



May 2019

Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter



Introduction from the Independent Scrutineer – Professor Nick Frost.

In 2016 the Government commissioned a report by Alan Wood on the future of Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs). The Report recommended ‘the abolition of LSCBs’ – a phrase that was enacted in the Children and Social Work Act, 2017.

Here in Calderdale we were approved as one of 17 ‘early adopters’ of this programme as we moved towards becoming a Partnership. I am proud to be the last chair of the Calderdale LCSB and the first ‘independent scrutineer’ of the Partnership. This rather inelegant phrase (independent scrutineer) appears in the latest iteration of ‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’ (WTSC, 2018). The role is only described sketchily in WTSC (2018) and we will see how this unfolds in Calderdale.

My first role was to observe a very impressive feedback meeting following the learning from the Child M SCR. I hope to follow this up by observing training sessions, team meetings and leadership meetings over the next year. We have also agreed that I will continue to Chair the newly formed Executive whilst the Executive members decide what the balance between independent scrutiny and independent chairing should be in the future. This new arrangement is challenging to implement and we hope to revise and review the new system so it is totally fit for purpose during the next year. Our early work has already been commended by the NCB, who are undertaking an evaluation of the emergence nationally of the new system.

Together with partnership staff, I am also working regionally to ensure that we have co-operation and synergy across the five West Yorkshire authorities. We will issue this newsletter regularly to make sure everyone across Calderdale is informed about the changes and how they work out in practice.



Message from Julie Jenkins, Director of Childrens Services

A momentous time in the history of safeguarding children and the de-regulation of the Safeguarding Children Board to create the new partnership.

As a social worker of many years my memory goes back to the Area Child Protection Committees we had in the 90's; then the change to focus on wider safeguarding with the creation of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards. This is an exciting time as we now have the ability to be innovative and try out different things with our new partnership.

The Fxifest consultation with children and their families is one example of this. On the ground staff will still see clear policy and procedures, safeguarding training and learning from case reviews and audit. Serious cases will be reviewed more quickly and the national panel will focus on themes, the first being on knife crime. We are in a good position to work together to innovate and improve our early help and child protection system in Calderdale.

We are ambitious to be the Best Borough in the North, to help families and children become more resilient. The partnership is strong, effective and staff have good working relationships with families and other professionals. It is through these relationships that we get positive change to keep children safe.

We are developing mechanisms to better understand the emerging risks you see in your day to day work. Whether you work in a school, children's centre, or hospital we want to make sure the safeguarding partnership has its ear to the ground, to keep safeguarding practice sound and to support you to do the important job you do every day, which is to keep children safe.



From Penny Woodhead NHS Calderdale Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) - Who are we?

The CCG is a membership organisation consisting of 25 general practices. Our purpose is to improve the health and lives of the estimated 221,678 people living in Calderdale and/or registered with a Calderdale GP practice.

We do this by working collaboratively with our partners and stakeholders in Calderdale and as part of the West Yorkshire and Harrogate Integrated Care System to:

- Ensure that healthcare is available for anyone who needs it;
- Keep people safe;
- Ensure continued improvements in the quality of care;
- Support people to maintain a healthy lifestyle;
- Address health inequalities locally, as well as ensuring financial sustainability.

We do this by commissioning health and care services in a range of areas including mental health, learning disabilities, continuing health care, emergency and urgent care, hospital and community services, primary care and services for children and young people.

The changes to safeguarding children's arrangements offers the partners a great opportunity to build on the strong system working we have in Calderdale, to try out new approaches and ensure we drive a learning culture.

There are many health services and providers and in Calderdale, although the CCG is the statutory partners, we will need to ensure we listen to health providers and find ways for them to be able to influence how we do business.



Sarah Baker - West Yorkshire Police

As first responders Policing plays a distinctive role within communities where we often interact with Children and Young People at a point of crisis or significant vulnerability.

We are committed to continuing to meet the needs of vulnerable children at risk of harm and to engaging in our shared partnership responsibilities, enhancing our multi-agency response to children wherever possible.

We will work within the new partnership arrangements to tackle issues that are important to the children and young people we interact with, building trust and ensuring we put safeguarding at the heart of our policing response.

We will work hard with all our partners, relevant agencies and communities to ensure the principles of Working Together become tangible multiagency activity, developing joint plans to reduce adverse childhood experiences, which often lead to contact with policing.

We will focus on understanding what is in the best interests of the child by listening to their Voices and that of their advocates, using available resources and powers to develop proportionate approaches which include prevention, early intervention and enforcement, as part of a whole system approach to safeguarding children and young people in our diverse communities.

We will be accountable and open to scrutiny and challenge, with a learning culture which is focussed on improving outcomes for children and young people.

We will do this with Fairness, Integrity and Respect, aiming to get it right first time, make best use of our resources and deliver a service fit for family.

The Secretariat supports the Calderdale Safeguarding Children Partnership in the following ways:



Julia Caldwell is the Manager of the CSCP and the Calderdale Safeguarding Adult Board (CSAB).

Julia manages the Secretariat staff and directs the work of the two safeguarding partnerships. Julia works with the Independent Chair of the CSAB, the 3 partners of the CSCP and with the wider partnership to understand how safeguarding interventions impact children, families and adults at risk.

Julia directs the work of the sub groups to ensure they deliver against the objectives set out in Strategic Business Plans. Julia makes sure that the statutory obligations are met, local needs are responded to and the views of children, adults and practitioners in Calderdale are taken into consideration.

Julia works extensively with other Strategic Calderdale Partnerships and with West Yorkshire and National colleagues to streamline activity, reduce duplication and utilise resources effectively.

Also in the team...

Sophie Boyles, Quality Assurance Officer

Sophie supports the Partnership by managing and delivering a programme of Multi-Agency Audits, which highlight good practice, and measures the impact and outcomes for Children and Adults; it also allows the Partnership to identify areas of development to improve safeguarding practice within Calderdale.

Sophie also leads on a programme of engagement for the CSCP and the CSAB with children and young people, parents/carers and practitioners through the work of the CSCP Young Advisors and Community Engagement. Sophie organises events, network forums and outreach to reach front line practitioners and communities.

Jacque Hellowell, Performance Management Officer

Jacque supports the partnership members in gathering and reporting multi-agency data to allow the CSAB and CSCP members to be assured about multi-agency safeguarding work. This includes gathering evidence about the impact of safeguarding interventions on children and adults.

Jacque also administers the annual Section 11 / Safeguarding Adults Audit which examines how well organisations and professionals safeguard people in Calderdale.

The results provide themes of good practice and areas for development, which are used in strategic and practitioner events to enable an 'action learning approach' which has led to improved safeguarding practice in Calderdale.

Allison Waddell, Learning & Improvement Officer

Allison co-ordinates and delivers Calderdale's multi-agency safeguarding learning and development programme for professionals across both adults and children services. Allison leads on policy and procedural development for Calderdale and West Yorkshire, she produces easy to use tools and guidance to help practitioners safeguard children and adults effectively.

Allison uses the learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (previously Serious Case Reviews) and Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs), performance management data, audits, views of children and adults and practitioner feedback to inform the training, guidance, policy and tools.

The cyclical model for learning and improvement used by the CSCP/CSAB has the aim to safeguard and improve outcomes for children and adults in Calderdale.

Julie Hartley and Lisa Golding-Smith

Business Support Co-ordinators who provide business support to the CSAB and the CSCP, the Sub-groups of both partnerships, the Independent Chairs and Scrutineers, and to the CSCP Business & QA Manager.

In addition, Julie has specific responsibility for the overall process of the Child Death Overview Panel and support for the Safeguarding Adults Reviews, Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and Learning and Improvement functions.

The Secretariat can be contacted in the following ways: 01422 394074, julia.caldwell@calderdale.gov.uk; 2nd Floor, Princess Buildings, Halifax, HX1 1TS, www.calderdale-safeguarding.co.uk