Appendix



Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Annual Report

The Effectiveness of Safeguarding Children Arrangements in Sunderland

1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015

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This report is available on the SSCB website www.sunderlandscb.com

Section 1 – FOREWORD by Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) Independent Chair

There is no doubt in my mind that 'safeguarding' those most vulnerable in our society, be they children, young people, or adults is one of the greatest responsibilities and challenges for those working in this most demanding area of public service work .

In the many instances that this responsibility is discharged positively there is hardly a flicker of recognition or acknowledgement - it's just something that the public expect. However, get it wrong and the impact and implications can be almost immeasurable, condemning children, young people, or adults to a life of misery – or much worse! Recent history is stacked high with reminders with public scandals centring around Winterbourne View, Harold Shipman, Rolf Harris, and the organised abuse activity headlined in Oxfordshire, Rochdale, Rotherham and far too many other place, which should all act as stern reminders about just how vulnerable a small but crucially important minority section of our population really are.

This is precisely why the work of Local Children Safeguarding Boards (LSCBs) is so important in that they are required to provide that crucial oversight of the work delivered by the multi-agency safeguarding Partnership to ensure that everything possible is done to help and protect those who are most in need of safeguarding. This means that the LSCB needs to be ever vigilant in order to recognise when the 'system' is under pressure and be ready to take steps to effect a remedy before failings occur. In order to be successful, effective monitoring, scrutiny and challenge across all members of the safeguarding partnership is a fundamental requirement.

Understanding how well the system is working and performing is crucially fundamental, requiring scrutiny of important areas of activity, the numbers of children and young people entering and exiting the Looked After system, the numbers of children and young people being considered or subject to child protection investigation and intervention and understanding whether the quality of such interventions has delivered positive outcomes, are all examples of the range of responsibilities performed by the LSCB – there are many more!

Regrettably, some of these important tasks and responsibilities of the LSCB have not always been discharged to the appropriate standard. During 2014/15 the LSCB became distracted by an unusually high number of Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) meaning that a number of its core duties and responsibilities dropped off the LSCB's 'radar'. During the second part of this year the Board recognised this to be the case and focussed quickly on a remedial plan to address this. As the 12 month period pertinent to this report (2014/15) drew to a close, significant rapid progress had been made in terms of remedy. Early into the new financial year (2015/16) Ofsted inspected Children's Services in Sunderland, including assessing the effectiveness of the LSCB. Whilst recognising that the LSCB had already commenced its own 'recovery plan' Ofsted considered it too early to judge whether such change would deliver positive outcomes for Sunderland's children and young people and in consequence set out seven specific recommendations for the LSCB. These recommendations have already been turned in to an Action Plan with a significant number of the deficits on a completion trajectory.

I referred earlier to the large number of SCR's commissioned by the LSCB. At the time of publication of this Annual Report this totals 10. Of that some have already entered the public domain and been published, another four are working their way through the quality assurance process and will soon be published. Of the remaining number, progress is being hampered by external factors (such as criminal enquiries and court processes) and the time commitments required to complete what can be extremely complex matters. The purpose for undertaking a

SCR is to learn lessons and understand where improvements (if any) can be made. The evidence from this learning will be clearly set out in the 2015/16 Annual Report.

Finally, there have been a number of membership and governance changes made at the LSCB in 2014/15. It is important that I recognise the significant commitment, dedication, and contributions made by all those across the Partnership. The period covered by this Report has been challenging and at times traumatic for those associated with the LSCB and its supporting work infrastructure. I would like to place on record my thanks to everyone for their hard work at all levels- safeguarding is perhaps the most challenging, unforgiving of all public service, and yet when we get it right it becomes a highly rewarding area of work and without such commitment many more vulnerable children, young people, and adults would find themselves very much at personal risk.

Our 'recovery' is not yet complete but we are certainly heading in the right direction.

I hope that you will find the 2014/15 Annual Report a helpful and informative read and look forward to reporting continued progress in 2015/16.

Colin Morris SSCB Independent Chair

Section 2 – EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Sunderland. The Board has a written Constitution that outlines governance arrangements, role of Board members, structure etc and further information can be found at www.sunderlandscb.com

The Board has worked with other local boards and partnerships in 2014-2015 to ensure issues of safeguarding children and child protection are appropriately considered by the partners and to ensure that work is co-ordinated and efficient.

These partners include the Children's Trust Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board, Safeguarding Adults Board and Safer Sunderland Partnership. Sunderland Children and Young People's Plan sets out the strategy of the Children's Trust Board. The SSCB Performance Report is used to monitor the actions taken to address the priorities and the outcomes for children and young people in Sunderland.

Sunderland is a large city in the North-East of England with a population of 276,110 of which 61,540 are children and young people aged 0-19. Children and young people represent approximately 22% of the overall population. 26% of children and young people in Sunderland are defined as living in poverty. The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at Quarter 4 2014/15 was equal to 56.2 children per 10,000 in the general population of Sunderland which is similar to the 2012/13 outturn of 56.0 per 10,000. The 2014/15 figure placed Sunderland above the England average of 42.1% and below the North East average of 59.3%.

The Board has undertaken a number of actions within its SSCB Business Plan in 2014-2015 including the development of multi-agency audit tools and the recruitment of multi-agency auditors, we have reviewed and updated relevant safeguarding children procedures and developed a Quality Assurance and Performance Framework.

The Board has provided a significant amount of challenge to partner agencies, in particular Children's Safeguarding. These challenges have included safeguarding issues which have arisen during SCR activity, poor quality of reports submitted in respect of learning and improvement activity, ability to learn lessons and commitment to the work of the SSCB.

The SSCB Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub-committee initiated five Serious Case Reviews in this time period and will report on the learning from these cases in due course. In addition, a number of management reviews and audits have been undertaken and the learning from these is attached at Appendix 3.

Information regarding the type of SSCB training and the attendance figures for 2014-2015 is contained in the SSCB Training Annual Report which can be found at <u>www.sunderlandscb.com</u>.

Section 11 Audits were issued to agencies in March 2015 with the purpose being to assess partner agency compliance with Section 11 Children Act 2004.

The overall budget position for the SSCB for 2014-2015 is a balanced budget which includes appropriations from the SSCB Reserves. The financial climate is challenging and will continue to be so for some considerable time. The impact of efficiency savings in agencies, particularly in the Council and Children's Safeguarding continues to have an impact on the safeguarding infrastructure.

Within 2014-2015 the SSCB commissioned five Serious Case Reviews which have highlighted some concerns regarding multi-agency practice. In addition they have highlighted that lessons learned from the learning and improvement work from previous reviews, has not been robustly embedded into multi-agency practice.

The Director of People Service commissioned an independent review (Core Assets) of Children's Safeguarding to examine the nature of the Safeguarding Service and identify areas in need of improvement. A Local Government Association Peer Review also took place in November 2014 which reasserted the findings of the Core Assets Review and concluded that improvements are not fast enough and there is a lack of impact evidenced.

The safeguarding system in Sunderland is not sufficiently robust and improvement work will need to gain pace and start to demonstrate impact in 2015-2016. In conjunction with the robust commitment, scrutiny and challenge from partners the SSCB is confident that the necessary improvements will be made to ensure children and young people in Sunderland are safeguarded.

Section 3 – SAFEGUARDING IN SUNDERLAND

The City of Sunderland

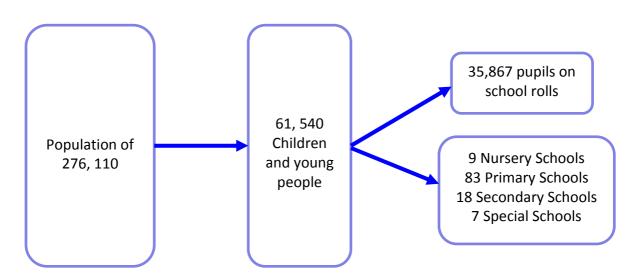
Sunderland is a large city in the North-East of England with a population of 276,110 of which 61,540 are children and young people aged 0–19. Children are therefore 22.3% of the overall population¹ in Sunderland.

There has been a reduction of 1.3% in the population of children in Sunderland since 2011. However there are differences across the age groups with an increase of 4% in the number of children aged 1–9 years and a reduction of 5.3% of children under 1 years old and over 10 years old.

Sunderland is the 41st most deprived Local Authority area in England² and 26% of children and young people in Sunderland are defined as living in poverty. The level of child poverty in Sunderland is worse than the England average. Approximately 13,000 of Sunderland's children and young people will need additional support from targeted and specialist children's services during their childhoods³.

In the Academic year 2014/15 there were 35,867 pupils in Sunderland on schools rolls. Sunderland has 9 nursery schools, 83 primary schools of which 19 are Academies and one is a Free School. There are 18 secondary schools of which 12 are Academies and one is a Free School. In addition there are seven schools for pupils with special educational needs of which five are Academies. There are also Pupil Referral Units at Nursery/Key Stage 1 Behaviour Team (ages 4-7yrs), Key Stage 2 and 3 (ages 7-14ys, and at Key Stage 4 (ages 11-16yrs). Sunderland also has two Private Schools.

In summary



¹ 2013 mid-year population estimates (Office of National Statistics)

² Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) 2010

³ The Child and Family Poverty Needs Assessment

Agreed at SSCB Meeting on 12.10.2015

Section 4 – ROLE AND FUNCTION OF SUNDERLAND SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

SSCB arrangements

Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 requires all Local Authorities to have a LSCB in place fulfilling the main objectives which are described as:

- (a) To co-ordinate what is done by each person of body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and
- (b) To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Regulation 5 of the LSCB Regulations 2006 sets out the functions and directions relevant to LSCB's. A copy f this Regulation can be found at http://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2006/90/contents/made.

Chairing Arrangements

Following the planned retirement of the previous SSCB Chair in June 2015 a new SSCB Chair was appointed in July 2014. The new SSCB Chair is also the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Adult Board in Sunderland.

Review of SSCB arrangement 2014-2015

A full review was undertaken of the SSCB arrangements in 2014-2015. An SSCB development event on 10th September 2014 identified a range of 'must do' issues to ensure that the SSCB was fit for purpose to meet future challenges. It was agreed that the SSCB had to refocus on meeting its core strategic responsibilities and the Board membership was changed to reflect this

The following tasks were identified as part of this work:

- A review of Board membership
- A review of the Business Planning Group functionality
- A review of the Sub-committee membership
- Development of a performance scorecard
- A review of the role and functionality of business support to the SSCB

As part of this work a review of the Sub-committees supporting both the SSCB and SSAB was undertaken which found that most chairs and representative of Sub-committees perceived the merged Sub-committees to be functioning well and that these should continue. Reservations were noted from the non-merged Quality Assurance Sub-committees and the Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub-committees that their volume of work, and specific focus means that they are not currently in a position to merge. The review indicated that the work of the joint Communication and Marketing Sub-committee should be strengthend and the Sub-committee re named the joint Engagement and Participation Subcommittee. At the same time as the SSCB review, a full review was undertaken of the SSAB and changes across the SSCB were mirrored across the SSAB.

The review also recognised that the SSCB was experiencing significant pressures particularly in respect of the unprecedented numbers of Serious Case Reviews commissioned.

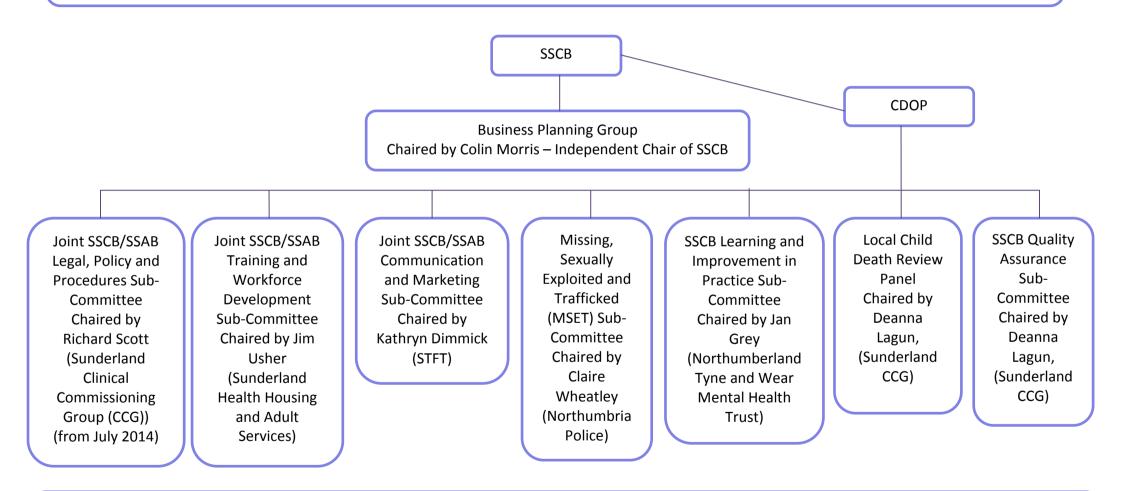
Reviewing and remodeling membership at Board level to ensure a forward looking strategic focus is crucial. Similarly, ensuring that the operational work of the Board receives sufficient time and focus is also crucial. Thus the proposed changes to both SSCB and SSCB Executive (formerly known as the Business Planning Group) were proposed as a way of making the required improvements.

The following was proposed and agreed at the SSCB in December 2014:

- The proposed changes to the membership of the SSCB establishing membership at Chief Executive or equivalent
- The SSCB will meet on four occasions per year, of which one should be jointly with the SSAB
- The creation of the SSCB Executive and the subsequent deletion of the current Business Planning Group – Chaired by the SSCB Chair and having a key focus on the operational agenda for the safeguarding system
- The proposed membership of the SSCB Executive to include previous members of the Board
- The changes identified by the Sub-committee review, including the proposed membership
- The proposed changes relating to the business support supporting both SSCB and SSAB the plan being to move to one unit supporting the function of both Boards to streamline processes and minimise duplication

SCOPE

Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) is the key statutory focus and mechanism for agreeing how relevant organisations will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Sunderland.



For further information on the function, structure and responsibilities of the Board please go to the SSCB website at <u>www.sunderlandscb.com</u>

Section 5 - GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY ARRANGEMENTS

SSCB Constitution

The Board has a written Constitution detailing the governance arrangements, role of Board members, SSCB structure, terms of reference and membership. This can be found at <u>www.sunderlandscb.com</u>.

Relationship with Key Partnerships

Our SSCB works closely with other partnerships in Sunderland including:

Sunderland Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) - The HWBB Board is responsible for producing both the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) and the HWBB Strategy. Following the formal establishment of the Health and Wellbeing Board, the governance arrangements between the Children's Trust and SSCB were reviewed to define the role and remit of each Board and their interrelationship with one another. Work is underway on developing a 'Framework of Co-operation' for the HWBB, SSCB and SSAB.

