

Devon Safeguarding Children Board Minutes



Chairman: A J Wooderson

5th June 2009
Sabin du Loir Room
Exeter Racecourse

Attendees

Alan Wooderson	Chair of the DSCB	
Vicki Heywood	Service Manager	CAFCASS
John Davey	Director of service delivery	Connexions Cornwall & Devon Ltd
Helen Nicholls	Headteacher of South Brent Primary School	DAPH (Devon Association Primary Headteachers)
Mark Juby	Principal of Pilton College Barnstaple	DASH (Devon Association of Secondary Headteachers)
Paul Northcott	Detective Chief Inspector Head Quarters Public Protection Crime Support	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Nigel Boulton	Superintendent	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Anne Proctor	Assistant Chief Officer	Devon and Cornwall Probation Area
Judith Johnson	Director for Learning and Schools	Devon County Council
Michaila Hill	Media & Public Relations Officer (in attendance) Media and Communications	Devon County Council Chief Executive's
Rory McCallum	Director of Early Years and Families	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Service
Anne Whiteley	Director of Children and Young People's Services	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Service
Chris Dimmelow	Head of Safeguarding	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Service
Deborah Booth	Strategic Project Manager for Education Achievement of Children in Care	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Service
Geoff Evans	Interim Consultant (Quality & Performance)	Devon County Council Children & Young People's Services
Debbie Ford	Management Information Officer	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Services
Maureen Daley	Interim Consultant	Devon County Council Quality Improvement Team
Christina Ashforth	Secretary to the Devon Safeguarding Children Board	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Services
Penny Truscott	Temporary Secretary to the Devon Safeguarding Children Board	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Services
Jim Wood	Area Manager - Exeter, East & Mid Devon YOT	Devon County Council Youth Offending Team
Virginia Pearson	Director of Public Health	Devon Primary Care Trust
Alison Allen	Named Nurse Safeguarding	Devon Primary Care Trust
Charles Holme	Designated Doctor Child Protection Devon	Devon Primary Care Trust

Helen Hyland	Designated Nurse Child Protection	Devon Primary Care Trust
Georgie Mackintosh	Safeguarding Adviser	Government Office South West
Kate Gurney(Dr)	General Practitioner	Local Medical Committee
Kevin Finan	Director of Community Services	Mid Devon District Council
Liz Davenport	Director Operations and Workforce	Devon Partnership NHS Trust
Carolyn Mills	Director of Nursing	North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust
Alison Kearnes	Assistant Director MW NSPCC	NSPCC
Sarah O'Shea	Head of Student Services-Exeter College	Representative for colleges of Further Education
Marie-Noelle Orzel	Director of Nursing and Patient Care	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Foundation Trust
Claire Mitchell	Nurse Consultant Safeguarding Children	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Foundation Trust
Richard Tomlinson	Named Doctor	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Foundation Trust
Heather Parker	Associate Director of Nursing & Midwifery Women's & Children's Diagnostic & Therapies	South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Mark Goodman	Manager	Voluntary Youth Services (Devon)

Apologies

Barbara Scales	Team Manager	Churches Housing Action Team (CHAT)
Chris Boarland	Detective Chief Superintendent	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Jo Tennant	Chief Superintendent	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Maria Kasprzyk	Service Improvement Manager	Devon County Council Children and Young People's Service
Miles Hapgood	Assistant Director for Integrated Children's Services (Joint PCT/DCC)	Devon Primary Care Trust
Peter Jeffs	Director of Communities	East Devon District Council
Mandy Cox	Policy Lead CYP Maternity	NHS South West Strategic Health Authority
Liz Childs	Director of Nursing	South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Mike Craddock	Independent Chair	Serious Case Review Sub Group

Agenda Item 1	Welcome and Introductions Apologies	Presenters Alan Wooderson / Christina Ashforth	
Discussion	Alan Wooderson (AJW) welcomed the new members to the DSCB. AJW confirmed that everyone had received the Agenda, distributed papers, actions plans, previous minutes and the latest Ofsted Judgement on the latest serious case review.		
Conclusion	The board agreed that previous DSCB minutes will be distributed with future agendas and papers in addition to the distribution within 10 working days of each DSCB meeting.		
Action Points		Action Owner	Deadline
Circulate DSCB minutes with future agendas and papers in addition to distribution within 10 days of the meeting.		Christina Ashforth	Immediate

Agenda Item 2	Minutes Agreed Actions	Presenters Alan Wooderson / Christina Ashforth
Discussion	For the record the majority of action points from the previous meeting were considered to be completed with specific follow up reports included in today's agenda.	

