

Committee:	<b>Children's Services Scrutiny Committee</b>
Date:	<b>17 November 2014</b>
Title of Report:	<b>East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) Annual Report 2013/14 and Business Plan 2012 - 2015</b>
By:	<b>Director of Children's Services</b>
Purpose of Report:	<b>To advise Scrutiny Committee Members of the inter-agency arrangements in place to safeguard children in East Sussex</b>

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**RECOMMENDATION: The Committee is recommended to receive and consider the Local Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report and Business Plan.**

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## **1. Financial Appraisal**

1.1 The annual report and business plan describes the County Council's financial contribution and services that are already provided from within Children's Services' budgets and the financial contributions of partner agencies; there are no additional financial implications unless there is unforeseen demand (the County Council made gave an additional financial contribution in 2013/14 to support the extraordinary number of Serious Case Reviews that the LSCB conducted).

## **2. Supporting information**

2.1 Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on LSCBs.

2.2 Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 sets out the objectives of LSCBs, which are: (a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and (b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

2.3 Working Together 2013 states that it is the responsibility of the Chief Executive to appoint or remove the LSCB chair with the agreement of a panel including LSCB partners and lay members. The Chief Executive, drawing on other LSCB partners and, where appropriate, the Lead Member will hold the Chair to account for the effective working of the LSCB. The Lead Member for Children should be a participating observer of the LSCB. In practice this means routinely attending meetings as an observer and receiving all its written reports.

2.4 The LSCB Chair should work closely with all LSCB partners and particularly with the Director of Children's Services. The Director of Children's Services has the responsibility within the local authority, under section 18 of the Children Act 2004, for improving outcomes for children, for local authority children's social care functions and for local cooperation arrangements for children's services.

2.5 The Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

2.6 The annual report and business plan of the LSCB (**Appendix 1**) is submitted to the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee as part of the accountability arrangements for ensuring effective safeguarding and promotion of the welfare of children and young people in East Sussex. It outlines the work undertaken by the East Sussex LSCB in 2013/14 and outlines the business plan for 2012-15.

2.7 In previous years the Children's Services Scrutiny Committee has questioned and made comments, observations and suggestions about the report including, for example:

- Whether children in East Sussex are demonstrably safer as a result of the work being done

- Whether future reports could include a more qualitative interpretation of the data from, say, the results of inspections
- Whether lessons from data and serious case reviews could be continually monitored and checked for pointers to the 'wider picture'
- Whether performance measures need to be updated to reflect new issues and trends, for example dealing with child online safety
- Whether the move towards self auditing by partner agencies has led to any difficulties in the absence of sample auditing by the Council
- Whether the structural changes to the NHS has had an impact

2.8 The key issues addressed by the LSCB in 2013/14 are highlighted in the report's introduction together with the key achievements, future challenges and priorities for 2014/15, including:

- Ofsted inspection of the LSCB published in January 2014 found the LSCB to be 'good', one of the first boards in the country to receive this grading
- East Sussex has invested significantly in services for families who require extra help before problems escalate to the point of needing statutory intervention
- An initial drop in numbers of children with Child Protection Plans however this began to rise again in quarter 4 and the LSCB has increased scrutiny of this
- A more sophisticated data set, combining information across agencies to give us a more holistic view of how things are improving in terms of children's development, health, education and the quality of parenting they receive
- The major factors that contribute to children requiring a Child Protection Plan continue to be emotional and physical neglect as a result of parents' abuse of alcohol and drugs, parent's mental health problems and domestic abuse
- A particularly busy year for the LSCB as four Serious Case Reviews were conducted simultaneously (2 awaiting publication). Very sadly two of these reviews were as a result of child death
- The full engagement of schools as fundamentally key partners in safeguarding children
- Strong reinforcement of the message that safeguarding children is everyone's business, not just the job of professionals
- Provision of an extensive training programme. This is partly achieved by involving experienced practitioners from across the agencies in delivering training
- Greatly increased investment in data collection and analysis shared with staff
- Section 11 audit of partners Safeguarding functions was completed, as well as under-taking peer challenge with 5 different agencies
- Child Sexual Exploitation remains a priority issue and the LSCB has an effective sub-group
- Missing children continue to be given a very high priority locally. Sussex Police, Children's Services and Catch 22, a national charity, work effectively together to offer a very quick response
- The LSCB has 2 dedicated, skilled and effective Lay Members
- Retirement of the previous Independent Chair

### 3 Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations

3.1 An effective Local Safeguarding Children Board is in place in East Sussex with an Independent Chair. The business plan for 2012-15 will meet the statutory requirements for the LSCB.

3.1 The Scrutiny Committee is requested to receive and consider the LSCB Annual Report 2013/14 and Business Plan 2012 – 2015; and to make any constructive observations, comments and recommendations that will assist the LCSB in its future work.

STUART GALLIMORE

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Local Members: All





# East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report 2013-2014  
and  
Business Plan 2012-2015



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# 1. Introduction from the Chair

I am pleased to present the Annual Report of the East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for the year 2013-14. I hope you will find it interesting and enjoy reading it.

Publication of an Annual Report is a statutory requirement of LSCBs and this is the fourth such East Sussex report to be published. It is intended to be an informative document for the public of East Sussex, the entire work force dealing with children and young people and for chief officers and governing bodies across all partner agencies.

The purpose of the report is to assess the effectiveness of local services in keeping children safe. The key question is, are we making a difference? This needs not only going beyond just keeping children safe but also making a significant difference to the future outcome for the children we collectively work with. I would argue that we are making a difference and this report will provide plenty of evidence of commitment and determination among professionals and volunteers resulting in real measurable improvement for children. The report also examines honestly where there are weaknesses in the system and how the LSCB will hold partners to account to ensure improvement.

For the past two years, the LSCB has had responsibility to scrutinise the availability of early help for children and their parents. East Sussex has invested significantly in services for families that require extra help before problems escalate to the point of needing statutory intervention. We are now two years into this programme and are beginning to see some very promising improvements for families. Individual accounts from parents and children are very powerful. Measuring the effectiveness of the programme in hard and fast numbers is more complicated. We have seen an initial drop in numbers of children with child protection plans but have now seen numbers stabilise.

We are working on a more sophisticated data set, combining information across agencies to give us a more holistic view of how things are improving in terms of children's development, health, education and the quality of parenting they receive. These are the real factors that will improve outcomes for children, and information from child protection plans will help target the right early support to the neediest communities and to the right parents. The major factors that contribute to children requiring a child protection plan continue to be emotional and physical neglect as a result of parents' abuse of alcohol and drugs, parents' mental health problems and domestic abuse.

This has been a particularly busy year for the LSCB as we were working on four serious case reviews simultaneously. Very sadly, two of these reviews were as a result of child deaths. We have now published two of the reviews and acted on the recommendations. The other two will be published as soon as the criminal trials are complete. Looking very carefully at the results of these reviews has been a major part of the work throughout 2013-14. Although all four reviews are very different, we are recognising some common themes. One very important issue that we are working hard on is the full engagement of schools as absolutely key partners in safeguarding children.

In January of this year our LSCB was inspected by Ofsted. This is the first year of Ofsted inspecting LSCBs and we were one of the first in the country to receive a judgement of good. Ofsted made the following comments.

'The East Sussex LSCB is well attended, effective, well established and mature. The independent chair is influential and the benefits of having lay members on the Board were clearly seen. The inspection team saw strong links between the work of the LSCB, the



Children and Young People's Trust, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Thrive transformation programme.

The commitment to work collectively as a group when there are challenges, demonstrates the effectiveness of the partnership in protecting children.'

I believe that to be rated good in the current climate is a real achievement and reflects on all the hard work of front-line practitioners across all agencies, not just during inspection but day in and day out. This is a high profile and demanding area of work which often goes unappreciated and a result like this is an excellent and very well deserved boost to staff morale.

We continue to reinforce strongly the message that safeguarding children is everyone's business, not just the job of professionals. We are helped in this by our two very hard working and enthusiastic lay members of the Board. They are keeping our website up to date and engaging with Twitter on our behalf.

Finally this will be my last LSCB Annual Report as I am retiring this year after 42 years in social work. It has been a great privilege to end my career working with colleagues in East Sussex.

Thank you to all of my colleagues, to the young people who work with us and to the public of East Sussex. I hope you find the report of interest.



Cathie Pattison, Independent Chair, East Sussex LSCB



## 2. Executive summary

This has been a very busy and successful year for the Board. The Board has been inspected by Ofsted and graded as good. This message is really important for staff. The LSCB has completed four serious case reviews and successfully published two of these. This has involved dealing well with media interest and ensuring the lessons from these reviews have really been integrated into practice. All of this is very time consuming and yet the Board has continued to progress the Business Plan and concentrate on measuring the impact of all our combined efforts to improve the circumstances of vulnerable children in East Sussex.

It is useful to summarise our achievements against the business plan.

### 2.1 Priorities in the Business Plan 2012-15 and achievements in 2013-14

#### **Priority 1 - provide help directly to families at the earliest opportunity to prevent problems escalating**

##### **Achievements:**

During 2013-14 we started to really see the impact of our comprehensive offer of targeted early help to families. By March 2014, 6232 children were being supported in this way. This was achieved by increasing the number of key workers working directly with the whole family and engaging with a wider range of agencies to provide these workers.

Staff across agencies trained together. Clear new assessment tools have been introduced with built-in feedback from families at every stage. Some of the feedback from families is very powerful and working effectively with families in this way has freed up social care staff to concentrate on the families that have serious child protection concerns.

#### **Priority 2 - improve the quality of safeguarding data, increase useful analysis and disseminate the information effectively**

##### **Achievements:**

This year has seen ongoing improvement in the data collected by the LSCB. These figures have been used as an effective monitoring tool throughout the year. One example has been our concern, continuing over the past two years, about the number of repeat child protection plans. The Board has had accurate feedback on this on a quarterly basis and East Sussex County Council managers have analysed individual cases drawn from the data to try and understand the complex reasons behind this statistic. Key staff members, including child protection conference chairs, have been involved in this scrutiny and we are now seeing the number of repeat plans going down. However, this statistic will continue to be carefully scrutinised.

The data collected on early help is now being amalgamated with the LSCB data to give a comprehensive picture of the entire journey of the child through County Council led services. However, there continues to be an urgent need to expand the data set to include all relevant data across all partner agencies to provide a truly multi-agency picture of activity.

The detailed information from child protection plans is used to steer the Board's priorities. Neglect, often as a result of drug and alcohol misuse, and domestic

abuse continue to be the most prevalent problems among parents, resulting in safeguarding concerns for their children.

### **Priority 3 - achieve wide recognition of the importance of quality assurance in improving outcomes for children**

#### **Achievements:**

Quality Assurance is now really embedded in all of the Board's work. At agency level, all partners now comply with the legal requirements of section 11 audits. This is as a result of sustained hard work by the Business Manager over the past three years. Starting from a position of no compliance three years ago we now have full compliance. However, at present agencies measure themselves against the legal requirements and report back. The next step is to move from self-reporting to peer review and this will begin in 2014-15.

At individual case level, the Board oversees a regular audit programme which scrutinises how agencies have worked together. These audits are small in terms of number of cases scrutinised but very thorough. Sometimes, cases are selected for audit irrespective of type of concern and sometimes a particular concern is targeted. Inspectors were able to see some of the impact of audits on practitioners' work, e.g. the regular use of chronologies in children's files.

### **Priority 4 - continue an effective programme of training and work force development**

#### **Achievements:**

The LSCB continues to provide an extensive training programme. This is partly achieved by involving experienced practitioners from across the agencies in delivering training. Training concentrates on ensuring staff consider all the time the impact of what they are doing on the children and families worked with. Are they making a difference?

The feedback from some 892 staff members who received training during the year is very positive. It has been harder to get managers to report back on the impact training staff has on changing and improving practice.

In addition to the formalised training programme, the Board continues to drive improvement to practice by offering a variety of training and development opportunities. Throughout the year there has been several management case reviews followed by learning events. These promote discussion. The most successful are where those directly involved are able to describe their involvement in an atmosphere of shared learning as opposed to criticism and blame.

The findings of serious case reviews are made available to staff and are the subject of training events. This year one of the main themes emerging from these cases has been the key role schools play in helping safeguard children and how important it is to really listen to children and young people.

## **2.2 Further achievements**

### **Child sexual exploitation and missing children**

Child sexual exploitation (CSE) is recognised as requiring a well-coordinated, multi-agency response. East Sussex LSCB was among the first to ensure that a very active sub-group worked on this and developed procedures and training in

line with national guidelines. A pan-Sussex conference for over 200 staff was organised in 2012 to increase awareness.

A clear local strategy is in place and a referral pathway for vulnerable young people has been developed. The voluntary sector has provided a CSE coordinator/development worker and there is funding for three further workers who will offer one-to-one support to young people. Already, several young people who have experienced organised sexual exploitation have received specialist support.

Missing children are given very high priority locally. Sussex Police, Children's Services and Catch22, a national charity, work effectively together to offer a very quick response, including a helpline, a skilled return home interview and a mentoring service. This helps to get to the bottom of the causes for running away so that they can be addressed.

### **2.3 Main Challenges:**

- Respond to all recommendations from both the Ofsted inspection of Children and Families services within the County Council and the Ofsted inspection of the LSCB;
- Continue to scrutinise the effectiveness of early help and how this relates to which families go on to require social care involvement;
- Create a fully multi-agency data set; the requirement for this was already recognised by the Board but is now a recommendation from the Ofsted inspection;
- Move the section 11 audit from self-reporting to peer review;
- Ensure managers report back on the impact training has on the way staff practice;
- Ensure all the recommendations from local serious case reviews are fully embedded throughout agencies;
- Ensure learning from national high profile cases is reinforced across the work force.

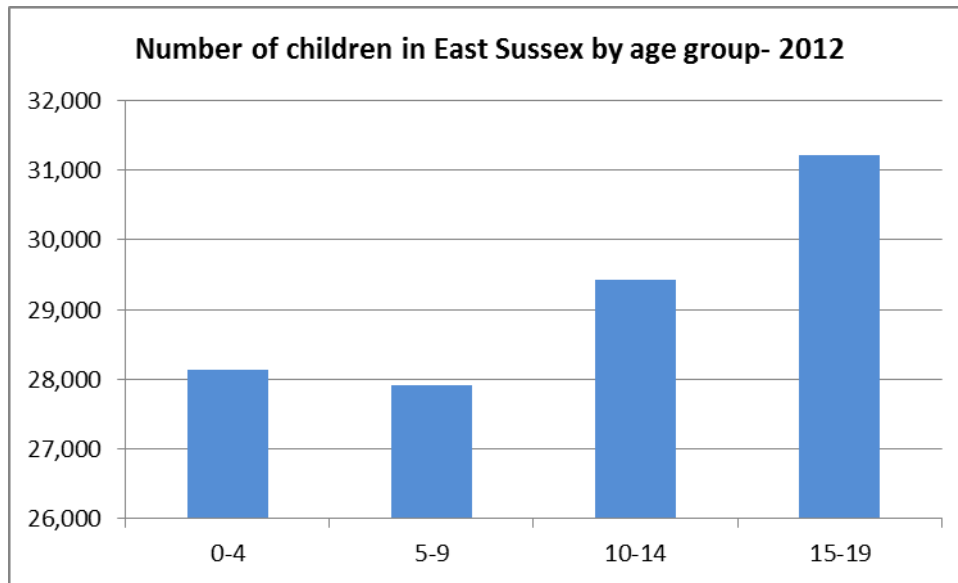
### **2.4 Highest priorities for 2014-15:**

- Complete publication of the remaining serious case reviews and ensure the learning is shared across all staff groups;
- Support all schools across the county to engage fully with their responsibilities in safeguarding children;
- Continue to develop the work on CSE and implement the recommendations from the Rochdale review;
- Continue to prioritise work with parents who neglect their children as a result of drug misuse;
- Continue to prioritise work with families where domestic abuse is resulting in emotional abuse of the children
- Work with the County Council to improve the safeguarding of care leavers; this area of work was identified by Ofsted in their inspection;
- Improve the LSCB data set to include relevant data from health, police, schools, probation and the voluntary sector.

### 3. Children in East Sussex

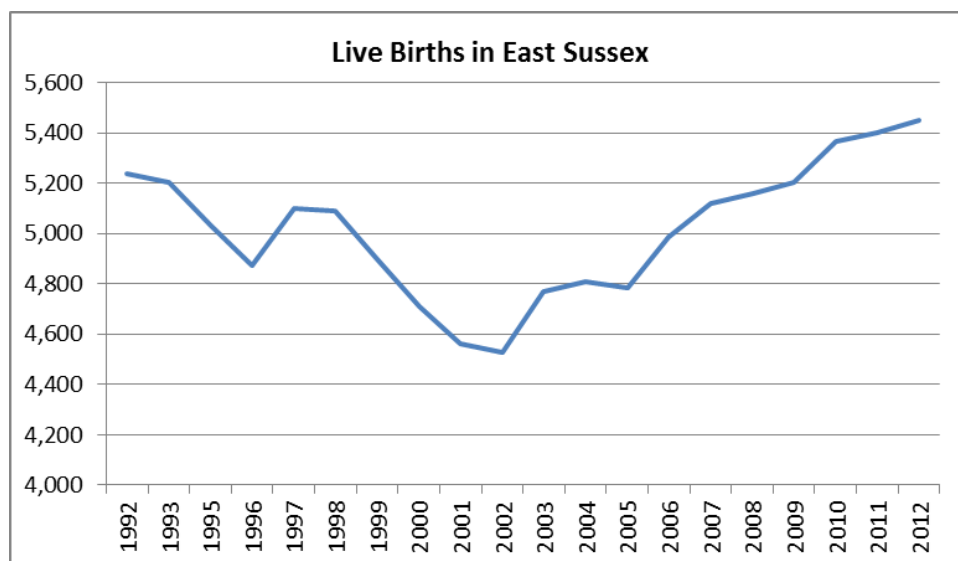
3.1 East Sussex, covering 660 square miles, has many affluent areas as well as areas of significant deprivation. Deprivation is measured in small areas called lower layer super output areas (LSOAs). In East Sussex, 22 out of 327 LSOAs (7%) are among the most deprived 10% in England; 15 are in Hastings, five are in Eastbourne and two in Rother.

3.2 Since 2001, the population of East Sussex has grown by 8% (38,900) to 531,200 residents in 2012. The population of those aged 0-19 is 116,700.



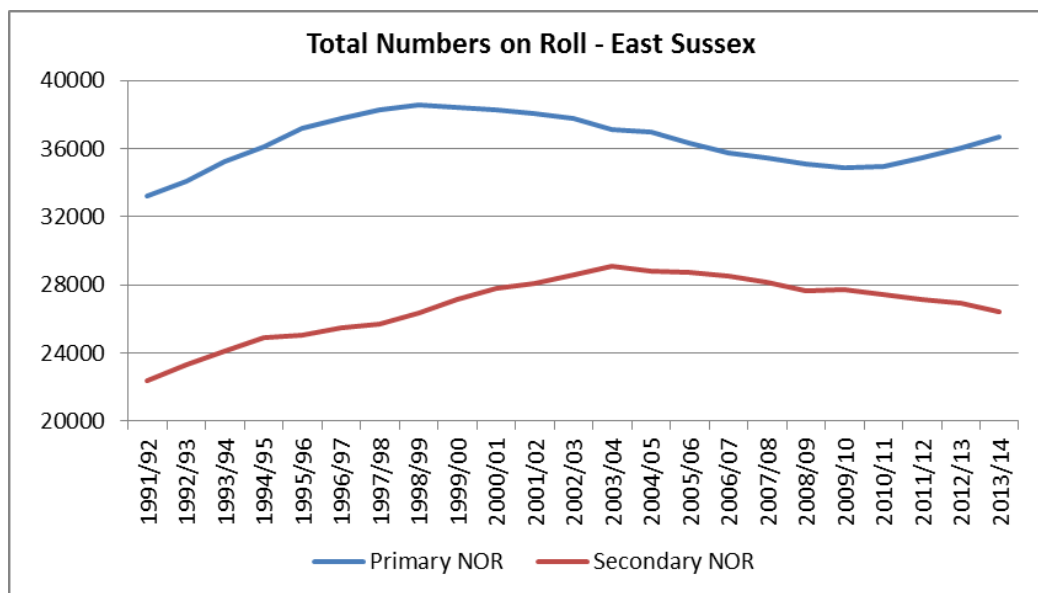
3.3 Four per cent of the East Sussex population is non-White British, which is considerably lower than the regional and national average. Higher proportions of non-White British people live in the urban districts of Eastbourne and Hastings.

3.4 Since 2002 the birth rate has increased by 20.3% (921) to 5451 births in 2012. The increase in birth rates since 2002 varies across the districts. Eastbourne saw the greatest increase (39.9%) with 340 more births compared to 2002. Wealden had the smallest increase over the period (4.7%).



3.5 About 15% of live births in East Sussex are to mothers born outside the UK, with almost half of these being mothers born in Europe.

3.6 The number of pupils in local authority maintained schools and academies in East Sussex was 64,056 in January 2014. From its peak in 1998/99 to 2009/10, the number of pupils in maintained primary schools and primary academies in East Sussex decreased by 9.5% (3655). In the last four years, the number on roll has increased by 5.2% (1822). This is set to continue rising due to the significant rise in birth rates over the past seven years.



