Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report 2017/18

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APPENDIX 1

Foreword from the Independent Chair

I am pleased to introduce the 2017/18 Annual Report for the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board. The partnership on the island continues to strengthen and I would like to thank all the partner agencies represented on the IOWSCB for their commitment to the Board.

The purpose of a Local Safeguarding Children Board is to co-ordinate safeguarding arrangements across agencies and to ensure these are effective. This responsibility remains as important as ever and can be best achieved by the various agencies working together in the interests of children and young people. The pressures on the individual agencies are recognised and further reinforce the need to work in partnership.

Whilst this report covers 2017/18, the impending changes to local safeguarding arrangements in 2019 will place even greater emphasis on cross agency working based on trust, respect and mutual understanding. The IOWSCB will be front and centre in working towards making the transition to the new arrangements as smooth as practicable.

The Annual Report covers the local and national context, governance and accountability arrangements, priorities, achievements and learning, and concludes with a formal summary statement about the sufficiency of arrangements to ensure children are safe on the Isle of Wight. The IOWSCB receives a range of data and information from partner organisations as well as conducting audits and reviews, which allow the Board to assess child protection and safeguarding on the Island. Our remit includes the work of Children's Social Care services, Education, Health, the Police and other agencies, both in terms of their individual service provision and how effectively they work together. The Business Plan for 2018/19 reflects the commitment for further improvement by delivering the objectives agreed for the coming year. This is in keeping with the Board's ongoing drive to continually improve year-on year.

Particular attention has been paid to the progress made by the NHS Trust as work continues to address the issues identified by the CQC inspection in November 2016. The Board has received regular updates from senior colleagues at the Trust staff and we will continue to seek assurances that children are being appropriately safeguarded. The Board's support for the Trust's endeavours remains strong.

The IOWSCB has also maintained its scrutiny of the services provided by Children's Social Care and through a programme of audit and review we have seen that the partnership with Hampshire continues to drive improvement.

A key element in the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements is engagement with partners, practitioners and most importantly, with service users. We remain committed to maintaining as wide a range of awareness and engagement as possible so that the oversight role we have is best informed by those who matter most; the children and young people on the Isle of Wight.

Derek Benson,
Independent Chair

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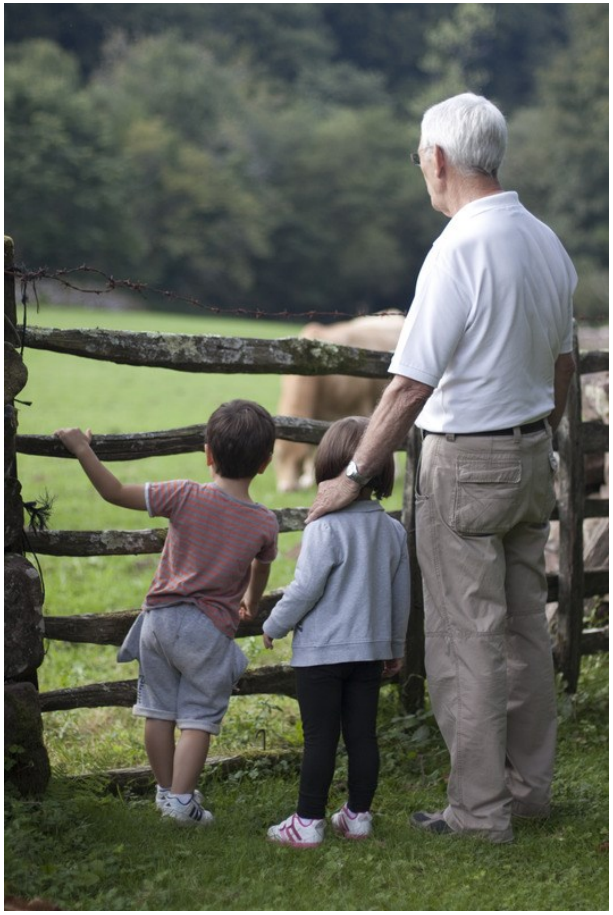


1. The Board

What is the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board

The IOWSCB is the key statutory body overseeing multi-agency child safeguarding arrangements across the Isle of Wight (IOW). Our work is governed by the statutory guidance in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015'.

Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 sets out the statutory objectives of Local Safeguarding Children Boards, which are:

- To co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in their area; and
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Two Key Principles

Everything we do is underpinned by two key principles:

- Safeguarding **is everybody's responsibility** - for services to be effective each professional and organisation should play their full part
- **A child centred approach** - for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of the individual children whilst recognising the support parents and carers may require.

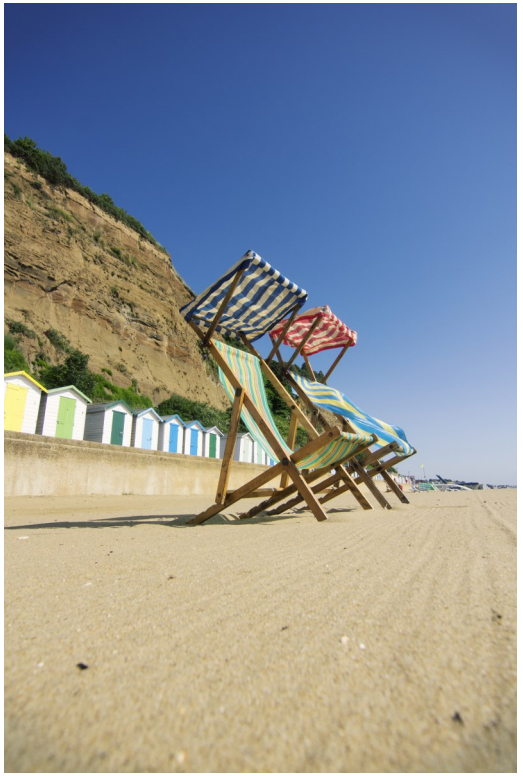
The IOWSCB consists of the independent chair and members who are senior representatives from the principle stakeholders. The Board is collectively responsible for strategic oversight of safeguarding arrangements: it does this by leading, co-ordinating, challenging and monitoring the delivery of safeguarding practice by all agencies across the Island.

The IOWSCB is independently chaired by Derek Benson. Derek took up his post in December 2016. The Chair is accountable to the Chief Executive of the Isle of Wight Council. The Chairs met both the Chief Executive, and Council Leader and the Director of Children's Services on the Isle of Wight regularly throughout 2017/18.

Our Vision

"Working together to ensure high quality outcomes for all children, young people and their families and to enable them to access sustainable support and services"

This Vision is shared with the Children's Trust Board, the Health and Wellbeing Board and the Isle of Wight Council.



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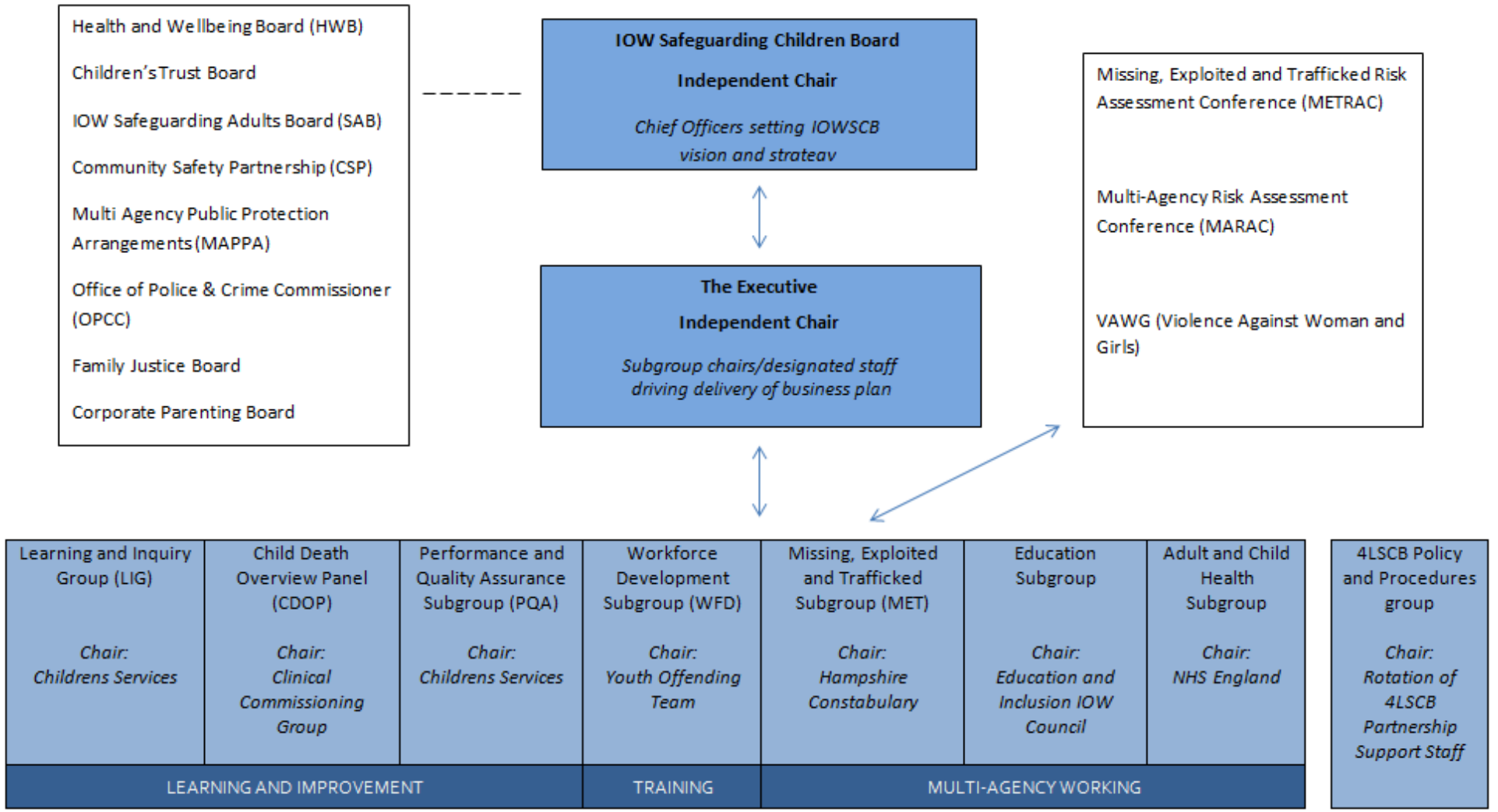
Structure of the Isle of Wight Safeguarding Children Board (and Functional Links)



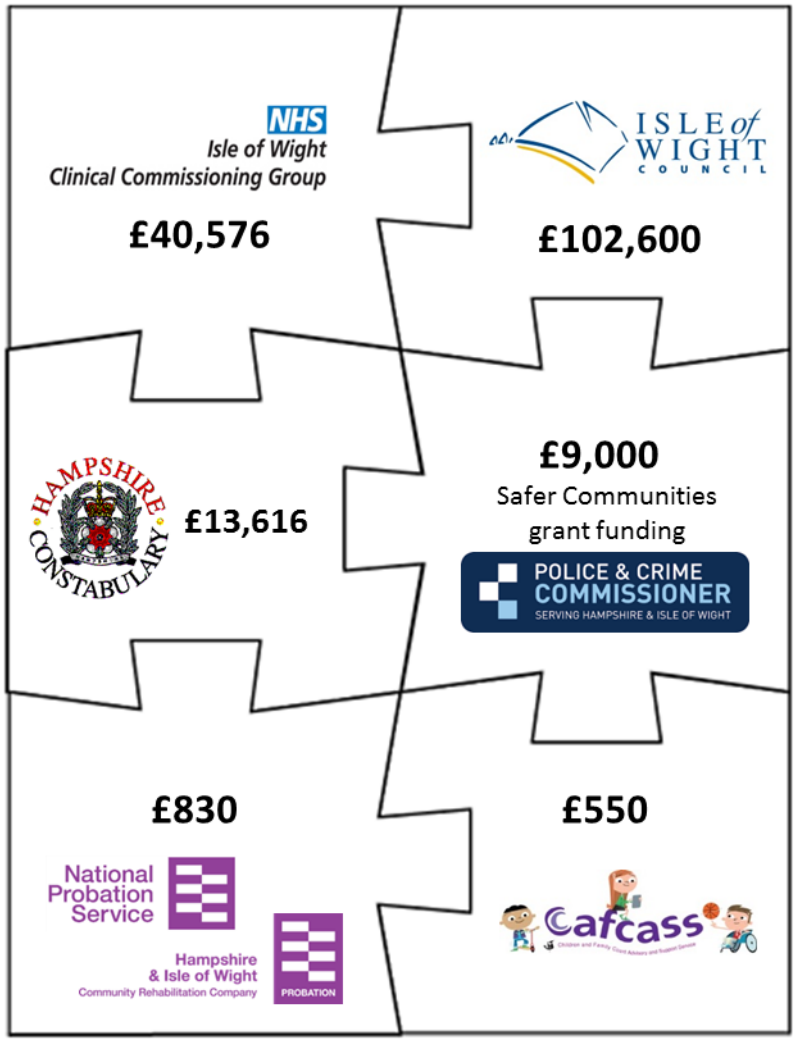
IOWSCB Partner Contributions 2017/18

Total £190,045 (including £22,873 from reserves)

The Isle of Wight Council is responsible for establishing an Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in their area and ensuring that it is run effectively. The Lead Member for Children's Services has the responsibility for making sure their organisation fulfils their legal responsibilities to safeguard children.

Partner agencies are committed to ensuring the effective operation of the IOWSCB. This is supported by a constitution document that defines the fundamental principles through which the IOWSCB is governed. Members of the Board hold a strategic role within their organisations and are able to speak with authority, commit to matters of policy and hold their organisations to account.

The Independent Chair meets regularly with leads from both the NHS Trust and the Clinical Commissioning group (CCG), as well as Lead Officers in Hampshire Constabulary, the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) and the Isle of Wight Council. The Chair carries out annual 1:2:1 review meetings with all Board Members who complete a review proforma prior to the meeting.



The Designated Doctor and Nurse take a strategic and professional lead on all aspects of heath service contributions to safeguarding children. Designated professionals are a vital source of professional advice for health related issues and CDOP arrangements.

