



Bath and North East Somerset
Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report 2010 – 2011 And Work Programme 2011 – 2012

**KEEPING CHILDREN SAFE IS
EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS**

South West Shared Child Protection Procedures
www.swcpp.org.uk

Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report 2010 – 2011

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Introduction from the Independent Chair of Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board

I am pleased to welcome you to the first Annual Report of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board.

One recommendation of Lord Laming's report 'The Protection of Children in England: A Progress Report March 2009' was that Local Safeguarding Children Boards produce an Annual Report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 made this recommendation a statutory requirement.

The aim of the Annual Safeguarding Report is to provide an assessment of the effectiveness of local arrangements to safeguard children and young people in Bath and North East Somerset and includes a comprehensive analysis of the local area safeguarding context, recognising the achievements made and providing a realistic assessment of the challenges to overcome.

The Report will inform the Children and Young People's Plan 2011/2014 produced by the Children's Trust Board to ensure real focus on the priority actions needed to maintain and enhance our work to safeguard and protect children from harm.

The Report will be submitted to the Bath and North East Somerset Children's Trust Board and published as a public document on 1st April 2011. The Report will also set out the Work Programme of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board and its sub groups for the 12 months leading to April 2012. The web link for this Report is:-
<http://www.bathnes.gov.uk/healthandsocial/childrenandfamilycare/LSCB/Pages/default.aspx>

Keeping children safe is everybody's business and I am pleased to introduce this Annual Report which demonstrates progress made and outlines future developments to enhance safeguarding in Bath and North East Somerset.

Jim Gould
Independent Chair of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Report compiled on behalf of Local Safeguarding Children Board
Maurice Lindsay
Divisional Director
Children's Service

Annual Report of Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board 2010/2011

Introduction

This Annual Report of Bath and North East Somerset's Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) represents the first annual report written in accordance with the national guidelines for such Reports. It builds upon the previous Annual Reports and Business Plans published by the Area Child Protection Committee and then the Local Safeguarding Children Board since 2000, and the 3 Year Strategic Plan published by the Board for 2008 – 2011. It has been compiled by the constituent members of the Local Safeguarding Children Board and informed by its Stakeholders who were widely consulted. It presents a critical appraisal of the safeguarding arrangements and activities during 2010/2011; the key priorities for 2011/12; and the work programme for delivering those priorities.

Draft versions of this Annual Report have been presented to the Council's Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Children's Trust Board. The Annual Report has informed the priorities and key actions within the Children and Young People's Plan 2011 – 2014 which will be published on 1st April 2011.

This Annual Report will be published on 1st April 2011 and is a public document. Progress with achieving its key priorities, and implementing its work programme, will be reviewed by the business meetings of the Local Safeguarding Children Board; reported to the Children's Trust Board, the Partnership Board for Health and Wellbeing and the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel; and critically appraised within the Annual Report for 2011/12.

1. Summary

Key priorities for 2010/11

The key priorities for 2010/11 were determined within the Annual Report and Business Plan 2010/11 and were addressed within the Work Programme by 7 key themes and associated outcomes:-

- Protection from violence, maltreatment, neglect and sexual exploitation – with the intended outcome that children and young people are better protected.
- Children are protected from accidental injury and death – with the intended outcome that fewer children are involved in road traffic accidents and other accidents at home, play and employment.
- That children and young people feel safe from bullying and discrimination – with the intended outcome that children and young people report that they feel safer and incidents of bullying and discrimination are reduced.

- Children and young people feel safer from crime and antisocial behaviour in and out of school – with the intended outcome that fewer children and young people will be victims of crime and antisocial behaviour; there will be safer places to play and hang out; fewer children and young people commit crimes against children.
- Children and young people have security, stability and are cared for – with the intended outcome that the local agencies work together to promote policies and strategies to promote security and stability.
- Establishing an effective LSCB – with the intended outcome that the LSCB works effectively and efficiently as a Board, in its sub groups and lead groups and effectively influences other strategic partnerships to deliver the Staying Safe agenda.
- Training – with the intended outcome of ensuring that all staff serving children in public, private, voluntary, faith and community sectors are sufficiently trained in safeguarding awareness to play their part in protecting children from the risk of significant harm.

Within this, specific priority was given to:-

- Improving the quality of core assessments and child protection plans.
- Ensuring the effective provision of services to children in need to prevent the need for further child protection plans.
- Building upon local initiatives to reduce the impact of domestic violence and abuse upon children.
- Providing services based upon early intervention and prevention.
- Enabling staff to develop the requisite skills, experience and confidence in child protection work – and ensuring effective support and supervision.
- Promoting the anti-bullying strategy and reducing reports of bullying.
- Ensuring appropriate support to young people leaving custody and leaving care.
- Ensuring that all revisions to the national guidance for Working Together to Safeguard Children are incorporated into local practice, procedures, services and Board arrangements and effectively communicated.
- Evaluating the impact of training upon practice and outcomes for children and families.

During the course of 2010/11 the Board has also given attention to national and local developments as follows:-

- The implications of changes in the national safeguarding context resulting from new government policy, direction and guidance.
- The Munro Review of Child Protection, and reviews completed by Kennedy, Field and Allen.
- The implications of budgetary changes and pressures for the safeguarding agencies.

Key areas of progress/achievements

- Effective multi-agency services are in place to provide early intervention for vulnerable children and young people and prevent need for statutory interventions – evidenced by comparatively low number of children with protection plans and highlighted by Ofsted's unannounced inspection of the Council's Children's Social Care Service contact, referral and duty arrangements in both May 2010 and January 2011.
- The introduction of Common Induction Training for all new staff across LSCB and Children's Trust Board agencies.
- The implementation of the Family Intervention Project and confirmation of the Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities Programme.
- The stability of placements for children and young people in care is strong.
- Effective Child Death Review arrangements are in place – for Rapid Response and Child Death Overview Panel. An evaluation of the arrangements was completed and presented to each participating LSCB.
- Plans are in place for introducing new arrangements for the LSCB and its Sub Groups in response to changes with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010.
- The LSCB has continued to influence other strategic partnerships (e.g. Responsible Authorities Group and the Children's Trust Board) to deliver the safeguarding agenda.
- Clear accountability for safeguarding children has been established, and strengthened, with the Children's Trust Board: the Partnership Board for Health and Wellbeing; the Lead Member Children's Service; and the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel.
- The Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Children's Trust Board have agreed a joint working protocol to ensure clear channels of communication are in place between the Board, and a mechanism for effective challenge and scrutiny has been agreed.
- Revisions to the South West Child Protection Procedures and arrangements for the LSCB and the CDOP have been completed in accordance with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010.
- A multi-agency staff conference (open to LSCB's across the South West) focused upon the importance of ensuring effective working arrangements across Children's Services and Adult Mental Health Services.
- The promotion and delivery of the Avonsafe strategy to reduce the number of children at risk of accidental injury and death.
- The promotion and implementation of the Anti-bullying and Discrimination strategy.
- The promotion and delivery of the E-Safety strategy and associated action plan.

- Actions to promote the provision of appropriate accommodation options for young people leaving custody have been progressed and reported to the Board.
- Actions have been taken to increase the awareness and notifications of private fostering arrangements and thereby promote the security and welfare of privately fostered children.
- The development of a protocol, and services, to identify and support young people who may have run away from home has been completed and reported to the Board.
- The implementation of safer recruitment policies across all agencies – confirmed by an annual audit of agencies practice.
- The provision, and evaluation, of a programme of inter-agency training for staff – and support to single agency training.

Challenges and issues for the Children’s Trust Board

- Resourcing the LSCB (particularly in terms of staff time) to carry out its functions.
- Funding the LSCB’s activities (particularly training) in difficult budgetary conditions.
- Ensuring the active participation and contributions of all member agencies.
- The retention and development of a skilled and experienced workforce in a climate of national scrutiny and media attention.
- Ensuring the continuing engagement of schools and Primary Care Trusts, and strengthening the engagement of GP’s, during a time of radical change for all.
- Ensuring effective working arrangements across Children’s Social Care and Adult Mental Health Services to coordinate support to parents and protection of children.
- Anticipating and responding to the impact of actions to address the national budget deficit upon the demand for, and local provision of, services to vulnerable children, young people and families.
- Maintaining capacity for preventative and early intervention services in the midst of severe budgetary pressures.
- Ensuring that a clear focus is maintained upon the safeguarding of children during periods of significant organisational change within and across partner agencies – and that such change does not result in a fragmentation of services.
- Whilst ensuring that there is a clear focus upon the core activity of child protection, supporting the Board with its wider commitment to the staying safe aims.
- Maintaining and strengthening effective information sharing and joint working between agencies in a time of radical change for all agencies.
- Ensuring that all agencies commissioning services establish robust arrangements to ensure that providers are meeting their safeguarding duties.

- Maintaining the crucial role that effective Children's Trust Board arrangements play in safeguarding children and young people given the proposal to remove the statutory basis for CTB's.
- Ensuring that all staff have access to reflective, constructive supervision or consultation.
- Responding to the opportunities and challenges that will arise from the Munro Review of Child Protection to establish strong and effective safeguarding arrangements and practice.
- Considering how best to use imminent and future changes to the shape, role and functions of key safeguarding agencies to develop effective local arrangements and practice to achieve even better outcomes for vulnerable children and young people.
- Developing strategy and operational arrangements to safeguard children, young people and vulnerable adults.

These issues and challenges were reported to the Children's Trust Board at their meeting in March 2011.

2. Governance and Accountability arrangements

The Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) is accountable to the Director of Children's Service and the Lead Member for Children's Services who must maintain a focus on how the Local Authority is fulfilling its responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people. Reports are prepared on behalf of the Chair of the Board on the effectiveness of the arrangements for the LSCB in Bath and North East Somerset to the Lead Member, the Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel, and the Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board. Further, the LSCB's own activities are part of the Children and Young People's Plan and this enables its work to be scrutinised by the Local Authority, by other local partners and other key stakeholders.

The LSCB has a clear and distinct identity within Bath and North East Somerset Children's Trust Board. The Chair of the LSCB is a member of the Children's Trust Board, and holds that Board to account for ensuring that safeguarding is central to all its activities. The dual accountability for safeguarding is detailed in the Children's Trust Board Terms of Reference. In September 2010 the LSCB and Children's Trust Board strengthened these arrangements by signing up to a joint agreement for working together.

The LSCB has previously completed an evaluation of its governance arrangements against the standards detailed in the Department for Children School and Families (DCSF) Challenge and Improvement Tool. This work informed updates to the Terms of Reference and governance arrangements to ensure that these are robust and effective.

The inspection framework will also play an important role in reinforcing the ongoing monitoring of the work of the LSCB. Henceforth there will be 3 yearly

inspections of Safeguarding Services and annual unannounced inspections of Contact, Referral and Assessment Services.

Whilst the LSCB plays the key role in co-ordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of local individuals and organisations work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, it is not accountable for their operational work. Each Board partner retains their own existing lines of accountability for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children by their services. The LSCB does not have a power to direct other organisations but will advise the Local Authority and Board partners on ways to improve. When there are concerns about the work of partners and these cannot be addressed locally, the Chair of the LSCB will report these to the most senior individual in the partner organisation, to the relevant Inspectorate, and, if necessary, to the relevant Government department.

2.1 Local Safeguarding Children Board Meetings

The Local Safeguarding Children Board meets in March, June, September and December. The Board is currently chaired by an interim Independent Chair pending the appointment of a permanent postholder. The Board has held a Stakeholders' Forum and a Development Day during 2010/11 to review the Work Programme and effectiveness of the LSCB, and these have contributed to this Annual Report

The Board has two sub groups with a focus upon staff training (the Training Management Committee) and upon quality assurance, policy and procedures (the Safeguarding Children Sub Committee). The Training Management Committee meets bi-monthly and is chaired by the NHS Bath and North East Somerset representative. The Safeguarding Children Sub Committee meets monthly and is chaired by the Children's Service Integrated Safeguarding Officer. Both Chairs sit on the LSCB.

Lead Groups have been established for each of the aims of the staying safe outcome and they report to the LSCB as follows:

- The Safeguarding Children Sub Committee
- Avonsafe
- The Anti-bullying Group
- The Youth Offending Team Management Board
- The Children in Care Quality Assurance and Strategy Group

During 2010/11, the LSCB has undertaken a review of all its arrangements for the Board and its sub groups – to ensure that these not only operate effective but also achieve the active participation of all members. Within this, consideration has been given to how best to develop close working relationships with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board (given the common agendas) and make use of shared resources and expertise. As a result, it has been decided to continue with the existing arrangements for the LSCB and its sub groups whilst progressing work to establish joint strategic safeguarding arrangements with the LSAB.

2.2 Membership of the LSCB

The core members of the LSCB are those who are designated as statutory members under S.13(3) of the Children Act 2004. Further, national voluntary organisations with experience in this work (Barnardos and NSPCC) are represented (although the NSPCC have advised that they will have to withdraw), and a designated doctor and designated nurse provide appropriate expertise and advice to the Board. Representatives from Primary Schools, Secondary, Special Schools and Colleges, and Adult and Children's Health Services providers are also core members. New core members will be added in line with national guidance and statutory legislation (via the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009). Plans are in place to determine how the Lead Member for Children will join the Board as a participating observer and two Lay Members will be recruited to support stronger public engagement and contribute to improved understanding of the LSCB's work. Actions will be taken to engage academies and the developing GP consortia.

Associate members have been established and ensure robust links with key stakeholders. The LSCB will also secure the involvement in its work of Faith groups, Independent Schools, Further Education Colleges, Children's Centres, GP's, Independent Health Care Organisations, The Partnership Against Domestic Violence and Abuse, the Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangements, