



Warwickshire
Safeguarding

QUARTERLY NEWS BULLETIN

July 2021 – Volume 2

Welcome from Independent Chair & Scrutineer

Welcome to the second edition of Warwickshire Safeguarding's quarterly news bulletin. The Business Team and I have been overwhelmed by the positive response the [first edition](#) received, so we hope this edition will be just as popular!

In this addition you will find information on the following;

1. Recent changes/updates to safeguarding policy and procedures; and
2. Publicity around forthcoming safeguarding events and seminars across the partnership

We are pleased to provide feedback from the Warwickshire Safeguarding week: 21-25 June 2021 'A Focus on Exploitation'.

I was delighted that so many of you were able to join these seminars – the feedback has been very positive. For those of you unable to attend the events, we have provided links to handouts and videos – some of which will expire at the end of July 2021.

We have been working hard across the partnership to refresh the Warwickshire Safeguarding's 'Thresholds for Services for meeting the needs of children and young people in Warwickshire'. With effect from 1st July 2021, Warwickshire Safeguarding has replaced this with a newly developed 'Spectrum of Support' document. I urge you all to take a look at this and feedback any comments you may have to the Business Team.

As before, we hope you find the information helpful. Please do take the time to read this and help us to promote these bulletins across your respective organisations.



Elaine Coleridge Smith
Warwickshire Safeguarding Independent Chair & Scrutineer

Who are we?

Warwickshire Safeguarding is a multi-agency 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)

**Caroline McCluskey
& Holly Reed**
(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



Warwickshire Safeguarding Week: 21 – 25 June 2021

‘A Focus on Exploitation’

During **Monday 21st to Friday 25th June 2021** Warwickshire Safeguarding held a week of online bitesize learning events around the topic of Exploitation.

In line with the partnership’s core strategic priority and recently launched new Exploitation Strategy, we placed the focus on exploitation, in all its forms. We would like to use this opportunity to help Warwickshire develop its collective understanding and confidence in combatting and responding to exploitation.

Below is the schedule and link to the resources which were available that week. Please note the video’s will only be available to view until **Friday 30th July 2021**.

- **Mind the Gap: Developing a Transitional Safeguarding approach for adolescents into adulthood**
This 2 hour online seminar is designed for senior managers and leaders children’s and adults’ services and the wider multi-agency partnership, and offers an opportunity to explore a more transitional approach to safeguarding, drawing on evidence from research and practice innovation to argue that whole system reform is needed.
YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/YH9ktlarwBo>
- **Digital Dangers: Child Exploitation in the Online Space**
This is a two-hour session on online exploitation. The session will help you to understand more about the online harms of social media and gaming platforms presented to children and young people, understanding the online grooming process, learning how Covid-19 has impacted on online exploitation, how children may be targeted online and your responsibilities around sharing information about a child who is at risk of or is being abused.
YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/QiMq7kZn8XI>
- **Stop Hate Crime**
A two-hour session to help participants understand what hate crime is and the impact it has. Case studies from high profile cases affecting people with Learning Disabilities will be considered that include; false befriending, cuckooing, physical and sexual abuse, financial exploitation, coercive behaviour and rape and murder. The session will consider what to look for, how hate crime is investigated and the support that is available.
YouTube link: https://youtu.be/7fPJI_V_O-Y
- **Raising Awareness of the Exploitation of Children & Young People**
This powerful and thought provoking training gives participants an insight into the real experiences of those affected by child exploitation, helping participants to spot signs of grooming, explore victim blaming language and understand how they can help to protect and support children and young people.
YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/vFDzaHeiOks>
- **Mind Your Language**
This webinar enables us to discuss victim-blaming language and how we can accurately and sensitively record and report on victim experiences. The aim of this webinar is to share practice between agencies and to explore ways in which we can develop the language we use.
There is no recording available for this session.

For a list of all resources please click on this link: [Warwickshire Safeguarding Week-Videos & Resources](#)



Changes to Safeguarding Policies and/or Procedures

Spectrum of Support

Warwickshire Safeguarding's 'Thresholds for Services for meeting the needs of children and young people in Warwickshire' is changing. With effect from 1st July 2021, Warwickshire Safeguarding has replaced the existing Thresholds document with the newly developed 'Spectrum of Support' Document.

The new guidance document aims to strike the right balance between supporting practitioners from all settings to identify situations where children and young people might require support, recognising the vital role of professional judgement in assessing the impact of risk and protective factors on positive outcomes for children and young people.

This document is for everyone working with children, young people and their families in Warwickshire. It is important because the work it describes is at the heart of our arrangements to ensure that children, young people and families get the right support, advice and services at the right time.

[You can access a copy of the new 'Spectrum of Support' document from Warwickshire Safeguarding's website.](#)

Philomena Protocol

The Philomena Protocol, an initiative to help locate and safely return children and young people in care as quickly as possible when they are missing, is being introduced jointly by Warwickshire Police and Warwickshire County Council.

The Protocol, originally launched in Durham, will roll out into residential homes across the county from 1st May 2021 following its success in other parts of the country.

The scheme encourages carers, staff, and families to compile useful information which could be used in the event of a young person going missing from care to help find them quickly and safely.

