

Devon Safeguarding Children Board Minutes



Chairman: A J Wooderson
Date: 10 June 2011
Venue: Exeter Racecourse

Attendees:

Alan Wooderson	Independent Chair	Devon Safeguarding Children Board
John Davey	Director of Services to Education	Careers South West Ltd
Helen Nicholls	Headteacher of South Brent Primary School	DAPH (Devon Association Primary Headteachers)
John Clements	Detective Superintendent	Devon and Cornwall Constabulary
Charlotte Coker	Assistant Chief Officer	Devon and Cornwall Probation Trust
Andrea Davis	Lead Member and Councillor	Devon County Council
Jim Wood	Area Manager for Exeter, East & Mid Devon	Devon County Council Youth Offending Team
Rory McCallum	Head of Child and Adult Protection	Devon County Council People Directorate
Judith Johnson	Director for Learning and Schools	Devon County Council Children & Young People's Services
Chris Dimmelow	Head of Children's Safeguarding	Devon County Council / Devon Safeguarding Children Board
Jennie Stephens	Strategic Director People	Devon County Council,
Laura Spittles	For Liz Davenport	Devon Partnership NHS Trust
Julie Mitchell	Performance Improvement and Quality Assurance Lead Officer	Devon Safeguarding Children Board
Sarah O'Shea	Head of Student Service, Exeter College	Further Education

Kate Gurney (Dr)	General Practitioner	Local Medical Committee
Kevin Finan	Chief Executive	Mid Devon District Council representing all Devon District Councils
Alison Allen	Named Nurse Safeguarding	NHS Devon
Stephen Richardson (Dr)	Designated Doctor Child Protection NHS Devon	NHS Devon
Virginia Pearson (Dr)	Director of Public Health and Devon Drug and Alcohol Action Team Chair	NHS Devon / Devon County Council
Mandy Cox	Policy Lead CYP Maternity	NHS South West Strategic Health Authority
Carolyn Mills	Director of Nursing	North Devon Healthcare NHS Trust
Em Wilkinson-Brice	Director of Nursing and Patient Care	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Foundation Trust
Jacqui Warne	Head Teacher Ellen Tinkham School	SHAD (Special Head teacher Association Devon) Vice Chair
Heather Parker	For Liz Childs	South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust
Mark Goodman	Manager	Voluntary Youth Services
Sally Slade	Director of Integrated Children's Services	Devon County Council / NHS Devon

Apologies:

Vicki Heywood	Service Manager	CAFCASS
Brenda Bartlett	Assistant Director Integrated Children's Services	Children and Young People's Services
Liz Davenport	Director Operations	Devon Partnership NHS Trust
David Fitzsimmons	DASH Representatives / Principal	Holsworthy Community College
Helen Hyland	Designated Nurse Child Protection	NHS Devon

Geoff Gurney	Interim Service Manager	NSPCC
Michele Thornberry	Nurse Consultant Safeguarding Children	Royal Devon & Exeter Hospital Foundation Trust
Liz Childs	Director of Nursing	South Devon Healthcare NHS Foundation Trust

Agenda Item 1	Welcome and Introductions Apologies Completed actions Declare Interests / Conflicts of Interest	Presenter Alan Wooderson
Discussion	The Chair welcomed everyone to the Devon Safeguarding Children Board (DSCB) meeting, introduced new member Sally Slade, Director for Integrated Children Services and detailed the apologies and substitutes for agency representation. It was noted that the majority of action points are complete with any outstanding items being progressed or covered on the agenda. No declarations of interest or conflicts were advised by Board members on any items of business on the agenda.	

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Working Together 2010 Compliance 	Presenter John Clements
Discussion / Conclusion	The final update for the Working Together 2010 compliance was provided to the Board. John Clements (JC) confirmed the conclusion of this process and the completion of all outstanding work. There is good compliance across the partners and the Policy, Procedures and Service Development (PPSD) sub group will continue to monitor this compliance.	

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi Agency Chronology format and policy 	Presenter John Clements
Discussion	A paper on the proposed multi agency chronology process was presented to the Board for approval. Lord Laming (LL) highlighted the need for properly maintained chronologies for child care cases and it is anticipated that this new process will provide a mechanism through which information can be systematically shared and merged regarding a child and their family. There had been extensive consultation on the development of this policy proposal	
Conclusion	The Board approved the policy and agreed its use would be incorporated into future multi agency case audits (MACA). The PPSD sub group will devise the relevant guidance which will detail the implementation, planning and training required.	

