

Blackburn with Darwen Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

Annual Report (2017-18)
Business Plan (2018-19)



Blackburn
with Darwen



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Introduction by the Independent Chair

I am pleased to welcome all readers to the Blackburn with Darwen Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report for the year 2017 - 2018.

In December, a full inspection of the LSCB judged the Board to be good and made the following statement:

“The Blackburn with Darwen LSCB is meeting its statutory responsibilities, with strong governance arrangements that support and promote high quality safeguarding services from partner agencies to children and their families. It is a proactive and responsive co-ordinating board with effective linkages to other strategic bodies”

This judgement by Ofsted, briefly summarised above, places BwD LSCB in the category of a minority of LSCBs judged to be good over the national programme of Ofsted inspections and is a reflection of the hard work and commitment of all the LSCB partners to ensuring that children’s safeguarding is a high priority and of the highest standard.

This report is a succinct summary of the continued progress of the LSCB, giving clear examples of the work of partners both collectively and individually. Case studies towards the end of the report help to bring to life what this all means in practice for the children and families in need of safeguarding and support.

As in previous years, maintaining a competent workforce through the delivery of a high quality training programme has remained a priority for the LSCB, with high numbers of attendances at training events a positive feedback, including demonstrable impact from training on practice.

Over the coming year the LSCB will face new challenges as we work towards implementing the Government’s change programme moving from LSCBs to Local Safeguarding Partnerships. The strength of our LSCB and commitment from our partners is such that I am certain we will rise to the new challenges.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all partners for your continued hard work.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Nancy Palmer'.

Nancy Palmer

Independent Chair, Blackburn with Darwen LSCB

Governance and Accountability

The objectives of each of the groups that make up the Blackburn with Darwen (BwD) Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) are provided below:

LSCB (Chair: Independent Chair)

- Strategic oversight of the board's fulfilment of its statutory functions
- Strategic Partnership reporting on their fulfilment of their safeguarding responsibilities – Health & Wellbeing Board, Children's Partnership Board, Community Safety Partnership, Youth Justice Service, Engage, Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA), domestic abuse partnerships, Local Family Justice Board, etc.
- Examination and scrutiny of key safeguarding and child protection themes to identify how multi-agency arrangements can be improved and ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements and services

Business Group (Chair: Independent Chair)

- Co-ordinate the business and set the agenda of the boards
- Co-ordinate and monitor the business of the committees
- Provide guidance and direction to the LSAB/LSCB business of the Safeguarding Unit
- Production of annual reports
- Strategic sign-off for serious case reviews (SCRs) and safeguarding adult reviews (SARs)

Communication & Engagement Committee (Chair: Training 2000)

- Multi-agency alignment of public safety messages, communication and engagement activities
- Raise the profile of the boards' activities on training and safety messages
- Communication to practitioners and public of strategic and operational planning messages
- Multi-agency practitioner awareness of lessons from reviews, training opportunities and practice change
- Multi-agency co-ordination of messages from participation and engagement of service users
- Direction on the maintenance and development of board websites and use of social media and technology for dissemination of safety messages

Governance and Accountability

Workforce Development Committee (Chair: Blackburn College)

- Monitor the effectiveness of single agency and multi-agency training provision
- Plan and provide LSCB/LSAB training courses (workshops, briefings and online learning) through the Training Needs Analysis
- Collate and report single agency and multi-agency training activity data
- Use training evaluations and impact assessments to revise and improve multi-agency training courses and recommend improvements to single agency training
- Development and implementation of a Learning & Development Strategy
- Development of online learning packages and monitor their effectiveness, impact and reach
- Inform and implement the Learning and Improvement Framework

Serious Case Review (SCR) Consideration Panel (Chair: Safeguarding Unit)

- Consider if cases meet the statutory threshold for undertaking a SCR
- Commission SCRs
- Recommend cases for multi-agency reviews or individual agency reviews where they do not meet the threshold for SCRs

Children's Quality Assurance Committee (Chair: LSCB Independent Chair)

- Provide the LSCB with information and improvement recommendations about the quality, effectiveness and impact of inter-agency working in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children
- Undertake and analyse Section 11 audits
- Collate findings from case reviews, audits and safeguarding workshops to inform the Learning & Improvement Framework
- Monitor action plans from the case reviews and audits through the Learning & Improvement Framework

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) & Missing From Home Committee (MFH) (Chair: LSCB Independent Chair)

- Strategic oversight on the operational effectiveness to tackle CSE, MFH, county lines safeguarding, trafficking/modern slavery and respond to online safeguarding
- Provide strategic and operational direction to the work of the Engage Team
- Promote local and Pan-Lancashire co-operation on CSE, MFH, county lines safeguarding, trafficking/modern slavery and online safeguarding

In July 2018 this group was named the Vulnerable, Missing & Exploited Children Committee.

Governance and Accountability

Pan-Lancashire Child Death Overview Process (CDOP) (Chair: Independent Chair)

- Undertake reviews of all child deaths so that the LSCB better understands how and why children in the area have died; use the findings to prevent other deaths and improve the health and safety of children
- Identify from death reviews significant risk factors and trends in individual child deaths and in the overall patterns of deaths in the area
- Ensure all unexpected deaths of children receive a co-ordinated response from all relevant agencies

Pan-Lancashire & Cumbria Chairs & Business Managers Group (Chair: Pan-Lancashire LSCB Chairs)

- Strategic direction on cross border/sub-regional work on safeguarding issues
- Sub-regional consultation on national safeguarding issues
- Commission sub-regional protocols, policies and procedures
- Share learning across the sub-region on board leadership and governance issues

Pan-Lancashire & Cumbria Policies & Procedures Group (Chair: LSCB Business Managers)

- Develop and launch multi-agency policies and procedures on how different organisations will work together on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people
- Revise multi-agency policies and procedures informed by learning and improvement findings, communication/participation findings, national guidance, research and best practice
- Develop policies and procedures across a wider footprint (sub-regional and regional) that ensures consistency for service users and service providers whilst retaining local determination of practice and management oversight.

Governance and Accountability

Relationship of LSCB with other partnership boards

The LSCB, through the Independent Chair and officers within the Safeguarding Unit, attend and contribute to the working of a number of partnership meetings where children's safeguarding is a significant area of business. The key partnerships outlined in the national guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children are listed below with a brief description of bi-lateral reporting arrangements.

Health and Wellbeing Board & Children's Partnership Board – The Independent Chair of the LSCB attends the Health and Wellbeing Board to present the LSCB's Annual Report. The Director of Children's Services (DCS) and Executive Member for Children's Services are both members of the Health and Wellbeing Board. Officers from the Public Health team (who manage the business of the Health and Wellbeing Board), are members of the LSCB.

The Health & Wellbeing Strategy for the 2015-18 period outlines the following outcomes for the borough's residents (related to taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes as expressed in the statutory definition of safeguarding):

- Increase the life expectancy of residents and narrow the life expectancy gaps within the borough and with the rest of England
- Pursue policies that will maximise the number of years spent in good health
- Improve children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing
- Shift investment from treatment and care to prevention
- Ensure the borough has healthy places to live, work and play.

The Children's Partnership Board (CPB) is a sub-group of the Health & Wellbeing Board that leads on the priority area of 'Start Well'. The Start Well area has four priority areas of action that are:

- Ensure an effective multi-agency early help offer provides the right help at the right time
- Support families through a consistent approach to parenting skills and support
- Improve children and young people's emotional health and wellbeing
- Embed routine enquiry about childhood adversity into everyday practice.

To ensure that work is effective at both the strategic and operational levels, the LSCB's officers maintain a number of links with the CPB and its priority areas. At the strategic level, the Independent Chair of the LSCB is a member of the CPB. The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services and the Safeguarding Development Managers (Children & Adults) are members of a number of groups that monitor the priority areas.