The Children's Trust Board (which replaced the Children's Trust in 2012) - Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is part of the wider context of the work of the Sunderland Children's Trust and the work of the SSCB contributes to the wider goals of improving the well-being of all children in Sunderland. Work has included reporting to the Children's Trust on the activities of the Board.

Safer Sunderland Partnership (SSP) - Joint work in relation to Domestic Violence, Violence against Women and Girls (VAWG) and Child Sexual Exploitation.

Risk and Resilience Board - The SSCB works closely with the Risk and Resilience Board in terms of key activity such as tackling child sexual exploitation

Sunderland Safeguarding Adult Board (SSAB) – The SSCB and SSAB have had the same Independent Chair from July 2014 following the planned retirement of the previous SSCB Independent Chair in June 2014. The purpose of appointing the same Independent Chair for both Boards was to strengthen the interface between safeguarding children and adults and to promote a 'Whole Family' approach to safeguarding. Further information on SSAB can be found at <u>www.sunderland.gov.uk-SAB</u>.

Children and Young People's Plan - The Children and Young People's Plan is the joint, strategic, overarching plan for all partners within the Children's Trust and the services they provide for children and young people. It describes how partners work together to improve outcomes for our children and young people, setting out the long term vision for improving their health and wellbeing.

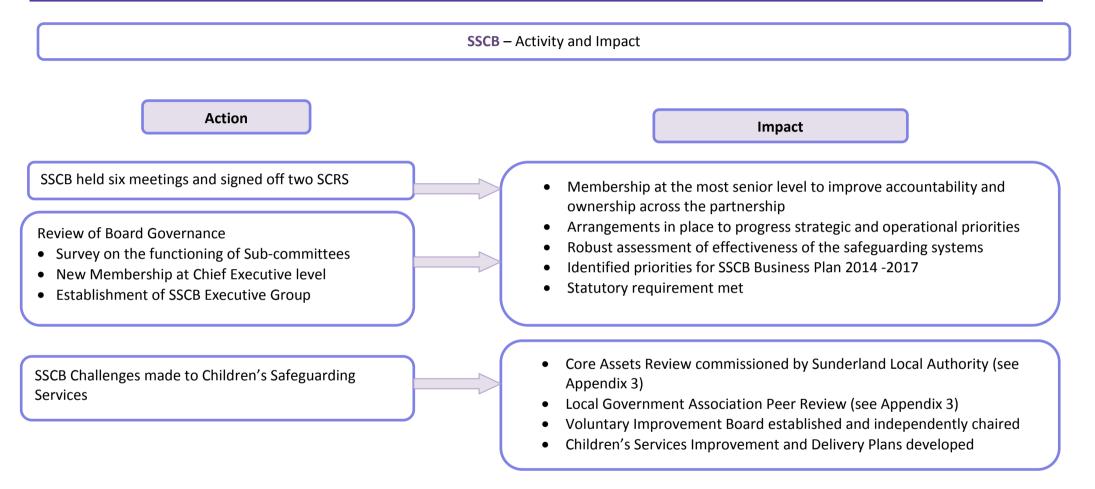
The strategic objectives as outlined in the Children and Young Peoples Plan are:

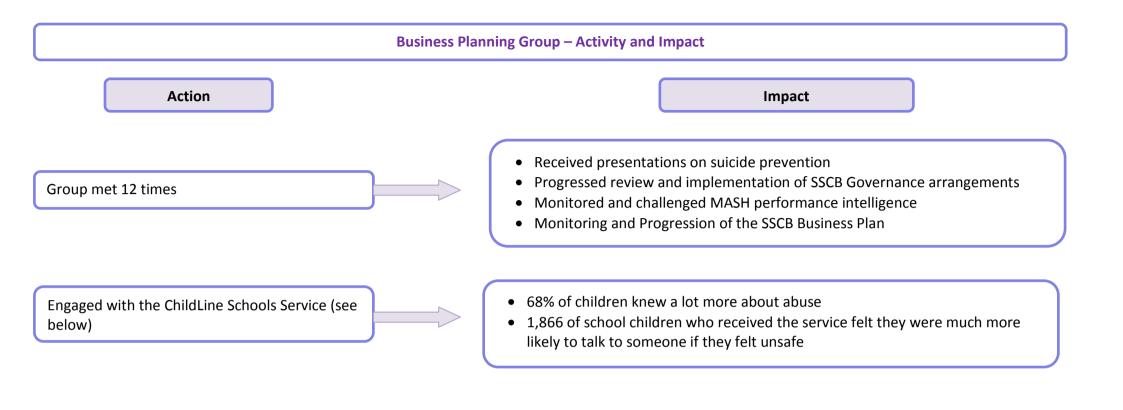
- Improving the overall health and wellbeing of children, young people and families
- Reducing the number of families with children living in poverty in the City
- Improving educational outcomes and strengthening whole family learning
- Improving safeguarding outcomes for children, young people and families

The Trust has also agreed four priority areas for its second delivery plan covering the period 2014-17. These are:

- Child and Family Poverty
- Best Start in Life
- Child Obesity
- Sexual Health (including teenage pregnancy)

Section 6 – WORK OF THE SSCB AND ITS SUB-COMMITTEES 2014-2015





The Business Planning Group supported the ChildLine Schools Service to reach all schools in Sunderland. ChildLine information highlights that the majority of children who contact ChildLine for advice, information and support are over 11 years old.

In response to this, ChildLine developed a free service to support all 9 to 11 year old children to have an understanding of abuse, how to protect themselves and how to get help when needed. The aim of the service is to visit every primary school in the UK every two years by 2016. The objectives are:

- To ensure children have an understanding of abuse in all its forms, including bullying, and an ability to recognise the signs of abuse
- To ensure children know how to protect themselves from all forms of abuse
- To make them aware of how to get help and sources of help (including ChildLine)

There are two stages

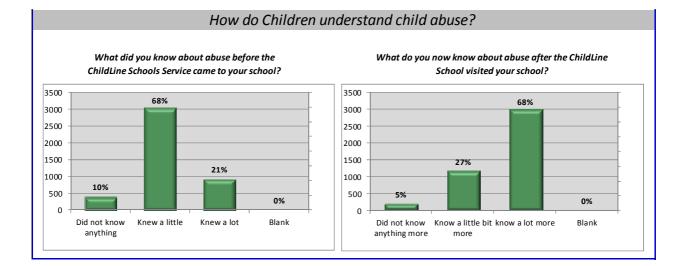
- A half hour interactive assembly which covers definitions of abuse and an introduction to ChildLine
- Approximately 1-2 weeks later, there is an hour long interactive classroom-based workshop, which explores further issues of sexual abuse, neglect and sources of support in a safe and participatory way

Work so far across Sunderland

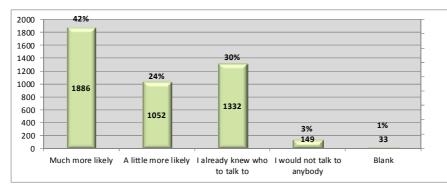
• A team of 35 volunteers were recruited and trained. There is an Area Co-Ordinator and Schools Manager

Next steps

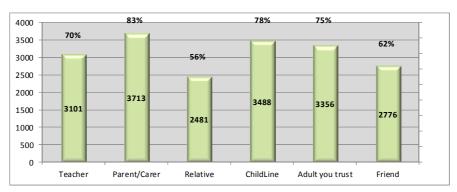
- The Business Planning Group agreed that the SSCB endorses the ChildLine Schools Service and recommend that all schools engage with the service
- The SSCB Chair attended a ChildLine Schools Service delivered in a Primary School

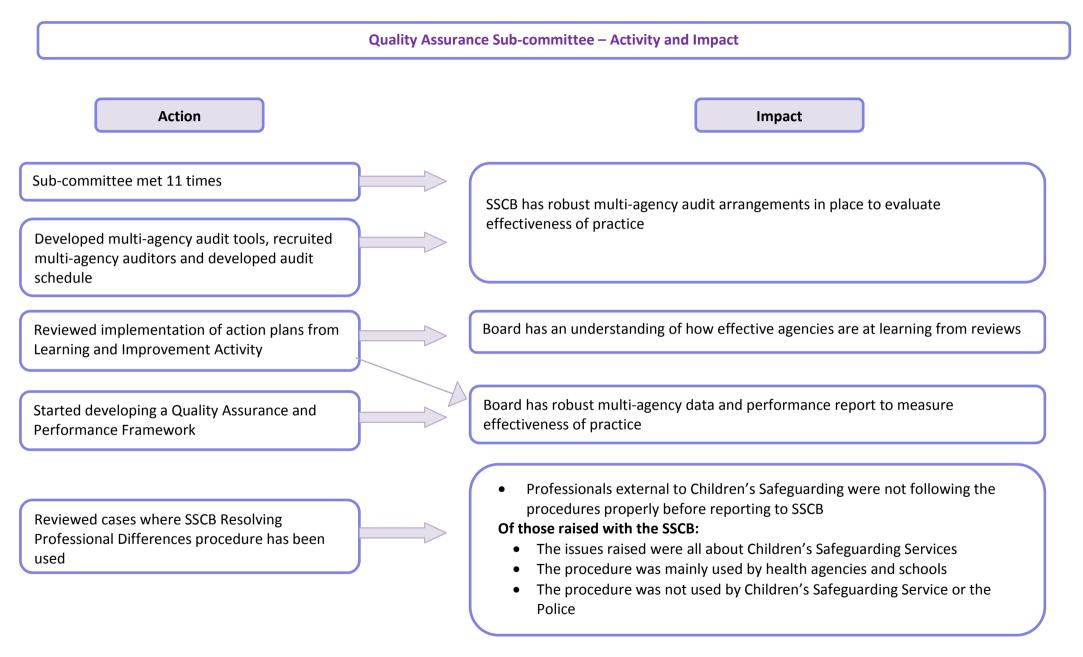


After the visit from the ChildLine Schools Service, would you say that you are more likely to talk to someone if you felt unsafe?



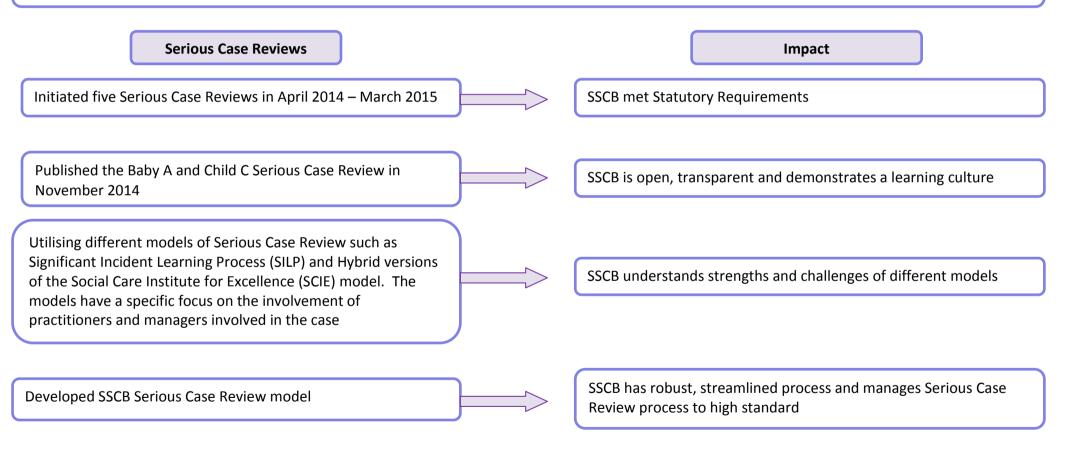
Which of these people would you talk to if you did feel unsafe? (Choose as many as you like)

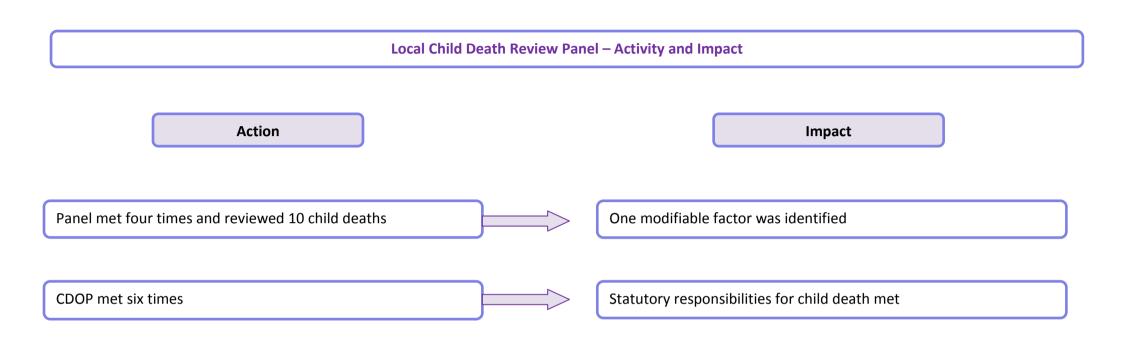


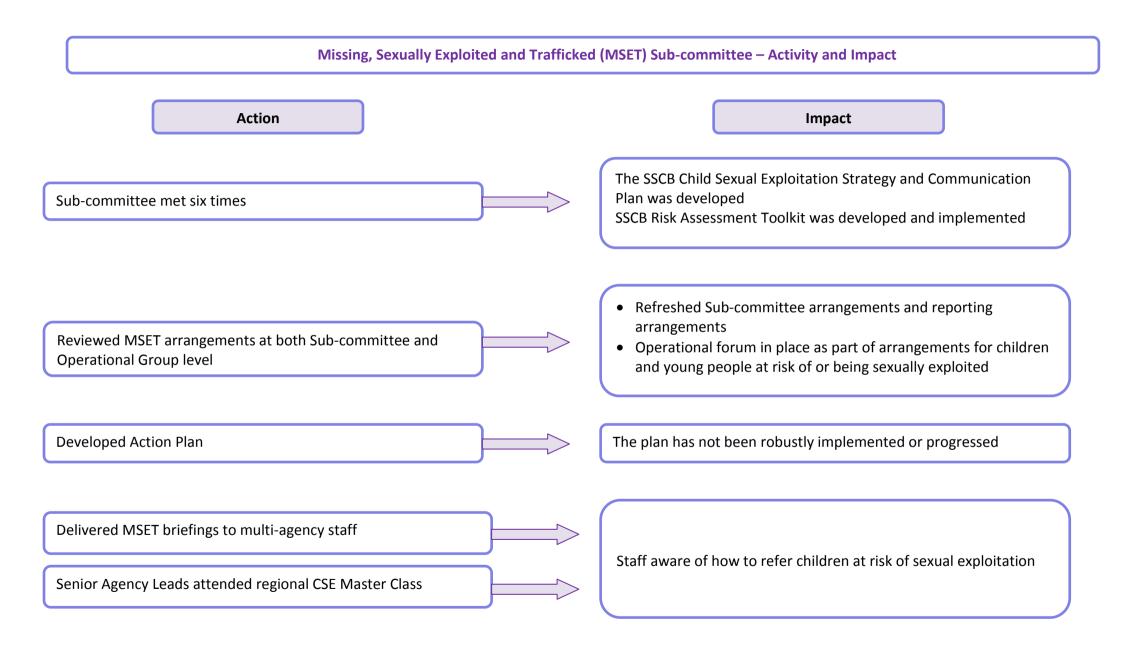


SSCB Learning and Improvement Sub-committee Activity 2014-15

Learning and Improvement Framework – Our SSCB has a Learning and Improvement Framework as required in Working Together 2015. The learning from this activity is available at Appendix 3

