

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

PEOPLE SCRUTINY COMMISSION

19TH JANUARY 2015

Report of: Jean Pollard, Service Director -
Care and Support, Children and Families

Title: Annual Safeguarding Children Report

Ward: Citywide

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Care and Support, Children and Families

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RECOMMENDATION

Members of the Commission are asked to note the findings of the report and the contents of the Bristol Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) Annual Report 2013-14 and the BSCB Business Plan 2014-15.

Summary

This report covers two areas:-

- **The report provides information about the safeguarding children services provided by Bristol City Council**
- **Bristol City Council is the lead agency for the local Safeguarding Children Board: the statutory partnership responsible for coordinating and monitoring child protection work. The BSCB Annual Report and Business Plan sets out the work undertaken over 2013-14 and outlines the plan for the current year.**

The significant issues in the report are:

Context

- There has continued to be a high level of child protection activity in Bristol over the past year which has put pressure on our services and our partners.
- Ofsted visited us for 3 weeks from 30th September 2014 to carry out their inspection of services for children in need of help and protection; children looked after and care leavers and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Areas of good practice were highlighted alongside areas for further work.
- Ofsted also visited us for 5 days from 6th October 2014 to undertake a thematic inspection related to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). Similarly positive feedback was received about the quality of work being undertaken alongside areas for improvement.

Bristol City Council

- A significant piece of work has been undertaken across People Directorate Child and Family Support to remodel the way in which we deliver our social work services.
- The introduction of a Quality Assurance Framework in order to audit the work we carry out should improve our ability to monitor and evaluate the work we undertake.

Bristol Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB)

- The BSCB Annual Report details the impact of the work undertaken in the year and comments on the effectiveness of the BSCB. The Business Plan is now significantly influenced by the BSCB children and Young People's Shadow Board.
- The BSCB published the Threshold Guidance in January 2014. This has been received very positively from our partners.
- The BSCB has not published a Serious Case Review (SCR) over the past year but is currently planning the publication of 2 SCR's.

Policy

The information within this report relates to the discharge of safeguarding responsibilities of the Local Authority as set out in the Children Act 1989 and 2004 and Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013. The Local Authority has a lead responsibility for safeguarding children.

Working Together 2013 paragraph 3.16 states the LSCB annual report should be “submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chair of the health and wellbeing board.”

Consultation

1 Internal

Senior managers across the People Directorate are represented on the BSCB and have been involved in implementing the BSCB Business Plan and developing the priorities for the current Business Plan.

2 External

The membership of the BSCB includes a broad range of partnership agencies including health, police, probation, Bristol schools, CAFCASS, Fire and Rescue and third sector organisations. These agencies, as members of the BSCB, have been involved in delivering, monitoring and developing practice in relation to safeguarding across the city over the past year and have contributed to the plans for the current year.

3 Context

3.1 Local Authorities are statutorily the lead agency for child protection working in close partnership with colleagues in other agencies, particularly the police and health services. The Director of Children Services (DCS) (in Bristol the Strategic Director – People) and the Lead Member, the Assistant Mayor – People, have statutory responsibilities for the safeguarding of children within the Local Authority. The Local Authority in the form of its Chief Officer i.e. the City Director, also has responsibility for the appointment of the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board. Both the Assistant Mayor and the DCS sit on the BSCB. Within this context it is appropriate that safeguarding services are scrutinised by the Local Authority.

3.2 Child Protection Activity. There has continued to be a high level of child protection activity across the city. The rate per 10,000 population of children being the subject of a child protection plan as at the end of March 2014 was 47.4 for Bristol compared to an England average of 42.1. There has continued to be an increase in activity during 2014 and at the end of September 2014 the rate per 10,000 population of children being subject to a child protection plan peaked at 51.5. This has now decreased to 48.7 in November 2014. The number of children in the city that are looked after over the past year shows a continued downward trend, with some peaks, although the overall number remains high. The rate per 10,000 population of children looked after at the end of March 2014 was 77 compared to an England average of 60. The numbers of

looked after children continued to decrease to October 2014 but have peaked again in November 2014 at 81.3. Social workers are continuing to work with a high number of children who are in need (but not on a Child Protection Plan) and this contributes to social workers continuing to hold high caseloads which can impact on their ability to carry out all their tasks. The numbers of children in need have grown steadily and there were 2715 children in need at the end of March 2014. Social workers are preparing for the remodelling of the way in which we deliver social work (see below) and as part of this preparation we are focussing on ending working with those children and families who have lower priority needs in order for us to focus on child protection work and children who have more significant needs.

3.3 Ofsted Inspection. HM Inspectorate visited the city for 3 weeks from September 2014 to inspect services for children in need of help and protection; children looked after; care leavers, and the Local Safeguarding Children Board. The inspection identified particular strengths across the city in our adoption work and within Early Help and First Response. The inspectors found good and stable teams with committed social workers who are passionate about their work and well supported by managers. Areas for improvements are to improve the outcomes for our care leavers, improve the consistency of social work across the city and to ensure our assessments and plans are of high quality and regularly reviewed. The inspection report and improvement plan resulting from it are the subject of a separate agenda item to this Scrutiny Commission

3.4 The BSCB was also inspected under this framework. The work of the Children and Young People's Shadow Board was seen as a clear strength as well as our learning from Serious Case Reviews. Although the BSCB is clearly undertaking significant work and has an ambitious Business Plan the feedback received was that the Board needs to evidence its impact and effectiveness more clearly.

3.5 Ofsted Thematic Inspection in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE). HM Inspectorate visited Bristol for one week in October 2014 to undertake a thematic inspection. Bristol was 1 of 8 Local Authorities to be inspected within this thematic inspection. The feedback reported that Bristol evidenced partnership strength and commitment in relation to work on CSE. Positive feedback was received with regard to some good examples of disruption work. Inspectors found young people who knew their social workers well and evidenced that children were seen alone by social workers and had effectively challenging conversations about CSE. Young people and parents felt positive about the support from social care and social workers worked hard to maintain relationships and evidenced persistence in seeing young people. Although good partnership work was evidenced the inspection reported that strategic leadership regarding CSE, including systematic use of intelligence, was

an area for improvement and that there is a need for a CSE strategy across the city. The CSE Sub group of the BSCB has now drafted a strategy which will be presented to the BSCB Board in January 2015.

4 Bristol City Council

- 4.1 Remodelling Social Work.** Changes are underway to the way we deliver children's social work in Bristol. This involves the creation of smaller children's social work units, and adopting the Signs of Safety approach to child protection casework. This approach is designed to create the conditions for the best safeguarding social work practice and the model will deliver benefits associated with better targeting of resources and preventing escalation of need. The proposed model builds on the existing managed pathway which includes Early Help and First Response. The new model has been informed by the reported success of unit-based, systems focussed approaches cited by Munro and Professor Donald Forrester, the most well-known of which is Reclaiming Social Work in the London Borough of Hackney. Benefits will include improved outcomes for children and families and improved satisfaction and retention of staff.
- 4.2** Each unit will consist of four professional social work staff holding 60-70 cases. Each member of staff will know about the cases resulting in children and families having to only "tell their story once" and when they make contact with the service they will be able to speak to someone who understands their situation. Key benefits anticipated for families are workers will be able to spend more time with families each week and there should be greater agreement between families and workers about what needs to change to improve the outcomes for children.
- 4.3** Signs of Safety is a strengths based and safety-focused approach to child protection work which is grounded in partnership and collaboration. It expands the investigation of risk to encompass strengths and Signs of Safety that can be built upon to stabilise and strengthen a child's and family's situation. There is a clear format for undertaking comprehensive risk assessment — assessing both danger and strengths/safety. The approach is designed to be used from commencement through to case closure in order to assist professionals at all stages of the child protection process. A comprehensive training package has been launched across the city to ensure all social workers are trained in the model. The BSCB has also approved the use of Signs of Safety across our partner agencies and we are currently training our partners in the model. Our Early Help services also use the approach so families get a consistent experience at whatever point they come into contact with services.
- 4.4** The **Quality Assurance Framework** was launched in October 2013 and has been embedded during 2014/15. The framework describes the process we use to monitor, evaluate and manage performance and

identify areas requiring improvement. It includes processes designed to monitor qualitative aspects of the service as well as quantitative measures of performance. It enables all parts of the service to understand their current performance thereby informing and enhancing their efforts to improve. The framework provides the structure for managers, social workers and other staff to undertake and co-ordinate audits of casework. The aim is to ensure there are continuing improvements in the quality and effectiveness of services to children and their families. A central focus of quality assurance is to ensure the voice and experience of the child are heard and understood, that work is based on meeting their personal needs, that their views are a formative part of any work, and that we achieve good outcomes for children with a lasting positive impact on their lives.

- 4.5** Themed audits on Child Sexual Exploitation, Pathway Planning and Friends and Families care arrangements have been undertaken. Individual team audits have identified required improvements in the consistency of our recording and evidencing our reflective discussions within supervision.
- 4.6** One element of the framework is to seek the views of parents and carers about the services they receive. A survey in January 2014 provided a baseline across a number of questions about the experience of social work practice. A follow-up in June evidenced improvements in the experience of service users.

5 Bristol Safeguarding Children Board

- 5.1** **BSCB Annual Report 2013-14 (Appendix 1) and Business Plan 2014-15. (Appendix 2).** The BSCB Annual Report details the impact of the work undertaken in the year and comments on the effectiveness of the BSCB. The Business Plan is currently being refreshed for 2015/16. The Independent Chair of the BSCB will present these reports.
- 5.2** The Independent Chair of the BSCB for the period of the Annual Report, Tony Melville, stepped down in the summer of 2014 following a year in post due to conflicting work commitments. A new Independent Chair, Sally Lewis, was appointed in September and has already brought energy and a helpful critical eye to the work of the BSCB.
- 5.3** In January 2014 the BSCB launched the Threshold Guidance. The guidance was designed to help practitioners from all agencies working with children and young people to identify when additional support will help children achieve their potential, and keep them safe from harm. The guidance has been well received and the BSCB has received positive feedback about the additional clarity it brings to decision making when

considering referrals to First Response.

- 5.4 Serious Case Reviews.** The BSCB has not published any Serious Case Reviews over the past year although planning for the publication of two Serious Case Reviews relating to child deaths from a previous year is in train. The BSCB has also commissioned a SCR relating to Operation Brooke, a significant child sexual exploitation case concluded in court in November. This SCR is underway.
- 5.5** The Children and Young People's Shadow Board, which has representation from the Youth Council and the Children in Care Council, has continued to grow in voice and has strongly influenced the priorities within the current Business Plan. The Shadow Board appointed a young person as chair who reports into the BSCB. Once again members of the Shadow Board jointly planned the BSCB Conference in 2014 and contributed to the interviewing process for the new Independent Chair.
- 5.6** The Business Plan for 2014-15 lists our priorities over this year. The strategic priorities were set for 3 years from 2013-16 with the overarching priority that the "Voice of the child" influences all that we do. The priorities have been established as a result of outcomes from Serious Case Reviews, national and local priorities, the input from the Shadow Board and analysis of performance data.

6 Proposal

Members of the Scrutiny Commission are asked to note the contents of the report and the BSCB Annual Report 2013-14 and Business Plan 2014-15.

Other Options Considered

- 7** None

Risk Assessment

- 8** Protecting vulnerable children from abuse and neglect is a central priority for the Council and Scrutiny Commission. Failure to adequately protect children from harm is a significant corporate risk, which has a risk assessment completed.
- 9** It is a statutory responsibility for the BSCB to be the key mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The BSCB is required to produce an Annual Report and Business Plan. There is a low risk that if the Business Plan was not implemented, a quality assurance function could be missed and as a consequence children could be left more vulnerable.

Public Sector Equality Duties

- 8a) Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:
- i) Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.
 - ii) Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --
 - remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;
 - take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);
 - encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.
 - iii) Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –
 - tackle prejudice; and
 - promote understanding.
- 8b) There has been no specific Equalities Impact Assessment undertaken in relation to this report or the BSCB Business plan. However there are a number of actions within the plan that are aimed at improving the responsiveness of services in relation to children's diverse needs.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

There are no direct legal implications arising from this report.