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising (a) Electronic communication with Board Members	Presenter Alan Wooderson	
Discussion / Conclusion	Protocol around the confidentiality of electronic communications was discussed and it was agreed that there is a requirement for an agreed collective policy in line with published government best practice. The NSPCC representative Alison Kearnes (AK) informed the meeting that currently the NSPCC is seeking a secure transmission solution for external emails and that in the meantime confidential information to the NSPCC to be transmitted via registered post.		
Action Points		Action Owner	Deadline
	Agree a DSCB protocol on electronic communications.	Virginia Pearson / Chris Dimmelow / Nigel Boulton	Immediate

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising (b) Agency Observers attending future DSCB Meetings	Presenter Alan Wooderson	
Discussion / Conclusion	The board were unanimous in their agreement to the proposal that observers should be allowed to attend the DSCB for their personal and professional development. Requests should be routed through the Safeguarding Unit and then to the Chair.		

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising c) RD&E Emergency Department on Children who are subject to CP plans	Presenters Richard Tomlinson / Marie- Noelle Orzel	
Discussion	It was recognised that information sharing with Health Professionals is critical and that short-term and long-term solutions are necessary. The board agreed that a weekly paper-based update will be sent to RD&E, Torbay Hospital and in addition specified medical centres. This will mirror the information currently sent to the police and considered adequate. The proposed long-term solution is the roll out of electronic access to the DSCB website and the database CAREFIRST to be accessed by named individuals. It was accepted that governance arrangements need to be agreed and, signed off by the DSCB, in line with the agreed protocol between Devon and Cornwall Constabulary and Devon County Council.		

Conclusion	The short term solution of weekly paper-based notifications was accepted by board members with the long term solution being the roll out and access to electronically based information in a secure environment.		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Circulate current agreed information sharing protocol between Devon and Cornwall Constabulary and Devon County Council to Health agencies and ask that they sign the protocol and return to the Safeguarding office.	Chris Dimmelow	End June 2009	

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination a) Implications of the Government Response to Lord Laming's Report	Presenter Rory McCallum
Discussion	<p>Rory McCallum (RMC) gave an overview of the key implications for the DSCB / Children's Trust partners in response to the Action Plan set out in the Government response to Lord Laming.</p> <p>The timeline for the implementation of both the response to Laming and the Singleton Reports is elsewhere on the agenda. National actions are already underway, and there has been publication by Ofsted of their new inspection regime that is now in place. The revisions to Working Together which is underway will deal with significant elements of the Laming recommendations and this should be completed after consultations in the autumn 2009. Clearly there are a number of significant implications for local DSCB consideration/action in the short term, whilst in the medium to longer term the changes brought about by the new national Safeguarding Delivery Unit, the new inspection frameworks and the revisions to Working Together will need to be planned by the DSCB. Four immediate issues were discussed to improve the co-ordination of safeguarding arrangements across Devon.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The potential for agency co-location in population centres across Devon starting with a proposed site in Newton Abbot. The documentation on this proposal to be forwarded to DSCB members by the end of June by Supt Boulton. • The identification of current safeguarding resources and the potential for them to be ring fenced as safeguarding resources within partner budgets going forward. This will require detailed work and maybe best dealt with within the responsibilities of the Children's Trust Statutory Board. • The development of a 'pooled budget' and partnership agreement initially for the DSCB and the Safeguarding Unit to support the core functions that the DSCB partners require the DSCB to perform on their collective behalf. For this to progress information is required from each funding partner of their financial allocation to the board by the end of June 2009. Increasing allocations are expected to be incremental as the DSCB and the Safeguarding Unit are expected to undertake increased functions. Ideally this should be as part of a three year budget process as recommended within the Scrutiny Report produced in 2008. • The co-ordination of key information such as the Health Care Commission safeguarding children audits completed by Health organisations across Devon in February/March 2009 to provide the necessary total system information and assurance process for the DSCB. <p>The Government timeline for implementing the action plan in response to Laming needs to be analysed so that the DSCB is anticipating changes that are required and does not allow itself to lag behind on necessary developments.</p>	

