



**Suffolk Safeguarding
Children Board**

Annual Report 2018-19



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1. Message from the Independent Chair and our Lay Members

One of the main areas of focus for the past twelve months has been the development of the new Suffolk Safeguarding Arrangements which take effect from October 2019. These are in response to changes in legislation set out in the Children and Social Work Act 2017, whereby the responsibility for Children's Safeguarding shifts to the three statutory partners: Health, Police and the County Council.

Much time was spent on consulting on and developing the new model, which gives us the opportunity to be more outcome focussed and to work more closely with the Safeguarding Adults Board, whose statutory framework in the 2014 Care Act remains unchanged. An example of how we will be approaching commonality is a single group covering exploitation of children and adults at risk, whatever their age. Using a common methodology for case reviews could be another.

The Inspection of Suffolk Children Services which attracted an 'outstanding' rating was a highlight last year and so were the inspections of other organisations in the multi-agency environment, all of which are considered 'good'. The sole exception is the Norfolk and Suffolk Mental Health Trust (NSFT) which has failed several inspections and about which all partners remained concerned throughout the year.

I was pleased to see a reduction in number of referrals to the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) particularly from Suffolk Constabulary. This reflects a further increase in the use of the professional consultation line and an effective triaging of referrals before they reach the MASH.

The launch of our updated multi-agency Neglect Strategy at our conference in January was another highlight as that was the culmination of considerable development work. This enables us to focus on the monitoring of practice that underpins the strategy, through our Learning and Improvement Group, particularly the use of the graded care profile tool to assess the levels of neglect and to provide a targeted intervention at the right time.

The Board had focussed on the risks to young people not in full time education and who are at increased risk of exploitation. We have challenged school leaders in some areas and engaged with the Regional Schools Commissioner to raise this issue at the highest level. It continues to be a priority and we are assured by the strategies being implemented by Education colleagues to address these issues. As over 70% of Suffolk children are educated in Academies, it is crucial that the Board has a strong and active relationship with all Academy Trusts about child safeguarding.

I was pleased with the engagement of key partners, particularly in Health, Police and Children Services to the changes in legislation which meant the Board had to provide a 'rapid response' to the newly formed National Case review Panel, within 10 days of a serious incident. This, alongside established processes in our Case Review panel, meant that we were able to establish effective learning reviews from cases and to apply any lessons quickly. An effective Board impacts on safeguarding in real time, not retrospectively.

Engagement with Young People continues to be a priority and we have now established a Young Peoples forum, who we look forward to working alongside, helping us deliver priorities and co-producing key materials and guidance to ensure it is fit for purpose.

In my own role moving forward, my priorities are to spend less time requesting lengthy update reports and to move to real-time exception reporting: to involve children and their families and front line practitioners more in the work of the Board; and to strengthen our problem-solving capability on issues affecting all partners in the multi-agency system throughout Suffolk.

It is a pleasure to be back working in Suffolk. It is an inspirational environment in which I can try to add value to a system which is already high performing, but which is determined to do better still.

Anthony Douglas CBE
Independent Chair
Suffolk Local Safeguarding Children Board

1.1 Lay Members' Report

Suffolk SCB are fortunate to have two active and committed Lay Members on the Board. Our Lay Members provide scrutiny and challenge from a community-based perspective.

The work of the Board has evolved over the last 12 months as it strives to be effective in engaging with the various partners and encourages them to work collaboratively to provide effective safeguarding for children whilst overcoming the challenges associated with cross agency working.

The Board provides a space for the frank exchange of views and sometimes frustrations, whilst always endeavouring to be supportive but not avoiding constructive criticism when necessary.

The Lay Members embrace their role as 'critical friends' and recognise that their role continues to be to ask questions, seek clarification and explanation of issues the partners may not always feel comfortable to raise, and to try to reflect a community perspective.