The DCS is the chair of the Children's Partnership Board who attends the LSCB and provides regular updates on progress in relation to the priorities. The LSCB is consulted regularly by the Public Health team in the planning of local services and the LSCB has contributed to the joint strategic needs analysis and the priority setting in the Health & Wellbeing Strategy (2015-18).

Governance and Accountability

Community Safety Partnership (CSP) – The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services attends the Community Safety Partnership and the following links are made with groups within the partnership:

- The DCS chairs the Youth Justice Service (YJS) Management Board
- The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services chairs the Channel Panel (referral panel to identify preventative work for children and young people at risk of radicalisation)
- The Service Lead for the Youth Justice Service is a member of the Lancashire MAPPA Strategic Management Board
- The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services attends the Strategic Domestic Abuse Group and the Safeguarding Development Managers attend operational and task groups, advise on the domestic homicide review process and provide advice on the radicalisation agenda
- The CSP Service Lead attends the LSCB's committee on Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Missing from Home (MFH) and other sub-groups that collate intelligence on CSE victims, perpetrators and locations – the LSCB CSE/MFH Committee also monitors local arrangements on trafficking/modern slavery, county lines safeguarding and online safeguarding
- The CSP Service Lead also attends the LSCB & LSAB Quality Assurance Committees.



Governance and Accountability

The CSP has continue to fund in 2017-18 a number of projects to train practitioners on safeguarding issues (radicalisation & madressah safeguarding training), raise awareness in the community (including for children) on a range of safeguarding issues (domestic abuse, modern slavery, criminal exploitation/county lines safeguarding, CSE, radicalisation) and funded operational activities to disrupt offenders and disrupt locations of abuse particularly around CSE.

Family Justice Board – CAFCASS (Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service), the Local Authority's Legal Services and Children's Services are all members of the Local Family Justice Board (LFJB). Board members from CAFCASS and Legal Services report annually to the board on the progress made by the LFJB with the implementation of the reforms. The updates provide an overview of the local and regional co-operation between the services, the oversight by the Judiciary in improving services and improving the timeliness of services for children and families subject to proceedings in both public and private law processes.

Regional and Pan-Lancashire Groups – The Safeguarding Unit officers maintain a close link with regional (North West England) and sub-regional (Pan-Lancashire and where applicable with Cumbria) groups to co-operate on joint initiatives and the sharing of knowledge/good practice. These groups allow the board to be involved in, and on occasions lead on, changes to regional safeguarding arrangements.

LSCB Independent Chair and Chief Officers – The LSCB Chair meets with the Leader of the Council, Director of Children's Services (DCS) and Executive Lead Member. The LSCB Chair also meets with the Chief Executive of the Local Authority and with the DCS. From April 2017, the LSCB Chair has been appointed as the Local Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB) Chair.

Annually the LSCB & LSAB Chair with the Chief Executive of the Local Authority host a meeting with chief executives of all the statutory partners of the board. This meeting allows the chief executives to discuss local and national safeguarding developments to identify key risk/improvement areas requiring chief officer oversight and individual/collective commitment to the agenda.

Prevent Governance – The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services chairs the Lancashire Channel Panel. The Head of Safeguarding, Community Protection & Specialist Services attends the Prevent Delivery Group and the Contest Board reporting regularly to the LSCB.

Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA) – The Service Lead for the Youth Justice Service represents Blackburn with Darwen at the MAPPA Strategic Management Board. The Police and National Probation Service report annually on the effectiveness of MAPPA arrangements.

Relationship of the LSCB with Political Structures - The Executive Member for Children's Services attends the LSCB (as a 'participating observer') and the DCS reports through the Local Authority's accountability structure to the Leader of the Council, Opposition Lead Member, Executive Team and Council Committees (including scrutiny committee and corporate parenting groups). The LSCB Independent Chair attends Council Committees where required to present this report.

