



Safeguarding Matters

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Welcome to the second edition of our *Safeguarding Matters*. This is intended to inform staff about the work of the SCB and SAP and alert partners to key issues being discussed at Board meetings.

Those attending our recent Safeguarding Forum will know that we have just completed our first annual reports. Their purpose is to show what we achieved in 2015/16. They also set out challenges to be addressed in 2016/17. This edition sets out some headlines from these reports, both of which will be available on the Boards' websites soon.

The SCB and SAP publish a range of safeguarding policies, procedures and practice guidelines including tool kits to assist practitioners in their work. Simply issuing these publications is not enough. We must ensure everyone understands why they are being issued, what they are intended to achieve and what is expected of individual staff in following new approaches. In short we need to secure ownership of the approaches from everyone. This issue alerts you to recent publications and starts to communicate their purpose and our expectations of practitioners. Our item on training highlights some of the courses available to support practitioners in implementing the approaches.

I was delighted to welcome 180 delegates to our recent Safeguarding Forum and to find that the majority of attendees rated the event very good or excellent. We want this newsletter to provide information to a wider audience. . If there are matters you want us to feature – or indeed if there is something you want to contribute – do not hesitate to let us know by contacting Gary McManus – gary.mcmanus@gov.im

Paul Burnett

Independent Chair of Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Partnership

Annual Report 2015/16

The Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Partnership Annual Reports are currently been finalised and will be available on the website, good progress is been made on each of the 5 Business Plan Priorities:

- 1.** Assuring ourselves that 'safeguarding is everyone's business
- 2.** Assure ourselves that there are robust policies, protocols and practices in place across the partnership that have a real impact
- 3.** Assurance that there are robust and effective arrangements in place to assess, prioritise, manage and address areas of safeguarding risk
- 4.** To ensure that we have a workforce that is equipped and 'fit for purpose' in delivering effective safeguarding
- 5.** To ensure the voices of service users, staff and service providers are heard in planning, delivering and evaluating safeguarding provision

We will be reflecting on a Business Plan theme in each future issue of 'Safeguarding Matters'.

Safeguarding Children Training Strategy (Safeguarding Competency framework)

The Safeguarding Training and Development Group (TDG) have developed a clear competency framework which sets out 4 levels of safeguarding training and development expectations for staff. Each level identifies a target staff group, a number of learning outcomes, the frequency of training and how it is to be delivered. The framework compliments the overall Safeguarding Training Strategy and programme.

The framework provides front line managers the opportunity to align and improve safeguarding awareness and practice and it is crucial that managers make themselves familiar with the requirements, and integrate into their own work force planning and development processes.

An evaluation tool is currently been developed to support us consider the learning experience and impact on practice as a result of this framework.

Safeguarding priorities and toolkits – Recent feedback from frontline practitioners has suggested that we need to be better at seeking assurance that the process of identifying safeguarding priorities and the development of associated front line manager and practitioner ‘toolkits’ are cascaded and awareness is raised as to where these can be accessed.

The rationale for prioritising the safeguarding risk areas is to ensure there is a response to those areas which have been identified as current, emerging (monitored) and, joint adult and children safeguarding risk themes.

Available information and data from a range of sources is used to consider prevalence, risk and impact, proportionality and capacity to respond to such risk areas. Consultation at the Safeguarding Forums has also been central to the identification of the priority themes:

<u>Children</u>	<u>Monitored themes</u>	<u>Joint Children and Adult themes</u>
Neglect Substance misuse	Looked After Children	Drug, Alcohol and
Sexual Exploitation	Missing from home and care	Domestic abuse
Children with Disabilities		Transition into Adulthood
Digital Safety / e bullying		Female Genital Mutilation
Specialised Mental Health		

Keep an eye out on the websites for regular updates on the various toolkits which are becoming available, these are aimed to support front line managers and staff to respond to concerns related to the priority themes and are developed by multi-agency task groups.

We will be dedicating space in future issues of Safeguarding Matters to promote awareness of these.

Should you have an idea or a request regarding the development of a tool to support practitioners deal with safeguarding risks, then please get in touch.

The most recent toolkit is the Child Sexual Exploitation risk assessment tool, which will be added to the website in October 2016. We have also developed a broader Multi Agency Planning and Improvement Toolkit (MAPIT) which can be adapted to improve integrated approaches in dealing with a range of themes, and the Safeguarding Training Strategy 2016 /17 (Competency Framework) – see below. And a Joint Children Services 'Glossary of terms' which forms part of the wider 'common language / understanding' initiative led by the Children Services Partnership.

It is important that line managers / agency safeguarding leads continue to cascade and integrate safeguarding developments.

'Safeguarding is everyone's business'

The fourth bi-annual Safeguarding Forum was opened by the Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Boards Paul Burnett which was held on the Friday 23rd October 2016 to highlight the islands commitment to Safeguarding children, young people and vulnerable adults.

Over 180 delegates participated in the event which took place at the Sefton Hotel in the Isle of Man. Representatives from agencies and services working with Children and Young People and those from the Adult Services arena were invited to take part in two high level workshops, which included topics on Child Sexual Exploitation, Homelessness, Making Safeguarding Personal, e-safety/LGBT, Signs of Safety and Financial Abuse.

The highlights of the event were the two key note speakers Dr. Adi Cooper OBE and Lee Ball. Dr. Cooper is a leading expert in the field of safeguarding, working to improve safeguarding practice and outcomes. As well as undertaking a workshop at the Forum Dr. Cooper gave an informative presentation on 'Making Safeguarding Personal' during the morning session. Lee Ball who also visited the island works for the Salvation Army Homelessness Service Unit and provided colleagues with an inspiring talk on addiction. Evaluation from the event included comments such as 'Lee Ball's presentation was brilliant – very inspiring' and 'excellent interaction, the opportunity to reflect and the opportunity to discuss with other agencies joint issues'.



Dr Adi Cooper, OBE



Lee Ball

The conference provided an opportunity for delegates to obtain up to date professional practice guidance and the chance to share knowledge and experiences with similar professionals.



Signs of Safety workshop (pictured Angela Moore)



Homelessness workshop (pictured Mandy Davies, Michael Manning and Arthur Torrin)