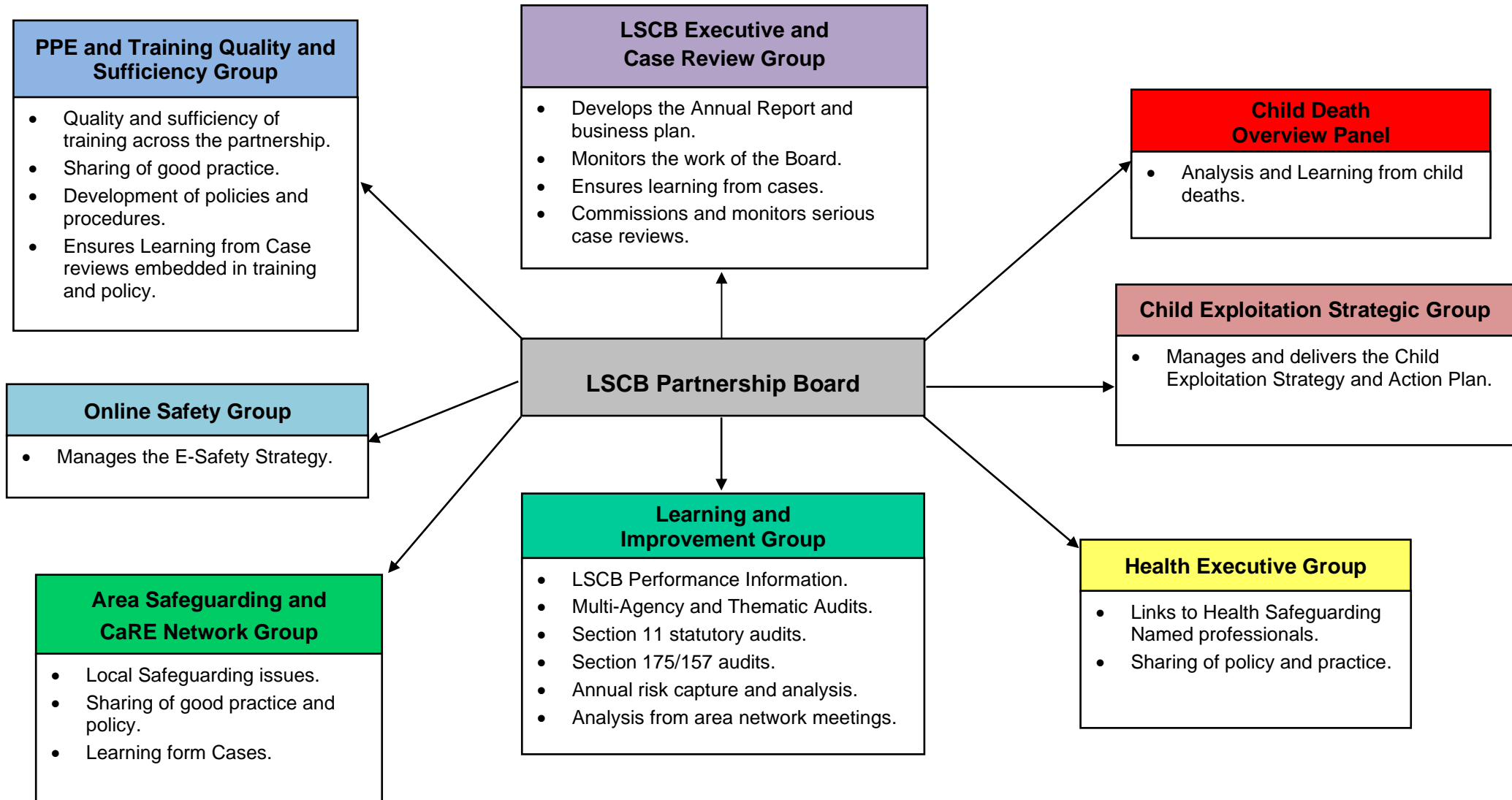
The Board and the Lay Members must now build upon the work of the last few years to ensure it continues whilst embracing new safeguarding arrangements.

The Executive function will be shared with the Safeguarding Adults Board but remaining distinct and managing increasing pressure on budgets and resources and never losing sight of its priority commitment to ensure the best possible safeguarding outcomes for children in and from Suffolk.

As we reported last year, Suffolk LSCB remains well placed and served to meet the challenge with a dedicated team of committed individuals enjoying the support of the partners recognising that the Board provides a place to share problems and develop solutions.

Andrew Peck and Sara Benstead – LSCB Lay Members

2. The 2018-19 Structure and Focus of the Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board and its Subgroups



3. Child Safeguarding in Suffolk – Headline Data

The LSCB reviewed an extensive range of performance data through its Learning and Improvement Subgroup. This is a snapshot. There is a sizeable quantum of data behind the headline data. In 2019/20, we intend to develop a small number of well-analysed datasets about the main safeguarding issues in Suffolk.

3.1 Children on Child Protection Plans (CPPs)

	March 2019	March 2018	March 2017
Number of children currently subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP)	467	463	438
Rate per 10,000 of Suffolk population	30.2	30.2	29
% of children becoming CPP for a second or subsequent time	21%	20.10%	16.6%
% of CPP ceased within the year which had lasted two years or more	0%	2.2%	2.1
Children ceasing to be subject to a CPP	576	534	574

The number of children subject to a Child Protection Plan at this year-end is only marginally higher than year end March 2018 and the rate per 10,000 is lower than our Statistical Neighbours or National figures.

3.2 Number of Children in Need (CiN)- including those on a Child Protection Plan and Child in Care (CiC)

	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19
Number of CiN including CPP and CiC	3307	3330	3457	3424	3297	3244	3124	3044	3146	3453	3601	3133

There is an upward trend for CiN rate per 10.000 children nationally and for East of England and Suffolk reflects this trend (238.70 per 10.000). However, Suffolk compares with the Statistical Neighbours (282.98) and East of England (260.80).

Whilst there is a continued high demand upon services compounded by an increased complexity of work arising from risks around child exploitation, gang activity etc., practitioners and managers continue to progress work timely and effectively.

3.3 Re-Referrals to Specialist Services i.e. Young people who are referred to Social Care for a second time

The % of re-referrals to Specialist Services in past 12 months	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19
Re-Referral Rate - All Children	90	109	102	127	78	73	119	93	91	78	62	85
% of Re-Referral Rate - All Children	25%	22%	19%	22%	20%	20%	26%	24%	23%	19%	15%	22%

With some relatively small fluctuations, the re-referral rate has seen a reduction from 25% in April 2018 to 22% in March 2019. Where teams are turning around cases quickly, they are alert to the need to encourage the support and engagement of other agencies and Early Help when the cases close to Social Care.

3.4 Number of violent/sexual offences against children (U18)

Offences where the victim was aged 0-17 years at the time of the offence.