Budget & Resources

The Safeguarding Unit is funded by a range of agencies to deliver the functions of the boards across both the children and adult safeguarding agendas. Agreed contributions by partner agencies for 2017-18, including ad-hoc contributions were as follows:

Children's Services & Education	£75,300
Adult Services	£50,000
NHS BwD Clinical Commissioning Group	£50,000
Schools, Colleges & Training Providers	£39,150
Lancashire Constabulary	£35,995
National Probation Service	£1,243
Community Rehabilitation Company	£1,900
CAFCASS	£550
Training Charges	£9,075
Total	£263,213

Contributions by most partner agencies for the 2018-19 year will remain similar. As well as the above financial contributions, many LSCB agencies provide their staff to deliver the multi-agency training programmes and agencies commit staff time to attend as members of the committees and contribute to the variety of assurance activities that take place.

The Safeguarding Unit's staffing and costs were approximately £270,366 in 2017-18. Below is a breakdown of the Safeguarding Unit's spending for the year:

Salaries	£195,466
Fees: Independent Facilitators, CDOP, TRI-X Site & Website, Training Costs, Office, Travel, Committee & Meeting cost	£74,900
Total	£270,366

Attendance at Board Meetings

The acceptable minimum attendance rate at board and committee meetings remains at 75%. The Independent Chair and Committee Chairs challenge throughout the year attendance likely to fall below the acceptable rate by any agency.

Agency	Board	CSE/MFH	Quality Assurance	Workforce Development	Communication & Engagement
Children's Services & Education, BwDBC	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%
Lancashire Constabulary	100%	75%	75%	N/A	N/A
BwD NHS Clinical Commissioning Group	80%	75%	75%	N/A	N/A
Adult Services, BwDBC	100%	N/A	N/A	75%	75%
Public Health, BwDBC	80%	100%	50%	N/A	N/A
NHS England	40%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lancashire Care NHS Foundation Trust	100%	100%	100%	75%	100%
East Lancashire Hospitals NHS Trust	100%	100%	75%	25%	N/A
Change, Grow Live (Substance Misuse Service Provider)	100%	100%	100%	N/A	N/A
National Probation Service	80%	N/A	25%	50%	N/A
Community Rehabilitation Company	80%	N/A	100%	N/A	N/A
Youth Justice Service, BwDBC	80%	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A
CAFCASS	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
BwD Voluntary Community Faith (VCF) Sector	100%	100%	75%	100%	75%
Lay Members	100%	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Schools/Education	100%	25%	75%	50%	75%
Blackburn College	75%	N/A	N/A	100%	N/A
Training 2000	80%	N/A	N/A	N/A	100%
Average Attendance for the Group	89%	88%	77%	57%	54%

Blackburn with Darwen:

the place, the people and their needs



The Integrated Strategic Needs Assessment (ISNA) by the Public Health and Policy teams of the local authority has produced the summary assessment below of the borough to identify priorities to improve the outcomes for children and young people in the borough.

The 2011 Census revealed that the borough had approximately 57,453 households and 147,489 residents, which was an increase on previous estimates. Blackburn with Darwen continues to have a younger than average age profile, with 28.8% of its population aged under 20, which is the fourth highest proportion in England. Based on the proportion of under-15

year-olds, Eurostat has identified it as one of the youngest towns in Europe. The borough's population is diverse, with 13.4% of residents having Indian heritage and 12.1% Pakistani. These are respectively the 11th highest and 6th highest proportions of any local authority in England.

Deprivation scores continue to be based on the 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation, which ranks Blackburn with Darwen as the 17th most deprived borough in England. The borough has eight of its 91 Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) falling within the most deprived 1% nationally, and 31 falling within the most deprived 10%. The generally high levels of deprivation have consequences for the borough as a whole, and the contrast between neighbourhoods also leads to significant internal health and social care inequalities. Research also identifies that in the borough, 12% of the adult population are impacted by four or more adverse childhood experiences (from a list of ten experiences that range from parental separation, parental substance misuse, parental criminal involvement or domestic, physical, sexual or emotional abuse) compared to 9% nationally. 47% of the borough's population had not experienced any adverse childhood experiences compared to 52% nationally.

Across a range of indicators (poverty, families with multiple problems, children involved in risk taking behaviours, child/infant mortality, emotional health, sexual health, oral health, road traffic accidents, violent and sexual crimes) there remain challenges for the borough to ensure children receive the best start and foundation for their adult lives.