The streamlined joint approach is a step towards protecting some of the most vulnerable young people in Warwickshire. Any child in care who is at risk of going missing for any reason is encompassed within this protocol.

The scheme will save time and resources but most importantly it has potential to save lives of our vulnerable people, by working with carers and staff in residential homes to establish patterns of behaviour, places they frequently visit, and if they do go missing completing a standardised form which will make the emergency services response to the enquiry more efficient.

The Philomena documents are available to view via the [Interagency Safeguarding Procedures](#). Alternatively, visit the [Warwickshire Safeguarding website](#) for more information.





Safer Sleep is Everyone's Responsibility!

Although sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) is now very rare, over 200 babies still die every year.

The work to promote safer sleep for babies arose after studies found that deaths might have been prevented if parents, carers and wider family members had an increased awareness of safer sleep guidelines.

National and local reviews have found that many professionals who work with families believe that safer sleep is a conversation that only Health Visitors should be having with new parents and carers, however, whether working in social care, housing or the police, all professionals have a crucial role when it comes to identifying and responding to the risks of SIDS.

By **all professionals** playing their part and talking to families and supporting them with understanding how to avoid the specific risks for their baby, they can help to reduce the number of babies dying of SIDS.

Remember, Safer Sleep messages are not just for expectant or new mums!

Dads often have a key role in the care of their baby, in some cases they are the primary carer. It is therefore crucial they understand how to reduce the risk of SIDS and sleep their baby safely.

A recent survey commissioned by The Lullaby Trust has found that less than a third of dads are being given information on the basic steps they can take to lower the risk of sudden infant death syndrome.

Research also showed that the bulk of information and support offered to new parents was aimed primarily at mothers, and therefore health teams in conjunction with Berkshire West and East Berkshire CCG's developed the following short film for new dads as part of the [Lift the Baby](#) campaign.

As well as dads it is also important to share safer sleep advice with Grandparents and wider family members as they can also have a key role in providing childcare and the advice they received when they were new parents may have changed.





Safer Sleep is Everyone's Responsibility! Cont.

Safer Sleeping Webinar - 12th July 2021

In order to support professionals to have conversations regarding safer sleep for babies, Warwickshire Safeguarding Partnership and Coventry's Safeguarding Children Partnership held a joint webinar focussing on safer sleep for babies on Monday 12th July 2021.

The webinar will included learning from national and local reviews, information from the Lullaby Trust on how to have opportunistic conversations and highlighted practical resources to use with families including the launch of the [NEW Safer Sleeping Guide for Practitioners](#).

The webinar was free and open to all professionals who work with or come into contact with parents and carers where a baby is due or already living within the home.

If you missed this event, a video will be made available in the upcoming weeks for you to view [here](#). We are also looking to run this learning event again later in the year and will communicate the dates with you once they have been confirmed.



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The Lullaby Trust

The Lullaby Trust are a national charity who provide lifesaving advice to help parents, carers and professionals reduce the risk of sudden infant death syndrome and provide a support service for families who experience the sudden loss of a baby or young child.

Below are some quick guides for professionals, parents and carers, however a range of further resources are available to access via the Lullaby Trust's website to support the promotion of safer sleep for babies:

- [Safer Sleep: Saving Babies Lives - A Guide for Professionals](#)
- [Safer Sleep for Babies - A Guide for Parents](#)
- [The Lullaby Trust](#)





Warwickshire Safeguarding

Briefings

7 Minute Briefings

Single page briefing providing a quick and simple way to share learning on a range of safeguarding topics identified as key areas requiring further improvement in practice and understanding. The following list of new briefings has now been published on the website. To access copies of all 7 Minute Briefings please go to: <https://www.safeguardingwarwickshire.co.uk/7-minute-briefings>

- Victim Blaming Language
- Street Harassment

NSPCC Library

Hosts the National collection of case reviews from across other safeguarding partnerships to support local learning. To access the National Case Review repository please go to:

<https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/case-reviews/national-case-review-repository>

Useful Links and Resources

Kooth - New online mental health support for children & young people

Warwickshire County Council has commissioned Kooth, a free, safe and anonymous digital counselling and support service for children and young people. Kooth is a safe and confidential way for young people to access emotional wellbeing and early intervention mental health support. The service is available to all young people across Warwickshire aged 11-25 years. [Kooth.com](https://www.kooth.com) supports and complement the existing offer operated by Rise - a family of NHS-led services providing emotional wellbeing & mental health services for young people across the county. [Rise](https://www.rise.org.uk) already provide a well-established 24/7 telephone service providing crisis support to young people across Warwickshire. Kooth will deliver digital self-help resources and online counselling to further extend the local offer.

Something's Not Right

Children and young people have a right to be safe and should be protected from all forms of abuse. It's everyone's responsibility to spot the signs of child exploitation and protect children and young people in Warwickshire. Exploitation affects hundreds of children and young people every year in Warwickshire. By knowing the tell-tale signs, we can all play an important role in reducing that number.

To access the website click on the following link [Something's Not Right](https://www.somethingisnotright.org.uk)

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

Adult Social Care: 01926 412080

Children Social Care: 01926 414144