	Sexual Offences	Violence Against the Person	Violence With Injury	Violence without Injury
2016/2017	877	2642	922	1605
2017/2018	980	3385	1167	1729
2018/2019	1189	3573	1149	1795

Between financial years 17/18 and 18/19 there have been increases and decreases across recorded violence and sexual offences against under 18s. Violence against the person has increased by 5.5% (from 3385 to 3573 offences). Broken down further, there has been a decrease in Violence With Injury of 1.54% (from 1167 to 1149) but an increase in Violence Without Injury of 3.82% (from 1729 to 1795). Recorded sexual offences have increased by 21.3% (from 980 to 1189 offences).

Increases across these offence groups are likely to reflect a number of factors including the prevalence of 'sexting' between teenagers which, by definition of age, would be classed as a sexual offence. These increases compare to a 18.29% increase in all violence against the person and a 14.5% increase in all sexual offences

3.5 Contacts processed by the Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) by referring agency

	Apr-18	May-18	Jun-18	Jul-18	Aug-18	Sep-18	Oct-18	Nov-18	Nov-18	Dec-18	Jan-19	Feb-19	Mar-19
Anon/ Unknown	61	94	135	177	159	92	125	42	117	103	110	109	90
Education/ School	449	824	802	863	31	528	683	301	1026	836	814	742	1014
Housing Services	35	32	24	47	67	40	74	28	109	140	98	111	81
Health	541	512	592	622	528	517	595	195	743	797	785	687	642
Police	1258	1386	1282	1573	1120	918	1273	348	1483	1288	1429	1081	1117
Individual	376	375	482	559	512	461	555	132	490	397	504	482	478
LA Services	157	241	234	284	232	175	257	66	244	212	171	180	104
Other	312	252	392	431	396	249	380	145	362	334	327	386	363
Grand Total	3189	3716	3943	4556	3045	2980	3942	1257	4574	4107	4238	3778	3889

The majority of contacts continue to come from Police and Education sources.

The number of contacts from each of the agencies has remained broadly stable over the period and also post the introduction of the Liquid Logic system. This period has also included the requirement to use the new Portal for the submission of referral forms and despite some teething problems, this is now standard practice for partners. Housing contacts show a welcome increase.

Contacts from Police remain high, although a significant number of contacts are managed through internal evaluation. It is difficult to compare contact volume with other local authorities as there is no agreed definition, however trend analysis is still valuable.

4. Suffolk Serious Case Reviews (SCRs) and Child Deaths

4.1 A summary of Suffolk Serious Case Reviews and Partnership Reviews in the past 12 months.

Young Person A	Young Person B	Children C and D
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Murdered in Ipswich •Multi-Agency partnership review in the death led to an extensive plan embedded in the Suffolk County Lines, gangs and Groups tactical action plan. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Died as a result of an asthma attack a few years after her brother in similar circumstances. •A multi-agency plan being developed to ensure the risks associated with asthma are recognised by parents and practitioners. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Killed by a parent who then died by suicide. •A joint review focussing on support for parents and their engagement with agencies, particularly emotional health and wellbeing •Looking at similar cases nationally and relevant learning.

Five other cases were discussed in detail by the panel but did not result in more detailed multi-agency case reviews.

From July 2018, serious incidents must be reported to the DfE National Panel within 10 working days using a 'rapid response' process. Suffolk LSCB submitted 3 cases (T, K and M) to the National Panel in the past 12 months using this process. None of the cases were deemed to be of 'national importance', so local learning reviews commenced.

4.2 Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) - Reviewed Cases in 2018/19.

In total we reviewed 39 cases out of which 4 were identified as having a modifiable factor as follows:

	Total	Out of which are modifiable Factors
Suicide or deliberate self-inflicted harm	2	2
Trauma and other external factors	1	1
Malignancy	3	0
Acute medical or surgical condition	1	0
Chronic medical condition	5	1
Chromosomal, genetic, congenital anomalies	6	0
Perinatal/neonatal event	17	0
Infection	2	0
Sudden unexpected, unexplained death	2	0

4.3 Learning from the past 12 months at the Child Death Overview Panel

- Refocusing Safer Sleeping strategy on male care givers and work with all partners to reinforce 6 messages and address lifestyle issues and sleeping arrangements.
- Continue roll out of Electronic eCDOP which gives an easier more efficient recording of cases.
- Sharing the learning from each reviewed case with professionals/agencies who have been involved in the life of a child prior to death.
- Development of and support for a Rapid Response Team which is progressing well.

5. Progress Against Priorities in the Past 12 months

Our specific Board Priorities for 2018-19 were:

1. Monitor the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women and Girls, Men and Boys (VAWGMB) strategy and its impact on domestic violence in Suffolk.

2. Continue to monitor the impact of the delivery of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing strategy.

3. Lead the delivery of the Child Exploitation action plan across Suffolk. This will recognise the impact of the multi-agency response to the County lines and gangs and groups in Suffolk.

4. Develop a robust Neglect Strategy and monitor its implementation and impact.

5. Monitor the safeguarding risks of children not in appropriate full-time education.

5. Develop the multi-agency safeguarding arrangement in line with Working Together 2018 to be in place by July 2019.

1. Monitor the effectiveness of the Violence Against Women and Girls, Men and Boys (VAWGMB) Strategy and its impact on domestic violence in Suffolk.