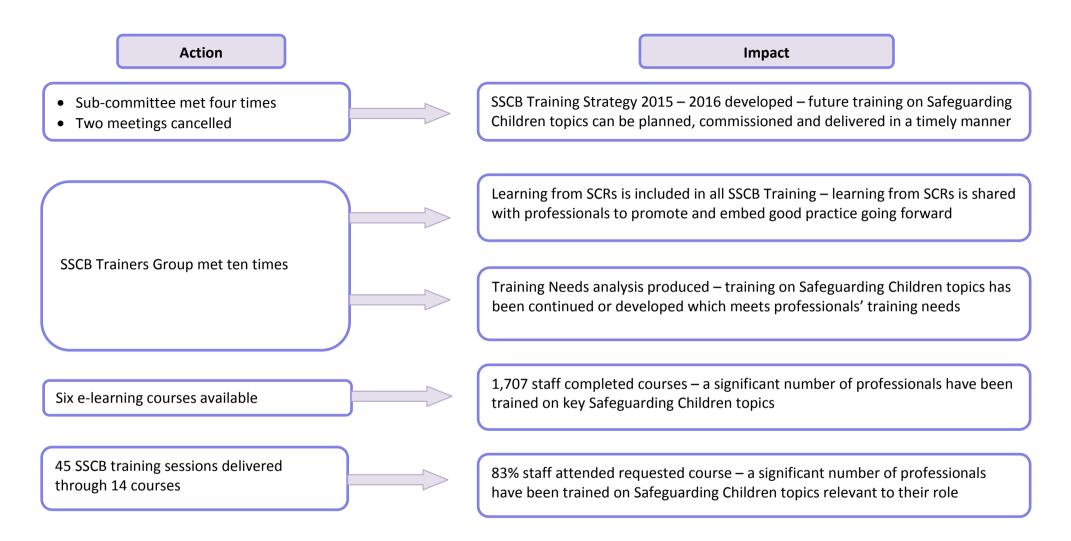






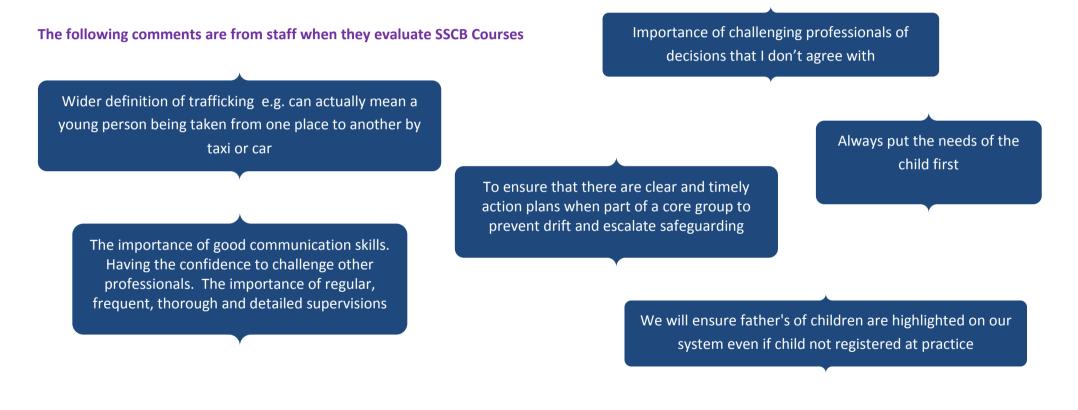


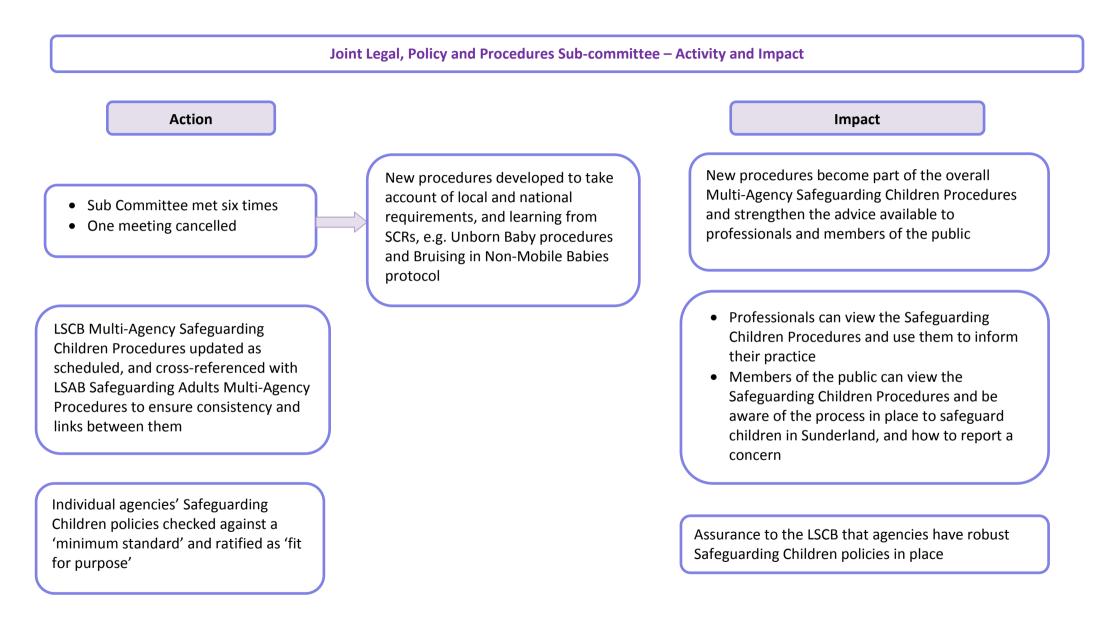
- Topics covered at the Conference linked directly with SSCB priorities
- Learning from Serious Case Reviews was shared



Joint SSCB/SSAB Training and Workforce Development Sub-committee – Reported Impact via post SSCB Course Evaluations

In Sunderland the SSCB does deliver multi-agency training. The SSCB Training Annual Report for 2014-2015 outlines all training delivered and is available at www.sunderlandscb.com





SSCB Challenge Function

A key part of the role of the SSCB is to have a robust challenge and escalataion process in place and the SSCB has made a number of SSCB Challenges to agencies during April 2014 – March 2015

SSCB Challenges April 2014 - March 2015

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
 September 2014 North Tyneside Children's Services unable to make contact with Social Worker in Sunderland to discuss case transfer of two siblings to North Tyneside CS from Sunderland CS. North Tyneside CS requesting SSCB support to address this. Issues raised are: Sunderland CS involved with 2 children who were subject to a protection plan until July 2014 Children moved to North Tyneside with Dad subject to a Family Assistance Order, mother to have contact under a Family Assistance Order to be reviewed by North Tyneside North Tyneside not informed 	September 2014	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	Challenge sent to Responsible Senior Manager - Manager off ill	North Tyneside Council to receive full history of case and court order so they can undertake appropriate work and comply with court order Children are appropriately safeguarded following transfer to North Tyneside	October 2014 Sunderland Strategic Service Manager) – resolved outstanding areas of conflict via direct discussion Operation Manager at North Tyneside Case is being transferred – impact was delay in responding to family needs Learning - <i>CS to review how leave cover</i> <i>arrangements</i> <i>Transfer information should</i> <i>have been more explicit in the</i> <i>referral</i> <i>Review and improve use of our</i> <i>telephone system including</i> <i>auditing response times and</i> <i>ability to get to a person</i>

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
by Sunderland CS until					
August 2014					
 North Tyneside Social 					
worker rang to speak to					
allocated social worker three					
times and left a number of					
messages – no success					
 North Tyneside requested a 					
copy of court order in					
August 2014. September					
2014, allocated social					
worker advised North					
Tyneside social worker					
children made allegation					
against father					
 No further contact from 					
allocated social worker until					
late afternoon her manager					
said that North Tyneside					
Council had to do the visit.					
North Tyneside Council					
worker saw children who					
they had never met, had					
very little information about					
and no opportunity to					
consider the history					
North Tyneside Council had					

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
 been trying since August 2014 to organise a transfer of this case but have not received any additional information or a copy of the court order. It was only when a crisis arose regarding urgent work to be undertaken was North Tyneside contacted September 2014 Further request from North Tyneside Children's Services as still no response from Sunderland Children's Services 			September 2014 - case still not resolved September 2014 – SSCB Business Manager advised SSCB Chair and agreed SSCB Chailenge process to be followed Responsible manager on sick leave so SSCB Challenge sent to alternative senior manager and copied to Interim Head of Safeguarding and Chief Operating Officer		

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
 North Tyneside Children's Services unable to make contact with Social Worker in Sunderland to discuss case transfer of a child to North Tyneside CS from Sunderland CS. North Tyneside CS requesting SSCB support to address this. Main issues are: Request for this to be transferred in August 2014 No further information is provided so North Tyneside follow up with telephone calls Eventually get a phone call from the social worker- who is not very informative and a little bit dismissive there is no evidence that mother is living in North Tyneside and Mother's whereabouts are unknown The child is in North Tyneside and it is unclear why she is not being treated as Looked After 	September 2014	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	September 2014 - SSCB Business Manager held discussion with SSCB Chair. Agreed SSCB Challenge process to be followed – papers to Senior Manager and cc to Interim Head of Safeguarding and Chief Operating Officer September 2014 - Challenge Form sent to different Strategic Manager and copied to Interim Head of Safeguarding and Chief Operating Officer for information.	Case transfer to be achieved asap Child to be safeguarded following transfer	October 2014 – Sunderland CS Response

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
 clear There are outstanding assessments North Tyneside will accept this case if it is confirmed that Mother has a permanent address in our area and the plan is clarified 					
Issue arose at a SCR session for a young person subject to an SCR in Sunderland that the Board needs to satisfy itself as the safety and wellbeing of the young person's sibling	October 2014	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	Verbal request made on October 2014 and November 2014 by SSCB Business Manager Written request made by SSCB Business Manager on 10.11.14 and written response received on 19.11.14	Sibling is safeguarded appropriately	There remains on-going involvement under Child in Need (CIN) procedures and on- going assessment of parents. Parent's engagement with this process is very limited and superficial. A legal meeting is arranged and a multi-agency strategy discussion is also planned due to the concerns regarding sibling's school attendance and parent's lack of engagement with the CIN plan
Issue arose at a SCR session for a young person subject to an SCR in Sunderland that the Board needs to satisfy itself as the safety and	October 2014	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	Verbal request made on October 2014 and November 2014 by SSCB Business Manager	Sibling is safeguarded appropriately	Support continued under CIN procedures. Professionals involved with sibling do not highlight any significant

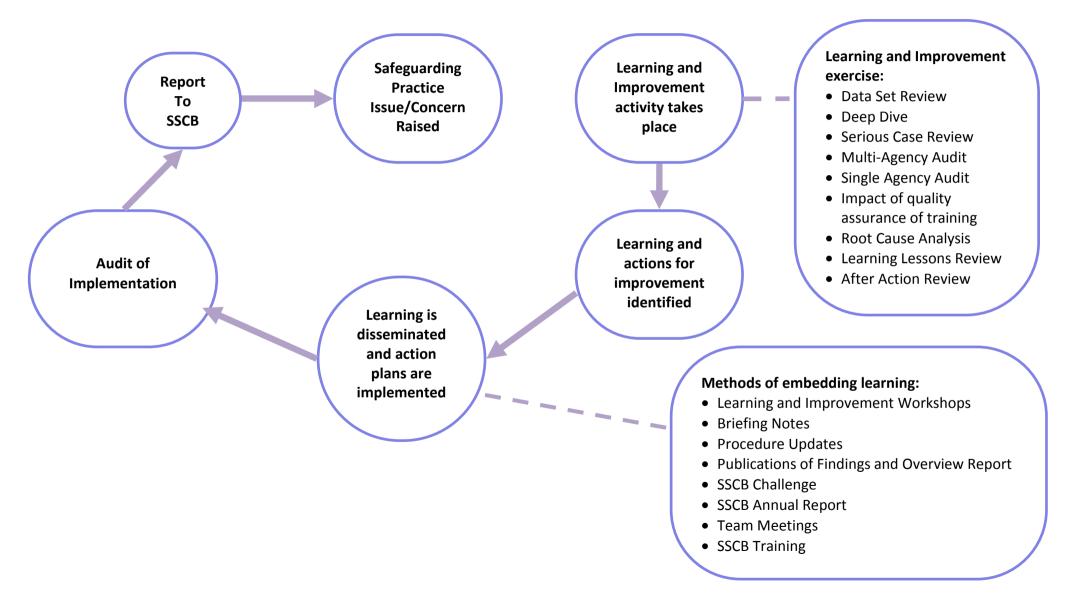
Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
wellbeing of the young person's sibling.			Written request made by SSCB Business Manager on November 2014 and written response received on November 2014		concerns for well-being. There is a recent issue regarding weight loss which is to be explored to determine if there are any other services that need to be implemented for the sibling
Scoping meeting held on Baby Mark. The Children's Safeguarding representative who attended the meeting was unable to advise on the safeguarding arrangements for these children. Assurance required from the Board that the children are appropriately safeguarded	November 2014	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	Letter sent to Executive Director of Peoples Services to seek assurance that the siblings of the baby reviewed are currently appropriately safeguarded and was asked to make you aware that I would be contacting you about this. Also requested that an audit is undertaken of all pre-birth cases and babies up to two years active to Children's Safeguarding, in order to assure the Board members that each of	Baby Mark, his siblings are safeguarded and all pre-birth cases and babies up to two years active to Children's Safeguarding are appropriately safeguarded	Findings of the audit awaited

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
Case Referred by Manager of Sunderland Youth Offending Service regarding a young person they are working with. The young person was offered a placement which was subsequently withdrawn. The young person is vulnerable as a result of the placement being withdrawn the young person has gone missing. Advice was sought by the referrer from the interim Head of Safeguarding and the referrer's own line manager and no response was received. The young person had previously been cared for at this placement and was keen to go again and the foster carer was keen to care for her again	March 2015	Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Services	these children have a robust assessment and plan in place and are appropriately safeguarded March 2015 SSCB Business Manager discussed case with SSCB Chair and agreed that the Resolution of Professional Differences Procedure does not apply in this situation. March 2015 Letter sent to referrer to request that the case is raised with Sunderland Chief Operating Officer so the practice can be reviewed. Chief Operating Officer copied in to the letter. Also requested that referrer keep the SSCB	To ensure that we get the best possible outcome for the young person and that she is appropriately safeguarded	May 2015 Update on situation received from YOS following the retraction of the placement in the young person was reported missing on daily basis from her out of area placement in North Tyneside. Young person moved to a Children's Home in Sunderland but went missing repeatedly and has resumed a relationship which is violent. Young Person lost her placement in Sunderland and is now living outside of Sunderland. Legal options have been explored