Action point	Action owner	Deadline
Create guidance for the Multi Agency Chronology process.	Policy, Procedures & Service Development Sub Group	September 2011

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising	Presenter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Guidance on Thresholds for Intervention 	John Clements
Discussion	Working Together to Safeguard Children (2010) sets out the core function of LSCB's. A specific application of this function is setting out thresholds for referrals for children in need and corresponding processes for robust multi-agency assessment. This revised guidance clearly outlines in appendix B the distinctions between section 17 and section 47 activity and it is anticipated this will assist in addressing the volume of notifications received by Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).	
Conclusion	The revised guidance was agreed and will be disseminated accordingly. Relevant training will be provided to professionals and Torbay and Devon LSCBs will work together in order to provide a consistent approach for all across border agencies and discussions are ongoing to ensure as much consistency as possible in the threshold policies in place.	

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising	Presenter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> JSNA Domestic and Sexual Violence and Abuse – Action Plan (verbal update) 	Virginia Pearson
Discussion	An action plan for the DSVVA Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) is currently being developed and will be presented at September's DSCB. This is a rapidly changing and significant area of work for both Devon and the Peninsula and links to the developing role of the peninsula SARC Board reported on below.	
Conclusion	The Board noted the update and agreed that the DSVVA JSNA will be presented at the next meeting of the DSCB.	
Action Point	Action owner	Deadline
Present the DSVVA JSNA action plan at the next Board meeting	Virginia Pearson	September 2011

Agenda Item 2	Any Matters Arising	Presenter
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Peninsula SARC Board (verbal update) 	Virginia Pearson
Discussion	Virginia Pearson (VP) outlined the current position of Sexual Assault Referral Centres (SARCs) both in Devon and the Peninsula. These are specialist facilities for the investigation of sexual assault which provide both forensic medical examination and	

	associated support. An overarching strategic governance Board for the development of SARC's across the peninsula has been established with VP as Chair, but clear lines of reporting and accountability to the 4 LSCBs need agreeing along with consistent policies and procedures.		
Conclusion	A paper detailing the SARC's policies and procedures and proposing the governance arrangements will be presented at the next DSCB meeting for approval. It was noted that working at peninsula level would be an efficient model.		
Action point	Action owner	Deadline	
Present a report on the SARC's detailing procedures and proposing governance arrangements.	Virginia Pearson	September 2011	

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination a) Munro Report and Implications	Presenter Alan Wooderson
Discussion	<p>A paper on the final report of the review of child protection arrangements undertaken by Professor Eileen Munro on behalf of the Secretary of State was presented to the Board. The report has 15 recommendations for Government consideration via an inter-departmental Implementation Panel and a response is anticipated by Autumn 2011.</p> <p>The recommendations if implemented will significantly impact individual agency responsibilities and accountabilities and the current safeguarding system outlined in Working Together. A conference hosted by the DSCB on the Munro Review is arranged for 5 July 2011 aimed at frontline managers across the DSCB partnership, commissioners and governance leads such as Lead Members. The event will discuss the implications of Munro and how Devon will respond.</p> <p>Recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • that the Board notes the final report from Professor Munro and the likely timetable for the government's response • that the implications of the recommendations for Devon are fully discussed within individual partner governance Boards, and comments routed via the Safeguarding Office to the Children's Trust who need to take responsibility to ensure that Devon's safeguarding system is fully compliant in all respects with legislation and the government's requirements when finally published • That the DSCB note and support the conference on 5th July for key staff across the partnership • That the DSCB receive subsequent reports on the implications of the government's response when published and monitor any agreed implementation plan for Devon <p>Devon is well placed to implement the recommendations pending the government's response. The report emphasises the effectiveness of early intervention and Jennie Stephens (JS) confirmed Devon County Council's (DCC) commitment to the Munro Review recommendations and assured partners that the current restructure of Children and Young People Services (CYPS) and Adults and Community Services into the new People Directorate would strengthen working together to protect children and young people and achieve more effective and efficient working arrangements.</p>	

