



SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN: LSCB newsletter

Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility

Introduction

Welcome to the October 2011 edition of the LSCB newsletter.

Within this edition of the newsletter we would like to update you on some of the key national drivers such as the Munro Review into Child Protection and locally how we are working to meet this. In addition we would like to update you on the progress made against the priorities set within the LSCB Business Plan 2011.

If you have any items you would like including in the newsletter please contact Katie.newborn@northlincs.gov.uk

Edwina E Harrison

Edwina Harrison | Independent Chair of the LSCB



Local Safeguarding
Children Board

LSCB information session

The LSCB held an information session on 26th September 2011 and 118 multi-agency staff attended this. The event was specifically for staff who undertake a Lead professional role in either assessment, decision making and intervention regarding safeguarding children.



The important communication messages from the day were:

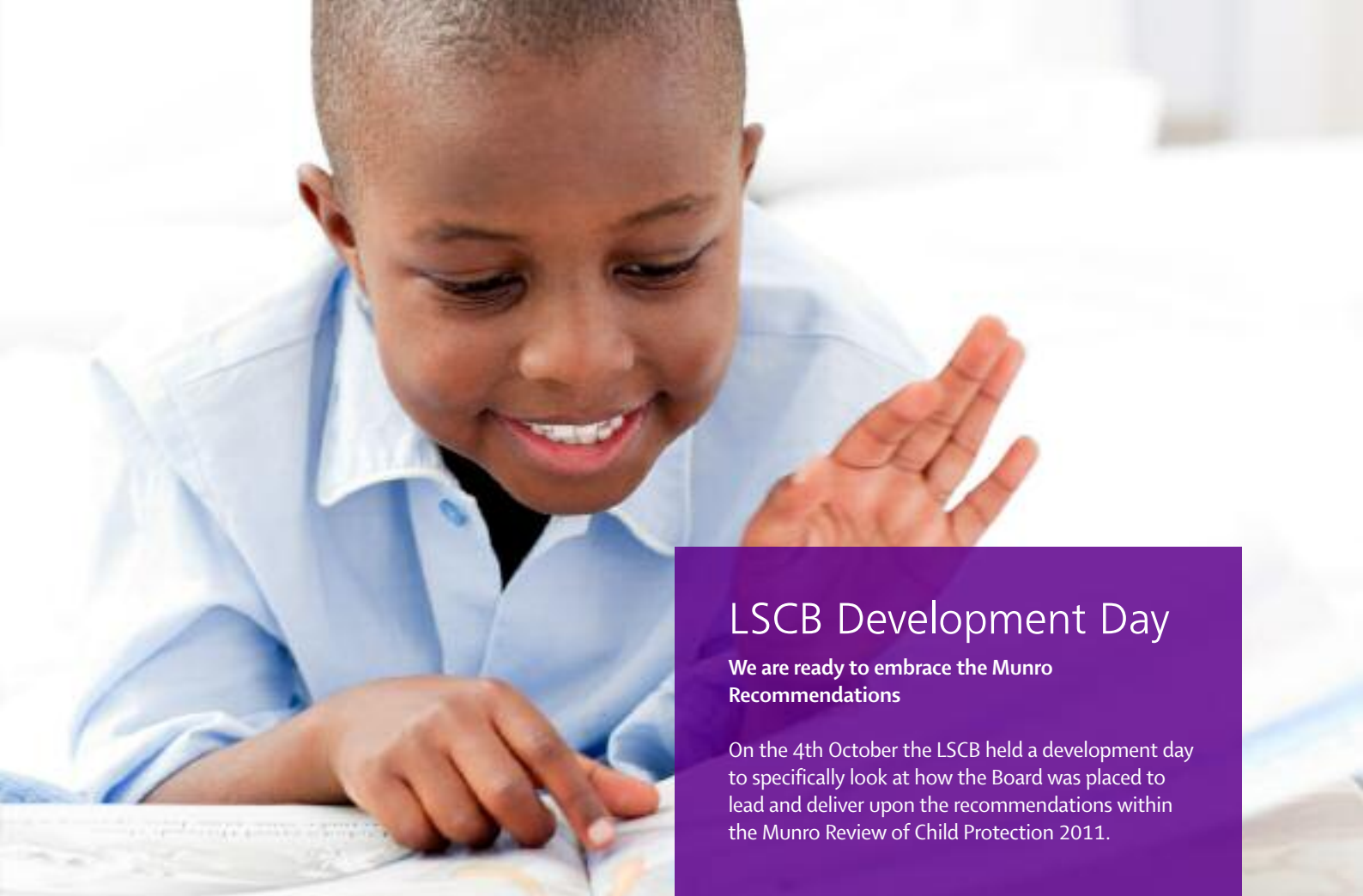
- Professor Thorpe reported on the findings of his latest research with 14 local authorities in the Yorkshire and Humber region. He concluded that we have a robust management system within North Lincolnshire's Children and Young people's Duty Team for responding to referrals, which safeguards children effectively by ensuring that those children who require specialist intervention are identified and responded to quickly and those who do not are managed by multi agencies.
- We are in a good position to implement the recommendations made by Professor Munro in her review of Child Protection 2011.
- We operate good practice in relation to Risk Assessment regarding safeguarding children. A Risk Assessment tool has been developed locally to assist practitioners to identify risk and plan interventions. The tool is used on children subject to child protection enquiries and supports practitioners in identifying risk and protective factors. The risk assessment has been so successful that it has been rolled out to Health Visiting and school nurse staff.
- The Co Location of Children's Social Work Duty and Humberside Police B Division. This has been recognised as best practice across Humberside and is supporting partnership working, the understanding of thresholds and joint decision making.
- Multi agency moderating panel-frontline practitioners report that random audits of cases undertaken at the Multi agency Moderating Panel supports the ongoing development of multi agency practice and joint working by building transparency and trust.
- We are learning from Children and Young people. We now have 50 trained Cybermentors across schools in North Lincolnshire that offer support to

