



Quarterly News Bulletin

February 2023 – Volume 5

Welcome from Independent Chair & Scrutineer

This newsletter demonstrates yet again the evolving culture of 'togetherness' across Warwickshire and I hope that you are proud of your commitment and effort.

Having emerged from the challenges of the pandemic period, we find ourselves working with families and individuals coping with the impact of the cost-of-living crisis. Learning from the pandemic will help us to be alert to the creation of hidden harms as people cope with increased stress in their families and homes. It will remain as important as ever to be informed and committed to providing the best safeguarding practice for individuals and I hope that this newsletter helps you with that.

I would like to thank every practitioner who works with such care to support and protect children, adolescents and vulnerable adults across Warwickshire, as well as the Business Team who relentlessly share information and offer help.



Elaine Coleridge Smith
Warwickshire Safeguarding Independent Chair & Scrutineer

Who are we?

Warwickshire Safeguarding is a multiagency Partnership established to ensure safeguarding measures are met and that vulnerable adults and children across Warwickshire are protected from harm and abuse and lessons are learned from case reviews and improvements identified/implemented.

Meet the Business Team

Amrita Sharma
(Business Manager)

Holly Reed &
Jenn Coxley
(Quality, Learning &
Improvement Officers)

Chelsea Jones &
Jo Ferguson
(Business Development
Officers)



For further information and to keep up to date with our latest news, please visit:

www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk



NEW – Published Reviews

Provided below are details of reports which have been recently published by the partnership following the conclusion of safeguarding reviews. Copies of the full reports relating to children and adults can be found by clicking on either of the following links:

[Children's Reviews](#)

[Adults Reviews](#)



Grace: In early 2021, 13-year-old Grace made a significant attempt to end her life. Grace was living with her mother, her mother's partner and the youngest two of her siblings in a one-bedroom flat at the time. This event was subsequently followed by another attempt 4 months later.

Concerns about Grace's emotional state were first shared with professionals in 2020, five months before her significant attempt to end her life.

Following Grace's attempt to end her life in 2021, the family were supported under a child in need plan. There were various indicators that Grace's needs were not being met at home in the months that followed the attempt to end her life, and that her mental health was being impacted on by this and her history of emotional abuse and neglect.

View the full lessons learned briefing [here](#).

CJ was a vulnerable young White British adult with a diagnosis of ASD and ADHD since the age of 5.

CJ frequently sought opportunities to change 'how he felt inside his head' and had a history of trying to 'get high'. This increased to using alcohol and drugs to excess. Inevitably, all these methods resulted in him needing emergency medical treatment.

CJ had a history of self-harm and was the subject of a safeguarding referrals as both a child and an adult. At the age of 15, CJ was taken into care by Warwickshire at his parents' request after they felt unable to care for him. Between the ages of 15 and 18 years old, CJ had experienced 12 different placements both in and outside of Warwickshire.

In late 2020, Police visited CJ at his new temporary accommodation at the request of his mother. Police sadly found CJ dead in his room.

View the full lessons learned briefing [here](#).





Warwickshire Safeguarding Annual Report 2021 – 2022

Each year the safeguarding partnership produces and publishes an annual report. The most recent report for 2021-2022 has now been published and is available to download by clicking on either of the following links:



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Adults



Warwickshire
Safeguarding
Children

The 2021-2022 annual report acknowledges the work of the partnership under the continued pressures and challenges presented by the Covid-19 pandemic. The work of the partnership remained focused around its strategic priorities, introducing new ways of working and protocols which helped to support improved safeguarding awareness, understanding and interventions when dealing with exploitation; the replacement of the former safeguarding thresholds for children introducing a new 'Spectrum of Support'; and refreshing risk assessment processes which better support the practice of Making Safeguarding Personal amongst adults and ensure the voice of the child is captured within children's cases.

'Core Safeguarding Practice' – Warwickshire Safeguarding's Latest Strategic Thematic Review

Warwickshire Safeguarding has now completed its second Strategic Thematic Review focusing on the topic of 'Core Safeguarding Practice' of children and adults. The final full report details learning identified from single agency self-evaluations, case file audits, professional surveys, conversations with professionals and feedback gathered from service users/carer's/families through the statutory reviews work.