(Legal advice provided by Nancy Rollason Service Manager Legal Services)

Financial**(a) Revenue**

No financial implications

(b) Capital

No financial implications

(Financial advice provided by <Insert name and job title>)

Land

Not applicable

Personnel

Not applicable

(Personnel advice provided by <Insert name and job title>)

Appendices:

BSCB Annual Report 2013-14

BSCB Business Plan 2014-15.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985**Background Papers:**

None

Annual Report

2013-2014

2013-

2014



Bristol
Safeguarding
Children
Board and
Shadow
Young
Peoples
Safeguarding
Board

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Foreword

Tony Melville Independent Chair & Rajni Mamgai Co-Chair of Shadow Children and Young Peoples Safeguarding Children Board.

This has been my first year as the independent chair of the Bristol Safeguarding Children Board. I took up my role in April 2013 following an interview process of which the most challenging part was being interviewed by a panel of young people!

I have relished the challenge of my first year. I have met with the young people of the 'Shadow Board' who impressed me with their enthusiasm, commitment and level of responsibility towards planning the BSCB annual conference as well as highlighting to us the significant issues that impact on the children and young people of Bristol.

I have joined a group of dedicated professionals in Bristol who strive hard for the protection of children in Bristol.

There have been some difficult challenges for Bristol over the past 12 months and continued tragedies across the country that are presented in the national media. The death of Daniel Pelka brought significant media coverage again onto social work. In Bristol we have reflected on the lessons learnt from this tragic case. We are also cognisant of our own tragic deaths of children in Bristol and in January and February we held workshops for practitioners across our agencies to ensure that the lessons learnt are disseminated as widely as possible across the children's workforce.

We are of course facing an environment of restricting / constricting resources and I have been impressed that the partners on our board have continued to contribute both financially and with their time in order to safeguard the children of Bristol. We have an ambitious plan for the next year and I am looking forward to working with colleagues in Bristol to achieve our aspirations.



**Anthony Melville,
Independent Chair of Bristol Safeguarding Children Board**

Overview Report from Bristol City Council People Directorate Service Manager Safeguarding.

The BSCB has continued to work hard this year to meet its priorities in the context of all our partners facing financial pressures.

The BSCB has made significant progress in meeting some of the identified priorities:

- The Shadow Board has continued to influence everything we do and worked with us to set out priorities for the year ahead. The Shadow Board jointly planned and delivered the Annual BSCB Safeguarding Conference on the 'Voice of the Child' in July 2013 and the conference was very well received. A DVD that was made by the Children in Care Council telling practitioners what made a good social worker, teacher etc., was shown and had a significant impact on the audience. The DVD has now been used for training purposes across our partner agencies.
- The Shadow Board is now jointly planning the BSCB Annual Conference on Learning from Serious Case Reviews and we hope to repeat the success from last year.
- The overarching priority for our business plan is that the 'Voice of the Child' influences all that we do.
- We have delivered area partnership meetings on our local serious case reviews. These were really well attended by all our partners and received very positive feedback. We plan to repeat this in the next year.
- We launched our Threshold Guidance in January 2014, following a period of consultation. The guidance was widely circulated and promoted. Initial feedback is that it has been welcomed by all partners and provides clarity. We will be addressing how well the guidance is embedded over the next six months.
- The Performance Sub-Group has reviewed our report card and made amendments. We will now be able to report more clearly on early help activity, children missing from home and care and children being sexually exploited.
- We have undertaken our first section 11 Audit in conjunction with colleagues in North Somerset, Somerset and Bath & North East Somerset, and are due to report to the Board the findings from this and will identify themes that will be subject of further audit during the next year. The Performance Sub Group will also invite partners to discuss themes identified in the S.11 Audit as part of peer challenge and learning opportunities.
- The Quality Sub Group has continued to undertake multi-agency audits on agreed priorities and the annual threshold audit and have also completed a systematic case review regarding a complex case involving familial sexual abuse and emotional abuse.
- Our Early Help service is now firmly established and we have welcomed a new Early Help representative to the Board.
- We have continued to provide a full training programme that has continued to receive very positive feedback.
- The Education Sub Group has welcomed a new chair and has broadened its membership to include representatives from an FE (post 16) college and residential school for young people with physical and learning disabilities.
- The annual safeguarding audit was completed by a very high number of schools this year. Each school has received individual feedback on their action plan.

The OFSTED framework was revised and published in November 2013. The document outlines the framework for the inspection of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers. For the first time the framework will also review and report separately on the effectiveness of the LSCB.

We have worked hard on our priorities identified in our business plan. This year we agreed that our business plan should run for three years, reflecting the time required to achieve meaningful change and the progressive elements within some of the priorities.

We are all aware of the potential challenges that lay ahead. Our business plan has been further developed going into next year. We have taken account of the Shadow Board's request to include self-harm and Female Genital Mutilation in the business plan and we are continuing to ensure the voice of the child is our priority.

We know that all our partners are working in a context of shrinking resources but the commitment and energy to working with each in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people in Bristol continues.

**Fiona Tudge,
Service Manager, Safeguarding and Quality Assurance.**

1. Role and Function of Bristol Safeguarding Children Board

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

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) States that an LSCB must be established for every local authority area. The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policy and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements.

Statutory objectives and functions of LSCBs

Section 14 of the Children Act 2004 sets out the objectives of LSCBs, which are:

- a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and
- b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

Regulation 5 of the **Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006** sets out that the functions of the LSCB, in relation to the above objectives under **section 14 of the Children Act 2004**, are as follows:

- a) developing policies and procedures for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area of the authority, including policies and procedures in relation to:
 - i) the action to be taken where there are concerns about a child's safety or welfare, including thresholds for intervention;
 - ii) training of persons who work with children or in services affecting the safety and welfare of children;
 - iii) recruitment and supervision of persons who work with children;
 - iv) investigation of allegations concerning persons who work with children;
 - v) safety and welfare of children who are privately fostered;
 - vi) cooperation with neighbouring children's services authorities and their Board partners;
- b) communicating to persons and bodies in the area of the authority the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, raising their awareness of how this can best be done and encouraging them to do so;
- c) monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by the authority and their Board partners individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and advising them on ways to improve;
- d) participating in the planning of services for children in the area of the authority; and
- e) undertaking reviews of serious cases and advising the authority and their Board partners on lessons to be learned.

Regulation 5 (2) which relates to the LSCB Serious Case Reviews function and regulation 6 which relates to the LSCB Child Death functions are covered in chapter 4 of this Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013.

Regulation 5 (3) provides that an LSCB may also engage in any other activity that facilitates, or is conducive to, the achievement of its objectives.

2. Local Background and Context

Bristol is a rapidly growing city. It is a diverse city with a relatively young population and a strong local economy. The Bristol population has risen, with estimated growth of 13.2% compared to 5.6% nationally. The birth rate is high and the number of children under five years is one of the highest in the country. Bristol has a young population profile, with an average (median) age of 33 compared to 39 for England & Wales. There are more children under 16 living in Bristol than people aged over 65. This growing population is also increasingly diverse, more so than nationally. The proportion of the population who are not White British has increased and is now 22%, while the proportion of children who belong to a BME group is 28%. 18% of pupils at Bristol schools speak English as an additional language, compared to 14% five years ago. While 18% of children on school roll have special educational needs, compared to 19% last year and nationally, in a growing population this reflects a larger number of children and young people with needs to be catered for.

Over the 18 months to February 2014, the number of children who are the subject of a child protection plan has fallen from 448 to 423. Over the same period, there has been an increase in the number of Looked After Children (children in care) from 685 to 720, while the number of children in need has risen from 2352 to 2720, although this tends to fluctuate throughout the year.

Educational performance is generally improving. At Key Stage 2, in 2013 76% of pupils achieved the combined grade in Reading, Writing and Maths compared to 74% in 2012. At Key Stage 4, in 2013 51% (provisional results) of pupils achieved 5 A* to C grades in subjects including English and Maths, compared to 52% in 2012. We plan to improve this significantly in the coming period and targets for 2014 are 78% at Key Stage 2 and 55% at Key Stage 4. Our primary schools are achieving good inspection outcomes. Following a recent coordinated inspection of Bristol schools, Ofsted reported that recent improvement is “cause for optimism and reflects well upon the hard work of the senior leaders, teachers and pupils since the schools were last inspected”. In the recently published Ofsted Annual Report, Sir Michael Wilshaw highlighted that in the South West region “Bristol had the greatest increase in the proportion of good or outstanding primary schools in 2012/13”.

At Key Stage 2 there has been a continual upward trajectory of Looked After Children achieving level 4 or better in English and Maths combined from 2009 to 2012. This cannot be compared to the current year as reading and writing are reported separately. At Key Stage 4, 15.8% of Bristol Looked After Children achieved 5 A to C grades in English and Maths in 2013, which is just above the national figure of 15.3%. The trajectory for closing the gap is improving; however there remains a significant gap which is a priority for Bristol’s Virtual School, The Hope, to address. The Rising Stars and Aim High programmes are two ways to progress in this area and will be delivered and monitored. We have set ambitious targets for this year, for example 27% for Key Stage 4, reflecting our commitment to improvement in this important area.

Economic Outlook

There is a wide disparity in income between different areas of Bristol, with some wards having an average household income over double that of others. Further, as a consequence of 2012 Welfare Reform, it is estimated that £125 million could be lost from the Bristol economy by 2016, which will be concentrated in areas already more deprived. The latest figures from 2010 show that one quarter of Bristol’s children live in poverty, compared to 21% nationally. The highest level is in Lawrence Hill ward, where just over half (52.5%) of all children live below the poverty line. The lowest is in Henleaze ward where the figure is 1.7%. We know we need to tackle this inequality if we are to improve the overall picture, and this is reflected in the Mayor’s Vision for Bristol, which will be central to the way our services are delivered in future.

Although Bristol children are generally healthy, there are significant health inequalities in the city, related to higher than average rates of child poverty. Citywide childhood obesity rates are the same as the national average but much higher in the most deprived areas of the city.

3. Purpose of the report

Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) provides explicit expectations in respect of LSCB's and the publication of an Annual Report.

The Chair must publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area (this is a statutory requirement under section 14A of the Children Act 2004). The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chair of the health and wellbeing board.

The report should provide a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services. It should identify areas of weakness, the causes of those weaknesses and the action being taken to address them as well as other proposals for action. The report should include lessons from reviews undertaken within the reporting period.

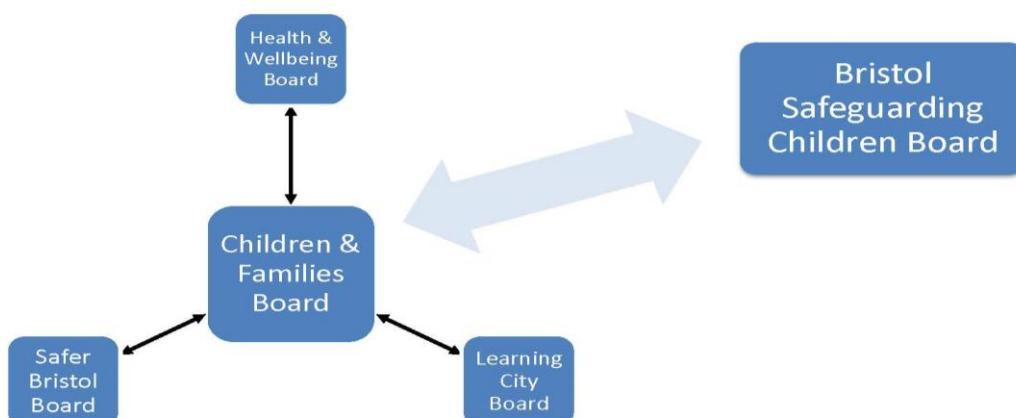
The report should also list the contributions made to the LSCB by partner agencies and details of what the LSCB has spent, including on Child Death Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and other specific expenditure such as learning events or training. All LSCB member organisations have an obligation to provide LSCB's with reliable resources (including finance) that enable the LSCB to be strong and effective. Members should share the financial responsibility for the LSCB in such a way that a disproportionate burden does not fall on a small number of partner agencies.