The Board continues to monitor the VAWGMB Strategy and is pleased to note positive impacts over the past 12 months e.g.

- SCC provides £263k per year to fund the Domestic Abuse Outreach Service. Delivered by Anglia Care Trust, the service provides support for victims of domestic abuse across Suffolk.
- SCC provides £348k per year to fund three Women's Refuges across Suffolk to ensure that the highest risk victims and their children are safe and supported.
- Working with colleagues in Norfolk to support victims with no recourse to public funds. to provide emergency accommodation along with safety planning and immigration advice.
- 21 bed spaces are available across the county for arguably our most vulnerable domestic abuse victims. In 2018 SCC were successful with an additional bid for £270,000 to further develop this support and provide sanctuary measures to keep victims and their families safe in their own homes.
- Suffolk are working with the national charity Safe Partnership to support victims of domestic abuse to remain safe in their homes. The scheme commenced in April 2018 and the 10 months to the end of January 2019 saw 90 high risk victims of domestic abuse supported with measures to secure their homes
- Suffolk Public Sector Leaders have agreed funding to develop a Domestic Abuse Champions Network to ensure a consistent approach to training and a collective response to domestic abuse rooted in communities.

- Suffolk County Council have appointed two part time Domestic Abuse Champions Coordinators to train 'Champions' in a wide range of organisations to encourage opportunities for early disclosure and support.
- Suffolk Public Sector Leaders have also provided funds to help develop a Coordination Centre for domestic abuse providing a single point of contact for victims, friends, family and professionals to seek support.
- Working with University of Suffolk to develop a Regional Domestic Abuse Network which will coordinate research and act as a knowledge exchange for academics and professionals. Launched in June 2019.
- Suffolk Constabulary is rolling out the DA Matters training programme to all frontline staff. This training equips officers with the knowledge and confidence to spot and deal with matters of abuse and vulnerability.
- MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) The past year has seen the development of 12 new MARAC Chairs across the county from many of the partner agencies that deal with high risk abuse. This change has led to an improved understanding and buy in from all partners when dealing with adult victims suffering high risk domestic abuse.

2. Continue to monitor the impact of the delivery of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Strategy.

The board continues to monitor the impact of the strategy with half yearly reports to board. This remains a priority, but progress is being made including:

The Suffolk Emotional Wellbeing Hub launched in April 2018. It is a phone and web-based service, offering a central point of contact and information for anyone who is concerned about the mental health or emotional wellbeing of a child or young person up to the age of 25 in East or West Suffolk. The initial months of operation have seen higher than expected demand for the service and a number of challenges to meeting the level of demand. An ongoing programme of service support, learning and development together with a weekly learning meeting and a bi-weekly Operational Group have been set up to resolve any barriers to efficient throughput of casework.

The time required for managing referrals within the Emotional Wellbeing Hub has been found to be longer than originally projected. This suggests that the complexity of the work demands the time taken to maintain an adequate level of quality of work and to offer a good experience for service users. The consequence has been an increasing wait for routine cases to be managed by the practitioners. A business case for additional resource to address the shortfall in capacity against the initial activity modelling assumptions has been agreed

Useful Information/Signposting for children and families in Suffolk:

- The online **Emotional Wellbeing Gateway** can assist parents, carers, and professionals who are worried about a child or young person's emotional wellbeing. The website includes:
 - Information about emotional wellbeing support.
 - Practical advice for parents and carers concerned about their child's mental health.
 - A directory of local services to support children, young people, and families.
- The **Source** is a website for young people to access information, advice and guidance on issues they may face in their everyday lives.
- **Ask the Expert** (provided by Suffolk Young People's Health Project – 4YP) provides on line 1:1 support for young people (age 12-25), Monday to Wednesday, 5 – 7pm
- **Chat Health** is a confidential text service for young people and families provided by the school nursing team Monday to Friday 9am – 4.30pm for help about a range of issues.

3. Lead the delivery of the Child Exploitation Action Plan across Suffolk. This will recognise the impact of the multi-agency response to the county lines and gangs and groups in Suffolk.

Suffolk continues to make good progress in undertaking the actions and activities set out in our strategic and tactical action plans. County Lines Panels have been introduced across the three Community Safety Partnership areas. These panels bring together a range of partners to tackle the harm caused by county line networks.

A multi-agency team has been in place since October 2018 (Suffolk Against Gangs & Exploitation). Staff roles resourced from Suffolk Public Service Leads funding include social workers, restorative justice worker, community engagement officer, mental health worker, psychologist, Make A Change practitioner, Education/Training/Employment practitioner and a Police Intelligence Officer. The team is working with an identified cohort of young people involved or at risk of gang activity in Ipswich, the learning of which will be rolled out and shared countywide. It is important to note that this is a preventive intervention with the aim of diverting them away from a life of drugs, violence and crime.

Monthly Gangs & County Line Panels are now operating in Ipswich, Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds led by Police colleagues. The panels offer an opportunity for front line practitioners to refer vulnerable young people/adults at risk of gangs and county lines. The panel will assess an individuals' risk and put in place the necessary safeguards/actions where applicable. The panels also have access to funding for diversionary activities.