25 agencies from statutory and voluntary organisations and service providers engaged in this strategic thematic review. A significant amount of information has been gathered and processed to provide an insight into all aspects of safeguarding work. Areas of work which exemplify good practice, as well as identify practice where further development is required, both at multi-agency and single agency levels.

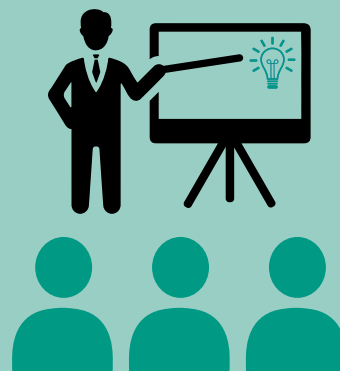
Appendix 1 at the end of the report provides a summary overview of the key strengths and areas for improvement requiring further development which have been identified through this review. Sitting alongside this are single-agency actions which have been identified and will be implemented by individual agencies. The Warwickshire Safeguarding Executive Board will oversee the delivery of the multi-agency action plan emerging from this review.

To view a copy of the full report on Warwickshire Safeguarding's Strategic Thematic Review on 'Core Safeguarding Practice' please click on the following link – **[FULL REPORT](#)**



Multi-Agency training

Warwickshire Safeguarding Partnership are pleased to share our multi-agency training programme. Our aim is to provide accessible multi-agency training for our safeguarding partner agencies throughout Warwickshire. The free, virtual training is linked to the learning from CSPR's, SAR's, findings from the thematic review and key priorities from subgroups.



All training is currently being delivered virtually via Microsoft Teams

07.02.23	The Role of the LADO
15.02.23	Professional Curiosity
27.02.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Safeguarding through a Trauma Informed Lens
28.02.23	Vanguard Bitesize session: Engaging with children who have experienced Child Sexual Abuse
06.03.23	Using the Mental Capacity Act in the context of Safeguarding and Self-Neglect
13.03.23	Advocacy for Children and Young People
21.03.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Vicarious and Organisational Trauma



Multi-Agency training

22.03.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: An Introduction to Trauma
18.04.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Social Prescribing and its use in Trauma Informed Practice
19.04.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Building Relationships
17.05.23	Professional Curiosity
25.05.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Victim Blaming and Language
26.05.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Safeguarding through a Trauma Informed Lens
20.06.23	Vanguard Bitesize Session: Engaging with children who have experienced Child Sexual Abuse
02.11.23	Professional Curiosity

To secure your place, please email wstraining@warwickshire.gov.uk – include your full name, service and training title and date.

Exploitation Week 2023

Starting 13th March until National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day on the 18th March. A week of bitesize informational sessions over themed days will be available.

More information on the week, how to book onto the sessions and resources for professionals will be available from mid Feb on our website.

Quick Links:

- [7-Minute Briefings](#)
- [Lessons Learned Briefings](#)
- [Past Quarterly Briefings](#)



Points of Interest



Warwickshire Child Exploitation and Missing Team are currently organising some free additional multi-agency Child Exploitation Awareness Training sessions to meet increasing demand. These training dates are open to all professionals working with children (in any capacity) across the Warwickshire area and will be ran virtually over Zoom.

The available training dates will start from Friday 31st January and will run until the end of March 2023, delivered by Barnardos associate trainers Mark Pearson and Karen Livesey.

The following four sessions titles will be available to book on to:

- Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation (Introductory/refresher session 2 hours)
- Level 3 Recognising and Responding to Child Sexual Exploitation – 3 Hours
- Recognising and Responding to Child Criminal Exploitation and County Lines (Introductory/refresher session 2 hours)
- Level 3 Recognising and Responding to Child Criminal Exploitation and County Lines– 3 hours

The link to book our Child Exploitation Training courses can be found here >

<https://bookwhen.com/barnardoswarwickshire#focus=ev-secz-20230127093000>

ICB Arrangements

The Coventry and Warwickshire Integrated Care Board was formally established on the 1st July 2022. The Integrated Care Board (ICB) is responsible for commissioning NHS services on behalf of people in Coventry and Warwickshire. In consultation with local partners, it plans the delivery of services in a way that both meets local health and care needs and reduces inequalities between different groups.

