

Minutes of a meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children's Board held in the Sparkenhoe Committee Room, County Hall, Glenfield on 17 September 2009

PRESENT

Kevin Peers (Interim Independent Chair)

Health Community

Gill Gates	Deputy Director of Nursing and Therapies, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
Dr Lina Gatsou	Consultant in Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, Leicestershire Partnership NHS Trust
Anne-Maria Olphert	Associate Director, Children's Community Health in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland
Carole Ribbins	Director of Nursing, University Hospitals of Leicester NHS Trust
Adrian Spanswick	Consultant Nurse/Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children
Helen Thompson	Associate Director of Children's Community Service, Leicestershire County and Rutland Community Health Services
Caroline Trevithick	Associate Director of Quality, NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland

Leicestershire Constabulary

DCI Peter Jackson	Specialist Crime Partnerships/Crime Support
-------------------	---

Leicestershire County Council

Frances Craven	Assistant Director, Targeted Services
Lauren Haslam	Assistant Head of Legal Services
Walter McCulloch	Assistant Director, Specialist Services,
Bob Parker	Head of Service, Safeguarding,
Gareth Williams,	Director of Children and Young People's Service

Rutland County Council

Steven Attwood	Assistant Director, Children and Young People's Service
Carol Chambers	Director of Children and Young People's Services

Other Agencies

Steven Atkinson	Leicestershire District Councils
Rosemary Beard	Connexions Leicester Shire
Paul Kennedy	Director, Leicestershire and Rutland Probation Service
Rick Taylor	Head of Community Risk Management, Leicestershire Fire and Rescue Service

In Attendance

Mr I D Ould CC	Lead Member for Children and Young People's Services, Leicestershire County Council
Cllr H Wells	Lead Member for Children and Young People's Services, Rutland Council

Officers in Attendance

Helen Bannister	LSCB Board Manager
Rosemary Palmer	Committee Officer

1. Welcome.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board. He reminded members that the purpose of the Board was to improve the safety and wellbeing of children and young people in Leicestershire and Rutland. The work of the previous Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board had provided a good starting point for the new Board, this was apparent from the agenda as most items were a continuation of work that was already underway.

2. Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Sue Disley, Jill Haigh, Liz Pearson, Wendy Poynton, Dr Sudhir Sethi and Jane Sharp.

3. Constitution.

The Board considered a report which set out the draft Constitution for the Leicestershire and Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). A copy of the report marked 'Item 1' is filed with these minutes.

It was moved by Gareth Williams and seconded unanimously:-

“That Walter McCulloch be appointed Vice Chair of the LSCB for Leicestershire.”

It was moved by Carol Chambers and seconded unanimously:-

“That Steven Attwood be appointed Vice Chair of the LSCB for Rutland.”

Kevin Peers left the room for discussion of the arrangements for appointing a permanent Independent Chair for the LSCB.

Steven Attwood – in the Chair

It was agreed unanimously:-

“That Kevin Peers be Interim Independent Chair of the LSCB until a permanent Independent Chair is appointed.”

Appointment of the Independent Chair would take place in January or February 2010. The Vice Chairs of the LSCB would start this process, including the creation of a job description, and report back to the LSCB.

Kevin Peers – in the Chair

It was suggested that a Task and Finish Group be set up to finalise the Constitution, having particular regard to the following issues:-

- (i) Membership, particularly in relation to the Commissioner/Provider split of NHS Leicestershire County and Rutland;
- (ii) The number of Vice Chairs and the organisations they represent;
- (iii) Clarification of the role of the Lead Members for Children and Young People’s Services.

AGREED:-

- (a) That a Task and Finish Group comprising Helen Thompson, Lauren Haslam, Walter McCulloch, Steven Attwood and Bob Parker be established to finalise the LSCB Constitution, having particular regard to the issues referred to above;
- (b) That the final version of the Constitution be presented to the next meeting of the LSCB for approval.

4. Business Plan.

Consideration was given to the Business Plan for 2009-2012 produced by the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB. A copy of the report marked 'Item 2' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That a Task and Finish Group comprising Walter McCulloch, Steven Attwood, Adrian Spanswick and DCI Peter Jackson be established to revise the Business Plan and produce costings for each item;
- (b) That the revised Business Plan be presented to the next meeting of the LSCB for approval.

5. Training Strategy.

The Board considered the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB Training Strategy for 2010 – 2012. A copy of the report marked 'Item 3' is filed with these minutes.

It was noted that the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB had agreed the Strategy with the proviso that the appendices needed amending. In order to do this, the Training Subcommittee had requested a statement from each agency on how staff would fit into each level for training and how they would implement the Strategy.

