

MINUTES OF MEETING



Meeting title: Strategic Leadership Group
Date and time: Wednesday 16 January 2019 from 9.30am-12.30pm
Location: Room 16 (CH3.477), 3rd Floor, County Hall, West Bridgford

Present:

Colin Pettigrew, Corporate Director, Children and Families,
Nottinghamshire County Council (**Chair**)
Elaine Moss, Mid Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Groups, Chief Nurse and Director of Quality and Governance, Newark and Sherwood and Mansfield/Ashfield Clinical Commissioning Groups
Nicola Ryan, NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group, Chief Nurse, Executive Lead Quality and Safety, NHS Bassetlaw CCG
Andrew Gowan, Detective Superintendent, Head of Public Protection, Nottinghamshire Police
Chris Few, Independent Scrutineer
Steve Baumber, Service Manager, Partnerships and Planning, Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement Group, Nottinghamshire County Council
Ann Fisher, Business Support, Nottinghamshire County Council (minute taking)

Apologies:

Nichola Bramhall, Greater Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Groups, Director of Nursing and Quality, Nottingham North and East, Nottingham West and Rushcliffe CCGs

Action

1 Introductions and notes of last meeting (5 November 2018)

Colin Pettigrew welcomed everyone and chaired this meeting until a decision reached later as to future chairing arrangements.

Apologies noted from Nichola Bramhall who, prior to the meeting, had sent a message to say that given the pending integration of the six Nottinghamshire CCGs and the associated review of interim portfolios, Elaine Moss will be leading on safeguarding for Nottinghamshire County and Nichola Bramhall will be leading for Nottingham City – Elaine will therefore be representing all five County CCGs.

Elaine Moss confirmed that Mid Nottinghamshire CCGs had signed off the new arrangements and all the Greater Nottingham CCGs would be signed off by the end of the following week.

The minutes of 5 November 2018 were agreed as an accurate record.

2 Update on progress to date, publication and implementation of the new arrangements

Steve Baumber talked to a prepared presentation (copy attached here for reference)



Safeguarding arrangements updat

Points to note/actions from presentation

Procedures re child safeguarding practice reviews – awaiting confirmation from John Matravers, Nottingham City.

A discussion took place re Cross Authority CDOP and where it should report to in the County. A letter had been received, sent by Helen Denness in the City re funding and administration support. It was noted there is a gap to resolve re governance. Elaine Moss commented that in relation to eCDOP this is being worked through but with regard to oversight no decision has currently been taken and all agreed a 'best fit' rather than inventing something new would be the best way forward.

Agreement was reached that in the County the Cross Authority CDOP would report directly to the Safeguarding Leadership Group of the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership (NSCP) and this arrangement would be reviewed in January 2020.

It was noted that the DfE had not picked up the e mail we sent to their designated address to inform them we had published the new safeguarding arrangements but they have now confirmed they are compliant. The DfE has asked who the representatives are for the partner organisations as some local authorities have provided signatures on their published documents. Appendix C of our arrangements gives the designations of representatives. **After discussion it was agreed that signatures should be obtained from the Chief Constable of Nottinghamshire Police, the Chief Operating Officers for the 6 CCGs and the Chief Executive of Nottinghamshire County Council.**

Action: Colin Pettigrew to write as Chair of this meeting to ask the above listed officers to provide their signatures to the new safeguarding arrangements and the members of this SLG to remain in the Appendix.

CP
(Completed)

Steve Baumber informed the meeting he had made an offer to share any learning with the DfE and had received a response in the affirmative; a Blog had been suggested – this group was asked how this should be responded to. After discussion it was decided not to participate at this current time.

Action

Action: no follow up to be taken with regard to sharing any learning at this current time.

SB

Rapid review undertaken - Steve Baumber stated this would not normally come to SLG but noted there were particular circumstances with this case and the 15 day period ran into when the new safeguarding arrangements came into force. All agencies were involved, a view taken which went to Chris Few as the Independent Chair of the NSCB for a decision re SCR; panel decision is awaited – noted we will not be recommending that it meets the criteria for a SCR. The DfE have interpreted it that as this case happened during the handover period responsibility is with the NSCB when in practice the new safeguarding arrangements are actually in place.

A discussion took place and it was agreed the NSCB was only in existence for legacy arrangements, ie SCR KN15 has still to be published.

It was agreed the safeguarding partnership was in force under the new arrangements from the date of this meeting (16 January 2019).

Action: DfE to be informed we are now operating under the new arrangements and that the Rapid Review did not meet the criteria for an SCR.

SB
(Completed)

A discussion then took place in connection with the ongoing governance process for Operation Equinox SMG.

It was agreed the assurance role should transfer to this SLG, therefore the 6 monthly report will come to this meeting.

Any decisions, post IICSA, re a multi-agency review into historical abuse will be decided by SMG in due course.

The Child Safeguarding Practice Review Group will be chaired by the Police. DCI Pete Quinn will be chairing the first meeting taking place later today (16 January 2019) where details for future meetings will be discussed.

Dr Becky Sands (Designated GP representative), Sherwood Forest Hospital NHS Foundation Trust/Newark and Sherwood CCG, chaired the Learning and Workforce Development Group under the NSCB and has stated she is happy to continue in this role under the new arrangements. Meeting schedules are still to be decided but it is envisaged that work previously done by the Cross Authority Procedures Sub-Group will be combined into two of these meetings; the most effective way to manage this is still being ascertained.

Agreed: Becky Sands to chair the Learning and Workforce Development Group.