Key partners in Blackburn with Darwen across the public sector and the voluntary sector have been implementing an approach to integrated service delivery based on a localities model. The aim is for the partner agencies to work in each of the four localities to manage the particular demands of those communities so that services are targeted at the prevention or early help end of need rather than rely on high-cost protection services. Through the Health and Wellbeing Board three strands of work in particular are contributing to this delivery model:

- Prevention & Early Help
- Transforming Lives
- Integrated Health and Social Care.

Monitoring Activity of the LSCB

Serious Case Reviews (SCRs)

There were two SCR referrals received by the LSCB in 2017-18 from partner agencies; both incidents were also reported by the local authority through the national Serious Incident Notification process. One case was considered not to be appropriate for a SCR and the national panel of SCR experts agreed with the decision. For the second case a SCR was commissioned that will be completed in 2018-19.

During 2017-18 two SCRs have been completed that were initiated in 2016-17 and both have been published. The majority of the learning has been implemented and is being monitored by the Quality Assurance Committee.

Multi-Agency Concise Reviews (MACRs)

In 2017-18 there was one referral submitted to the LSCB to consider undertaking a MACR. The Quality Assurance Committee reviewed the learning from the case and determined that existing planned improvements in services were already addressing the issues in the case.

Performance Monitoring & Quality Assurance

The LSCB's Quality Assurance and Performance Monitoring (QA/PM) Declaration is used to collate performance information and quality assurance information from individual agencies. The declaration seeks data on the volume of safeguarding activity that takes place within agencies and seeks analysis on what that information means (the impact safeguarding activity has made to children's outcomes, the impact activity has made in improving the quality of practice and improving the safety of the local multi-agency safeguarding system). A brief summary of the key highlights from the returns is provided below.

Demand to safeguard children – Across a range of statutory and voluntary sector agencies the number of children identified in 2017-18 requiring safeguarding and protection has remained broadly similar to 2016-17. The exception to this has been the police where following external inspection activities, improvements have been made in training and processes resulting in higher number of cases being referred to child protection and early help services. Across all agencies, improvements to identify abuse and neglect in cases and complete assessments that gather information across children's developmental milestones has meant that early help cases have increased by nearly a third since 2016-17 and the number of children becoming looked after has increased marginally by 3% since 2016-17. Cases where children are provided services at Child in Need and are subject to child protection plans have fallen since 2016-17, but remain higher by nearly a fifth compared to other similar local areas in the country. As all agencies' have improved training and processes during the year, the cases that are being identified, where child protection processes are required, are then more complex – in 2017-18, over two-fifths of cases referred to Children's Services required an assessment using Section 47 powers of the Children Act (1989) compared to less than a third of referrals in 2016-17. The levels of complexity then adds demand to all parts of the local safeguarding system to ensure information is shared, services are offered, plans to address unmet need and reduce risk are devised, agreed and reviewed.

Resources – individual agency resources to address the level of demand and complexity within the system have not increased for all agencies. The national austerity measures continue to impact all agencies resulting in agencies identifying smarter ways of multi-agency working, like the multi-agency teams, rather than opportunities to invest in staffing other resources. Across agencies there is evidence that improvement in training compliance

Monitoring Activity of the LSCB

has been a key feature of priority action during the year along with ensuring that agencies effectively support their staff (management oversight) through safeguarding processes. So whilst agencies may not have the additional resources to increase staff numbers, there is investment being made and processes introduced to improve the competencies, productivity and capabilities of their workforce.

Quality Assurance – agencies particularly in the statutory sector have during the 2017-18 period improved and consolidated their systems to regularly review cases so that there is internal and multi-agency assurance about the quality of child safeguarding practice. External inspection for some agencies like Children's Services and Lancashire Care Foundation Trust have validated their quality assurance processes, whereas for some agencies, like the police, further improvement to strengthen systems has been recommended. From the work of the Quality Assurance Committee and findings from serious case reviews, the LSCB continues to identify early local intelligence to help support all agencies to improve practice and safeguarding systems.