3.7 The number of pupils in maintained secondary schools and secondary academies in East Sussex has decreased by 9.1% (2652) from 2003/04 to 2013/14. The decrease is set to continue for a couple of years before numbers start to increase again due to the increased birth rate since 2002.

3.8 Within East Sussex, both the highest number and highest percentage of school pupils receiving free school meals live in the Hastings area.

Area	All pupils		Receiving free school meals		Not receiving free school meals	
	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage	Number	Percentage
Eastbourne	12,027	100	1,862	15.5	10,165	84.5
Hastings	12,524	100	2,902	23.2	9,622	76.8
Lewes	10,987	100	1,248	11.4	9,739	88.6
Rother	9,459	100	1,410	14.9	8,049	85.1
Wealden	17,651	100	1,340	7.6	16,311	92.4
Other areas	1,406	100	146	10.4	1,260	89.6
Not known	2	100	0	0.0	2	100.0
<b>East Sussex</b>	<b>62,648</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8,762</b>	<b>14.0</b>	<b>53,886</b>	<b>86.0</b>
<b>All areas</b>	<b>64,056</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>8,908</b>	<b>13.9</b>	<b>55,148</b>	<b>86.1</b>

## 4. Achievements – activity and impact

### 4.1 Achievements against the Business Plan

#### 4.1.1 Early help to families

##### **Achievements:**

- Increased numbers of children and families being offered targeted early help and family keywork support from multi-agency partners
- Improved targeting of early help support so that fewer families needing social care intervention are referred without being offered these services first and having a professional assessment
- High levels of reported improvements for families receiving targeted early help

#### [The early help offer in East Sussex](#)

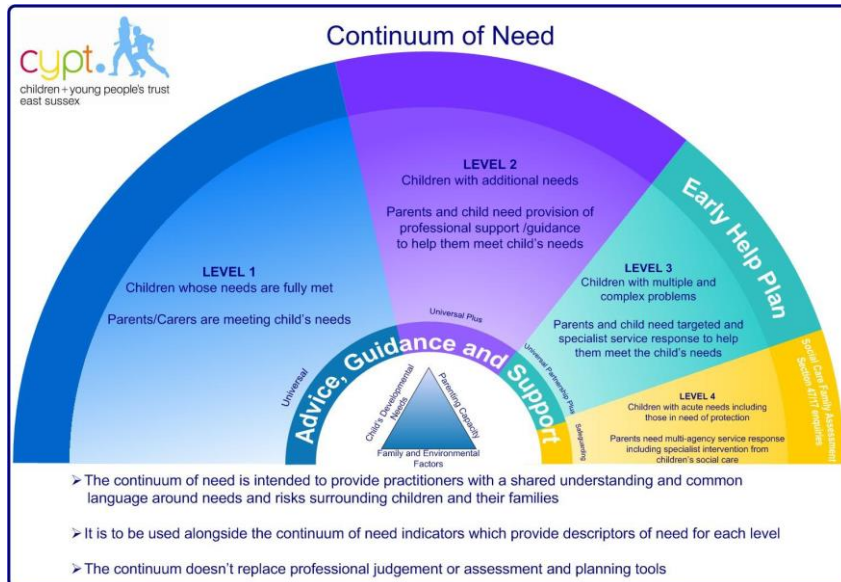
Early help services are those that provide a response to children and young people's safeguarding and developmental needs at lower levels of need than children's social care services. The need for this help can arise at any point in the child's or young person's life, so early help does not only mean help in the early years of a child's life.

By providing early help we want to improve children's lives, prevent families from needing social care services and keep families together where possible. We want to help parents to raise their families safely and well, building their ability to do this in the long-term without professional support.

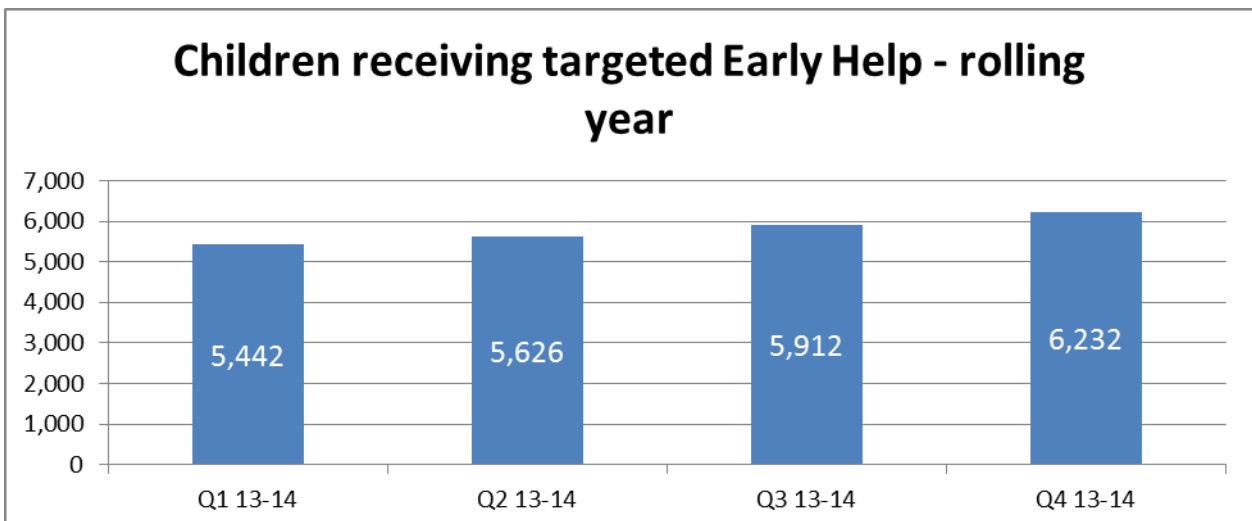
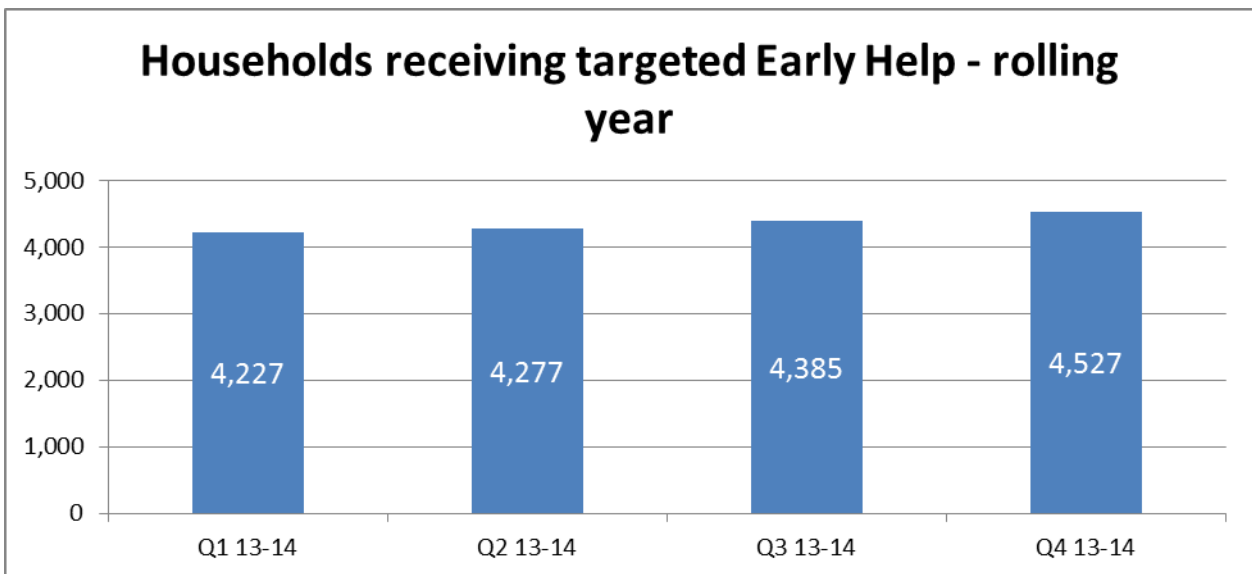
Early help that improves safety and wellbeing of children and young people across East Sussex is provided by a number of different agencies and through many settings and specific services. Some of these services have both a universal and targeted aspect, for example health visiting, and some respond to specific needs at a certain level, for example school behaviour and attendance services. The [Guide to Early Help](#) sets out when these services should be involved in supporting a family, what is on offer, and how they work.

Universal screening and provision undertaken through community health services, including midwifery, health visiting, and school nursing, and a range of drop-in and targeted group activities run through Children's Centres and through the Targeted Youth Support services are an important part of the early help offer. These services operate across levels 2 to 4 of the Safeguarding Continuum of Need, working alongside others where necessary.

For those with needs at level 3 on the Continuum of Need we aim to offer a targeted, whole family intervention in line with the family keywork model that is at the heart of our service model. We refer to this as targeted early help. Again, these services often work alongside children's social care services where needs escalate or at the end of statutory intervention.



In 2013/14 we saw a steady increase in the number of children and families supported by targeted early help services through increased service supply and adopting whole-family working.





Targeted early help services are provided by a number of agencies, including East Sussex County Council directly as well as services commissioned from the voluntary and community sector and other statutory organisations such as schools, probation services, and Sussex Police.

When support is being provided to a whole family, practitioners now use the new early help planning approach, detailed in the [Guide to Early Help](#). This takes a view of needs across the family group and plans holistically, involving the family, to make the changes needed. In 2013/14, 6232 children were supported by early help services. Targeted early help services also provide a regular programme of group work interventions, including evidence-based parenting group work programmes aligned to different age ranges. A new monitoring and evaluation framework for this provision was developed during the year, and new [Parenting groupwork policy and practice guidance](#) issued to ensure that the work is targeted well.

### **Family keywork**

Family keywork in East Sussex is a multi-agency approach to improving outcomes for families identified as at risk of needing repeated service interventions or sanctions. It aims to provide earlier, coordinated and more effective support to whole families while reducing the long-term costs to local services. It is our preferred model when delivering targeted early help for children, young people and families, and is explained further in the [Guide to Family Keywork](#).

The Family Keyworker works in partnership with the family for up to 18 months, and identifies strengths and issues, agrees priorities for change and offers both support and challenge. The Family Keyworker also acts as a single point of contact for the family, providing some direct help and coordinating additional interventions from a range of other services.

Alongside this, the government's three-year Troubled Families programme offers attachment fees and payment-by-results for local authorities that can turn around families whose members are involved in crime and anti-social behaviour, are unemployed or missing education. In order to be included in the Troubled Families programme, a family has to meet two out of the following three criteria:

- A young person involved in crime or anyone in the family involved in anti-social behaviour;
- A child or young person missing education due to exclusion or persistent absence; or
- An adult in the family on Department for Work and Pensions out-of-work benefits.

2013/14 was the second year of the national programme and a time of significant progress for the local family keywork activity. Over the first two years combined, the programme brought together keyworkers from a number of partner organisations and County Council teams to offer whole family support to 812 families (total as at 31 March 2014). Prior to the end of the year, the government announced a new national programme to begin in 2015/16, and preparing for this new programme is a key priority for 2014/15.

## The THRIVE programme

Strengthening the early help offer is a key ambition of the THRIVE programme. This is driven by the multi-agency early help strategy, overseen this year by the THRIVE Early Help Review Group and covering the period from 2012 to 15. This sets the direction of early help with five key themes for improving the offer and consistency of service:

- Focusing targeted interventions at level 3 of the Continuum of Need and on seamless arrangements for step up to and step down from social care involvement;
- Whole-family working, by offering keywork support which takes into account the needs of all family members and coordinates support for the household;
- Relationship-based practice, in which practitioners' professional judgements and implementation plans reflect the significance of their relationship with family members;
- Recognising the needs of parents as adults, as well as needs about their ability to parent their children, including well-being, employment and relationships between adults; and
- Whole-system thinking, ensuring that change is supported, embedded and championed across all levels of management and practice.

The strategy and the underlying needs and impact assessments were updated during the year and can be viewed online at

<https://czone.eastsussex.gov.uk/partnerships/thrive/Pages/EarlyHelpStrategy.aspx>

### Key achievements in the year include:

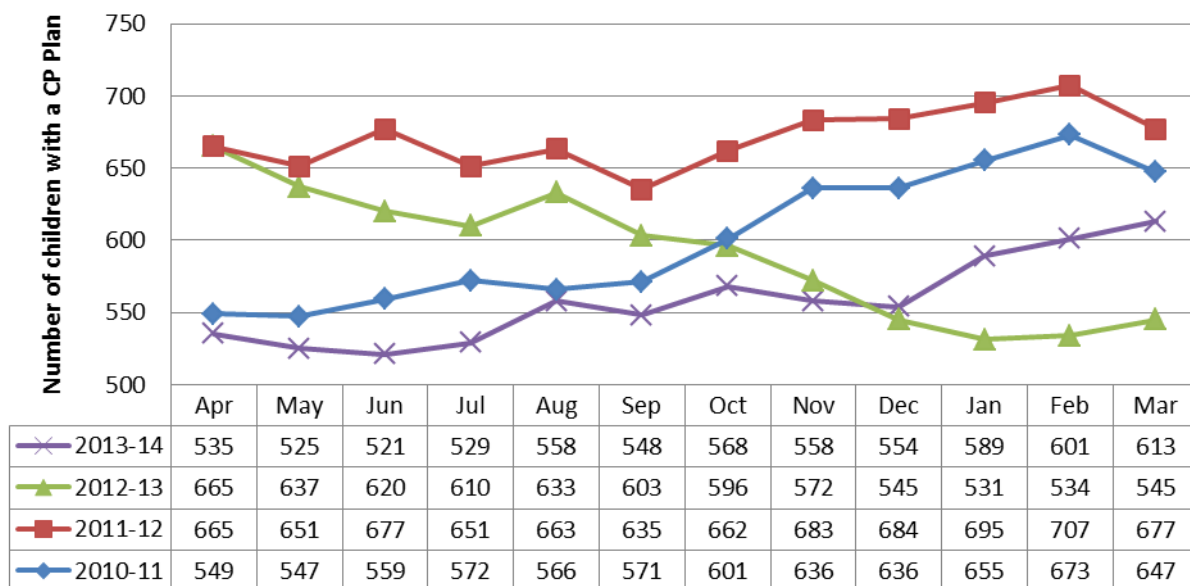
- Three very successful conferences, and two keyworker networking events for the early help workforce;
- Implementation of the new early help plan assessment and planning framework, replacing the common assessment framework for those providing whole family interventions;
- introduction of a quality assurance framework and case audit process across targeted early help services;
- development of consistent service user feedback measures across targeted early help services;
- introduction of the new Team Around the Family mechanism, bringing together NHS and Children's Centre colleagues to decide on the best support for vulnerable children and families;
- re-commissioning and reorganisation of core early help services to service specifications reflecting the family keywork model;
- expansion of the family keywork model to include more agencies and providers;
- publication of clear joint working guidance with children's social care, indicating processes for case transfer (step up and step down); and
- the delivery of a comprehensive training programme, aligned to the LSCB training programme, highly rated by participants.

## 4.1.2 Statutory intervention to protect children

### Achievements:

- There is a positive picture for parents' participation at child protection conferences which reflects social workers' engagement with families
- The percentage of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time within two years of the previous plan has remained well within the target band

### Children who were the subject to a child protection (CP) plan in East Sussex

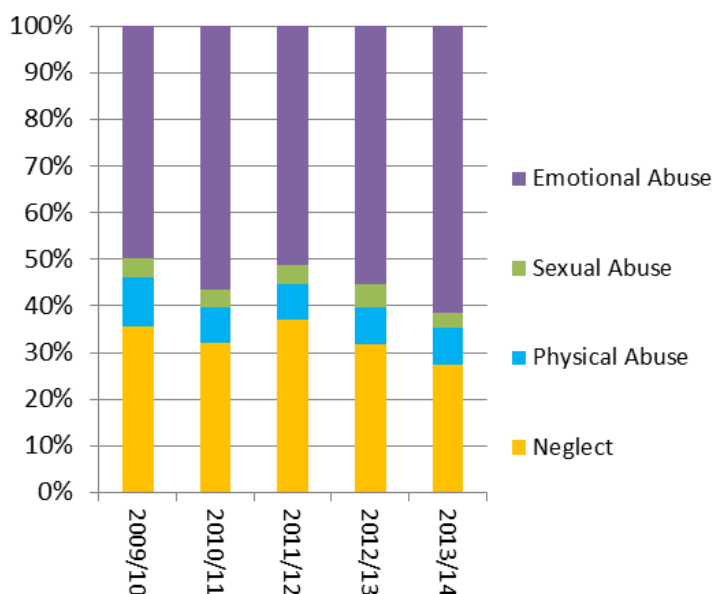


Note: the figure includes unborn children and children moving to East Sussex temporarily from another county.

The number of children subject to a CP plan increased throughout 2013-14 and is higher than the 2013/14 THRIVE target.

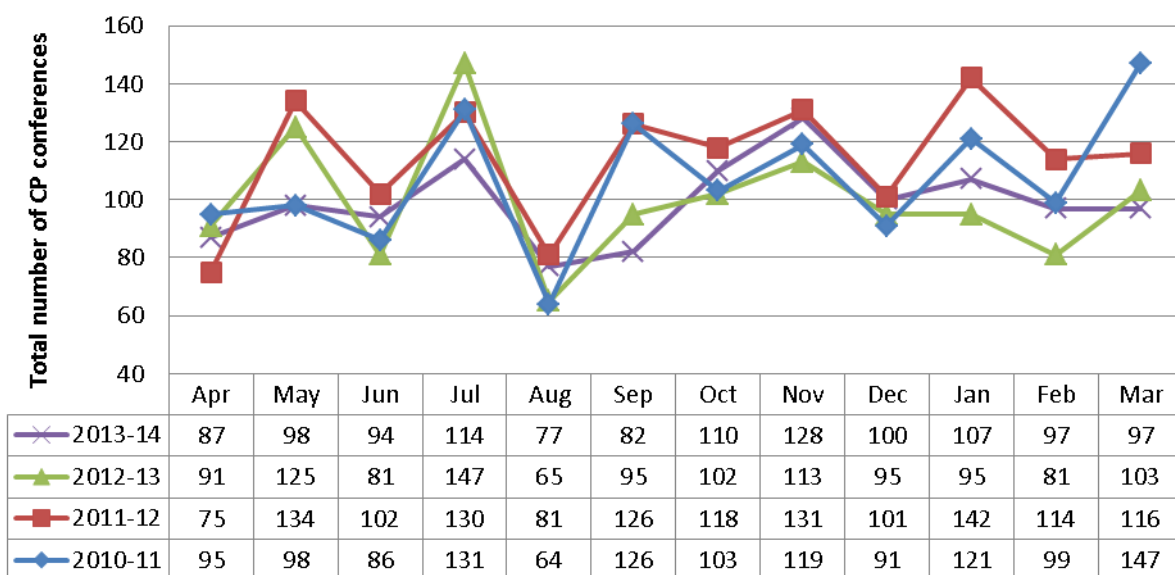
### Children who were the subject of a CP Plan by category of abuse

New CP plans by category of abuse	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Neglect	180	222	285	170	159
Physical abuse	52	51	59	42	45
Sexual abuse	21	28	31	26	19
Emotional abuse	251	389	394	295	356
Total	504	690	769	533	579



Emotional abuse continues to be the most common category of abuse for new CP plans, accounting for over 60% of the CP plans started in 2013-14. Neglect was the second highest category accounting for 27.5% of new CP plans; this is the lowest figure seen in the last five years. The number of physical abuse cases has also fallen this year, but still represents the same proportion of the total number of plans as in previous years. New CP plans with the category of sexual abuse accounted for 2.9% of the total in 2013-14; this is the lowest figure seen in the last five years.

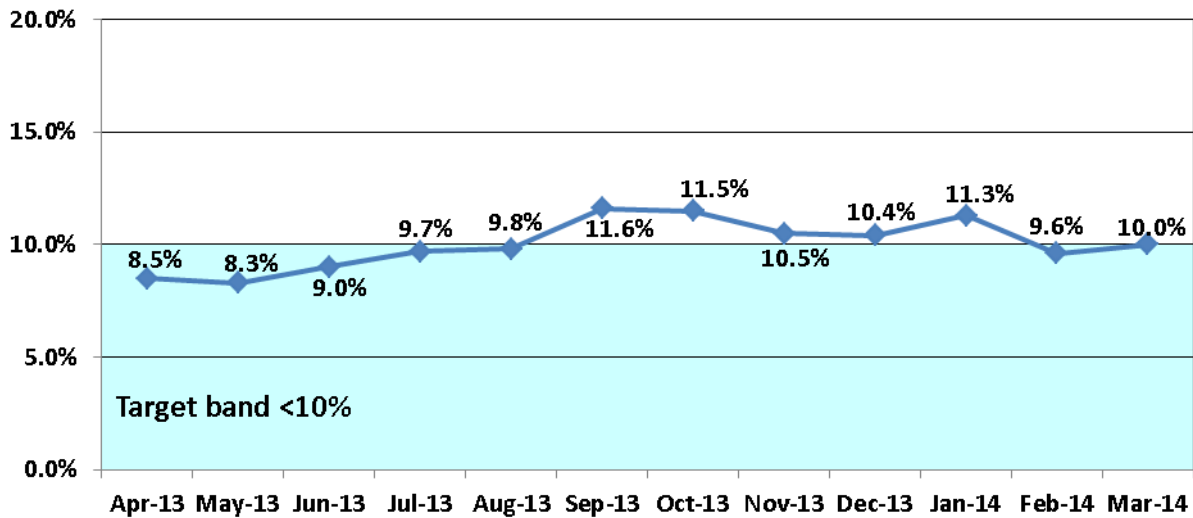
### The number of CP conferences in East Sussex



Note: the total number of conferences includes pre-birth, post-birth and transfer-in conferences.