The LSCB would need support to move the Training Strategy forward. To this end, it would be helpful for the Children's Trusts to be briefed on the Strategy and how it would be implemented. Leicestershire County Council had also offered a workforce development officer to assist with implementation.

AGREED:-

- (a) That the Training Strategy be accepted, subject to the amendments to the appendices previously agreed by the Leicestershire, Leicester and Rutland LSCB being made;
- (b) That Kevin Peers and Anne Maria Olphert be asked to work on the implementation of the Training Strategy and report back to the next meeting of the LSCB with a clear position of where each agency is in relation to the Strategy and proposals for moving it forward;
- (c) That a Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB Training Subcommittee be established, with the correct level of representation from each agency.

6. Media Strategy.

Consideration was given to a report presented by Steve Atkinson setting out the LSCB Media Engagement Strategy for Serious Case Reviews. A copy of the report marked 'Item 4' is filed with these minutes.

It was noted that the Cabinet Lead Members for Children and Young People's Services would require detailed briefing on any Serious Case Reviews.

AGREED:

- (a) That a Task and Finish Group comprising Bob Parker, Steve Atkinson, DCI Peter Jackson and Adrian Spanswick be established to revise and update the Media Engagement Strategy;
- (b) That the revised Media Engagement Strategy be submitted to the next meeting of the LSCB for approval.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation.

The Board considered a report which provided information on progress to date in developing Quality Assurance/Monitoring and Evaluation arrangements and raised the issue of what is needed for the new LSCB and proposed the way forward. A copy of the report marked 'Item 5' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That a Task and Finish Group led by Bob Parker and comprising Caroline Trevithick, Walter McCulloch, Steven Attwood, DCI Peter Jackson and Helen Thompson be established to determine the quality assurance arrangements for the LSCB;
- (b) That a report setting out the arrangements for quality assurance be submitted to the next meeting of the LSCB for approval.

8. Rutland Child Protection Activity.

The Board considered a report from Rutland Children and Young People's Services which provided information on statistics and trends in relation to children who are subject to a Child Protection Plan. It also provided information about activity against Performance Indicators and about referrals, Section 47 enquiries and child protection conferences. A copy of the report marked 'Item 5a' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That the Task and Finish Group established in Minute 7 above be asked to consider the reporting cycle for Child Protection Activity and a model for reporting and that this be included in the report to the next meeting of the LSCB.

9. Health Performance Indicators

The Board considered a report, tabled at the meeting, from Adrian Spanswick, the Designated Nurse for Child Protection in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland which provided details of quality monitoring within Health Organisations. A copy of the report is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That the report be referred to the Task and Finish Group established in Minute 7 above so that it can feed into the quality assurance arrangements for the LSCB.

10. Reports on Private Foster Care.

(a) Leicestershire County Council

Consideration was given to a report from Leicestershire County Council which provided details on private foster care activity during 2008 – 2009. A copy of the report marked 'Item 6a' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That the report be noted;
- (b) That Bob Parker be asked to identify if private foster care is advertised on the Leicestershire County Council website.

(b) Rutland Council

Consideration was given to a report from Rutland Council which provided details on private foster care activity during 2008 – 2009. A copy of the report marked 'Item 6b' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

That the report be noted.

11. Further Discussion on Set Up.

Consideration was given to a letter from the Directors of Children's Services in Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland which contained details of the plans for disaggregating the Leicester, Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB and the notes of the Leicestershire and Rutland LSCB Set Up Meeting held on 23 July 2009. A copy of the notes and letter, marked 'Item 7' is filed with these minutes.

AGREED:-

- (a) That the two Serious Case Review Subcommittees for Leicester and Leicestershire and Rutland will meet consecutively on the same day;
- (b) That Walter McCulloch be appointed Chairman of the Leicestershire and Rutland Serious Case Review Subcommittee;
- (c) That Steve Atkinson be appointed Communications Lead for the LSCB;
- (d) That a Group consisting of Bob Parker, Caroline Trevithick, Helen Bannister and Pat Nawrockyi from Leicester City Council be established to consider staffing and accommodation issues for the LSCB;
- (e) That an update on the Budget position be submitted to the next meeting.

12. Dates of Future Meetings.

The following programme of meetings for 2009-2010 was agreed:-

Thursday 19 November 2009, 9.30am at Rutland Council
Thursday 21 January 2010, 9.30am at Leicestershire County Council
Thursday 18 March 2010, 9.30am at Rutland Council
Thursday 20 May 2010, 9.30am at Leicestershire County Council
Thursday 15 July 2010, 9.30am at Rutland Council
Thursday 16 September 2010, 9.30am at Leicestershire County Council
Thursday 18 November 2010, 9.30am at Rutland Council.

9.30am – 10.45am
17 September 2009

CHAIRMAN