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
			informed of what		
March 2015	Marcala 2015	C	happens		
March 2015	March 2015	Sunderland	March 2015 SSCB	Child to be	Awaiting feedback from
Case raised with SSCB Business		Children's	Business Manager	appropriately	referrer/recipient – email sent
Manager using the SSCB Resolving		Safeguarding	informed SSCB Quality	safeguarded via	to both on May 2015
Professional Differences Procedure		Services	Assurance Sub-	the following:	requesting update on issues
but the issues should have been			committee of	Ensure parental	
raised by the SSCB Challenge			Professional	understanding	
Function Procedure			Disagreement and	of CP process	
Serious concerns about lack of			advised that in light of	and serious	
engagement from Children's			the information in the	issues	
Services and immediate risk to all			template this was not	identified	
of the children but additional risks			the correct process to	• Full risk	
for the girls identified in Police			follow.	assessment for	
reports.			March 2015 SSCB	all of the	
Since case conference			Business Manager sent	children and	
there have been no home			letter to Referrer	young people	
visits			advising of process to	involved to	
Parents did not attend case			be followed and	ensure not in	
conference			completed necessary	immediate	
Parents unaware of core			paperwork for referrer	danger	
group meeting			to agree. Letter copied	Clear	
Lack of communication			to Fiona Brown, Chief	protection plan	
with new social worker			Operating Officer and	in place as soon	
 In my opinion, parents are 			responsible Operation	as possible	
unaware of the seriousness			Manager for immediate	 Parenting 	
of what a CP involves			action to be taken.	assessment to	

Issue/Concern	Date	Agency challenge made to	Action taken	Intended Outcome	Actual Outcome
 Time scale: mid-March 2015is the last day to meet deadlines of core group meeting 45 minutes' notice of cancellation of core group, room had been pre-booked and refreshments made, my teaching time had been rearranged to fit in with timing of core group, hastily rearranged core group for March 2015– again with disruption to school re teaching commitments 				 be completed Children's views to be obtained Need confirmation of named SW for the child 	
Delay in School Representation on newly configured Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) – request for report to Board on April 2015 outlining how schools will be represented on SSCB	March 2015	Sunderland Schools	March 2015 Letter sent to Head of Educational Achievement and Lifelong Learning	Robust school representation on the SSCB to ensure strengthened links between schools and the Board	April 2015 Report presented and schools to be represented on SSCB by Safeguarding First (private organisation). Head teacher representation from 2 primary schools and special schools on SSCB Executive Group

SSCB Learning and Improvement Cycle



Why is Neglect a Priority?

- Baby A and Child C SCR findings around neglect
- Locally commissioned SCRs with elements of neglect
- In Quarter 4 2014/2-15 the number and proportion of neglect cases have increased (87%)
- The number of neglect cases continues to be above the 2013/14 outturn

What do we want to achieve?

- SSCB will understand the prevalence and causation of neglect impacting upon children and young people within Sunderland
- SSCB will understand and seek assurance that the multi-agency arrangements in place to support children who are living in neglectful circumstances are robust
- SSCB will reduce the impact of neglect on children in Sunderland

NEGLECT

What do we still need to do?

- SSCB must undertake a mapping exercise across all agencies to understand our collective response to children and families from universal services and early help offers to child protection
- Commission a piece of work to understand what is the universal offer and collective offer
- Neglect Strategy to be developed and endorsed by all agencies
- Audits regarding cases of neglect planned for June 2015

What have we achieved?

- Draft SSCB Quality Assurance and Performance Framework developed for agreement at Board in July 2015
- Forward plan for reporting performance data established
- SSCB Multi-Agency Audit Group established
- SSCB Early Help Strategy under consultation including review of SSCB Threshold Guidance
- SSCB neglect training reviewed and now deliver DfE neglect training

Why is Risk Taking Behaviour a Priority?

- Two serious case reviews related to Risk Taking Behaviour Joint Strategic Needs Assessment findings:
- The rate of hospital admission due to self-harm among the 10-24 years age group in Sunderland has increased by 13% between 2007 and 2013, and is currently twice the national average rate
- Following the national trend in seeing a reducing trend in those young people requiring specialist treatment for 'hard' drugs. However, those not reaching the threshold are complex and problematic with increasing issues with Legal Highs

What do we still need to do?

- Commissioning a piece of work from Public Health colleagues and others regarding prevalence of risk taking behaviour
- Early Help Strategy should interface with Risk Management Model and CSE strategy
- Performance data should demonstrate more children being supported in early help arena when issues of risk taking
- Measure and demonstrate a positive impact on outcomes for children from the work of the SSCB

What do we want to achieve?

- SSCB will have an understanding of the prevalence and causation of Risk Taking Behaviour
- SSCB will have a comprehensive overview of the services available to children, young people and their families from early signs of risk taking behaviour being recognised to those where chronic risk taking behaviour is known
- Children in Sunderland will be supported to reach their potential despite engaging in Risk Taking Behaviour

RISK TAKING BEHAVIOUR

What have we achieved?

- SSCB Early Help Strategy under consultation
- Draft SSCB Quality Assurance and Performance Framework agreed at Executive Group May 2015
- CSE Strategy Developed
- MSET arrangements reviewed and updated
- Review of CSE procedures
- Signed up to the Northumbria Police Missing from home and care protocol

Why is Toxic Trio a Priority?

- 81% of Child Protection Plans have one of the "Toxic Trio" within the family
- Substance Misuse remains a concern in 54% of families
- Domestic Violence remains a concern in 59%.
- Parental Mental Health was a concern in 51% of families
- 23% of families at ICPC had all three of the "Toxic Trio" in Quarter 4 - an increase on both Quarter 1, 2 and 3 levels for 2014/15 013/14 outturn (5.1%)

What do we want to achieve?

- SSCB will have an understanding of the prevalence of the Toxic Trio
- SSCB will have a comprehensive overview of the services available to children, young people and their families from early signs of living with Toxic Trio
- Children in Sunderland will be supported to reach their potential despite living with the toxic trio

TOXIC TRIO

What do we still need to do?

- CPPs and CIN plans clearly indicate issues of the Toxic Trio and identify causation of these issues where possible
- Commission a piece of work to understand what is the universal offer and collective offer?
- Measure and demonstrate a positive impact on outcomes for children from the work of the SSCB
- Training to be reviewed for DV, Mental Health and the impact on parenting capacity and substance misuse and the impact on parenting capacity

What have we achieved?

- SSCB Quality Assurance and Performance Framework includes data re: incidence of toxic trio in CPP, CIN, CAF
- Approving other Organisations Checklist to be updated
- SSCB Multi-Agency Audit Group established and Audit Cycle developed
- Audits planned for 2015
- Work with SSP regarding domestic abuse commissioning IDVA for support to Accident and Emergency and midwifery within CHS

SECTION 8 - OVERVIEW FROM THE SSCB LAY MEMBER – HAZEL McGREGOR

A year in the life of a SSCB Lay Member

I've gained much experience and confidence in my four years as a Lay Member. My current role comprises membership of the Board, and the Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub-committee. I will become a member of the SSCB Executive Group from April 2015 when the new governance arrangements come into place.

The last year has been particularly challenging in terms of volume of work particularly Serious Case Reviews, ongoing change and the impact of budget savings in partner agencies and the Board itself.

A major challenge to any partner including myself is the sheer volume of paperwork to read, understand and challenge if necessary. Reading papers for meetings is vital, particularly for Serious Case Reviews as the information and subsequent report reflect episodes in the lives of children where experiences have not been good and we owe it to them to clearly understand the events and actions to learn, improve and keep them safe. Two 'pinch points' have occurred during the year when the number of Serious Case Reviewing has meant that the Sub-committee has needed to meet up to three days in one working week. It represents a huge challenge in terms of time away from the 'day job' for agency members, the content also tests emotional resilience.

Challenges made throughout the year, including questioning the work of others has tested my abilities to reflect, make judgements and be accountable with the Board for the actions we have taken. Poor quality reports from Serious Case Review authors and poor working practices in partner agencies have needed to be challenged fairly but firmly no matter what difficulties may result. One example is the number of changes in Children's Safeguarding Service, following Board challenges which has led to many changes of personnel. The changes have undoubtedly slowed the impact of our working together towards improvement as effective, honest, working relationships take time to build.

There have been a number of challenges in this year which include instability in Children's Safeguarding Service has meant different and inconsistent engagement and attendance. This impacts on progress, lessons from previous Reviews not being embedded in frontline practice as they appear again in later Reviews. Lots of work and initiatives are going on but there is little time because of workload, to ensure that the Board is satisfied that the safeguarding work done in Sunderland is effectively tackling the local challenges that endanger our children and is actually making their lives safer and better.

There have been a number of positives this year. A methodology for working through Serious Case Reviews has been agreed which is more streamlined. The new Serious Case Review model features individual conversations between a Reviewer and Practitioner and learning events involving all practitioners involved in the case. My experiences of 'conversations' has been of great value in gaining an understanding of our community and how agencies work individually and together. Some practice has needed improvement but I have found people eager to develop. I have also encountered excellent practice which is very heartening. There is an emerging level of openness and honesty between agencies and the Board, some of what we hear is a 'tough listen' but I am energised by the attitude of 'this is how it is, let's take responsibility and work together to make it better'.

Performance data and support to explain and understand it has recently been reintroduced. This is so very welcome as it is crucial to see exactly how we are doing and will help us to target areas of concern, plan in the longer term and contribute to measuring our progress.

We have a new Board structure and a new Chair. Plans for the future work of the Executive Group are to be generated and agreed at a development day in the near future. I am hopeful that this Group can create a way of working that gets through the workload but creates time for checking, auditing, testing our effectiveness and the difference we make to Sunderland children.

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 Audits

Section 11 Audits were issued to agencies in March 2015 for submission to the SSCB Business Unit by mid May 2015. The Board devleoped the Index of Exellence in 2013 and pilotted across the Youth Offending Service and the Clinical Commissioning Group in 2014 as reported in last year's annual Report. Further work was sundertaken in 2014 to evaluate the use of the Index of Excellence against the requirements in Section 11 and the method the Board has used to evaluate agency compliance with requirements. The Board concluded that whilst the Index of Excellence was a robust Business Improvement Tool which provided more intelligence on how it is on the front line the process required considerable resouces that were not available to the SSCB at this time. The Quality Assurance Sub Committee will evalute compliance as demonstrated in the Section 11 Audit tool and report to the SSCB in July 2015. The Sub Committee will then undertake sample audits on the evidence of compliance as outlined by each agency.

Core Assets Review (See Appendix 3)

In 2013-2014 there were a number of concerns highlighted by the SSCB and it's partner agencies regarding the practice of the Children's Safeguarding Service. The SCR for Baby A and Child C (published in May 2014) had highlighted a significant shortfalls in the Service's practice in the case and also about the level of engagement by the service in the SCR itself. The Children's Safeguarding Service Individual Management Review did not answer the 'Why Questions' in which led to the then SSCB Chair asking the Executive Director of People's Services to undertake an independent review to answer the 'Why questions' and this review report would be published alongside the SCR Overview Report.

The Core Assets Independent Review of Safeguarding was commissioned by the Executive Director for People's Services in 2014 to examine the nature of the Council's Safeguarding Service and identify areas in need of improvement. The answers to the 'Why questions' was included in the report. This review found:

- Fragmented pathway arrangements between Early Intervention and Preventative Services/Strengthening Families and Children's safeguarding, with some duplication of service provision in some areas and scarcity of provision in others and issues around the lack of consistent application of agreed processes
- Limited ability to demonstrate improved practice following recommendations arising from the Ofsted Inspections 2012 and 2013 (Adoption Inspection)
- Rising numbers of children entering the Looked After System and escalating costs of external placements
- The City has high levels of social and economic deprivation
- Residents experience high levels of depression and mental ill health
- Impact of wider determinants of health, housing, education, employment opportunities
- Impact of social and economic inequalities
- The City Council has experienced reducing resources as a result of national government policy change
- Requirement to make more effective use of local information in order to optimally address need and support effective commissioning through enhanced evidence base
- The Local Children Safeguarding Board faces challenges around its effectiveness

The Review made a number of recommendations which led to the development of a service wide improvement plan, which identified improvements at a strategic level in the following areas:

- Leadership and Management
- Partnership working
- Thresholds, Referrals and Support Pathways

Local Government Association (LGA) Peer Review November 2014 (See Appendix 3)

The Executive Director of People Services and the SSCB Independent Chair commissioned a LGA peer Review which took place in the week beginning 28.11.2015. this was seen as the second phased of a drive for improvement with a focus on wider partnership effectiveness.

The Safeguarding Review focussed on five key themes:

- Effective practice, service delivery and voice of the child
- Outcomes, impact and performance management
- Working together (including Health and Wellbeing Board)
- Capacity and managing resources
- Vision, strategy and leadership

Within these areas the following issues were explored:

- Early Intervention, Help, Support
- Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board
- Children's Services improvement activity
- The quality and effectiveness of Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

The Peer Review found:

- There has been a thorough ongoing review of frontline safeguarding in Sunderland during the past year, driven directly from the top of the City Council
- Partners' concerns are being addressed
- In the past, partners have felt that the partnership was 'the Council and its partners'. Partners acknowledge their respective roles in allowing this situation to develop without challenge
- The voluntary Improvement Board has the highest possible levels of representation and engagement
- The SSCB has a new Independent Chair, with challenge, refreshed governance and accountability strengthened on the Board and within partners' own organisations
- Proposals for further development of the Board are both ambitious and appropriate
- The relationship between the various strategic fora across the partnership is being reviewed and reconfigured
- The Children's Social Care workforce is under considerable pressure because of high workloads with some turnover issues in relation to agency staff. Other agencies also report that staff are pressured due to high workloads and feeling that they need to manage risk themselves
- The Peer Review found some evidence of very good frontline practice but also a similar inconsistency of social work practice as highlighted in the Core Assets Report
- There is a high proportion of interim managers in senior positions in Children's Social Care and this could be a risk to progress
- There is strong political and executive commitment achieve rapid improvements within Children's Social Care and additional resources have been allocated to

- Early Help provision seemed widespread and good but as there an absence of a fully defined Early Help Strategy, it is not clear how this provision can impact positively on child protection
- The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub has been reviewed and is being reconfigured
- Staff across the partnership reported positively on CAF and Strengthening Families
- Performance management is largely under developed across the whole of the Children's Services partnership and work is identified to improve this area
- Senior managers are not visible enough with staff, and need to communicate better how the improvement journey will be taken forward
- There is a real sense that the 'we're all in it together' culture to which everyone aspires can be realised with tremendous commitment to local communities and to the children and families of Sunderland

SSCB Performance Report

See SSCB Performance Report at Appendix 1.