Conclusion	The Government's response to the Munro Review will be available in the Autumn and a report detailing its content will be presented at the next DSCB meeting.		
Action Point	Action owner	Deadline	
Present the Government's Response to the Munro Review	Alan Wooderson	September 2011	

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination b) Implications for the DSCB of the Family Justice Review	Presenter Chris Dimmelow	
Discussion	<p>The Family Justice Review commenced in March 2010 and has been jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Justice, the Department for Education and the Welsh Assembly Government. It was established in recognition of increasing pressure on the Family Justice system with a view to reassess the system as a whole but looking specifically at the promotion of informed settlement and agreement avoiding court proceedings and the management of the demand and delay in Family Justice system.</p> <p>The review has worked closely with Professor Eileen Munro and Moira Gibb, who leads the Social Work Reform Board. This interim report includes a wide range of recommendations and proposals for the future of Family Justice.</p> <p>The Board were asked to consider the following recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the contents of this report are noted • That the DSCB makes a formal response to the consultation on this review <p>The Family Justice Review acknowledges the importance of the role of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs) and proposes significant links between LSCBs and the proposed new Local Family Justice Boards (LFJB)</p>		
Conclusion	The implementation process for the DSCB would be significant if all the interim report recommendations were implemented and include changes to governance structures between the LSCB and LFJB. It was agreed that Chris Dimmelow (CD) would complete the consultation response on behalf of the Board with members feeding back comments by the 19 th June 2011.		
Action Point	Action owner	Deadline	
Feedback comments on the Family Justice Review to Chris Dimmelow so that CD can submit a formal consultation response	All members	19 June 2011	

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination c) Organisational change programmes - to include updates on NHS Reforms, County Council restructuring, changes within the police, progress on changing status within schools and colleges (verbal reports)	Presenter Virginia Pearson Jennie Stephens John Clement Judith Johnson	
Discussion	An updating briefing from partners undergoing major organisational changes was provided to the Board.		

Education

The sector is experiencing increasing diversity with many Devon schools transferring to academy status. This has significant implications for the DSCB relationship with many more independent schools. It is also anticipated that the Ofsted inspection framework for schools will change later in the year and may no longer include the current limiting judgement linked to safeguarding standards and arrangements. The development of the LDP will continue to offer 'traded health checks' and all new Academies are still currently linked with their relevant sector support association i.e. DASH, DAPH and SHAD although they do not have to be.

The increasing diversity of school's provision will impact on current funding arrangements and a new project is being developed to support those schools not planning to become Academies at this stage.

One of the successes over the last 2 years has been the linkage between the safeguarding priority, the DSCB, and the schools and colleges. During the current changes, it is proposed to maintain a consistent and coherent set of safeguarding standards with the DSCB outlining the standardisation of policies and procedures that it expects to see in place in schools and colleges whatever their status. Sector representatives on the Board raised concerns about the current changes in education and in the County Council and the Board were asked to note the view that educational settings consider themselves at a high risk at being able to maintain the same safeguarding standards.

Devon and Cornwall Constabulary

The funding for the Police over the next 4 years results in a significant financial shortfall and a consequent large reduction of both Police Officers and civilian staff. Services have been centralised at Police Headquarters in Middlemoor and the Public Protection Unit (PPU) remains a priority within the Force strategic assessment. John Clements (JC) flagged a concern regarding the reduction of Police patrol work which assists in identifying children at risk. The new Police representation on the DSCB from the Autumn will be Paul Northcott (PN) as JC will be retiring as part of the required Force reductions.

Health

The current national 'pause' has led to a lack of clarity about some aspects of the expected changes within the health services. However there is now a new interim structure for PCTs in place with a 'cluster' arrangement of Plymouth, Torbay and Devon with Ann James (AJ) as the cluster Chief Executive.

There are 5 Directors supporting the Chief Executive during this transitional period. Current safeguarding arrangements with Named Doctors and Nurses maintaining their responsibilities in children safeguarding has been proposed to maintain continuity and reduce risks caused by disruption. It is also anticipated that the emerging GP consortium will need to become more involved with the safeguarding agenda including consideration of membership of the DSCB. In the meantime VP remains the nominated safeguarding lead for the NHS in Devon and KG is the GP representative from the LMC.

