

Local Safeguarding Children Board Meeting 22.9.15

Alex Pattison, Puffin Pre-school Nursery

Matters Arising

3.4 Operation Encompass- This was an update about the work that was going on around making sure schools are informed about students who live in homes where there is domestic violence. This seems to be progressing; there is a concern that they don't want schools to panic with this information and most of the time no action will be needed.

REP thought: Are youth work orgs, nurseries, etc. going to be given this information too? This would seem sensible.

17.7 Learning review on neglect postponed till Nov to allow agencies time to contribute.

18.5 New LSCB training manager will come into post shortly. There has been some underspend because of this.

LSCB leadership group are now to meet once every six months.

MASH update- Inflated re-referral rate at 12% as they are double counting as referral they get that is made more than once.

LSCB Annual report- To be signed off pending some outstanding quotes.

LSCB Business Report- They are planning to ask children four different kinds of questions about safety and check to see if their language and concerns are reflected in the final report. Final Version to be published in March. Someone asked that prevent be included- Andrea (?) will help with this.

EHH, MASH and New Social Work model-

8th December joint LSCB/Early Help Hub conference- focusing on universal plus provision as well as edge of care needs.

An external review of EHH will take place after the conference as this seems timely and there have been problems with the organisation contracted to do this work.

High levels of need across the city- They want to explore if there are other workers in the system who can be used more actively to take on a family coach type approach, such as Health visitors. This seemed to have something to do with the national Troubled families programme now having a wider scope.

New social work model: Lots of talk about pods and new managers. Three heads of service- Jo Brandon (new to BHCC I think), Emma Cockerill and Julie Draver (temp currently). Some management changes may cause temporary and minor disruption so please bear with. Southwark and Essex are the lead examples of this model. No union issues at present. Social work load will hopefully decrease from 21 to 18 on this model.

REP thought: This sounded like a really positive change and one that was looking at a lot of the problems I've come across in the Early Years.

10. Serious Case Review- Baby Liam: Father now gone to prison so feedback from the family has now taken place. Will be published on LSCB website on 21st October. Some talk about what can be done to "help parents whose children are crying" and care leavers who become parents. Someone suggested that contacting the NSPCC would be a good step.

12. Housing report: Key part of this was that children's safeguarding now has to be considered as part of any housing decisions that are being made. This is a formalisation of the process that already happens. They have also put into place a new framework for deciding who is housed in Brighton and who is housed outside the city. As Newhaven etc. will have become too expensive. I asked if families got a say in where they go- the answer was yes, as long as they want to go somewhere cheap.

Small Group Table Discussion: Ben Learning Review

This was a conversation about a young man who had been engaged in self-harm/self-strangulation. We were responding to the report and the recommended actions- was there anything missing. There was a concern raised that there was a gap at post 16 education and that any consultation with young people as part of this review should be judged as to its effectiveness. There was also discussion of how local private and independent schools could be involved.

I asked two questions- What has VCS involvement been in this so far? Answer -Safety Net have been involved in disseminating information and delivering protective behaviours.

There was then quite a long conversation about how self-harm was report and recorded by schools. I asked how youth workers were involved in this process.