Engagement with work of the SSCB

Attendance at Board level is generally of a high level however engagement by agencies in the work of the Board and the sub-committess is variable. See Appendix 4 for attendance at the Board and Sub-committees by agency.

SSCB Budget 2014-2015

See Appendix 2 for SSCB Budget Statement.

Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) – Activity

- The Designated Professionals within Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) provide leadership across the local health economy assuring and developing the role of health providers in safeguarding children and ensuring that the health needs of Looked After Children (LAC) are met
- SCCG has a range of strategic documents outlining their vision and commitment to safeguarding children and vulnerable adults. The Safeguarding Strategy and associated policy documents acknowledge that safeguarding children and adults is a complex and multi-factorial activity and can only be achieved through genuine and effective multiagency approaches
- SCCG have a team of Safeguarding professionals to provide strategic leadership and day-to- day support and advice on safeguarding issues:
 - Head of Safeguarding Deanna Lagun
 - Designated Nurse Safeguarding Adults Richard Scott
 - Safeguarding Children Lead Nurse and Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children
 Anne Brock
 - The Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children Dr Kim Barrett
 - The Designated Doctor Looked After Children Dr Kim Barrett
 - The Designated Doctor for Child Death Dr Carl Harvey
 - The Named GP Safeguarding Children Dr Sian Firth
 - The Named GP Safeguarding Adults Dr Jane Halpin
- All safeguarding staff meet regularly with the Head of Safeguarding to establish, review and monitor comprehensive work plans. In September 2014 the CCG appointed an additional senior nurse to the large number of Serious Case Reviews being commissioned by the SSCB.
- The CCG Safeguarding Children Lead Nurse provides support to the Head of Safeguarding and the Named GP Safeguarding Children. She is supporting a range of SSCB sub-committees and has also taken on the role of Designated Nurse Looked After Children, leading the health sub-committee of the Multi-Agency Looked After Children Partnership. All Designated and Named Health Professionals within the CCG provide training and supervision to a range of health staff, including GPs
- The CCG has provided continued support to the SSCB by:
 - Chairing of the Quality Assurance and Legal, Policy & Procedures Sub Committee, Local Child Death Panel and the South of Tyne Child Death Overview Panel (from early 2015) on an interim basis
 - Representation on all sub-committees and sub groups
 - Administrative support for minute taking and chronology production
 - Providing financial support to the SSCB
 - Given additional monies for authors to write Serious Case Review Reports
 - NHS England provided monies to the CCG to enable commissioning of a Named GP author to support Serious Case Review activity

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Sunderland Children's Safeguarding Service – Child Protection Volunteers Activity

- The aim of the project is to deliver support to parents where children are subject to Plan, primarily for neglect and to support young people leaving care to develop life skills
- The volunteer works with one parent for at least three months and visits their home at least once a week
- The impact has been:
 - Parents have grown in confidence with their parenting role e.g., sustaining routines and boundaries, enrolling in activities etc.
 - A care leaver has been able to gain a place working on the tall ships race this summer improving self-esteem and confidence

Child Protection Volunteers Activity Impact – Feedback from Families

Parents report that they have grown in confidence with their parenting role e.g., sustaining routines and boundaries, enrolling in activities etc

A care leaver has been able to gain a place working on the tall ships race this summer improving self-esteem and confidence

Sunderland College Activity

- Sunderland College strive to achieve outstanding and innovative safeguarding practice which leads to students being supported effectively. During the academic year 312 concerns were reported to safeguarding staff including bullying and sexual exploitation. Safeguarding staff work actively to achieve positive outcomes for children and vulnerable adults alike
- Safeguarding staff have contributed to many meetings including Strategy Meetings, Child Protection Conferences/Reviews, Child in Need Reviews and PEP meetings
- Monthly safeguarding training sessions are available for new and existing staff including around Prevent. Since January 2015 590 staff have attended a Prevent Awareness Session. Northumbria Police have supported this delivery.
- The College is represented on the SSCB and provides resources in kind to support the work of the Board

Sunderland College Activity Impact – Case Study

The College supported a young person aged 17 who was active to Social Care and CYPS. Concerns related to home conditions, bullying and particularly, the young person's emotional wellbeing. Concerns were highlighted to the Social Worker and CYPS, and following a period of liaison initiated by the College the student was placed as an in-patient at a mental health facility for evaluation. The College continued to support the student attending meetings and after a lengthy period the student was supported to come back to College on a phased return. The student successfully completed their course. This joined up approach also led to future planning for this young person to ensure a smooth transition into adult services once they were 18. The student was very pleased with the support and that they could return to the College.

City Hospitals Sunderland Activity

- In Sunderland multi-agency meetings with City Hospitals Sunderland have been in place for a number of years
- Any areas of disagreement or multi-agency working difficulties are discussed and solutions identified
- These meetings are also highly useful in developing good inter-agency working relationships. Recently the safeguarding children team have been allocated a children services a strategic manager as a link person. This has further enhanced partnership working
- Friends and family questionnaire in general hospital admission/attendance used to seek the views of children generally
- Currently developing a coming into hospital for a Child Protection medical leaflet for children and young people

City Hospitals Sunderland - Community Paediatrics/Physiotherapy Activity Impact Case Studies

City Hospitals were working with a child subject to a child protection plan where they had concerns regarding the multi-agency work including:

- Poor communication between Children's Services and other agencies
- Lack of continuity of Social Worker (6 different Social Workers since April)
- Lack of minutes of Core Group and copies of updated Plan

They took the following action:

- Spoke to Safeguarding Nurse, other Core Group members and Line Manager for appropriate advice
- Submitted clinical incident form highlighting issues
- Issues raised with IRO at the Review Conference outcome was that an official complaint was submitted

What difference did this make?

- By raising the lack of a Social Worker a new Social Worker was appointed that same day
- The rearranged Core Group took place two days before the Review Conference
- At the Review Conference the Protection Plan was ended

Northumberland Tyne and Wear Foundation Trust Activity and impact

- The trust Safeguarding and Public Protection (SAPP) team have introduced a Think Family Lead practitioner to support families in respect of the early help/intervention agenda. The support and advice for practitioners from the Think Family Practitioner has enabled children, young people and parents/carers to be signposted/referred to other agencies to meet their needs at an early stage
- The SAPP team are currently piloting a duty system for all new safeguarding concerns for staff within the trust. The pilot is identifying that staff are contacting the SAPP team for timely advice and support and ensuring appropriate safeguards are put in place
- The SAPP team are recruiting a Safeguarding report writer for Serious Case Reviews
- The contribution of the CYPS team to child protection conferences is monitored by the SAPP team via the Child Protection Plan list
- The trust continues to promote CSE with the SAPP team play a significant part within Sunderland's multi-agency partners for those children and young people who are going missing, being sexually exploited and trafficked
- The SAPP trainers have developed and are commencing training 2015/2016 for CYPS staff on the "impact of domestic abuse on children"
- The SAPP trainers have provided 12 months of level 3 Child Sexual Exploitation training to the majority of practitioners who work with children and young people
- The SAPP team have been trained in the revised Prevent counter terrorism strategy and are providing training, advice and expertise to staff across the trust
- A SCR/DHR report has been developed for Trust Board, this provides an awareness of every review as well as assurance of the lessons learned and associated recommendations are completed

National Probation Service (NPS)

The NPS is committed to reducing re-offending, preventing victims and protecting the public. NPS engages in partnership working to safeguard children with the aim of preventing abuse and harm to children and preventing victims and safeguard children in partnership including:

- Operational: referring to the local authority concerns that a child is experiencing or is at risk of experiencing abuse or neglect
- Strategic: Attending and engaging in local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) and relevant sub-groups. Taking advantage of training opportunities and sharing lessons learnt from Safeguarding Children and other reviews.

Prior to the formation of the NPS, legacy Probation Trusts each had individual policies and strategies in place in relation to partnership working for safeguarding children. This means that there is now variety in the way that each NPS LDU attends and participates in local LSCBs, the way that training is provided to staff and the way that resources are provided to the local LSCB and in the grade of staff who attended local LSCBs. Harmonisation regarding these arrangements at national level is ongoing.

It is currently accepted that the NPS staff member who should attend the LSCB should be at ACO grade. Due to resource demands, divisions may not always be able to send an ACO grade to a Board Meeting and in such occasions, the ACO will delegate attendance to a suitable authority. Across the South of Tyne Local Delivery Unit Cluster (Sunderland, South Tyneside and Gateshead) a local Band 5 Senior Probation Officer (SPO) attends LSCB sub-groups with a key interface that is, learning & improvement (or case review groups) and child sexual exploitation. In addition, where they involve statutory NPS offenders, the relevant Officer or SPO should attend other operational forums/meetings e.g. serious case reviews, MSET etc.

A key focus of the last 12 months has been on child sexual exploitation (CSE). NPS works with both the perpetrators of sexual exploitation and the victims. NPS NE is working with NOMS to influence NOMS thinking and commissioning on CSE including the development of an offender management model and interventions. Local officers work closely with the Police and other agencies in intelligence gathering and post-sentence will continue to manage the risks posed by perpetrators through:

- Therapeutic treatment of the offender that addresses attitudes and behaviours
- Identification of particular characteristics, such as sexual preoccupation and harbouring of grievances
- Differential approaches and treatment of males and females based on assessment

National Probation Service (NPS) Continued ...

• Weaning a perpetrator off their dependence on, or identification with, the group they belonged to

Most CSE needs would be addressed in one of the existing sex offender programmes however the pathway into offending for these people appears likely in many cases to be both sexually motivated and related to an anti-social/hostile orientation in which case other work would be targeted to address for example power and control, or gang related sexual exploitation.

South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust Activity and impact

- South Tyneside NHS FT continued to support the development of Safeguarding Champions. In line with the "Think Family" agenda the role has been instrumental in them being able to provide timely support to their clinical teams and individuals in order to prevent harm and/or identify children, young people and adults potentially at risk
- STFT will continue to develop and support the role of Safeguarding Champions to ensure that there are champions in all services and teams who are aware of national and local safeguarding issues and changes to practice and can then disseminate relevant information and messages to their colleagues

Section 9 – CONCLUSION

How effective are local arrangements to safeguard children in Sunderland?

April 2014-March 2015 has been a futher challenging year for the SSCB and its partner agencies.

The Core Assets Review (May 2014) highlighted clear challenges for the safeguarding system in Sunderland and for Children's Safeguarding Service in particular. The Council responded to the Core Assets Review Findings by establishing a voluntary Improvement Board with the support and commitment of partners at a very senior level. The Children's Service Improvement Plan focussed on single agency issues and partnership development work.

As planned the LGA Peer Review took place as outlined earlier in this report. This Review reasserted the findings of the Core Assets Review, highlighting the same level of inconsistent social work practice and a pressured safeguarding system and workforce. The Review also found commitment at the highest level across the partnership to implementing the improvement journey to ensure children in Sunderland are safeguarded. Unfortunately this Review concluded that improvements were not fast enough and there was a lack of impact evidenced. There was also a lack of confidence in Children's Safeguarding Service from other agencies resulting in a fragmented system. The impact of the implementation of extensive Children's Services Delivery Plan has been limited despite the level of commitment and resource that have been put into this work.

The Board and it's partners have been impacted on by the sheer volume of serious case review activity and is likely to be for the forseeable future. However, the Peer Review also found that the SSCB with the new Chair and the proposed governance arrangements would be a sound base from which to improve accountability and ownership across the partnership. These new arrangements will be implemented on 1st April 2015.

At the time of writing there are many challenges for the Board and partners and it is clear that safeguarding system in Sunderland is not sufficiently robust, and improvement work needs to gain pace and demonstrate impact. Concerns continue around the engagement and consistency of Children's Safeguarding Service in respect of the Serious Case Reviews.

2015-2016 will see the Board implement a number of new initiatives which are designed to rapidly progress its improvement journey. This includes:

- Implementation of a robust Quality Assurance and Performance Framework from July 2015, Introduce the 2 multi-agency audit groups, a full audit framework and audit cycle for 2015 2016
- Implement a comprehensive Section 11 Audit process
- Continue to strengthen and streamline the SCR model used in Sunderland
- Embed robust MSET arrangements across the partnership
- Work with partner LSCBS to deliver a bespoke CSE Conference and marketing campaign in October 2015
- Strengthen and streamline the support arrangements to the SSCB and SSAB

The Council responded to the Core Assets Review Findings by establishing a voluntary Improvement Board with the support and commitment of partners at a very senior level. The Children's Service Improvement Plan focussed on single agency issues and partnership development work.

In addition, the Local Authority provided significant additional resources to implement the Delivery Plan, providing over 5 million pounds and recruiting an additional 38 social workers.

As planned the LGA Peer Review took place as outlined earlier in this report. This Review reasserted the findings of the Core Assets Review, highlighting the same level of inconsistent social work practice and a pressured safeguarding system and workforce. The Review also found commitment at the highest level across the partnership to implementing the improvement journey for safeguarding to ensure children in Sunderland are safeguarded. Unfortunately this Review concluded that improvements were not fast enough and there was a lack of impact evidenced. There was also a lack of confidence in Children's Safeguarding Service from other agencies resulting in a fragmented system.

The SSCB had a new Chair who had robustly reviewed the governance arrangements of the Board to improve accountability and ownership across the partnership. These new arrangements will be implemented on 1st April 2015.

The safeguarding system in Sunderland is not sufficiently robust, and improvement work needs to gain pace and demonstrate impact.

Concerns continue around the engagement and consistency of Children's Safeguarding Service in respect of the Serious Case Reviews.

The Board's work has been significantly impacted on by the number of SCRs which has limited the ability to undertake core business.

Despite this, the Board has established a robust Quality Assurance and Performance Framework to go live from July 2015, developed two multi-agency audit groups, a full audit pack and audit cycle for 2015 – 2016, implemented a comprehensive Section 11 Audit process, agreed the SCR model to be used by Sunderland and reviewed MSET arrangements. The SSCB is in a strong position to improve.

In conclusion, the safeguarding arrangements in Sunderland are not sufficiently robust and improvement activity has failed to progress quickly enough in order to achieve the changes needed.