children and young people on line regarding issues such as dealing with bullying. We have a group of 40 plus children and young people from across a range of schools who form the Children Feel Safe Consultation Group who regularly report to the LSCB on a range of issues. At the last meeting as a result of their feedback a Top Tips for Facebook flyer was developed and distributed at Frodingham Appleby Gala.

- Localities and Partnerships arrangements are in place to deliver upon early identification and prevention for families who may need support.
- The key role schools have in safeguarding children, underpinned by Ofsted Inspection criteria
- Key headlines from the most recent Adolescent Lifestyle Survey - The Adolescent lifestyle survey ran again across all secondary schools in North Lincolnshire and involved 4831 pupils. The headlines from this survey are very positive in that the vast majority of 11-15 yr olds in North Lincolnshire do not engage in risky behaviours, however many young people this age believe that their peers do but the evidence is that the numbers of children and young people engaged in risky behaviours such as drinking, smoking and sexual activity are declining, in line with national trends.

Over the next year the LSCB will be running awareness campaigns focusing upon dispelling some of the myths about children and young people's behaviour and celebrating the positives about our local children and young people.

For full information about the day and to access the presentations please visit http://www.everynorthlincschildmatters.org.uk/files/index?folder_id=6265030



LSCB Development Day

We are ready to embrace the Munro Recommendations

On the 4th October the LSCB held a development day to specifically look at how the Board was placed to lead and deliver upon the recommendations within the Munro Review of Child Protection 2011.

The day was attended by representatives from Children and Young People's Services, Schools and Community and Acute Nursing. The Board undertook a self assessment using the Ofsted report called Good Practice by Local Safeguarding Children Boards September 2011 to benchmark itself. The self assessment identified the excellent arrangements we have in place in terms of our Board arrangements, our engagement with children and young people, partnership working, quality assurance, learning from serious case reviews and multi agency training.

A large focus of the development day was how well placed we were to deliver upon the Munro recommendations. Professor Munro describes the importance of the child's journey through the systems in place to safeguard them. The System Professor Munro refers to is not just the child protection system, it refers to the whole system from early identification/early intervention through to children identified as in need, children in need of protection and children who are in care. All agencies need to ensure that no matter at what point they are supporting a child in the system they are doing so in accordance with the standards that underpin safeguarding work. These are:

- A child should expect that adults are there to look out for them and notice when things are not right.

Ensure that there is a small and consistent team around the child.

They should expect staff to:

- identify if they need help,
- listen to them even when they might not be ready to listen to them,
- spend enough time with them to know them,
- help them when they need it.

If they need help then staff should:

- tell them how they will help and what will happen next
- tell their parent/family what needs to change and by when,
- not leave them unhappy and drifting whilst they work with their parent/family
- enable them to stay with their family, their friends, their school and in their community
- make them feel safer
- ensure that there is a small and consistent team around the child.

These standards are important and support a child centred, inclusive and proactive approach by practitioners, designed to ensure that children have a supportive and effective experience in their journey through the system designed to support them. The Board agreed that it would put together an action plan to outline specifically how it was going to meet the Munro recommendations.



Domestic Abuse

The LSCB is pleased to have been invited to join a national pilot project that is looking at Enhancing the Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) processes. The local aims are to support the development of services to women who experience domestic abuse from BME communities and also to develop services to non convicted male perpetrators. A multi agency steering group has been developed and will be consulting with staff about their views.

THE FREEDOM PROGRAMME

The LSCB in partnership with Safer Neighbourhoods is implementing a programme for female victims of Domestic Abuse called the Freedom Programme. This programme is a voluntary programme and women do not need to be referred to it, they can just attend sessions. 4 staff have been specially trained to deliver this programme and the sessions will commence at the end of October 2011. Further information will be circulated shortly.

Procedures update

LSCB multi agency guidelines and procedures can be accessed on www.northlincs.gov.uk/LSCB

New guidance is available on line on :

- Children Placed and Living Away from Home.
- Children who demonstrate Harmful Sexual Behaviour

Currently we are running an online consultation on newly revised procedures on Children who are at risk from sexual exploitation. You can access these and contribute to the consultation by visiting

http://www.everynorthlincschildmatters.org.uk/consultations/respond?survey_id=6219936

FEEDBACK FROM CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE

The Children Feel Safe Consultation Group, is a group of 40 plus children from across 20 primary, secondary and the two colleges in North Lincolnshire. The Group is a focus group on behalf of the LSCB whose remit is to inform the Board about safeguarding issues and develop a range of approaches to support children. At the meeting in June 2011, the group discussed the issue of Facebook and how to empower children and young people to know how to use it safely. The group suggested advice that could be given to children and young people to inform them on safe behaviours and to know what to do on Facebook to keep safe. A top tips for Facebook flyer was developed.

Appleby Frodingham Gala

Each year the LSCB have an information stand at Appleby Frodingham Gala, where we disseminate information to children, young people and their families on a range of safeguarding issues. We also use the opportunity to consult with children and young people.

The theme for LSCB this year was E Safety and the Top Ten Tips for Facebook was disseminated widely to children and young people at the event. In addition we consulted with 303 children and young people about a range of issues including the use of social networking and on line gaming sites and whether children and young people would know who to contact if they were worried about

someone on the site either due to grooming or bullying behaviour. The feedback from children and young people was overwhelming in that they would largely go to their parents with any concerns they had. The LSCB communication group in conjunction with the Children Feel Safe Group will be using the consultation results to develop information for parents about how they can further support their children to be safe on line.

NEW LOOK LSCB LOGO

We've got a new logo but we're still the same underneath.

In July 2011 the LSCB ran a logo competition across schools and colleges in North Lincolnshire where children were asked to design us a new logo. We were overwhelmed by responses and the wonderful entries that we received. It was a difficult task but Board members selected a winner.



The winning logo was designed by a year 6 pupil at Gunness and Burringham Church of England School.

As a thank you the winner and two runners up attended an LSCB meeting where they were presented with a prize for their achievements. The winning logo will replace the old one and will adorn all LSCB information.

A systems approach to learning lessons

The LSCB has worked with Rotherham Safeguarding Children Board to commission and deliver training on a new approach to undertaking case reviews. The training has been delivered to 20 local staff from across health services, Education, Police and social work services. The approach is based upon a national model being piloted currently by the Social Care Institute for Excellence, which looks at how learning from Serious Case Reviews can be enhanced. North Lincolnshire's Serious Case Review Panel are working on developing a local model to be implemented by the new year. This will be the approach taken to review cases that do not meet the criteria to undertake a serious case review. As with all reviews the Board supports a no blame culture that focuses upon supporting and enhancing practice.

LSCB NEW E LEARNING PACKAGE

The LSCB has developed and launched a new E learning package which can be used for all staff who fall into:

- Group 1 staff - *Staff in infrequent contact with children, young people and/ or parents/carers who may become aware of possible abuse or neglect.* (Working Together 2010 p125)
- An induction for Group 2 and above staff, ie those who have regular/specific contact with children
- Staff who require a refresher and have previously undergone face to face safeguarding training.

The revised on line training package covers the following areas:

- Understanding basic child development
- Understanding what is meant by abuse and neglect
- Understanding of individual role and responsibilities in relation to Safeguarding children
- What to do if you are worried about a child and how to make a referral
- Understanding of legislation
- Understanding of the LSCB



If you would like to access the training please contact Helen.parker@northlincs.gov.uk, alternatively you can ring Helen who is the LSCB Training Coordinator on 01724 296940.

Local Safeguarding Children Board Training

Please see below for the details and dates of LSCB courses available in October, November and December 2011. Booking for these courses can be completed on line by visiting www.northlincs.gov.uk/LSCB or contact Helen Parker on 01724 296960.

- **Child Protection Foundation Training**
7 & 8 November 2011 (*fully booked*)
- **Difficult and Disturbing behaviour**
15 &16 November 2011 (*limited places available*)
- **Domestic Violence and the Impact on the Child**
21 November 2011 (*limited places available*)
- **Managing allegations against people who work with children**
23 November 2011 (*limited places available*)
- **ESafety**
29 November 2011 (*limited places available*)
- **Child Protection where neglect is a factor**
29 November 2011 (*limited places available*)
- **CAF update**
30 November 2011- (*limited places available*)



**YOUNG VOICE AWARDS
18 NOVEMBER 2011**

As part of the activities during anti bullying week, the LSCB is very proud to be promoting the Young Voice Awards. The event will celebrate the achievements of local children and young people and the contribution that young people have made, whether it be to a community, an individual or to themselves.