The number of CP conferences is continuing to follow the same trend as in previous years. The total number of conferences in 2013-14 was 1191, almost identical to the 2012-13 figure (1193).

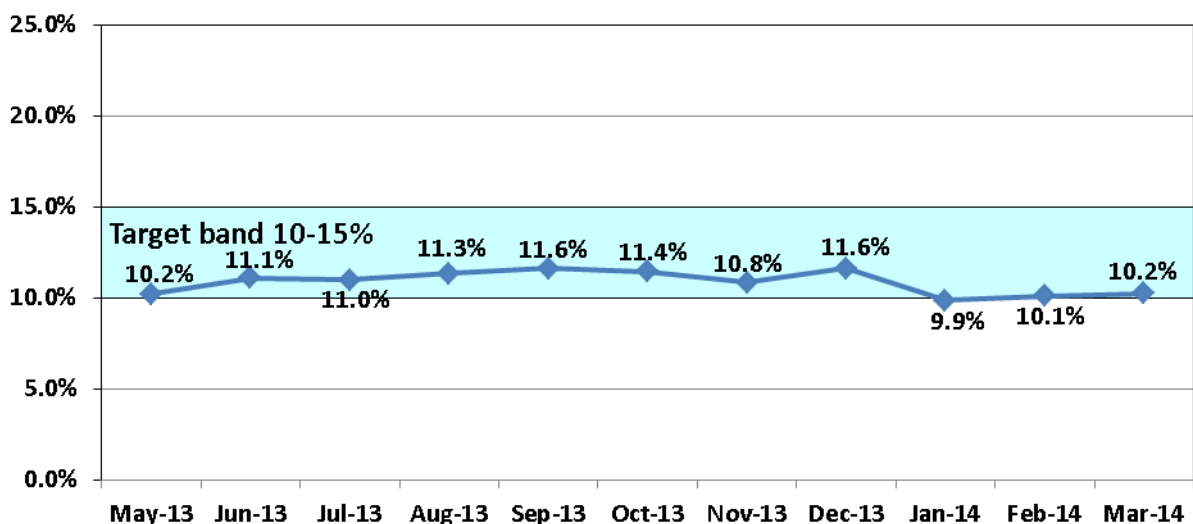
**The percentage of children in East Sussex ceasing to be the subject of a CP plan who had been the subject of a CP plan continuously for two years or more**



The percentage of children ceasing to be the subject of a CP plan, who had been the subject of a CP plan continuously for two years or more has continued to increase and was above the target threshold for 6 out of 12 months in 2013-14.

**Percentage of children in East Sussex becoming the subject of a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within two years of the previous plan (rolling year)**

From April 2013, the criteria for this measure were changed to include only those children who had been the subject of a previous CP plan within the last two years as this would provide a more realistic view of the impact of the services provided to each family.



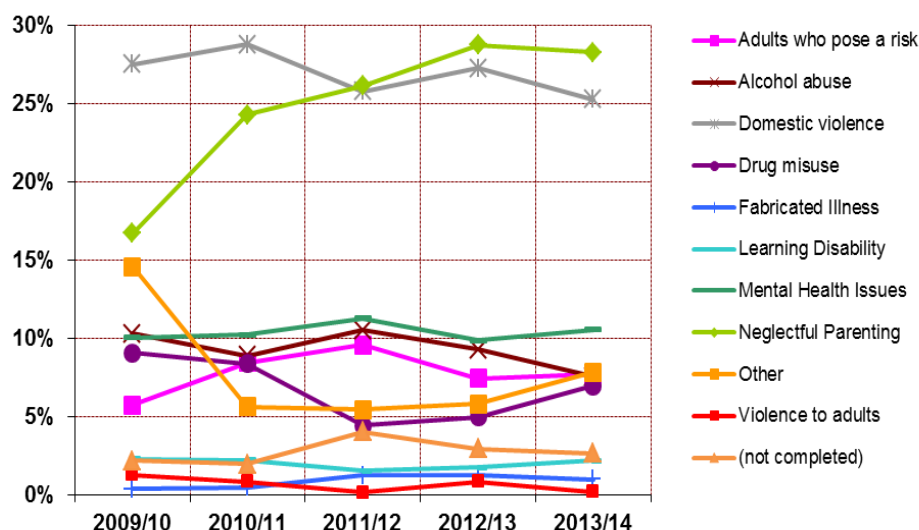
Note: April-13 figure is unavailable

Throughout 2013-14, the percentage of children becoming the subject of a CP plan for a second or subsequent time within two years of the previous plan (rolling year) has remained well within the target band of 10 to 15%. From June to December, the figure generally remained between 11 to 11.6%. In January this reduced to 9.9% - below the lower end of the target. In the last two months of 2013-14, there were slight increases, with the end of year figure at 10.2%.

## Primary risk in East Sussex

Primary risk focus - %	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Adults who pose a risk	5.7	8.5	9.6	7.4	7.7
Alcohol abuse	10.3	8.9	10.5	9.3	7.5
Domestic abuse	27.5	28.8	25.8	27.1	25.3
Drug misuse	9.1	8.4	4.4	4.9	6.9
Fabricated or induced illness	0.3	0.5	1.2	1.3	1.0
Learning disability	2.3	2.2	1.5	1.7	2.2
Mental health Issues	10.0	10.2	11.3	9.8	10.5
Neglectful parenting	16.7	24.3	26.1	28.8	28.3
Other	14.6	5.6	5.4	5.8	7.8
Violence to adults	1.3	0.8	0.1	0.8	0.2
(not completed)	2.2	1.9	4.0	2.9	2.7

The most common primary risk categories are domestic abuse and neglectful parenting. The percentages for these categories have fallen slightly in 2013-14. The percentage of cases with a primary risk of alcohol abuse fell for the second year in a row, while the percentage of cases with a primary risk of drug misuse has increased over the same period.

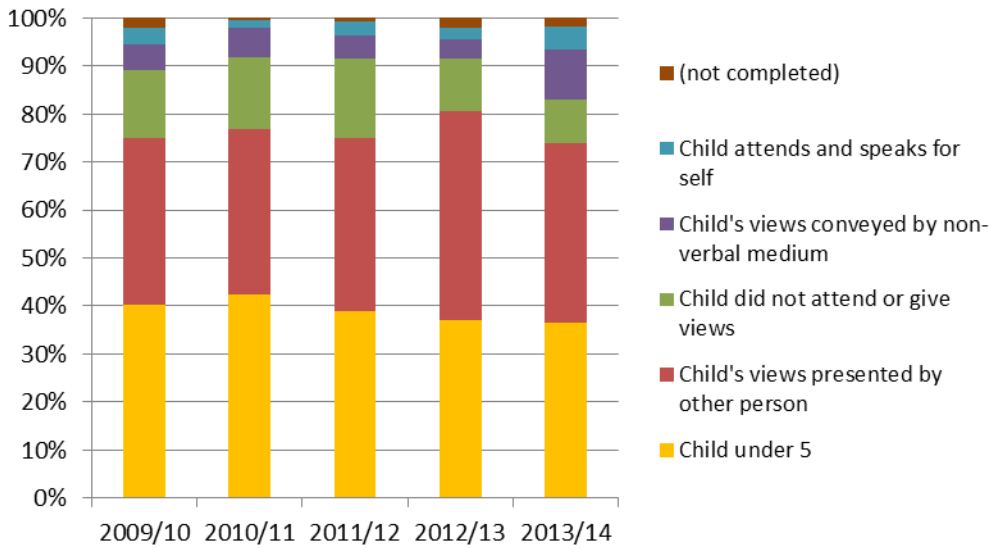


## Child participation at CP conferences in East Sussex

Childs participation - %	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Child under 5years of age	40.3	42.3	38.9	37.1	36.4
Child's views presented by other person	34.7	34.5	36.2	43.4	37.5
Child did not attend or give views	14.0	15.0	16.4	11.0	8.9
Child's views conveyed by non-verbal medium	5.5	6.0	4.9	4.1	10.5
Child attends and speaks for self	3.4	1.8	2.8	2.4	4.9
(not completed)	2.1	0.4	0.8	2.1	1.7

Note: the 'not completed' category means that the child's participation was not filled in on the system as it is not a mandatory field.

While child participation in CP conferences should be promoted where appropriate, careful consideration needs to be given to the needs of the child and it remains questionable as to how valid and desirable it is to have children attending conferences, particularly in terms of giving their views to professionals about the care they receive. In general, only older adolescents attend and give views themselves.

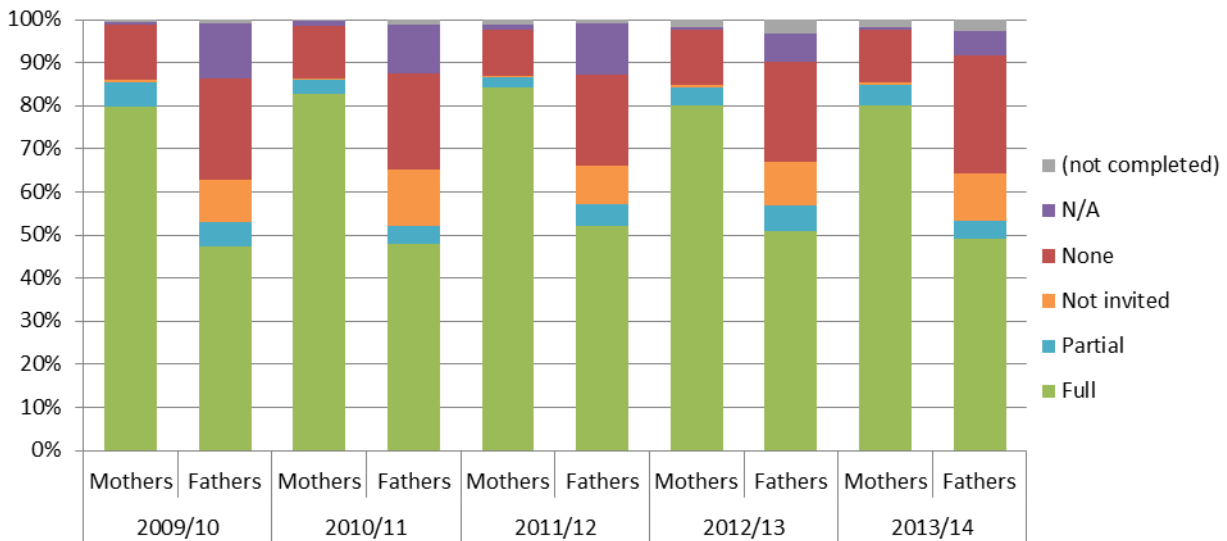


### Parent participation at CP conferences in East Sussex

Mother's participation-number	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Full	1391	2004	2308	1915	1813
Partial	98	84	67	101	106
Not invited	9	7	10	13	14
None	225	297	290	304	278
N/A	7	23	36	14	10
(not completed)	12	9	30	44	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>1742</b>	<b>2424</b>	<b>2741</b>	<b>2391</b>	<b>2261</b>
Father's participation-number	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14
Full	825	1165	1429	1221	1111
Partial	99	98	136	140	93
Not invited	171	320	251	238	251
None	408	541	572	561	620
N/A	225	270	331	152	128
(not completed)	14	30	22	79	58
<b>Total</b>	<b>1742</b>	<b>2424</b>	<b>2741</b>	<b>2391</b>	<b>2261</b>

In general, this remains a positive picture and reflects social workers' engagement with families.

Note: 'not completed' category means that the child's participation was not filled in on the system as it is not a mandatory field.

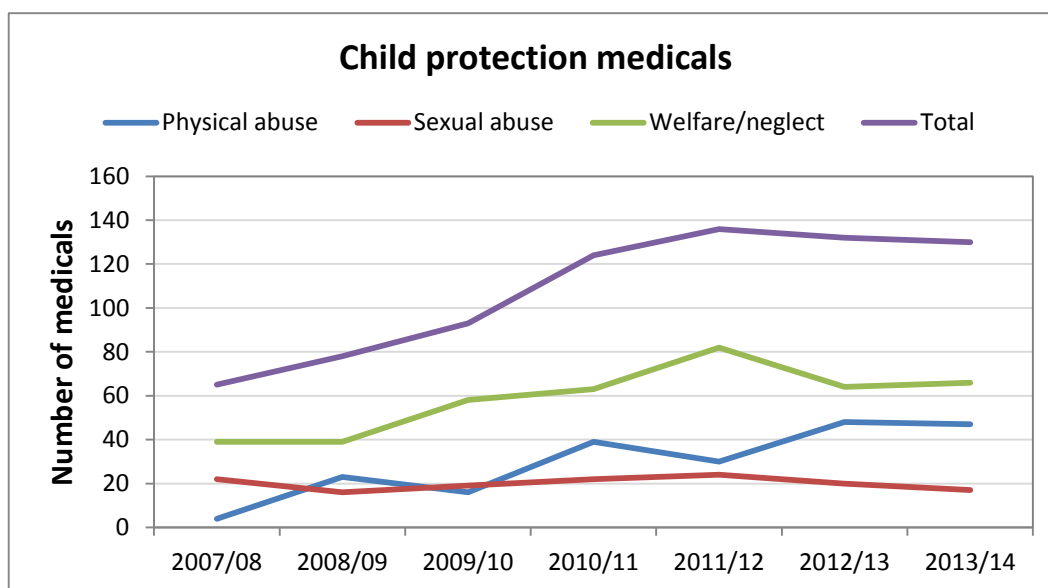


## Hospital data

Paediatricians working for East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust (ESHT) performed 130 child protection medicals at the request of the police or children's social care during the year ending 31 March 2014. The breakdown of these medicals is as follows

### **Child protection medicals completed from 2007 to 2013 by category**

	2007/08	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	Total
Physical abuse	4	23	16	39	30	48	47	207
Sexual abuse	22	16	19	22	24	20	17	140
Welfare/ neglect	39	39	58	63	82	64	66	411
Total	65	78	93	124	136	132	130	758



In previous years child protection medical activity was broken down by hospital site with figures recorded separately for Eastbourne District General Hospital (DGH) and Conquest Hospital, Hastings. However ESHT reconfigured its paediatric services in May 2013 with the result that the inpatient paediatric ward and special care baby unit are now single-sited at the Conquest Hospital with a short-stay paediatric assessment unit at both the Conquest and Eastbourne DGH. All of the consultant paediatricians now work across sites and children from the Eastbourne area who require an overnight stay are transferred to the Conquest.

The annual child protection medical activity data is currently produced by collating the number of medicals undertaken by individual consultants each year and as the consultants are no longer geographically based the 2013/14 data reflects the total activity across both hospital sites.

The number of child protection medicals carried out in 2013/14 is very similar to the figure of 132 for the previous year and there has been no significant change in activity within any of the different categories of medical. However, it is likely that the figure recorded for physical abuse medicals is slightly lower than the actual activity level as there has been an increase in the use of locum consultant cover during the past year due to difficulty in covering the hospital rota and it has proved difficult to capture the medicals undertaken by locums with the current system. An electronic database for child protection medicals has been in place since 1<sup>st</sup> April



2014 and this should improve the quality of the data and enable quarterly figures to be made available for the LSCB performance monitoring summary.

The number of child sexual abuse medicals undertaken each year across East Sussex has been relatively stable in recent years with a range of 16 to 24 since 2008 and the current year is within that range. Two medicals took place out of hours as part of the East Sussex Brighton and Hove out of hours CSA rota. There were no joint examinations with Forensic Medical Examiners. It is likely that a Paediatric Sexual Abuse Referral Centre (SARC) will be established within Sussex in 2014/15 which will result in an improved service for East Sussex children.

#### 4.1.3 Quarterly performance monitoring and safeguarding data

##### **Achievements:**

- Greatly increased investment in data collection and analysis shared with staff
- Clarity about significant data telling the story of what happens as children pass through the system
- Work in progress to collect high level data sets across agencies

##### **Summary of actions:**

- The LSCB compiles a quarterly performance monitoring summary which shows current information about child protection work across all agencies, with data from other comparative areas.
- For a fourth year, the LSCB agreed that some LSCB funds should be used to support the work of the LSCB with performance information, as well as information about the progress in effectively managing the agreed strategic aims. This work has continued to be delivered by the Planning and Performance team and the Data, Research and Information Management (DRIM) team within the Local Authority Children's Services Department, via a commissioning agreement.
- The DRIM team has significantly redesigned the performance data summary in response to feedback from the LSCB. The team has also developed a data dashboard which shows progress on performance indicators that are most concerning at any point, so that they can be given a higher profile and be more easily tracked. These reports have continued to be well received.
- Analysis of data through the THRIVE project is linked to child protection information, with clear step-up and step-down pathways. The DRIM team has also continued to respond to emerging data needs, as and when required, for example they contributed a very useful piece of analysis of the likely numbers of children and young people at risk of sexual exploitation.
- Information and interpretation of data are more readily accessible through the LSCB newsletter and website, as well as through communication lines of the THRIVE project.

##### **Impact:**

- The LSCB is now better able to consider performance across focused areas of the child protection process, addressing any adverse changes more quickly.

### Challenges:

- With the need to adapt the data reporting requirement to respond to identified need, the challenges are obtaining and pulling together the relevant data for the reports and ensuring data quality continues to be maintained.

### Future work plan:

- Continue to develop the quarterly reporting and data dashboard to meet the needs of the LSCB;
- Improved linkage with the THRIVE dataset and monitoring of impact of the THRIVE programme.

#### 4.1.4 Quality assurance and the learning and improvement framework: audits

##### **Achievements:**

- The LSCB has a regular programme of file audits with clear reporting to the Board.
- The audits have had a direct impact on policy-making and action to improve professional practice across participating agencies.
- The LSCB Quality Assurance (QA) Sub-Group continues to learn from its audit activities and is constantly looking to improve methodologies, identify themes for audit and enhance its quality assurance function to close the audit loop.

### Learning and Improvement Framework:

- The East Sussex LSCB uses a range of performance improvement and quality assurance tools to monitor work within the LSCB. *Working Together 2013* stipulates that LSCBs should ensure the effectiveness of safeguarding in their area by using peer reviews, self-evaluation, performance indicators and joint audit. The purpose of all reviews conducted by the LSCB is to learn lessons from the way in which local safeguarding agencies worked together, with the review's recommendations being acted on promptly, and being overseen by the LSCB.
- The quality assurance options that the East Sussex LSCB has put in place include
  - multi-agency case file audits
  - section 11 audit
  - Serious case reviews
  - multi-agency reviews
  - partnership reviews
  - the Child Death Overview Panel
- These processes identify the underlying issues that are influencing local practice in general, so that improvements can be made to raise the standards of safeguarding children in East Sussex.

## Multi-agency case file audits:

- The LSCB QA Sub-Group completed three case file audits in 2013/14, including two regular case file audits and one thematic audit of strategy discussions.
- The audits found evidence of
  - good inter-agency cooperation to keep children safe, including participation in strategy discussions and initial child protection conferences
  - thorough joint investigations by East Sussex Children’s Social Care and Sussex Police
  - good risk assessment, proportionate responses and planning
  - appropriate professional challenge to ensure positive outcomes for children
- The audits made a number of recommendations for improving practice, including
  - the LSCB providing updated record keeping guidance for educational establishments
  - up-to-date chronologies
  - appropriate information sharing between agencies prior to and during investigations
  - the need for representation of senior health professionals at strategy discussions and child protection conferences.
- When inadequate practice was identified for a particular agency, the relevant LSCB QA Sub-Group member communicated audit recommendations immediately to managers and officers, asking for appropriate action to be taken to improve agency practice. In some cases, the QA Sub-Group members took the lead in identifying and initiating actions to improve the effectiveness of multi-disciplinary practice, for example by putting in place appropriate multi-agency processes.
- A rolling action log is maintained and progress with the implementation of recommendations is monitored.
- Audit tools continued to be developed and updated to enhance multi-agency focus and to keep up with changes in statutory guidance; the customised questionnaires used for the audits were updated again in 2013/2014 for early help, education, ESHT (acute and community) and Sussex Police.
- The use of the audit questionnaire developed to look at the involvement of early help services as part of regular case file audits is now well embedded and early help services are regularly asked to provide information about their involvement in cases selected for audit.
- A new scheme for carrying out audits based on the Social Care Institute of Excellence (SCIE) multi-agency systems approach has been devised. This includes a model scheme conducting thematic audits and an accompanying audit tool using Ofsted criteria as a basis for setting out the areas to audit. Given that each audit will be carried out by a number of auditors, the audit tool also has a detailed aide memoir to ensure consistency and quality of auditing. The new approach will be piloted in July 2014 with an audit of a sexual abuse case.

## Section 11 Audit:

- Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on key agencies to ensure that they pay due regard to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children when discharging their functions. This duty also applies to any organisation providing services on behalf of these key agencies. Section 14 of the Act

requires LSCBs to ensure the effectiveness of the work done by agencies for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. For this purpose, the LSCB carries out a self-evaluation exercise every two years to assess the implementation of section 11 obligations.