Conclusion	The implications of the Government response to Lord Laming's report will require significant responses and developments across services in Devon and there is a requirement to plan for future issues that are indicated in the implementation timeline provide by GOSW. Immediate actions are underway to improve service and resource co-ordination.		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Circulation of current plan for co-location of services in Newton Abbot.	Nigel Boulton	End of June 2009	
Identification of resources currently for childrens safeguarding across partner agencies including the potential for developing of a pooled budget for the DSCB.	All DSCB Members	End of July 2009	
To identify a project lead for this work who then needs to liaise with partners. Report back to DSCB Sept 2009 on progress.	Anne Whiteley	September 2009	
Healthcare Commission safeguarding children audit returns from all Trusts to be copied to the Safeguarding Unit. Devon PCT have already done this so are excluded from the action.	Liz Davenport / Marie Noelle Orzel / Liz Childs / Carolyn Mills	Immediate	

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination b) Implications for Devon of the Singleton Report 'Keeping our School Safe'	Presenter Judith Johnson
Discussion	<p>The implications of the Singleton report for Devon will require a significantly new approach to co operation over safeguarding with the independent sector. There are in excess of 7000 pupils in 34 schools in the sector in Devon. The variety of regulatory and inspection regimes that the sector is subject to and the variety of governance arrangements in individual establishments has in the past not led to an easily understood relationship with Safeguarding Children Boards. Singleton's recommendations provide the opportunity to develop practical strategies for securing a transparent relationship between the sector and the DSCB. Singleton found that not all independent schools had access to up to date information, training and advice and often were operating in isolation.</p> <p>Singleton recommends a new unified regulatory framework; revisions to CRB arrangements; independent scrutiny and challenge of school safeguarding policies and procedures; an expectation that independent schools should participate in LSCBs; an annual review and report on the school's safeguarding arrangements.</p> <p>In advance of inspections, inspectorates are recommended to contact LSCBs and LADOs to gain up to date information of the involvement of schools with the LSCB.</p> <p>The Review sets out good practice expectations that LSCBs and LAs have a statutory responsibility to safeguard all children irrespective of the type of school in which they are educated; LAs should support the work of the LSCB by providing resources such as an Education Safeguarding Officer to work with the non maintained school sector; LSCBs and LAs should offer advice and access to training.</p> <p>To achieve this in Devon there are resource implications that could be covered by agreeing with the independent schools a form of SLA for services such as a single point of contact Safeguarding Officer for information, advice, encouraging liaison, and proactive support for best practice in safeguarding children.</p>	

	<p>Multi agency safeguarding training should be extended to enable the participation of independent schools.</p> <p>As a minimum Devon must create a liaison forum with the independent schools as no such arrangements currently exist.</p>		
Conclusion	<p>Judith Johnson put forward the following proposal to the board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Devon include safeguarding work in independent schools in its expectations for the DSCB and the LA and create a liaison forum with the independent sector • As a minimum a single point of contact and monitoring function to be provided from 2010/2011 via an Education Safeguarding Officer using a commissioning model • An enhanced safeguarding training package for independent schools to be offered for them to 'buy into'. <p>The three proposals were agreed with an update requested for the next DSCB meeting in September 2009.</p>		
Action Points		Action Owner	Deadline
	Updating report to come to the DSCB in September 2009.	Judith Johnson	September 2009

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination c) DSCB Communication and Media Strategy	Presenters Michaila Hill	
Discussion	<p>Devon Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) is responsible for ensuring that agencies work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Devon. Effective communication and joint working between partner agencies is critical to fulfill this.</p> <p>Michaila Hill (MH) had developed a draft communications strategy and media protocol following proposals at the March DSCB meeting as the basis of discussions with DSCB partners, in particular their press and communication officers. The strategy and protocol are based on good practice models elsewhere in the country.</p> <p>The action plan to implement the strategy will be developed and become part of the DSCB Business Plan with specific improvement targets for communicating to the wider community of Devon particularly children and young people and targetting vulnerable groups and vulnerable communities.</p>		
Conclusion	<p>Proposed amendments were made by DSCB members and accepted and AJW requested that any additional comments be communicated to MH by the end of June 2009. The two proposals will then be finalised and the action plan completed.</p>		
Action Points		Action Owner	Deadline
	Additional amendments and/or comments regarding the strategy to Michaila Hill.	All Members	End of June 2009
	Meeting with nominated media / comms leads for DSCB partners to launch the strategy and protocol to be arranged.	Michaila Hill	End of September 2009

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness a) Report from the Executive, Sub Groups, Achievements of the Business Plan.	Presenter Rory McCallum
Discussion	<p>A verbal update was provided. The Executive Sub Group met on the 19th May 2009. All sub groups chairs are confirmed with the exception of the Publication, Communications & Communities group. All have terms of reference, confirmed membership and a defined structure which will be distributed to all DSCB Members and added to the DSCB Annual report.</p> <p>AJW requested that representation on the Executive Sub Group is broad within each agency and that a formal written report with progress from each sub group against the Business Plan is available by the September's meeting. RMC reported that the Executive Sub Group will be in a more confident position to provide a robust report by the next meeting.</p> <p>Maureen Daley (MD) from the development team is concentrating on the red areas of the Business Plan with a view to urgent improvement. The Business Plan needs to include the Laming Report and its implications which will mean a major re-write is recommended.</p> <p>Individual sub group progress reports against the Business Plan are currently being revised and finalised copies will be reported to Executive and will include each sub groups planned activity and expected outcomes.</p>	
Conclusion	The next report from the Executive sub group to DSCB in September will be in the form of formal written paper and the agreed framework for the sub groups is now in place.	
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline
Distribute sub group structure to all members	Rory McCallum	With Minutes
Append the structure of sub groups to the Annual Report	Rory McCallum	July 2009
Distributed newly re-assessed achievements against the current Business Plan to all members of DSCB	Rory McCallum	With minutes
Refresh the Business Plan to include Lord Laming's report and its implications	Maureen Daley	September 2009
Circulate Executive minutes to all DSCB with future DSCB Board papers from September	Christina Ashforth	September 2009

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness b) DSCB Annual Report to agree draft	Presenters Michaila Hill / Maureen Daley / Alan Wooderson
Discussion	<p>At the last DSCB it was agreed that an annual report would be developed. The report has been devised to show the working together and the accountability aspect of the DSCB. The schedule for finalising the annual report was outlined by AJW as follows. The copy deadline is the 19th June 2009 with an allowance of 10 working days to proof read, make additions, agree graphics etc, the final proof will be signed off on 3rd July 2009 by AJW and the print deadline is set for week commencing the 13th July 2009.</p> <p>The Annual Report in future years will need to demonstrate a commentary on the performance and adequacy of safeguarding systems across Devon and within individual agencies.</p>	