(Ch. 3, para. 16, 17 and 18, Working Together 2013)

Details of the budget and funding arrangements for Bristol Safeguarding Children Board are outlined in Appendix 3.

The structure of Bristol Safeguarding Children Board is within Appendix 4 alongside membership and attendance.

Links between BSCB and Children and Families Board



Children & Families Board Role

- Maintains an early help and prevention focus, bringing together work from other strategic areas
- Links former Children's Trust partners – Police, CCG, Schools, GPs, Public Health, Voluntary Sector
- Strong links to other Partnership Boards via shared membership and CCG/BCC co-chair
- Seeks joint responses to identified priorities
- Challenges and supports LSCB activity where linked to the C&FB priority areas

The Relationship with BSCB

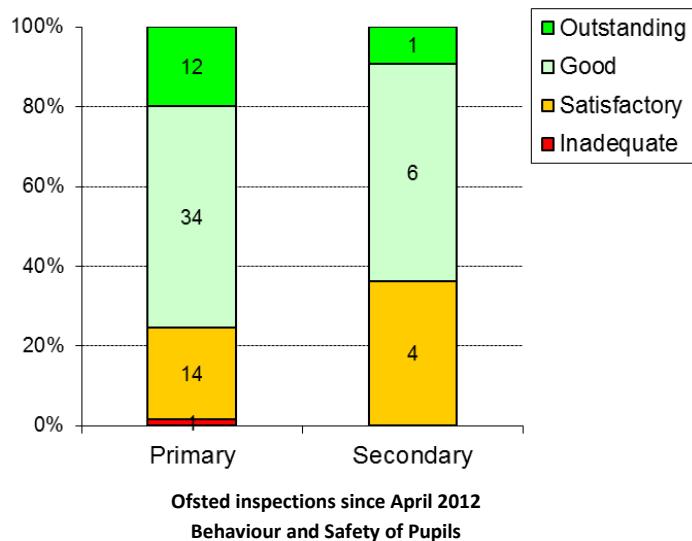
- C&FB supports LSCB via links with Early Help & Intervention – eg. Troubled Families work
- C&FB sets longer term strategic priorities for prevention, early help and intervention
- C&FB analyses need and focuses on key priorities, eg. attendance, child poverty, access to health services
- C&FB brings together commissioners of early intervention to seek joint solutions
- A Strong link - LSCB chair is a C&FB member

4. The Effectiveness of BSCB in fulfilling its functions as set out in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013

Outcome of External Inspections

Ofsted - Schools

Since 2012 61 Bristol Primary Schools and 11 Secondary schools have received an Ofsted inspection. The outcomes in relation to the safety and behaviour of pupils can be seen in the adjoining chart.



Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary

Avon and Somerset Constabulary's approach to tackling domestic abuse – March 2014.

The public of Avon and Somerset can be reasonably confident that the constabulary can identify and conduct an initial investigation into reports of domestic abuse including identifying safeguarding issues to manage the risk to vulnerable people. The public can be confident too of the commitment of the constabulary's public protection unit in its response to victims of domestic abuse.

Partnership engagement in the multi-agency risk assessment conferences (MARACs) is good but differences in workloads exist... Bristol is just tenable.

...If children are mentioned or involved, a referral is made to children's social care, and if children are under five, or the female involved or affected is pregnant, a referral is made to health visitors. All children of school age are referred to education services.

Care Quality Commission

The Clinical Commissioning Group have coordinated work across all the providers in preparation for an expected CQC review of safeguarding and looked after children's arrangements. This work included a self-assessment by each provider, a peer review of this assessment and the development of an action plan for each provider.

Policies procedures and Guidance

BSCB is a member of the South West Child Protection Procedures group. This group has been in existence since 2006 and consists of 13 LSCBs in the South West of England. The group provides multi-agency child protection procedures and guidance via a website (www.swcpp.org.uk) the procedures are regularly reviewed and updated.

During 2013-2014 the content and design of the site was significantly revised in order to improve the content and accessibility of the procedures. During 2014-2015 the contract for the provision of these procedures will be re-tendered.

BSCB has its own suite of procedures and guidance available on its webpages here:

(<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/children-and-young-people/bristol-safeguarding-children-board>)

Procedures and guidance issued during 2013 -2014 include:

- Guidance on the use of partnership agreements and written undertakings.

During 2014-2015 Procedures and guidance in relation to Children missing from home and care, Female Genital Mutilation, Child Sexual Exploitation (and Strategy) are to be revised and updated.

5. Performance Management and Quality Assurance

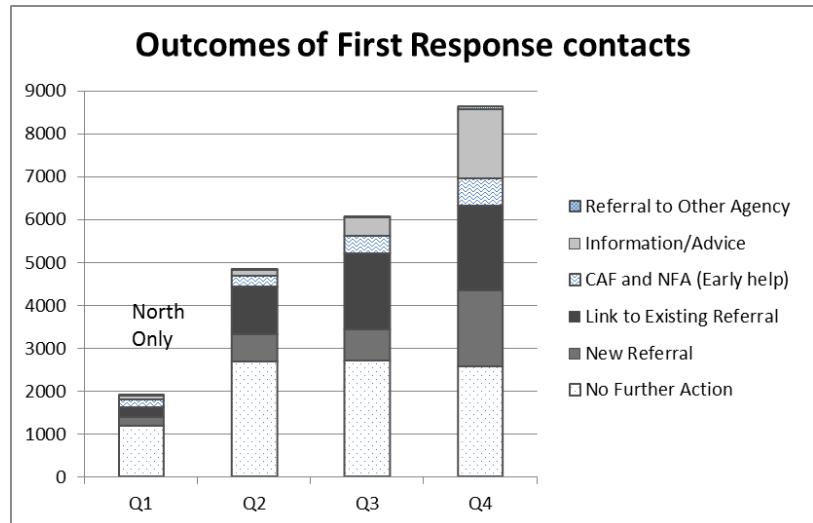
Summary of Social Care Activity

Contacts and Referrals

First Response

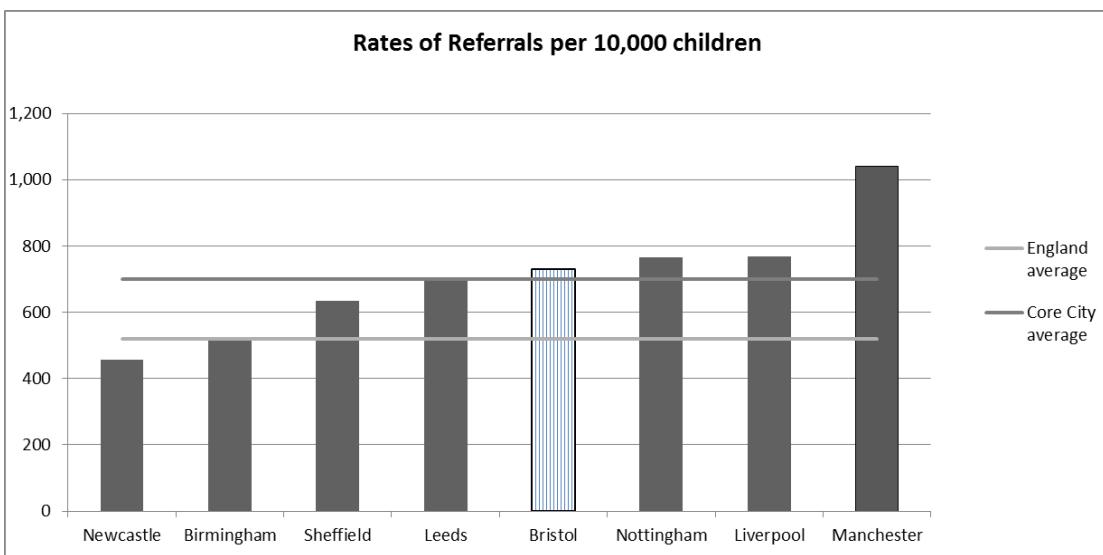
During 2013 – 2014 First Response was established as a single point of contact team for all referrals and contacts with Children's Social Care. This data reflects all contacts coming into First Response, previously this information was managed by each Area Social Work Assessment Team. The report does not include hospital social work team referrals – these will be added from April 2014.

During December 2013 and January 2014, First Response went live for the whole of the city, and so quarter 4 results cover the whole city for the first time.



Quarter 4 shows another increase in the total number of contacts to First Response, up to 8600 from 6000 in quarter 3. The numbers of cases which are 'no further action' reflect the calls which are for information only, or do not meet referral thresholds, and has been stable at 2700 for 3 quarters. There has been a large rise in new referrals this quarter and those given information and advice. There has also been a slight rise in referrals to Early Help and in contacts relating to existing referrals. As Quarter 4 shows results for the whole city for the first time during 2014/15 we will be able to identify trends and perform more meaningful analysis of the data. This will then enable us to ask questions and provide challenge as appropriate.

The Rate of Referrals

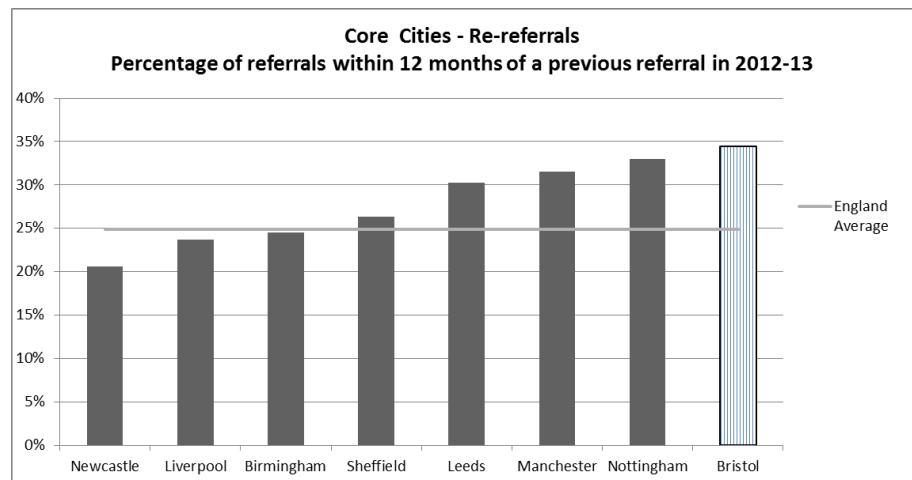


In Bristol this was slightly above the Core City average and well above the England average for the year ending 31st March 2013. The next comparative data will be available in November 2014. The rate of referrals will continue to be monitored. Over 2014/2015 we plan to

progress work with the police about the number of referrals and also engage in work around developing a MASH.

Re-referrals

In 2013 Bristol had a high percentage of re referrals compared with other local authorities. Three or more referrals in a year are regarded as potentially problematic as they may indicate an organisation working at thresholds that are too high or not providing assessment and service to a child in need at an appropriately early point.



We identified this as an issue to make further enquiries about and Children's Social Care have undertaken an audit regarding re referrals.

Repeat referrals - What has been done?

Bristol City Council: People - Child and Family Support Services undertook an audit of all cases where there had been three referrals or more during the calendar year of 2013 in order to analyse this issue and make appropriate recommendations. The audit considered 49 cases that involved 76 children.

The audit found that:

- It may be possible to be clearer about making assessments and providing services at an earlier point.
- It may be possible to be clearer about what circumstances warrant a referral record as opposed to a contact record.
- It was noted that a number of issues contributed to high re-referral rates:
 - i.e. Notifications from agencies such as probation and court recorded as referrals,
 - patterns of repeated behaviour, e.g. domestic violence incidents,
 - anticipating and recording a referral for events that do not happen e.g. release from custody, reported pregnancy,
 - recording a series of referrals on what is essentially the same issue and recording a referral when a contact record would be appropriate.

Actions: The result of the audit was shared with the assessment teams and will be discussed in the Duty Team Managers meeting to ensure awareness and address issues.

Children in Need, Child Protection Plans, Looked after Children and Universal Partnership plus

The focus on early help is expected to reduce the number of Looked after Children and Child Protection Plans, though this may take time and a drop during the final quarter is not necessarily evidence of a trend.

