



Meeting	Warwickshire Safeguarding Executive Board
Date	Friday 12 th November 2021
Present	<p>Elaine Coleridge-Smith (<i>Independent Chair, Warwickshire Safeguarding</i>) Jackie Channell (<i>Coventry & Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group</i>) Nigel Minns (<i>Warwickshire County Council</i>) Pete Hill (<i>Warwickshire Police</i>)</p> <p><u>In attendance:</u> Amrita Sharma (<i>Business Manager, Warwickshire Safeguarding</i>) Holly Reed (<i>Minute Taker, Warwickshire Safeguarding</i>) Tracy Avill (<i>Warwickshire County Council, Item 3 only</i>) John Coleman (<i>Warwickshire County Council, Item 5 only</i>) Matt Briggs (<i>Warwickshire County Council, Item 8 only</i>)</p>
Apologies	Jo Galloway (<i>Coventry & Warwickshire Clinical Commissioning Group</i>)

Item	Discussion	Action Required (if any)	Owner
1.	<p>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>The Independent Chair of Warwickshire Safeguarding welcomed members to the meeting with apologies as noted above.</p>		
2.	<p>Minutes from previous meeting and Action Log</p> <p>Members agreed the content of the minutes with any outstanding actions to be covered in today's meeting or to be carried forward to the next meeting.</p>		
3.	<p>Fostering Reports</p> <p>Tracy Avill, Operations Manager from WCC's Fostering Team presented the Private Fostering Annual Report to members of the WSEB.</p> <p>The report outlined private fostering activity between April 2020 and March 2021 and includes the key findings of the private fostering team. Tracy highlighted the following key points from the report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The team had received more notifications of private fostering through Education and Early Help than they did the previous year. This was attributed to recent awareness raising of what would be considered as a private fostering. 		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The numbers of private foster carers remain low but this was attributed to many carers not recognising they were considered to be privately fostering children and young people. <p>As a result of the learning arising from a recent CSPR subject to publication, Amrita enquired as to how often private foster carers were assessed and what measures were in place to ensure that children living under these arrangements are seen and spoken to alone as part of the review process.</p> <p>Tracy confirmed that private foster carers and the young people within their care are reviewed annually and that statutory foster carers are seen more regularly. Tracy will seek further assurance of the teams processes around seeing children and young people alone and will send further information to Amrita.</p> <p>Members thanked Tracy for preparing and presenting the report.</p>	<p>Tracy Avill to send to Amrita information regarding the processes in place to ensure children and young people are seen away from foster carers.</p>	TA
4.	<p>Safeguarding Reviews and Briefings for sign off:</p> <p>‘Family M’ SCR</p> <p>Holly Reed presented the Serious Case Review for Family M to members and highlighted the key points of learning.</p> <p>Holly informed members that the review was completed in 2019 but could not progress to publication due to the ongoing criminal proceedings. However, whilst the review was on hold, many of the recommendations and single agency actions had either been addressed within the course of time and there had been improvements to practice and procedures or the actions are currently in progress. Therefore, rather than seek updates on actions, the Business Team suggest that assurance is sought that the actions have been imbedded and effective.</p>		



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	<p>Members endorsed the report and it's supporting papers and requested that a position statement from the WSEB be drafted to acknowledge the delay due to the criminal proceedings and the changes that will have taken place to practice, policy and procedures during that time that the review was paused.</p> <p>Prada & Jordan' CSPA</p> <p>Holly Reed presented the Child Safeguarding Practice Review report 'Prada & Jordan' to members and highlighted the key points of learning.</p> <p>Discussion ensued about the rationale for the review being undertaken and the fact that it did not focus predominantly on the incident leading to the notification into Ofsted.</p> <p>The Chair clarified that it was recognised the incident which caused the submission of a notification to Ofsted was entirely coincidental and that there was no prior history of similar events/incidents involving these two young people. However, the scoping information reviewed by the Rapid Review panel did identify a number of issues which pointed to systemic failures to support and work more effectively with these two young people, which could have prevented the escalation of their respective behaviours.</p> <p>Members agreed that this needed to be acknowledged alongside the report. It was agreed that a supporting position statement from WSEB be published alongside the report.</p>	<p>Amrita Sharma to draft a position statement on behalf of WSEB for both reviews and share with members for sign off.</p>	<p>AS</p>
5.	<p>MASH 'deep dive' discussion</p> <p>John Coleman, Assistant Director, WCC Children's Services provided members with an overview of the actions implemented following the deep dive review of the MASH</p>		