Conclusion	Board members proposed improvements to the draft report and agreed that RMC will co-ordinate the revision of the "day in life" section to incorporate a multi agency focus. AJW requested that additional comments were communicated via Secretary of the DSCB.		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Additional comments relating to the Annual Report to come via the DSCB Secretary to the Chair.	All Members	Immediate	
Outstanding copy to be completed by 19 th June 2009.		19 June 2009	
To email DSCB members who have not completed copy as of 5 th June.	Michaila Hill	Immediate	
Final editing and publication mid July 2009	Alan Wooderson	Mid July 2009	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness c) Quality Framework for the DSCB	Presenter Alan Wooderson
Discussion	<p>The DSCB is required to establish a quality assurance framework for the safeguarding arrangements across Devon and to satisfy itself that each individual partner agency has in place the necessary quality assurance systems for its own safeguarding responsibilities and accountabilities.</p> <p>AJW proposed the following recommendations to the Board.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That each statutory Board partner establishes a non executive member with 'lead' responsibility for children's safeguarding for their organisation. • That the Devon County Council Lead Member for Children's Services hosts a meeting of all 'lead' non executive members from statutory partners to establish the framework of standards for reporting and quality assurance for children's safeguarding that should be expected to be in place within each organisation. • That the DSCB asks each statutory partner for an annual statement of assurance regarding the arrangements for children's safeguarding from the Chief Executive and Chair of their Board that will contribute to the assurance statement required to be given by the County Council Leader and Chief Executive. • That the DSCB receive a comprehensive proposal on a quality assurance programme for the safeguarding system in Devon at the September 2009 meeting, that includes a multi agency minimum dataset that monitors the DSCB Business Plan, and quality assurance audit arrangements for each statutory partner. • That individual DSCB board members ensure that inspection reports concerning children's safeguarding that are produced for their organisation are brought to the attention of the DSCB. • That the current DSCB Business Plan 2008-2011 be refreshed to reflect the major changes brought about by Lord Laming's Progress Report and the Government's response and the new Inspection regimes that have been published. The new plan to be reported for approval to the September DSCB meeting. 	
Conclusion	The Board unanimously accepted all recommendations with an agreement that they now need to be endorsed by Chief Executives.	

Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline
Write to Chief Executives of DSCB members with the recommendations of the DSCB regarding establishing non Executive portfolio leads for safeguarding children and with the proposal regarding a meeting with the County Council Lead Member.	Alan Wooderson	End June 2009
Write to the Chief Executives and Chairs of all partner organisations to establish an annual assurance statement based on the Section 11 report.	Alan Wooderson	End June 2009
Quality assurance and performance information report to be developed for the DSCB.	Maureen Daley / Geoff Evans	September 2009 Board meeting
That agency inspection reports regarding safeguarding be supplied to the DSCB.	All as required	
Current Business Plan to be re-written.	Maureen Daley	September 2009

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness d) Serious Case Reviews; compliance reports from the 3 reconsiderations and actions required to respond to the latest SCR.	Presenter Chris Dimmelow
Discussion	<p>The original recommendations and action plans for each of the first three Serious Case reviews to be reconsidered have been reviewed together with the recommendations and actions arising from the SCR panel. These three reconsideration reports have been confirmed as satisfactory by Ofsted and members were thanked for their contribution to this outcome.</p> <p>The recommendations and actions arising from the SCR panel have also been evaluated. Progress to date has been recorded and rated as red, amber or green. Those still on amber require assurance they will be completed by September 2009.</p> <p>The latest SCR has recently been returned by Ofsted having been submitted in November 2008 and was deemed to be unsatisfactory. This therefore requires reconsideration in similar fashion to the previous 3 SCRs. The Board were supplied with the SCR letter from Ofsted and made aware of the actions that the SCR sub group under its independent Chair Mike Craddock have initiated.</p> <p>All agencies involved have been tasked to re-submit their IMRs by mid June 2009 in response to re-drafted Terms of Reference. The DSCB agreed to an additional meeting on the 28th July 2009 to review and amend and approve the reconsideration report that has to be resubmitted to Ofsted by 5th August 2009.</p> <p>This SCR is the last of the 'historic' SCRs that Devon has been dealing with and the lessons learnt and much improved systems for SCRs and IMRs using the agreed peninsula wide templates and agency quality assurance systems should mean that an unsatisfactory judgement from Ofsted should never again be received.</p>	
Conclusion	The three SCRs reconsiderations are still being progressed and the IMRs for the fourth SCR are being re-written.	

Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline
Confirm venue for Extraordinary Meeting on 28 th July at 10am.	Christina Ashforth / Penny Trustcott	Immediate
Agencies to re-submit IMRs to Safeguarding office.	Chris Dimmelow / Christina Ashforth	17th June 09

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness (e) Ofsted Inspection regime and implications for DSCB	Presenter Geoff Evans
Discussion	<p>Geoff Evans spoke with reference to his report which describes and summarises the new Ofsted inspections for safeguarding and looked after children which begin nationally from 1st June 2009, and identifies key implications for DSCB to consider and action. From 1st April 2009 the new Comprehensive Area Assessment of local public Services was also introduced.</p> <p>The Ofsted Inspections Services for looked after children and for safeguarding children and young people will be subject to two types of inspections:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Unannounced inspection of contact, referral and assessment arrangements for children in need and children who may be in need of protection and guidance for local authorities and partners. The inspection will occur every 12 months, will be unannounced and normally take place over two days with a report back within 15 working days. 2) Inspection of outcomes and services for safeguarding children and young people and for looked after children and care leavers that are provided either singularly or jointly by local authorities and their partners. Inspection will incur every three years with a maximum notice period of 10 working days and will normally last for two weeks onsite. The final report setting out the inspection findings will be sent to the Director of Children's Services within 15 days of the end of the inspection. <p>The key implications for the DSCB are contained in paragraph 5.1 of the paper</p> <p>The recommendations were as below and it was discussed which sub group would be most appropriate to take it forward.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In preparation for the new inspection regimes targeted at safeguarding children across the DSCB partnership, to consider how best to support and prepare for individual agency inspections and multi agency inspections. • To consider whether to ask the Quality Assurance and Audit sub group to prioritise their programme of work and use the Ofsted areas for inspection and grade descriptors to self assess the Devon safeguarding system. <p>Essentially to respond to the deadlines of both inspections there needs to be an assumption that Devon is 'inspection ready' at all times and work is being progressed accordingly within the Local Authority and across Children's Trust partners.</p>	

Conclusion	DSCB agreed that urgent discussions were required with the Children's Trust about leadership of the preparation for the new inspections. The Quality Assurance sub group did not feel it had capacity to undertake recommendation two at this moment. This therefore needs to be a major item for September's DSCB agenda.		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Discussion of the next steps in preparation for the Ofsted inspection regime to be held with the Children's Trust.	Alan Wooderson	End June 2009	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness (f) Safeguarding Performance Information Report	Presenter Debbie Ford	
Discussion	<p>Debbie Ford outlined the content of the paper emphasising current national drivers in respect of safeguarding performance information and to consider existing DSCB safeguarding performance reporting arrangements. The paper recommends that DSCB accepts the need for development of new multi-agency performance dataset through which it can effectively monitor safeguarding indicators, outcomes and improvements.</p> <p>It was clear from discussions that many DSCB partners have variable reporting arrangements around safeguarding and some have no current process in place for capturing performance information. This is not acceptable and little progress had been made to implement the agreed DSCB dataset and reporting arrangements in the DSCB Business Plan. There was much discussion that datasets are only a means to an end and that the requirement is to have an agreed performance information system within each agency and across the DSCB which measures outcomes for children and young people.</p>		
Conclusion	<p>It was agreed that by September the DSCB needs to be committed to developing performance indicators to support the business plan. Maureen Daley will work on behalf of AJW and approach all partners and report back to the Executive Sub Group on progress. The Executive will report to the DSCB with definitive recommendations at the September 2009 meeting. VP suggested that undertaking a Joint Strategic Needs Assessment would be one way of agreeing a set of outcome measures for the DSCB and this could be considered at the September DSCB.</p>		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Approach partners regarding performance reporting and targets for safeguarding children and young people.	Maureen Daley	August 2009	
Report to DSCB the recommendations from the Executive Sub Group.	Rory McCallum / Maureen Daley	DSCB September 2009	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness (g) IDeA Peer Challenge Report and required actions	Presenter Geoff Evans	
Discussion	<p>The report outlines the outcomes of the IDeA Safeguarding Peer Review and subsequent feedback. A number of priorities have emerged that need to be included in the refresh of the DSCB Business Plan and also in the Childrens Trust and Children and Young</p>		