- As the previous audit was completed only in March 2012, there was no audit undertaken in 2013. The last update to the 2012 audit was submitted to the Board at their meeting in January 2013.
- In preparation for the 2014 audit, the pan-Sussex section 11 self-evaluation toolkit was fully updated by the East Sussex LSCB in autumn 2013 in agreement with Brighton and Hove and West Sussex LSCBs. The updated toolkit includes guidance, an audit tool and an action plan pro forma.
- The guidance section now has information on how the audit returns will be analysed by each LSCB and the scheme used for RAG rating.
- The 2014 audit tool has been fully updated to take into account the changes to safer recruitment checks following the introduction of the Disclosure and Barring Service. It also has a new section to address the LSCBs' priorities in preventing child sexual exploitation and consideration of fathers and other significant adult males in all assessments addressing the needs and welfare of children and young people (a finding from local and national serious case reviews).
- The section 11 self-evaluation toolkit was sent out to agencies in February 2014, with a deadline of 4 April 2014 for return of the completed audit tool and action plan.
- Twenty-two East Sussex agencies were asked to participate in the audit:
  - Care for the Carers
  - Catch22
  - CRI
  - Eastbourne Borough Council
  - Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford Clinical Commissioning Group
  - East Sussex County Council
  - East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service
  - East Sussex Healthcare Trust
  - Hastings Borough Council
  - Hastings and Rother Clinical Commissioning Group
  - High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Group
  - IC24 Out-of-Hours GP Practice
  - Lewes District Council
  - NHS England
  - The Priory Group
  - Rother District Council
  - South East Coast Ambulance Service
  - Surrey and Sussex Probation Trust
  - Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
  - Sussex Police
  - Wealden District Council
  - YMCA Central Sussex
- The results of the self-evaluation exercise were reported to the Board in July 2014. A peer-review of a sample of audits took place in June.

### [The impact of audits:](#)

- Disseminating learning from QA work - *closing the audit loop* – not just improved communication with front-line teams regarding the outcome of

individual audits, but also had an impact on policy-making and multi-agency action to improve practice and outcomes for children and families. The following is a sample of such activities undertaken by agencies in response to findings of LSCB audits.

- Updated record keeping guidance for educational establishments was issued by the LSCB and the implementation of the guidance will be monitored through school safeguarding audits.
- The strategy discussion procedure was reviewed by East Sussex Children’s Social Care and guidance on updated minimum standards has been issued.
- Updated practice guidance on chronologies has been issued across East Sussex Children’s Social Care and Early Help services. The Health Visiting Service issued a revised child protection policy containing guidance on how to produce chronologies and when to use them.
- A new record keeping system will be introduced in summer 2014 for the School Nursing Service to ensure more effective information sharing between practitioners and for more comprehensive record keeping.
- Work was undertaken by the Principal Social Worker to ensure the voice of the child is represented in assessments and is included in learning for trainee social workers and newly-qualified practitioners.
- The safeguarding responsibilities of paediatricians, including consultant representation at strategy discussions, have been incorporated into ESHT’s safeguarding policy.
- Findings and recommendations from QA work have been incorporated into LSCB multi-agency safeguarding training and used to inform good practice guidance.

### **Challenges:**

- The limited amount of time the QA Sub-Group members have to prepare and discuss findings has remained a challenge in 2013/2014. Some QA Sub-Group members are also members of the Serious Case Review Panel and took part in a number of reviews during the year. This had an impact on the Sub-Group’s capacity to carry through the planned audit programme of 6 audits annually, with three of the scheduled audits being cancelled.
- The Sub-Group needs to continue to move towards more outcome-focused QA work. In order to do so, it will need to consider a range of measures, both quantitative and qualitative which reflect the outcome for individual children and families rather than focusing predominately on how well safeguarding processes are working.
- It is important that the work of the QA Sub-Group informs the development of LSCB priorities and supports the Board to deliver its annual work programme. In particular, the QA Sub-Group needs to provide an appropriate level of scrutiny of the impact of the THRIVE agenda on the safety and wellbeing of local children.

### **Future work plan:**

- Ensure case file audits continue to be carried out making the best use of time commitments from the QA Sub-Group members.
- Ensure the new model of auditing using the systems approach is embedded in the audit programme.

#### 4.1.5 Quality assurance and the learning and improvement framework: serious case, multi-agency and partnership reviews

##### **Achievements:**

- The final report and action plan were completed for a multi-agency review for a child known as F.
- The serious case review overview report for the child known as G, a teenage girl who had been abducted to France by her teacher, was published in December 2013.
- The serious case review overview report for the child known as H, a young child found with multiple bruising, was published in April 2014.
- There are interim overview reports for the serious case reviews for child K, a baby who died, and child M, a young person who died from a drug overdose. In both these cases a criminal trial and inquest are outstanding, and the overview reports will be published at a later date.

##### **Serious case reviews (SCRs) – rationale:**

- *Working Together 2013* states that when a child dies (including death by suspected suicide), and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor in the death, then local organisations must consider whether there are any lessons to be learned about the ways in which they worked together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Additionally, LSCBs should always consider whether an SCR should be conducted whenever a child has been seriously harmed and the case gives rise to concerns about inter-agency working to protect children from harm.

##### **Multi-agency reviews (MARs) – rationale:**

- MARs may be undertaken on a case that is referred to the SCR Sub-Committee but it does not meet the threshold for an SCR and there are lessons to be learned from it by LSCB agencies.
- They are carried out in exactly the same way as traditional SCRs, in that individual management reviews (IMRs) and chronologies are requested from all involved agencies.
- IMRs are useful in considering the detail of a case, particularly when a relatively short period of time is being covered.
- The use of precise terms of reference ensures that all agencies address the same points in their reports.

##### **Partnership reviews (PRs) – rationale:**

- East Sussex LSCB has developed a style of reviewing individual cases known as partnership reviews. PRs can be used when a case referred to the SCR Sub-Committee does not meet the threshold for an SCR, and when it is considered that important learning for multi-agency working could be identified by further analysis.
- PRs are not regulated in the same way as SCRs so that external scrutiny is not required, which gives flexibility in terms of the terms of reference and the time frame.
- They allow for evidence to emerge more quickly around learning points, and consequently, the opportunity to improve practice in a shorter timescale.

- PRs involve the engagement of frontline staff and first-line managers in analysing the case, giving a greater degree of ownership which leads to a greater commitment to learning and dissemination.
- They aim to provide open and transparent learning from practice to improve inter-agency work, with patterns of good practice also highlighted.
- A systems-based methodology is used to focus on the understanding of professional practice within the individual case being reviewed.
- PRs only require agencies to submit a chronology and genogram, rather than a full IMR, which is a significant improvement when families have been known over a long time and large quantities of case material are held.
- They vastly reduce costs associated with staff time across all agencies.

### The impact of reviews:

- The SCR Sub-Committee is always keen to undertake Reviews that will provide learning for future practice, and during the last year have carried out several reviews with differing styles of approach, particularly using systemic models. These different approaches have had a significant impact on gathering learning from front-line practitioners.
- There is individual learning for each agency involved in a review, as well as multi-agency learning from these reviews that includes
  - the need to promote professional curiosity
  - the need to ensure that strategy discussions are effective in terms of inter-agency communication and the understanding of roles and responsibilities
  - understanding ‘unexplained injuries’ within investigations
  - the role of men within the child protection process
  - elective home education and the isolation of some children
  - the use of chronologies to assist assessment
  - professional challenge and escalation

### Challenges:

- It was necessary to initiate four SCRs within a 12-month period from January 2012, which has had a significant impact on the capacity of the agencies involved in this work, as well as on particular individual staff members from these agencies. All these SCRs were very different in terms of the focus and issues raised.

### Future work plan:

- The SCR Sub-Committee will continue to consider individual cases using alternative systemic methods in order to gain maximum learning from practice, with the dissemination of this learning being key in improving practice throughout LSCB agencies.

#### 4.1.6 Quality assurance and the learning and improvement framework: Child Death Overview Panel

##### **Achievements:**

- Joint work with the Coroner has continued to improve
- Regular contribution to reviews from parents of children who die after the neonatal period

##### The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP):

- CDOP has held 15 meetings in the past year (including five East Sussex neonatal panels and four Brighton and Hove neonatal panels).
- The main work of the panel is to review and determine, on behalf of the two LSCBs, the cause of death of all children who die in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove.
- Between April 2013 and March 2014, the CDOP was notified of 52 deaths of children who were resident in East Sussex (36) and Brighton and Hove (16); this is an increase in the number of child deaths since last year.
- The CDOP reviewed a total of 44 deaths (26 East Sussex and 18 Brighton and Hove deaths) during 2013/14. There will always be a delay between the date of a child's death and the CDOP review being held. In East Sussex 8 out of 26 reviews were completed within six months. This is a significant deterioration in performance which can be explained in part by the sickness of the CDOP Administrator.
- The purpose of the review is to determine whether the death is deemed preventable, that is, whether modifiable factors may have contributed to the death. If this is the case, the panel must decide what, if any, actions could be taken to prevent such deaths in future. Of the 240 deaths reviewed between 2008 and 2014, 30 have been identified as having factors which may have contributed to the death and could be modified to reduce the risk of future deaths. Of the 11 reviews that were completed during the year that had modifiable factors, 9 related to babies.
- Modifiable factors identified through reviews included inappropriate sleeping arrangements for babies and high risk pregnancies where there were problems with the obstetric and midwifery care. All of the cases reviewed were very different and there were no obvious patterns or trends that could be identified.

##### Child death data

In East Sussex, 21% of the population is aged under 18 years (111,000 out of 527,000) and in Brighton and Hove 20% of the population is aged under 18 years (55,000 out of 273,000). This compares to 23% for the South East region and for England (source: Census 2011).

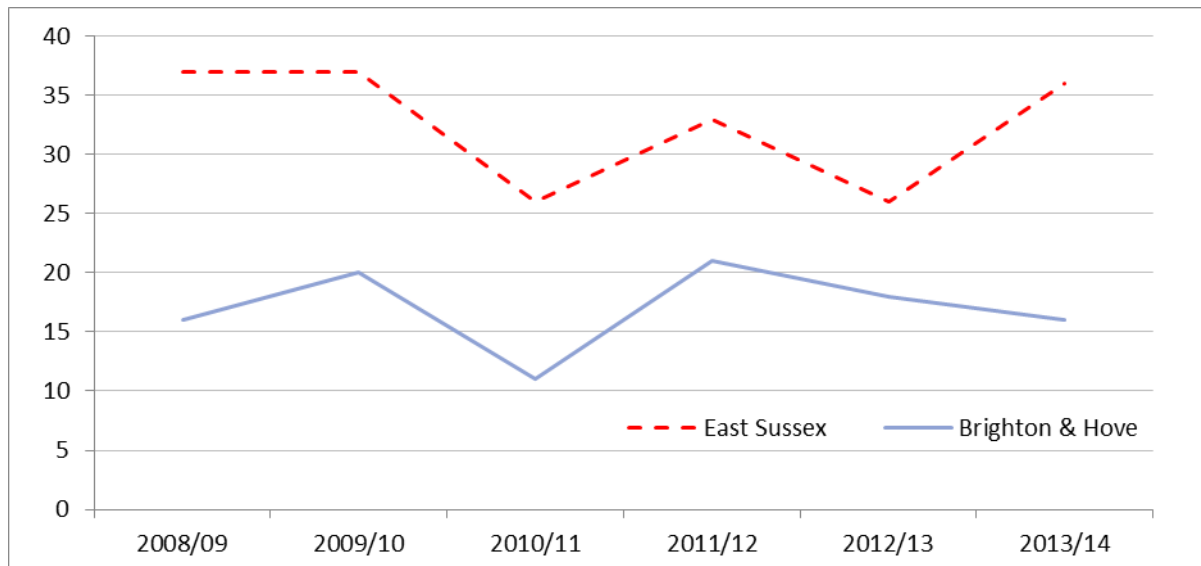
##### **All deaths notified to CDOP from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2014**

	1/4/08-31/3/09	1/4/09-31/3/10	1/4/10-31/3/11	1/4/11-31/3/12	1/4/12-31/3/13	1/4/13-31/3/14	Total
East Sussex	37	37	26	33	26	36	195
Brighton & Hove	16	20	11	21	18	16	102

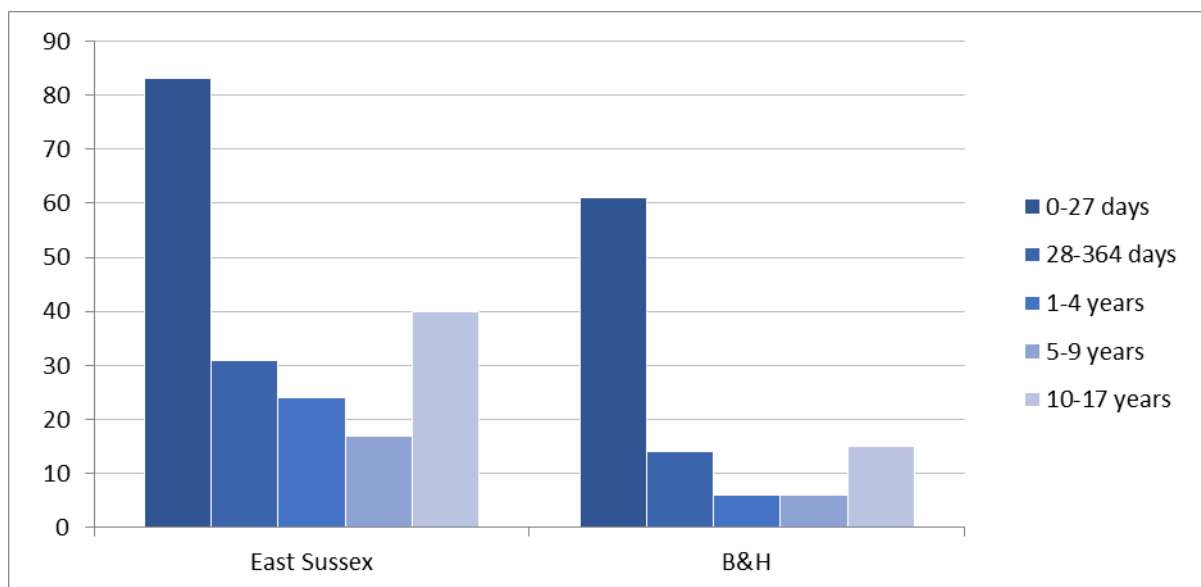


Deaths notified to the CDOP in East Sussex increased last year while Brighton and Hove showed a slight decrease. Both changes are within the expected range for the areas. In East Sussex the median figure over the six years is 34.5 and the mean is 32.5 while in Brighton and Hove the mean and median are both 17. Data will need to be monitored for a much longer period before trends can be identified.

### All deaths notified to the CDOP from 1 April 2008 to 31 March 2013



### Age at death of all children notified to the CDOP from 2008 to 2013



The age distribution of child deaths follows the expected pattern linked to national trends with most child deaths in the first month of life followed by deaths in the first year of life, with an increase in deaths during adolescence.

### Future work plan:

- To ensure that a permanent CDOP Coordinator is recruited
- To continue the work of organising the received information to ensure that the CDOP process is as timely as possible and that collected data can be retrieved efficiently

#### 4.1.7 Training and workforce development

##### **Achievements:**

- An already extensive training programme for staff across all agencies has increased in line with supporting front-line staff to think about the impact of their work and demonstrate improvement for children.
- The training programme delivered 68 courses and is very well attended, attracts positive feedback and involves skilled practitioners in its delivery; 1449 members of staff attended training during the year – this is an increase of over 50% from the previous year.
- All early help staff receive child protection training in addition to specific task-oriented training. Training has been developed for early help services, with some of the LSCB training courses being used to assist in providing extra support and skills to front-line workers.
- The use of the LSCB online Child Protection course increased by nearly 300%.
- The online training programme has been expanded to include a new course on child sexual exploitation commissioned from a national agency; East Sussex practitioners were involved in the content and design of this programme. It will be available from April 2014.

##### **The impact of the East Sussex LSCB training programme:**

- The LSCB ran 68 courses from April 2012 to March 2013; several of the courses ran on more than one occasion.
- A total of 1449 delegates attended an LSCB course during the year.
- The participants came from a wide range of LSCB agencies from all parts of East Sussex.
- The charging policy was reviewed during the year, and from April 2013 there were charges for cancellation and non-attendance.
- The training pool of professionals who mainly deliver the courses has continued to grow; these people are a valuable source of expertise and knowledge in their particular fields.
- The training pool events continue to run three times a year to ensure a consistent approach to common themes such as the early help agenda and THRIVE, as well as ensuring that trainers are aware of the latest information regarding safeguarding.
- Following the findings from several LSCB reviews, the LSCB Training and Development Consultant was commissioned to deliver a course which focused on improving referrals to children's services. In response to this request, *The Effective Communication of Safeguarding Concerns* course was developed, and a further course was offered through the general LSCB training programme. The course enables participants to recognise the importance of early information gathering and sharing, to identify levels of need and support and to understand the importance of approaching and engaging other agencies. They were made aware of how to clearly communicate safeguarding concerns to children's social care (CSC), and what to expect from and how to challenge CSC, where necessary. Both courses were extremely well received and this training offer is now integrated into the LSCB training programme.
- The LSCB Training and Development Consultant was also approached to co-deliver a course designed by the Domestic Abuse Consultant for the early help workforce to support interventions to reduce the risks to children and young

people associated with domestic abuse. The training is targeted at practitioners who have some working knowledge of domestic abuse. A pilot course ran in May and further courses are planned throughout the year. Participants gained knowledge of the Domestic Abuse Stalking, Harassment and Honour Based Violence (DASH) risk indicator checklist and how to apply this using professional judgement. The course aimed to enhance practitioner confidence in responding to cases of domestic abuse that do not require specialist intervention, provide a framework for understanding different stages of abusive relationships and how to intervene at each stage and share tools and resources to support intervention and safety planning.

- In response to findings from both local and national SCRs, the LSCB has commissioned an external trainer to deliver a course focused on engaging fathers and significant male figures. This training considers the contribution fathers and significant male figures can make to improving outcomes for children and how services can create a father-inclusive focus to safeguarding practice. Participants will become aware of potential barriers to effective engagement and consider personal safety issues when dealing with hostile and aggressive men.