Train the trainer sessions have been completed or are planned in various locations across the county to upskill and raise awareness amongst front line practitioners in the public and 3rd sector. This approach encourages organisations to play an active role in raising awareness and cascading knowledge and intelligence internally, reaching all localities. To date over 75 professionals have been trained who will then go on to train further sessions within their own organisations.

Work is being delivered in schools to help raise awareness and signpost to other services. This has included sessions being offered to parents and teachers. Train the Trainer and awareness sessions are being delivered across Suffolk to help professionals from a broad range of backgrounds come together to consider how a partnership approach is the most effective way to tackle this complex issue.

Extract from the Local Authority Ofsted report of Suffolk Children and Young People's Services, May 2019:

'The Local Authority works well with its partners to confront the issues when children are at risk of going missing or are vulnerable to criminal or sexual exploitation or from involvement in gangs. Co-location of teams has been instrumental in supporting good knowledge and understanding of the most vulnerable families. There is effective formal sharing of information between teams, especially where gangs or county lines involvement is an issue.'

'The work of the Make A Change (MAC) and Suffolk Against Gang Exploitation (SAGE) teams to identify and reduce harm from criminal and sexual exploitation and gangs is very impressive. They work well across agency boundaries to share intelligence and to map risks. Through a sensitive and skilled approach, they succeed in engaging with young people to reduce risk of harm.'

'Where children have gone missing, staff make sure that return home interviews (RHI) happen quickly and are of a high standard. Staff use the information children provide well to inform good safety planning. Work is continuing to ensure that all RHIs are timely and of a high standard.'

4. Develop a robust Neglect Strategy and monitor its implementation and impact.

The development of an updated Neglect Strategy was a priority for the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) over the past 12 months. The new strategy was launched at a conference on neglect in January at the University of Suffolk with 180 multi-agency partners attending.

The aim of the day was to not only launch the revised Suffolk Neglect Strategy and Action Plan, but to explore key areas such as the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) assessment tool, adolescent neglect and understanding how poverty is impacting on children and families. It was also an opportunity to look at how partners could contribute to the five key priorities in the strategy.



Delegate Feedback

Feedback was very positive when delegates were asked what they found useful from the day:

- *This was a very good conference with varied and knowledgeable speakers. I have lots of information to take back to my team. I feel I have been able to contribute to the thinking behind the strategy.*
- *Speakers were very knowledgeable. Really interesting to think about how neglect can be missed in adolescents & I found the statistics in relation to poverty very shocking.*
- *The variety of viewpoints and explanations. How we individually need to make changes to change and build a better, bigger picture for all young people.*

The LSCB team are working with key agencies in small multi-agency working groups to populate the action plan and are researching innovative practice on neglect from other LSCBs and Children's Services. The LSCB are also working with the CYP Workforce Development Team, who have undertaken a Signs of Safety mapping of the GCP2 and the NSPCC to help us develop the tool in Suffolk.

There are now operational links with Adult Services colleagues for cases of self-neglect and hoarding where children are present with the joint use of a tool to measure the level of self-neglect and a specific referral form.

Extract from May 2019 Ofsted report of Suffolk Children and Young People Services:

*Changing levels of risk are recognised and dealt with in a dynamic manner, and decisive action is taken where necessary to keep children safe. Children are increasingly benefiting from a direct focus on the **impact of neglect**, and social workers challenge parents appropriately when progress is too slow.*

5. Monitor the safeguarding risks of children not in appropriate full-time education.

Senior Education managers have developed, and are implementing, an integrated strategy to address the issues. This is being closely monitored by the Board by regular reports and raising operational issues with, for example, the Regional Schools Commissioner.

Outlined in the strategy were:

Ambitions

- All children receive a full-time education offer in all but the most exceptional of circumstances.
- All parts of the system; schools, the Regional Schools Commissioner, Ofsted and Local Authority, work collaboratively to ensure all children receive a full-time education.
- All parts of the system; schools, the Regional Schools Commissioner, Ofsted and Local Authority, work collaboratively to ensure an inclusive ethos that supports all children.
- Only parents genuinely committed to Elective Home Education (EHE) undertake this approach to education.
- The diverse range of schools in Suffolk all support an inclusive approach that puts children first and ensure they fulfil their potential and are well prepared for their life beyond school.

Goals

Building on the council's Raising the Bar ambitions to be in the top 25% of all local authorities for low rates of exclusion for vulnerable children and young people.

- Low rates of exclusion for all children.
- Low rates of persistent absence in all settings, particularly Pupil Referral Units and Alternative Provision.

In addition:

- A measurable reduction in the numbers of EHE cases to at least the national average.
- A measurable reduction in the number of Children Missing Education cases.
- No school using part timetables unless it is a genuinely exceptional circumstance.
- The ending of 'off rolling' and unofficial exclusions in publicly funded schools in Suffolk.
- A more refined and robust data set better informs the council's commissioning strategy with regards to specialist placement and the continuum of provision available to meet children's needs.

Priorities for children not in full-time education

Priority One: A Single Point of Accountability

The creation of a single point of accountability for children and young people who, for whatever reason, are not receiving a full-time education. A named officer with a clear mandate from the directorate management team to hold managers to account for their role in ensuring that all children are identified quickly and then have access to a full-time education.

To support the accountable officer, a cross directorate strategy group is being established to ensure all parts of the system operate in an integrated and collective manner.