Devon County Council

Changes within Devon County Council (DCC) will create a People Directorate bringing together the Adult Services and CYPS Directorates with JS as the Strategic Director. JS emphasised the importance of stability for frontline services and focusing on both early help services and the safeguarding agenda. Cllr Davis (AD) is the Lead Member for both Health and Well being and Children. The Integrated Children Services (ICS) is being temporarily hosted by the County Council whilst a re-commissioning process is completed as part of the PCT's Transforming Community Services. The new structures and appointment to key posts within the new People Directorate are progressing with Rory McCallum becoming the Head of Child and Adult Protection.

	<p>District Councils All the District Councils are experiencing severe budget cuts which are resulting in restructuring and reductions in staff employed. This pattern looks set to continue over the next 3 years.</p> <p>DSCB Restructure Given the large scale changes underway it is inevitable that representation at the DSCB, Executive and sub groups will change and that the current structures should be reviewed to ensure the most efficient arrangements given reducing resources.</p> <p>AJW will write to partners requesting clarification of their representatives on the DSCB in the light of organisational and personnel changes.</p>						
Conclusion	<p>Given the range of changes underway it is opportune for partners to reassess their representation at the DSCB, the Executive and sub groups. The importance of maintaining current high level commitments to safeguarding children was acknowledged by everyone. To help with understanding new organisational accountabilities and structures it was agreed that new organisational structure charts would be collated and circulated.</p>						
Action Points	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1098 860 1315 927">Action owner</th> <th data-bbox="1315 860 1487 927">Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1098 927 1315 1234">Sharing Organisation Structure Charts (via safeguarding office)</td> <td data-bbox="1315 927 1487 1234">NHS Devon / Devon County Council including Education / Devon and Cornwall Constabulary</td> </tr> <tr> <td data-bbox="1098 1234 1315 1330">Present an interim DSCB structure at the next meeting</td> <td data-bbox="1315 1234 1487 1330">Alan Wooderson September 2011</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action owner	Deadline	Sharing Organisation Structure Charts (via safeguarding office)	NHS Devon / Devon County Council including Education / Devon and Cornwall Constabulary	Present an interim DSCB structure at the next meeting	Alan Wooderson September 2011
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Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination d) Shaping Service Commissioning	Presenter Brian Grady
Discussion	<p>Brian Grady attended to present this item that had previously been considered by the Executive The Joint Strategic Needs Assessment (JSNA) for safeguarding recommended that service commissioners within adult and children's services should be engaged better prior to commissioning and contracting cycles so that key issues identified as needing improvement to safeguard Devon's children are included in commissioning priorities. Additionally the current DSCB Business Plan 2010-11 contains an objective to 'Participate in the planning and commissioning of children's and where appropriate, adult services, in particular ensuring that the findings and recommendations from the JSNA safeguarding children 2009 are integral to the commissioning process'.</p> <p>The following recommendations were reviewed by the Board:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DSCB agree a facilitated event in September 2011 to agree joint strategic priorities for safeguarding children with key personnel from across DCC People Directorate commissioning staff and DSCB partner commissioners. • For the Executive to commission a Task and Finish group of key persons from across DSCB partners to agree actions against the Business Plan objective PSC 	

	<p>1, and ensure the successful delivery of a facilitated event, with agreed outcomes.</p> <p>An update on the current progress in JSNA action plan relating to Commissioning was also provided.</p> <p>VP commented that it was her intention to fully update the 2009 JSNA in October/November 2011 and that therefore it made more sense sequentially if this was completed in advance of the commissioning facilitated event. Thus the workshop should be planned for November not September and both the outcomes from the workshop and the updated JSNA could come to the December 2011 DSCB.</p>												
Conclusion	<p>It was agreed that a facilitated event in either October or November 2011 should be planned. The DSCB needs to take an objective view on the agreed plan coming from the workshop and will therefore not facilitate this event but will participate on the day. The updated JSNA action plan will be presented in September and will detail a collective approach in reviewing the commissioning arrangements to ensure that children are safeguarded.</p>												
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Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination e) Graded Care Profile	Presenter John Clements
Discussion	<p>The Board were asked to consider adopting the Graded Care Profile which is a nationally recognised practical tool which can be used to identify and continually assess neglect within child protection situations .This was an area identified as needing development by the Multi Agency Case Audits (MACA) in 2009. The tool is an ideal way of achieving this development and it was proposed that this is adopted by the Board.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agree the use of the Graded Care Profile as the assessment tool for children and young people where neglect is a feature. • Identify costs of implementation and present to the DSCB. • Agree a timescale for implementation. 	
Conclusion	<p>The Board approved the recommendations and a task and finish group commissioned by the PPSD will to take forward the tool's implementation and agree a suitable timetable. The DSCB training team have also been consulted regarding facilitating this training. The proposal will also be shared with Peninsula LSCBs.</p>	

Action points	Action owner	Deadline
Present the Graded Care Profile tool to the Peninsula LSCB group	Alan Wooderson	August 2011
Implement the Graded Care Profile tool across Devon	Task and Finish Group	December 2011

Agenda Item 3	Strategic Co-ordination f) DSCB Pooled Budget	Presenter Alan Wooderson
Discussion	<p>An update on the DSCB pooled budget was provided to the Board. The report outlined the 2010/11 outturn position on the pooled budget, the forecast level of reserves available and the budget and partner contributions for 2011/12. All partner agency invoices in relation to 2010/11 contributions have been paid and the training section of the budget has produced a surplus at year end. This surplus relates to level of generated income from training which has increased towards the year end.</p> <p>The new 2011-12 budget indicates a shortfall of funding and it was therefore noted that this will be funded from the accumulated reserve if required. Despite very difficult financial times it is important that safeguarding remains a priority for all partners.</p>	
Conclusion	The Board noted the content of the report.	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness a) Findings of the Multi Agency Case Audit April 2011	Presenter Andrew Berry
Discussion	<p>The recent multi agency case audit (MACA) completed in April featured eight cases in South Devon. The overall judgement reached was that 7 out of 8 cases were inadequate against the audit criteria. The audit team had representatives from children's social care, health agencies, police, schools, adult mental health, probation and youth offending service.</p> <p>Andy Berry (AB) on behalf of the Quality Assurance and Audit Complaint (QAAC) Audit team summarised the issues from the audit and highlighted two specific areas of concerns, risk identification, particularly in relation to domestic abuse and secondly the effectiveness of child protection conferences and reviews. It was noted that the audit held both pre and post MACA meetings with agency representatives involved in the 8 cases audited and it is anticipated that in future agency leads will be invited to a feedback session on the final day of the audit. This will enable more speedy feedback especially if immediate remedial actions are required. This MACA is disappointing in that the report is not in line with the general direction of improvement that has been reported over the last 2 years.</p> <p>The below recommendations were considered by the Executive and then brought to today's DSCB.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the DSCB recommends that agencies bring to the Initial Child Protection Conferences (ICPC)¹ any existing objectives/plan that their agency has with the family as well as SMART objectives which their agency could contribute to the outcome of the ICPC. • That the DSCB training programme includes an Appreciative Inquiry style interactive case study (Police use 'Hydra Suite' simulation training in murder SIO² training) to replace level 3 training. • That the DSCB recommends that agencies reinforce that the language and information they record is factual, up to date and evidence based. • That the DSCB provides training for practitioners which develops their skills to work with resistant families and that this is supported by the development and provision of a 'Practitioner Toolkit' which contains guidance and strategies in relation to the 'toxic trio' of Domestic abuse, substance abuse and mental health. • That the DSCB identifies ways in which the child's voice can be heard. • That the DSCB ensures that the remit and service provision of CAMHS and JACAT are reviewed and fully understood and that the services comply with the focussed expectations of safeguarding children • Individual Agency recommendations, from the audit require each agency to provide significant evidence within three months to the DSCB of the actions to improve the performance/issues noted. • The MACA ongoing longitudinal analysis is updated to include the findings from this April 2011 audit. <p>Alan Wooderson (AJW) expressed his concerns about the audit findings and in particular, how these do not mirror the assurance provided by partners in the Section 11 audit returns. AJW therefore fully endorsed the recommendations and advised of his expectation that agencies commit to action these in order to improve practice. There was considerable discussion about process improvements in the audit methodology and the way that the final report is presented especially the action plan.</p>	
Conclusion	The recommendations were agreed and the report will be finalised and include a comprehensive action plan. This will be risk rated and detail nominated leads and dates for completion of improvement activity. It was also proposed that NHS Devon's internal audit template should be shared with the audit team as a potential model of report formatting. The DSCB Chair thanked the MACA team for highlighting the experience of children and families through the audit process and re-emphasised the critical importance of single agency accountability for the quality of front line practice and decision making, as well as the inter agency responsibilities for how safe the safeguarding arrangements are in individual situations.	
Action Points	Action owner	Deadline
The MACA Report and action plan	Quality Assurance and Audit Complaint Sub Group / Executive	Immediate