The categories for the awards are:

YOUNG LEADER:

A young person/people that has shown true leadership skills when working with young people

COMMUNITY CHAMPION:

A young person/people that is actively involved in their community e.g. someone who has organised a fundraiser for a charity

PERSONAL COURAGE:

A young person/people who has overcome difficulty in their life e.g. a child in care, disability

YOUNG CARER:

A young person/people caring for a loved one

ANTI BULLYING CHAMPION:

A young person/people who has supported someone who is being bullied; someone who actively raises awareness or challenges bullying

VOLUNTEERING CHAMPION:

A young person/people that actively volunteers e.g. coaching assistant; at a community centre; student support

INSPIRATION:

A young person/people who is an inspiration through an achievement, personal challenge or difficult circumstance

If you know of a child or young person that you would like to nominate for an award please email Suzan Kemp at suzan.kemp@northlincs.gov.uk



GREAT DEBATE

**11 November 2011 Council Chamber,
Pittwood House**

Do you work with children and young people, if so there is an opportunity for them to be involved in a 'Great Debate' 11th November 2011 at the Council Chamber Pittwood House. This is their opportunity to voice their views on issues that affect them and also talk and challenge Heads of Services, Elected Members and other decision makers across the council and it's partners. Please tell them about this event and encourage and support them to attend as it is their opportunity to make a difference and so that their voice can be heard.



Shaunagh's story

Shaunagh attended the LSCB Communication Group to share her experiences of what it felt like when she came into care and the impact it had on her personally.

Message of inspiration from a young person in care

Shaunagh bravely described her experiences of bullying and how some people did not understand how coming into care affected her emotionally. Shaunagh described how she was excluded from school and gave the following advice to professionals about supporting children in care:

- Take time to think about how you can help children in care in a way that won't make everyone think they are getting all the attention.
- Think about how children might be dealing with a situation they can't cope with on their own.
- Help children stay in school
- Listen to young people about how they feel.

Shaunagh has recently delivered a presentation to teachers and other children and young people in care to raise awareness about her experiences.

Shaunagh's story is one of inspiration as she describes:

"Since I got kicked out of school I thought to myself I am not going to give up. I want to do something with my life. I didn't think of this straight away. I sat around doing nothing and I got bored so when I met my Key Worker I explained what I wanted to do and he listened. I told him that I wanted to do my GCSE and he then put me on to on-line learning and it went well for a while. Then it didn't go very well as there were people putting silly comments in the chat box and I couldn't concentrate. I found myself losing confidence but my Key Worker told me that there was some work experience at LDC and I said that I will give it a go.

'I sat around doing nothing and I got bored so when I met my Key Worker I explained what I wanted to do and he listened.'

LDC has gone really well and I have been here since May the 3rd and I really enjoy it. I now know I will be getting an apprenticeship at LDC I am looking really forward to it and am really excited. I had a social worker and she was very supportive in loads of different ways in ways that I can't explain she understood how I felt and that working at LDC would help and she wouldn't blame me for anything, the things that I did she now knows that I did those things for a reason and she would stand by me and when I needed her she would be there."

KNOW UR SPACE INVADERS



Control who can see your profile

Set your Profile to "Only my friends". By default, Facebook allows all of your networks and all of your friends to be able to view your profile. As networks can contain hundreds of thousands of people (and you have no control over who else joins the network), you are instantly revealing personal information to potential identity thieves if you leave this option as its default setting.

Facebook Places

This is a great way to know exactly where your friends are by using Facebook on your smartphone with GPS. But think about the fact that if you don't know who all your friends are, they could know exactly where you are posting from. Use this feature very carefully, so you don't tell everyone where you are.

Think carefully about who you allow to become your friend

Once you have accepted someone as your friend they will be able to access a lot of information about you (including photographs) that you have marked as viewable by your friends. You can remove friends at any time should you change your mind about someone.

Limit access to your status updates and your wall

As you may change your status to say "Going to a conference in three days", or "On holiday up north until November 2!" (which may be useful information for criminals) it makes sense not to make your status available to anyone other than approved friends. You should not make it viewable by your networks. Non-friends do not need to know what you are doing minute-by-minute.

Think about your digital footprint

If you are going to upload photographs, video, strong opinions or the like to social networking sites or any other website keep in mind the follow things:

- employers use search engines and social networking sites to check out potential and existing employees
- information and images published on the internet are very difficult to remove.
- information and images on the internet can have a very long life – when you are 80 do you still want that really bad photo of you on the internet?
- it's hard to control who see's information about you – think before you upload would you be embarrassed if your grandma, boss or even future partner were to see this photo or video etc?