

Safeguarding Children

Presentation by

Penny Thompson CBE, Independent Chair

and

Simon Cross, Partnership Business Manager

Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnership

Wednesday 16th February 2022

What we are going to cover

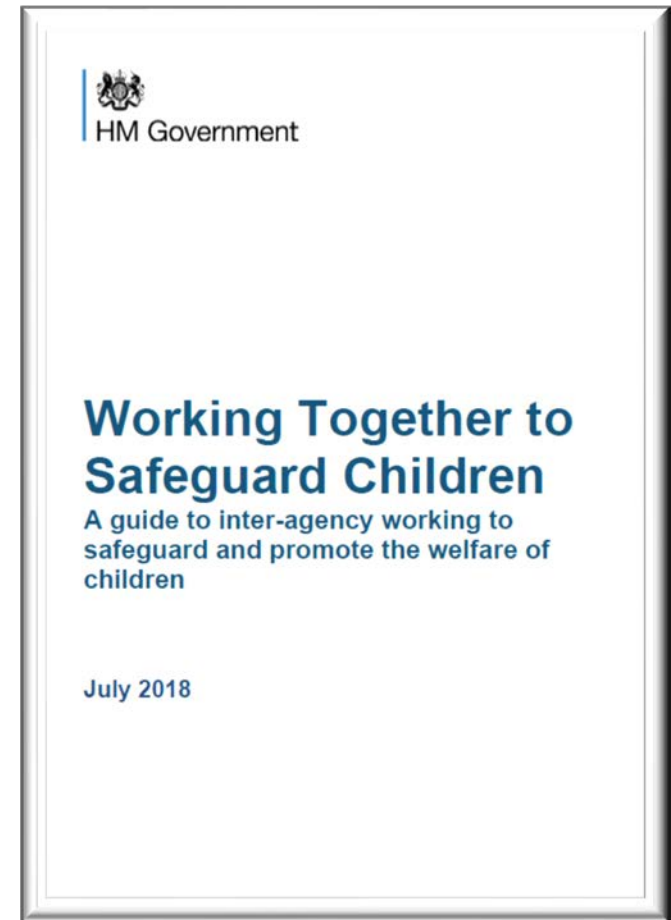


- National Framework – Safeguarding Children
- Safeguarding Partnership Priorities
- Business Improvement Plan – Progress
- Independent Scrutiny & Challenge
- Safeguarding children during the Pandemic
- High Profile Cases – Embedding learning
- Serious Youth Violence
- Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews
- Looking forward

National Framework



- 1st October 2019
- Safeguarding Partners & Relevant Agencies
- Police Accountability
- MASA replaced LSCB
- CSPRs replaced SCRs
- National & Local Reviews
- Child Death Reviews



Birmingham Safeguarding Children Partnerships



Strategic Priorities for 2021/23:

Priority 1: Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability;

Priority 2: Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies;

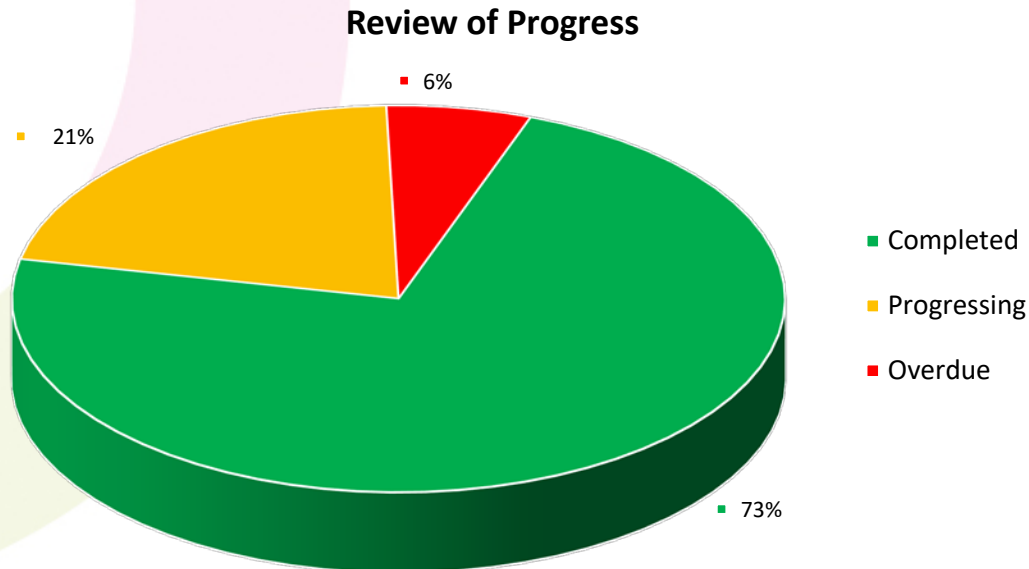
Priority 3: Developing an effective multi-agency response to Child and Adolescent Neglect