Priority Two: A Single Central Record

The development and implementation of a single central record of all children that we know are not in receipt of full-time education. Building on existing records and working with the intelligence hub, the single central record of children not in receipt of a full-time education will form the basis of the intervention activity to secure full-time education for all.

Priority Three: Communicating Expectations

A robust communications strategy to all schools, including academy trusts and national academy chains, to ensure that there is a clear understanding of the law and schools' responsibilities both legal and moral.

A robust communication campaign to assist parents understand their child's rights and how they can seek assistance in the event that their child is not receiving a full-time education.

Priority Four: Targeted Intervention

To enhance and further develop the current intervention strategy when schools are not being inclusive. Using the council's statutory powers in the case of maintained school and increasing the challenge to the Department for Education in the case of academy schools, given the departments in this area. To particularly target the grey areas of 'off rolling', unofficial exclusion and part time timetables.

A development and information sharing programme for all members of children's services to ensure they are equipped to challenge and escalate issues they become aware about.

What success will look like:

- Suffolk will have a robust record of the children in the county not in full-time education.
- There will be a measurable downward trend in the number of children not in full-time education.
- Leaders and governors in all schools set the highest aspirations for children and young people.
- They promote equality and equity, challenge each other to achieve, and ensure no child or young person is left behind.
- All children and young people have an educational and pastoral experience that ensures they can achieve their full potential, develop resilience, and build the self-confidence and interpersonal skills needed to apply their knowledge.
- Parents will have a better understanding of their children's rights.
- All Suffolk Schools will be inclusive with low rates of exclusion and high levels of parental satisfaction.

6. Develop the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangement in line with Working Together 2018 to be in place by July 2019.

Following intensive development work throughout the year, agreement was reached between the senior representatives of the three statutory safeguarding partners (Suffolk County Council, Health and Police) to develop the new Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership arrangements which have been approved by DfE and both Suffolk Safeguarding Boards – (see the model in **Appendix One**).

The new model will give greater focus on outcomes and more joined up working between Adults and Children’s Safeguarding Boards enabling us to ‘Think Family’.

What will the new arrangements look like, will anything change?

What will change?

A new Executive Group.	There will be an overarching Executive Group made up of the Chief Officers from the lead partners across Children and Adult Services. They will meet provide strategic guidance and governance.
Board Membership	Membership of the Children and Adults Boards will be rationalised.
Less Subgroup meetings	There will be 40% less subgroup meetings per year across both Boards, with joint children and adult locality meetings as well as joint policy and training groups. It will free up the time partners currently spend attending meetings across both Boards.
More joint meetings across Children and Adults Boards.	Twice a year we plan to have partnership multi-agency stakeholder events based on identified priorities such as Neglect or Exploitation.
A greater focus on ‘Think Family’	By joining up meetings and agendas across Children and Adults it gives greater opportunity for joint working and to ‘Think Family’.
More outcome focused working, less meetings/process	Less meetings mean more time to focus on key priorities and vulnerable people. It gives us more opportunity for outcome focused work and more time to engage directly with young people and adults at risk.
Annual Reports	There will be one annual report published by the partnership each September.

What will stay the same?

Independent Chair	We will still have an Independent Chair, Anthony Douglas CBE.
There will still be two Boards	There is still a statutory requirement in the Care Act to have a Safeguarding Adults Board, so three times a year there will be Children and Adults Board meetings.
Keeping the things that work well	Our Boards have excellent partnership engagement at Board and subgroup levels, also well-developed case review processes that have been praised by inspectors. We don't want to lose these.
A central team to support the partnership	There will still be the Central Team run by the Business Manager with two Professional Advisors and a support team.
Two websites	For the time being there will still be an LSCB and a SAB website, these will merge in in the next 12 months.
Regular communications	There will still be regular newsletters and Twitter feeds from the Central Support Team.
Locality meetings	Locality meetings are important as they are the face to face contact with practitioner teams so will continue jointly across adults and children.

6. Other Work in 2018-19 Worthy of Mention

6.1 Learning and Improvement (LIG) subgroup – The Board’s performance and data ‘hub’.

The multi-agency LIG subgroup meets monthly. Its focus is cross-partnership audit, scrutiny and the monitoring of an extensive range of performance information.

These include annual reports covering:

- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) activity
- Private Fostering
- Missing Children and Child Exploitation
- Workforce Development Safeguarding Training
- Schools Choice Designated Lead and Governor Training
- Private Fostering
- Keeping Children Safe in Education – Schools Safeguarding

Statutory Partners Section 11 (Children Act 2004) – Annual Safeguarding Audits

Suffolk’s statutory partner agencies complete a safeguarding self-assessment audit questionnaire, comprising of nine sections with supporting evidence, every three years Non-statutory partners can also use the audit tool as a self-review tool. The Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich and the East of England Ambulance Service are the current non-statutory partners who chose to complete the tool.

There was 100% engagement of Suffolk Partners in the Section 11 Process in 2018/19.