	Peoples' Plan. The DSCB need to ensure these priorities and associated work plans are completed by relevant agencies.		
	The recommendations were presented to the board and were unanimously accepted.		
Conclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> That the DSCB note the outcome of the IDeA Peer Challenge Review and establish with the Children's Trust a work plan to implement as soon as possible changes identified as being required in 3 priority areas. The refresh of the DSCB Business Plan needs to include the findings of the IDeA review as evidence of the areas for improvement that the DSCB should ensure are in the 2009-11 DSCB Business Plan. <p>The priorities were acknowledged and recommendations for improvement were agreed.</p>		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Progress reports on implementing the recommendations of the IDeA report to be the responsibility of the Executive and to be part of its September Report to the DSCB.	Rory McCallum	September 2009	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness h) Improvement actions to respond to the Multi Agency case audit	Presenter Maria Kasprzyk	
Discussion	The report from Maria Kasprzyk on behalf of the Quality assurance sub group contains the direct action following on from the Multi Agency case audit and will be subject of ongoing monitored by the Quality Assurance sub group. RMC thanked the group for their work. It was agreed that as part of the DSCB quality assurance strategy that the Quality Assurance sub group would re-run the Multi Agency Audit in October 2009 to track changes and progress concentrating this time on children in need and not currently subject of Child Protection Plans.		
Conclusion	Agency involvement and their commitment to improvement following the findings of the initial audit were acknowledged and the new audit concentrating on children in need is proposed for October 2009 and was welcomed by all DSCB members. The Quality Assurance sub group will monitor implementation of the recommendations and report to the Executive.		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
Further audit to be undertaken October 2009	Chair of QA sub Group	October 2009	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness i) The absence of a Child Sexual Abuse Examination Service in Devon	Presenters Richard Tomlinson / Marie- Noelle Orzel	
Discussion	The SARC (Sexual Abuse Referral Centre) has been in planning for at least 4 years however current arrangements continue to be ad hoc. This has had a significant adverse effect on children who were not examined, additional evidence lost and an unknown additional impact on their morbidity. There seems little evidence that the commissioning		

	<p>PCTs have prioritised this development despite the support given to the proposal by paediatricians, LSCBs and partners.</p> <p>AJW confirmed that he had written formally to Devon PCT in December 2008 and again this week requesting a position statement on why this has not progressed and advised that the current status will be highlighted in the DSCB Annual Report. Virginia Pearson (VP) informed members this has been raised at PCT Board level and flagged as high priority as it presents a major risk. It was further noted that there is a requirement for all three PCTs (Plymouth, Devon and Torbay) to commit to joint working and funding for the scheme to be viable.</p>		
Conclusion	<p>In conclusion AJW stated his frustration that children and young people seem not to be getting the best possible safeguarding service and that vital evidence for prosecutions is being lost. He intends pursuing this issue with his colleague chairs and writing formally to the Devon PCT Chief Executive as there seemed no likelihood of a response from the PCT Commissioning team.</p>		
Action Points	Action Owner	Deadline	
To raise the issue of current status of SARC's with the peninsula LSCB Chairs and to write to the Devon PCT Chief Executive.	Alan Wooderson	Immediate	

Agenda Item 5	www.ebi	Presenter Alan Wooderson	
Discussion	<p>AJW concluded the meeting gathering views from the members regarding what went well and what could be gone even better.</p> <p>What went well</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better set of papers • Interesting and informed debates • Straightforward and easy to follow for new DSCB members <p>Even better if</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A less packed agenda • Stronger Executive report • Standard reporting format to include recommendations at the outset of each paper and papers to concentrate on the strategic decision making role of the DSCB • New member 'induction' meeting to facilitate the inclusion of all members going forward 		

Agenda Item 6	Schedule for the next DSCB meeting 11th September 2009	Presenter Alan Wooderson	
	<p>3rd August 2009 Invite members to propose agenda items</p> <p>10th August 2009 Agenda Setting Meeting Circulate front sheets to members with agenda items</p>		

	<p>1st September 2009 Deadline for all papers for the September meeting</p> <p>4th September 2009 Circulate agenda, papers and previous minutes</p> <p>DSCB Meeting 11th September at 9.30 am at Exeter Racecourse</p>
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