Priority 4: Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children;

Business Improvement Plan 2021/23



- The Plan has four Strategic Priorities and thirty three actions.
- At the end of the January 2022, 73% of the actions have been completed.
- Significant progress has also been made on the outstanding actions scheduled for completion in the second year of the plan.



Priority 1 - Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Independent Chair to present an Annual Accountability Report to the Safeguarding Leaders Assembly 22nd April 2021;	Completed on 22 nd April 2022.	😊
2. BSCP Independent Chair to attend the City Board and Children's Partnership to provide support and challenge on behalf of children and young people;	Independent Chair is a City Board member.	😊
3. Safeguarding Leaders Assembly to be convened twice yearly for accountability, learning and system development;	Safeguarding Leaders Assembly in October 2021 had to be cancelled due to Covid-19 pandemic.	😊
4. The Chairs of the BSCP and Community Safety Partnership to oversee the development of the Serious Youth Violence Strategy – Spring 2021;	Chairs' of Community Safety and Safeguarding Children Partnerships hosted a strategic summit to commence development of Serious Violence Strategy.	😊
5. The BSCP Executive Board to oversee a comprehensive quality assurance and audit programme aimed at evaluating safeguarding practice – Executive Board to endorse Quality Assurance Programme 2021-23 by May 2021;	Scrutiny and Quality Assurance Programme endorsed in March 2021.	😊

Priority 1 - Strong Leadership and Strong Partnership demonstrating effective Accountability (continued)



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
6. The BSCP to redesign its website and improve its communications and social media capacity by November 2021 to improve engagement with children, families and practitioners;	Website redesign will commence in 2022/23.	☹️
7. BSCP to contribute to the continued development of the Regional Safeguarding Procedures Group consortium to deliver on-line safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance by March 2022;	Birmingham are key members of the Regional Safeguarding Procedures Group consortium, providing up to date on-line multi-agency policy, procedure and guidance.	😊
8. BSCP to Co-Chair the West Midlands MASA Network to develop, share and disseminate regional good practice from April 2021;	BSCP Co-Chair the West Midlands MASA Network, sharing and developing regional good practice.	😊
9. BSCP to assist in the development of a regional on-line Safeguarding Self- Assessment tool to enhance, synchronise and simplify the regional Section 11 audit programme by 1st April 2022;	Regional Section 11 – Self Assessment Programme in place.	😊
10. BSCP to participate in a peer review of the ‘Prevent Duty’ and children and young people at risk of radicalisation - Publication of findings by September 2021.	Completion of Prevent Duty Peer review delayed due to Covid-19 pandemic.	😊

Priority 2 - Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Executive Board to publish on its website an Annual Report for 2020/21 providing evidence of impact on the priorities set out in the Business Improvement Plan by July 2021. The findings to be presented to the Birmingham Children's Partnership, Health and Wellbeing Board and Children Social Care Overview and Scrutiny Committee by December 2021.	Chairs Accountability Report presented to Education and CSC Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 16 th February 2022. A two-year report on the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements during the pandemic is scheduled for publication in July 2022.	😊
2. The BSCP Executive Board to maximise the opportunity to learn and improve partnership practice through workforce development, Conference, Seminar and Training programme –Training Offer 2021/22 to be published by May 2021;	Learning and Development Training Offer endorsed in March 2021.	😊
3. Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group to host a seminar focusing on the importance of agency engagement in the implementation of multi-agency plans from Early Help, Children in Need to Child Protection by December 2021;	Date for seminar to be announced.	😞
4. Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group to refine 'near miss policy' to provide assurance, highlight areas for improvement in practice and maximise the opportunity for multi-agency learning by November 2021;	'Near Miss' Policy and Audit updated.	😊
5. Learning & Development Sub-Group in conjunction with Birmingham Children's Partnership to develop and deliver bespoke training for the 'Lead Practitioners' role in supporting 'Our Family Plans' by May 2022;	Lead Practitioner Training in development.	😊