Statutory Partners	Date to L&I Group	Type of Audit	Current S11 Self-Assessment	Next Full S11 Audit Date
Health – Combined	Feb and March 2019	Review	See below	Feb 2021
Health – Primary Care	Due in October 2019	Review	10	Jan 2020
Health – NHS England	March 2019	Review	Old Style Template	April 2021
NHS 111	March 2019	Full	10	March 2022
iCASH	March 2019	Full	5	March 2022
Suffolk County Council	Feb 2019	Review	Old Style Template	Feb 2021
Mid Suffolk/ Babergh District Council	May 2018	Review	8	April 2021
West Suffolk District Council	May 2018	Review	8	May 2021
Ipswich Borough Council	April 2018	Review	9	May 2021

Statutory Partners	Date to L&I Group	Type of Audit	Current S11 Self-Assessment	Next Full S11 Audit Date
East Suffolk District Council	April 2018	Review	9	April 2021
Norfolk and Suffolk Probation Service	July 2018	Review	8	July 2021
Norfolk and Suffolk Community Rehabilitation Company	July 2018	Review	7	March 2021
Suffolk Constabulary	May 2019	Review	Old Style Template	Dec 2020

Non-Statutory Partners				
Eastern Ambulance Service	July 2018	Full	Old Style Template	July 2021
Diocese of St Edmundsbury and Ipswich	April 2018	Review	7	July 2019

Summary of the main findings from the Section 11 Audits in 2018-19

What is working well?

- The audit now has questions on children and adult safeguarding.
- Positive involvement of all Health Services and inclusion of two new health services for the first time.
- Partners are continuing to ensure that commissioned and contracted services are as robust as their own.
- Sharing of safeguarding practice across Borough and District leads at a quarterly safeguarding forum.

What are we worried about?

- There has been some variation in the scoring across the partners, resulting in mediation.

What needs to happen next?

- The scoring procedure needs to be clearer on the audit template.
- The process could benefit from a review of the content of the full audit including how the self-assessment process is undertaken.

6.2 Faith Groups Safeguarding Conference

The LSCB, in conjunction with Norfolk LSCB, delivered a successful safeguarding conference for faith groups in Norfolk and Suffolk. Although the focus was on children's safeguarding, the conference also addressed the safeguarding of adults. Delegates had an update on both the national and local safeguarding picture and received presentations from SCIE (Social Care Institute of Excellence) on the national safeguarding audit of Diocese's, faith and mental health, the Prevent agenda and de-radicalisation strategies and an update on CSE and the implications for faith groups. Delegates agreed that the conference was a good networking opportunity and it gave them a very good update on the national and local safeguarding agenda.

The conference has resulted in further work with the Ipswich Interfaith group to look at safeguarding training and updates for the very small faith groups in Suffolk. Norfolk and Suffolk Safeguarding Boards will deliver a follow up conference in July 2019.

6.3 Safeguarding in Education

The Board continues to work closely with Education colleagues from all phases with representatives from Primary, Secondary, Governors and Independent Schools all represented on the Board.

Suffolk is one of very few Boards who actively engages with its Independent Schools and we continue to hold twice yearly Independent Schools forums to focus on information sharing, key safeguarding issues and sharing good practice. Specific training has been developed for Independent Schools in conjunction with Schools' Choice and Workforce Development colleagues.

The Board have worked in partnership with Police and Education colleagues in 2019 to focus on specific issues around County Lines and its associated safeguarding risks in certain schools. Issues have been raised with senior leaders and the Regional Schools Commissioner and this will continue to be an area of focus in the next 6 months.

Safeguarding Audits in Schools – Section 157/175 Audits.

Suffolk continues to get a good response to the statutory audits from schools with an annual report to Board. The analysis of all the responses submitted in the audit indicates that many schools hold the view that their safeguarding arrangements are robust and effective. The triangulation of evidence suggests that this is not yet consistent for all schools. There is more to be done to ensure that all schools have the evidence necessary to grade themselves as Outstanding in most areas, and that all policies, procedures and practice are fully compliant with statutory requirements.

Education and Learning will work with colleagues in teams across Children's Services and Schools' Choice to explore pathways to support improvement in the areas identified as potential issues and make recommendations to schools as appropriate. Headteachers will be consulted in collaboration with the headteacher associations on the themes identified for improvement, and school leaders, including governors, will be asked for their views on refining the audit for future years, and how to improve response rates.

6.4 Engaging with Young People

This continues to be an area of development for the Board and is a key priority for 2019-20. A Young Peoples Panel has been developed in conjunction with Volunteering Matters and a budget allocated to allowing Young People to develop their ideas and work more closely with the Board.

Their ideas include:

- Co-production of guidance and policies specifically for Young People.
- Training videos/films focusing on specific areas such as exploitation.
- A young people's annual report in 2020.

A young person now attends Safeguarding Children Board meetings, and below is some feedback from them.

Attending the LSCB Board meeting was an empowering experience. It gave me a real insight into the extent of the issues.

It's so important for safeguarding training for professionals to have a practical element and for case studies to be included. It would be beneficial to have young people at these training sessions.

Every Year Group in schools should have a bespoke set of workshops to explore safeguarding.