Universal Partnership Plus (Safeguarding)

Provides support for children and families who have on-going and complex needs. The type of intervention, frequency and duration of contacts will be based on the professional's analysis following a Health Needs Assessment. The reduction in the numbers of children receiving UPP services is likely to be due to experienced staff,

able to assess risk effectively and a push to rationalise which children have a need that can be met by the School Health Nursing Service.

Single Assessment Framework (SAF)

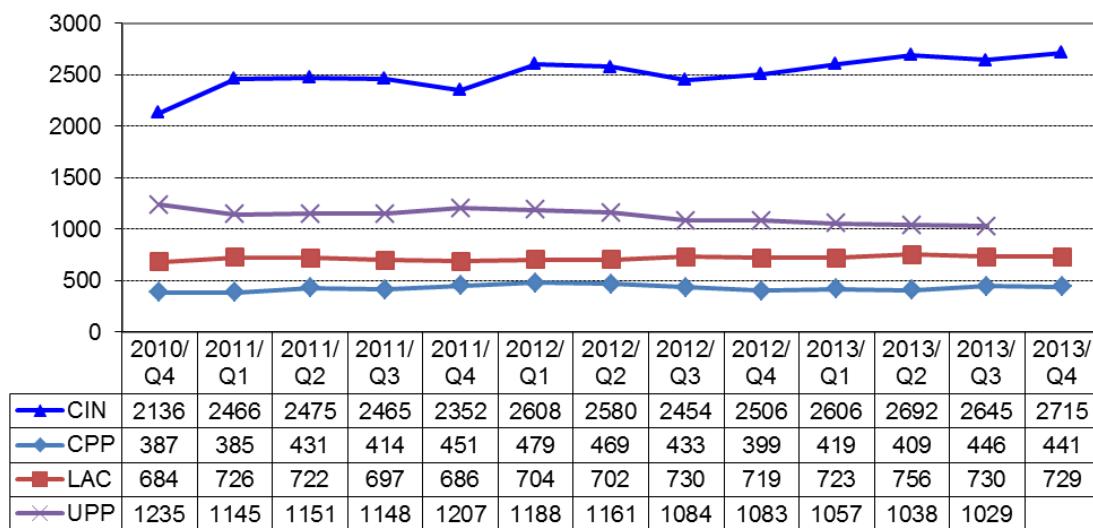
During 2013-2014 the Common Assessment Framework in Bristol has been replaced with a Single Assessment Framework Assessment which will also be adopted by Children's Social Care during 2014 – 2015. Recording of the Single Assessment Framework (SAF) assessments is in the early stages and it is too early to draw any conclusions. In time, we may look at distance travelled, the number of SAFs resulting in CP action and step up/down figures.

Work is underway to improve the quality of recording of SAF assessments.

Total Referrals to Early Help as at 28 April 2014	1926
Total SAFs	581
No of SAFs recorded as Completed	345 59.3%
No of SAFs recorded as incomplete	236 40.6%

Our Early Help representative on the Board will now become a member of our performance sub-group to support us in analysing these assessments.

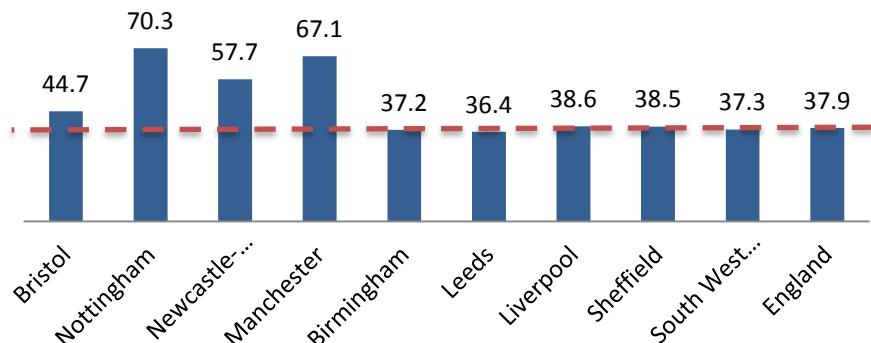
Children in Need (CIN), with Child Protection Plan (CPP), Looked After (LAC), or receiving a Universal Partnership Plus (UPP) service by school nurses or Health Visitors



Child Protection

The number of Children subject of a Child Protection Plan has risen slightly during the year from 419 to 441. Over 3 years though there has been an increase following the Death of Baby P until a high of 479 during 2012. During 2012 and 2013 the rate has remained relatively steady. The rate per 10,000 population as at 31 March 2013 for Bristol is 44.7 which compares with an England average of 37.9 and a South West England average of 37.3. Bristol's rate is above the average for England and in the middle of the eight core cities.

Child Protection Plans per 10,000 Children



Looked After Children

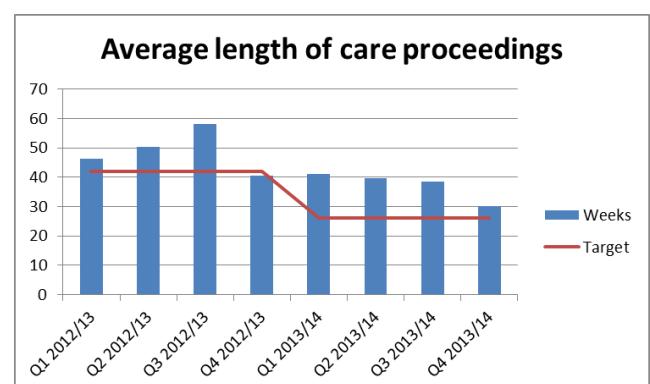
The number of children in care has reduced at the end of Q4 to its lowest point since October 2012. We are now at the lowest number of Children in Care since the spring of 2011. A key indicator for comparing to other local authorities is the number of Looked After Children per 10,000 (of Bristol's under-18 population). The 31 March 2014 figure of 77 Looked After Children per 10,000 is a reduction from the 31 March 2013 figure of 82. This reduction in the rate of Looked After Children bucks a trend of increasing rates (echoed nationally) over the previous four years. However, this is still above the England average (60) and the average of our ten Statistical Neighbours (76), although below the average of the Core Cities (88).

Partners in Children's Social Care continue to monitor these trends and analyse the rates. Any analysis is reported to the Performance Sub-group.

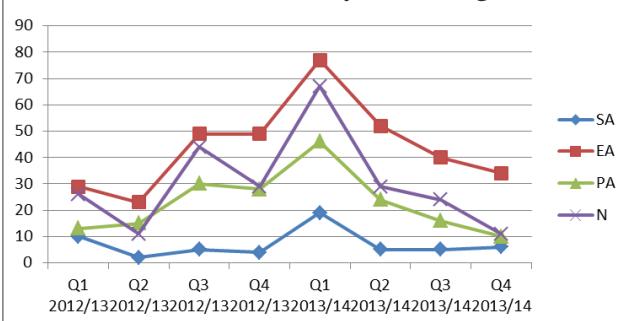
Care Proceedings

From April 2013 The Children and Families Act created a time limit of six months for care cases to be completed - apart from cases that are deemed to be 'exceptional'.

The average length of Bristol City Council's care proceedings is falling and is now only 4 weeks above the target of 26 weeks. His Honour Judge Wildblood has said that he is *"satisfied with the progress made but will be keeping a keen eye on length of proceedings"*.



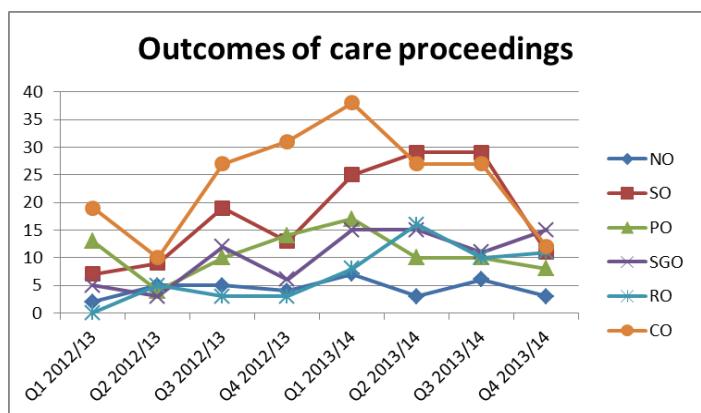
Reason for care proceedings



Reasons for Care Proceedings

It is clear that there was a significant increase in the numbers of Proceedings issued through 2012-13. Culminating with a 'spike' during quarter 1 2013-2014. This increase during quarter 1 was consistent across all types of abuse. Emotional abuse has remained the main reason for initiating proceedings, followed by Neglect, Physical Abuse and Sexual abuse.

During the first quarter of 2014 there has been a noticeable drop in the number of care proceedings issued, but this is offset by an increased number of cases that are in the pre proceedings process.



Outcomes of Care proceedings

During 2014- 2015 focus will continue on reducing the time taken to complete proceedings. Also greater clarity regarding outcomes to show –

- i. return home to parent(s),
- ii. cared for by family/friends
- iii. placed in Care of the Council

Children's Social Care have now appointed a Specialist Case Team Manager to support this work.

Key: SA = Sexual Abuse, EA = Emotional Abuse, PA = Physical Abuse, N = Neglect; CO = Care Order, RO = Residency Order, SGO = Special Guardianship Order, PO = Placement Order, SO = Supervision Order, NO = No Order

Missing children

Over the year 1 April 2013 – 31 March 2014 a total of 1203 missing episodes were reported involving 638 Children & young people. The actual number of children or young people may be lower as they may have been missing over more than one quarter. Though those who go missing very often are a relatively small number and are most often those that are looked after. In September 2013 the system for recording reports of missing children was changed. Previously Police missing reports were shared with Barnardo's Safe Choices who collated the data and reported quarterly to the Local Authority. This situation was not satisfactory and with the development of First Response during 2013 all police missing reports involving under 18's are reported directly to First Response. This ensures that the data is collated directly and consistently be the local authority.

During 2013-14 a system where all young people who are reported missing from care are offered a return interview. During 2014-2015 these return interviews will be recorded directly on the LCS system.

Private Fostering

Comparison of Private Fostering activity 2012/13 – 2013/14	2012/13	2013/14
The Number of Notifications of new Private Fostering arrangements since 01/04/2013	34	17
The Number of Initial Visits	33	16
Of Item 3, the number of cases where action was taken within 7 working days.	14	3
Percentage within timescales	42.4%	18.8%
Number of New Arrangements that began during the year 01/04/2013 & 31/03/2014	31	16
The number of Private Fostering arrangements that began on or after 1.04.2013 where visits were made at intervals of not more than 6 weeks.	10	11
New Private Fostering cases visited within timescales	32.3%	68.8%
The number of Private fostering arrangements that began before 01.04.2013 that were	35	23

continuing on 01.04.2013		
The number of private fostering arrangements that began before 01.04.2013 that were continuing on 01.04.2013 where scheduled visits in the survey year were completed in the required timescale.	11	5
Long term Private Fostering cases visited within timescales	31.4%	21.7%
The Number of Private Fostering Arrangements Ending during the year	49	26
Number of Children under Private Fostering Arrangements as of 31.03.2014	17	13

We have received more notifications from host agencies/ family and friends, perhaps because they are more aware of the need to do so, but also because there may be more children staying in Bristol through these arrangements. These children attend Bristol or independent schools, not language schools as in some other large cities.

We have improved the School Admission form and our internal monitoring system within the School Admission service. The Schools Safeguarding Advisor ensures that Private Fostering is covered whenever a visit to a school is undertaken. Private Fostering was included as an item in the BSCB Newsletter.

An annual press release was issued with support from the press office during national Private Fostering awareness week (next one is July 2014) and occasional notifications are received through a website form. A development plan is in place and will be carried forward through the next year.

What has been done?

An Audit of known Private fostering arrangements was completed in September 2013. This Audit indicated that In general the young people received the social care support needed. Completion of the correct forms within statutory requirements was less effective, e.g. often the assessments were not completed. The scores in this audit are based on outcomes for the child. The young people had generally left home by choice and found somewhere to live, outcomes tended to improve for at least a few months, some children returned home, others stayed with the carer beyond their 16th birthday.

Schools s.175 and s.157 Audit

An annual audit of schools safeguarding arrangements is undertaken and reported to the Board. The nature of the audit means that the activity being audited and reported on by the schools is from the previous school year.

Therefore the report provided in 2014 will be for the year 2012-2013. The audit is sent to all schools in Bristol including Local Authority Maintained Schools, Academies, Post 16 Providers and Independent Schools. The purpose of the audit is to enable establishments to:

- Assess your schools safeguarding practice, identify your strengths and highlight areas of development.
- Develop an action plan to address areas of development which you can review on a regular basis in order to help safeguard pupils
- Have evidence of your safeguarding practice available for any Ofsted inspection
- Provide statutory information to Bristol's Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB).

Of the 165 educational establishments which were sent the audit this year 146 (88%) establishments provided a return.

The two areas raised the most questions are E-Safety and Safer Working Practice. Safer Working Practice is supported by guidance and is expected to be incorporated in regular briefing/training sessions within schools. Training is now available from the BSCB Training Section.

Schools Audit - Self Harm and Child Sexual Exploitation

BSCB inserts additional questions into the audit and this year, informed by the Shadow board questions covering self-harm and Child Sexual Exploitation were included.

75% stated they do have a strategy for dealing with self-harm but only 31% review it on a regular basis/as necessary. A further 34% feel their strategy is usually successful whilst 10% feel their strategy is not clear in documentation and thus not always successful. The remaining 25% state that the school has no strategy to deal with the issue of self-harm.

The concern around self-harm was further explored in a questionnaire to schools. Schools were asked if they had recorded any incidents of self-harm and 38% stated they had. Last year this figure was 28%. This confirms the trend that A&E departments have seen in that there is a general increase in self-harm across Bristol.

With regard to what practice/resources have resulted in good outcomes, many were mentioned. These included the North Bristol NHS Trust Self Harm guidance, Psychologist, CAMHS, GP, Rainbow Book, Kids Company, working with pupils together with parents, Indigo project, Primary Mental Health Specialist, school nurse, GP, play therapist, learning mentor, school counsellor, and referral to EPS/CLDT.

With regard to Child Sexual Exploitation, schools were asked what resources they have used to support staff and pupils in exploring the issue of sexual exploitation, also what if any drama productions they have used. Resources mentioned included Unique Voice (a drama group in Bristol), CEOP 'Thinkuknow', addressed in PSHE as part of SRE, the school police officer has held assemblies, Brook Health, BASE (Barnardos Against Sexual Exploitation), CAMHS, PSHE. A website called 'Safe' and the link is <http://www.safecic.co.uk/>

One school did mention Chelsea's choice. Furthermore, 8 referrals were made to social care where a concern about CSE was raised.

Serious and Other Case Reviews

During 2013 – 2014 work on two serious case reviews has been completed. However, neither have yet been published. The Serious Case Review sub group maintains oversight of Serious Case Reviews on behalf of the Board. The sub group considers requests for Serious Case Reviews ensuring that the relevant criteria are applied and advice is then given to the chair of the BSCB regarding the options available and consequences relating to each. The sub group maintains oversight of the board action plans relating to serious case reviews as well as single agency action plans relating to serious case reviews. The sub group is also responsible for reviewing published reports from serious case reviews nationally and locally and advises the board whether lessons from these SCR's are relevant for Bristol. This year the SCR Sub-Group have studied the SCR of Daniel Pelka and made a recommendation to the Board asking for partners to provide evidence of the use of appropriate interpreting services.

Child Death Overview Panel – Child Death Review

The LSCB functions in relation to Child Deaths are set out in *Regulation 6 of the Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006*, made under *s.14(2) of The Children Act 2004*. The LSCB is responsible for:

- Collecting and analysing information about each death with a view to identifying:
 - i. any case giving rise to a need for a review;

- ii. any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area of the authority;
- iii. any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in that area: and
- putting in place procedures for ensuring that there is a coordinated response by the authority , their board partners and other relevant persons to an unexpected death.

West of England: Child Death Overview Panel

Bristol has joined with the other local safeguarding children boards of the ex-Avon County Council area (Bath & North East Somerset, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire) to establish the West of England Child Death Overview Panel (WofE: CDOP).

The West of England CDOP has undertaken detailed overviews of child deaths which have occurred in the area since its inception in 2008. The CDOP has benefitted from the availability of local and national expertise to inform their deliberations and case reviews and has been proactive in pursuing modifiable factors which indicate the potential for improvements in Policy procedure, practice and wider learning for the future.

An annual report is provided to the four LSCBs each autumn therefore reporting in the LSCB annual report is for the preceding 12 months. Following a 3 year reporting cycle, during the period 2010-2013 372 child deaths were notified to the West of England Child Death Enquiries Office between 1st April 2010 and 31st March 2013. Of which 46% of these deaths were not residents in the CDOP area. Of those that were resident in the CDOP area 93 (26%) were from Bristol. During 2012-2013 40 children resident within Bristol were notified to the Child Death Enquiry Office.

Themes arising from reviews of child deaths:

Water safety

- CDOP has reviewed cases highlighting the importance of water safety for children of all ages
- For children under 5 years of age the issues that arose were around water safety in an unfamiliar environment e.g. holiday homes with swimming pools and appropriate levels of parental supervision
- For older children the issues that arose were of risk taking behaviour and peer pressure
- CDOP has worked with AvonSafe to produce water safety literature for babies and young children
- CDOP has worked with the Coroner's Office and the Canal and River Trust to assess opportunities for making dangerous waterways more difficult to access and the installation of flotation devices in areas where access cannot be prevented

Need for awareness raising of child death review process

- CDOP has identified a need to raise awareness of the child death review process with agencies who may not often be required to be a part of it
- CDOP has worked with new agencies including the prison service to explain the purpose and the value of the child death review process and to help engage them with it
- This has led to implementation of new policies within these agencies and strong links between the agencies and the Child Death Enquiries Office to ensure continuing communication in the future

Importance of identified key workers / lead professionals

- CDOP has reviewed the deaths of children who did not have a clearly identified key worker or lead professional
- This was particularly found to be the case for children on palliative care pathways with involvement from multiple agencies

- Lack of a key worker/lead professional presented challenges in co-ordinating care for this cohort of children with complex healthcare requirements

Challenges of providing antenatal care for vulnerable groups

- CDOP reviewed several cases where provision of consistent and timely care for individuals was difficult to achieve due to their vulnerability
- CDOP identified travelling families and those mothers who chose to conceal their pregnancies as difficult groups for healthcare services to support
- Mothers who chose to conceal their pregnancy received little or no antenatal care leaving their babies vulnerable to undiagnosed conditions after birth
- Travelling families did not attend appointments with healthcare professionals consistently or saw other professionals in different areas due to their mobile lifestyle, leaving professionals with incomplete information on medical and family history at the point of delivery

Bereavement follow-up

- CDOP reviewed several cases where families had not accessed bereavement follow-up after the death of their child
- In some cases this was due to the circumstances of the child's death e.g. when a child dies abroad there is little input from agencies in the UK who would normally make a referral to bereavement services or arrange a follow-up appointment
- The importance of follow-up for families after a neonatal death was also identified due to the need for future pre-conception care
- CDOP also identified the importance of bereavement services for the siblings of children who have died. CDOP saw evidence of these services being provided through schools and charities such as Winston's Wish

Five years on from Child Death Review processes becoming statutory, the West of England Child Death Enquiries Office and CDOP continue to be held up as an example of good practice by many. Members of the team are asked to advise on running Child Death Review processes elsewhere and are regularly invited to train other professionals. As well as local peer review and rapid response team training, there are plans to continue national advanced rapid response training.

Inter-agency Safeguarding Training

BSCB provides a range of high quality and diverse training courses to a range of professionals working with children across Bristol. During 2013-2014 1640 places on 67 courses were provided, in total 1164 places were used.

Course Title (number of courses provided)	Attendance 2013 -14 (places available)	Attendance 2012-13 (places available)
Initial Inter-Agency Child Protection (18*) [17]	359 (450)	410 (425)
Advanced Inter Agency Child Protection (11) [14]	251 (275)	336 (294)
Child Protection Refresher (11**) [9]	121 (275**)	147 (225)
Child Protection for Managers (3) [5]	60 (75)	66 (118)
Disabled Children and Child Protection (2) [3]	24 (50)	68 (44)
Domestic Abuse and Child Protection (2)	38 (50)	25(50)
Emotional Abuse and Neglect (one two day course) [two two day courses]	17 (25)	31 (50)
Faith Communities and Child Protection (2)	29 (50)	23 (75)
Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) Awareness (2)	50 (50)	45 (55)
Female Genital Mutilation Developing Knowledge (1)	11 (25)	22 (25)

Course Title (number of courses provided)	Attendance 2013 -14 (places available)	Attendance 2012-13 (places available)
Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Awareness (2)	27 (50)	46 (55)
Mental Health and Child Protection (2)	33 (50)	33 (50)
Race, Diversity and Child Protection (2)	17 (50)	31 (50)
Reluctant Parents/Disguised Compliance (2)	35 (40)	26 (40)
Sexual Abuse and Child Protection (2)	19 (50)	35 (50)
Sexual Exploitation and Child Protection (2)	36 (50)	28 (50)
Sexually Harmful Behaviour (1)	23 (25)	12 (25)
Substance Using Parents/Pregnant Substance Users (1)	14 (25)	38 (50)

* 1 course was cancelled, ** 3 courses cancelled,

Training Courses are provided to funding partner agencies 'free' of charge, agencies that do not fund the board are charged £70 pp for a day's course.

The range and variation of courses is overseen by the training sub group and subject to a regular review. Attendees are requested to complete a before and after review in relation to the Initial and Advanced courses and this will be applied to all courses during 2014 -2015. The aim of improving the process for evaluation is to explore the impact that training is having on practice across agencies and in improving outcomes for children and families. Feedback regarding the training provision is positive.

A course will be added to the training calendar for 2014 -2015 covering 'Safeguarding and Safer Recruitment'. This is in order to address a need identified primarily by schools across the city following changes to the provision of training and guidance by the Department for Education.

Action Learning Sets – Reluctant Parents/Disguised Compliance

The training section has re-commissioned David Niven Associates to facilitate an action learning set focusing on Disguised compliance. This followed the successful ALS that was held last year. Also the BSCB Business plan 2013-2014 highlighted the need to support professionals in dealing with disguised compliance, this was in relation to findings from a serious case review. The Action learning set was provided alongside 2 training days entitled Reluctant Parents/ Disguised Compliance' also provided by David Niven Associates. 8 professionals attended 6 sessions to complete the learning set providing very positive evaluations of their learning experience. The Learning set for 2014 - 2015 commenced in March 2014.

The demand for these courses was high and as a result of this the number of courses is to be doubled to 4 during 2014-2015.

Sexual Exploitation and Child Protection

The need to provide training to all areas of the children's workforce in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation has been highlighted by the CSE sub Group. Concerns were raised that no one from any education setting attended any of the courses provided during 2013 – 2014. The Training section will provide 4 courses during 2014-2015 and have raised the need to ensure that Child Protection leads in all Bristol secondary schools should attend this training with the Education Sub Group.

6. The Impact of the work of the Board in addressing Strategic Priorities on Practice and Outcomes for Children and Young People

Bristol Safeguarding Children Board established 5 Strategic Priorities to be addressed between 2013 and 2016.

These priorities reflect the priorities of the Board as identified in consultation with the Shadow Board and highlighted through Serious Case Reviews and other audit activity. Some actions relating to Strategic Priorities have been carried over into next year's Business Plan due to there being an ongoing activity, or the action is intended to be completed over 1 or more years or the activity has not been possible to complete within this year due to capacity issues and the need to prioritise other activity.

Strategic Priority 1

Ensuring the “voice of the child” influences all that we do...

Reflecting the voice of the child in the work of all partner agencies is a key focus for Bristol Safeguarding Children Board. Each agency takes turn to present within Board meetings how their agency evidences the voice of the child sharing challenges and good practice. It is a standing agenda item at all board meetings and reports and audits undertaken by BSCB and partners are required to reflect this. Serious Case Reviews in Bristol and further afield have frequently highlighted a lack of understanding of the everyday experience of children subject to some of the most tragic situations.

