.

The situation in Syria remains extremely volatile and dangerous. As the situation evolves, and as Daesh (also known as IS or ISIL) loses territory, there are likely to be more British children and families returning to the UK.

Children who have lived and grown up in Syria during the current conflict are very likely to have witnessed distressing scenes; many will have experienced trauma, witnessed terrorist attacks and have first-hand experience of traumatic death, including of other children. Therefore, children who return to the UK from Syria may be traumatised and need to be offered targeted and proportionate support to aid their reintegration into their families, schools and local communities. This will be dependent on assessed need and the age of the child.

It is also likely that children have been exposed to extremist ideology, undertaken military training, or in some cases, been involved in terrorist acts during their time in Syria. In some cases, British children returning from Syria may pose a threat to others, including their families, classmates, and local community. The police and crown prosecution service may become involved and will need to interview some children to determine the nature and level of any risk and, if any criminal offence(s) have been committed, whether a prosecution is appropriate.

There is help on offer for local authorities to take the right action to support British children who return to the UK from Syria reintegrate into their families, schools and local communities.

Given the volatility of the circumstances in Syria, children returning from there are likely to be children in need as defined under the Children Act 1989, and to require an assessment of their needs by local authorities. Local authorities should follow their local multi-agency arrangements and the guidance set out in statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children on managing individual cases, having regard to the thresholds outlined by Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCB). Under section 17 of the Children Act 1989, the local authority is under a general duty to provide a range of services for children in need in their area.





## Signs of Safety Half Day Briefings

We are running half day training on Signs of Safety. This covers:

- What Signs of Safety is
- How to use it in practice
- Tools for working with children, young people and families
- How to apply it at CAF as Signs of Wellbeing, and in Cared for Services as Signs of Stability

**We will also be offering the full 2 day Signs of Safety training from June 2018. Dates for this will be released soon. If you will be attending the 2 day training you won't need to attend the half day session.**

The remaining half day training sessions are on:

- **Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May, 9.30-1.00, Macclesfield Old Town Hall, Macclesfield, SK10 1EA**
- **Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June, 9.30-1.00, Crewe Alexandra Stadium, Gresty Road, Crewe, CW2 6EB**

### To book your place:

Please email us with the date you would like to book onto at [SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

**Places are limited so please book soon to avoid disappointment**

**Any queries** – please contact us at the email address above or contact Rebekka Wilson at 01270 685962

## Want to know more?

For more information on Signs of Safety please see our [LSCB website](#) and the official Signs of Safety website [www.SignsofSafety.net](http://www.SignsofSafety.net)

## Contact us at:

[SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:SignsofSafety@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

## NEGLECT

### What is neglect?

Neglect is 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 may occur at any time during a child's life from pregnancy and beyond.

After a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to;

- provide adequate food, clothing and a home
- protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- ensure adequate supervision
- ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/docs/neglect-screening-tool.doc>

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/pdf/neglect-guidance-final.pdf>

The neglect campaign has been selected as one of the eight finalists for the 'Innovations in Communications' category, at the Municipal Journal Awards 2018.



## DID YOU KNOW ...

There are a number of One Minute Guides available on the LSCB website. They can be accessed via <http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/homepage.aspx>

Prevent – November 2015  
Domestic Abuse – CEDAH – September 2016  
Modern Slavery – October 2015  
Bruising Protocol – not independently mobile – June 2016  
Information Sharing – August 2015  
Signs of Safety – September 2017  
SMART Planning – June 2016  
CSE – January 2014  
LADO – August 2016

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## NEW DISCLOSURE AND BARRING SERVICE PLATFORM COMING SOON



Do you use the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)? If so, a new platform is coming soon to help you make safer recruitment decisions and prevent unsuitable people from working with vulnerable children. The DBS platform allows users to submit applications for any roles that meet the eligibility requirement. Some of the key changes include:

- User-friendly design of new interface
  - Simpler and more intuitive navigation menu
  - New reporting functionality
  - Updated payment mechanisms
  - Integrated online learning
- 

## SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN IN SPORT

Following recent events which have been reported in the press, we know that children and young people may face risks when undertaking sporting activities. Safeguarding children in sport is vital to ensuring that children and young people have a safe and enjoyable experience. This then ensures that they gain the maximum opportunities and benefits afforded to them through their involvement, which will encourage them to remain involved in sport throughout their lives.

Everyone involved in sport, whether as a young person, parent, coach, or member of the management committee, has a part to play in ensuring everyone is safe. You can find out more about Safeguarding Children in Sport in the document below, which is also on our website.