7. Our Specific Priorities for 2019-20

Safeguarding Children Board Priorities 2019-20

1. Monitor the safeguarding risks of children not in appropriate full-time education.

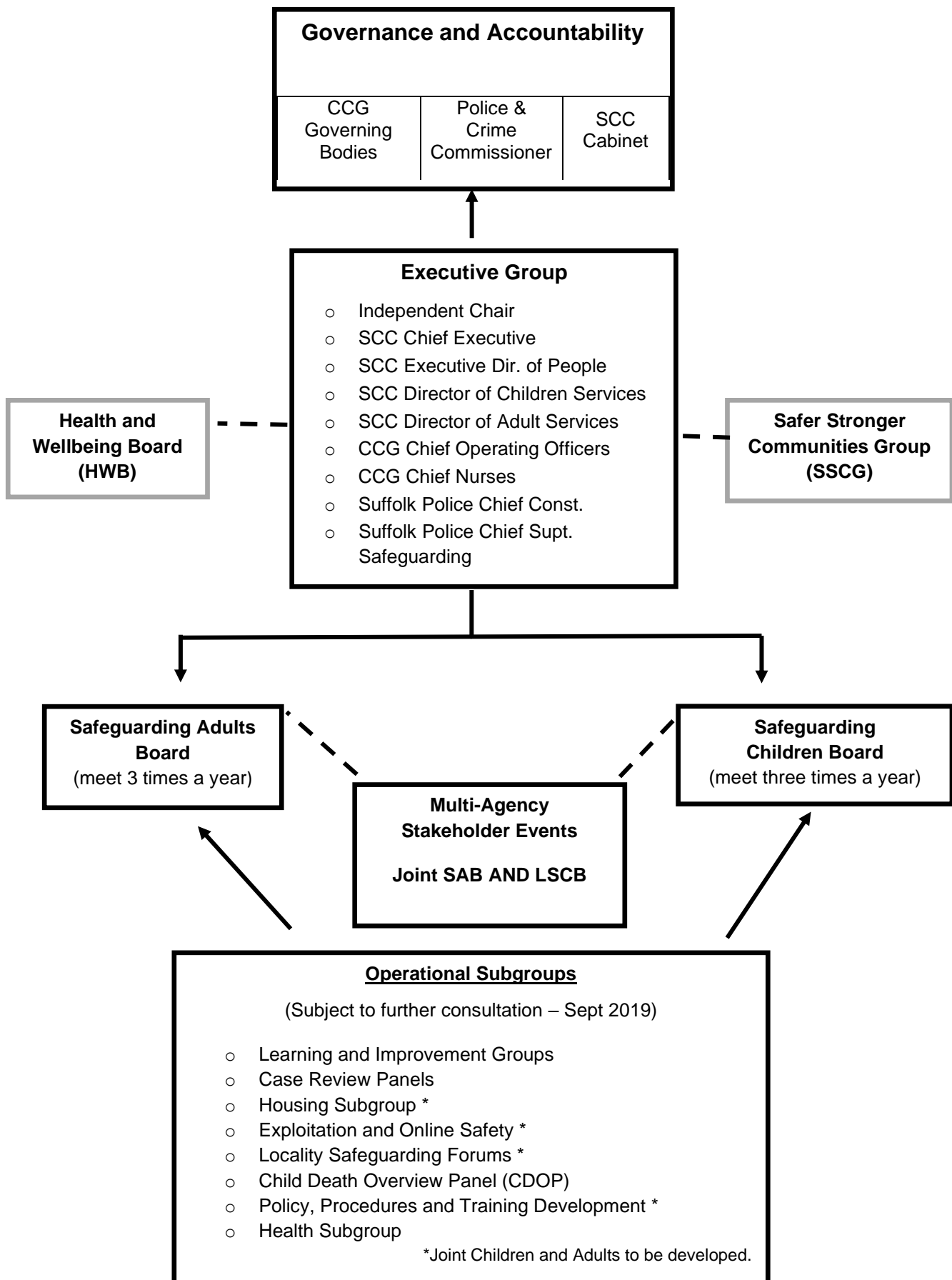
2. Continue to lead the delivery of the Child Exploitation Action Plan across Suffolk with a focus on transitions and more effective identification of risk factors.

3. Further develop the Neglect Strategy and monitor its implementation plan and impact.

4. Implement the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements in Suffolk from September 2019 alongside Safeguarding Adults Board colleagues.

5. Continue to monitor the impact of the delivery of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing strategy, in particular the impact of the Emotional Health and Wellbeing Hub.

7.1 Governance Structure for the Suffolk Safeguarding Partnership 2019-20



8. Appendix One - LSCB Budget and Expenditure

Spend for the year to 31st March 2019 – The Board underspent by £25k in the past year.

	Forecast Budget 2018-19	Actual Income v Expenditure
Partner Contributions – Income for the year		211,515
Salaries Including (Board Manager salary 50%)	136,300	128,123
Transport Related Expenses	1,500	1,293
Supplies and Services:		
Professional Services Chair LSCB	25,000	27,743
Advertising	0	566
Printing	1,000	1,034
Room Hire & Hospitality	1,000	410
Website development	1,200	1200
Staff Training & Conferences	1,000	950
Serious Case Reviews (YP H and YP TSA)	20,000	6,654
Grants to Organisations – AILC	1,500	1,775
ME Learning Licence	7,000	6,895
Awareness raising, training and workforce development resulting from programmes	(20,000 Budget)	
Cyber Survey	2,000	1,000
Neglect Conference – Jan 2019	5,000	4,755
Non-Accidental Head Injury materials	2,000	2,079
Faith Conference – May 2018	700	683
Working Together 2018 developments	10,000	
AILC Annual Conference attendance	1,000	820
Estimated spend:	£216,200 (Estimated draw on reserves £4.700)	£185,980 (underspend of £25,535)