Outcomes for Children – below are a number of case examples of how multi-agency work has helped to protect children and contributed to promoting their welfare.

Domestic Abuse

A victim of domestic abuse with five children was accommodated in a domestic abuse refuge from another local authority. The initial risk assessment identified that the victim had been with her partner (not the father of the children) for eight months in which he had physically abused her resulting in significant injuries, being strangled and a knife being thrown at her. The victim had been referred to Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) on three occasions due to the high risks. The home local authority had applied for an interim care order for the children due to the victim's substance misuse as a coping strategy, lack of prioritising the children's needs and poor engagement with services. A condition of the care order was to reside in a refuge. The refuge provider worked with children's services, children's schools and nursery (including SEND and speech/language services), health services (primary care and community services) and voluntary sector services (emotional health, substance misuse services and parenting course) to address the whole family's unmet needs. The victim and children have accessed nine different services/courses offered by refuge provider to understand the abuse they have suffered, promote future resilience/safety, secure housing and increase their social inclusion. The victim has applied for a non-molestation order to increase the family's safety; the children's cases have stepped down from care orders to a child protection plan and they now are receiving multi-agency services at child in need.

Support for a single father

Children's Services referred a single father to the service following the father securing a residency order for his six month old child. The child was subject to a child protection plan with concerns about domestic abuse, mental health, poor housing and lack of routine access to universal health services. The Early Years' service provided support within the father's home (basic care and child development advice), in the Children's Centre (accessing local groups to widen father's knowledge of caring for a child and reducing his social isolation) and making referrals to services recommended by the child's social worker (parenting course and domestic abuse/healthy relationship courses). Father reports that he is now a more confident parent and feels more able to seek help and is knowledgeable about what services provide.

Monitoring Activity of the LSCB

Young person being trafficked

A young person known to the Engage Team attended an out of borough emergency department where the medical staff suspected that the explanation provided about the injuries she presented with, were not plausible. The hospital staff contacted the out of hours social work team who in turn contacted the Engage Team to alert them of the hospital notification. The information was shared across the partner agencies in the Engage Team and the specialist nurse was tasked with gathering intelligence from the hospital emergency department and other health agencies about the child. The information gathered from the hospital allowed the police and social worker to visit the child's address and arrest her carers who had been trafficking the child for sex. The child was immediately safeguarded and removed from the home.

Female genital mutilation (FGM)

The Home Office referred a case to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) Team following a disclosure in an asylum application by a mother that her daughter had been sexually abused by her father. The family had already lived in a previous local authority area and the community health records were accessed from that area as part of the screening of the referral. The review of the community health records identified that mother had reported abuse through Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) when she was a child and that her husband had requested that their daughter is subject to the same abuse. The specialist nurse, school nurse, police, social care and local authority solicitors worked together to apply for a FGM Protection Order and the community health provider worked across their teams to ensure the health needs of the children in the family were fully addressed.

Unborn at risk from domestic abuse

The police had referred a domestic abuse incident involving a pregnant lady to Children's Services. To screen the referral, the specialist nurse liaised with midwifery services and the GP to gather information. The information gathered from the hospital identified further domestic abuse risks regarding controlling behaviours, that the lady and her perpetrator shared a phone (meaning the lady could not be contacted separately) and GP information identified that the GP was unaware the lady was pregnant. The GP was able to flag the lady's records so that all staff in the practice became aware of the lady's vulnerability and risks to the unborn child. The GP was provided with advice and information on the services that were being recommended for the lady for future monitoring and information sharing. At the next antenatal hospital appointment, a joint visit with the hospital domestic abuse advisor, social worker and midwife took place where advice was provided resulting in the lady and her unborn being safeguarded and additional health services provided to improve the lady's wellbeing.