Appendix 1

Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board Performance Scorecard						Position at Quarter 4, 2014/15 (March 2015)							
				3				-	-	Compa	arators		
		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14		2014/15		_ Number		2013/14	2013/14	
SSCB Ref	Definition	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	of Children	Direction of Travel	National Avg	North East Avg
1.1	Number of Children Subject of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 ^s	71.1	68.6	49.9	56.2	55.4	62.9	70.2	75.5	412		42.1	59.3
1.2	Percentage of Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan under the Category of Neglect ^S	75.9%	83.3%	75.3%	83.0%	79.5%	81.9%	84.9%	86.7%	357/412		42.7%	60.7%
1.3	Percentage of Children Subject to a Child Protection Plan from BME Groups ^s	3.4%	3.9%	4.7%	2.0%	2.3%	5.0%	5.7%	9.0%	37/412		-	-
1.4	Conversion Rate from S47 to Initial Child Protection Conference ^c	43.7%	57.1%	75.6%	64.9%	53.7%	56.1%	56.5%	56.7%	470/829		45.7%	60.4%
1.5	Percentage of Families with one or more of Parental Mental Health, Domestic Violence or Substance Misuse noted as a factor at Initial Child Protection Conferences ^C	84.3%	85.0%	87.7%	83.1%	74.1%	80.4%	80.9%	81.5%	101/124		-	-

		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14		2014/	/15				Compa	arators
SSCB Ref	Definition	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Number of Children	Direction of Travel	2013/14 National Avg	2013/14 North East Avg
1.6.1	Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time ^C	16.6%	16.3%	13.0%	13.7%	27.0%	23.3%	20.8%	19.1%	82/430	۴	15.8%	12.6%
1.6.2	Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time Within 2 Years ^C	-	7.5%	8.9%	5.1%	14.0%	10.7%	7.9%	6.3%	27/430	Ł	-	-
1.7	Child protection plans lasting 2 years or more ^c	8.5%	7.1%	3.3%	2.5%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.9%	3/323	¥	4.5%	2.5%
1.8	Children who had been subject to a Child Protection Plan for more than 2 years at the end of the Quarter ^S	15	9	1	0	0	0	0	4	4	¥		
1.9	Children who remained open to Child in Need for 6 months or more after the end of a Child Protection Plan ^R	-	41.4%	42.8%	56.9%	59.2%	61.5%	65.4%	62.7%	106/169		54.5%	60.2%
1.11	Domestic Violence Contacts to Children's Services ^c	4779	4749	3497	3471	645	1051	1292	1542	1542		-	-

		2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14		2014/	/15		Number		2013/14	2013/14
SSCB Ref	Definition	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Outturn	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	of Children	Direction of Travel	National Avg	North East Avg
5.1	Number of CAFs Received ^c	-	1959	1878	1573	341	690	1093	1544	1544		-	-
-	Child protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales ^c	100.0%	97.5%	95.1%	91.1%	98.1%	96.7%	92.1%	89.8%	274/305	¥	94.6%	96.8%
-	Number of Children in Need per 10,000 ^S	440.5	428.8	419.4	488.7	502.0	537.9	525.3	596.8	3255		346.4	456.7

Notes:

Direction of Travel: Improvement shown by **↑**

^R Rolling year data

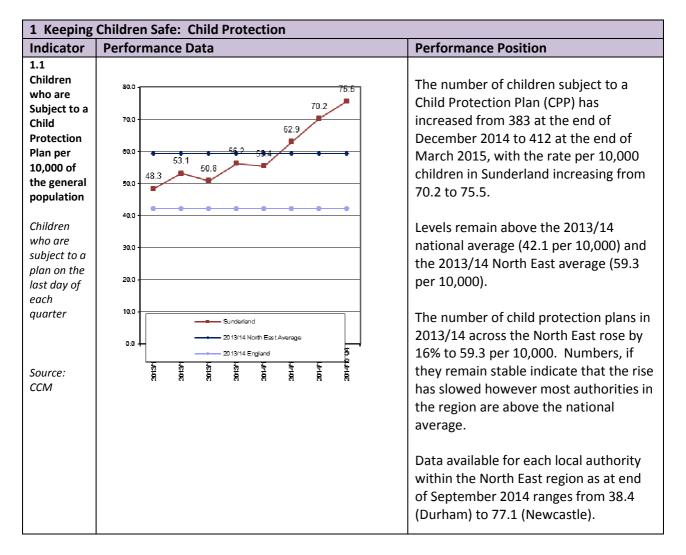
^s quarter end Snapshot data ^c Cumulative data for financial year

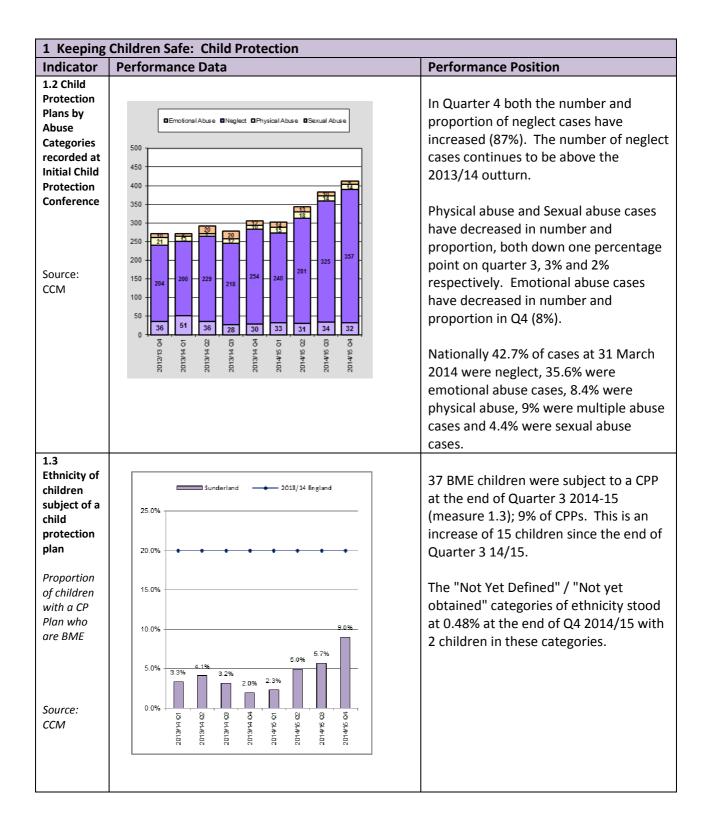


Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board Performance Position Statement @ March 1015

- 1 Keeping Children Safe: Child Protection
- 2 Keeping Children Safe: Looked After Children
- **3** Fewer Child Deaths and Injuries
- 4 Keeping Children Safe: Children Missing from Care
- 5 Keeping Children Safe: Workforce
- 6 Early Intervention: Common Assessment Framework
- 7 Customer Satisfaction: Outcomes of Surveys to Partners and Families

ALL 2014/15 END OF YEAR FIGURES ARE PROVISIONAL BEFORE STATUTORY RETURNS ARE SUBMITTED AND PUBLICATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

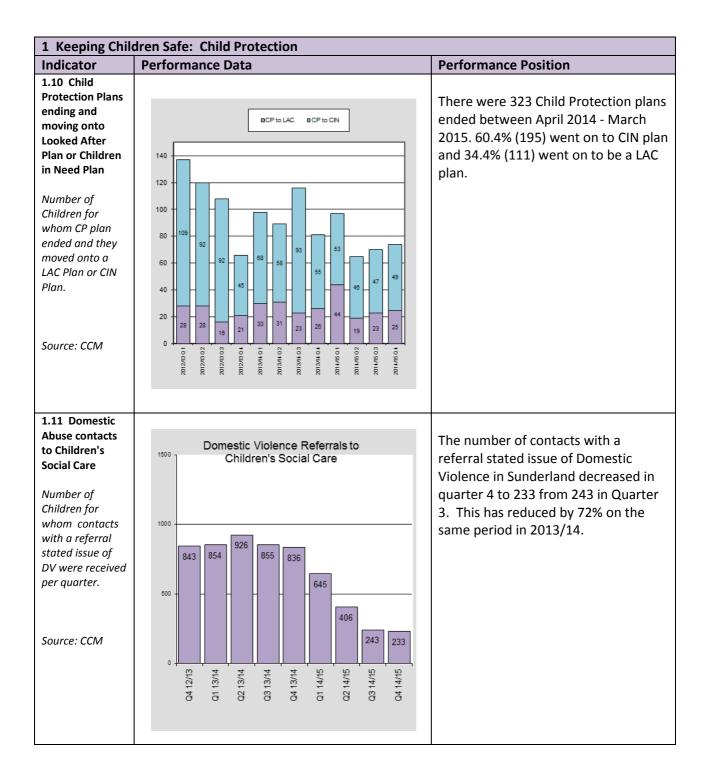




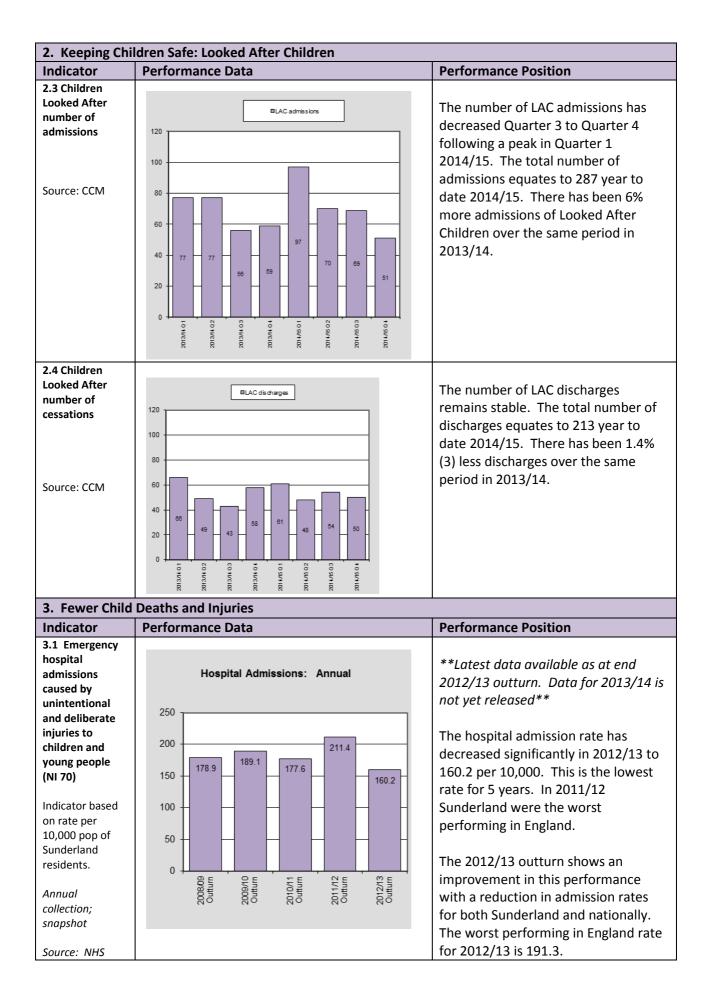
1 Keeping C	hildren Safe: Child Protection	
Indicator	Performance Data	Performance Position
1.4 Conversion rate from Section 47 Enquiry to ICPC Source: CCM	90% 60% 70% 60% 60% 60% 60% 60% 60% 60% 6	The proportion of Section 47 enquiries which resulted in an Initial Child Protection Conference (ICPC) has increased to 56.7% at the end of Quarter 4 (1.4). This is a marginal increase on Quarter 3. The conversion rate remains below the North East average of 60.4%. The range of local authority performance (Hartlepool 37%; Middlesbrough 100%) indicates that the process for commencing Section 47 enquiries and/or ICPCs is different across the North East.
1.5 Concerns Expressed about Family at Initial Child Protection Conferences Issues around parental behaviour that have been raised as being contributing factors to Child Protection Plans at Initial Conference meetings; Cumulative	1009 0004 004 <td< td=""><td> The proportion of Child Protection Plans where one of the "Toxic Trio" of Domestic Violence, Substance Misuse and Parental Mental Health (1.5) have been issues within the family shows no change on Quarter 3 at 81%. Within the individual concerns: Substance Misuse remains a concern in 54% of families. Twelve percentage points below same period in 2013/14 (68%) Domestic Violence remains a concern in 59%. One percentage points below same period in 2013/14 (60%). Parental Mental Health was a concern in 51% of families, one percentage point decrease on Q3 and no change on the same period in 2013/14 (51%) Although most families had at least one of these issues, 23% of families at ICPC had all three of the "Toxic Trio" in Quarter 1, 2 and 3 levels for 2014/15 however remains eight percentage points below the 2013/14 outturn (31%). </td></td<>	 The proportion of Child Protection Plans where one of the "Toxic Trio" of Domestic Violence, Substance Misuse and Parental Mental Health (1.5) have been issues within the family shows no change on Quarter 3 at 81%. Within the individual concerns: Substance Misuse remains a concern in 54% of families. Twelve percentage points below same period in 2013/14 (68%) Domestic Violence remains a concern in 59%. One percentage points below same period in 2013/14 (60%). Parental Mental Health was a concern in 51% of families, one percentage point decrease on Q3 and no change on the same period in 2013/14 (51%) Although most families had at least one of these issues, 23% of families at ICPC had all three of the "Toxic Trio" in Quarter 1, 2 and 3 levels for 2014/15 however remains eight percentage points below the 2013/14 outturn (31%).