### Results of impact surveys and course evaluations:

- An impact survey was used successfully the previous year with the attendees of the *Domestic Abuse Level 1* course, with the aim of exploring a more outcome-focused approach by capturing qualitative data to assess the impact of training.
- Work is underway on creating a rolling programme of training impact surveys which will be in place by the autumn of 2014.
- The LSCB have received the following quotes gathered from evaluation forms completed by practitioners attending LSCB training:
  - *The Impact of Parental Substance Misuse*  
‘Great course. Covered a range of issues relating to substance and alcohol. Learnt some interesting facts around misuse, and differences between substances and alcohol. I can directly use info. Will help to enable families to acknowledge use which in turn will help the children. Excellent course.’ Student Social Worker, Family Support Team
  - *Rapid Response to Child Death*  
‘I thought this was a very well delivered and presented course. The facilitators managed difficult subject matter well. Excellent course.’ School Nurse  
‘Very well delivered course, informative and allowing opportunity for case study and reflection. Multi-agency which enables insight into how fellow professionals work, very good and not “dumbed-down”!’ Senior Practitioner, Children’s Services  
‘Well structured course appropriate to needs of audience. Useful to invite experienced DS to aid facilitation with current practical experience to support Eddie’s input (which was very good!!).’ DS Investigative Trainer, Sussex Police
  - *Serious Case Reviews – Briefing Sessions*  
‘Excellent course – it will encourage me to continue reflecting and also change my focus on Safeguarding supervision.’ Nurse for Children in Care  
‘A well planned course covering specific examples drawing out learning with a chance for questions and discussion. Interesting for me to learn the views of professionals at my table and to understand the front-line

- professional concerns. More effective understanding leading to positive/relevant questioning on LSCB.’ LSCB Lay Member
- *Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII): Challenges and Dilemmas where FII is Present or Suspected*  
 ‘Really interesting course, kept my attention throughout. Friendly facilitators who it was obvious were very knowledgeable on this subject...it has aided my understanding of a current FII case. Stressed the importance of multi-agency partnership working and keeping the child at the centre. An excellent course.’ Intensive Family Keyworker, CRI Family and Parenting Service
  - *Living with Parents with Mental Health Issues*  
 ‘A hard but rewarding day – very useful dialogue with colleagues from different services and good delivery by course leader. Will feedback training session for staff in own setting. This learning will support me in having a greater understanding of children needing time to talk, a trusted person to talk to...to equip staff in my school to notice warning signs and know how to act upon their concerns. An excellent course.’ Deputy Head/SENCO, Primary School  
 ‘Excellent course – very informative and lots of input and interaction in group. It will inform my observations of family interaction and presentation during contact. Course will help with more effective identification of indicators leading to timely referral.’ Community Family Worker  
 ‘Found group work helpful and engaging. CAMHS presentation also really informative and good handout with research. Course will enable consideration of impact of attachment in children whose parents have MH issues’. SWIFT Mental Health Practitioner
  - *Working with Disabled Children in a Child Protection Context*  
 ‘Really good to be on a course relevant to the pupils I work with. I will incorporate some of it into school Safeguarding training. An excellent course.’ Designated Child Protection Teacher  
 ‘Helpful and informative discussions about CP and Disabled Children – difficulty in getting convictions etc. – all very useful and productive. Learning will help with assessment/approach to reviews etc. and supporting children by acting as an advocate – improving communication.’ School Staff Nurse
  - *The Effective Communication of Safeguarding Concerns*  
 ‘I found the course very useful to understand processes and really think about what information is required. What can we do? What can Children’s Services do differently? I will think more about these questions now. Excellent course’. Children’s Centre Keyworker  
 ‘Activities were effective way to deliver the course rather than all slides on Power Point. Activity 1 especially useful as could see how each service has different information. I will pass on relevant info in my team meetings – also can now support staff effectively with SPR’s – through discussion have learnt more about other services available, also that preventative work can be completed to avoid escalation. Excellent course.’ Early Years Coordinator
  - *Young People and Substance Misuse: Level 1*  
 ‘A very useful course. More depth than I have had in other courses. Well presented at a good pace but allowing for questions. Good resources and activities. Thank you. Excellent.’ Sergeant, Sussex Police  
 ‘Very interesting and valuable content for my position. Will be able to talk to students more confidentially and will be able to help identify problems

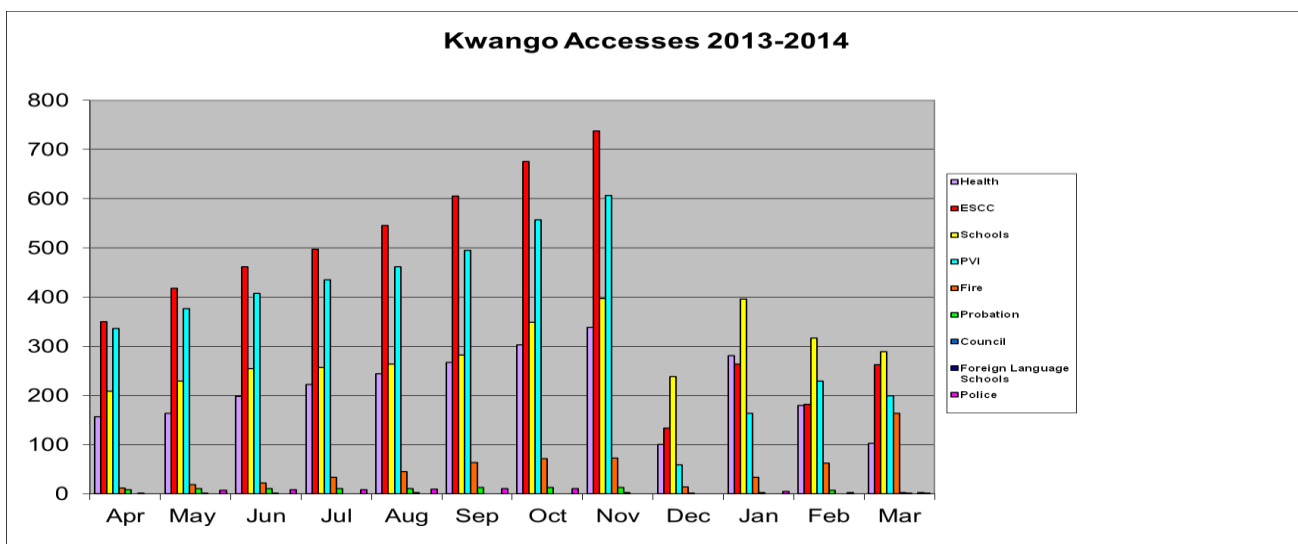
with drug misuse. I will hold a workshop for my other PM's. Excellent course.' Pastoral Manager, Secondary School

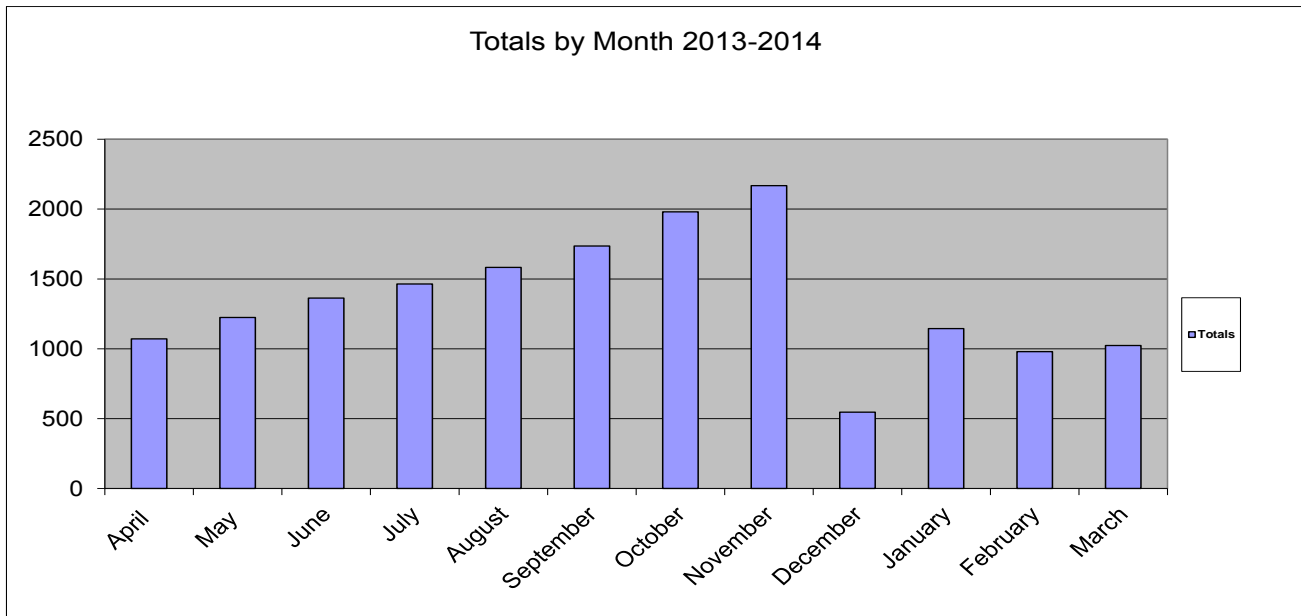
'A really informative training provision. I particularly valued the information on Legal Highs as well as classification of substances. Greater knowledge will be beneficial with work with YP...prevention, harm minimisation and safeguarding. Excellent.' YOT Practitioner

**Safeguarding children e-learning package:**

- The LSCB commissions from Kwango, a social care e-learning provider, an introductory e-learning training package on safeguarding and child protection which can be accessed by any LSCB agency and their staff. Following regular promotion, the use of the course increased significantly from 5514 accesses in 2012-13 to 16282 in 2013-14.

Kwango Accesses 2013-2014													
Username	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Totals
Health	157	164	198	222	244	267	303	338	100	281	180	103	2557
ESCC	350	418	461	497	546	605	676	738	134	264	182	262	5133
Schools	208	229	254	257	264	282	349	397	238	396	316	289	3479
PVI	336	376	408	435	462	495	557	607	59	163	229	199	4326
Fire	12	19	22	34	45	64	72	73	14	34	62	163	614
Probation	8	10	11	11	11	13	13	13	1	2	7	3	103
Council	0	1	1	0	2	0	0	2	0	0		1	7
Foreign Language Schools	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	2	5
Police	0	7	8	8	9	10	10	0	0	5		1	58
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1071</b>	<b>1224</b>	<b>1363</b>	<b>1464</b>	<b>1583</b>	<b>1736</b>	<b>1980</b>	<b>2168</b>	<b>546</b>	<b>1145</b>	<b>979</b>	<b>1023</b>	<b>16282</b>





### Challenges:

- Despite many services streamlining their agencies and reducing staff, the LSCB has been able to retain the commitment from many agencies for some of their key staff to deliver LSCB courses, using their specialist knowledge and experience. However, we anticipate that enabling staff to deliver courses will be an increasing challenge.
- The LSCB has done a lot of work to ensure that training is delivered as cost-effectively as possible, for example by not providing lunch, ensuring that training venues are either at no cost or are value for money when having to be funded and ensuring that the charging policy is implemented robustly. However, this too will be an ongoing area of challenge.

### Future work plan:

- Extending the impact survey to be undertaken on a regular basis
- Regular reporting of training data
- Extending the use of online training, especially to include the online CSE programme that East Sussex LSCB developed with Kwango and which will be available from April 2014
- To source an online training programme focusing on safer recruitment
- To work with facilitating the LSCB Pan-Sussex Conference in January 2015
- To offer new training courses on female genital mutilation, as well as working with different cultural groups
- The review of the training plan for 2013/14 is in Appendix 2
- The training plan for 2014/15 is in Appendix 3

## 4.2 Other Achievements

### 4.2.1 Involving front-line staff

#### **Achievements:**

- A training pool of over 40 practitioners from a wide range of children's and adults' services
- Individual case reviews involving front-line staff from East Sussex, and with one SCR involvement of staff from 6 other local authority areas leading to immediate learning and benefiting from bringing professionals together to consider practice improvement

**It is important to involve front-line staff in both receiving and delivering messages about best practice in safeguarding. This has been achieved in the following ways:**

- The practitioners involved in the LSCB training pool provide most of the courses delivered by the LSCB to all partner agencies. These practitioners deliver training focused on their specialist area of work as part of their role within their agency, with the specialisms either directly relating to issues for children, or issues that relate to adults which then impact on their ability as parents. This training pool is well-established and is evaluated very highly.
- A partnership review (PR) included a learning day for the practitioners who had been involved with the family, as well as key professionals from health, police, education and children's services. The impact of the learning from this day was very effective, with positive changes being made by some agencies very quickly. A further PR was planned when front-line practitioners will meet with the review panel individually in June 2014, followed by a learning event later that month.
- Both of these methods of PR led to more immediate learning, with the thinking behind the actions of professionals being more understandable, and benefiting from bringing all the professionals together to consider how practice could be improved in the future.

### 4.2.2 Involving children and young people

#### **Achievements:**

- Delivery of sessions to the Children in Care Council (CICC) by the LSCB
- Young people have been involved in looking at the LSCB website to ensure that it is understandable and presented in the best way so as to be used by young people

**Communication with children and young people and really hearing their views are key in shaping services that make a positive difference to their lives.**

- Sessions delivered by the LSCB to the CICC included discussions about how young people can convey safeguarding concerns about either themselves or others in school, child sexual exploitation and e-safety.
- The LSCB lay members worked with the CICC to ensure that the LSCB website was attractive to young people and contained information and links that were useful to them.

### 4.2.3 Child sexual exploitation

#### **Achievements:**

- An active LSCB Child Sexual Exploitation Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group
- Three Child Sexual Exploitation Workers started in December 2013, with the existing worker becoming their supervisor
- The LSCB delivers training on child sexual exploitation, providing level 1 and 2 courses
- Online child sexual exploitation training course available from April 2014

#### **Definition of Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

CSE is a form of child abuse which involves children and young people receiving something, which may be tangible or emotional, in exchange for sexual activity. Many victims of sexual exploitation do not recognise themselves as such.

#### **The impact of the LSCB work on CSE:**

- The CSE, Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group has been planning work to address the National Action Plan for CSE as set out by the Department for Education in November 2011, as well as the Action Plan from the Children's Commissioner's Report published in November 2012.
- The Sub-Group has led on the following work:
  - A short-life working group, linked to the CSE Sub-Group, was established in October 2012 (and concluded in October 2013) to map the local levels of risk of CSE. This group has collated data to inform about numbers and location of young people vulnerable to CSE, as well as leading on a data collection exercise in April and May 2013.
  - A risk assessment screening tool has been devised for individual young people.
  - Leaflets have been produced giving advice, guidance and support regarding CSE for parents, young people and professionals.
  - The voluntary sector provides key members of the Sub-Group, with Catch22, Barnardo's and YMCA having staff roles to work exclusively with young people affected by CSE or missing or trafficked children.
- CSE training – a level 1 course has continued to be delivered four times a year and a level 2 course, which focuses on direct work with young people involved with CSE, is delivered twice a year.
- Awareness raising sessions have been delivered by the CSE workers across all LSCB partner agencies.
- Links with the pan-Sussex LSCB areas have continued, ensuring that procedures and a strategy for CSE, shared with West Sussex and Brighton and Hove, are in place.
- Locally, there has been involvement with representatives from the National Working Group for CSE, with advice and guidance being available for local use.
- A referral pathway has been agreed and is available for all agencies to use.



### Challenges for the CSE, Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group:

- The particular challenge in this relatively new area of work is to ensure that front-line staff members are aware of the possible signs of CSE and that they are clear about appropriate local support services available.
- There is still a need to improve data collection across key agencies to gain the most accurate picture possible as to the size of the problem in East Sussex.

### Future Work Plan of the CSE, Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group:

- Awareness-raising sessions will continue, ensuring in particular that all schools across the county are aware of the issue of CSE and how best to respond to it.
- Following advice from the National Working Group for CSE, the CSE Sub-Group will be replaced by a gold/silver/bronze structure in order to ensure the strategic and operational links are as cohesive as possible on an inter-agency basis. This structure is to start from May 2014.

### The WiSE Project

Working alongside the LSCB, the WiSE Project has been able to:

- secure funding for four CSE worker posts across East Sussex, including a project co-ordinator (20 hours per week) and three full-time project workers. These project workers are co-located within children's social care teams in Hastings, Eastbourne and Lewes to ensure that all geographical areas of the county are covered.
- provide training and awareness raising sessions to over 1000 professionals in the county since the project workers came into post in December 2013. Some of these sessions have taken place as part of the LSCB multi-agency training programme. The level 2 course has become a full-day course to include input from Sussex Police and an e-safety expert. The WiSE Project is also able to deliver bespoke workshops to teams on arrangement, from one-hour sessions to full-day courses.
- talk to head teachers and school governors about the importance of CSE messages in schools, for staff as well as for students, and offer additional training and support.
- provide support to over 65 young people, through either direct work or providing consultation, information, advice and resources to their key workers.
- deliver group work to young people in a number of venues, including schools and colleges, supported housing projects and youth centres.
- develop and roll out an awareness-raising campaign within the night-time economy, including bars and pubs, hotels, street pastors, police night patrol teams, taxi drivers, fast food and takeaway outlets and other operators. The WiSEUp campaign aims to provide people who work in towns and cities at night with the tools and knowledge to identify and report concerns around CSE as they are best placed to be the eyes and ears within our communities.
- work with children's services to develop and embed a referral pathway for young people for whom concerns around CSE are flagged, including a referral and assessment tool for use across all agencies.
- support the ongoing work of other services and agencies that link in to CSE, for example, the developments around the missing children and young people agenda and Sussex Police's Operation Kite.
- provide insight and expertise on both strategic and operational developments.

### The impact of the WiSE Project:

- Training courses delivered through the LSCB multi-agency training programme. *CSE Level 1* is a full-day basic awareness-raising course and over the last year has been delivered on four occasions. *CSE Level 2* looks at the direct delivery of CSE work with young people and is targeted at practitioners involved in direct work.
- Tailored workshops have been delivered to over 35 teams across East Sussex. The workshops provide a brief overview of CSE, including definitions, models of exploitation, vulnerabilities and risk indicators, legislative framework, referral pathway and resources. Teams include schools, Youth Offending Teams, police, young people's housing services, the community and voluntary sector, specialist agencies, children's social care teams (including Duty and Assessment, Youth Support, Children's Disability, Looked After Children's Services and Leaving Care), nurses and other health care practitioners.
- Over 500 professionals have attended one of these awareness-raising sessions.
- The worker has designed leaflets for young people, professionals and parents and families, providing basic information on CSE and where to access support. These are available through the LSCB website.

### Challenges for the WiSE Project:

- Despite a now-expanded workforce, the capacity as a project continues to be stretched – the more awareness is raised the more workers then identify young people who need specialist support and intervention.
- Joining up the various approaches to the work – different agencies can have different remits and priorities, e.g. safeguarding, prosecution of perpetrators, support for young people, etc.

### Future work plan of the WiSE Project:

- Develop work with schools, for example providing assistance and consultation around the delivery of sex and relationship education where requested.
- Assertive outreach to ensure that hard-to-reach communities and those with fewer opportunities to access services receive the same support as others, for example boys and young men, LGBT young people, Black and minority ethnic communities.
- Develop specific resources for working with young people with both physical and learning disabilities.
- Offer drop-in advice sessions as part of existing services.

## 4.2.4 Missing children

### **Achievements:**

- Successful joint working with Sussex Police, Children's Services and Catch22

### **LSCB work with Sussex Police, Children's Services and Catch22:**

- The issue of children and young people going missing from home or care is of national concern and has been addressed in East Sussex by the LSCB working with Sussex Police, Children's Services and Catch22.
- Catch22 is a national charity that works with vulnerable young people who are in need of support. In East Sussex, Catch22 has been providing a mentoring service for several years.
- With the support of the LSCB, Catch22 launched the Young Runaways Service in April 2010 in response to new government guidance that requires agencies to work better together to safeguard young runaways and reduce missing episodes. From 2012, this service has been supported with funding from Sussex Police and Children's Services.
- In East Sussex alone, the police receive 850 reports of missing young people each year. This places considerable strain on officers who then spend many hours investigating their whereabouts and returning them home.
- Catch22 and Sussex Police have linked together to work more closely so that young runaways are more effectively dealt with and the causes of missing episodes can be ascertained and addressed. The service does this in four ways.
  - **A helpline service**

The helpline can be used by young people who are thinking about running away or are currently missing or by their families if they are concerned about them. Catch22 provides a listening ear, support and guidance. It is also used by police officers who make contact when a young person is missing. Catch22 can provide emotional support and sometimes is able to arrange to meet young people in a safe place and return them home if appropriate. The helpline is open from 8am to 2am seven days a week, 365 days a year. Between 8am and 8pm Monday to Friday it is answered by Catch22 volunteers in East Sussex. Outside of these hours, it is answered by the national charity Missing People.
  - **Return Interviews**

When a young person is returned home after running away the police have to carry out a return interview which explores what occurred while the young person was missing and why they ran away. Very often, young people are reluctant to talk to the police and this, combined with pressures on police time, means that these return interviews do not always reveal as much useful information as could be obtained. Catch22 volunteers, or the project coordinator where appropriate, carry out return interviews on behalf of the police when the young person and their parents give their consent. Sometimes the return interview highlights a need for further support for the young person or their family and so the coordinator can make referrals to other agencies where necessary. This includes referrals to substance misuse services, sexual health providers and other agencies. Referrals can also be made to the Catch22 mentoring scheme as described below.

– **Mentoring**

The Young Runaways Mentoring scheme provides flexible, tailor-made support for young people and families. Catch22 works with a young person for anything from three weeks to 6 months and can be creative about how support can be offered to achieve young people's goals. Mentors are trained volunteers who work one-to-one with young people and receive regular training and support. On some occasions, the project coordinator mentors young people who have more complex needs. Overall, the project's aim is to address the causes of young people running away from home and support other agencies to reduce missing episodes.

– **Education**

Catch22, along with colleagues from other voluntary agencies, has also worked in targeted schools to raise awareness among young people of the dangers they face if they run away. This has been achieved by work with small groups of young people on a weekly basis for 6 weeks, helping the young people to consider other options when issues at either school or home need extra support. The evaluations of this work from young people, as well as schools, have been very positive.

#### 4.2.5 Effective lay members

**Achievements:**

- The lay members continue to work on improving the LSCB website.
- They meet with members of the Children in Care Council to discuss a range of issues relating to safeguarding.
- A twice yearly newsletter has been launched, with the lay members being involved in the contents.
- The LSCB has a Facebook page (**East Sussex Safeguarding**) and is on Twitter (**@EastSussexLSCB**) - both involving the lay members.
- The lay members were involved in the development of the LSCB communications strategy.

#### Overview

During the 2013-14 year, Janet Dunn and Kevin Bresnahan have continued in their roles as LSCB Lay Members and have spent much of their time widening their knowledge and finding ways of communicating this to interested parties in East Sussex.

Janet is a former head teacher from the independent sector also with experience in other areas such as the court system, the NHS, national charities and the voluntary sector. She lives in Eastbourne and has two sons and one grandson. Her interests lie primarily in child protection, child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse and aspects of the education system such as home tutoring. Since her appointment, she has attended a range of training sessions on these and other topics of interest and attends the Board, Steering Group and the Child Safety Sub-Group.

Kevin is a former group managing director of an international oil trading group in the private sector. He lives in Heathfield and has two sons and a daughter. He is actively involved on a voluntary basis with Catch22, a local charity with a UK-wide

presence that helps young people who face difficult circumstances and challenges in life (see also section 4.2.4 above). His various roles include working on a dedicated missing young persons' helpline, undertaking return home interviews when a young person goes missing and acting as mentor to young people who need regular guidance in their lives. He is also an appropriate adult with the East Sussex Youth Offending Team, acting for young people who find themselves in police custody with no responsible adult able to represent them. Since his appointment, he has attended a range of training sessions and attends LSCB Board, Steering Group and Child Sexual Exploitation Sub-Group meetings.