Priority 2 - Continuously Improve Child Safeguarding Practice across the system and in all agencies (continued)



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
6. BSCP to publish and oversee the dissemination of learning from Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review of a 'County Lines' case focusing on ' <i>Reachable Moments</i> ' by July 2021;	'Reachable Moments' LCSPR focusing on 'County Lines' published September 2021.	😊
7. The Community Safety Partnership to share with Executive Board regular updates on Implementation of learning from the benchmarking exercise on progress of the key recommendations in relation to ' <i>It was hard to Escape</i> ' a National Review of Child Criminal Exploitation by November 2021:	BSCP oversee effective implementation of learning.	😊
8. The BSCP to host a virtual 'Contextual Safeguarding Conference and Practitioners workshops in June 2021.	Virtual conference hosted in June 2021.	😊
9. BSCP to undertake a self-assessment of Child Exploitation practice using the Joint Target Area Inspection approach by November 2021;	Self-Assessment deferred until 2022/23.	😐
10. BSCP to work in close collaboration with NSPCC and Ofsted in responding to the emerging issues raised through the ' <i>Everyone's Invited</i> ' movement, with specific focus on the understanding and application of 'peer on peer' safeguarding guidance in schools, by September 2021.	BSCP participated in national learning event in December 2021.	😊

Priority 3 - Developing an effective multi-agency response to Child and Adolescent Neglect



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
1. BSCP to provide seed funding for initial NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2 Training and the appointment of a Neglect Lead Manager to assist with implementation of the Childhood Neglect Strategy 2019/23;	Funding in place and extended for 2022/23.	😊
2. BSCP and Neglect Operations Group to commission and deliver Graded Care Profile 2 training and produce neglect eLearning models and practice guidance by April 2022;	GCP2 Training Programme in place.	😊
3. Neglect Operations Group to establish two Neglect Pilot Projects in the north and south of the city, by September 2021 to test and develop exemplars of good inter-agency practice and models of working using NSPCC Graded Care Profile 2.	Both Pilot Projects are progressing.	😊
4. Evaluation of Neglect Pilot Projects to be completed by 31st March 2022, to inform the rollout of a new Multi-Agency practice model through the Early Help and Support Localities in Spring 2022;	Evaluation to published early 2022/23.	😊
5. The BSCP to host an Annual Safeguarding Practitioners conference on 'Childhood Neglect' in June 2022, to share good practice and cascade learning from the pilot projects.	Conference scheduled for June 2022.	😊

Priority 4 – Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children



Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
1. The BSCP Executive Board to oversee the effective implementation of the Business Improvement Plan and to publish its Annual Report evaluating progress and the impact of Covid-19 on safeguarding children by July 2021;	A two-year report on safeguarding during the pandemic is scheduled for publication in July 2022.	☹️
2. BSCP, Birmingham Council of Faiths and Public Health to work in close collaboration on a Department of Education funded project to enhance safeguarding within faith-based settings. To build upon, expand and adapt the ' <i>every conversation counts</i> ' model which has been adopted to promote the importance of social distancing and encourage vaccine take up from April 2021;	DfE funded Project is progressing lead by BSCP and Birmingham Council of Faiths.	😊
3. The Safeguarding Leaders Assembly on 22nd April 2021 to focus on Covid-19 ' <i>Response to Recovery</i> ' with Safeguarding Leaders workshop to identify exemplars of good practice developed during the pandemic;	Safeguarding Leaders Assembly in April 2021 focused on City's response to the pandemic.	😊
4. The Quality, Impact & Outcomes Sub-Group quality assurance and audit programme to incorporate comparative analysis of the impact of 'lockdown' on safeguarding practice by December 2021;	This aspect of the Quality Assurance programme has been deferred until 2022/23..	☹️
5. Launch public awareness campaign ' <i>Who's in Charge</i> ' highlighting the consequences of drinking alcohol whilst caring for children, to take account of easing of Covid-19 pandemic restriction in April 2021;	The ' <i>Who's in Charge</i> ' Campaign won the NHS National Patient Award 2021.	😊