Child Death Overview Panel

There were 14 child death notifications for the borough in the 2017-18 year. The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) reviewed 23 deaths for Blackburn with Darwen in 2017-18. Pan-Lancashire data and analysis can be found in the Pan-Lancashire CDOP report at:

www.lancshiresafeguarding.org.uk/child-death-overview-panel/publications.aspx

Training Provision

The joint LSCB and LSAB Learning and Development Programme sets out a variety of methods of delivering training courses with the aim to suit different styles of learning and in recognition that time away from the workplace is increasingly difficult. The range of learning opportunities includes half day and full day face to face courses, two hour briefing sessions, conference style events, online courses and workbooks.

Face to Face Training

In the table below, data on the range of face to face courses (including joint courses with the LSAB), briefings and conference style events (commissioned by the LSCB) is provided.

	Places offered	Attended	Did Not Attend
Safeguarding Children Roles & Responsibilities	151	129	9
Case Conference Processes	75	58	3
Neglect	75	66	4
Safeguarding for Drivers (taxis, buses, contractors)	163	163	0
Domestic Awareness & Impact	25	16	0
Dealing with Disclosures and Risk Assessments in Domestic Abuse	75	57	5
Domestic Abuse and Impact on Children and Adults	50	30	3
Honour Based Abuse/Forced Marriage/Female Genital Mutilation	75	60	5
Child Sexual Exploitation	50	39	3
Boys & Child Sexual Exploitation	75	57	4
Sexual Behaviours: Traffic Light Tool	75	59	4
Sexually Harmful Behaviours	25	24	4
Hidden Harm	65	57	3
Mental Health Issues in Safeguarding Children and Adults	75	54	11
Managing Allegations of Professional Abuse	50	41	5
Safer Recruitment	25	20	1
Totals	1129	930	64

Across all courses covering safeguarding children there was a 97% attendance rate in 2017-18 which was slightly better than last year (95%). There was 88% take-up rate for the training spaces in 2017-18, down slightly from 91% the year before.

The Community Safety Partnership, Public Health Team, Clinical Commissioning Group, NHS England, Police & Crime Commissioner and the police commission a variety of services and providers of these services are contracted to also provide training and briefing sessions for a range of safeguarding issues covering self-harm, suicidal ideation, substance misuse, adverse childhood experiences, genetic counselling, maternal health and

Training Provision

wellbeing, radicalisation, modern slavery, CSE, children in public care, victim support services etc.

For larger organisations in the health, criminal justice and family law sectors, extensive higher level in-house safeguarding training and continuing professional development (CPD) events are provided that is most commonly accessed and to which the LSCB provides input.

All training is impact assessed and this is reported through the Workforce Development Committee. The Workforce Development Impact Assessment Report highlights the following findings:

- Qualitative feedback from practitioners identifies that following training their confidence and knowledge about safeguarding increased and led to dissemination of their learning within teams, changes in team processes, changes to multi-agency working and confidence when working with families. Just over three-quarters of a sample of practitioners contacted about the impact of training reported it had increased their confidence. Where practitioner's confidence or knowledge did not increase after attending training, this was attributed mainly to attending the course as refresher training.
- The most common mentioned policy from practitioners was the Risk Sensible Framework and how the tools from this policy are being used to improve home visits, identification of unmet needs and risk and supporting referrals to other services.
- A sample of managers were also contacted on the impact the training had for their team members – over four-fifths reported their staff member's knowledge had increased and over three-quarters reported competences had increased after attending training. Managers regularly cited examples of knowledge in multi-agency processes increasing after their staff had attended training. All managers responding to the impact survey reported they would recommend attending LSCB training to other team members.

The following feedback from a voluntary sector provider describes the benefit they derive from the LSCB's training packages:

[Provider' Name] staff and volunteers utilise the fantastic training opportunities available from the LSCB, both physical courses and online e-learning. The e-learning in particular is extremely useful to our team as they can be accessed at a time that suits the learner and worked through at their own pace. The real life case studies and additional reading attached to the modules makes the training relatable and comprehensive. It is user friendly and uses easy to understand terminology which is helpful for our international volunteers who sometimes struggle with our Lancashire accent!