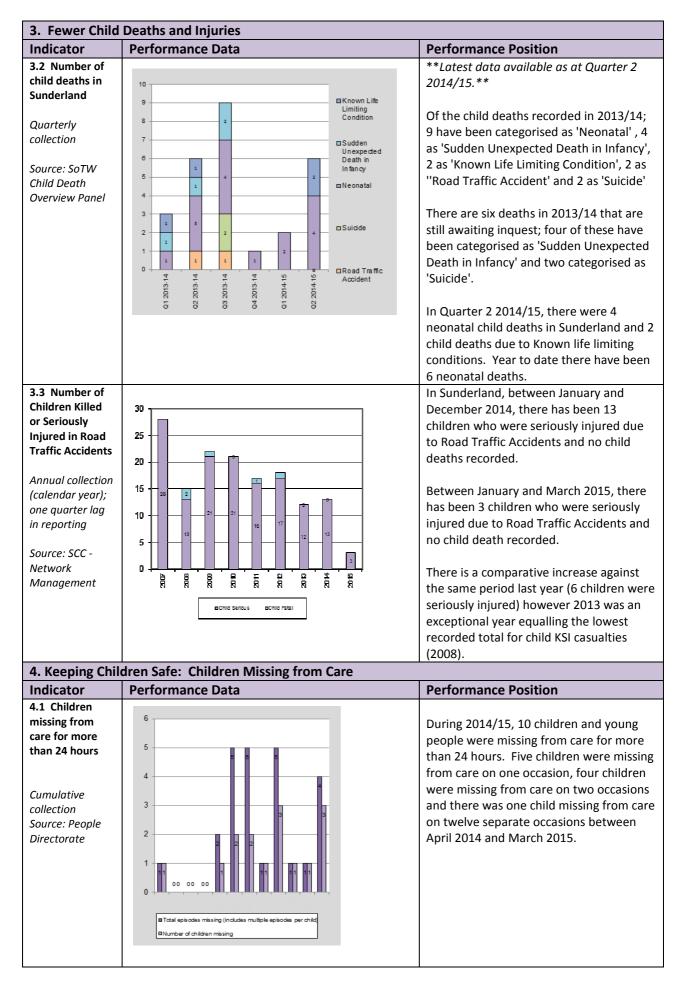
1 Keeping Ch	ildren Safe: Child Protection	_
Indicator	Performance Data	Performance Position
 1.6.1 Children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time 1.6.2 Children who became the subject of a second or subsequent plan within a two year period 	$\begin{array}{c ccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccccc$	The proportion of children becoming the subject of a CPP for a second or subsequent time continues to reduce, from 20.8% in Quarter 3 (1.6) to 19.1% at the end of Quarter 4. However this still remains over five percentage points higher than the 2013/14 outturn. This is equal to 82 of the 430 children who had started a plan between April 2014 - March 2015. 27 children had recommenced their second plan in two years at the end of Quarter 4; 6.3% of all children starting a CPP. This continues the reduction since Quarter 1 and is now 1.2 percentage points higher than the 2013/14 outturn (5.1%). As at the end of September 2014, all local authorities within the North East region had a lower proportion than Sunderland
Source: CCM	х х х	had a lower proportion than Sunderland for children subject to a 2nd or subsequent CP Plan; ranging from 2.5 for Middlesbrough to 21.3 for Hartlepool.
Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more. Children subject of a child protection plan which ceased during the last 12 months	Sunderland 2013/14 North East Average 2013/14 England	The proportion of Child Protection Plans ceased between April - March 2014/15, where the plan had been in place for over two years (1.7) has marginally increased to 0.9%. 323 children ceased a CPP, 3 children having a CPP longer than two years. This continues to meet 'Very Good' performance according to internal benchmarks. Regionally, as at the end of 2013/14, the proportion of second and subsequent plans is rising; 6 authorities (Gateshead, Durham, Newcastle, Stockton, Hartlepool and Sunderland) are showing higher than
where they had been subject to a plan for over two years. Quarterly collection; cumulative Source: CCM	2013/14 0 2013/14 0 2014/15 0 2013/14 0	the national average compared to only 2 authorities the previous year. In terms of individual North East authorities, in 2013/14 two did not have any children who ceased a CPP after two years (Darlington and Redcar & Cleveland), while five had an indicator figure higher than Sunderland's 2013/14 outturn of 2.5%, (Durham 3.2%, Hartlepool 5.2%, Middlesbrough 3.6%; Newcastle 3.0% and Northumberland 5.9%).

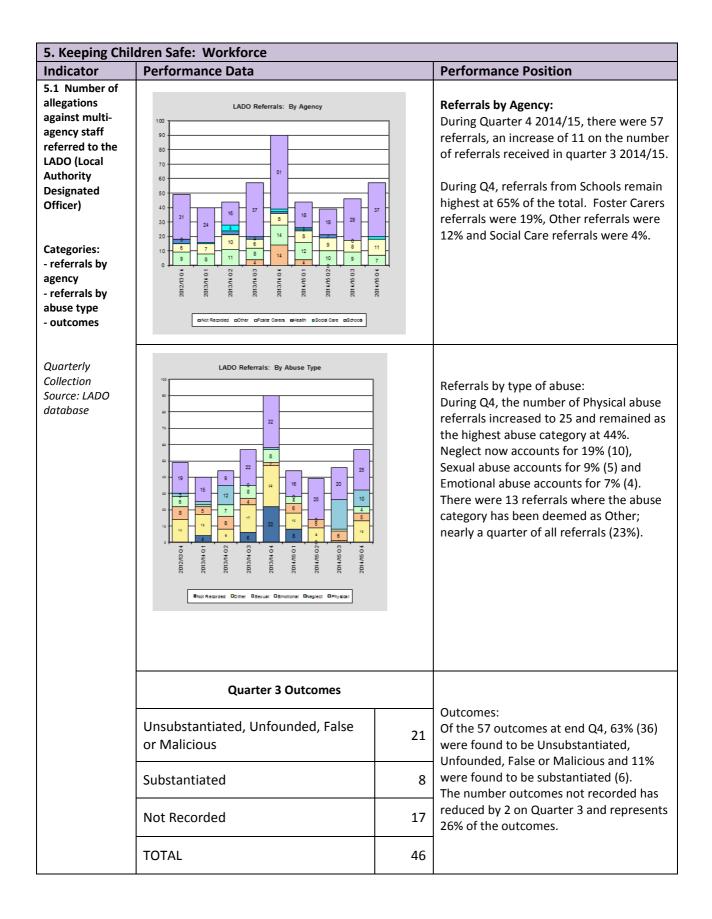
1 Keeping Chil	dren Safe: Child Protection	
Indicator	Performance Data	Performance Position
1.8 Children who had been subject to a Child Protection Plan for more than two years at the end of each Quarter Source: CCM	Children with a CPP for more than 2 years at the end of each Quarter	At the end of quarter 4 2014/15, 4 children had been subject to a plan for more than two years, compared to 0 children in quarter 4 2013/14. The low numbers who had been subject to a Child Protection Plan since Q4 2011/12 have therefore led to the improved performance shown in measure 1.7.
1.9 Children who stayed open to Children's Safeguarding for six months or more after ceasing a Child Protection Plan Source: CCM		Children who ceased a Child Protection Plan, and stayed open for more than six months (1.9) decreased from 65.4% at the end of Quarter 3 to 62.7% at the end of Quarter 4. This accounts for 106 of the 169 children who ceased a plan up to the end of September 2014, and who either had ceased their Child in Need support after more than six months, or were still being supported at the end of March 2015. This performance takes Sunderland above comparator groups, with the North East as a whole having 60.2% of children subject to Child in Need support for more than 6 months after a CPP ceased at the end of 2013/14. Individual local authorities across the North East vary in their performance levels for after plan support at the end of 2013/14. North Tyneside (94.8%) retained almost all of their children past the six month mark, and the majority of all other authorities retained at least half with the exception of Darlington (49.1%), Durham (47%) and Redcar & Cleveland (39.5%).

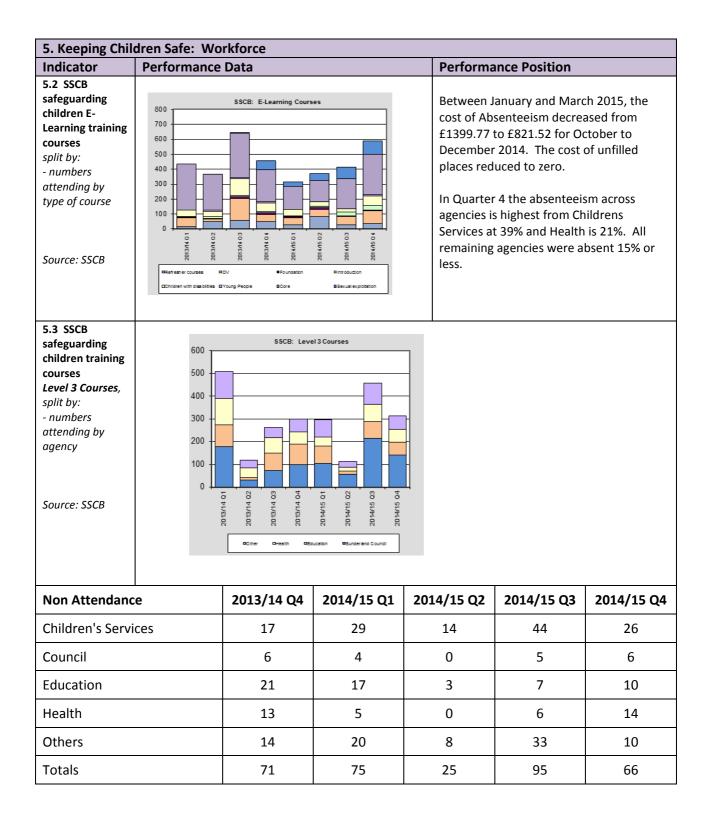


2. Keeping Chil	dren Safe: Looked After Children	
Indicator	Performance Data	Performance Position
2.1 Children who are Looked After per 10,000 of the general population	LAC per 10,000	The number of Looked After Children has increased from 561 at the end of December 2014 to 567 at the end of March 2015 (1% increase).
Source: CCM	100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100	The figure per 10,000 of the general population is 103.9. Regionally, the North East has a figure of 81 per 10,00 of the general population as at the end of September 2014. The comparable all England average as at end March 2014 was 60. Data available for each local authority within the North East region as at end of September 2014 ranges from 55.0 (Northumberland) to 116.0 (Middlesbrough). Sunderland, as at the end of September 2014, was the third highest LA with a figure of 98.8 per 10,000 of the general population.
2.2 Children who are Looked After who are accommodated under Section 20 Source: CCM	Section 20 % of Section 20 National Average	As at 31st March 2015 there were 297 children with Section 20 legal status. This accounts for 52% of the number of looked after children as at 31st March 2015.









6. Early Interve	ention: Common Assessment Framework	
Indicator	Performance Data	Performance Position
•		Performance PositionCAF: 451 CAFs were initiated during quarter 4 2014/15, an increase of 3% on quarter 4 2013/14 (438). Of the CAFs received in quarter 4, 39% (531) were from Education, 29% (393) were from Social Care, 21% (352) of were from a Health Visitor, 7% (83) were from Health and 2% (90) were from Children's Centres. All other sources referred 1% or less.Family Focus: 209 Family Focus referrals have been recorded during quarter 4 2014/15, an increase of 179% on quarter 3 2014/15 (75). Of the Family Focus referrals in quarter 4, 31% (65) were from School, 28% (58) were from MASH, 13% (27) were form Health Authority, 8% (17) were from Youth Offending Service, 5% (10) were from Child & Family Team and Gentoo. All other sources referred 1%
7 Customer Sa Indicator	tisfaction: Outcomes of Surveys to Partners and Performance Data	or less. Families Performance Position
7.1 Partner		
Satisfaction Survey Results of the question around overall satisfaction with the outcome from the Partner Satisfaction Survey. This survey is given to each professional who makes a referral to Children's Social Care.	 No Partner satisfaction surveys have been recein From the survey carried out in 2013-14 on those 93% (13) were satisfied or very satisfied 100% (14) felt the staff were helpful or were 64% (9) of respondents received a response next working day 	e professionals making a referral: with the outcome of that referral; /ery helpful;
Source: Viewpoint		

Indicator 7.2 Initial Assessment Understanding	Performance Data The survey carried out April 2014 to December 2 have received an Initial Assessment received 20	
Assessment		
Results of the question around whether families understood the reason for an Initial Assessment. Questionnaire given to each family who is the subject of an Initial Child in Need Assessment.	 95% (19) understood why the assessmer 90% (18) felt able to fully / partly discuss 90% (18) were given a copy of the Initial 	nt was taking place; their issues with the Social Worker
Source: Viewpoint		

SSCB Finance Report – 2014/15 Budget Outturn

1. Introduction

This report is to advise of the outturn position for Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board (SSCB) in 2014/15.

Appendix 2.1 provides the detail of the budget and outturn position.

2. Budget Outturn

The SSCB had a balanced outturn following the agreed use of SSCB reserves.

In total £72,000 of SSCB reserves was used to cover expenditure on the following SSCB activities:

- Children's Serious Case Reviews £61,000 (including the cost of room hire/refreshments for meetings relating to Serious Case Reviews)
- Child Death Review Coordinator £16,000

3. Contribution from Partner Agencies

All budgeted cash contributions from partner agencies were received.

Additional cash contributions totalling £5,000 toward the cost of the Serious Case Reviews were made by Sunderland College (£500) and Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group (£4,500).

In addition Sunderland City Council made additional non-cash contributions of an additional 1fte Business Support Officer to the SSCB Business Unit at no additional charge.

4. SSCB Reserve

Following the appropriation of \pm 72,000 in 2014/15, the SSCB reserve has a balance of \pm 49,000 to be carried forward into 2015/16.

5. 2015/16 Budget

Sunderland City Council has made an additional contribution of £16,000 in 2015/16 in order to meet the increased cost of the Child Death Review Coordinator and will provide additional resource, after the use of the remaining SSCB reserves in order to deliver a balanced budget in 2015/16.

6. Recommendations

- To note a balanced outturn following the use of reserves
- To note the level of reserves available moving into 2015/16

Appendix 2.1

Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board – Budget Outturn 2014/15

Expenditure	2014/15 Budget	Actual Expenditure	(Over)/ Under
Business Unit Employee Expenses	£119,896	£119,896	£0
Independent Chair	£22,749	£22,749	£0
Travel Expenses	£1,700	£1,700	£0
Office Expenses	£1,800	£1,800	£0
Premises Costs	£3,231	£3,231	£0
Hospitality	£2,250	£2,250	£0
Training Programme Expenses	£3,000	£3,000	£0
Web Enabled Procedures and website maintenance	£4,600	£4,600	£0
Contribution to Regional CDR	£4,000	£20,000	(£16,000)
Serious Case Review Expenditure	£0	£61,000	(£61,000)
Sub Total	£163,226	£240,226	(£77,000)

Income	2015/16 Budget	Projected Income	(Over)/ Under
Sunderland City Council - People's Services	(£115,177)	(£115,177)	£0
Sunderland CCG	(£37,399)	(£41,899)	£4,500
Police	(£5,100)	(£5,100)	£0
Gentoo	(£5,000)	(£5,000)	£0
CAFCASS	(£550)	(£550)	£0
COS College	0	(£500)	£500
Use of Reserves	0	(£72,000)	£72,000
Sub Total	(£163,226)	(£240,226)	£77,000

Outturn (Over)/Underspend

£0

SSCB Reserve

Opening Balance (April 2014)	£121,000
Agreed Use of Reserves In 2014/15	(£72,000)
Closing Balance of Reserves (March 2015)	£49,000

Findings from Learning and Improvement activity April 2013 – March 2014

The learning from these pieces of work is identified below. Please note the cases are anonymised to protect the identity of the child and their family.