The need to improve how agencies and the Board are influenced by the child's voice has led to the development of a 'Vision for Child Protection in Bristol' and has been presented to the Board and disseminated across agencies.

The Shadow Board has been actively involved in the annual safeguarding Conference. Their presence and assistance in the planning and on the day was very well received by all the delegates. A report on bullying was also produced and presented by members of the shadow board to the education sub group and schools.

The Shadow board have revised their governance and are now self led having two co-chairs. There is a clear report route between both boards to enable effective challenge and support.

The Shadow board were actively involved in the recruitment of the Independent Chair. Some partners are active in including children and young people in recruitment and the board are keen that partners share their knowledge and expertise in this area in order to broaden the practice.

What has been done?

Bristol City Council – Children & Young Peoples Services, Safeguarding Area Leadership Team themed audit report – voice of the child

This audit was initiated to check progress about how well the voice of the child was identified and used in social work practice. The issue was raised in a peer challenge exercise and following work to promote awareness of the issues the audit was intended to review progress with the intention of developing an action plan for further improvement.

18 cases were audited by service managers combining a review of file contents and speaking with the social worker. It was a consistent feature that verbal discussions demonstrated workers had a much better developed understanding of the child's experiences and views than was evident in the file records.

'Work influenced by the child's views, wishes and feelings' – was the area that attracted the most 'no evidence' comments in the audit.

The quality of visits to children by social workers, from the child not being seen through to frequent visits and individual work with the child was wide ranging. The child being seen and being seen alone is not reliably recorded by some workers... The quality of recording means that the thought and consideration that goes into the work is often not captured well enough. Better recording of progress and outcomes, as well as practitioner analysis and reflection is desirable.

The social care workforce has already received a number of communications that emphasise the need for attention to the voice of the child. The main focus of action should be on facilitating the workers' understanding of how they can incorporate it as a central and influential feature of their work. Recommendations given in the audit report include

- ensuring all file audit and supervision formats have a section relating to voice of the child;
- development work to incorporate voice of the child as a central feature; and
- independent chairing arrangements to include voice of the child in meeting notes.

Strategic Priority 2

Effective interagency partnerships in the context of organisational change and shrinking resources.

Threshold guidance has been produced and published by BSCB. This was a high priority for the board to enable all agencies to work together more effectively. The guidance was widely consulted on and the board will be exploring its impact and effectiveness during 2014 -2015.

It has been the intention of the board to implement a communications strategy in order to improve how agencies/ public are made aware of safeguarding issues. The Self-evaluation exercise undertaken by the board in early 2014 highlighted communication as an area requiring development. However, this has not been an area of work that has been possible to progress during the year due to the lack of capacity in the Safeguarding Business Unit and partners due to significant restructuring in NHS, Police and other partner agencies. It is an area of work that will be progressed in 2014/15 and the Board will continue to seek to improve communication between partner agencies in relation to safeguarding but also work to develop improved communication between agencies and the wider public in Bristol.

A clear lesson from Serious case reviews has been the need to improve the dissemination of the learning from serious case reviews. Alongside the Annual conference in 2014 being focused upon learning from Serious Case Reviews: Critical Lessons. The board led on 3 multi-agency area network events specifically to highlight lessons from the 3 most recently published Serious Case Reviews in Bristol. All 3 events were very popular and well received highlighting the need to improve how learning from serious case reviews is embedded effectively into day to day practice.

Strategic Priority 3

A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of and quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

Section 11 Audit

A s.11 audit was completed for the first time by BSCB. The audit was undertaken in conjunction with neighbouring LSCBs (North Somerset, Somerset and Bath & North East Somerset, it is intended that future s.11 audit activity will be undertaken alongside South Gloucestershire also). Findings from the audit are to be reported to the board during 2014 -15 and it is planned that themed audits based on challenges and areas for development identified within the

S.11 will be take place during 2015. The performance sub group will also draw on these outcomes for challenge and scrutiny sessions.

Children missing from home and care

During 2013 the process for reporting children missing to children's services by the Police changed. This change was instigated to enable the local authority to receive the reports made to the police of missing children directly and to ensure that where social workers are involved the missing report is linked to the child's record. All missing reports are now received by First Response. Those children missing from home who do not have a social worker are identified by First Response and where the criteria are met a referral to Barnardo's -'Safe Choices' is made to offer the child a return interview. The new system was introduced in September 2013 and an audit of all missing from home referrals received by First Response was undertaken . The first 3 months data was reviewed and the audit found that First Choices were applying the referral criteria as outlined in the BSCB Strategy for children Missing from home and care. The strategy will be revised following the publication of new statutory guidance in January 2014 and the implementation of new Police definitions of missing.

Single agency audit activity.

The Performance sub-group collates single agency audit activity in order to identify themes emerging from the audit for the Board to address. Key themes emerging from audit activity that will require improvement are identified and reported to the Board.

Safeguarding Children Peer Review, North Bristol NHS Trust (NBT) and University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust (UHB)

In May 2013 at the request of Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) provider services completed a *Safeguarding Self-Assessment Exercise*. Following this exercise Bristol CCG requested that the two Acute hospital Trusts (UHB and NBT) undertake a peer review of '*Safeguarding Children from Policy to Practice*'. The aim of the exercise was to identify supporting evidence of the self-assessment ratings, to share good practice and to highlight areas for improvement. The peer review team consisted of the named nurses for NBT and the Named Nurse and Named Doctor for UHB. A template adapted from the Care Quality Commission 'Notification of review of series for looked after children and safeguarding' was employed by the review team. Each review team visited each other during early November 2013 and the following process was used for the review:

- Each trust provided evidence detailed from the self-assessment
- Discussion with the named professionals regarding the evidence provided
- Case note review: randomly selected inpatient/ Emergency department clinical notes in which a safeguarding referral was made; Health Visitor/ School Nursing records where a child or young person was receiving a service through Universal Partnership Plus. The case note review provided a brief outline of the case including a review of the child's journey, '*the voice of the child*', and any safeguarding action taken as well as considering the outcomes for the child.
- Peer review teams visited clinical areas and briefly interviewed a range of staff. An agreed interview pro-forma was used. The aim of the interview was to gain additional reassurance regarding the knowledge of staff of safeguarding processes, policies and procedures.

The results of the Peer review were reported to the BSCB and SGSCB and each trust developed appropriate action plans to address improvements identified.

Self Evaluation

Following the publication of OFSTED inspection Framework which outlined the descriptors required for a Good LSCB BSCB undertook a Self Evaluation exercise in relation to the descriptors. Nine key areas were then identified as themes from the exercise and used to inform the development of the BSCB Business plan for 2014 -2015. A key element identified by the board is the need to improve communication between partner agencies and the board, and the board and the wider public in Bristol.

Strategic Priority 4

Influence resources: ensure scrutiny and effectiveness of early help.

Early Help

Early Help interventions have continued to develop over the year. Information relating to Early Help referrals and the Single Assessment Framework have been incorporated into the Performance score card from 2014/2015 onwards. The Service Manager responsible for Early Help services is now a board member and is a member of the Performance Sub group.

Child Sexual Exploitation

The Child Sexual Exploitation Group has been tasked with ensuring that children who are victims of Sexual Exploitation and are at risk of exploitation have their needs addressed and are effectively protected.

The group has sought to develop an improved understanding of the situation relating to Child Sexual Exploitation within Bristol. The establishment of Police Led CSE Network meetings to share information was intended to enable information regarding potential offenders and victims of CSE to be shared and an effective action plan developed to protect the potential or actual victim from further harm. However, these meetings have been impacted by organisational change within the police though it is planned that they will commence in 2014/15.

The group has considered the recommendations made by the Association of LSCB chairs and is undertaking a self-evaluation exercise in order to identify the work required in order to ensure that improvements to how agencies work more effectively together is understood and completed. This work alongside a revision of the BSCB: Safeguarding Children and Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation – Practice Guidance and Procedure will be completed in 2014/2015. The revised guidance will incorporate the ‘See Me Hear me’ approach recommended by the Children’s Commissioner and is incorporated into the business plan for 2014/2015.

Strategic Priority 5

Review the Board structures, membership and support

The support provided to the Board in fulfilling its priorities and activity has been identified as becoming increasingly insufficient for the purpose. A plan to restructure the Business Unit to enable greater flexibility and support to be provided to the Board and the Boards sub/ working groups will be implemented during 2014-2015.

7. Shadow Children and Young Peoples Safeguarding Board

The Shadow Board has continued to develop and increase its influence over the work of the Board. The achievements of the Shadow Board are outlined through this report in bringing to the attention of the board the primary issues and concerns facing children and young people in Bristol.

The operation of the shadow board has moved on through the year to being chaired by young people who are members of the group. There are now two co-chairs who are supported in their role by Bristol Youth Links. Membership of the Shadow board is comprised of members of Bristol City Youth Council and the Children in Care Council.

The shadow board have actively highlighted issues of concern and feel that they have successfully influenced the board in a number of areas:

Bullying

This remains an ongoing issue for the shadow board as it has a significant impact on the wellbeing of children across the city. Raising the issue has resulted in work to explore with schools how Bullying is dealt with and what interventions schools use to address bullying.

The Children in Care Council have produced a video to demonstrate the complexities of bullying.

"bullying, because it's the easiest thing that can be done to kids..."

...teenagers won't always tell an adult... Bullying can lead to self harm, that's the biggest thing!

Self Harm

"We need to do more in terms of what schools can do in relation to self harm..."

The 2014 Annual Conference will cover self harm at the request of the Shadow Board. Young people from the shadow board will have a significant role on the day and in the planning for the conference. Talking about this issue has made the Board think about the needs of older children and young people

Voice of the Child

In 2013 the annual conference looked at how people who work with children and young people can ensure that the 'Voice of the Child' is a central part of what they do. The Children in Care Council produced a video to show what they thought a good worker looks like. This video was extremely well received and many attendees commented on the significant impact it had on

them. The video has been used subsequently by partner agencies when training staff. Listening to young people is practiced at the Shadow board and is a key priority for the board and its member organisations...

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)

The shadow board received a presentation from a group of young women in Bristol involved in campaigning against FGM. This was an issue the group had not really known about and from this meeting they asked the board 4 questions:

1. What has been done to follow up the letter to schools from Mr Gove? (former Education Secretary)
2. What questions have been put in the school survey?
3. Are hospitals reporting FGM?
4. Is funding secured to raised awareness about FGM for professionals and children?

We haven't had all these questions answered yet... but we know that the Board are working on this over 2014-2015.

In the Shadow Board...

We have enjoyed:

Food!!!

being part of a council/ influencing decisions

sharing new ideas

the views out of City Hall

and we like the building...

it is good for young people to be listened to,

though it can be too formal

and '*it goes over my head*' sometimes

8. Areas for development during 2014- 2015 – Business Plan

Strategic Priority 1

Ensuring the “voice of the child” influences all that we do...

1 - BSCB needs to effectively hear the voice of children across the city.

- Receive and respond to findings from surveys; schools; youth select committee – And demonstrate how we use it, as well as manage expectations. Require all partner agencies through their Board members to champion the ‘Voice of the Child’ within their agency and report to the Board challenges highlighted through doing so.

Lead: Exec. **Completion:** March 2015

2 - Strengthen the voice of the BSCB Shadow Young Peoples Board

- To review and challenge the effectiveness of the Board in meeting its commitments outlined within the Strategic Priorities.

Lead: Shadow Board **Completion:** March 2015

3 – Strengthen the Voice of young people

Involve Children & Young People in recruitment of staff who work with Children and Young People

Lead: Exec **Completion:** March 2015

4- Ensure all audit work includes the Voice of the child.

Lead: All partners **Completion:** March 2015

Strategic Priority 2

Effective interagency partnerships in the context of organisational change and shrinking resources.

1 - Clear thresholds – clear agreed thresholds understood by all services working with children and young people, including early help

Audit of partner agencies recognition and use of new Threshold Guidance to ensure it is embedded in practice

Lead: Safeguarding Business Unit

Completion: September 2014

2 - Implement Communication Strategy to ensure clear, effective and plain communication of BSCB messages.