During 2017/18 engagement continued with the Safeguarding Adults Board, Health and Wellbeing Board, Corporate Parenting Board, Children's Trust and Community Safety Partnership. The Isle of Wight has a long standing relationship with Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton LSCBs through the 4LSCB arrangement with shared policies and protocols. Summary policy documents were begun in 2017/18 to assist professional's and encourage use of 4LSCB policies.

Relationships with other Boards - The IOWSCB directly influences and improves performance in the care and protection of children. This is achieved through robust arrangements with key strategic bodies across the partnership.

Day to Day Functions of IOWSCB

Undertaking multi-agency thematic audits and partnership reviews into the effectiveness of services. In 2017/18 this included audits in relation to:

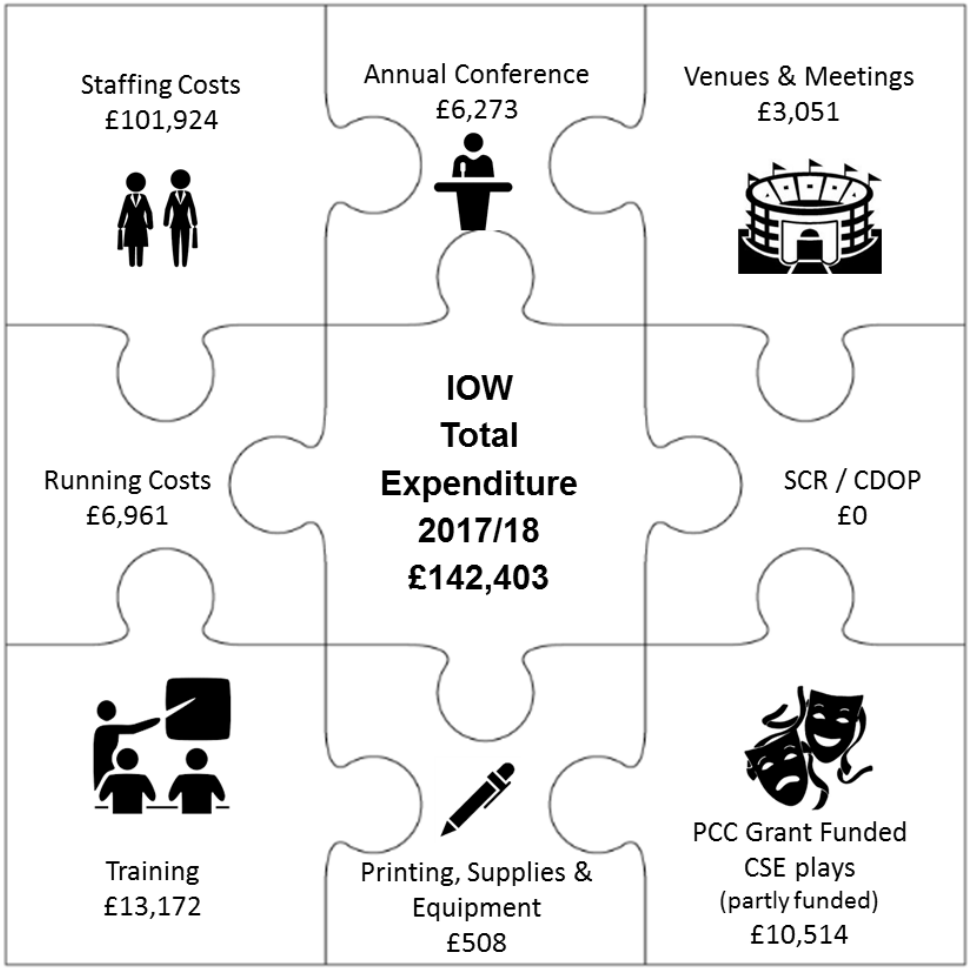
- Intra Familial Sexual Abuse
- School Attendance below 70%
- MASH—Neglect
- Parental Mental ill Health

Ensuring that effective quarterly data and analysis reports are available and presented through the PQA meetings, so that we can be clear about the needs of children and the priorities in relation to improving safeguarding in our area.

Overseeing staff development and learning opportunities that are available for the children's workforce, and reviewing the effectiveness of these through evaluations, observations and longer term impact audits.

Managing the completion and publication of Serious Case Reviews, ensuring that the learning from these improves services for children.

A Challenge Log and Risk Register is maintained by the Board to identify and monitor risks that have potential to impact on safeguarding children or issues that need some challenge from the Board to move them on.



Finance. The partnership finance was managed within budget covering all necessary costs, with the slight underspend predominantly related to slippage in some specific reserve funded related activities. This reserve balances stands at £67,000 and is held for unforeseen one off costs such as serious case reviews and some planned additional training requirements. The level and usage of the reserve will continue to be monitored alongside the core funding throughout 2018/19.

Ensuring that partners are fulfilling their statutory obligations in relation to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children within their organisations through audits, visits and challenge days to encourage reflective practice and evidence of self-assessments**.**

There are two lay members on the Board. One of them will be ending his term of office in March 2018 and so he was asked to give his thoughts on his role:

"I was appointed as a Lay Member in 2016 for an initial 2-year period. My interest stemmed from the fact that I had been a Safeguarding Governor at a primary school. My involvement with IOWSCB consisted of: attending quarterly Board meetings; sitting as a member of the Education Sub-group; and contributing to policy and procedural papers by email. This enabled me to make a useful contribution because I was not a professional member of the Board. I was able to raise questions from the point of view of 'Joe Public', without any fear of treading on the toes of professional colleagues – whether they were drawn from the Police, the Local Authority or other care services."

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Subgroups

The IOWSCB has the following Subgroups which meet regularly throughout the year.
Each subgroup has terms of reference and role descriptors for both Chairs and Subgroup members.
In addition task and finish groups are set up as and when needed to complete specific pieces of work.

Executive	Learning & Inquiry Group (LIG)	Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)	Performance & Quality Assurance Subgroup (PQA)
This group meets between Board meetings and helps drive the improvement agenda forward in safeguarding children. It provides leadership and direction and holds partners to account for progress on Business Plan actions and deadlines. It also seeks assurance during transformation or changes to provision that safeguarding children will be maintained	This group supports the Chair in making decisions where a review of a child protection incident and review or audit of practice in one or more agencies on the Isle of Wight is needed	The Child Death Overview Panel meets quarterly and aims to better understand how and why children on the Isle of Wight die and use the findings to prevent avoidable deaths	This group co-ordinates quality assurance and evaluates the effectiveness of what is done by IOWSCB partner agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It has oversight of audits and analysis of performance data about safeguarding in relevant agencies
Missing, Exploited & Trafficked Subgroup (MET)	**Education & Schools Subgroup**	**Workforce Development Subgroup (WFD)**	**Adult and Child Health Subgroup**
This strategic group works to meet legislative requirements, government guidance and implement recognised best practise to improve the safety and outcomes for children in the following areas of risk: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE), Child Trafficking and Modern Slavery and Children who are missing	This group facilitates communication across the education sector on their statutory safeguarding duties, and provides challenge via the education self assessment tool and school visits. The group is responsible for disseminating learning from audits and serious case reviews as well as identifying issues and challenges	This group co-ordinates, promotes, quality assures and evaluates training and development opportunities for the children's workforce on behalf of the IOWSCB	The purpose of this group is to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults across the Isle of Wight health economy in line with the statutory duty under the Adult Care Act (2014) and Section 11 of the Children Act (2004). As well as providing a forum and joined up approach across children and adult boards

Communications

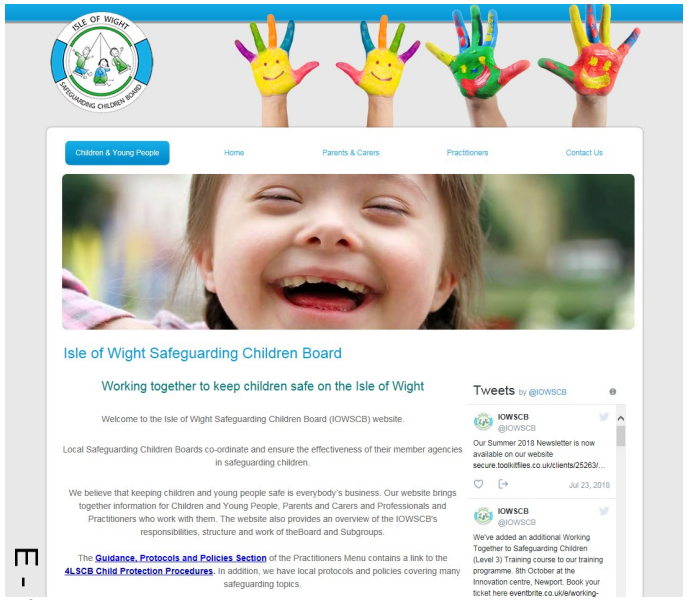
The IOWSCB has worked hard to develop effective communication systems to enable practitioners and the public to access information and guidance.

Website

The IOWSCB website contains information and guidance for parents, children and practitioners on a variety of safeguarding subjects e.g. bullying. It also contains policies, links to national legislation and other helpful websites. Data shows that over 10,000 people used the site during the year which demonstrates levels of usage has been maintained.

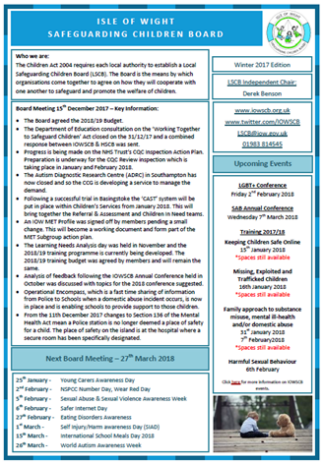
It also contains policies including 4LSCB materials. The children's workforce are directed to specific areas of the website for IOWSCB training.

The Partnership Support Team have undertaken a full review of the website and it will be redesigned making it compatible with tablets and mobile phones to aid accessibility.



IOWSCB Newsletter

The newsletter is generated quarterly and contains decisions taken at board meetings, news and information from the IOWSCB as well as links to websites and documents. This has been well received by practitioners.



Presentations

Ten staff at Hover Travel attended an IOWSCB run workshop to explore their understanding of the IOWSCB, its functions and how they respond to CSE and other safeguarding issues during their working day. Staff demonstrated positive and child centred approaches in discussions around the scenarios provided and were keen to further improve safeguarding practices. They already have good systems in place to safeguard lone child travellers.

Safeguarding presentations were made to early years staff in settings and child minders on the work of the IOWSCB and the Neglect Strategy and Toolkit. A number of training issues were raised and these have been fed back to the Workforce Development Group for action. There was a lively discussion at the workshops and practitioners agreed that the safeguarding scenarios used would be helpful for staff meetings to help their teams think about safeguarding children.

Twitter (@IOWSCB)

The IOWSCB Twitter account has 642 followers, an increase of 113 since last year. It is used to share current articles and news reports on safeguarding related issues.

Chair of Board Visits

The incoming Chair of the Board has visited a range of services across the IOW to talk to managers and frontline staff and see safeguarding practice. This has enabled staff to meet the chair and provide him with further insight into how Board activity impacts on services for children.

April 2017
- IOW Fire Service
- Neonatal Intensive Care Unit
- Home Start

September 2017
- Beaulieu House
- The Foyer
- Aspire Ryde

December 2017
- Headteachers Forum
- Yarmouth Primary School
- IOW College

March 2018
- CAMHS
- WOW Women's Centre
- St George's Special School

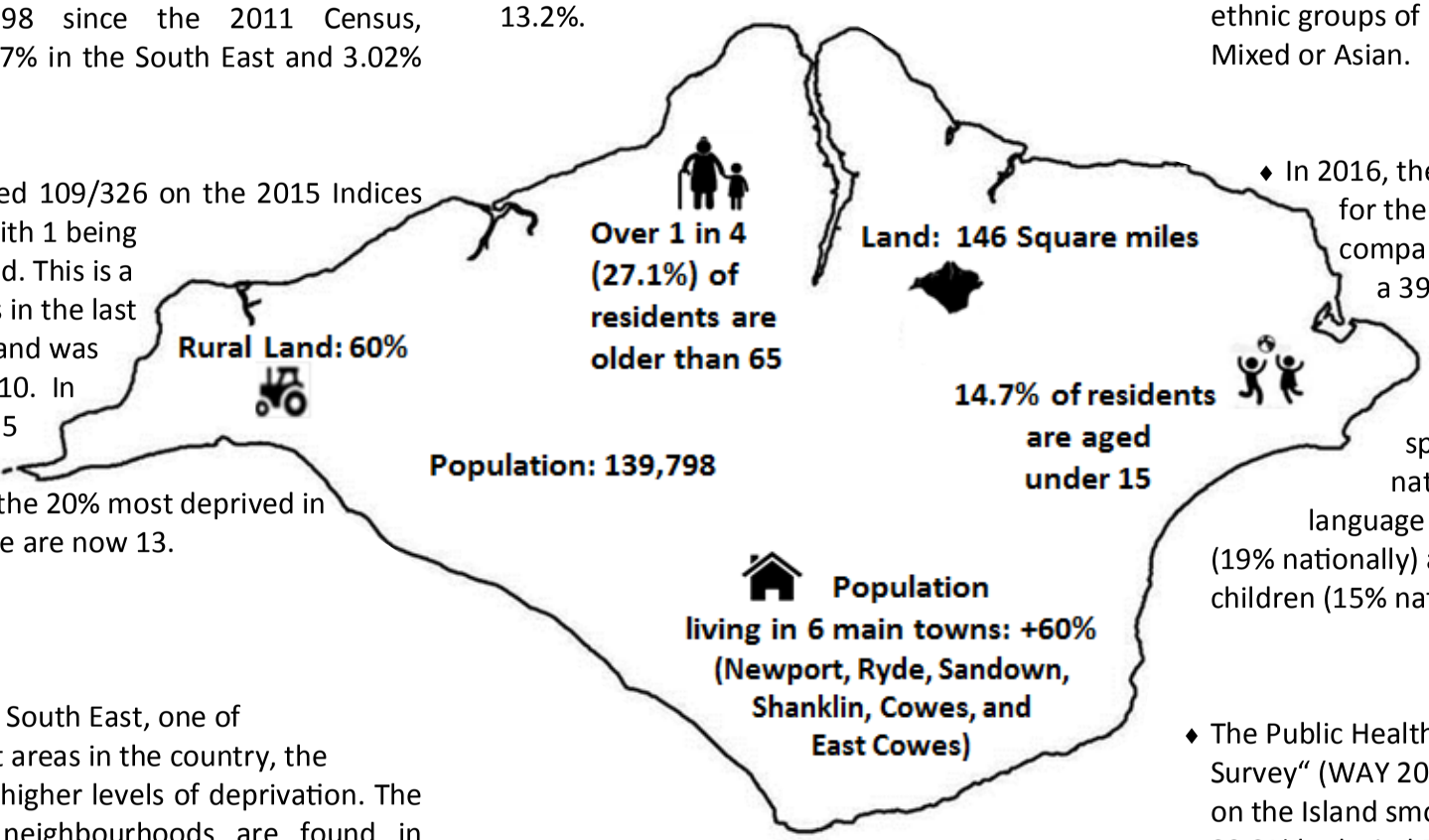
2. Safeguarding on the Isle of Wight: Context and Overview

- The population on the Isle of Wight has not been growing as rapidly as regional and national figures. The Island population has increased by 1.0% to 139,798 since the 2011 Census, compared to 3.37% in the South East and 3.02% in England.

- The IOW is ranked 109/326 on the 2015 Indices of deprivation, with 1 being the most deprived. This is a drop of 17 places in the last 5 years as the Island was ranked 126 in 2010. In 2010 there were 5 areas on the Isle of Wight among the 20% most deprived in the country, there are now 13.

- In comparison to the rest of the South East, one of the most affluent areas in the country, the Island has much higher levels of deprivation. The most deprived neighbourhoods are found in towns. However, the lack of access to housing, and key local services such as regular transport and the remoteness of rural communities, causes social isolation.

- In 2016, the proportion of children entitled to free school meals was 14.7% compared to a national average of 14.5%. In secondary schools it is 11.2% compared to a national average of 13.2%.



- In 2016/17, the IOW was in line with national figures on the number of 4-5 year olds classified as overweight or obese at 22.1%. Excess weight in 10-11 year olds is also lower at 35.7%.

- In 2016, 6.8% of school children were from minority ethnic groups compared to 22.5% in the South East and 30% nationally. The largest minority ethnic groups of school children on the Island were Mixed or Asian.

- In 2016, the annual under 18 conception rate for the IOW was 24.2 per 1,000 women compared to 17.3 in 2014. This is a 39% increase between 2015 and 2016.

- 2% of Island pupils attended special schools compared to 1% nationally. English was not the first language for 3% of primary school children (19% nationally) and 2% of secondary school children (15% nationally).

- The Public Health national "What About Youth Survey" (WAY 2015) showed 6.9% of 15 year olds on the Island smoked compared to 5.5% nationally. 22.2% had tried E-cigarettes at least once compared to 18.4% nationally.

- There are 3,815 children in low income families.

Local Partnership and Accountability Arrangements

The IOWSCB Independent Chair is directly accountable to the Chief Executive of the Isle of Wight Council and works closely with the Director of Children's Services. The strategic partnership arrangement for Children's Services introduced between the Isle of Wight Council and Hampshire County Council in October 2013 is well established and set to continue through 2018/19.

Close liaison is maintained between the Independent Chair and **Hampshire Constabulary,** the Council's Lead Member for Children's Services and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board on the Island. Moreover, the Independent Chair maintains a close relationship with the Island's CCG, NHS Trust and Public Health.

The Annual Report was presented at **Childrens Trust** in December 2017 and Children's Scrutiny Committee in the November 2017.

The Voluntary Sector Forum on the Island has elected representatives that sit on the Board and subgroups to ensure that Voluntary Sector providers have a voice in safeguarding children provision. The forum is kept well informed of IOWSCB activity through inputs at their regular meetings which are well attended by a range of national and local voluntary organisations.

Half yearly updates from the **Family Justice Board** are provided to inform Board work.

The Board works closely with the **Local Safeguarding Adults Board and VAWG** (Violence Against Woman and Girls—and boys and men) on issues such as substance misuse, domestic violence and parental mental health.

A protocol is in place with the strategic **Health and Wellbeing Board** and **Corporate Parenting Board** that clarifies responsibility and accountability between the Boards, and to align priorities, make s best use of resources and maintains communication.

The Partnership Support Manager and SAB Board Manager meet and attend each other's Board and subgroup meetings. They have regularly liaison meetings and are currently working on key priorities, including the Family Approach Protocol, joint training including assessing the risks from domestic violence (DASH). The adult and children's Board jointly arranged a VAWG conference and along with other agencies a conference on safeguarding children who identify as LGBT+.

Board Members

We have membership from the following services: (with Board meeting attendance from each agency)

Organisation	No. of reps	Meetings attended
• Adult Social Care	1	0 of 4
• Anglican Diocese	1	2 of 2
• CAFCASS	1	0 of 4
• Children's Services	3	4 of 4
• Clinical Commissioning Group	2	4 of 4
• Community Rehabilitation Company	1	2 of 4
• Education Services	1	4 of 4
• Fire & Rescue Service	1	2 of 4
• Hampshire Constabulary	3	4 of 4
• National Probation Service	1	1 of 4
• NHS England	1	3 of 4
• NHS Trust	1	3 of 4
• Public Health	1	3 of 4
• Primary School	1	2 of 4
• Regulatory Services	1	2 of 4
• Safeguarding Adult Board	1	1 of 4
• Secondary School	1	0 of 4
• Voluntary Sector Forum	1	3 of 4
• Youth Offending Service	1	2 of 4

A full list of members can be found on page 42. Two lay members are in place and attend Board meetings a well as Workforce Development and Education subgroups

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3. Vulnerable Groups of Children, the journey of the child and giving children a voice

Voice of the child

Listening to children and involving them in assessment and planning is vital to Children's Social Care (CSC). In 2017-18 CSC case auditing evidenced that children's views were part the assessment and planning in 97% of cases. In addition CSC undertake a wide range of participatory activities and events so that we can listen to children's experiences and ensure that their views influence the planning and delivery of services.

Each year CSC hosts a week long programme of fun activities for children involved with CSC called 'Have Your Say Week'. The week provides informal opportunities for senior managers, staff and elected members to meet children, families and carers, to have fun and listen to feedback on our services and what could be improved further.

In August 2017 there were seven activities delivered throughout the week including a trip to Paultons Park. The combined findings from the 265 children and families who participated in the have your say week included:

- 97% agreed that their appointments were at a convenient time and place for them.
- 94% said that they understood why they had a worker.
- 95% agreed that their workers did things that were helpful to them.

In addition to specific events and activities each CSC team now has a participation lead whose role it is to promote children's participation, highlight good practice and promotion of evidence based tools to support children's participation.

The successful HYPE group (Hearing Young People's Experiences) for children in care and care leavers continues to meet and has presented feedback and ideas to the Corporate Parenting Board.

In 2017/18 a key focus has been on developing the 'local offer' for care leavers. A task and finish group, which includes care leavers has been established to oversee this work.

The Corporate Parenting Board will scrutinise the local offer to further enhance the services to support care leavers with accommodation, employment, education and training, health and wellbeing, relationships and participation.

A Children's Social Care participation strategy is in place and plans are in place to further develop opportunities for children and young people to influence the service. One example is the appointment of a care leavers as a 'participation' apprentice. The implementation of the strategy and action plan is monitored through HYPE, the corporate parenting board, management team and the IOWSCB.

Each year children in care participate in the Bright spots survey, a national survey undertaken by Coram Voice. In 2017 91% of children in care on the IOW stated they felt safe (up from 77% in 2016) and 86% said they were included in decision making.

The survey reported the majority (83%) of children in care felt that their lives were improving. 100% of 8-11yrs and 95% of 11-18yrs reported that their carers showed an interest in their education most or some of the time. The IOW compared favourably against other Bright Spot surveys nationally. Higher proportions of carers on the IOW support children's education than was evidenced in other local authorities that undertook the survey.

Hampshire Constabulary always attempt to record the voice of the child within their contacts. For example where children are taken into police protection (of which there have been 14 cases on the IOW in the last year) and when attending any domestic incidents officers are encouraged to think about what they leave behind when they walk out the door and that the crisis and trauma doesn't end there for that vulnerable child, the next steps in their journey are just starting and officers should never leave the child in any doubt about the fact that their safety and wellbeing is their priority.

Isle of Wight NHS
NHS Trust

The IOW NHS Trust Safeguarding Children Team were involved in the delivery of several workshops with the IOWSCB regarding the importance of the Child's Voice, specifically the Unborn Babies Voice. These workshops were well attended by NHS staff.

The Safeguarding Children team has also offered bespoke training to frontline staff on report writing which includes a section on the Childs Voice. There are examples from School Nursing where the actual Childs Voice has completely altered the child protection plan, thereby keeping children safe.

The Trust no longer except 'Not Applicable' in the box regarding the Childs Voice in a child protection report, and the Safeguarding Children team challenge this every time and insist that professionals consider the voice of all children, no matter what their age.

yot HAMPSHIRE YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM

The Isle of Wight Youth Offending Team (YOT) has run quarterly feedback sessions with children. The 'Over To You' self-assessment gives children the opportunity to
input into their own intervention plans.

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Rehabilitation Company PROBATION

The Hampshire and IOW Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)
continuously tries to improve practice in relation to the assessment of service users risk, including the impact that their behaviour has on children. In 2017/2018 all practitioners undertook e-learning in a range of areas including: Child safeguarding, domestic abuse and missing and exploited children. This increased understanding of Childrens experience which has been used to Inform the analysis of risk.

Contacts, Referrals and Assessments

The Children's Reception Team (CRT) and Multiagency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) manage the 'front door' on behalf of the Isle of Wight Children's Services. CRT take all initial enquiries (contacts) from professionals and members of the public, receive reports, child protection concerns and answer questions about children.

In 2017/2018:

Number of contacts: 12,803
An **increase** of 21% compared to 10,522 in 2016/17

No of contacts progressed to a referral: 4,339
A **decrease** of 1.6% compared to 4,408 in 2016/17

Children In Need (CIN) referrals: 2,230
A **decrease** of 16% compared to 2,645 in 2016/17

CIN referrals from contacts: 17%
An **increase** from 25% in 2016/17

'Social workers know the children they work with well, provide good support and help them to stay safe. Social workers recognise when risks to children increase or reduce, and take the right steps to respond to this.'

(Ofsted focused visit to IOW CSC (pilot) August, 2017)

There is a well established front door process and service located in Hampshire, delivered through the partnership with Hampshire Children's Services. CRT/MASH has been subject to inspections since 2014, receiving good judgements at every stage.

Contacts and referrals to Children's Social Care (CSC) are robustly managed with an average of 1000 Isle of Wight contacts per month coming through the one CRT/MASH channel. CRT provides the initial screening for both professionals and members of the public.

In 2017 on average CRT resolved 65% of contacts, with 35% progressing on for a referral to MASH. Referrals that do not meet the threshold for social care intervention are either transferred to early help services or advice and information is provided. Of the 35% of referrals progressed to MASH, 53% progressed to a child and family assessment.

During the peer inspection of CRT and MASH (6-8 November 2017), the peer inspection team looked at a significant volume of section 47 and section 17 decisions and concluded that decision making was consistent and in line with agreed thresholds. CRT/ MASH was also subject to three Hampshire and Isle of Wight joint Safeguarding Children's Board multi-agency audits which considered thresholds, information sharing and decision making. The audits found that 'all decision making was seen to be appropriate and there were no concerns raised as to the nature or number of contacts recorded'.

The rate per 10,000 referrals in 2017 was 1,036.9 compared to our statistical neighbours average rate of 527.34, the South East average rate of 554.1 and an England average rate of 548.2.

The higher rate of both contacts and referrals is reflective of the significant awareness raising and workforce development across all partner agencies as a result of the improvement journey within Children's Services.

During 2017 the largest amount of referrals came from schools (27%), this is in line with other areas. Police made 25% of referrals , which is lower than the South East average of 33% for quarter 2. 13% of referrals came from health.

Section 47 enquiries which started during 2017-18 were 217.9 as a rate per 10,000 compared to an average of 198.09 for statistical neighbours.

981 child and family assessments were undertaken by Children Social Care. The service monitors assessment timeliness and in 2017-18 81.7% of assessments were completed within the 45 day timescale, an improvement plan to reach a target of 85% is in place.

Children and Early Help

The IOWSCB recognises the central importance of early help in enabling children and adults to realise their potential. Delivery of early help is integral to improving outcomes for children and young people, from preventing abuse and neglect and to help parents/carers to achieve the aspirations they have for their families. It is recognised that all partner agencies play a role in delivering early help and support.

Early help prevents issues in families escalating above the threshold for CSC intervention and so plays a key role in helping to manage demand on CSC. During 2017/18, 323 Early Help Assessments were received during the period April 2017 - March 2018 compared to 368 in 2016/17, a decrease of 12% in 2017/18.

The top presenting factors seen on completing Early Help Assessments have not changed over the past 2 years. Poor mental health of both adults and children are some of the highest factors seen, alongside behavioural issues and relationship difficulties within the home.

There were:

323 Early Help Assessments received
A ↓ of 12% compared to 368 in 2016/17

51 (17%) step ups to CSC from Early Help
An ↓ compared to 53 (14%) in 2016/17

80 (27%) step downs
A ↓ compared to 128 (35%) in 2016/17

This suggests that the early help offer remains stable, accessible, and consistent and that partner agencies remain confident in the assessment and effectiveness of early help. Schools, Family Centres, Health Visitors, voluntary organisations and School Nurses undertake the majority of lead professional roles.

Robust processes are in place with regards to cases stepping up or down between early help and CSC.

Early help auditing forms part of the annual quality assurance case auditing process.