Business Plan Priorities, 2017-18 – Progress

Priority Area	Actions	Timescale	Progress
Seek assurances that abuse and neglect is responded to appropriately including key challenges (challenges from current demand issues and new/ emerging themes in safeguarding)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embedding the ARK (Assertive Practice, Reflective Practice & Knowledgeable Practitioners) framework across the MASH, Continuum of Need & Policies/Procedures Monitoring the implementation of recommendations from SCRs and learning in the BwD Learning & improvement Framework Quality assurance and performance monitoring of how effectively abuse and neglect is responded to 	<p>December 2017</p> <p>March 2018</p> <p>June 2018</p>	<p>Completed and embedded in protocols, training and QA/PM analysis</p> <p>Completed in October 2017 & April 2018 – most actions are complete and ongoing actions being monitored</p> <p>Ongoing in analytical work of the LCSB.</p>
Support the development of consistent strategies on the prevention of all types of abuse and neglect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Engagement with the community, and local and regional partners to agree the strategies and messages that improve the prevention of abuse and neglect Delivery of the prevention strategy 	March 2018	Ongoing contribution by LCSB and its partners into the Early Help and Adolescent Strategies and their consultation processes.
Continue to improve how 'voice' influences safeguarding arrangements locally	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed mechanisms for the voice of the child to influence board activities (strategic arrangements and evidence of outcomes being met) 	June 2018	Over 20 teams/services across the LA & commissioned services are IIC accredited. The Communications & Engagement Committee's work is supported by the Participation Steering Group & Healthwatch in ensuring child and parent voices influence strategic thinking and decision making.
Implementation of the provisions in the Children & Social Work Act to reform local safeguarding arrangements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contribute to the national consultation on the statutory instruments and statutory guidance Develop with local and regional partners and the public a response to the new requirements 	<p>January 2018</p> <p>August 2018</p>	<p>Completed consultation by the LCSB and individually by partners (LCFT, Police etc.)</p> <p>Two option papers already completed by BwD LCSB – awaiting the final guidance to enable decision making and wider consultation.</p>

Priority Areas, 2018-19

Priority setting for the LSCB draws upon a variety of sources:

- Outstanding actions from previous year priorities
- Issues emerging from the analysis of LSCB monitoring activities
- Emerging national and local safeguarding issues
- The views and wishes of practitioners, LSCB committee members, board members
- The views and wishes of children and parents.

From the sources above and discussion at the board, the members have agreed the following priorities for the 2018-19 year:

- LSCB reforms towards safeguarding partnership
- Ensuring an effective preventative service offer for families with unmet need/underlying risk factors
- Assisting all partners towards a 'good' grade for section 11 standards
- Improving the arrangements for safeguarding meetings across the continuum
- Improve across agencies the outcome measures for children & young people.

Business planning for these priority areas is summarised in the next section.

Business Plan Priorities, 2018-19

Priority Area	Actions	Lead Committee/Partnership Group	Timescale
LSCB reforms towards safeguarding partnership	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Implement the reform from LSCB to Safeguarding Partnerships to ensure all new statutory functions are fulfilled 	Board	September 2019
Ensuring an effective preventative service offer for families with unmet need/ underlying risk factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Embed mechanisms for the voice of the child to influence board activities (strategic arrangements and evidence of outcomes being met) 	Communications & Engagement Committee	June 2018
Ensuring an effective preventative service offer for families with unmet need/ underlying risk factors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure quality assurance activities monitor how agencies address prevention, resilience (ACEs) and addressing unmet need/Underlying Risk Factors (URFs) – to recommend to agencies where improvements are required. 	Quality Assurance	June 2019
Assisting all partners towards a 'good' grade for section 11 standards	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quality assurance monitoring focused on ensuring section 11 standards are consistently met to a good grade. Improve across agencies the outcome measures for children & young people 	Quality Assurance	June 2019
Improving the arrangements for safeguarding meetings across the continuum	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improve processes and systems for all safeguarding meetings to ensure meetings effectively monitor a child's care or protection plan 	Quality Assurance, Training & Communications Committees	March 2019