Baby A and Child C Serious Case Review

The Overview Report for Baby A and Child C was published in November 2014 and the full report including the learning and recommendations are available at http://www.sunderlandscb.com/pr scr cms.html

The Core Assets Review 2014

Recommendations for Sunderland Council

- 1. Agrees social work leadership, management and practice action plan to address urgent and essential concerns:
 - Quality of assessments within a clear framework for single and early help assessment
 - Identification and management of risk within a framework for embedding common ways of understanding and evidencing risk such as signs of safety
 - Local communication within a system-wide understanding of roles and relationships
 - Consistent application of thresholds which are subject to both internal and SSCB performance management and quality assurance
 - Consistent and effective case management
 - Consistent and effective casework supervision
 - Consistent and effective case audit
 - Effective implementation of self-serve business support model
 - Recruitment and retention of social workers
- 2. Communicates a single vision and underpinning values for all vulnerable children.
- 3. Embeds the vision and values in a set of standards which govern professional behaviour
- 4. Implements an integrated pathway for children and families from contact to early intervention to safeguarding
- Addresses priority opportunities for service redesign e.g. maximising opportunity for resolution at earliest possible point along the pathway; case handling at interfaces of early intervention/MASH; resolving bottlenecks and work around; business support requirements within corporate self-serve model
- 6. Specifies and provides performance information required at each level of accountability to manage productivity, effectiveness, quality, outcomes and risk, and uses performance information to specify resource requirements at each stage of the pathway
- 7. Supports SSCB to implement a simplified performance and quality assurance framework to provide more effective oversight and challenge of whole system performance

LGA Peer Review 2014 Findings Summary Strengths

• You are working in partnership to provide effective safeguarding services to children and families

- You are putting in place improvement plans at both an operational and strategic level to drive improvement forward
- As a partnership you recognise the scale of the challenge that you face and there is widespread support to bring about system wide change
- We met committed, competent, passionate and inspiring people across the partnership, at all levels
- There is strong political and corporate commitment to resource change and improvement
- The Sunderland Safeguarding Children Board has appointed a strong and well regarded Independent Chair; there is renewed energy and commitment from partners, and the Board is rapidly taking appropriate steps in the guise of a Delivery Plan to fully meet its statutory responsibilities, address gaps and develop stronger and more systematic oversight of safeguarding
- Early Help is currently an untapped strength, but clearly has the potential to play a significant role in reducing demand in child protection

Summary Areas for Consideration

- Frontline services are under severe pressure and workloads mean that practitioners across the partnership are anxious about managing risk
- There are a high number of interim managers within Children's Social Care; staff experience this as a rolling programme of new initiatives that are not embedded before another change of personnel and direction
- Improvements to frontline social work practice are being put in place but there remain instances of inconsistent practice, poor quality case recording and reports. The level of posts filled by agency staff may be a contributory factor
- The partnership is hampered in its understanding of how effective services are by a lack of good quality performance data, we saw very little evidence of a performance driven approach
- There is a perception amongst some partners that the partnership has not been an equal one this is being addressed and the impetus needs to be maintained going forward, with a more equitable basis for the partnership established
- Moving forward, a more visible leadership style is needed and a culture needs to be developed that acknowledges and rewards staff for their hard work and contribution,
 - and builds upon and learns from their awareness of pressure points and what could be done differently/better. This applies across the children's services partnership
- Evidence collected during the peer review endorses the Core Assets findings and the Core Assets recommendations remain very relevant

SSCB and Sub-committee Attendance

NB: apologies were submitted for those not in attendance

SSCB Board Meeting							
		Date	of Mee	ting			Jce
Agency Represented	30.04.14	25.06.14	22.10.14	17.12.14	25.02.14	Attended	% Attendance
Independent Chair	~	~	~	~	х	4/5	80%
SSCB Business Manager	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
SSCB Lay Member	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	5/5	100%
Legal Advisor (SCC)	✓	Х	✓	Х	Х	2/5	40%
CAFCASS	✓	Х	х	Х	Х	1/5	20%
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Community and Family Wellbeing (SCC)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Education Representative	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Gentoo	✓	Х	Х	✓	✓	3/5	60%
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SCC)	✓	\checkmark	✓	\checkmark	✓	5/5	100%
Lead Member (SCC)	√	✓	 ✓ 	\checkmark	✓	5/5	100%
National Probation Service	х	Х	Х	Х	✓	1/5	20%
NHS England	✓	Х	✓	Х	Х	2/5	40%
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	~	~	~	5/5	100%
North Tyne and Wear NHS Trust	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Northumbria Police	✓	\checkmark	х	✓	✓	4/5	80%
Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company	х	х	~	~	х	2/5	40%
Public Health (SCC)	✓	~	х	✓	✓	4/5	80%
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	 ✓ 	✓	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%
Turning Point	~	Х	~	Х	~	5/5	100%
Tyne and Wear Fire and Rescue Service	✓	х	✓	х	~	3/5	60%
Sunderland Youth Offending Service	✓	\checkmark	✓	✓	✓	5/5	100%

Business Planning Group														
					Da	te of	Meeti	ing						Ice
Agency Represented	16.04.14	14.05.14	11.06.14	09.07.14	06.08.14	03.09.14	08.10.14	05.11.14	03.12.14	15.01.15	17.02.15	17.03.15	Attended	% Attendance
Independent Chair	~	✓	х	✓	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓	✓	11/12	92%
SSCB Business Unit	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	✓	✓	12/12	100%
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	~	x	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	11/12	92%
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SCC)	х	х	~	~	~	~	~	х	х	х	~	~	7/12	58%
Legal Advisor (SCC)	✓	✓	х	✓	х	✓	х	х	✓	✓	x	x	6/12	50%
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	х	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	11/12	92%
Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	~	х	~	x	х	~	х	х	~	~	x	x	5/12	42%
Northumbria Police	~	х	~	х	х	~	х	~	~	х	~	х	6/12	50%
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	~	~	~	х	~	х	х	х	~	~	8/12	67%

Learning and Improvement in Practice Sub-committee						
	D	ate of	Meetii		исе	
Agency Represented	01.04.14	01.07.14	03.11.14	20.01.15	Attended	% Attendance
Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	\checkmark	х	3/4	75%
SSCB Business Unit	~	~	✓	~	4/4	100%
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	х	~	~	3/4	75%
Legal Advisor (SCC)	~	~	х	х	2/4	50%
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	х	~	3/4	75%
Education Representative	~	х	х	х	1/4	25%
Gentoo	х	х	\checkmark	~	2/4	50%
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SSAB Rep)	х	х	>	~	2/4	50%
Lay Member	~	х	х	~	2/4	50%
National Probation Service	х	х	х	х	0/4	0%
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	~	~	4/4	100%
Northumbria Community Rehabilitation Company	x	х	Х	х	0/4	0%
Northumbria Police	~	~	~	~	4/4	100%
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	~	х	Х	~	2/4	50%

Local Child Death Review Panel						
	Da	te of	Meeti		Ice	
Agency Represented	12.05.14	01.09.14	03.11.14	09.03.15	Attended	% Attendance
Child Death Review Co-ordinator	~	✓	~	~	4/4	100%
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	х	~	~	3/4	75%
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	~	Х	~	~	3/4	75%
Education Representative	~	х	х	~	2/4	50%
Legal Advisor (SCC)	Х	Х	х	х	0/4	0%
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	~	~	4/4	100%
North East Ambulance Service NHS Trust	~	~	~	х	3/4	75%
Northumbria Police	~	~	~	х	3/4	75%
Public Health (SCC)	х	~	~	~	3/4	75%
SSCB Business Unit	~	х	~	~	3/4	75%

Quality Assurance Sub-committee											
				Date	of Me	eting					JCe
Agency Represented	23.04.14	21.05.14	18.06.14	13.08.14	17.09.14	15.10.14	10.12.14	14.01.16	18.03.16	Attended	% Attendance
SSCB Business Unit	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9/9	100%
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	9/9	100%
Independent Reviewing Team (SCC)	~	х	~	~	~	~	~	~	~	8/9	89%
Performance Team (SCC)	х	х	х	х	~	х	~	~	~	4/9	44%
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	х	~	~	~	~	~	~	8/9	89%
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	х	~	~	~	х	~	х	~	~	6/9	67%
Northumbria Police	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	х	0/9	0%
Education Representative	~	~	\checkmark	~	х	х	х	х	х	4/9	44%
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	>	~	x	~	x	~	~	7/9	78%
Gentoo	х	~	~	~	~	~	х	~	~	7/9	78%

Missing, Sexually Exploited and Trafficked (MSET) Sub-committee										
		Da	te of			е				
Agency Represented	22.09.14	21.10.14	25.11.14	16.12.14	24.02.15	24.03.15	Attended	% Attendance		
Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	~	~	х	~	5/6	83%		
SSCB Business Unit	~	~	~	х	~	~	5/6	83%		
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%		
Risk and Resilience (SCC)	~	~	~	~	х	~	5/6	83%		
Support and Intervention (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	х	5/6	83%		
Sunderland Youth Offending Service (SCC)	~	~	~	х	х	~	4/6	67%		
Independent Reviewing Team (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%		
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SSAB Rep)	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%		
National Probation Service	~	х	х	х	х	х	1/6	17%		
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%		
Northumbria Police	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%		
SCARPA	х	~	х	~	~	~	4/6	67%		
Safer Sunderland Partnership (SCC)	х	х	~	~	~	~	4/6	67%		

Joint SSCB/SSAB Legal, Policy and Procedures Sub-committee											
		Date	of Me	eting		JCe					
Agency Represented	12.06.14	04.08.14	06.10.14	01.12.14	02.02.15	Attended	% Attendance				
SSCB Business Unit	~	х	~	х	~	3/5	60%				
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	~	х	х	~	х	2/5	40%				
Commissioning Rep (SCC)	~	~	х	х	~	3/5	60%				
Legal Rep (SCC)	~	~	х	~	х	3/5	60%				
Youth Offending Service (SCC)	х	х	~	х	~	2/5	40%				
Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	х	х	х	х	~	1/5	20%				
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	~	~	~	~	5/5	100%				
City Hospitals Sunderland	х	х	~	х	х	1/5	20%				
Northumbria Police	~	х	~	х	х	2/5	40%				
Early Intervention Services (SCC)	~	~	х	х	~	3/5	60%				
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	~	х	х	~	~	3/5	60%				
National Probation Service	~	х	х	х	х	1/5	20%				
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SSAB Rep)	✓	~	✓	✓	~	5/5	100%				

Joint SSCB/SSAB Communication and Marketing Sub-committee											
	Dat	e of N	/leeti	ng				Эсе			
Agency Represented		18.07.14	19.09.14	14.11.14	16.01.16	06.03.16	Attended	% Attendance			
SSCB Business Unit	~	~	~	х	~	✓	5/6	83%			
Children's Safeguarding, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	х	х	х	~	~	<	3/6	50%			
Anti-Bullying Co-Ordinator (SCC)	~	~	~	~	~	х	5/6	83%			
Community Safety Representative (SCC)	~	~	~	~	х	~	5/6	83%			
Communications Team (SCC)	~	х	~	~	~	~	5/6	83%			
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	~	х	~	х	~	~	4/6	67%			
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	х	~	~	~	5/6	83%			
Northumbria Police	х	х	х	х	х	~	1/6	17%			
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	~	~	~	~	6/6	100%			
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SSAB Rep)	х	~	~	~	~	х	4/6	67%			
Sunderland Carers Association	~	х	~	✓	✓	✓	5/6	83%			

Joint SSCB/SSAB Training and Workforce Development Sub-committee										
	Date	e of Mee	eting		ce					
Agency Represented	15.05.14	04.09.14	31.10.14	Attended	% Attendance					
SSCB Business Unit	~	х	\checkmark	2/3	67%					
Workforce Development, Sunderland City Council (SCC)	х	х	✓	1/3	33%					
Sunderland Clinical Commissioning Group	х	~	~	2/3	67%					
City Hospitals Sunderland NHS Foundation Trust	х	х	Х	0/3	0%					
Northumbria Police	х	х	х	0/3	0%					
Northumberland Tyne and Wear NHS Foundation Trust	~	~	х	2/3	67%					
South Tyneside NHS Foundation Trust	х	х	Х	0/3	0%					
Tyne and Wear Care Alliance	х	х	~	1/3	33%					
Health, Housing and Adult Services (SSAB Rep)	~	~	~	3/3	100%					

Glossary

Child Death Reviews – It is a statutory requirement for LSCBs to review the circumstances of the deaths of every child under the age of 18 years, who would normally reside in their area. This is in order to identify any issues – known as "modifiable factors" - that, if changed, could help to reduce the risk of injury or death in other children, although we cannot say that they would have prevented the particular child from dying. Child deaths are reviewed by Child Death Overview Panels (CDOPS).

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) - a standardised approach to assessing children and young people's needs for services. It aims to help all those whose work brings them into contact with children and families to identify and support children with unmet needs.

Disabled child or young person - someone up to the age of 25 with a physical, sensory, communication, behavioural or learning disability, or a long-term or life-limiting condition. This may also include children with more significant mental health problems.

Health and Wellbeing Board (HWBB) – This partnership is a requirement of the Health and Social Care Bill 2012 which requires a Health and Wellbeing Board to be developed as a forum where key leaders from the health and care system work together to improve the health and wellbeing of their local population and reduce health inequalities. The Sunderland HWBB has the vision of achieving the "best possible health and wellbeing for Sunderlandby which we mean a city where everyone is as healthy as they can be, people live longer, enjoy a good standard of wellbeing and we see a reduction in health inequalities".

Looked After Children -The term 'looked after children and young people' is used to describe those children who are in the care of the local authority. This includes those who are subject to a care order or temporarily classed as looked after on a planned basis for short breaks or respite care. The term is also used to describe children and young people who are looked after on a voluntary basis at the request of, or by agreement with, their parents. Looked after children are also sometimes referred to as children in care. The local authority's duty to meet the social care needs of looked after children is set out in the 1989 Children Act and subsequent amendments. Sunderland City Council are currently fulfilling their statutory functions in acting as act as Corporate Parents for the children in their care.

Safeguarding - the process of protecting children from abuse or neglect, preventing impairment of their health or development and ensuring they are growing up in circumstances providing safe and effective care, which enables them to have optimum life chances and enter adulthood successfully (Working Together 2015). This extends beyond arrangements for child protection planning and incorporates early help. Early help is used to describe supporting interventions for families where a large level of need is identified.

Significant Harm - The Children Act 1989 introduced the concept of significant harm as the threshold which justifies compulsory intervention in family life in the best interests of children. Section 47 of the Act places a duty on local authorities to make enquiries, or cause enquiries to be made, where it has reasonable cause to suspect that a child is suffering, or is Page 81 of 82

likely to suffer significant harm. 'Harm' means ill treatment or the impairment of health or development, including for example impairment suffered from seeing or hearing the ill treatment of another; 'Development' means physical, intellectual, emotional, social or behavioural development; 'Health' means physical or mental health; And 'Ill treatment' includes sexual abuse and forms of ill treatment that are not physical.

Young Carers - a young person (under the age of 18 years of age) who cares for or gives support to someone at home such as their parent, sister, brother, grandparent or a family friend. This care could include looking after someone who is unwell, disabled or has a mental health problem, or providing care for and support to a member of the family affected by drug or alcohol misuse. The care provided could involve a young carer helping with washing, dressing, shopping, cooking, dealing with money and bills, cleaning, giving medicine, or providing emotional support.

Information sources

- Anti-Bullying Strategy 2014-16
- Sunderland Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (April 2015)
- <u>http://learning.sunderlandschools.org/index.php/anti-bullying-events</u>