In 2017, of the early help cases audited:

- 100% had a named lead professional who were effectively co-ordinating the early help plan
- 100% had the child's wishes/feelings or views recorded which influenced the assessment and planning
- 100% had a plan in place and had regular team around the family meetings
- 87.5% of cases had evidence that the early help process had a positive impact on safeguarding and promoting welfare

In relation to those cases audited where the case had stepped up or down between early help and CSC, the audits evidenced that:

- 100% of the cases stepped up to CSC contained all the relevant documentation, including early help assessment and plans, ensuring that relevant information about the family were shared so they did not have to repeat their information.
- 100% of step downs had a case summary within the last three months and children had been seen within statutory timescales.
- 100% of step downs to early help included child's wishes and feelings, practitioner analysis, child's ethnicity and culture informing the plan, police checks on adults, multi-agency engagement in planning and in services offered and focus on school attendance and attainment.

The majority of early help cases are open for a period of 6-12 months.

64% of cases who closed to Targeted Early Help during 2017/18 did so having achieved positive outcomes for the child and family. Only 18% were stepped up to Tier 4 Children's Services, demonstrating the positive impact of the co-ordinated delivery of early help services

Family Centres

Barnardo's is currently commissioned to deliver integrated early help family centres on behalf o the isle of Wight Council. The service is delivered across three localities, Northeast Wight, South Wight and West and central Wight. The family centres offer a range of universal and targeted early hep support to children and families (0-19 years). In addition intensive family support, through the Strengthening families programme is provided.

In 2017-18 Barnardo's delivered a wide range of sessions and activities to support children and families across the IOW, 5,984 sessions in total. These included evidence based parenting programmes such as Five to Thrive, Incredible Years, Family Links, New Forest ADHD, talking teens, Triple P and Cygnet for parents/carers of children with ASD. Universal activity sessions were delivered by volunteers across the centres. A total of 6718 parents/carers received support from family centres.

264 requests for targeted early help were made, with 329 parents/carers receiving bespoke support from the centres' staff.

347 parents/carers took part in a parenting programme, with 96% of parents/carers demonstrating improvements in outcomes. In addition families were supported in relation to healthy eating and physical activity, smoking cessation, and 46 parent/carers were supported to develop work related skills such as literacy/ numeracy and ICT take up.

Strengthening Families

As part of the integrated early help offer, Barnardo's were commissioned to deliver the Troubled Families programme (known locally as the Strengthening Families programme).

Between April 2017 and the end of March 2018, 416 families were opened to the programme.

Outcomes for families on this programme are measured against six outcome indicators. 71% of families demonstrated some improvement against the outcome indicators, although successful 'payment by results' claims were only possible in 47 cases in 2017-18.

A revised action plan has been developed involving more agencies in terms of delivering the last two years of the programme, which has increased the number of attached families and evidence of sustained change for families.

Youth Offer

The Isle of Wight Council awarded funding to 11 organisations in the 2017/18 financial year who delivered youth activities and provision across the Island. The council sought applications from organisations to provide youth opportunities for young people aged 11 to 19 and up to 25 for those with additional needs.

Each organisation provided a form of youth provision, such as a new youth cafe, creative arts, outdoor activities and social enterprises. The Youth Offer was split into 3 localities across the Island:

- North and East Wight
- West and Central Wight
- South Wight

Grant funded organisations have been supported over the past three years to develop sustainability through diversifying their income streams, including applying for grants, income generation and liaison with town and parish councils. Both universal and targeted youth provision is available through the voluntary, community and statutory sector. This includes uniformed groups, community and sports groups as well as after school activities delivered by the majority of schools.

Specific targeted provision is delivered through the Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Local Offer, Short Breaks programme, Family Centres and the Youth Offending Team and Young Carers (funded through the isle of Wight Council).

Children with a Child In Need (CIN) Plan

Children in need are defined in law as children who are aged under 18 and:

- Need local authority services to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health or development
- Need local authority service to prevent significant or further harm to health or development
- Are disabled

Child In Need numbers on the Isle of Wight as a rate per 10,000 was 495 in March 2017 compared to an statistical neighbour average of 369.

In August 2017 Ofsted highlighted that:

'Children and families receive the right help at the right time. Social workers and there managers apply thresholds for statutory intervention proportionately. Support and intervention is appropriately increased, or reduced, in response to children's changing needs' (Ofsted Focused visit of Isle of Wight children's services (pilot).

Children's social care undertake regular case auditing in order to quality assure and provide robust analysis of the work undertaken within social care. In 2017 case auditing of children in need cases demonstrated that;

- 100% of the case files audited had the child's wishes/feelings or views recorded and they influenced the planning. This is evidence that plans for children are child-focussed and reflect their day to day experiences and provides insight into the meaning that the child gives to their situation.
- 100% had evidence of practitioner analysis and this influenced decision making. This evidences that staff are analytically thinking about the situation and that this is reflected in decision making.100% views of parents/carers were taken into account in the planning. The audits evidenced that social workers are engaging meaningfully with parents/carers.
- 91% had evidence of the child's ethnicity and culture being considered in assessments and plans, and had influenced the intervention. This evidences that in the majority of cases the social worker ensures assessments and plans are culturally specific and relevant to individual children.
- 94% had a case summary on file within the last 3 months and (if applicable) at the point of closure it reflected all historical information. This evidences that social work practice is current, progress of children is reviewed regularly and this prevents drift.

Areas of Impact

An edge of care team, called Resilience Around Families Team (RAFT) was established in 2017 delivering intensive support and intervention to families to support children remaining within the family unit when it is safe and appropriate to do so

Investment in Family Intervention workers (substance misuse and adult mental health) who are now embedded within operational teams and provide an additional level of support and capacity to the social workers within social work teams

Development of the CAST model to reduce the number of transitions for children and their families and to allow social workers to build relationship and improve the quality of their assessments and direct work.

A volunteer programme have been developed with a cohort of trained Home Start volunteers working with families open to children's social care and volunteers working with YOT and Children's Services delivering mentoring and return from missing interviews.

Children with a Child Protection Plan (CPP)

A Child Protection Plan (CPP) is a plan drawn up by the local authority following a decision at a multi-agency Child Protection Conference. If the conference decides that a child is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, the local authority will draw up a CPP.

The plan details the main concerns for the child, what action will be taken to reduce those concerns and by whom, and how professionals, the family and child will know when progress is being made.

The rate of children subject to child protection plan per 10,000 in 2017 was 79 compared to the statistical neighbour average of 54.06.

The number of children subject to child protection plans was 196 as of 31/03/2018. Whilst still higher than statistical neighbours the number of children subject to child protection plan has incrementally reduced since a peak of 277 in December 2014.

This is indicative of the improvements made within Children's Social Care and increased confidence of partners agencies regarding robust child in need planning. Ofsted highlighted effective child protection planning in August 2017, *'When the circumstances of children who need help or protection change Social Workers take appropriate action and make good decisions to ensure that the child receives the right level of support. Management oversight of this work with children is strong. Effective systems are in place to ensure that these actions and decisions are reviewed and, when necessary challenged'.*

In 2017/18 child protection case auditing by Children's Social Care demonstrated that:

- 96% of case files audited had evidence of practitioner analysis and this influenced decision making. Social workers have the suitable skills and experience to make good decisions and deliver social work practice that has an impact on outcomes for children.
- 92% had evidence that the assessment has informed the intervention / plan.
- 85% had an up to date chronology of a good quality showing that social workers know the children and families they work with. Understanding the accumulated experience, historical context and significant events for children and of families provides insight and context.
- 88% had the child's wishes/feelings or views recorded and they influenced the planning. This evidences child-centred plans.
- 85% had police checks undertaken on adults recorded on the child/adult files, with team manager analysis of risk, evidencing management grip and oversight of good social work practice.
- 100% had supporting evidence that the views of parents/carers were taken into account in planning and that social workers are engaging meaningfully with parents/carers.

Areas of impact

Development of the Children Assessment and Support Teams (CAST) has reduced the number of transitions for children and enabled social workers to build relationships and improve the quality of their assessments and direct work.

The majority of social workers have PA support with administrative tasks allowing social workers to concentrate on direct work with children. This pilot was innovation funded in 2015 and the independent evaluation in 2016, evidenced social workers spent up to 20% less time on admin tasks. Feedback from social workers is that this support is invaluable. The role has now been embedded within CAST teams.

Our well established, multi-layered management structure provides robust oversight and management grip on case work, this then allows social workers to feel fully supported in their practice.

Areas of development

As a result of the partnership with Hampshire County Council, IOW Children's Services will be an early implementer of a strengths based approach centred on resilience for our work with children and families.

The resilience approach will provide platform and structure for staff to work with families to identify their strengths and to find solutions to the challenges they face. Working alongside the family to develop resilience within themselves and the community they live in.

Looked After Children (LAC)

A Looked After Child is one that is being 'looked after' by the local authority. Most often it is because the child's parents/carers are unable to care for the child or have been neglecting the child.

The child may be in local authority accommodation/ or a foster care placement (on the Island or mainland) or at home. In all cases, the best match between the needs of the child and the placement are assessed.

A child might be placed voluntarily by parents who are having difficulties, or Children's Services may have intervened because the child was at risk of significant harm.

In Children's Social Care case file audits:

- 100% of cases showed evidence of a current Personal Education Plan (PEP) on the child's electronic record
- 83% of cases showed evidence of a current care plan on the child's electronic record
- 100% of cases had evidence of practitioner analysis and how this influenced decision making in every case
- 75% of cases had evidence that the assessment had informed the intervention/plan
- 100% of cases evidenced the child's wishes/feelings/ views and how this influenced the planning
- 88% of cases had evidence of the child's ethnicity and culture being considered in assessments and plans, and influencing the intervention

In 2017, the rate per 10,000 of children looked after on the IOW was 90 compared to the average statistical neighbour rate of 71.1. The higher rate of children in care is understandable in the context of a previous failing safeguarding system. The child in care profile includes a significant number of adolescents with complex needs whose needs were not assessed or addressed in early childhood.

The number of children in care has remained relatively stable over the past year with an average of 229 children looked after by the local authority throughout the year.

35 children were placed out of the authority, including 7 unaccompanied asylum seeking children (UASC). This is an increase of three children compared to the same time 12 months before.

In 2017-18, there was a significant amount of work undertaken to identify whether there are children in public care that could be considered for reunification with their families or whether there were alternative provisions for them other than public care. Social Care staff have been trained in delivering an NSPCC reunification framework that assesses risk and aims to ensure sustainable reunification for children and families.

The annual Looked After Children, Looked After Awards celebrated the achievements of children in care and care leavers promoting the high aspirations that senior managers, staff and elected members have for them. The event was sponsored by local businesses and over 100 nominations came from staff, schools and others working with children.

Areas of impact

- Extensive work undertaken on pre-admission to care processes, permanence planning and reunification to robustly ensure that we have the 'right' cohort of children in our care and for the 'right' reasons.
- The Corporate Parenting Board is fully embedded and effective with representation from elected members, officers and children. It is chaired by the Lead Member, attended by Members, lead representatives from key agencies and young people for the Hearing Young People's Experiences (HYPE) group. Regular briefings are provided on key themes to Members regarding their role as corporate parents.

Areas of development

- The development of our Local Offer with partner agencies is being led by a task and finish group which includes care leavers.
- The CCG still needs to commission a Designated Doctor and the NHS Trust needs to employ a Named Doctor for LAC since these are both statutory roles. The CCG and NHS Trust have supported a peer review of the current LAC model to inform future service provision and commissioning which will take place in June 2018.

Children who are Care Leavers

An assessment of need is completed prior to a young person's 16th birthday and again when they turn 21. A Personal Adviser (PA) is assigned, attends pathway planning reviews and becomes the key worker once the young person turned 18 years old. Pathway Plans are completed at a minimal interval of every six months for care leavers between the ages of 16 and 20.

Personal Advisers make undertake a minimum of two-monthly face-to-face visits with care leavers.

The PA provides support and advice on:

- Housing options post 18
- Work, training or further education
- College and university options
- Pursuing interests and hobbies
- Budgeting, money matters and making benefit claims

71% of care leavers were in suitable accommodation, compared to the statistical neighbour figure of 88.7%, the South East average of 80% and an England average of 84%. An integrated commissioning process is underway to improve access options for supported accommodation and housing for care leavers.

43% of care leavers were in education, employment or training (EET), compared to the statistical neighbour figure of 51.9%, the South East average of 50% and an England average of 50%. The small number of young people in this cohort impacts on the percentage (EET). Each young person has a support plan to improve access to education, employment and training opportunities

Children in Private Fostering

A privately fostered child is defined as a child under the age of 16 (18 if disabled) who is cared for and provided with accommodation by someone other than the parent, an adult with parental responsibility, a close relative such as a brother, sister, aunt, uncle, grandparent or step parent.
The vulnerability of children who are privately fostered is well recognised. Children's Services report to the IOWSCB through it's Performance and Quality Assurance (PQA) Subgroup even though the requirement to report to the DfE has now ceased.

The Board's role is important as it is recognised that Social Care are wholly dependent on others, including the public and those in other agencies, to recognise and report such fostering arrangements so they can be appropriately assessed. In response to concerns related to low numbers of referrals in this area, work has been undertaken by the Communications team to ensure appropriate awareness is widely publicised on a regular basis.

The Isle of Wight Council has been proactive in supporting care leavers with placements throughout the council and apprenticeship opportunities (the 123 programme). In 2017 the 123 programme won a council award in recognition of the impact the programme has had for young people and the council. The most recent apprentice to graduate won the Chief Executive award for the most inspirational employee of the year at the 2017 staff award ceremony. They have gone on to secure a permanent post in Adult Social Care.

Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking (UASC) and Refugee children

Under Section 17 and 20 of the Children Act 1989 Local Authorities have a duty to provide support to UASC. These children have travelled to the UK alone, or become separated from their parents/ carers. Children seek asylum because they have a genuine need for protection and are in search of safety.

As at 31st January 2018, 7 UASC (under 18 years) were looked after by the IOW. Since July 2016, the IOW has been accepting children through the South East National Dispersal programme.

Currently all of the children are currently placed in Independent Fostering Agency (IFA) placements on the mainland that are meeting their needs- including cultural and religious identity.

Social Workers have undertaken workforce development in this area as traditionally the Isle of Wight has not had any unaccompanied asylum seeking children. This has included undertaking age assessments and understanding the experiences of UASC.

Children Suffering Neglect

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2018) defines neglect as:

> The persistent failure to meet a child's basic physical and/or psychological needs, likely to result in the serious impairment of the child's health or development. Neglect may occur during pregnancy as a result of maternal substance abuse. Once a child is born, neglect may involve a parent or carer failing to:

- Provide adequate food, clothing and shelter (including exclusion from home or abandonment)
- Protect a child from physical and emotional harm or danger
- Ensure adequate supervision (including the use of inadequate care-givers)
- Ensure access to appropriate medical care or treatment

It may also include neglect of, or unresponsiveness to, a child's basic emotional needs.

Building on the work undertaken in 2016 and the publication of the joint HSCB and IOWSCB Neglect Strategy, an online neglect toolkit was developed. The toolkit provides professionals with a range of materials to further illustrate the four types of neglect, as well as embed the principles outlined in the strategy, and apply them in front line practice. The toolkit was designed to be web-based to allow easy access from any device by all members of the multi-agency workforce. It also allows for frequent updating as and when new information is developed and available, which is then immediately accessible to professionals.

The toolkit was given a 'soft launch' in October 2017 at the IOWSCB conference, and the Regional Practitioner Briefings in Hampshire, to enable direct feedback from professionals on the content, format, ease of access and application to frontline practice. Feedback from professionals in both areas has been positive, with staff reporting using the tools in their team discussions, assessments and direct work with families. This has been evidenced in multi-agency audits undertaken on the IOW and reports from the Hampshire Constabulary.

Feedback from Family Support Workers (FSW):

'Extremely user-friendly. Useful for professionals in our role as well as offering additional information to share/support both children of all ages and parents.'

'The neglect prompts and practice examples will be particularly helpful in supporting the FSW's to be able to recognise when a case needs to be referred, as neglect is often difficult to evidence. The questions in 'a day in the life' will help to provoke new ideas when FSW's are feeling they have tried everything and have still not been able to reach the required outcome with a family.'

The IOWSCB and HSCB commissioned bespoke multi-agency training to support the implementation of the neglect strategy and toolkit. The training was developed during 2017 and delivery began in 2018 with roll out continuing during 2018/19. A longitudinal evaluation of this training will take place throughout 2018.

The two safeguarding boards developed a joint performance management framework for neglect to further enhance our understanding of the data in relation to neglect cases and the impact of the strategy, toolkit and workforce development programme. This performance framework has been integrated into each LSCB's overall performance programme.

Neglect Toolkit Homepage

Children with a Disability

There are 234 disabled children being supported through the children's disability team. As of November 2017, 95% of children had an up to date and relevant plan, with the remaining 5% newly allocated, awaiting plan completion.

Of the 30 disabled children who are Looked After, none had had more than three placement moves during the previous 12 months and none had been reported as missing.

Beaulieu House is the Isle of Wight Council's Children's Home for disabled children and is subject to Ofsted inspection twice a year. The latest inspection outcome was Good across all areas.

The Short Breaks Fun and Information Day is an annual event which promotes the positive activities on offer for children with a disability under the Short Breaks initiative. It is also used as an opportunity to consult with a large number of children and families. In 2017, over 800 people attended the day, with many of the families giving feedback about the day, the short breaks service and their preferred activities.

There is joint working between Children's Social Care, SEND services (Special Educational Needs and Disability) and the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). A combined self-assessment is in place for the SEND inspection. For the academic year on the IOW, 28.6% of Looked After Children had a statement of SEN or an EHCP, compared to 28.5% in all English unitary authorities. Social Workers contribute to EHCPs. Children's Social Care work with continuing health care to ensure children receive the packages of care and interventions that meet their needs.

Beaulieu Respite

SUPPORTING ISLAND CHILDREN WITH SEVERE DISABILITIES & THEIR FAMILIES

Beaulieu Respite registered charity no. 1050045. Supporting Beaulieu House, Newport

Children who need residential placements to meet their combined health, education and social care needs are jointly planned, agreed, funded and reviewed through the joint placement commissioning group.

All IOWSCB training planned and delivered considers the risks and vulnerabilities of disabled children. The IOWSCB has developed some local guidance on ensuring that the additional risks and vulnerabilities of exploitation of disabled children are properly assessed when completing SERAFs (Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Form).

Children suffering sexual abuse

Sexual abuse is when a child is forced or persuaded to take part in sexual activities. This doesn't have to involve physical contact and it can happen online.

The Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) has launched a new dedicated counselling service for victims of child sexual abuse. The service was named after a survivor of child sexual abuse in recognition of the fact that trauma based counselling would have helped her recovery.

The IOW CCG commissioned Barnardo's to deliver this trauma therapy counselling service for children who have experienced sexual abuse or exploitation. The service was launched in June 2017 and funding was maintained and has subsequently been increased to provide an additional worker for this important service.

The IOWSCB has developed a short training session to explore Harmful Sexual Behaviours and this has been delivered as part of the multi-agency training programme.

POLICE & CRIME COMMISSIONER
SERVING HAMPSHIRE & ISLE OF WIGHT

Children Electively Home Educated (EHE)

The IOWSCB is responsible for promoting the wellbeing of all children regardless of whether they attend school or are Electively Home Educated.

Children who are home educated must receive an education that is efficient and suitable for their needs and aptitudes and the Local Authority (LA) is required to annually monitor the suitability of the education provided. The IOW Council ensures all families who home educate receive the Council Policy which explains the IOWSCB's role.

Approximately 69% of families on the IOW received an annual visit during 2017/18 and 93% of families engaged with the LA's EHE Team which is an increase from 2016/17.

The Lead Officer for home education is Level 3 safeguarding trained and so is able to give advice and support to families around safeguarding issues.

When a child is removed from school to be home educated, the school must inform their LA as per the Children Missing from Education Guidance (September 2016). This includes academies and independent schools.

At the end of March 2018 there were 337 children known to be home educated on the IOW:

Early Years - 2%

Key Stage 1 - 9%

Key Stage 2 - 26%

Key Stage 3 - 25%

Key Stage 4 - 39%

- For the current academic year 2017/18 all pupils registered as EHE have a named school nurse.
- 6% of EHE have an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP), this is slightly lower than 2016/17 when 7.6% had an EHCP. This figure is comparative to available National data.
- Just under 11% of children on the EHE register have always been home educated and their parents/carers have actively chosen this path.
- At the end of March 2018 9% of children EHE have been known to Social Care in the last two years.

Children Missing from Education

When a child is on a school role but not attending and they cannot be traced, the Local Authority must try to find the child. If necessary the child can be identified as missing on the national database. Systems for tracking children on the IOW are robust.

In the academic year 2017/18 there were 85 children identified as missing from education, of these 84 were located with one child moving abroad.

Chaperone Licenses

The Education Inclusion team issue chaperone licenses for performing children. In 2017/18 67 new licences were granted and 103 chaperones attended the chaperone briefing sessions regarding roles and responsibilities of a chaperone, including safe working practice and what to do if you have a concern.

All Chaperones are DBS checked and are required to undertake an online safeguarding training module. They also need to supply two references.

This has been a year of ongoing and persistent challenges for safeguarding children within the health economy, however it was also a year which included a number of improvements and successes across the health sector as a whole.

Health and Social Care took positive steps towards greater integrated working in relation to safeguarding children, which is already showing signs of improved outcomes for children, as we enter 2018/19.

The IOW CCG and NHS Trust have amalgamated safeguarding resources available across health into a single safeguarding health team. This model offers opportunities to strengthen the Trust and CCGs capability to build knowledge, understanding, skill and capacity within clinical areas and to improve the quality of safeguarding practice.

There are now 2 full time nurses in the LAC Nursing team, but this is still short of the intercollegiate guidelines. The Safeguarding Children team is recruiting an additional band 6 nursing post and Safeguarding Midwife hours. This will enable the team to build on the advice and support they offer to the health sector.

The CCG has appointed to a 1 year post, a Safeguarding Nurse for primary care (adults and children). This post is 75% funded by the Burdett Trust for Nursing. The post holder is working closely with the safeguarding and LAC teams and GP surgeries.

The Safeguarding Team manages in excess of 400 requests for health information every month relating to children that have been assessed to be 'Children In Need'. Fundamental to this process is that the team analyse and appropriately and safely share relevant information with universal services.

They also have expertise in the team to advise practitioners and Social Workers in relation to their plans to keep children safe.

Compliance with safeguarding training requirements has significantly improved across the Trust in 2017/18 with 95% of staff trained at L1, 78% at L2 and 85% at L3. This should have a direct impact for health on the protection of children.

Following closure of the ADRC (Autism Diagnostic Research Centre) in Southampton there have been some difficulties in setting up a suitable provision for assessing children and adults who might have Autistic Spectrum Disorders (ASD). This issue has taken several months to resolve resulting in a large number of children awaiting assessment. The Trust are working hard to find a solution to these current difficulties.

Children that attend the hospital through A&E, Childrens ward, NICU and Maternity are reviewed by the Safeguarding Children Team on a daily basis. Their health information is shared with appropriate Universal Services for ongoing support and advice. This ensures that information sharing is good and ensures that children are safeguarded both in the hospital and out in the community.

The NHS Trust and CCG are well represented on a range of IOWSCB meetings from full Board to Subgroups. The Designated Nurse chaired one of the IOWSCB Case File Audit Processes.

A series of consultations with professionals and the public were undertaken in 2017/18 regarding the Transformation Plan for Children and Young People's Mental Health and Wellbeing 2015-2020. Work to finalise plans for this service are in train.

There still remains an issue with a local shortage of paediatricians for a variety of reasons, however some local recruitment has recently been successful.

Children Missing, Exploited, and Trafficked (MET)

A strategic missing, exploited and trafficked protocol was implemented across the 4LSCB in June 2014 and is currently under review. Local policies and procedures are in place on the IOW to identify children at risk of CSE and to offer appropriate interventions and support to them.

The MET agenda receives an excellent multi-agency response on the IOW. There are high levels of participation in both the strategic MET group and operational monthly METRAC forum from Hampshire Constabulary, Children's Services, Education, YOT, Housing, Health, Voluntary and third sector colleagues. The group reviews progress on its action plan each quarter to take account of recommendations in new government guidance, national reports and the findings from recent Serious Case Reviews.

A CSE risk assessment tool is in place, SERAF, (Sexual Exploitation Risk Assessment Form) to help professionals identify the level of risk to children and these are regularly reviewed through the METRAC.

The IOW is now in the top quartile of districts within the Hampshire Constabulary area in the use of CAWNs (Child Abduction Warning Notices) and C5 perpetrator notices although the IOW still remains an area of low incidents of potential CSE/ CCE (Child Criminal Exploitation). At a recent LSCB audit in relation to CSE/Missing, there was high level of multi-agency participation.

Between January - December 2017:

- 62 SERAFs were completed relating to 62 children
- 36 were at significant risk, 13 moderate, 10 mild, 3 not at risk
- 0 missing episodes related to CSE
- No. of children missing 3 times in 90 days or more:
  Q1: 29 Q2: 15 Q3: 22 Q4: 20
- 0 recorded incidents of trafficking on IOW
- 1 child being supported by ICTA service (Independent Child Trafficking Service)

Police and Childrens Services have been working closely to attempt to reduce the number of children missing, exploited or trafficked. Some of these children require multi-agency input into their lives. Hampshire Constabulary's neighbourhood policing teams focus on this group of children as a priority.

Love 146 is an agency that works with children who may have been/have been trafficked from abroad to the UK. Love 146 has delivered child trafficking training to raise awareness of the National Referral Mechanism (NRM) to the strategic MET group and Children's Social Care staff.

The 4LSCBs (Isle of Wight, Hampshire, Portsmouth and Southampton) held a joint conference on 5th December 2017 in Winchester to explore a partnership approach to the emerging issue of Criminal Exploitation of Children. (County Lines) The day was well attended and speakers included local and national experts. Information from the event was used to inform the Isle of Wight MET Profile.

National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness day

The day aims to: "highlight the issues surrounding CSE: encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children developing inappropriate relationships with other children".

For 2018 a working party planed an evening activity targeted at children who gather in known hot spots in the Ryde area. 20 professionals from CSC, Sexual Health, Police, Police Cadets, YOT, Community Safety Team, Barnardo's, Community Action, 147, LSCB Partnership Support Team and Ryde Youth Provision supported the event.

The group were guided to localities in Ryde where children had been seen on local CCTV. Police took the opportunity to speak with taxi drivers to remind them of the signs of CSE.

Contact was made with 31 children (11-18yrs) and 19 adults. "Say something" wrist bands with the 24/7 anonymous helpline were given out and volunteers spoke to children about healthy relationships and spotting the signs of CSE.

Community Support for Offenders Families (CSOF)

Believe in children
Barnardo's

The Community Support for Offenders Families service was set up by Barnardo's in recognition of the impact that having a family member in the criminal justice system can have on children. Children can experience fear, stigma, discrimination and victimisation. These children are at higher risk of social isolation, mental health issues, poor school attendance and attainment and can be at risk of developing offending behaviours.

The service offers direct work with children and families of offenders and supports the development of skills and training for professionals who work with these children and families. The service has supported 15 families and 29 children over the past year.

In 2017/18, 42 people received the 'Hidden Sentence' training and 17 attended the follow on 'How Do I?' training.

A Charter developed with partner agencies sets out the commitment of organisations/services to make a difference to offenders' children. There are currently 81 organisations on the Isle of Wight and Hampshire signed up to the Charter, and 92 Champions who are an identified point of contact for children and families affected by offending within these organisations, who offer non-judgemental support to the families and signposting to services.

Children at Risk of Offending

The IOW Youth Offending (YOT) team are a multi-agency partnership who work to prevent offending by children. YOT aim to maximise the potential of every child, by delivering quality assessments and interventions. YOT work restoratively with harmed persons to try and repair the harm caused to them and the wider community as a whole.

The latest released statistics published in April 2018 is for offenders who offended in 2015/16 and whose offending was tracked over 12 months from their outcome/release.

This year the IOW have seen a marked improvement in youth re-offending rate (55% 2015 -16) though this still remains high against our statistical neighbours and other comparators. The annualised figures for the number of re-offences per reoffender have also improved reducing from 6.2% to 4.4% (2015-16). The number of first time entrants is currently high for the region and comparator group. YOT are experiencing increased complexity of needs with a decreasing cohort of children. In response, interventions are being diversified to better meet the needs of these children.