The Board of the ICB is made up of senior leaders from a range of health and care organisations and its membership includes:

- The Chair
- 5 non-executive members
- 5 appointed executives
- 7 representatives from NHS providers, local authorities and primary care
- Representatives from Healthwatch and the Voluntary, Community and Social Enterprise sector



By bringing together the knowledge and experience of the board members and the organisations they represent, the ICB can make informed and joined up decisions about health and care provision across the region.

All ICBs across the country have the flexibility to make decisions that allow them to respond to the specific needs of the local population. In order to ensure the Coventry and Warwickshire ICB is delivering the services needed locally, their work will be informed by both the Integrated Care Partnership's (ICP) integrated care strategy and the Health and Wellbeing Strategies published by the Health and Wellbeing Boards in our region. Furthermore, they will consistently involve and consult with local communities to ensure the needs of our population are met.

To find out more information about the ICB, visit their website:

<https://www.happyhealthylives.uk/integrated-care-board/>



Points of Interest cont.

Online Safety Update: 'The Game' on Roblox

Recent reports have surfaced of a self-harm 'game' currently being shared through popular gaming platform, **Roblox**. The iNEQE online safety team have identified that re-sharing on social media is currently the greatest risk this 'game' poses. Their Safeguarding Update discusses this game in more detail and how you can keep the young people in your care safe.

Click [HERE](#) for their full article.

The NSPCC have also done an article on the Safety aspect of Roblox. Click [HERE](#) to read their article "Is Roblox safe for my child?".



Warwickshire Director of Public Health Annual Report 2022 – 'Health and the High Cost of Living'

Directors of Public Health have a statutory requirement to write an annual report on the health of their population. The Director of Public Health Annual Report is a vehicle for informing local people about the health of their community, as well as providing necessary information for decision-makers in local health services and authorities on health gaps and priorities that need to be addressed.

The theme of this year's report is health and the high cost of living in Warwickshire. The report includes an overview of the health and wellbeing of the Warwickshire population and information on progress with the 2020/21 recommendations.



To read the full article by WCC and download the report, click on the image.

'NRM' – National Referral Mechanism

There is a national framework to assist in the formal identification and help to coordinate the referral of victims of modern slavery to appropriate services, known as the National Referral Mechanism. Certain public bodies such as local authorities and chief officers of Police have a statutory duty to refer.

More information about the National Referral Mechanism can be found [here](#).



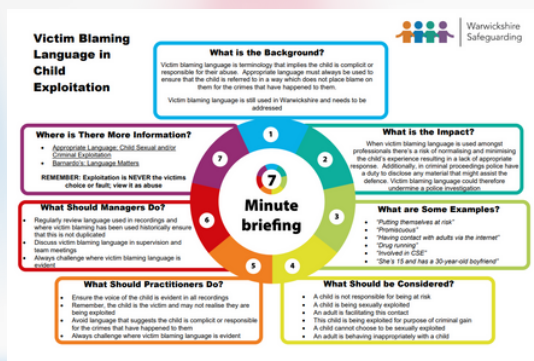


Safeguarding Spotlight



Warwickshire Safeguarding want to put the Spotlight on our 7-minute briefing for **Victim Blaming Language** in Child Exploitation.

Click the image below to give it a read.



Warwickshire Police takes a new approach to investigating serious sexual offences

Warwickshire Police is participating in a national project to transform the policing response to rape and serious sexual offences (RASSO).

The Operation Soteria Bluestone project brings police forces together with academics and policy experts to use new insight to enable forces to build more effective investigations and to deliver lasting improvements to improve the experiences of victims.

Full more details on this Project click [HERE](#).

The Prevent Duty: Safeguarding learners vulnerable to radicalisation

Support for those working in education settings with safeguarding responsibilities.

This guidance is for:

- designated safeguarding leads (DSLs)
- those working in education settings who have safeguarding responsibilities for keeping children, young people and adult learners safe in schools, colleges and further education independent training providers

This guidance has been developed by frontline practitioners in local authorities, with support from the Department for Education. It reflects learning since the implementation of the Prevent duty in 2015 under section 26 of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Click [HERE](#) for the full Guidance.

To report an adult safeguarding concern or to make a safeguarding referral for a child, please contact one of the following:

Social Care & Support (Adults): 01926 412080
Children Social Care: 01926 414144

Includes options for FIS (Option 1), EH Support Line (Option 2) and Safeguarding (Option 3)