Revise the current audit timetabling to allow for feedback to agency leads as part of the final day of the audit and the presentation to the Executive in time so that the DSCB receive the Executive's action plan and improvement timetable from each concluded MACA.	Quality Assurance and Audit Complaint Sub Group / Executive	Immediate
Update on the South Devon MACA audit to be provided at September's meeting after review by the Executive with any proposals for further focussed work being required in south Devon.	Quality Assurance and Audit Complaint Sub Group / Executive	September 2011

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness b) Section 11 Audit 2010/11 and planned activity 2011/12	Presenter Alan Wooderson / Julie Mitchell
Discussion	<p>The compliance with Section 11 of The Children Act 2004 is a statutory requirement and therefore the audit process agreed across the four peninsula LSCBs provides assurance of safeguarding arrangements within organisations. The recent audit has confirmed an increased compliance with the expected standards and sets out proposals for dissemination of identified good practice and revising the Section 11 process for 2011/12.</p> <p>15 Peninsula and 8 Devon agencies participated in the audit with 3 agencies needing to improve their responses and being followed up by the audit team. This is because they did not sufficiently demonstrate the assurance requirements with the Section 11 standards. It was agreed by the peninsula LSCB Chairs that a firmer stance should be taken should continued non-compliance result from this request.</p> <p>In addition to this process an Appreciative Inquiry (AI) event was organised for Devon's District Councils which culminated in a safeguarding action plan for each District Council to complete and submit to the DSCB office.</p> <p>The Board reviewed the below recommendations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The DSCB note the findings of the Section 11 report • The DSCB agree to the proposals for the Section 11 process for 2011/12 as contained in section 4.1 of the report including a staff survey and the organising of a 'safeguarding week' to raise community awareness and focus on safeguarding children. • The Chair of the DSCB to follow up with those organisations that have failed to complete their action plan returns. 	
Conclusion	<p>The recommendations were agreed and the DSCB approved the proposed electronic Staff Survey which will support the assurance of compliance with the section 11 audit for 2011/12. This will be completed during the DVA Awareness Week in November 2011. The Board also agreed to link where appropriate, with this event to raise the profile of children's safeguarding. A proposed peer review process for organisations was also supported but needs to be consulted on to avoid duplication with other arrangements that are already in place.</p>	

Action Point	Action owner	Deadline
Contact agencies who have failed to complete their action plan return	Alan Wooderson	Immediate
Planning for the Section 11 process for 2011 to be progressed with peninsula colleagues	Julie Mitchell	November 2011

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness c) Quarterly Performance Management Report to include consideration of the implications of the Munro Review – Draft Performance Information Set	Presenter Julie Mitchell
<p>Discussion</p>	<p>The current safeguarding performance management report was presented to the Board and contained an overview of performance information related to Devon and supporting detail and comparator information, where available. The ambition and the four outcome areas provided assurance on how well agencies have contributed to achieving this ambition. The ambition is for children in Devon to be safer and the outcome areas are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Protection from maltreatment; - Prevention of impairment to health and/or development; - Ensuring safe and effective care; and - Ensuring a safe environment. <p>The report also outlined the National Information items for reporting against the work of children’s social care detailed in the final Munro Review (appendix B). The majority of these items are already collected and reported however there are some new areas where information will be needed to be collected by new or modified processes with potential lead in times up to July 2013. It was also noted that the Munro Review outlines the importance of hearing the child’s voice and that although some of this data is available the challenge is how to report this consistently.</p> <p>The Board discussed the current data and reporting format previously agreed by members. It was requested that the report moves away from a compendium of data reporting to a ‘processes and outcomes’ report, with a balanced scorecard, top level analysis and a review of risks within the system. This will provide a view on how safe our children are in Devon.</p> <p>The Board considered the following recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board notes the performance report and overview • The Board agrees to recording a strategic statement for each of the outcome areas. • The Board to determine the data to be presented under each outcome. • The Board to note the implications of the Munro report, Appendix B on management information items and agree any actions that need to be taken to collect and report on items which are currently not reported on to the DSCB 	
<p>Conclusion</p>	<p>The recommendations were approved along with the proposed changes to the current data reporting. Work is ongoing with Peninsula LSCBs to standardise management information reporting if at all possible.</p>	

Action Point	Action owner	Deadline
Review the current data reporting format inline with the DSCB recommendations and progress the peninsula proposals	Julie Mitchell	September 2011

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness d) DSCB Annual Report 2010/11		Presenter Alan Wooderson / Julie Mitchell
Discussion	<p>The DSCB Annual Report 2010/11 is in a similar format to 2009/10 however significant progress against the challenges identified in the 2009/10 Annual Report, have been made, along with delivery of the DSCB Business Plan. The judgement of new Annual Report concludes that Devon's safeguarding children arrangements are good with adequate prospects for improvement. The areas of improvement to safeguarding performance are also identified in Section three and the five issues identified from the DSCB self evaluation is included in Section five of the report.</p> <p>The recently published final report from Professor Munro confirms the importance of LSCB Annual Reports "as part of their scrutiny function each LSCB produces and publishes an annual report about safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in its local area ... LSCBs play an extremely valuable role and remain uniquely positioned within the local accountability architecture to monitor how professionals and services are working together ... when monitoring and evaluating local arrangements, LSCBs should take account of local need and include an assessment of the effectiveness of help being provided including the effectiveness and value for money of early help services including early years provisions".</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That Board Members' agree the DSCB Annual Report 2010/11 for publication. • That the Annual Report is submitted to all relevant governance boards for information and discussion and is also published on the DSCB website. • That the Annual Report is amended and updated with end of year figures when these become available. • A limited number of hard copy versions will be printed for distribution by the end of July 2011. • That the DSCB Annual Report 2011/12 will need to reflect the Government's response to the final Munro Report including the submission of the Annual Report to the Health and Wellbeing Board, the Police and Crime Commissioner (should they be in post), the County Council's Chief Executive and the Leader of the County Council. 		
Conclusion	The Board approved the final Annual Report 2010/11 and endorsed all the recommendations.		
Action Point	Action owner	Deadline	
DSCB Annual Report 2010-11 to be forwarded to all relevant governance boards and to be published on the DSCB website. A print run of a small number of hard copies of the report for distribution to be organised.	Julie Mitchell / DSCB Office	July 2011	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness e) MASH Board Report	Presenter Rory McCallum
Discussion / Conclusion	Rory McCallum (RMcC) provided a verbal update regarding MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) to the Board along with the minutes of the most recent MASH Board meeting in May 2011. At the MASH Board meeting Nicola Channon (NC) provided a helpful presentation on the current challenges and a productive discussion took place on improving still further the effectiveness of the hub. The Board noted that Devon County Council (DCC) will be resourcing MASH further and link up work with schools will be a priority. Development work on measuring the outcomes and value for money of MASH using a performance matrix is also being taken forward by RMcC and Steve Brown (SB), NHS Devon following on from the original scoping work that had been produced by the NFER.	

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness f) Children's Commissioner Report 2011 - 'Don't make assumptions - Children and young people's views of the child protection system and messages for change	Presenter Chris Dimmelow
Discussion	<p>The aim of this research, commissioned by the Office of the Children's Commissioner, was to seek children and young people's views of the child protection system and to consider how those views might contribute to improving responses to abuse and neglect. It aimed to gather the views of children and young people living with their parents, who all had a child protection plan in place.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the content of this report is noted. • That the Executive consider the implications for policy and practice in Devon for gathering the views of children and young people who are within the child protection system and agree with the DSCB Performance and Improvement Manage the regular reporting of information gathered from the "voice of children". 	
Conclusion	The Board agreed the recommendations and noted that hearing the voice of Devon's children remains a key challenge. There is currently a whole range of information gathered from children and young people by many different organisations and the Executive need to consider the best way to systematise gathering views and responding to key themes around safeguarding.	
Action Point	Action owner	Deadline
Review the Children's Commissioner Report 2011 and consider its implications in respect of Devon's current policies and practises	Executive	September 2011

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness g) Executive Report	Presenter Chris Dimmelow
Discussion	A report on the progress of Executive was presented to the Board.	