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	<p>arrangements, and detailed the impact these changes were beginning to have on practice:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Now achieving 90% response rate to all enquiries at front door • Developed a new dashboard to support continuous performance improvement • Operating a single recording system • Improved pathways for schools through the introduction of headteacher coach roles positioned within the front door arrangements • Delivery of in-house training for DSLs and headteachers <p>During the Covid-19 period the county has seen a significant increase in the number of 'Children in Need', this is the highest across the region.</p> <p>Work is continuing to raise the profile and effective use of the new Spectrum of Support guidance amongst partners to help improve referral pathways. Consideration is being given to expand in-house training to be accessible to early years providers; this proposal is in early discussion stage.</p> <p>Challenges remain with mental health services for young people and there are gaps in provision which still need addressing.</p> <p>Members were pleased to note the above improvement journey and note improved working systems between agencies. The Chair thanked John for his overview and welcome the positive direction of travel.</p>		
6.	<p>Early Help Governance</p> <p>Members considered options available to them to ensure oversight of early help. The partnership's current governance structure includes the establishment of a subgroup to oversee early intervention and prevention work however, it recognises that this agenda is already considered within other</p>		



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	<p>partnership settings. Members agreed they would consider the early help agenda being covered within the governance of the newly formed 'Warwickshire Children Together Board' (WCTB) to avoid duplication however, Warwickshire Safeguarding would continue to seek assurance of activity through its quality assurance framework.</p> <p>Nigel Minns agreed to look to ensure the membership of WCTB was streamlined to ensure the right people/organisations were represented.</p>		
7.	<p>WSP Survey Analysis & Recommendations</p> <p>The Business Manager provided members with a summary analysis of the survey conducted with the wider partnership in respect of the new partnership arrangements and their engagement within this setting.</p> <p>Members noted some of the areas for improvement requested in respect of the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More detailed presentation of review reports and opportunity for discussion • More scrutiny of performance data • Better understanding of the role and work of the Executive Board • Opportunity for partner agencies to present an overview • Opportunity for on-site meetings <p>Members agreed that a half day session be set-up early in the new year to allow further consideration of the points raised. Members were however, in agreement that review reports begin to be included on the wider partnership agenda from here-onwards.</p> <p>Members also agreed consideration could be given to hybrid arrangements for meetings which would enable a limited number of partners to be present in person within a suitable meeting environment.</p>	<p>The Business Manager to set-up half-day planning session for members early in the new year in 2022</p> <p>The Business Manager to explore the availability of suitable accommodation to enable partners to attend on-site meeting in future.</p>	<p>AS</p> <p>AS</p>



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8.	<p>Education Safeguarding Management Report</p> <p>Matthew Briggs, Education Service presented members with the findings of the 2020-2021 s175 audit completed by all education settings within the county detailing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This year's approach to the audit • The key learning points • Recommendations for improvement • Oversight of implementation of recommendations • Preparation for next year's audit <p>Members welcomed the report and its findings. Pete Hill expressed a need for schools to be alert to new trends and know how to respond to these within their respective settings. He referred specifically to 'Operation Hydrant' and the recent disclosures of abuse experienced by young people whilst attending education settings.</p> <p>Nigel questioned whether reflective supervision opportunities were routinely built into day-to-day operations of education settings. Matt agreed to look into this practice and report back.</p> <p>Nigel also suggested it may be helpful to have representation from the Violence Against Women and Girls Group on the working group developing future audit material. Matt agreed to liaise with Nigel for a named representative.</p>	<p>Matt Briggs to liaise with Nigel Minns for a named representative from VAWG Group.</p>	<p>MB</p>
9.	<p>Rapid Review Decisions</p> <p>Members reinforced their original decision for all Rapid Review decisions to be signed-off by the Independent Chair & Scrutineer on their behalf and copies of all decisions to be shared with them retrospectively, for information.</p>		
10.	<p>Statutory Partners' Surveys – Warwickshire response</p>		



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	Members agreed that the Business Manager convene brief meetings with the statutory leads specifically to respond to national surveys, as and when required.		
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Pete Hill reported on the recent increase in incidents being reported involving needle/drinks spiking. He felt there was a need to an agreed approach to handling such incidents, particularly when victims present in A&E with these symptoms.</p> <p>Jackie Channel agreed there need to be clear pathways for reporting/signposting which need to be clearly publicised.</p> <p>Members agreed to discuss this further at their next meeting.</p>		
Date of next meeting: Thursday 9 th December 2021, 9:30 - 12:00 pm			