

MEETING:	Overview and Scrutiny Committee
DATE:	Tuesday, 12 September 2017
TIME:	2.00 pm
VENUE:	Council Chamber, Barnsley Town Hall

MINUTES

Present

Councillors W. Johnson (Chair), Charlesworth, Clarke, Clements, K. Dyson, Ennis, Gollick, Hampson, Hand-Davis, Hayward, Makinson, Phillips, Pourali, Sheard, Tattersall, Unsworth, Williams and Wilson together with co-opted members Ms P. Gould and Mr J. Winter and Ms K. Morritt

20 Apologies for Absence - Parent Governor Representatives

No apologies were received in accordance with Regulation 7(6) of the Parent Governor Representatives (England) Regulations 2001.

21 Declarations of Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary Interest

Councillors Tattersall, Wilson and Charlesworth declared non-pecuniary interests in minutes 24 and 26 due to their positions on the Corporate Parenting Panel.

22 Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 12th July 2017 were approved as a true and accurate record subject to an amendment to reflect that the action in relation to Minute 19 regarding 'children missing from care' should have read that 'the additional information had been arranged to be shared with the committee at its next meeting on 12th September 2017.

Arising out of the discussion, it was highlighted that in relation to the action under Minute 16, Cllr Charlesworth had engaged with the Intermediate Care Service to contribute to service development.

23 Barnsley Safeguarding Adults Board (BSAB) Annual Report 2016-17

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:-

- Bob Dyson, Independent Chair, BSAB
- Lennie Sahota, Service Director, Adult Assessment and Care Management, BMBC
- Monica Green, Head of Service – Safeguarding and Quality Assurance
- Brigid Reid, Chief Nurse, Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Sarah MacGillivray, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults, Barnsley CCG – Chair of the Pathways and Partnership Sub-group
- Cath Erine, Safeguarding Adults Board Manager, BMBC

- Chief Superintendent Scott Green, Barnsley District Commander, South
- Yorkshire Police (SYP)
- Detective Chief Inspector Joanne Bates, SYP
- Michael Potter, Service Director, Organisation and Workforce Improvement, BMBC – Chair of the Performance Management Sub-Group
- Councillor Margaret Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson - People (Safeguarding)

Bob Dyson introduced a report of the Executive Director Core Services in respect of BSAB Annual Report 2016-17, outlining the work of the board and its local and regional partners for the period April 2016 to March 2017.

It was highlighted that 2016/17 was a busy year for the board, with considerable work completed in support of the vision to ensure that every adult has a right to live a life free from abuse, neglect, exploitation and discrimination. Barnsley has lower than average reports of abuse in people's own homes compared with other Local Authorities of similar size, together with fewer reports of financial abuse than the regional and national average. However, a challenge for the coming year will be to explore how adults (particularly those in their own homes) can be empowered to speak out when they are being abused, as some may not feel that they are victims.

Questions were asked in response to the report submitted and the following matters were highlighted:

- The Quality Assurance and Performance Sub-Group had identified a number of data reporting gaps and improvements are now underway to improve reporting arrangements. Work is ongoing with Internal Audit to review information and a trainer for the ERICA system works with staff to improve data input. Although data systems across partners do not 'talk to each other', Members were assured that all partner organisations share information face-to-face regarding individual cases.
- There is a need to raise the profile of Safeguarding Adults. A customer forum has been established and safeguarding awareness sessions are being run in various locations to raise awareness of the issues. All partners accept third party referrals and the website, which provides information and guidance, has been improved and externally validated as 'excellent'.
- In terms of a communication strategy, this is shared with adults and children but each agency has responsibility for communicating to the public. Traditional methods of communication are still needed, as not everybody has access to IT and social media and audiences must be reached by the most appropriate means.
- Care homes are inspected by the CQC in terms of their ability to deliver high quality care and safeguarding responsibilities. CQC encourage all care providers to share safeguarding concerns with adult social care, even if no adults were harmed. The Adult Board has endorsed the launch. A new guidance and concern form has been developed to support care providers to log concerns internally but not send to Adult Social Care for screening.

- Professional carers who visit people in their own homes are vetted but limited checks are possible when people are cared for by family members.
- All Board partners have embedded the need to keep adults safe into their daily practice. Safeguarding is everybody's business, including communities, friends and neighbours. Elected Members have a key role to play in raising the profile of safeguarding in their communities, sharing local intelligence and empowering individuals to raise concerns with partners.

RESOLVED –

- i. That the report be noted.
- ii. That the witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

24 Barnsley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report 2016-17

The following witnesses were welcomed to the meeting:-

- Bob Dyson, Independent Chair, BSCB
- Brigid Reid, Chief Nurse, Barnsley Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)
- Angela Fawcett, Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, Barnsley CCG
- Chief Superintendent Scott Green, Barnsley District Commander, South Yorkshire Police (SYP)
- Detective Chief Inspector Joanne Bates, SYP
- Mel John-Ross, Service Director, Children's Social Care and Safeguarding, BMBC
- Monica Green, Head of Service-Safeguarding & Quality Assurance, BMBC
- Nigel Leeder, BSCB Manager, BMBC
- Cllr Margaret Bruff, Cabinet Spokesperson - People (Safeguarding), BMBC

Bob Dyson introduced a report of the Executive Director Core Services in respect of the BSCB Annual Report 2016-17, highlighting the work of the Board over the last year and outlining its plans for continued improvement, including key priorities for 2017-18.

Questions were asked in response to the report submitted and the following matters were highlighted:

- Children and young people are at the heart of the Board and their views exert a strong influence on the work of the Board through various mechanisms, including the recent National Takeover Day, and their experiences are fed into continuous improvement plans.
- Children and young people are exposed to a number of harmful behaviours but neglect is a particular challenge. An additional multi-agency sub group has recently been formed to focus on this issue, interfacing with Early Help to respond quickly. A new care profile and assessment tool has also been developed to better identify and respond to risk.

- A task and finish group has been established to review and refresh the Anti-Bullying Strategy. The profile of bullying is changing and bullying via social media is prevalent. Children have stated that they feel safest when in school and schools have been heavily involved in developing the Anti Bullying Strategy, to include the journey to and from school. It is essential that children are kept safe in school and that they are listened to and empowered to speak openly and honestly about issues which concern them.
- Investment has been put into schools to combat emotional and mental abuse. The Thrive Project provides early support and the tools to deal with bombardment, thereby building a child's resilience. A partnership approach involving Health Visitors, School Nurses and GPs, who all understand the emotional impact of bullying on children, ensures that children get the right support at the right time. There are a number of examples from young people demonstrating how schools are dealing with bullying effectively, which is reassuring.
- Reassurances were given that despite pressure on budgets, keeping children safe using effective multi agency working and a wraparound approach is the key priority for the Board.
- Having one Independent Chair across both the Safeguarding Children's Board and the Adult Safeguarding Board works effectively as best practice can be spread across both boards. The Communication Strategy sits across both boards. Senior leadership within the People Directorate is joined up and strong.
- When children and young people transition from the Children's Board to the Adult Board, issues are picked up, regardless of the age of the child, as children have ongoing needs which may involve single or multiple agencies. Transition features heavily on the business plans of both boards.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the report be noted.
- ii. That updates be provided regarding the findings of the Anti Bullying task and finish group, particularly with regard to social media bullying.
- iii. That the witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution.

25 Exclusion of the Public and Press

RESOLVED that the public and press be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item because of the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined by the specific paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 as amended identified:

<u>Minute No</u>	<u>Paragraph</u>
19	2

26 Children's Social Care Reports

An overview of the 'Missing from Care' landscape was provided for the benefit of Members, including the work of the Missing Panel and the procedure for monitoring and tracking missing children. It was highlighted that all children are considered missing until notified otherwise and that there is no 'absent' option within the South Yorkshire Missing Protocol. Each child who has been missing is offered a 'return home' interview from an independent service and possible CSE implications are always considered. Daily reports and weekly Multi agency 'Missing' meetings commenced in April 2016 to record children who are missing from care, home or education. This has been identified as an example of good practice within the region. Mel John-Ross presented the Children's Social Care monthly report for July 2017, containing a summary of performance and the major performance indicators for children's safeguarding and social care using RAG (Red, Amber, Green) ratings and the direction of travel for most indicators. Barnsley's historical performance and comparisons with other local authorities was also included together. Areas of good performance and areas with potential for improvement were also highlighted within the report.

Questions were asked in response to the report submitted and detailed and appropriate responses given.

RESOLVED:

- i. That the additional information regarding Children Missing from Care be noted.
- ii. That the Children's Social Care Report be noted.
- iii. That the witnesses be thanked for their attendance and contribution.