The work of the Youth Crime Prevention (YCP) team continues, and between October 2017-March 2018 YCP received 25 referrals. YCP works directly with children at risk of offending with the aim of diverting them from developing patterns of persistent and more serious offending in the future.

Engagement with YCP is on a voluntary basis agreed with the parent/guardian. An additional worker has been employed on a fixed term basis which will significantly increase capacity of this service.

Multi-agency triage panels have been in place since February 2016 and these continue to be utilised. Numbers of children attending the youth court continue to steadily reduce as the use of pre court disposals rises. Out of court disposal clinics are being introduced over the next 6 months to support robust and timely delivery of disposals.

Restorative Justice (RJ) continues to be a central focus of YOT's work. The Specialist Restorative Practitioners within the YOT team have responsibility for establishing contact with the victims of offences to offer them the opportunity to be involved in the restorative justice process. Every identified victim of a young person who received a substantive outcome in the financial year 2017/18 was contacted and offered a Restorative Justice.

- IOW YOT has one of the lowest custody rates in England, below 0.10 per 1,000 of population
- 2 Successfully run YOT parenting programmes
- The number of offences committed by reoffenders fell by almost 55%
- Re-offences per reoffender have reduced from 6.2% to 4.4%

4. Progress made on the 2017/18 Business Plan Priorities

Priority 1

Child Neglect – Embed the Neglect Strategy, increasing workforce knowledge of the types of neglect, skills at identifying symptoms and their ability to intervene to support and protect children at risk of or effected by neglect.

Key Successes

- Neglect online toolkit launched and reviewed following feedback from professionals and children with additional information added
- Neglect training commissioned and delivered
- Undertaken joint IOWSCB/HSCB case file audit of MASH on the theme of Neglect
- Multi-agency case file audit of children with 70% or less school attendance - findings included in Audit Action Plan
- Workshop presentations to Head Teachers and Early Years staff on IOWSCB and Neglect Strategy and online resources
- Neglect criteria to evaluate the strategy are in place

Areas in progress:

- Work to evaluate impact of the Neglect strategy and materials

Priority 2

A Family Approach – Ensure that professionals understand and adopt a 'Family Approach' to service provision to ensure that safeguarding risks to children are assessed and managed effectively in their own right and, as part of planned work with adults.

Key Successes

- Joint Working Protocol (JWP) updated and Summary JWP created for frontline staff
- IOWSCB Conference on Building Emotional Resilience
- Joint IOWSCB/SAB VAWG Conference on coercive control
- 100 frontline staff consulted on Family Approach as part of Learning Workshops (Family G)
- Strategic Level protocol drafted and online toolkit for Family Approach planned
- Undertaken multi-agency case file audit on children living with Parental Mental ill Health
- Family Approach to mental ill health, domestic abuse and substance misuse training undertaken
- YOT Parenting Officer using whole family approach in parenting courses and home visits

Areas in progress:

- Creation and launch of Family Approach materials
- Embedding audit findings into work streams

Priority 3

Safeguarding Children from Sexual Abuse – Further develop and implement co-ordinated approaches to: sexual health and wellbeing, sexual abuse and exploitation and recommendations from Deep Dive Analysis into Teenage Sexual Behaviour and Consent.

Key Successes

- Undertaken multi-agency case file audit on Intra-Familial Sexual Abuse
- IOWSCB SERAF guidance notes and flowchart created on the increased risks of exploitation for children with disabilities
- Harmful Sexual Behaviours training delivered
- PCC grant funded plays for Primary and Secondary schools
- LGBT+ Conference jointly run

Areas in progress:

- Working group to look at 'ERAF' to replace SERAF, covering a wider range of forms of exploitation
- Public Health SHEU survey results to be analysed
- Embed Intra-familial audit findings into work streams
- Teenage Sexual Behaviour and Consent workshops developed with scheduled delivery in Autumn 2018
- Workshops on sexual abuse planned for delivery to Early Years staff in 2018/19

5. Other ways partner agencies have contributed to the safeguarding children agenda in 2016/17

LADO

The Local Authority Designate Officer (LADO) oversees the management process for dealing with allegations against people who work with children, providing advice and guidance on process and procedures. In addition, the LADO offers training to staff teams in the children's workforce and advice on their safe online presence.

In 2017/18 25 training sessions were delivered to over 500 staff across the children's workforce. There were 171 referrals received by the LADO with 125 of these meeting the threshold for formal LADO intervention and oversight. This is an increase from 147 referrals in 2016/17 where 101 referrals met the thresholds.

Advice and support was provided for 22 cases and 29 cases were not deemed to be for LADO attention. 26 cases were still active at the end of the reporting period and will carry over into 2018/19. This indicates wider awareness of the LADO role in relation to potential safeguarding issues for members of the children's workforce. The majority of the referrals (71=56%) were of school based staff (and volunteers) which is unsurprising as this is the largest area of the workforce locally. This figure has remained consistent for 3 years.

There were 3 prosecutions and convictions, a further 6 members of staff were dismissed and 10 resigned during or after the LADO process.

Education

The Education Sub group has overseen the schools audit process and visits. It also invited the main teaching supply agency to provide to the group assurances around Recruitment of supply staff used n IOW Schools including interview questions, DBS checks and Safeguarding training and how the agency deals with safeguarding concerns and complaints against supply staff. This was well received and provided an opportunity for dialogue about LSCB functions and key priorities as well as providing information about our suite of online training that supply staff could access.

Fire Service

The Isle of Wight Fire and Rescue Service offer a range of interventions across the IOW which contribute to the safeguarding children agenda:

- Fire-Setter Intervention Programme working with children who set fires to educate them on the risks.
- 'Teen Fire Fit' programme works with older children who are disengaged with services to engage them in positive activity
- Home Fire Safety Checks for families to ensure they have a fire plan and how to keep the home environment safe
- Fire Safety Education programme for KS1 and 2 children in Schools

NHS England

NHS England organised two learning and action event on the IOW in July 2017 for health and other partners to explore learning from both Serious Case Reviews and other learning reviews across the Wessex Area. The workshops prompted healthy dialogue with front line staff.

A joint Adults and Children's Health Subgroup has been developed with the first meeting held in March 2018. It is chaired by the NHS England Board member. A consultation document was sent out to assist with agenda planning for future meetings through identifying key health priorities.

The Health Subgroup consists of NHS E Wessex, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), Public Health, NHS Trust, Primary Care, CAMHS, Health Watch, IOW Prison, and IOWSCB and SAB and enables health representatives to meet together in order to fulfil their responsibilities to keep children and adults safe across the IOW.

The Health Subgroup provides a forum for open and honest strategic discussion of child/adult protection and safeguarding in health services across the IOW. It provides a common health voice at IOW SCB and SAB meetings as well as considering decisions and recommendations relating to health services, assuring both Boards that they are implemented through a co-ordinated health response.

Safeguarding Adults Board (SAB)

The SAB and IOWSCB work closely attending each other's Board and Quality Assurance meetings. During the year joint training opportunities have included the VAWG and LGBT+ Safeguarding Conferences. In addition, the SAB invited bookings from children's workforce for 2 training sessions on Interpersonal Trauma with Zoe Lodrick, 2 sessions of child sexual abuse/exploitation and Rape led by CIS'ters and use of DASH assessment forms.

In response to SCR findings, the SAB will be included in the Family Approach Protocol and resource development. Both Boards recognise the need to work together more closely to achieve better outcomes for children and vulnerable adults.

Other areas of joint work and interest include the new Adult and Children's Health Subgroup, work around autism, transitions, domestic abuse, mental health, supervision and ACEs.

The SAB had a presence at the IOW Festival again this year raising awareness of domestic abuse with the NHS Sexual Health team, Yellow Door, and Hampton Trust under the banner of 'Love Doesn't Hurt'

Violence Against Woman and Girls - and men and boys (VAWG)

The Adult Safeguarding Board currently delivers on Coordination of the VAWG. It was agreed that this would transfer back to the Community Safety Partnership and plans have been made for this to happen from 1st April 2018 when a Domestic Abuse Co-ordinator will be appointed. There will be a new Police based chair for this group. The contract for integrated services for Domestic Abuse is currently out to tender.

The annual VAWG conference was held on 22nd November 2017 at the Riverside Centre in Newport and was attended by around 100 professionals from across the Island.

The theme this year was 'Coercive Control' and featured speakers from Wight-DASH, Aurora New Dawn, Hampshire Constabulary and the Crown Prosecution Service.

In the afternoon, the Certain Curtain Theatre Company performed their play 'Lady in Red'. This award-winning play looked at one woman's attempts to leave an abusive relationship and the barriers she faces. It helps the audience to finally answer the age old question 'Why doesn't she just leave?' which remains the main obstacle to many people fully understanding the true nature of domestic violence. It explored the relationship from the warning signs, pregnancy, the barriers to seeking help and covered all aspects of domestic violence with a particular focus on the emotional, psychological abuse, coercive control and its effects.

LGBT Conference

A joint LGBT+ Safeguarding Conference was held on 2nd February 2018 to coincide with the start of LGBT History month. This was the first conference on the IOW to raise awareness and confidence of the children's and adult's workforce at safeguarding and assuring the wellbeing of children and vulnerable adults who identify as LGBT+.

There were a range of speakers and topics covering:

- Local perspectives and the IOW timeline
- A personal journey by Ayla Holdham
- Crime reporting and working with victims of hate crime
- CSE and Sexual Health
- Older people, domestic abuse and substance misuse
- Children and their wellbeing
- 'Educate and Celebrate' support for schools
- LAGLO's

A powerful and very moving short film made by children who attend Breakout Youth containing personal experiences and testimonies was shown. Public Health secured funding for resilience and emotional wellbeing work via mental health services and follow up workshops were run by Breakout Youth to provide a further information and an opportunity to explore this important topic.

- There were 56 attendees from a range of agencies
- 100% of attendees said the day had increased their knowledge and confidence
- 100% of attendees rated the conference as either excellent or good

Public Health England

Partnership in Education, Attainment and Children's Health (PEACH) identified as a Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy Start Well Priority (Number 1).

The PEACH programme was developed with school and partner organisations during 2017/18. It consists of an accreditation programme where progress across the four domains of healthy eating, physical activity, PSHE and emotional health and wellbeing will be awarded with bronze, silver and gold awards.

There is an expectation that schools will develop an holistic approach to wellbeing to support overall development and attainment. PEACH will offer resources and training to support schools. Progress has been reported to the Head Teacher's forum and feedback has enabled further development. Schools have been invited to self-assess to determine where there are gaps to aid in the development and identification of suitable training and resources. This has enabled a training offer for 2018/19 to be developed.

Sexual health - This service continues to provide Level 1 Sexual Health training that compliments and supports the evolving Relationship and Sex Education and PEACH delivered within schools. The 0-19 Public Health Nursing Service is fully embedded in this work as well as working with families with pre-school children to ensure better outcomes for children.

Community pharmacy providers have worked closely with Public Health Commissioners to define the knowledge and skills required to safely deliver services such as emergency hormonal contraception and chlamydia treatment to children. This process recognises the need for awareness regarding safeguarding and establishing healthy relationships. Future commissioning will have revised specifications and contractual requirements with regards to safeguarding.

Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) have been identified as a Health and Wellbeing Board Strategy (HWBS) Live Well Priority. As a result, an initial action plan was developed focusing on awareness raising and understanding the impact of the issues on local services. A programme of events took place following an initial discussion on 15th November featuring the documentary film Resilience. It was agreed to hold follow up workshops in February/March. More than 6 workshops took place with over 150 people involved in the discussion on what might we want to do locally in response to the ACEs research. There has also been engagement with partners in Hampshire and wider south east area in Police, Children's Services, council Public Health teams and Public Health England to share learning. It is expected that next year a steering group will be formed and development of an action plan.

Substance Misuse - Recent data has shown a long-term decrease in prevalence of drug use among 15-year-olds in England. However, in 2016 (the most recent survey), 37.3% of pupils aged 15 years old had ever taken drugs, 29.8% had used drugs in the last year, and 17.8% had used drugs in the last month, which were all substantial increases from the previous survey. Public Health commissions a substance misuse service for adults and children, with a focus on recovery and overarching aim of reducing the impact on a person's general health.

The service is delivered by IRIS (Island Recovery Integrated Service) and includes for older children (up to 25) who are using alcohol and drugs.

Children's Social Care employ an adult Substance Misuse Worker and have seconded an Adult Substance Misuse Worker from IRIS, to work within the Family Intervention Teams (FITs). FITs also have an Adult Mental Health Worker and together they work alongside the Child's Social Worker. FIT workers work directly with the parents to effect sustainable change that safeguards children. The impact of the FITs was independently evaluated by Oxford Brookes University and the effectiveness noted during the pilot Ofsted inspection.

'What about YOUth?' Survey found:

70.3% of children stated they have had an alcoholic drink
England average : 62.4%

8.5% of children stated they are regular drinkers
England average: 6.2%

11.6% of children stated they have taken cannabis
England average: 10.7%

Hampshire Constabulary

The implementation of 'Operation Encompass' has seen schools advised of domestic abuse incidents where police have been called to the home address of their pupil. Schools have provided police feedback that this has improved their ability to address concerns and ensure safeguarding and pastoral care for children affected. Where there are gaps regarding schools not receiving data the LSCB MET group are seeking to resolve them.

There has been further training to frontline officers in the completion of PPN1 (Public Protection Notice) forms to ensure the quality of information shared with partners is consistent, this will be an area of focus over the coming year to maintain focus on recognition of input that can be provided to families from multi-agency professionals. This will link to ACEs work and the action plan being formulated focusing on a trauma informed response.

The Constabulary has representation on numerous IOW groups and is dedicated to safeguarding the interests of children, these include membership of MET operational and strategic groups. Membership of the Safeguarding Leads, Teenage Sexual Behaviour and Trauma Informed/ACE's group as well as many other LSCB sub-groups and their various task and finish groups to ensure safeguarding is instrumental and considered by all Constabulary staff.

Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)

Hampshire & Isle of Wight Community Rehabilitation Company

PROBATION

An Interserve-led company

HIOW CRC has recently agreed with the MASH a process whereby they are able to identify if the CRC is involved with a referral. This process enables CRC practitioners to identify and contact the allocated social worker. This should improve children service awareness of probation involvement and enable them to include the CRC in any child protection/ safeguarding meetings

Multi-agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA)

MAPPA is overseen by Police, National Probation Service (NPS) and the prison service who engage with key partner agencies to ensure effective and efficient arrangements are in place to protect the public from offenders who present a risk. MAPPA present a report to the Performance and Quality Assurance group (PQA) and the Board annually to provide assurances around MAPPA arrangements for the IOW.

Faith Sector

The faith sector is currently represented on the IOW LSCB by the Anglican Diocese of Portsmouth. The Diocese as with most of the faith groups has a safeguarding adviser and at least one safeguarding officer in every parish. The Diocese and Parishes are required to follow national policies and practice guidance including responding to concerns and allegations relating to children across the IOW; there are required standards of training and recruitment for all engaged in running or supervising activities for children within the parishes.

During 2017/18 the diocese was involved in supporting parishes complete referrals to Children's Social Care and the LADO. The Diocesan Safeguarding Advisor also works closely with police and probation to ensure the safe inclusion in attending church of those who pose a risk to children. A number of leaders and helpers were subject to DBS checks and attended safeguarding training.

Community Safety Partnership (CSP)

The IOW Community Safety Partnership is a multi-agency group that work together to reduce crime and disorder. It has a strategic plan in place with the following priorities for children in reducing :
Alcohol and drug related crimes, sexual exploitation, domestic abuse and sexual violence, youth reoffending rates, radicalisation and hate crimes and anti-social behaviour.

In 2017/18 the CSP has:

- Carried out community engagement events to raise awareness of what crimes to report and how as well as how to refer child safeguarding issues
- Held a conference on re-offending behaviours and developed a strategy to reduce re-offending
- Included Local Alcohol Action area programme in CSP plan
- Created media messages including summer safety tips and stranger danger
- Set up a community alcohol partnership to tackle underage drinking in Ryde
- Provided support to children and families in dealing with anti-social behaviour including enforcement and providing positive interventions

CSP are represented on the MET Subgroup, Office of Police and Crime Commissioner (OPCC) group working on hate Crime Strategy, and the Modern Slavery Strategy to ensure IOW community needs are reflected.

Licensing

Through the licensing process all appropriate safeguarding training is in place for all taxi drivers. Training has been included with the Island Taxi Licensing Policy and new drivers are required to complete training prior to obtaining a taxi licence.

Through negotiations with event organisers, safeguarding is now a major consideration for the Isle of Wight Festival event organisers. They are keen to ensure that plans are in place to safeguard all attendees, in particular under 18s vulnerable children who are known to the IOW Council and other neighbouring authorities. Children Services provide professional support throughout this event which has often proven to be invaluable.

PREVENT

As part of the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015, Local Authorities are expected to assess the threat of radicalisation in their area. Radicalisation is driven by an ideology that sanctions the use of violence and encourages the rejection of a cohesive and integrated society. Those who are most vulnerable are often deliberately targeted through a narrative that makes this ideology seem attractive and compelling.

CSP's has a priority to support delivery of the Government's Counter Terrorism Strategy, to encourage community cohesion, provide WRAP training across the year as well as tailored PREVENT awareness to NHS staff, Housing Groups and Social Landlords. They have also addressed the Head Teachers forum.

There is a PREVENT training pathway including online training opportunities for front line staff in place.

Trading Standards

The Trading Standards Service is one of the agencies responsible for enforcing legislation prohibiting the sale of a range of products to children to protect them from harm. The Service has responsibility for prohibiting the sale of tobacco products, offensive weapons (knives), explosives (such as fireworks, sparklers, party poppers and caps), solvents, butane gas refills, alcohol, video games and dvds, and aerosol paints. Retailers are required to display warnings and notices when selling particular age-restricted products. They are also required to ask children for proof of their age.

The Service works with partner organisations, businesses and communities to ensure these provisions are met, by raising public awareness, conducting test purchases and other measures. At present the Service is working with other organisations in a Community Alcohol Partnership (CAP) in the Ryde area.

CAP encourages local partnership working to tackle underage alcohol misuse and associated anti-social behaviour.

One of the issues raised for this work is with parents who in a survey of children proved to be the major supplier of alcohol.

In the coming year, intelligence led work is planned to reduce underage sales of alcohol and tobacco products

6. Learning and Improvement

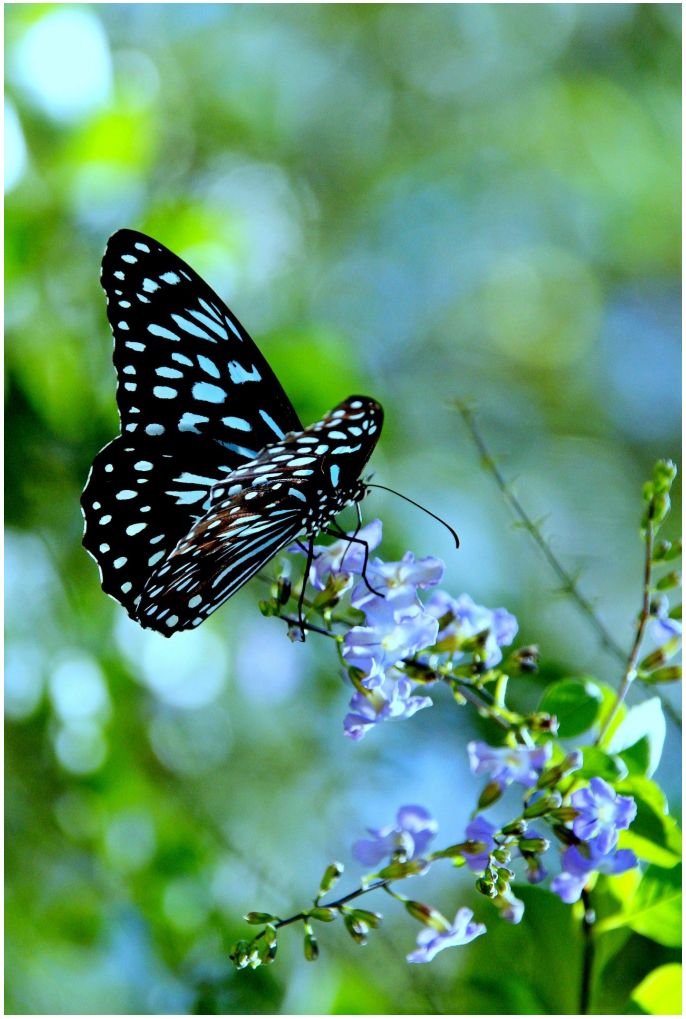
How the Board responds to Child Deaths on the Isle of Wight

The death of a child is a devastating loss that profoundly affects all of those involved. It is important for families and practitioners to understand what has happened and whether there are any lessons to be learnt.

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) undertakes a systematic review to help understand why the death occurred. By focussing on unexpected deaths in children, the panel can recommend interventions to help improve child safety and to prevent future deaths. The panel is also able to consider any wider public health or safety concerns.

The Isle of Wight CDOP works closely with the 4LSCB group discussing cases and themes and preparing for the joint annual CDOP report.

There is a shared rapid response procedure across the 4LSCBs and a memorandum of understanding is in place to describe the principles for the 4 CDOPs and how the joint reports both for the annual submission to the DFE and the 4LSCB CDOP is produced.



15 people attended the IOWSCB multi-agency Rapid Response training in June 2017 and a large number of the attendees were from Island schools.

100% of attendees felt the workshop met its stated outcomes and they had a better understanding of the process.

Attendee actions following the training included sharing the information with staff and locating the Rapid Response procedure on the IOWSCB website.

Comments on the training came largely from the school based staff who felt they would benefit from more information and advice on managing this difficult situation, especially around supporting children, families and staff in the school community.

As a result of this, an information leaflet on the rapid response process and what to do when a child dies is being developed for use by frontline staff.

Helpful links with the Coroner's office have been established. The Coroner is represented at CDOP meetings enabling effective communication regarding child deaths and inquests between the LSCB and the Coroner's office.

Serious Case Reviews (SCR)

LSCBs are responsible for carrying out reviews of serious cases. A serious case is one where:

a) Abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and

b) Either the child has died; or the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause of concern as to the way the authority, their board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child

The purpose of an SCR is to identify any lessons to be learnt from the case about multi-agency safeguarding practice. SCRs also identify areas of good practice and consider how these can be shared and embedded. The IOWSCB acts to ensure that learning from reviews inform practice improvement.

The Learning Inquiry Group (LIG) maintain a Combined SCR Action Plan to monitor the progress of work on recommendations and to report to the Board on how recommendations have been acted upon. LIG members also provide Best Practice Examples so that learning can be taken from positive practice. During 2017/18 there were no Serious Case Reviews commissioned.

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Child G Serious Case Review

- Commissioned: July 2016
- Final Report: December 2016
- Published: February 2017

There were five recommendations made around the following areas:

1. Information sharing systems and assessment of risk to both children and adults.

Actions taken:

- Multi-agency Learning Workshops to explore learning from the case, attended by 100 people
- GP Practices holding monthly safeguarding meetings
- Common record keeping system in place across all GP surgeries to enable information sharing and flagging

2. Developing an IOW Strategic Family Approach to services.

Actions taken:

- Consultation with 100 frontline staff at Learning Workshops
- Agreement between Adults and Children's Safeguarding Boards across 4LSCB to have a Family Approach to service provision
- Family Approach protocol in development, online toolkit in development
- Family Approach training scheduled for June 2018

3. Creation of a more accessible version of Joint Working Protocol (JWP) for multi-agency partners. Seek assurance that staff knowledge and practice is in line with the protocol.

Actions taken:

- JWP reviewed and revised at 4LSCB
- JWP Summary created with an action flowchart
- JWP summary shared at learning workshops, across partner agencies and available on IOWSCB website

4. Practitioner understanding that a child cannot be seen as a protective factor, despite caring responsibilities.

Actions taken:

- Learning workshop activity around seeing a child as a protective factor with NSPCC information provided
- Issue explored with Primary Care staff at locality network meetings, shared in newsletters and on CCG website
- Significant improvement in L3 safeguarding training delivered to staff within NHS Trust
- Roll-out of learning sessions for frontline staff developed by Designated Nurse

5. Primary Health Care and Mental Health Services to have better understanding of their roles and processes.

Actions taken:

- Mental health services transformation underway and will include clear service mapping

Learning From Audits from 2017/18

Section 11 Audit

The IOWSCB carries out monitoring of compliance by agencies using a self-assessment tool, as part of it's statutory duty to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by agencies to safeguard children. 24 agencies completed the Audit tool in 2016 on the IOW including some third sector organisations keen to develop their safeguarding practice.

The 4LSCB group reviewed the audit process to ensure a robust and efficient methodology to assess compliance with safeguarding standards in addition to self-assessment was in place. It was recognised that the self-assessment was challenging for agencies whose services are delivered across IOWSCB borders. The revised process addresses this through closer collaborative working between the 4LSCBs. It was agreed to have a biennial Keeping Children Safe (Section 11) Audit process with self-assessment and action planning in Y1 and a review of action plans and verification of evidence in Y2.

A selection of key agencies were invited to make a presentation about progress made on their action plan and answer questions about how they safeguard children. These took place in June 2017 to a 4LSCB panel. All agencies were asked to complete an updated action plan prior to the panel meetings. Action plans for agencies not invited to the panel meetings were reviewed at a table top discussion led by PQA members. All agencies were sent feedback.

Section 175/57 Audit

This audit is carried out under Section 175 of the Education Act 2002. The DfE guidance 'Keeping Children safe in Education', requires School Governing bodies to carry out annual reviews of their schools safeguarding practice and to provide information to their Local Authority and LSCB about how the duties set out in the guidance have been discharged. Highlights from the 2017 self-assessment tool:

Key Success:

- 100% completion rate of self-assessment tool
- 100% had safely stored and accessible records
- 94% had all policies and procedures in place
- Recruitment and selection processes generally robust

Areas for Development:

- Peer on Peer abuse and FGM awareness training
- Participation in online safety training by parents/carers
- Tighten procedures around regulated activity

A few schools need to tighten procedures around regulated activity so that all staff are clear about this area of safeguarding. There were many strengths in the PSHE and online safety curriculum taught, but online safety was an area for development. The LSCB has online FGM training available and peer on peer abuse is covered in the Harmful Sexual Behaviours training.

Schools produced action plans identifying areas for further improvement in the year ahead. These included staff training, awareness of the LSCB website, and materials and cross referencing their policies to a greater extent so that staff make links between safeguarding issues.

In May and June of 2017, audit visits were made to 8 schools as part of a planned programme to verify evidence to support schools complete self-assessments. Visit notes were provided to each school as a record of key strengths seen and suggested actions to consider. It was noted in the final report that a greater consistency in approach and recording of the visits was needed and this was rectified with the creation of notes of guidance.

Recommendations from the report were added to an action plan and the Education Subgroup will monitoring progress on these.

The 2018 education audit self-assessment forms were sent to all IOW schools in March 2018 and there will be 9 visits to Primary, Secondary and Special Schools throughout June/July 2018. The 2018 report will be presented to the LSCB Board in September 2018.

Early Years Safeguarding Audit

Nurseries, Pre Schools and Child Minders must follow the DfE Early Years Statutory Guidance (April 2017) and the Safeguarding and Welfare requirements in Section 3 of the document.

The Early Years Team send out self-assessment tools on the IOW annually. The team have regular contact with setting managers where they are able to follow up on self-assessment actions. There are also regular Manager Forum meetings that provide an opportunity to explore areas for improvement.

Key areas for development in the 2017 Self assessment were:

- Have written confirmation of DBS checks on professionals regularly visiting settings

  ✓This has now been rectified and letters of assurance from key agencies have been provided

- Appropriate PREVENT training for staff

  ✓This is available online and WRAP training is available regularly or can be taken to a group.

- Early Help update training

  ✓Early help Coordinators hold locality meetings to provide updates and have Early Help training that can be taken to settings

- Risk assessment process for staff where information is released on DBS checks

  ✓Early Years staff have offered advice and support with this issue

The LSCB has provided some information at Early Years managers and providers meetings on the work of the IOWSCB and in particular the Neglect Strategy and training programme available to all practitioners. Plans are developing for an Early Years DSL (Designated Safeguarding Leads) Conference in 2018/19.

Language School Audits

The Partnership Support Manager drafted a bespoke audit tool for language schools which was piloted in the summer of 2017 with two settings. Their valuable feedback led to a revised tool which will be sent out in June 2018 to all language schools for completion. The tool includes questions about DBS checks for both staff and host families to ensure that children are placed and cared for appropriately.

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The IOWSCB will continue to work closely with language Schools in order to ensure that children are properly safeguarded when being placed with families on the IOW and moving around the Island on their visit.

Thematic Case File Audits

As part of the LSCB's planned quality assurance work, thematic case file audits are undertaken throughout the year. These are chaired by an appropriate PQA Subgroup member and a multi-agency panel. Practitioners are invited to prepare notes on the case and attend the audit meetings which are timetabled throughout the day. This process has developed into a forum where an honest and open discussion about multi-agency working takes place. These audits are well attended, demonstrating a real commitment amongst the children's workforce to reflective, review and learn.

Intra-familial Sexual Abuse - Jun/July 2017

Two case audit days attended by 29 people in total, examining 9 cases.

Key strengths:

- ↑ Good time scales from referral to resolution of cases
- ↑ Child focussed work with child's voice evident in case files
- ↑ Well co-ordinated multi-agency working
- ↑ Open, honest dialogue with families around expectation for change

Key areas for development and actions taken:

- ➔ Develop practitioner confidence in recognising developmentally appropriate sexualised play and behaviour, and sexualised behaviours suggesting abuse. ✓Early Years staff training planned for 2018/19. Harmful Sexual Behaviours course held and observed for quality control purposes.
- ➔ Where the perpetrator is a child, there is a need to ensure that their vulnerabilities and needs are also assessed. ✓CSC auditing cases to ensure needs of both children are assessed and met
- ➔ Review psychological services available for children who have been abused ✓Increased funding for specialist workers in place

Mash (Neglect) - September 2017

Two case audit days held in Hampshire, examining 16 cases from IOW and Hants.

Key strengths:

- ↑ Partner agencies provided information to MASH in a timely way which supported decision making
- ↑ In the vast majority of cases MASH decisions were seen to be appropriate
- ↑ Excellent examples of professional challenge and persistence in two cases where needed
- ↑ Management oversight and challenge was good
- ↑ Clear evidence of agency interactions with children

Key areas for development and action taken:

- ➔ Greater consideration of non-resident parents/ partners by CRT/MASH teams ✓Training re-delivered and managers challenging teams around the learning
- ➔ Ensure agency records document MARAC involvement to ensure domestic abuse information informs decision making ✓New CAST teams reminded to record information
- ➔ Attendance of adult services at strategy discussions to enable a family approach to decision making ✓Improved consultation with adult services Team Manager, better links reported
- ➔ Procedures for initiating multi-agency checks reviewed to avoid duplication ✓CAST structure in place, duplication addressed with more efficient approaches to agency checks in place

Thematic Case File Audits

Children with <70% attendance - October 2017

Two case audit days, attended by 40 people in total, examining 8 cases. Structured discussions with 3 of 8 families led by Rights and Participation Officer.

Key strengths:

- ↑ Voice of the child evidenced in all cases including records of when they chose not to engage
- ↑ Evidence of escalation policy being used by professionals
- ↑ Relevant family history taken account of risks to the child were identified and assessments were child focussed

Key areas for development:

- ➔ Secure greater engagement and compliance by families in the services offered through use of a family approach to assessment and planning ✓ New core assessment tool across adult and child mental health services now in place
- ➔ Ensure consistent approach to information sharing at points of transition across year groups or schools ✓Attendance and additional information about child provided at point of transition to receiving school. Schools reminded via newsletter
- ➔ Multi-agency assessment in cases of poor school attendance at earliest opportunity to ensure full picture of strengths, vulnerabilities and risks is developed ✓Schools reminded via newsletter and attendance and behaviour network meetings

Parental Mental ill Health - January 2018

The audit consisted of two audit days examining 8 cases.

Key strengths:

- ↑ FIT worker involvement enabled good liaison between adult and children's service provision
- ↑ Regular case supervision in place and analysis of risks and long term outcomes in place
- ↑ Good information sharing and sustained engagement by agencies
- ↑ Pre-birth assessments undertaken where needed
- ↑ Children and families involved in all assessments

Key areas for development:

- ➔ Undertake joint audit with Adults Board for both to gain better understanding of family approach ✓Joint audit agreed for 2018/19 on adult substance misuse. Jointly cases to be chosen with a shared report written
- ➔ Adult health diagnoses need to be clearly recorded in assessment and planning ✓ Mechanisms to share and record this information more effectively are in development
- ➔ Expected outcomes in planning to be worded in terms of outcomes for the child, and not for the parents/carer ✓
- ➔ Adult mental health workers to engage fully in assessments and planning and to follow JWP Protocol guidance ✓
- ➔ Earlier identification of young carers in order to meet their needs ✓Young carers appropriately identified both by CSC and Adult Social Care

JTAI dry run audit (CSE) - February 2018

One audit day, attended by 39 people in total, examining 6 cases.

Key strengths:

- ↑ SERAFs in place and reviewed at METRAC
- ↑ All cases had a regularly reviewed plan in place
- ↑ Strong partnership working
- ↑ 'Team around the worker' approach evidenced
- ↑ Good response to CSE by Sexual Health services
- ↑ Management oversight and challenge evident in all cases and thresholds applied appropriately
- ↑ Practitioners were persistent and creative in their approaches to work with the children

Key areas for development:

- ➔ More consistency in feedback to schools ✓Education and Inclusion Service agreed to feedback METRAC to schools
- ➔ Consideration of trafficking and modern slavery in assessments and NRMs used more frequently ✓MET Subgroup and CSC managers received NRM training to increase knowledge and confidence
- ➔All practitioners must take responsibility to follow up if they require further information on cases ✓
- ➔Professionals should remain curious and report information to the lead professional even if it seems insignificant ✓

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Workforce Development, Training & Quality Assurance

To assist in improving frontline practice in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, the IOWSCB co-ordinates training and development opportunities for multi-agency partners. A training programme is in place and aligned to the priorities in the Business Plan, findings from inspections, audits, and Serious Case Reviews.

Each year a training needs analysis process takes place to ensure the views and needs of all partner agencies are reflected in the training programme. Training is delivered both in house and through commissioned providers and it is quality assured through training observations made and recorded by Workforce Development group members leading to course content updates and review.
A suite of over 50 level 1 online training courses is available for practitioners via the Virtual College and this has been well used by frontline staff and volunteers.

Parents / Carers were offered evening online safety training workshops and these were delivered with a clear message about enabling children to safely access the online community, by establishing clear rules and good communication.

We have been developing ways of measuring long term training outcomes and impact and have moved to using an online booking system (Eventbrite) that is an more effective and user friendly method booking.

2017/18 Training Programme Data

- **Inter-Agency Safeguarding Training** (6 Sessions) Attendees: 136
- **Inter-Agency Safeguarding Training for Managers** (2 Sessions) Attendees: 29
- **Recognising Safeguarding Needs of children with SEND** (2 Sessions) Attendees: **32**
- **Missing, Exploited and Trafficked Children** (2 Sessions) Attendees: 41
- **Sandstories** (2 sessions) Attendees: 36
- **Harmful Sexual Behaviour** (2 Sessions) Attendees: 40
- **Rapid Response to an Unexpected Child Death** (1 Session) Attendees: 15
- **Keeping Children Safe Online** (4 Sessions) Attendees: 92
- **Family G Workshops** (3 Sessions) Attendees: 99
- **Thresholds & Escalation Workshop** (2 Sessions) Attendees: 24
- **Reflective Sandstories** (3 Sessions) Attendees: 15

Attendees views taken from evaluations:

"Absolutely fantastic handling of teaching professionals, exactly how to approach and handle cases of abuse"
(Working Together To Safeguard Children)

"Thank you for a very special and innovative training day to highlight and encourage reflective practice in all our work"
(Sandstories)

"Excellent and informative training – I could not fault the day. Well worth it. Thank you!"
(Harmful Sexual Behaviour)

"Scenario based work was really valuable and reinforced the learning"
(Working together to Manage Staff who Safeguard Children)

"Amazing training! The real life case studies had a great impact. Has made me think about my own practice! Will be fully recommending to colleagues"
(Missing, Exploited and Trafficked)

"Probably one of the best training sessions I have ever been to. Very good trainer! Thank you!"
(Working Together To Safeguard Children)

"Excellent! Really good tips for checking security online. I will use the information in my own home"
Keeping Children Safe Online

Annual Conference

'Building Emotional Resilience'

The IOWSCB 2017 annual conference took place at Cowes Yacht Haven in October. There were 207 attendees from a wide range of agencies.

The programme for the day covered:

- Lessons from Neurobiology and child development Science
- Children's views of emotional resilience
- A whole school approach to health and wellbeing
- Practical examples from a school supporting children to build their emotional resilience
- Workforce resilience through supervision
- Building family resilience
- Using community resources to build resilience
- Neglect Toolkit launch
- Joint Working Protocol Summary launch
- Overcoming real life challenges

Key note speakers included Graham Music from the Tavistock Clinic, and Richard McCann, an Inspirational Speaker (Son of the Yorkshire Rippers' first victim).

There were opportunities for networking as well as taster sessions in mindfulness held during the lunchbreak.

There was a consultation regarding safeguarding supervision completed by 88 people and as a result a new 4LSCB Safeguarding Supervision Policy has been developed.

51 Attendees gave their views on areas of child safeguarding on the IOW that they felt:

Were going well:

- Good multi-agency work and information sharing
- Easier to make a referral and valued MASH
- LSCB multi-agency training
- Meaningful and well chaired core group and child protection conferences

Could be improved:

- Access to mental health services for children
- Availability and easier access to support services
- More support services for children's emotional wellbeing
- Improved communication regarding changes to meetings

86 attendees completed evaluations and the responses were very positive. Of the conference:

- 95% said it increased their confidence
- 96% said it had increased their skills
- 96% said it had increased their knowledge of building emotional resilience
- 98% said it had increased their knowledge of how children develop emotional resilience
- 95% said they had increased their knowledge of workforce resilience and the importance of safeguarding resilience
- 99% of attendees who responded rated the conference either EXCELLENT or GOOD

"We need to help people build their own resilience and not be done to or fixed"

"I'll be mindful of the resilience of my team"

"I'll be more proactive in promoting resilience in children"

"Don't give up on difficult to engage children"

7. Future Priorities for the Board

Key priorities for 2018/19

Priority One
Adopting a Family Approach

That both the child and the adult are 'seen' by members of the children's and adult's workforce and that there is a common understanding of how their needs are interdependent.
That staff working with children at risk from factors relating to adults, and professionals working with adults within the family, understand what it is like to be a child living in that environment.

Priority Two
Safeguarding in a Cyber Enabled Society

That frontline professionals understand the risks relating to safety online and can reflect these in their work with children and families.

To be assured that children on IOW are provided with information on all areas relating to keeping themselves safe online, and are confident in understanding and identifying risks online.

Priority Three
Leadership and Transformation

The IOWSCB leads the safeguarding agenda, challenges the work of partner organisations, and commits to an approach that learns lessons, embeds good practice and is continually influenced by children, young people and their families.

Key threads that will run through all priority areas in 2018/19

- **The voice and lived experience of the Child** - to ensure that our work is child centred and we continually seek to engage and involve children and young people.
- **Multi-agency partnership working** - including the voluntary, faith and community sectors.
- **Lessons are identified and learned** from case reviews and multi-agency audits undertaken, and the monitoring of the implementation of recommendations.
- All of our work is underpinned by a focus on making sure that **Basic Practice** (as prescribed within statutory guidance and local procedures) is **effective, timely and of high quality.**

8. IOWSCB Members

Current Board Members as of 31st March 2018

Derek Benson - Independent Chair

Amanda Gregory - Community Safety Partnership

Barbara Stuttle - IOW NHS Trust

Barbara Swyer - Community Rehabilitation Company

Carol Tozer - Adult Social Care, Isle of Wight Council

Craig Dibden - Hampshire Constabulary

Dean Haward - IOW Fire & Rescue Service (Joined September 2017)

Emma Blake - Designated Doctor

Heath Monaghan - Lay member

Ian Berry - Anglican Diocese

Jayne Shelbourn-Barrow - Youth Offending Team. WFD Chair

Kathy Marriott - Children's Service, Isle of Wight Council. PQA Chair

Keith Bastin - Lay Member

Kim James - Education, Isle of Wight Council

Laura Bosworth - Primary School Heads

Mandy Tyson - IOW Clinical Commissioning Group

Melanie Rogers - IOW Clinical Commissioning Group

Nick Plummer - Hampshire Constabulary. MET Chair (Joined September 2017)

Nicola Priest - NHS England

Paul Brading - Cabinet Member, IOW Council

Rachel McKernan - Voluntary Sector Forum

Sarah Beattie - National Probation Service

Sarah Jackson - Hampshire Constabulary

Steve Crocker - Children's Service, Isle of Wight Council

Stuart Ashley - Children's Service, Isle of Wight Council. LIG Chair

Previous Board Members during 2017/18

Amanda Sheen - Children's Service, Isle of Wight Council. WFD Chair

Debbie Mason - Hampshire Constabulary

Fleur Gardiner - Isle of Wight Safeguarding Adults Board

Howard Watts - Isle of Wight Fire & Rescue Service

Pat Goodhead - Secondary School Heads

Rida Elkheir - Public Health, Isle of Wight Council. CDOP Chair

Sarah Johnston - IOW NHS Trust

Shelagh Butler - CAFCASS

Debbie Pledge - Senior Admin Officer

Partnership Support Team

Sophie Butt - Strategic Partnerships Manager

Jane Leigh - Partnership Support Manager

Sally Bloomfield - Senior Admin Officer