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/professionals/safeguarding-children-in-sports.aspx>



Safeguarding in  
Sport.docx



## MANAGING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE MANCHESTER ARENA ATTACK

As we get to the first anniversary of the tragic events at Manchester Arena, there are many people, particularly children, who may need extra support following their personal experiences at that time. Useful resources can be found below. In particular, the Manchester Resilience Hub has a range of information to support those who may be vulnerable.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/anniversaries-of-terrorist-incidents>

<https://www.penninecare.nhs.uk/your-services/manchester-resilience-hub/public-information/>

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

### NEW - 2018-2019 LSCB TRAINING PROGRAMME

Dates for the full LSCB Training Programme for April 2018- March 2019 are now available for booking. Please see attached flyer for the courses in the main programme. There is a revised charging policy and you can obtain more information below:



1 Training dates April 2018 - March 2019.pptx



2 Charging Policy.pdf



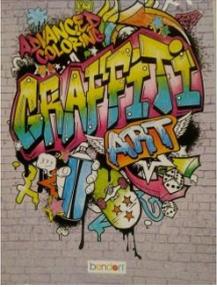
To apply please use our online booking form.

[https://form.cheshireeast.gov.uk/service/LSCB\\_Training\\_Booking\\_2018\\_19](https://form.cheshireeast.gov.uk/service/LSCB_Training_Booking_2018_19)

A number of new LSCB E-Learning courses including Signs of Safety, Sexual Exploitation, and Introduction to Safeguarding, Prevent and many more can now be found and accessed using this link <https://cheshireeast.learningpool.com/login/index.php>

Cheshire East employees should already have access to the Learning Pool, however external agencies will need to register to access training. Full details on how to register can be found on our website <http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/learning-and-development/e-learning.aspx>

Regular updates on training available are sent out via our training team, but for more information, please contact [lscbtrainingadministrator@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:lscbtrainingadministrator@cheshireeast.gov.uk)



## FRIDAY NIGHT EVENT

A great Friday night was planned for young people on 18 May at the Crewe Lifestyle Centre. There was a free BBQ, CAT Radio, graffiti art, music mixing workshops, festival face painting and more ... The event was designed to look at positive attitudes and good mental health and links in with Mental Health Awareness Week. For more information, contact [deb.lindop@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:deb.lindop@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

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## NATIONAL CHILDRENS DAY 13 MAY 2018

There were lots of resources on the website <http://www.nationalchildrensdayuk.com/> and the day focused on:



- Children's rights (as young citizens)
- Child physical and mental health
- Child safety and happiness
- Body image
- Special educational needs and disability
- The importance of creativity and the arts
- Children's contact with nature
- Child obesity
- Modern parenting

You may find some of these resources useful!



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## FREE TRAINING – ENGAGING PERPETRATORS OF DOMESTIC ABUSE – 4 JUNE

The training aims to support staff to have safe and useful conversations with those who harm partners and family members and is a key plank of our domestic abuse strategy. We are providing a whole day session on Monday 4 June at Oakenclough Children's Centre in Wilmslow, delivered by an expert in the field, Emily Alison.

This training has been highly rated by previous attendees, providing both understanding and practical tools to deliver a 'whole family approach', with a specific focus on disguised compliance, denial and disengagement in the context of children's safeguarding.

As this may be the last session this year please make sure you take advantage of the offer – applications to [info@cheshirewithoutabuse.org.uk](mailto:info@cheshirewithoutabuse.org.uk).



You can access the application form here:



Training flyer and application form Enga

Please note that referrals to Lifeline (men) or Engage (women), our voluntary programmes, are still taken via the Hub – [cedah@cheshireeast.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:cedah@cheshireeast.gcsx.gov.uk) / 0300 123 5101

The person who is harming needs to answer 'yes' to at least 1 of these three questions:

- Do you feel that there is a problem with abusive or violent behaviour in your relationship?
- Do you feel some responsibility for this?
- Would you like help to stop it happening again?

The Hub also welcomes your enquiries for information and support as you deliver services to families affected by domestic abuse.

You can obtain more information here: [www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/domesticabuse](http://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/domesticabuse)

<http://www.cheshireeastlscb.org.uk/professionals/domestic-abuse.aspx>

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## CONTACT US

To submit news items or for further information contact:

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Gill Frame, Independent Chair

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## FOLLOW US



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Facebook [Cheshire East Local Safeguarding Children Board](https://www.facebook.com/CheshireEastLocalSafeguardingChildrenBoard)

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## YOUR FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT

Did you find this newsletter useful? What could be better?  
Do you have a story to share about the work your team has done?  
Your feedback is important – contact me at [LSCBEast@cheshireeast.gov.uk](mailto:LSCBEast@cheshireeast.gov.uk)