3 Role of the Safeguarding Leadership Group

Noted the Terms of Reference for this Group are covered on Page 6 of the new arrangements document dealing with decision making, delegation, chairing and standing items to come to this meeting.

Elaine Moss queried the title of 'independent scrutineer' and whether this adequately describes the role being carried out by the postholder; and asked if this could be looked at again.

Any declarations of interest will be needed and rotation of the chair needs to be decided.

A discussion followed re the role of the independent scrutineer in acting as a critical friend, providing an overview of effectiveness/scrutiny of the of the partnership and a possible conflict of interest by chairing one of the sub-groups (Safeguarding, Assurance and Improvement (SAIG)). Initially it had been decided that chairing of the sub-group would be used as a tool to assess the effectiveness of the safeguarding leadership, however, the consensus now reached is that this was a reasonable challenge.

Agreed: the independent scrutineer cannot be the chair of the SAIG. It is the responsibility of this group to agree who chairs the sub-groups: the chairing of the three sub-groups should be shared within the partnership and as Health and Police each chair one group the SAIG will be chaired by a representative from the local authority

Action: Colin Pettigrew to nominate appropriate senior local authority officer to chair SAIG.

**CP
(Completed)**

The group then went on to decide on the chairing arrangements for this group.

Agreed: chairing, on a rotational basis with the three partners, will be on a 12 month basis. Colin Pettigrew will be the chair from January 2019 to January 2020. The Deputy Chair, if needed, will be an officer from either of the two other partner agencies.

Agreed: the chairs of the sub-groups will be subject to review in January 2020.

Agreed: the forward planner will set out the business of the partnership; which needs to be equitable and not local authority led.

Action

Steve Baumber explained how under the previous arrangements he would liaise with the Independent Chair regarding day to day issues and it was agreed that a similar relationship would need to be established with the chair of the SLG.

Agreed: the agenda for this meeting needs to have a 'sense check'/be equitable across the partnership and be used to assist the independent scrutineer to have an overview of the effectiveness of the safeguarding arrangements. All

The meeting then moved on to talk about future funding.

Agreed: a proposal to be taken to the Chief Executives meeting by the chair of this group suggesting three options: retain the status quo; more equitable division of funding between the safeguarding partners; growth in contributions. CP

Action: Steve Baumber to bring a draft paper to the July 2019 meeting of this group outlining the above and including issues re funding/cross authority working for training and indicators as to what might be appropriate for change/deletion from the existing arrangements for 2020/21. SB

4 Priorities

Steve Baumber used the local authority Children and Family Services Department Strategy to open a debate on what should be the priorities for the safeguarding partners and what work still remained to be completed from the NSCB business plan.

Consensus reached that the priorities for this group need to look at what we can do as a collective to keep children safe and ensure there is continued development, concentrating on things that no single agency can achieve on their own. We need to evidence value in what we are doing; we don't want a strategy that does not say anything different to individual strategies produced by each of the partners.

Action: Andy Gowan, Elaine Moss and Nicola Ryan to provide Steve Baumber with strategic objectives they need assurance on; to be used in conjunction with the local authority strategy for Steve to produce a draft business plan for the October 2019 meeting of this group. AG/EM/NR
SB

NSCB Business Plan – outstanding items flagged by Steve Baumber who then proposed that as an interim measure until the way forward is agreed that this report should be updated retaining the still pertinent priorities.

Agreed after further discussion to continue using this template during the transition period. The SAIG will take a view that the

Action

objectives are correct. Members of this group will receive assurance outside of the meetings from the chairs of the sub-groups which they are responsible for and exception reporting will come to this group.

Action: Steve Baumber to develop a new business cycle for the October meeting of this group.

**SB
(Completed)**

5 Hot Topics

Steve Baumber referred to the current issues annotated in his presentation (available to view in item 2 above).

The MASH NFA audit findings were reported to the December 2018 NSCB Full Board meeting. Andy Gowan commented that a dedicated DCI for the MASH was being appointed.

It was noted that following the recent Ofsted Focused Visit to look at the LAs arrangements for front door responses we will remain on the short inspection pathway. Official findings of the visit are awaited.

The learning review on bruising in babies is nearing completion and will be signed off by the SAIG. The short training film on pre-mobile babies is underway.

A detailed discussion into contextual safeguarding then took place, including discussion of recent major issues both in the County and in connection with a YP who had recently left the County. Noted we now have a Youth Violence Panel, however more work is still needed in connection with County Lines.

Noted that the recent Nottingham City Ofsted inspection raised issues re children in custody. This is also a key theme in the HMIC inspection re the secure accommodation process. Alerts to police re children on a child protection plan discussed.

Action: agenda item for next meeting – this meeting to maintain an overview of current strategic issues and ensure that assurance arrangements are in place.

6 Inspections/External Scrutiny

Covered earlier in the meeting.

7 Partnership Meeting – content and leadership

Action

Discussion took place around the aim of the Partnership Meeting being for developmental type sessions, ie used to launch the training video for pre-mobile babies and issues around contextual safeguarding. Noted that contextual safeguarding is a vast area to cover and the meeting should concentrate on areas of practice being developed in Nottinghamshire, ie knife crime and organised crime. Perhaps we could have some external input at the first event.

Action: Steve Baumber to draft a plan for the first partnership meeting for further discussion by this group prior to the next meeting via either e mail or Skype.

**SB
(Completed)**

8 Any Other Business

Action: Steve Baumber to share draft agenda for the next meeting (scheduled for 24 April 2019) 2/3 weeks prior to the meeting date for input/comment by partners prior to finalisation.

SB

Chris Few commented that he felt this had been a very effective and useful first meeting of the Strategic Leadership Group.