Priority 4 – Evaluating and addressing the consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic on safeguarding children (continued)

Planned Action (2021-23)	February 2022 – Update	
6. Learning and Development Sub-Group to incorporate within its annual evaluation of the multi-agency safeguarding training, the impact of virtual training, webinars and eLearning for inclusion with the BSCP Annual Report scheduled for publication in July 2021;	During the pandemic multi-agency safeguarding training has successfully been delivered virtually.	😊
7. Serious Cases Sub-Group to undertake a thematic review of learning from the National Panel Review ' <i>Out of Routine</i> ' as part of a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review examining support for vulnerable families with newborn babies. The learning to inform the Neglect Pilot Projects;	LCSPR remains ongoing, emerging learning informed Neglect Pilots.	😐
8. Serious Cases Sub-Group to ensure that Rapid Reviews continue to incorporate analysis of the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on service delivery and partnership intervention to inform Local and National Learning.	Rapid Reviews specifically focuses on the impact of Covid-19 on partnership intervention.	😊

Independent Scrutiny & Challenge



Independent Chair's Accountability Report 20/21:

Focus and Key issues;

- Covid-19- Continuing to deliver
- Our Ambition & Purpose
- Progress on Priorities
 - ✓ Strong Leadership;
 - ✓ Continuously Improve of Practice;
 - ✓ Childhood Neglect;
 - ✓ The impact Covid-19 on safeguarding children;
- Conclusion

'Who's in Charge?' Campaign



Keeping children safe
when adults are drinking
alcohol

<https://www.bhamcommunity.nhs.uk/about-us/news/latest-news/whos-in-charge-video-campaign/resources/>



Current High Profile Cases



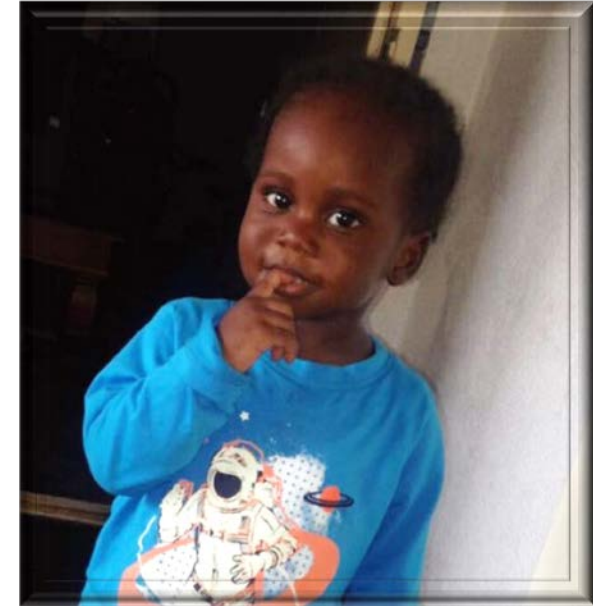
Arthur Labinjo-Hughes
6 years old

17th June 2020



Star Hobson
16 months old

22nd September 2020



Kermani Watson Darby
3 years old

5th June 2018

Embedding National Learning



Six key practice themes to make a difference:

1. Understanding what the child's daily life is like
2. Working with families where their engagement is reluctant and sporadic
3. Critical thinking and challenge
4. Responding to changing risk and need
5. Sharing information in a timely and appropriate way
6. Organisational leadership and culture for good outcomes

Serious Youth Violence



Nasir Patrice
17 years old

15th January 2020



Babacar Diagne
15 years old

5th February 2020



Keon Lincoln
15 years old

21st January 2021



De-John Reid
14 years old

31st May 2021

Offensive Weapon Homicide Reviews



- Legislative framework - The Police, Crime, Sentencing and Courts Bill
- West Midlands Pilot – Scheduled for 2022
- Concerns over – Proposed Criteria 18+
- Missed opportunity to capture systemic learning
- Lobbying for change – Letter to Home Secretary

Looking Ahead



- Birmingham 2022
- Birmingham Council of Faiths
- Serious Youth Violence - Strategy
- Robust response to 'Everyone's Invited'
- Childhood Neglect – embedding good practice
- Publication of 2-year report – Focusing on safeguarding children during the pandemic

Question Time!