### Impact

It is difficult to measure the exact impact the lay members have had, but they have felt able to raise difficult issues and viewpoints in appropriate quarters and have continued to cement the initial work which was done on revitalising the website, which now gets an average of 550 hits per month and introducing Facebook and Twitter feeds. The LSCB has a Facebook page (**East Sussex Safeguarding**) and is on Twitter (**@EastSussexLSCB**). The newsletter is now published twice a year and has received a very positive response with offers of articles or topics to be highlighted coming in willingly and enthusiastically.

The impact of the work of the lay members was singled out by inspectors at the recent Ofsted inspection. However, it must be pointed out that the willingness of the Chair, Cathie Pattison, and of other key personnel to embrace and encourage the role of the lay member has been vital.

### Challenges

The challenges for lay members continue to be the need to grasp a clear understanding of the current issues and what can be realistically achieved, what can and must be prevented, and how the assessment of risk can be focused and relevant. Participation in the discussions surrounding recent serious case reviews has been enlightening and work on ways in which young people can feel their voices can be properly heard and acted on when they raise safeguarding concerns has been a targeted priority. Lay members have also been involved in considering the wording of action points coming out of various reports in an effort to help them be more meaningful. They have also worked on the presentation of a new communications strategy for the Board.

As always, meetings with representatives of the Children in Care Council, school representatives and members of the voluntary sector, among others, have been most helpful in assisting the focus of these projects. The lay members have been proactive in visiting groups to pass on information and to listen to concerns.

The independent schools sector has been an area of interest for the development of links with the LSCB to look at issues such as safeguarding, early intervention, and private fostering. The lay members are delighted that in 2014 a representative from East Sussex independent schools has joined the Board and that a group for designated child protection teachers in independent schools has been established, with the first meeting in May 2014.

### Future work plan

The lay members intend to continue working hard on communicating the major issues facing agencies that come together in the LSCB and on encouraging the

community in East Sussex to take on board the responsibility we all share in keeping our children and young people safe. Janet Dunn has been reappointed for a further two-year term from May 2014 and it is hoped that the same will apply to Kevin Bresnahan from October 2014.



## 5. Ongoing challenges

### 5.1 Outcome of learning from reviews of individual children

The work of the East Sussex LSCB from April 2013 to March 2014 has continued to be dominated by focus on the four concurrent serious case reviews (SCRs). The volume of this work has had implications for all LSCB agencies, both in terms of the time spent by staff on this work and the cost of these reviews.

The overview reports from two of these SCRs were published in December 2013 and April 2014. The action plans from the SCRs and partnership reviews have been taken forward by the LSCB, as well as by individual agencies as appropriate, with positive changes being made.

The purpose of all serious reviews of individual children is to learn about the way in which agencies work together to safeguard children. In order to disseminate the learning from all styles of local reviews as well as key national reviews, the SCR Sub-Committee delivers review briefing sessions on a quarterly basis at different locations across the county. These briefing sessions are for front-line staff and managers from all LSCB agencies to discuss learning from reviews which have implications for the way in which agencies work.

### 5.2 Involving core front-line staff and managers in improving practice

It is very important that front-line staff members are involved in a meaningful way to assure high standards of safeguarding practice. This has been successfully implemented by involving practitioners in all reviews undertaken in a variety of ways, depending on each individual review, to ensure there is understanding about 'how' the system works, as well as 'why' the system works in a particular way.

### 5.3 Involving young people

The LSCB is clear that children and young people should be involved in all safeguarding work. This includes young people talking with agencies about what support works best for them, as well as talking with each other about the challenges and issues in their lives. It is a challenge to ensure the participation of children and young people in a way that makes a difference to safeguarding services, and to hear the voices of those children who need the most support.

## 6. Essential information

### 6.1 Governance

The Children Act 2004 places a duty on all relevant authorities to make arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; this primarily deals with how organisations, in working with or coming into contact with children, ensure that they consider the safety and welfare of children in carrying out their normal functions.

East Sussex LSCB is made up of representatives at senior level from all organisations in the area involved in protecting or promoting the welfare of children. Its purpose is to work cooperatively to safeguard children within East Sussex. This requires proactive intervention for children who are abused, targeted work with children at risk of harm and preventative work within the community to develop a safe environment for children. This report reflects back on the period from April 2013 to March 2014 and forward from April 2014 to March 2015.

#### The key priorities of the East Sussex LSCB are to:

- ensure that children in East Sussex are protected from harm;
- coordinate agencies' activity to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; and
- ensure the effectiveness of agencies' activity to safeguard and promote the welfare of children through monitoring and review.

#### The major functions of the East Sussex LSCB are to:

- ensure the coordination of child protection activity in East Sussex;
- evaluate safeguarding activity within East Sussex;
- provide a scrutiny function for the Children's Trust in the area of safeguarding;
- produce and review procedures in relation to safeguarding;
- ensure multi-agency training on safeguarding and promoting welfare which meets local needs is provided;
- conduct audits and monitor performance of safeguarding activity;
- raise public and professional awareness of safeguarding issues;
- contribute, through its role in monitoring and promoting safeguarding, to the planning of services for children in East Sussex;
- carry out serious case reviews where abuse or neglect is known or suspected;
- collect and analyse data on all child deaths within East Sussex;
- develop procedures to respond to unexpected child deaths in East Sussex; and
- ensure that the wishes and feelings of children and young people and their families are considered in the delivery of safeguarding services.

#### Accountability

The LSCB Annual Report was received by the East Sussex County Council Children's Services Scrutiny Committee, the Children and Young People's Trust, the Primary Care Trusts' Professional Executive Committee and other LSCB member organisations' senior management boards. It will also be presented to the County Council Scrutiny Committee, the Clinical Commissioning Groups, the



Police and Crime Commissioner, the Chief Constable, the Children's Trust and the Health and Well-Being Board.

### [The relationship between the LSCB and other strategic groups, including the Health and Well-being Board](#)

The LSCB assists by:

- Reporting on key safeguarding indicators and providing analysis to help interpret the information correctly;
- Reporting on levels of safeguarding activity and any factors affecting its success;
- Setting out its plans, reporting on the process of peer review in the previous year and plans for the coming year;
- Identifying any weaknesses or particular issues which need to be included within the priority areas for action; and
- Commenting on plans put together by other strategic groups, both in relation to the priority attached to safety and welfare and in relation to the detailed actions proposed in these areas.

In order to provide an effective mechanism for peer challenge in the area of safety and welfare, the LSCB undertakes the following activities, in addition to the audit and training activity it already carries out:

- Reviewing all plans related to safeguarding in order to ensure that any weaknesses or other issues in relation to safety and welfare are effectively addressed;
- Ensuring that all other strategic groups understand the peer review or scrutiny role of the LSCB in relation to safety and well-being; and
- Ensuring that other groups understand the importance of accurate audit activity in relation to safety and welfare and support staff who are carrying out that activity in their organisations.



## 6.2 Budget

### Actual income and expenditure, 2013/14

Actual income, 2013/14		Actual expenditure, 2013/14	
Sussex Police	£12,500	Independent Chair	£22,400
Sussex & Surrey Probation Trust	£10,500	Business Manager	£61,571
Cafcass	£550	Administrator	£24,804
CCGs	£49,998	Administration	£7,221
CRI	£1,000		
East Sussex County Council	£101,700	Trainer	£50,022
Training income	£11,492	Training administration	£3,132
CDOP grant	£62,000	Training programme	£25,347
CDOP (Brighton & Hove CC)	£10,000	Projects	£15,000
ESCC – one-off funding for SCRs	£26,000		
Aurora Academy Trust	£416	Child Death Overview Panel	£25,049
		Serious case reviews	£45,887
		Child Protection Procedures	£2,745
		IT software and hardware	£2,336
		Carelink	£0
<b>Total</b>	<b>£286,156</b>		<b>£285,514</b>

### Projected income and expenditure, 2014/15

Income, 2014/15		Expenditure, 2014/15	
Sussex Police	£12,500	Independent Chair	£20,000
Sussex & Surrey Probation Trust	£5,000	Business Manager	£58,500
Cafcass	£550	Administrator	£25,000
CCGs	£40,000	Administration	£10,000
CRI	£1,000		
East Sussex County Council (ESCC) – inc CDOP grant	£163,700	Trainer	£50,000
Training income	£10,000	Training administration	£2,000
		Training programme	£20,000
CDOP (Brighton & Hove CC)	£10,000	Projects	£15,000
Aurora Academies Trust	£1,000		
		Child Death Overview Panel	£25,500
		Serious case reviews	£14,250
		Child Protection Procedures	£1,500
		IT software and hardware	£2,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£243,750</b>		<b>£243,750</b>

## 7. LSCB sub-group progress

The East Sussex LSCB has a number of sub-groups that are crucial in ensuring that the Board's business plan is delivered. These groups ensure that the Board really makes a difference. Each sub-group has a clear remit and a transparent mechanism for reporting to the LSCB, with each group's terms of reference and membership reviewed annually.

### 7.1 Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

#### Overview

This is the inter-agency forum that meets regularly to review the deaths of all children normally resident in East Sussex and Brighton and Hove. It is a sub-group of the two LSCBs for East Sussex and Brighton and Hove and is, therefore, accountable to the Chairs of both LSCBs. A specific recommendation is made to the relevant LSCB(s), if during the process of reviewing a child death, the CDOP identifies:

- An issue that could require a serious case review;
- A matter of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area; or
- Any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in the area.

There were no recommendations made to the LSCBs regarding the need for a serious case review. Some recommendations were made regarding matters of concern about the safety and welfare of children and wider public health concerns. For East Sussex LSCB these included that:

- East Sussex LSCB should recommend that West Sussex LSCB consider asking Police Traffic Management to review speed restrictions and other road safety measures for schools within West Sussex.
- when the Rapid Response Procedures are reviewed there should be discretion given to the paediatrician and police involved at the time of the death to exercise professional judgement as to whether all of the rapid response process has to be followed.

There were additional recommendations made to member agencies of both LSCBs which related to issues specific to particular case histories and not necessarily having general relevance.

#### Organisation of the Child Death Overview Panel

The panel members comprise representatives from key partner agencies who together have expertise in a wide range of issues pertinent to children's well-being.

#### Improved outcomes, challenges and future work plan

Please see pages 28-29.

## 7.2 Child Safety Sub-Group

### Overview

The Child Safety Sub-Group covers a broad agenda and aims to add to the preventative work of the wider LSCB in order to keep children and young people in East Sussex safe from harm.

### Improved outcomes:

- **Foreign students are safe in East Sussex.** Operation Columbus is a police operation which targets and monitors crimes against visiting foreign students. Eastbourne and Hastings have the highest number of offences against foreign students which correlates with those being the towns with the highest number of visiting foreign students. Both these towns hold Overseas Student Advisory Committee meetings, which are multi-agency forums that aim to ensure that foreign students have a positive and safe experience in East Sussex. The LSCB is represented at these meetings and leads on safeguarding.
- **Accidents to children and young people are reduced.** The impact of partners' work to reduce and prevent children and young people's accidents is measured by the rate of emergency hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to 0-17 year olds. From 2003/04 to 2012/13, East Sussex had a higher rate of admissions than England as a whole. In East Sussex, for the three year period from 2010/11 to 2012/13:
  - Falls were the main cause for admissions for 0-17 year olds.
  - The largest proportion of admissions were for those aged 0-4 years.
  - Although the rate of admissions for 0-4 year olds has decreased in Hastings, it still has a significantly higher rate of admissions than the England average.

Home safety and accident prevention advice is provided to all families of young children by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust's (ESHT's) Health Visiting service through accident prevention sessions in community settings and targeted advice provided in the homes of vulnerable families. Home safety equipment and advice are provided and fitted for targeted families across East Sussex through a partnership between district and borough councils, East Sussex County Council and ESHT.

East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service provides free fire safety check and smoke-alarms to vulnerable families. A Winter Home Check service provides a home visit for vulnerable families (and older people) to identify and address cold home issues. It also identifies home safety issues such as dangerous heating appliances and broken doors, and windows.

A national survey tool has been adapted to collect information on knowledge, skills, barriers, facilitators and practice for accident prevention in children's settings. Information from this will inform future plans for accident prevention.

- **The voluntary and community sector are supported with child safeguarding work** with training by SPARK and online safeguarding training.

- **All LSCB agencies are able to identify children who are in private fostering arrangements.** The awareness-raising campaign in 2013 reached all LSCB partners.
- **All children and young people have access to an appropriate education (with regard to children missing education).** The children missing education strategy is being redrafted to include the period up to 2015.
- **Agencies are aware of the safeguarding risks for electively home educated (EHE) children and their responsibilities.** There are 383 known EHE children in East Sussex. Agencies have been requested to make the Flexible Learning Education School Service (FLESS) aware of any safeguarding concerns around EHE children. Agencies are encouraged to record the educational details of children on their records. The LSCB encourages families to welcome an annual visit to support EHE.
- The pan- Sussex e-safety strategy supports **parents, children and young people on how to be e-safe.**
- **Children and young people's and parents' views inform safeguarding service developments.** The LSCB lay members raise awareness through the LSCB newsletter, website and Twitter account; in addition to this they have regular meetings with the Children in Care Council.

### Challenges

The key challenge for the group is the identification of child safety issues that are appropriate to channel through the LCSB forum and are relevant to the different agencies on the Child Safety Sub-Group and would not be picked up elsewhere in the partnership landscape. This year, the priorities for the group were selected by the LSCB Steering Group and progress is reported back on a quarterly basis.

### Future work plan

The work plan of the Sub-Group will contribute towards the delivery of the LSCB plan. In addition, it is recognised that the work of other key groups is inextricably linked to child safety, and information from these groups is shared with the Child Safety Sub-Group; these are outcomes from the other LSCB sub-groups, the Domestic Abuse Steering Group, Reducing Harm from Alcohol Strategy Group, Accident Prevention and Children and Young People's Plan, Safer Sussex Roads Partnership and Safer Communities Partnership.

The overarching outcomes for delivery of the child safety subgroup are:

- foreign students are safe in East Sussex;
- accidents to children and young people are reduced;
- the voluntary and community sector is supported with child safeguarding work;
- all LSCB agencies are able to identify children who are in private fostering arrangements so that support can be provided to all those involved;
- all children and young people have access to an appropriate education (with regard to children missing education);
- agencies are aware of the safeguarding risks for electively home educated (EHE) children and their responsibilities;
- Parents, children and young people know how to be 'e-safe'; and

- Children and young people's and parents' views inform safeguarding service developments.

These outcomes continue to be achieved by raising awareness of the workforce across agencies as well as raising awareness of agencies' responsibilities and by training and monitoring performance.

### **7.3 Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group**

#### **Overview**

This Sub-Group was initially established in November 2011. The terms of reference for the group are to:

- ensure a multi-agency response to CSE, trafficking and missing children;
- ensure children at risk can be identified at an early stage;
- ensure sufficient specialist training for front-line services;
- develop ways of capturing and recording data;
- monitor and evaluate the procedures in response to CSE; and
- communicate and raise awareness of CSE with staff groups as well as families and young people.

#### **Improved outcomes, challenges and future work plan**

Please see pages 36-38.

### **7.4 Local Safeguarding Children Liaison Groups – East and West**

#### **Overview**

The two Local Safeguarding Children Liaison Groups (LSCLGs) each meets 6 times a year in the east and the west of the county to focus on inter-agency practice issues and to work towards best practice between all LSCB partners.

#### **Improved outcomes:**

- The groups have focused on discussions of key issues, strategy and policy and information sharing that particularly link early support to families with service provision within child protection provision.
- The THRIVE agenda has been a focus for these groups, ensuring that thresholds for support are discussed and referral pathways are always clear.
- Recommendations from all serious case reviews have been important in considering practice developments on the ground.
- The LSCLGs are an important forum for all agencies to discuss any resource issues which may impact on their capacity to deliver services, as well as to inform partners of new or changed service provision.
- Both groups now have the same Chair, which has improved consistency of discussions and the direction of safeguarding work.

#### **Challenges**

Many agencies continue to be restructured during the year, with some fundamental changes within the health services in particular, resulting in the need

to re-establish connections between workers on the front-line of safeguarding work.

### Future work plan

Further work needs to be carried out relating to the membership of both groups, particularly ensuring that there is strong representation from the education sector as schools are a key universal agency for safeguarding.

## **7.5 Pan-Sussex Procedures Sub-Group**

### Overview

The Pan-Sussex Procedures Sub-Group meets 6 times a year and has a membership drawn from the LSCBs in East Sussex, West Sussex and Brighton and Hove, as well as representation from Sussex Police. The Sub-Group reviews, amends and develops safeguarding procedures in response to lessons learned from serious case reviews, as well as local and national issues, changes in legislation and any gaps emerging from practice.

East Sussex took over the chairing of this group from December 2012 to March 2014.

### Improved outcomes

The group worked successfully on the agreed work plan, with some of the following results:

- Ensuring that the Pan-Sussex Procedures reflected the changes made in *Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2013*.
- The pan-Sussex policy on surrogacy was expanded and clarified.
- A new e-safety strategy was agreed.
- The rapid response process for child deaths was reviewed to ensure that it was timely for both health and police services.

### Challenges

During this year East Sussex provided the Chair for the meeting and administrative support, as well as taking the lead in linking with the external provider of the website, all of which required extra resources. However, this responsibility was handed over to West Sussex in March 2014.

### Future work plan:

- Work to agree the pan-Sussex child sexual exploitation strategy.
- Ensure that the procedures for managing allegations against people who work with children are fully updated.
- Update the female genital mutilation procedures to ensure that they reflect national guidelines.

## 7.6 Quality Assurance Sub-Group

### Overview

The Quality Assurance Sub-Group is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advise them on ways to improve.

The LSCB has continued to fund the support of a small team of professionals with skills in performance management and quality assurance to fulfil the Project Officer role for the Sub-Group. This support was put in place in early 2011 and has significantly increased the capacity of the Sub-Group to undertake audit work and fulfil its scrutiny role on behalf of the LSCB.

Work undertaken by the Sub-Group this year includes (see also pages 22-25):

- the production of an annual report of core safeguarding data;
- two regular case file audits considering randomly selected samples of children for whom section 47 investigations were carried out by Children's Social Care; compliance with Pan-Sussex Safeguarding Procedures is audited and the effectiveness of joint working across agencies is assessed;
- a re-audit of the structure and function of child protection strategy discussions;
- monitoring progress with the implementation of recommendations from multi-agency case reviews;
- scrutiny of audit and case review work undertaken within individual agencies, including new arrangements for the Sub-Group to review critical learning review reports from the Youth Offending Team; and
- serving as the Serious Case Review Sub-Committee, as required.

### Improved outcomes, challenges and future work plan

Please see pages 22-25.

## 7.7 Serious Case Review Sub-Committee

### Overview

LSCBs undertake serious case reviews when children die or are seriously injured, and abuse or neglect is suspected or known to be a factor and/or there are concerns about how local agencies worked together. The purpose of such reviews is to learn lessons and improve practice. These reviews result in action plans that should drive this improvement.

The East Sussex SCR Panel is convened when there is a need to consider an individual case which may involve a situation that calls for the commencement of the an SCR or an alternative style of review such as a multi-agency review or a partnership review (see pages 26 - 27 for further information). The Panel consists of colleagues from health, police, children's social care and education who are supported by the LSCB Legal Adviser and the LSCB Manager.

### Improved outcomes, challenges and future work plan

Please see pages 26-27.



## 7.8 Training Sub-Group

### Overview

The Training Sub-Group meets quarterly and has consistent representation from all relevant agencies requiring training on inter-agency practice in relation to safeguarding children. The group has updated the terms of reference to encompass the diverse membership and developed the LSCB training strategy which was ratified by the Board in March 2014.

Various new courses have been developed in response to recommendations from local and national serious case reviews and local multi-agency reviews undertaken during 2013-14. A number of these have required the commissioning of external facilitators.

The group has developed and published the annual training programme. There has been a high level of training activity throughout the year with a wide range of courses offered and good attendance (see Appendix 2). There continues to be good engagement from the multi-agency training pool.

### Improved outcomes, challenges and future work plan

Please see pages 30-34 and Appendices 2 and 3.



## 8. Board member agency activity

### 8.1 East Sussex Children's Services

Children's Services have the statutory lead role for all safeguarding work within East Sussex, and as such, they are key partners in the activities that have been previously described in this report. Staff members in all Children's Services teams have continued to prioritise effective working with partners to ensure that children are kept safe. An external inspection by Ofsted in January 2014 rated safeguarding activity within the County Council as good.

Children's Services are the host agency for the LSCB, managing and supporting the staff funded by the LSCB, as well as providing venues for most LSCB meetings and office accommodation.

THRIVE, the ambitious three year transformation project that Children's Services have led with support from LSCB partners, has been evaluated at the mid-term point with the conclusion so far that the service redesign across the entire children's system in East Sussex is working and that staff in all agencies and families can see the difference that it is making. We are now into the final year and so will be working with partner agencies to embed the differences so that they can be sustained after the project has ended.

Some key indicators, most notably the number of children who have a child protection plan, continue to be challenging, but further audit work will be undertaken and reported back to the LSCB in the coming year.

Children's Services have also worked with colleagues to progress some wider initiatives such as raising the profile of the risks of child sexual exploitation and when children are at risk of being trafficked or go missing. This is clearly an important area of work that will continue to challenge all partners.

### 8.2 East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service (ESFRS)

ESFRS continued to monitor child protection and safeguarding issues set within policy, procedure and practice in 2013-2014. Staff across ESFRS reported all safeguarding concerns to the Safeguarding Coordinator(s) located within the Community Risk Management Department and senior management when required. Information was shared with statutory and voluntary agencies appropriately. Strategic overview of safeguarding continues through the Safeguarding Panel, chaired by the ESFRS Designated Officer, the Director of Prevention and Protection.

An audit was undertaken in 2013/14 by the Community Safety Lead Support. Files contain a full audit trail of relevant reports, subsequent actions and feedback from organisations taking referrals from ESFRS. Referrals are actioned in a timely manner and referred to the correct agency.

Advanced safeguarding training has now been outsourced through the LCSB; in 2013/14, 230 staff have completed the online Safeguarding Children course (provided by KWANGO); this is an increase from last year's figures. ESFRS new starters complete the online course as part of their induction; however, ESFRS continued to train supervisory managers, LIFE Instructors, Firesetter Intervention Scheme Advisors and Coaching in the Community Advisors at the advanced level

training; over 120 staff have completed advance safeguarding training in 2013/14. This will be ongoing for 2014/15.

ESFRS recognises that refresher advanced plus safeguarding training needs to be sourced externally for staff with a specific accountability for safeguarding that is contained within their job descriptions. ESFRS also recognises that awareness training on child sexual exploitation (CSE) is needed for all staff; this can be externally sourced in conjunction with the online CSE course from the LCSB.

Staff members undertaking specific roles within ESFRS which involve regular contact with children and young people may need to increase their attendance on external training courses provided by LCSB partner agencies. Dedicated pages on the ESFRS intranet are available to provide access for all staff to central information and guidance on safeguarding. This includes links to external agency information and staff support.

### **8.3 East Sussex Clinical Commissioning Groups**

From April 2013, the three clinical commissioning groups (CCGs) in East Sussex (Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford, Hastings and Rother and High Weald Lewes Havens) became responsible for the commissioning of most local healthcare services in East Sussex. NHS England holds the responsibility to commission primary care and specialist health services. The designated professionals are hosted by Hastings and Rother CCG and shared across the other CCGs. There is regular reporting to NHS England which takes lead responsibility for policy on safeguarding and for the overall assurance of the NHS safeguarding system.

The CCGs and main health providers in East Sussex, those being East Sussex Healthcare Trust (ESHT) and Sussex Partnership Foundation Trust (SPFT), have continued to contribute to the business of the LCSB, and are involved in the majority of the LCSB groups, including the Child Death Overview Panel, Serious Case Review Panel, Quality Assurance Sub-Group, Training, Pan-Sussex Procedures and CSE Sub-Groups.

In May 2013, ESHT temporarily located all consultant-led maternity and in-patient paediatrics to the Conquest Hospital, Hastings in response to a trend of worrying safety problems. This temporary arrangement is currently under review and the consultation ends in April 2014 and is due to report in June 2014. To date, there have been no safeguarding concerns raised as a result of the significant changes.

The designated professionals continue to provide oversight and scrutiny of all the health providers in East Sussex; this includes regular reporting to the CCGs as commissioners of those services.

### **8.4 Local district and borough councils**

All five district and borough councils in East Sussex understand the importance of child protection and the need to promote the welfare of children through their actions and work; these agendas form an intrinsic part of their work. In addition, the district and borough councils contract out many services and the need is recognised that, where relevant, those organisations too, through their actions, safeguard and promote the welfare of children - this is covered as part of the tendering process.

District and borough councils offer a range of vital services to their communities, including housing, environmental health, refuse collection, planning, sport and leisure, animal welfare and licensing. These services often involve officers coming into contact with families, for example through cases of homelessness, re-housing, investigating an outbreak of food poisoning, investigating an accident involving work activity and children or through routine visits and audits. This gives them access to people's homes and businesses and, therefore, an opportunity to possibly witness things which may hold clues to wider safeguarding issues. Therefore, the training of certain district and borough council officers in knowing what to look out for and what they should do if suspicions about the welfare of children are raised is vital.

Working with the East Sussex LSCB, a leaflet has been designed, which provides advice and guidance to officers on what to look for and what they should do with any relevant information they may come across.

All the district and borough councils in East Sussex support and are active members of the East Sussex LSCB and they also contribute to serious case reviews when necessary; indeed, this year one of the representatives has acted as the independent Chair of a serious case review.

## **8.5 Sussex Police**

Sussex Police have continued to contribute to the business of the LSCB and are involved in a number of the LSCB Sub-Groups, including the Child Death Overview Panel, Serious Case Review Panel, Quality Assurance Sub-Group, Training, Pan-Sussex Procedures and CSE Sub-Groups.

Following a number of successful prosecutions, police activity has continued to focus on several complex historical child sexual abuse investigations involving members of the clergy.

The issue of child sexual exploitation (CSE) continues as a significant area of development for the police, who continue to contribute to the LSCB CSE groups. During the reporting year, work has been ongoing developing a strategic assessment of CSE across the Force area, and CSE will continue to be a key area of consideration for the foreseeable future.

The police continue to support through the LSCB the introduction of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) in East Sussex. This could involve Children's Services, Police and Health receiving information and referrals through a single point of contact with access to each agency's database, and allow for a thorough multi-agency assessment of all information at the initial contact.

## **8.6 Voluntary organisations**

Training and workforce development continues to be one of the priorities for promoting good practice in safeguarding and child protection within the voluntary and community sector. Partners have worked closely together to develop a model whereby a free introduction to child protection course is provided three times a year. In 2013/14, the model was further developed whereby LSCB and voluntary sector trainers provide their time for free, the local CVSs, 3VA and HVA provide the venue and booking processes and SPARK promotes and facilitates the process. In 2013/14, 52 participants took part, and in June 2014 our first evening session is being held - this is sold out.

*'It's exactly the course we've been wanting!'* Dawn Bamforth, East Sussex Foster Care Association

*'It was ideal for our needs.'* Gavin Fisher, Chief Executive, Children's Respite Trust

In 2013/14, a higher level 'Taking the Lead' course was piloted, which was targeted at individuals with some responsibility for safeguarding procedures in their organisation. Fifteen attended this course, and this will be run again in 2015 as the feedback was that it was extremely useful.

In addition to the provision of face to face training, SPARK has worked with the LSCB to promote the online courses that are available for safeguarding children and CSE. This has been done via SPARK's fortnightly bulletin which goes to over 400 people across the county. In November 2013, SPARK produced a safeguarding-focused bulletin.

The LSCB has been engaged in SPARK's strategic network meetings for the voluntary sector, with Janet Dunn, LSCB lay member, attending network meetings and a presentation on the Learning for the Serious Case Review being held at the meeting in February.

In 2013/14, SPARK was also funded by the County Council's THRIVE programme and endorsed by the LSCB to offer the Simple Quality Protects (SQP) quality assurance scheme to voluntary and community groups. This is a robust yet accessible scheme particularly focused on small to medium sized groups. SPARK's target is to ensure that 18 groups achieve Bronze level (which meets the core safeguarding needs) by March 2015. It is expected that SPARK will meet this, and that a number of groups will move on to achieving Gold.

*'The SQP introduction was great. I feel a lot more focused now in terms of group control. Thank you for the opportunity. I am now inspired!'* Loretta Lock, Coordinator, YoYo Youth Club

Examples of practical safeguarding initiatives being developed by voluntary organisations that provide services to children and young people include the following:

- **NYAS** is the contracted independent advocacy service for young people who are looked after and for representing the views of children and young people in the child protection process and those at risk of being looked after or at risk of child protection. They have 9 trained advocates across the county who work with young people, listening to their views, wishes and feelings, ensuring their rights are upheld and representing them as required in issues which affect their lives. This work involves ensuring that young people have their voices heard independently and their wishes taken into account, that children and young people understand the sometimes complex processes involved within child protection and that their rights under the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child are upheld. They work with children from the age of 5 and have specialist advocates for working with those with different communication needs. In 2013/14, they worked with 292 separate issues for young people in East Sussex, worked with the LSCB, East Sussex County Council and other agencies to promote the voice of young people, and provided the Independent Visitor Service in East Sussex and promoted participation of young people.
- In the past year, **CRI SCHI (Social Care and Health Initiatives)** has invested in a Central Governance Team which includes the new posts of Director of Risk and Safety and National Safeguarding Lead to improve and standardise

governance, supervision, training and learning from serious incidents and serious case reviews across the organisation.

Other developments include:

- Ongoing upgrades to our national web-based safeguarding database which matches new client records with existing client records from across England and Wales so that safeguarding information can be shared immediately;
- Core membership of Adfam's working group and contribution to subsequent reports on children's accidental and non-accidental ingestion of opiate replacement therapy;
- Core membership of Adfam and Alcohol Concern's Alcohol Family Alliance;
- Membership of an international learning alliance exploring effective interventions with substance misusing perpetrators of intimate partner violence;and
- Embedding of safeguarding responsibilities in the job descriptions of all designated safeguarding leads.

CRI's Regional Director continues to sit on the East Sussex LSCB and has chaired a serious case review. She is also a trained Domestic Homicide Review Chair. During 2014/15, CRI is committed to improving staff awareness and responses to children and young people experiencing or at risk of sexual exploitation.



## 9. Report authorship and availability

This annual report has been written with contributions from many different LSCB members, each writing about the work of their agency or the work of individual LSCB sub-groups. The LSCB Independent Chair and the LSCB Manager have also written some sections of the report and have edited the final report.

The LSCB has been involved in agreeing the contents of the report, discussing the draft report, and then agreeing to the final format and contents.

The report was written between May and August 2014, with the completed report available from November 2014, when it will be presented to meetings with key strategic partners as well as being a public document available on the LSCB website at [www.eastsussexlscb.org.uk](http://www.eastsussexlscb.org.uk)

Any comments about this report can be made to the LSCB Manager, Marion Rajan, on [marion.rajan@eastsussex.gov.uk](mailto:marion.rajan@eastsussex.gov.uk)



## 10. Appendices

### Appendix 1

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#### East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board Terms of Reference

##### 1. Introduction

County-level and unitary local authorities are responsible for establishing a Local Safeguarding Children Board in their area and ensuring that it is run effectively. The LSCB in East Sussex was established in 2006.

The document will be reviewed and re-approved annually and covers:

1. statement of values
2. terms of Reference for the LSCB, including
  - the structure of the East Sussex LSCB
  - LSCB Steering Group
  - LSCB sub-groups
  - responsibilities of Board members, and
  - support requirements of the East Sussex LSCB.
3. relationship with the Children's Trust
4. members of the East Sussex LSCB and the Safeguarding Board Steering Group

##### 2. Statement of values

2.1 The member agencies of the East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board believe that all children living in or visiting the county have the right to safety and security in a culture of high expectation, which provides protection from harm and exploitation and enables them to develop healthily to meet their full physical, intellectual and emotional potential.

2.2. In order for this to be realistic, all member agencies are working to the standards within the Children Act 2004 to ensure that:

- all those who work with children and young people know what to do if they are worried about possible harm;
- when concerns are reported, action is taken quickly and sensitively to help children and their families; and
- agencies that provide children and young people with services take steps to ensure they are safe and comply with legal requirements.

##### 3. Terms of reference for the East Sussex LSCB - the role and scope of the LSCB in East Sussex

3.1 The three principal areas of LSCB interest outlined within statutory guidance are:

1. activity that affects all children and aims to prevent maltreatment, or impairment of health or development, and ensures children are growing up in circumstances consistent with safe and effective care;
2. proactive work that aims to target particular groups. For example, developing/evaluating thresholds and procedures for work with families whose child has been identified as in need under the Children Act 1989, but where the child is not suffering or at risk of suffering significant harm, and work to



safeguard and promote the welfare of groups of children who are potentially more vulnerable than the general population; and

3. responsive work to protect children who are suffering or at risk of suffering maltreatment.

**3.2 LSCB functions:**

- To review and be accountable for safeguarding activity and agree strategic priorities;
- To inform and influence planning for children and young people in respect of safeguarding;
- To disseminate key messages to agencies; and
- To ensure the coordination of child protection activity in East Sussex.

**3.3 LSCB priorities:**

- To ensure that children within East Sussex are protected from harm;
- To coordinate agencies' activity to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; and
- To ensure the effectiveness of agencies' activity to safeguard and promote the welfare of children through monitoring and review.

**3.4 LSCB activities:**

- To produce and review procedures in relation to safeguarding;
- To ensure multi-agency training on safeguarding and promoting welfare is provided which meets local needs;
- To conduct audit and performance monitoring of child protection and safeguarding activity;
- To raise public and professional awareness of safeguarding issues;
- To contribute, through its role in monitoring and promoting safeguarding, to the planning of services for children in East Sussex;
- To carry out serious case reviews where abuse or neglect is known or suspected;
- To collect and analyse data on all child deaths within East Sussex;
- To develop procedures to respond to unexpected child deaths in East Sussex, and
- To ensure that the wishes and feelings of children and young people and their families are considered in the delivery of safeguarding services.

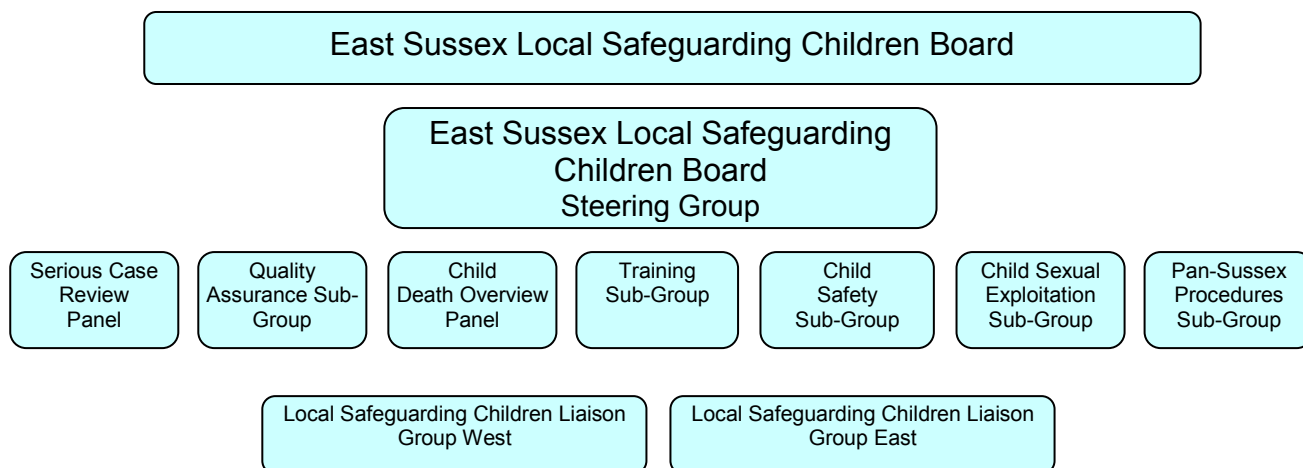
**3.5 LSCB accountability:** the process by which East Sussex LSCB reviews the effectiveness of work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children by member organisations will be a peer review process, based on self-evaluation, performance indicators and joint audit.

**3.6** The LSCB aims to promote high standards of safeguarding work and to foster a culture of continuous improvement. It will also identify and act on identified weaknesses in services.

**3.7** The LSCB has a clear work programme, including measurable objectives, and a budget. The LSCB provides an annual report which reviews the work plan, includes relevant management information on activity and gives an overview of its work in the previous year. This enables the LSCB's work to be scrutinised by the local authority, the Children's Trust, and by other local partners and key stakeholders as well as by the inspectorates.

3.8 Addressing weaknesses: where it is found that a Board partner is not performing effectively in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, and the LSCB is not convinced that any planned action to improve performance will be adequate, the LSCB Chair, or an appropriate representative designated by the Chair, should explain these concerns to those individuals and organisations that need to be aware of the failing and may be able to take action

3.9 **The Structure of the East Sussex LSCB**



3.10 **Chairing arrangements:** the East Sussex LSCB is chaired by the Independent Chair. This arrangement will be reviewed annually. In the event that the Chair is unable to attend a Board meeting, the meeting will be chaired by the Vice-Chair.

3.11 **Membership:**

In accordance with section 13 of the Children Act 2004, the following agencies are required to be Board partners of the East Sussex LSCB:

- the Children’s Services Department (East Sussex County Council Children’s Services Authority designated in Section 13.1 Children Act 2004 as responsible for establishing and leading the LSCB);
- the five East Sussex district and borough councils;
- Sussex Police;
- Probation Services for Sussex;
- Clinical Commissioning Groups covering East Sussex;
- NHS Trusts and Foundation Trusts, all or most of whose hospitals, establishments, and facilities are situated in East Sussex;
- the East Sussex Youth Offending Team;
- Cafcass;
- any person providing services under section 114 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000 (s. 21) in East Sussex; and
- other agencies in the private and voluntary sector delivering services to children in East Sussex to be designated in agreement with the LSCB.

3.12 Section 13.7 of the Children Act 2004 requires Board partners and Children’s Services Authority (East Sussex Children’s Services Department) to cooperate in the establishment and operation of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

3.13 The East Sussex LSCB also has representation from:

- East Sussex schools;

- East Sussex Community Safety Team;
- East Sussex Training Services; and
- East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service.

- 3.14 LSCB Members will be expected to contribute to the work of the Board throughout the year and will be able to participate in the sub-groups, and raise issues through the Safeguarding Board Steering Group attending in person if required. Members are required to commit to an attendance rate of not less than 75% of meetings held per year. If an Agency has only one member, a representative from the Agency can attend as a substitute if the member is unable to attend. However, if an Agency has two members, representatives would not be expected to attend, as the importance of attending all Board meetings is encouraged.
- 3.15 **Meeting arrangements:** the East Sussex Local Safeguarding Children Board will meet at least three times a year and may, when necessary, call extraordinary meetings to consider issues in need of urgent attention. Meetings will include formal presentations of information pertinent to the objectives of the Board, progress reports on business plan activity and previous action, and will provide opportunities for small and large group discussion to encourage a full and frank exchange. The meeting must include representatives in attendance from health, police, and children's services in order to be quorate.
- 3.16 The LSCB will undertake one annual development day to enable development of the LSCB work plan and maintain the cohesion of the Board.
- 3.17 **Communication:** papers for Board meetings will be circulated electronically not less than three working days before a Board meeting. Any papers relating to serious case reviews or which are of a similarly confidential and sensitive nature will be sent with password protection, or will be tabled as hard copies.
- 3.18 Information about unexpected events, updates from government or urgent feedback on a serious case review or other LSCB business emerging between scheduled meetings will be made available electronically via an LSCB headed bulletin prepared by the LSCB Business Manager.
- 3.19 **Local Safeguarding Children Board Steering Group:** in order to ensure that the work plan is delivered in an effective and timely manner the LSCB commissions a Steering group to represent the members and drive forward the Business Plan. Additionally other members of the Board may be asked to join the Steering Group for specific issues.
- 3.20 **LSCB Steering Group Chair:** the East Sussex LSCB Steering Group will be chaired by the Independent Chair of the LSCB. In the absence of the Chair, the meeting will be chaired by the Assistant Director, Children's Services Department.
- 3.21 **Steering Group membership:**  
Senior Representatives drawn from the statutory membership of the LSCB Board:
- East Sussex Children's Services Department;
  - East Sussex district and borough councils;
  - Sussex Police;
  - Clinical Commissioning Groups covering East Sussex;
  - East Sussex Hospital Trust;
  - Sussex Partnership Trust;

- Designated Doctor;
- Named Doctor;
- Designated Nurse; and
- Named Nurses.

To be quorate the meeting must include representatives in attendance from health, police and children's social care.

- 3.22 **Meeting arrangements:** the Steering Group will meet four times a year and may meet more often as is necessary.
- 3.23 **Function:**  
The function of the Steering Group is to:
- receive reports from the LSCB sub-groups;
  - coordinate the work of short-life working groups;
  - manage the LSCB budget;
  - receive monitoring and auditing information;
  - review and monitor the LSCB Business Manager's work plan; and
  - review and monitor the progress of the East Sussex LSCB Business Plan.
- 3.24 The Steering Group will also respond as necessary to issues arising between Board meetings which require an immediate response, and will identify and agree the agenda for the full Board meetings. The LSCB may delegate responsibility to the Steering Group to undertake or complete any functions which need to be progressed between Board meetings.
- 3.25 Local Safeguarding Children Board Sub-Groups: sub-groups consist of members of the Board, with participants drawn as required from the LSCB Board members or nominated by Board members. These groups will carry forward the specific functions of the LSCB. There are two types of sub-group, short-life working groups which will cease when their specific tasks are completed and standing sub-groups that fulfil ongoing LSCB functions. A member of the LSCB Board will chair each of the sub-groups and take responsibility for driving the business forward.
- 3.26 The standing Sub-Groups of the East Sussex LSCB are:
- Quality Assurance Sub-Group;
  - Serious Case Review Sub-Committee;
  - Training Sub-Group;
  - Pan-Sussex Procedures Sub-Group;
  - Child Death Overview Panel;
  - Child Safety Sub-Group; and
  - Child Sexual Exploitation, Trafficking and Missing Sub-Group.
- 3.27 In addition, there are two Local Safeguarding Children Liaison Groups that meet in the east and west of the county to monitor and review operational practices for child protection.
- 3.28 Short-life working groups are established as necessary to respond to specific policy development or implementation needs.
- 3.29 The terms of reference for all the sub-groups will be reviewed annually.

### **3.30 Responsibilities of individual Board partners:**

Board Partners will need to:

- designate a lead senior officer for children's safeguarding who will represent their authority on the LSCB and act as a point of contact for their organisation;
- be able and be prepared to report to the LSCB on their activities to promote and safeguard the welfare of children; and
- participate in the activities of the LSCB as appropriate, being responsible for noting and carrying forward any action identified for them or their agency.

### **3.31 Board members will need to be able to:**

- champion children's safeguarding within their organisations and link to other organisations where appropriate, for example Duty and Assessment Teams, Domestic Violence Forum, etc.;
- speak for their organisation with authority; attend and participate in the East Sussex LSCB;
- commit their organisation on policy and practice matters;
- commit resources on behalf of their organisation;
- allocate resources to LSCB projects;
- hold their organisation to account;
- Chair or lead a sub-committee, as required; and
- be responsible for ensuring effective communication between the LSCB and the organisations they represent.

**3.32 Support requirements of the East Sussex LSCB:** in order to operate effectively, the LSCB in East Sussex will require both financial input from partners and contribution in kind of professional time, expertise and administrative support for the wider work of the Board:

**3.33 Financial resources:** an operational budget is managed by the Steering Group. Details of specific amounts and allocations will be identified annually and a record provided annually in the report, and details should be made available at any time to Board members on request.

3.34 The budget is required to cover funding in the following areas:

- cost of operational staff;
- administrative costs of the Board;
- publications and publicity (including child safety);
- training and development;
- the commissioning of specific reviews and audits; and
- developing participation by young people.

3.35 The LSCB budget is funded by the following contributors:

- East Sussex County Council;
- Health – Clinical Commissioning Groups;
- Sussex Police;
- Probation;
- Cafcass; and
- East Sussex Fire and Rescue Service

3.36 Contributions should be reviewed annually.

### **3.37 Human resources:**

The East Sussex LSCB will require direct professional support from:

- Legal Adviser, provided by East Sussex County Council
- Head of Children’s Safeguarding, provided by East Sussex County Council
- Designated and Named Nurses, provided by Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Designated GP, provided by Clinical Commissioning Groups
- Designated Doctor, provided by East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
- Police Professional Adviser, provided by Sussex Police

3.38 Board partners should ensure that part of these officers’ time and appropriate administrative support is made available for the work of the Board. Additionally, the following operational staff are directly employed on behalf of the Board.

- Board Manager (1 fte post)
- Administrator (1 fte post)
- Training and Development Officer(1 fte post)
- Child Death Overview Panel Coordinator (0.5fte post)

#### **4. The LSCB’s relationship with the Children’s Trust - the wider arrangements to improve outcomes for Children**

4.1 The LSCB and its activities are part of the wider context of Children’s Trust arrangements. The work of LSCBs contributes to the wider goals of the Children’s Trust which are to improve the well-being of all. Within the wider governance arrangements, the LSCB role is to ensure the effectiveness of the arrangements made by individual agencies and the wider partnership to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

4.2 The LSCB should expect to be consulted by the partnership on issues that affect how children are safeguarded and how their welfare is promoted. The LSCB is a formal consultee during the development of the Children and Young People’s Plan.

4.3 The LSCB in essence will provide a scrutiny function for the Children’s Trust in the area of safeguarding, and will also be responsible for producing and reviewing procedures, promoting training and carrying out audit and performance monitoring in the area of safeguarding and child protection.

4.4 The LSCB and the wider children’s trust arrangements need to establish and maintain an ongoing and direct relationship, communicating regularly. They need to ensure that action taken by one body does not duplicate that taken by another, and should work together to ensure that there are no unhelpful strategic or operational gaps in policies, protocols, services or practice. The Chair of the East Sussex LSCB will provide regular reports to the Children’s Trust Executive Group regarding the efficacy and cohesion of the safeguarding system.

4.5 The East Sussex LSCB will have an authoritative and independent voice working within the Children’s Trust. The East Sussex LSCB may raise performance issues regarding children’s safeguarding directly with partner agencies and the Children’s Trust. The East Sussex LSCB may seek independent advice, where appropriate, from external bodies and inspectorates.

4.6 The LSCB has the responsibility of ensuring the effectiveness and coordination of the safeguarding system. The delivery of the safeguarding system however remains the responsibility of the individual agencies and the Children’s Trust.

## 5. East Sussex LSCB members, as at March 2014

Name	Title and organisation
Cathie Pattison	Independent Chair of the East Sussex LSCB
Alice Webster	Director of Nursing and Lead for Safeguarding Children, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
Alison Smith	Strategic Lead for Health for Children and Maternity – East Sussex
Andrea Holtham	Service Manager, Sussex Cafcass Early Intervention Team
Andy Chequers	Corporate Head – Housing Services, Lewes District Council
Andy Reynolds	Director of Prevention & Protection, East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service
Angie Turner	Head of Adult Safeguarding, Adult Social Care, East Sussex County Council
Ashley Parrott	Head of Quality, High Weald Lewes Havens Clinical Commissioning Group
Brenda Lynes-O'Meara	Assistant Director of Nursing, Safeguarding Lead, Practice & Standards, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
Cheryl Butler	Young Carers Team Leader, CFTC (Care for the Carers), Young Carers Service
Clare Crundall	East Sussex LSCB Administrator
Debbie Barnes	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children, East Sussex
Douglas Sinclair	Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Edmund Hick	Child Protection and Safeguarding Manager, Protecting Vulnerable People Branch, Sussex Police
Ged Rowney	Interim Director, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Helen Preston	Director for the Community Rehabilitation Company
Ian Fitzpatrick	Senior Head of Community Services, Eastbourne Borough Council
Jane Mitchell	Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults Manager, South East Coast Ambulance Service
Janet Dunn	Lay Member, East Sussex LSCB
Jason Tingley	Lead for Specialist Investigation Team, Sussex Police
Jeanette Waite	Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children, Sussex Partnership NHS Foundation Trust
Jeremy Leach, Dr	Public Health Manager, Wealden District Council
Jerry Lewis	Principal Deputy Head Teacher, Senior School
Jessica Britton	Assistant Director of Quality and Assurance, Clinical Commissioning Groups
Jo Monnickendam	Safeguarding Coordinator, Sussex Downs College
Jo Thomas	Head of Quality, Hastings & Rother Clinical Commissioning Group and Eastbourne, Hailsham and Seaford CCG
Julia Dutchman-Bailey	Director of Quality and Chief Nurse, NHS West Sussex
Julie Dougill	11-19 Development Manager: Vulnerable Learners, Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Katrina Lake	Assistant Director Patient Experience Surrey and Sussex Nursing Directorate Area Team, NHS England
Keith Pailthorpe	Principal, The Eastbourne Academy
Kevin Bresnahan	Lay Member, East Sussex LSCB

Name	Title and organisation
Liz Rugg	Assistant Director (Safeguarding, LAC and SEN), Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Louisa Havers	Head of Performance, Engagement and Safer Communities, Adult Social Care, East Sussex County Council
Malcolm Johnston	Executive Director for Resources, Rother District Council
Marion Rajan	East Sussex LSCB Business Manager
Mark Ling	Lead for Specialist Investigations Team (Child Protection Team, Adult Protection Team and Public Protection Team), Sussex Police
Martina Pickin	Locum Public Health Consultant, Public Health Directorate, East Sussex County Council
Micky Richards	CRI Regional Director Operations – South
Munch (Gillian) Morrow	Head of St Peter's Church of England Primary School, Primary School Representative
Paul Furnell	Branch Lead for Child Safeguarding, Sussex Police
Peter Joyce	Manager East Sussex/Brighton and Hove CAMHS
Richard Grout	Principal Senior Solicitor, East Sussex County Council
Richard Preece	Executive Headteacher, Torfield and Saxon Mount Federation, Special Schools Representative
Ruth Szulecki	Early Years Development Manager, Standards and Learning Effectiveness Service, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Simon Yates	Head Teacher, Chailey Heritage School
Sylvia Tidy (observer)	Lead Member for Children's and Adults' Services, East Sussex County Council
Tania Riedel	Operations Manager, Youth Offending Team, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council
Tracey Ward	Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children, Conquest Hospital, East Sussex Healthcare NHS Trust
Verna Connolly	Head of Personnel and Organisational Development, Hastings Borough Council
Vicky Finnemore	Head of Specialist Services, Children's Services, East Sussex County Council



## Appendix 2

### Review of the LSCB Training Plan for 2013-2014

LSCB Training Course Title	Number of courses run	Total number of attendees
Achieving Best Evidence	2	5
Assessing Risk, Analysis, and Decision Making	1	21
Child and Adolescent Development (0-16)	1	20
Child Neglect and Emotional Abuse	1	21
Child Protection Awareness for Private, Voluntary, and Community Groups	1	17
Child Protection in a Multi-Agency Context	1	17
Child Sexual Abuse Level 1 - Identifying Child Sexual Abuse	2	36
Child Sexual Exploitation 1 – Identification and Intervention	5	106
Child Sexual Exploitation 2 - Working with Young People at Risk	3	33
Child Trafficking Awareness Training	1	28
Disclosure and Barring Service 'Duty to Refer'	6	282
Domestic Abuse - Recognition and Response	7	153
Domestic Abuse and the Impact on Children	2	37
East Sussex Serious Case Reviews – Briefing Sessions	4	71
Fabricated Induced Illness: Challenges and Dilemmas where FII is Present or Suspected	2	50
Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Consent in a Child Protection Context	1	20
Introduction to Self Harm, Young People and the East Sussex Multi-Agency Protocol	1	22
Joint Investigation Training	2	18
Living with Parents with Mental Health Problems	2	40
MAPP (Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements):Risk Management of Known Offenders	1	9
Parental Substance and Alcohol Use and the Impact on Children	2	33
Parents with Learning Disabilities - Good Practice whilst Managing Risk	1	23
Participating in the Child Protection Conference Process	1	20
Practice Learning from East Sussex Serious Case Reviews and Management Reviews	1	25
Rapid Response to Child Death	1	20
Safeguarding Children with Behavioural and Mental Health Problems	1	24
Safeguarding Issues for Secondary Schools	1	24
Serious Case Review Learning Event	1	37
The Effective Communication of Safeguarding Concerns	1	10
Understanding Mental Health	2	48
Update on Children and Young People and the MHA 1983	1	6
Working with Disabled Children in a Child Protection Context	1	10
Working with Parents with a Learning Disability	1	21
Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse and their Families	1	10
Working with Resistance and Disguised Compliance in Child Care	2	44
Young People and Substance Misuse (Level 1)	1	18
Young People and Substance Misuse (Level 2)	1	17
Young People as Victims and Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse	2	34
Young Runaways in ES: Developing an Understanding of Risks, Vulnerabilities	1	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>1449</b>

**Total number of places available**

**1743**

**LSCB Training 2013-2014 total attendance**

**1449 (83.13%)**

## Appendix 3

### LSCB Training Plan for 2014-2015

Detailed in the framework below are the courses that will be made available to staff from the agencies represented by East Sussex LSCB.

**Unless specified, LSCB courses are open to all staff from statutory, non-statutory and private or independent sectors who work with children, young people and their families or who work with adults who have child care responsibilities.**

**LSCB courses are free of charge only if the member agency contributes to the LSCB budget. Details of the charging arrangements are attached to the nomination form for each training course.**

Course title	Area	Courses planned	Planned outcome	Dates
Achieving Best Evidence – 5 day course : Joint Police and CSD training on interviewing children under Achieving Best Evidence guidelines	ABE	2	To gain experience of interview planning and observation of practice interviews and participation in at least one role-played interview.	28/04-02/05/2014 3-7/11/2014
Child & Adolescent Development (0-16 years)	Child development	1	To understand the impact of parenting styles, neglect and abuse on child and adolescent development.	8/04/2014
Child Protection Awareness for Private, Voluntary, and Community Groups	Safeguarding	2	To enable staff to identify and respond to child protection concerns.	18/06/2014 20/11/2014
Child Protection in a Multi-Agency Context	Safeguarding	1	To enable staff to learn about the structure, roles and responsibilities of the statutory agencies involved in child protection	29/01/2015
Child Sexual Exploitation 1: Identification and Intervention	Child sexual exploitation	3	To introduce participants to the many different aspects of sexual exploitation and the various forms it can take. To raise awareness about the scale of the issue and demonstrate that all young people can be at risk of CSE	17/6/2014 18/9/2014 25/11/2014
Child Sexual Exploitation 2: Working with Young People at Risk	Child sexual exploitation	3	The course will cement some of the issues addressed in the basic CSE awareness course and provide workers with the confidence and skills to engage young people and deliver work on the issues involved in sexual exploitation, including healthy relationships, grooming, keeping safe online, self esteem and body image.	10/7/2014 14/10/2014 11/12/2014
Module 1 Domestic Abuse - Recognition and Response	Domestic abuse	5	This course will give participants a basic awareness of domestic abuse, including contextual information, overview of legislation, identification of abuse, and understanding of the dynamics of an abusive relationship.	25/06/2014 18/11/2014 20/01/2015 18/03/2015
Module 2 DASH and Safety Planning	Domestic abuse	4	This course will focus on equipping participants to assess risk of harm using the DASH risk indicator checklist, how to determine changes in risk, how to develop effective safety plans appropriate to the level of risk and how to undertake case management for those experiencing domestic abuse.	08/10/2014 02/12/2014 27/01/2015 26/03/2015

Course Title	Area	Courses Planned	Planned Outcome	Dates
Domestic Abuse and the Impact on Children and Young People (2 days course)	Domestic abuse	2	To enable participants to respond appropriately to domestic violence and understand how children are affected by domestic violence.	15-16/09/2014 10-11/03/2015
East Sussex Serious Case Reviews – Briefing Sessions	Safeguarding	3	Disseminate the learning from recent case Reviews in East Sussex as well as considering the national perspective.	12/05/2014 22/09/2014 27/11/2014
Emerging Sexuality in Physically Disabled & Learning Disabled Young People	Child development	1	To explore the issues and challenges of supporting disabled young people approaching adulthood with issues around emerging sexuality and a positive sense of identity.	To be confirmed
Engaging Fathers and Significant Male figures	Safeguarding	1	This one day course is to gain an understanding of the statutory responsibilities in relation to engaging and supporting fathers and significant male figures in a child's life. Why it is necessary and what the benefits are of engaging and developing a father-inclusive focus. It will include identifying some of the barriers that could potentially prevent engagement and consider different ways of dealing with these barriers.	19/06/2014
Fabricated Induced Illness: Challenges and Dilemmas where FIIS is present or suspected	Safeguarding	2	To explore inter-agency responses to concerns regarding FIIS and learn about the importance of early identification and detailed chronologies when FIIS is suspected.	22/05/2014 13/10/2014
Hidden Children – Understanding Private Fostering, Elective Home Education and Education of Sick Children	Safeguarding	1	To learn about policies and legislation in relation to PF / EHE / EOSC and how to identify and respond to the needs of the children who fall into these categories	20/01/2015
Hidden Sentence Training: Understanding the Support Needs of Prisoner's Families	Safeguarding	1	To enable participants to understand the impact of imprisonment on prisoner's families and support that can be offered.	22/09/2014
Identifying Child Sexual Abuse	Child sexual abuse	2	To re-acquaint professionals using current research and intervention models with the concept of child sexual abuse and consider practice implications when working with vulnerable families	15/07/2014 02/12/2014
Identifying and Working with Missing and Trafficked Children	Safeguarding	1	To understand the risks that young people are exposed to when they run away and why young people run away and the issues. To raise awareness and increase understanding regarding identifying and safeguarding trafficked young people, identifying sexually exploited children and helping child or young person stay engaged with services.	17/07/2014
Information Sharing, Confidentiality and Consent in a Child Protection Context	Safeguarding	1	To understand and apply knowledge relating to Fraser Guidelines and information sharing with other professionals with or without consent.	10/03/2015
Impact of Abuse & Neglect on the Development of Children & Young People	Safeguarding	1	To help participants become more familiar with the impact on children and young people affected by neglect and emotional abuse and the implications of this for decision making about their welfare	02/04/2014

Course Title	Area	Courses Planned	Planned Outcome	Dates
Introduction to Self Harm and Young People and the East Sussex Multi-Agency Protocol	Safeguarding	1	To broaden participants knowledge of Self-Harming behaviours in Children and Young People and equip themselves with the skills and knowledge to undertake effective risk assessments.	04/12/2014
Joint Investigation Training, Level 1 (Four-day course)	Safeguarding	2	To demonstrate effective communication skills and to be clear about the Police and Social Work role within the JI process and to gain confidence in their approach to integrated working	7-10/04/2014 19-22/08/2014
Living with Parents with Mental Health Problems	Mental health	2	To enable participants coming into contact with parents and carers with mental health problems to consider how these impact on children; and to explore relevant practice and research issues within an inter-agency context.	4/06/2014 10/12/2014
Managing Allegations Against Staff	Safeguarding	2	To assist managers in their understanding and application of child protection and disciplinary procedures: and how these two procedures work together when appropriate.	01/05/2014 10/03/2015
MAPPA (Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements ) Briefings - Risk Management of Known Offender	Safeguarding	3	To enable staff to develop their knowledge of how Multi-Agency Public protection works in co-ordinating risk management in the community.	16/07/14 13/11/2014 12/03/2015
Parental Substance and Alcohol Use and the Impact on Children	Safeguarding	2	To understand the effects, risks and potential harm of substances and alcohol misuse and to provide a range of responses directed both at assisting parents and protecting and helping children.	25/09/14 12/03/15
Participating in the Child Protection Process	Safeguarding	1	To explore the purpose, function and processes of CP Conferences; provide them with an understanding of their professional role in relation to conferences and similar meetings.	3-4/02/2014
Rapid Response to Child Death	Safeguarding	1	To provide basic skills needed to carry out inter-agency investigation into an unexpected childhood death in accordance with Chapter 7 guidance	17/06/2014
Safeguarding Children with Behavioural and Mental Health Problems	Mental health	1	To identify, assess and understand risky and problematic behaviours in C&YP and to provide workers with effective interventions.	Feb 2015, to be confirmed
Safeguarding Children Medicals (Paediatric Assessment) Workshop – Guidance and Good Practice	Safeguarding	1	To identify when to consider requesting Safeguarding Medicals, and what type of Medical is the most appropriate. To understand what the process of referral for each Medical, both for in-hours as well as out-of-hours services;	09/10/2014
Taking a Multi-Agency Approach to Assessment & Decision Making	Safeguarding	1	This one day course is to enhance the skills of participants in the assessment and decision making for safeguarding children and how to incorporate those skills into everyday practice.	22/05/2014
The Effective Communication of Safeguarding Concerns	Safeguarding	2	To equip participants with the skills, knowledge and confidence to contact and make referrals to Children's Social Care.	09/09/2014 24/03/2015
Understanding Mental Health	Mental health	2	Participants will gain a basic knowledge of common mental illnesses, symptoms and effect of mental illness, causes and treatment and the impact on parenting	03/06/2014 09/12/2014

Course Title	Area	Courses Planned	Planned Outcome	Dates
Update on Children & Young People and the MHA 1983	Mental health	1	An update on the recent amendments to the MHA 1983 as they impact on children and young people Look at when the Children Act should be used and when the MHA should be used Will consider what are age appropriate services on mental health acute wards? Look at the latest guidelines around 'Informal v formal admission' and consent to treatment for children and young people	To be confirmed
Working with Disabled Children in a Child Protection Context	Safeguarding	1	To identify and understand the complexities of working with disabled children in a child protection environment.	To be confirmed
Working with Gypsy and Traveller Children, Young People and Families	Child development	2	This session will help participants to understand how to work with Gypsy and Traveller children, young people and families. This will include information and guidance, and identify sources of support within the department to help improve understanding of the specific needs of Gypsy and Traveller families.	09/07/2014 9/03/2015
Working with Parents with Learning Disabilities	Mental health	2	To gain a shared understanding of the term "Learning Disability" and look at outcomes for children and families and to explore notions of risk, resilience and competence.	17/06/2014 11/11/2014
Working with Perpetrators of Domestic Abuse and their Families	Domestic abuse	2	To gain the skills to identify and respond to risk to children and mothers living with a perpetrator of DV.	01/12/2014 02/03/2015
Working with Resistance and Disguised Compliance in Child Care	Safeguarding	2	To identify disguised compliance and manipulation by clients; to practice techniques to address both types of situation; the importance of accessing support in their settings to manage such challenges	10/04/2014 16/10/2014
Young People and Substance Misuse Level 1	Child development	1	The aim of this one day course is to provide substance misuse training to professionals working with young people. Looking at various substances harm reduction identification and presentation, including the continuum of need, and referral pathway process.	16/09/2014
Young People and Substance Misuse Level 2	Child development	1	The aim of this two day course is to provide substance misuse training to support individuals with substance misuse problems, contribute to their protection and carry out basic substance misuse interventions. Whilst also looking at the holistic response to problematic substance misuse needs, such as mental health, sexual health/exploitation, child protection, and the law.	12- 13/11/2014
Young People Experiencing and Using Abuse in Relationships	Domestic abuse	3	To understand the gendered nature of DV within this group and to develop good practice interventions for YP and their families	31/03/2014 &01/04/2014 22- 23/10/2014 10- 11/02/2015