- Newsletter and website to
 - disseminate examples of good safeguarding practice
 - Publish simple ‘you Said – We Did’ messages

Lead: SBU **Completion:** September 2014

3 - Disseminate learning from SCR's.

- BSCB Conference July 2014.
- Regular area partnership network briefings to cover learning from Serious case reviews

Lead: SBU and Training Sub Group. **Completion :** March 2015.

4 - Disseminate information regarding new policies and learning through workshops and roadshows.

Lead : Training sub group. **Completion:** March 2015.

Strategic Priority 3

A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of and quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

1 - Quality Assurance of effectiveness and impact of work with children and young people

- Ensure agencies have effective systems to measure the impact of multi-agency work with children and young people

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

- Develop s.11 audit plan for next 3 years alongside neighbouring LSCB'S

Lead: SBU **Completion:** March 2015

- Embed locality multi-agency audit structure using Quality Sub Group audit model.

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

2 - Audit child protection practice across the whole children's workforce.

- Audit and quality assure reflective practice within supervision:
 - Audit current practice – agency action plans to be implemented, overseen and accountable to the BSCB.
- Audit child protection practice in relation to children who are sexually abused

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

3 - Audit implementation of thresholds across all agencies (See Strategic Priority 2:1)

- Application of thresholds to be audited by all agencies and by BSCB.

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

4 - Evaluate impact on practice from BSCB Training.

Lead : Training Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

5 - Audit effectiveness of work to support children and young people missing from home or care.

Lead Missing from Home and Care strategy group.

Completion: May 2014

6 - Audit effectiveness of support to children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation.

Lead: CSE Sub Group – report to Quality sub and Performance sub

Completion: May 2014

Strategic Priority 4

Influence resources: ensure scrutiny and effectiveness of early help.

1 - Early Help Implement scrutiny of early help provision and challenge areas where provision is not meeting expectations highlighting areas where practice is exceeding expectations (Yr 2)

Lead: Performance sub group **Completion:** March 2015

2 – Domestic Violence and Children & Young People.

- Progress DV information sharing protocol

Lead: Education Sub-Group **Completion:** Sept. 2014

Ensure the needs of specific groups and BSCB Shadow Young People's Board priorities are effectively addressed

3 - Ensure arrangements are in place and monitored regarding Children Missing from Education.

Lead: Education Sub group **Completion:** April 2015

4 - Publish new guidance and briefing for agencies to ensure understanding of new statutory guidance and definition for children missing from home and care.

Lead: Missing from Home and Care strategy group.

Completion: July 2014

5 - Self harm. Ensure all agencies share their good practice and briefing of training /resources available.

Lead: SBU **Completion:** March 2015

6 - Explore the adoption of the 'See me, hear me' framework to support children at risk of CSE.

Lead: CSE Sub group **Completion:** March 2015

7 - Monitor incidents of self harm

Lead: Performance Sub Group **Completion:** April 2015

8 - Consider and act on findings from E Safety Report.

Lead: E Safety Sub Group. **Completion:** October 2015

9- Ensure EGM is addressed within schools.

Lead: Education Sub Group, **Completion:** April 2015.

10. – Ensure bullying is being raised and addressed within schools.

Lead: Education Sub Group. **Completion:** March 2015.

Strategic Priority 5

Review the Board structures, membership and support

- Review business support structure and budget

Lead: Exec/SBU **Completion:** March 2015

- Agree policies and procedures for annual review, to include involvement in re-tendering of SWCPP

Lead: Exec/SBU **Completion:** March 2015

Appendices

1. Budget

Expenditure	2013-2014 Expenditure	Budget	Actual	Variance
	2013-2014	2013-2014	2014-2014	
BSCB Team Salaries ¹⁾	115,000	119,676	4,676	
BSCB Independent Chair - 2012/13		6,074	6,074	
BSCB Independent Chair - 2013/14	15,000	18,131	3,131	
BSCB Staff vacancy advertising	1,000	0	1,000	
BSCB Staff training & expenses	950	109	841	
Training Team Salaries ²⁾	61,850	63,085	1,235	
Serious Case Reviews				
Fees 2013/14 ³⁾	35,000	27,512	7,488	
SCR Room hire, catering & equipment		613	613	
Training & Conference				
Trainer Fees	20,000	2,074	17,926	
Training Venue Hire & hospitality	15,000	13,470	1,530	
Training Team printing & general office expenses	700	266	434	
Training team equipment & IT	500	1,539	1,039	
BSCB Conference Speakers ⁴⁾	0	644	644	
BSCB Conference Expenses ⁴⁾	0	4,702	4,702	
Contribution to other projects				
SWGFL ⁵⁾	6,000		6,000	
Contribution to SW Child Protection procedures ⁶⁾	750	750	0	
Childsafe contribution ⁷⁾	8,000	1,590	6,410	
Other expenditure				
Conference attendance by BSCB Independent Chair	0	0		
Expenses for BSCB lay members	300	260	40	
Hospitality for BSCB meetings	1,000	1,185	185	
BSCB Printing & general office expenses	2,000	51	1,949	
BSCB IT & telecoms	0	711	711	
Subscriptions	0	100	100	
BCC Overheads ⁸⁾	22,335	22,335		
Total Expenditure	305,635	285,038	20,597	

Normal Partnership Income	Budget	Actual	
Agency Partner	2013-2014		
Bristol City Council:			
CYPS	129,506	129,506	1) 0.4 FTE Business Unit Manager, 1 FTE Policies & Projects Officer & 2 FTE CPR Admin and includes £20,015 for agency staff in 13/14.
Bristol Youth Links	22,221	28,450	2) 0.86 FTE Senior Training & Dev Officer & 1 FTE Admin support to Training Officer.
North Bristol NHS Trust	13,186	8,703	3) There were 2 SCRs in 2013/14.
Bristol CCG	24,116	28,597	4) Expenditure on Conference speakers and expenses was exceeded by conference income.
Probation	3,090	3,090	5) SWGFL contribution paid in advance in 2012/13.
Avon & Somerset Constabulary	18,699	18,699	6) Expenditure of £750 for SW Child protection procedures was met from another BCC CYPS budget in 2012/13.
Learning Partnership West	2,838	2,838	7) Childsafe contribution was not as high as expected.
Avon Fire & Rescue	0	1,000	8) BCC overheads includes HR, IT, Payroll & Finance - this figure is an estimate based on 2012/13.
CAFCASS	555	555	9) Training income exceeded the forecast. The £8,000 underspend has been carried forward to 2014/15.
YOT	2,063	2,063	
Total normal contributions	216,274	223,501	
Other income			
Training ⁹⁾		61,221	
Conference ⁴⁾	0	8,315	
Total other income	0	69,536	
Total Available			
(Contributions + other income)	216,274	293,037	
Underspend ¹⁰⁾	89,361	-7,999	

Board Attendance

The full board meets 4 times a year. During 2013 -2014 the board also met at an extraordinary meeting 15 August 2013 and 25 March 2014 to receive a Serious Case Review report. The full Board meetings were – 17 April, 10 July, 09 October 2013, and 22 January 2014.

Key for attendance:

i	attended
-	apologies given
0	Did not attend or send apologies
/	Not a member at that time
()	Extraordinary meetings

Membership of the board is via nomination by partner agency. Membership has changed over the year and this is indicated by a '/' if they are not a member at the time a meeting was held.

Name	Role	Agency	Attend
Dr Ray Jones (April 2013) Anthony Melville	Independent Chair		ii(i)ii(i)
Jean Pollard	Service Director Children Young People & Skills	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services – Social Care	i-(i)ii(i)
Annie Hudson (Until July 2013)	Strategic Director, Children Young People & Skills	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services	ii(/)//(/)
Isobel Cattermole (July 2013 – January 2014)	Interim Strategic Director, Children young People and Skills	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services	//(i)i(/)
John Readman (January 2014 -)	Director People	Bristol City Council, People Directorate	//(/)/(-)
Catherine Boyce (until Nov. 2013) /Fiona Tudge	Service Manager Safeguarding and Quality Assurance	Bristol City Council, People, Children and Family Support Services	ii(i)ii(i)
Sophia Ali (until December 2013)	Lay member		i-(i)-(/)
Esther Morley (Until December 2013)	Lay Member		ii(-)i(/)
Anna Hall (From January 2014)	Lay Member		//(/)/i(i)
Mike Starr (From January 2014)	Lay Member		//(/)/(-)
Stuart Blunden (June – September 2013) - Adam Bond (October)	Acting Safeguarding Business Unit Manager (Designated Manager CP Plans)	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services – Social Care	ii(i)ii(i)

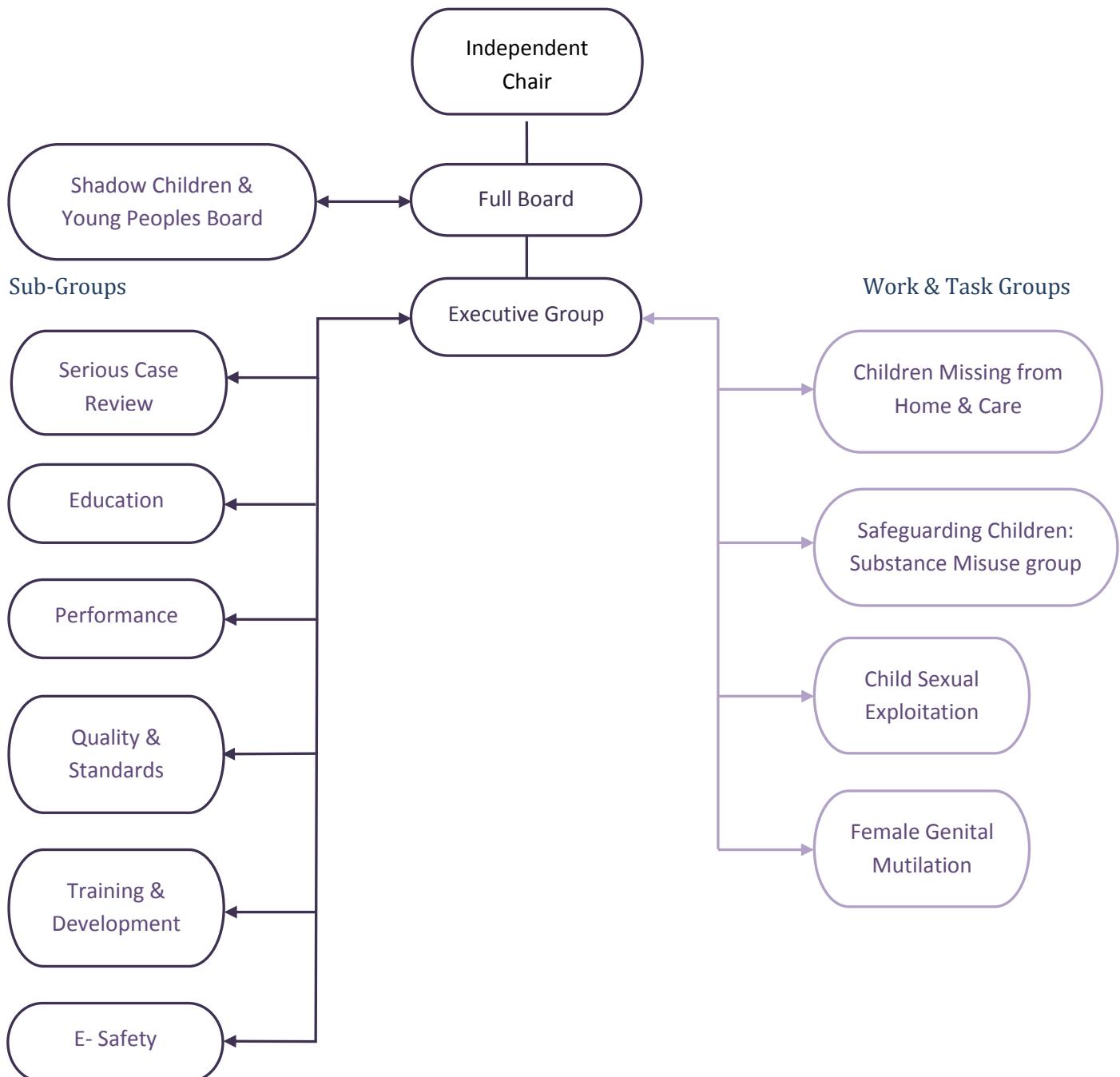
Name	Role	Agency	Attend
2013 – present)/ Lin Morris			i0(-)i(-)
Nick Batchelar/Jay Mercer/ Paul Jacobs	Service Director – Learning , Achievement and Schools	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services - Education	i-(i)- -(i)
Adrian Quinn (until March 2014)	Service Manager - YOT	Bristol Youth Offending Team/ Safer Bristol	-i(i)i(-)
Rose Richards (until ...)	Service Manager, Youth Play and Outdoor Education	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services	00(0)00(-)
Mark Dean/ Jon Peyton/ Malcom Sinclair/ Joi Demery	Assistant Director and Head of Safeguarding/ Professional lead safeguarding/ Managing Director Mental Health Bristol	Avon & Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust	ii(i)ii(-)
Spencer Hird/Kevin Gibbs/ David Gee	Service Manager	CAFCASS	/i(i)ii(i)
Christopher Cross/ Ralph Mc Caldron	Executive Director/ Director of Learning	Learning Partnership West	00(i)00(0)
Carol Metters MBE	Chief Executive	Next Link Domestic Violence and Abuse Services	ii(-)0i(i)
Rick Palmer (Until ...)	Service Manager	Safer Bristol	00(-)00(0)
Duncan Stanway	Assistant Director	Barnardo's	ii(i)ii(-)
Peter Evans/ Jim Bower	Head KnowleDGE/ Hospital Education Service	Special School Representative	00(i)00(0)
Dr Helen Holman (Until ...)	Head Orchard School	Secondary School Representative	i(/)//(/)
Karen MacVean	Service Manager	Shelter Bristol (Voluntary Sector Representative)	/(-)- -(-)
Toni Glazzard	Head Rosemary Early Years Centre	Early Years Representative	i0(0)00(0)
Nancy Rollason	Principal Solicitor (BSCB Legal Advisor)	Bristol City Council Legal Services	ii(i)ii(-)
Sandra Meadows (Until July 2013)	Chief Executive	PEYTU (Voluntary Sector Representative)	ii(/)//(/)
Alison Moon (Vice Chair)	Director of Transformation and Quality	Bristol Clinical Commissioning Group	ii(-)ii(i)
Sue Jones	Director of Nursing	North Bristol NHS Trust	/i(i)ii(0)
Alistair Watson (until May 2013)/ Brenda Massey	Assistant Mayor	Bristol City Council	ii(i)ii(i)