	<p>The draft Annual Report 2010–11 was reviewed and the associated recommendations agreed. The proposed restructuring of the Board, Executive and Sub Groups was discussed and the Board's decision to delay this action pending the outcome of final Munro Report was noted. Local policies and procedures in relation to Child Exploitation were reviewed in light of recent national and local high profile cases and a proposal to convene a peninsula based task and finish group to review current policies and procedures was outlined. The findings from the Multi Agency Case Audit (MACA) 2 year analysis and April's audit report was presented and the main concerns in the recent audit were discussed and the report recommendations agreed. The full Section 11 audit findings for this year were outlined with audits judged as inadequate have incurred further action. The Executive noted their responsibility for the DSCB risk register and agreed that clear reporting mechanisms are required to flag key risks.</p> <p>Finally a proposal to hold a safeguarding awareness week which would be held by all 4 LSCBs with Devon and Torbay organising the event in conjunction with DVA Awareness Week in November was considered and sub group leads have been invited to take part.</p>				
Conclusion	The Board noted the progress of the Executive and the DSCB risk register will be circulated for members for comment and update.				
Action Point	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th data-bbox="1126 824 1347 891">Action owner</th> <th data-bbox="1347 824 1497 891">Deadline</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td data-bbox="1126 891 1347 992">Circulate the DSCB risk register to members for their review and update.</td> <td data-bbox="1347 891 1497 992">Julie Mitchell / DSCB Office End of June 2011</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Action owner	Deadline	Circulate the DSCB risk register to members for their review and update.	Julie Mitchell / DSCB Office End of June 2011
Action owner	Deadline				
Circulate the DSCB risk register to members for their review and update.	Julie Mitchell / DSCB Office End of June 2011				

Agenda Item 4	Ensuring Effectiveness h) CDOP Annual Report 2010/11	Presenter Chris Dimmelow
Discussion	<p>The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report 2010/11 was provided to the Board for information. LSCBs have a statutory responsibility for child death overview and the four SW Peninsula LSCBs have collaborated to form one CDOP serving Cornwall & Isles of Scilly, Devon, Plymouth and Torbay.</p> <p>The Peninsula covers a wide geographical area which therefore has many challenges including long distance travel, cross-boundary working, and a transient tourist population. The establishment of CDOP ensures robust notification and confident statistics regarding child deaths in the region. Nationally the Peninsula CDOP handles the third highest number of cases per annum.</p> <p>Recommendations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That the content of this report is noted. • That the current review of the Peninsula CDOP arrangements is reported back to the DSCB as soon as it is completed • That the SCR Sub Group advise the DSCB of any specific actions that are required as a consequence of the conclusions reached in this report 	
Conclusion	A comprehensive review of the report and an indication of the way forward for the current CDOP requirements will be presented to the Board at the next meeting in September. Carol Evason-Coombe (CEC), the peninsula CDOP Co-ordinator will attend the September DSCB to present the report.	

Action Point	Action owner	Deadline
Present a review of the CDOP report to the Board at the next meeting and receive proposals on the future CDOP arrangements beyond 2012/13	Carol Evason-Coombe / Chris Dimmelow	September 2011

Agenda Item 5	www.ebi AOB	Presenter Alan Wooderson
	<p>What went well Quality of papers and discussion on substantial issues.</p> <p>Even better if Reduced volume of papers / agenda items to allow for more quality discussion.</p> <p>Any Other Business An issue was raised about DSCB Training courses being cancelled at short notice which was very difficult for clinical staff in hospital settings. CD agreed to investigate the reasons for this and report back to the Trusts affected.</p>	

Agenda Item 6	Next Meeting Dates
	<p>Friday 9th September</p> <p>Friday 9th December</p>