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Name	Role	Agency	Attend
Aileen Fraser	Clinical Director	Bristol Community Health	i/(i)–(i)
Katrina Murphy	Service Manager Area Services (South Knowle)	Bristol City Council, Children and Young Peoples Services – Social Care	ii(-)ii(i)
Carol Watson	Service Manager – Under 65s and Families	Bristol City Council, Health & Social Care	i-(i)00(0)
Ingrid Anson	Service Manager	NSPCC	i-(i)ii(i)
Richard Nochar/ Paul Sylvester	Service Manager/ Rehousing Manager	Bristol City Council, Neighbourhood & Housing	-- (-) - (-)
Michael Jaffrain	Post 16/Secondary lead	St Brendans	//(/)//(i)
Ali Mann	Safeguarding Named Professional Paramedic	South West Ambulance Service NHS Trust	//(/)//(i)
Geraint Clarke	Head Teacher, Bretry Primary	Primary School Representative	/i(-)-i(i)
D.Sup. Geoff Wessell (until ...); Rachel Williams (from ...)	Head of Public Protection Unit	Avon & Somerset Constabulary	ii(-)-i(i)
DCI Carolyn Belafonte	Public Protection Unit	Avon & Somerset Constabulary	ii(i)ii(i)
Claudia McConnell	Service Director Strategic Commissioning	CYPS/ NHS Bristol	-i(i)ii(-)
Lindsey Scott/ Carol Crocker	Director of Nursing and Quality	NHS England	ii(-)ii(i)
Helen Morgan/ Carolyn	(Acting) Chief Nurse	University Hospitals Bristol NHS Foundation Trust	ii(i)ii(i)
Jo Williams	Associate Director Public Health	NHS Bristol	//(/)ii(-)
Mick Dixon	Head of Risk Reduction/ Asst. Chief Fire Officer	Avon Fire & Rescue Service	/i(i)0i(i)
Paul Hale/ Dom Wood	16-25 Independent People	Voluntary Sector Representative	//(/)ii(-)
Attend Board as Associate Members/ Deputy or BSCB			
Anne Fry	Named Nurse Child Protection	North Bristol NHS Trust	ii(-)- -(i)
Carol Sawkins	Named Nurse Child Protection	University Hospitals Bristol NHS foundation Trust	ii(-)-i(i)
Pamela Young	Named Nurse Child Protection	Bristol Community Health	//(i)00(0)
Les Compton	Team Manager – Youth Links (Deputy for Rose Richards)	BCC Youth Links	i(-)-i(-)
Adam Bond	Policies and Projects Officer- Safeguarding	BSCB	ii(i)i//()
Jackie Mathers	Designated Nurse Safeguarding (and	NHS Bristol	ii(i)i-(i)

Name	Role	Agency	Attend
Deputising for Louise Tranmer)			
Dr Jane Schulte (until September 2013)	Designated Doctor Safeguarding	NHS Bristol	-i(-)//(/)
Annie Medhurst	Board Administrator	BSCB	ii(i)ii(i)
Fiona Birch/ Mike Hook	Senior Probation Officer	Avon and Somerset Probation Trust	/i(i)0(-)
Gary Stephens	Detective Inspector Public Protection Unit (Bristol)	Avon & Somerset Constabulary	0i(i)-0(0)
Dr Maria Bredow	Designated Doctor Safeguarding	NHS Bristol	/i(i)i-(i)
Kate Spreadbury	Service Manager Hospitals and Safeguarding Adults (deputy for Carol Watson)	Health and Social Care	ii(-)-i(0)
Lyn Chamberlain	Service Manager - Inclusion in Learning	CYPS	00(0)00(0)
Pommy Harmar	Senior Manager	Nextlink	//(i)//(/)
Justine Leyland	YOT Manager	Bristol City Council – Youth Offending Team	//(i)//(/)

Board structure



Strategic Priorities 2013 - 2016 and Business Plan 2014-2015

BSCB Vision

In Bristol safeguarding children effectively is everyone's business: Understanding the needs and views of children is at the centre of all we do. *In partnership with the BSCB Shadow Young People's Board.*



Bristol Safeguarding Children Board
making safeguarding everybody's business

Strategic Priority 1

Ensuring the "voice of the child" influences all that we do...

1 - BSCB needs to effectively hear the voice of children across the city.

- Receive and respond to findings from surveys; schools; youth select committee – And demonstrate how we use it, as well as manage expectations.
- Require all partner agencies through their Board members to champion the 'Voice of the Child' within their agency and report to the Board challenges highlighted through doing so.

Lead: Exec. **Completion:** March 2015

2 - Strengthen the voice of the BSCB Shadow Young Peoples Board

- To review and challenge the effectiveness of the Board in meeting its commitments outlined within the Strategic Priorities.

Lead: Shadow Board **Completion:** March 2015

3 – Strengthen the Voice of young people

Involve Children & Young People in recruitment of staff who work with Children and Young People

Lead: Exec **Completion:** March 2015

4- Ensure all audit work includes the Voice of the child.

Lead: All partners **Completion:** March 2015

Annual reports: BSCB receive Annual reports to ensure that specific areas of work across partner agencies are effectively meeting the needs of children and young people.

- Arrangements for disabled children
- Children remanded or sentenced in custody
- LADO (Allegations) Annual Report
- Private Fostering
- CDOP:WofE
- CSE Task Group
- Substance Misuse Safeguarding Children Group
- Emotional Abuse Forum
- Education Safeguarding Audit (s.175/157)
- Violence against Women and Girls *
- Female Genital Mutilation* *Governance is via Safer Bristol, safeguarding aspects report to BSCB

Statutory responsibilities of BSCB include:

- Serious Case Review;
- Child Death Review Process: WofE:CDOP;
- Performance Monitoring;
- Training;
- Quality Assurance
- Ensuring the effectiveness of Early Help

Strategic Priority 2

Effective interagency partnerships in the context of organisational change and shrinking resources.

1 - Clear thresholds – clear agreed thresholds understood by all services working with children and young people, including early help

Audit of partner agencies recognition and use of new Threshold Guidance to ensure it is embedded in practice

Lead: Safeguarding Business Unit

Completion: September 2014

2 - Implement Communication Strategy to ensure clear, effective and plain communication of BSCB messages.

- Newsletter and website to
 - disseminate examples of good safeguarding practice
 - Publish simple 'you Said – We Did' messages

Lead: SBU **Completion:** September 2014

3 - Disseminate learning from SCR's.

- BSCB Conference July 2014.
- Regular area partnership network briefings to cover learning from Serious case reviews

Lead: SBU and Training Sub Group. **Completion :** March 2015.

4 - Disseminate information regarding new policies and learning through workshops and roadshows.

Lead : Training sub group. **Completion:** March 2015.

Strategic Priority 3

A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of and quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

1 - Quality Assurance of effectiveness and impact of work with children and young people

- Ensure agencies have effective systems to measure the impact of multi-agency work with children and young people

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

- Develop s.11 audit plan for next 3 years alongside neighbouring LSCB'S

Lead: SBU **Completion:** March 2015

- Embed locality multi-agency audit structure using Quality Sub Group audit model.

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

2 - Audit child protection practice across the whole children's workforce.

- Audit and quality assure reflective practice within supervision:
 - Audit current practice – agency action plans to be implemented, overseen and accountable to the BSCB.
- Audit child protection practice in relation to children who are sexually abused

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

3 - Audit implementation of thresholds across all agencies (See Strategic Priority 2:1)

- Application of thresholds to be audited by all agencies and by BSCB.

Lead: Quality Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

4 - Evaluate impact on practice from BSCB Training.

Lead : Training Sub Group **Completion:** March 2015

5 - Audit effectiveness of work to support children and young people missing from home or care.

Lead Missing from Home and Care strategy group.

Completion: May 2014

6 - Audit effectiveness of support to children at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation.

Lead: CSE Sub Group – report to Quality sub and Performance sub

Completion: May 2014

Strategic Priority 4

Influence resources: ensure scrutiny and effectiveness of early help.

1 - Early Help Implement scrutiny of early help provision and challenge areas where provision is not meeting expectations highlighting areas where practice is exceeding expectations (Yr 2)

Lead: Performance sub group **Completion:** March 2015

2 – Domestic Violence and Children & Young People.

- Progress DV information sharing protocol

Lead: Education Sub-Group **Completion:** Sept. 2014

Ensure the needs of specific groups and BSCB Shadow Young People's Board priorities are effectively addressed

3 - Ensure arrangements are in place and monitored regarding Children Missing from Education.

Lead: Education Sub group **Completion:** April 2015

4 - Publish new guidance and briefing for agencies to ensure understanding of new statutory guidance and definition for children missing from home and care.

Lead: Missing from Home and Care strategy group.

Completion: July 2014

5 - Self harm. Ensure all agencies share their good practice and briefing of training /resources available.

Lead: SBU **Completion:** March 2015

6 - Explore the adoption of the 'See me, hear me' framework to support children at risk of CSE.

Lead: CSE Sub group **Completion:** March 2015

7 - Monitor incidents of self harm

Lead: Performance Sub Group **Completion:** April 2015

8 - Consider and act on findings from E Safety Report.

Lead: E Safety Sub Group. **Completion:** October 2015

9- Ensure FGM is addressed within schools.

Lead: Education Sub Group. **Completion:** April 2015.

10. – Ensure bullying is being raised and addressed within schools.

Lead: Education Sub Group. **Completion:** March 2015.

Strategic Priority 5

Review the Board structures, membership and support

- Review business support structure and budget

Lead: Exec/SBU **Completion:** March 2015

- Agree policies and procedures for annual review, to include involvement in re-tendering of SWCPP

Lead: Exec/SBU **Completion:** March 2015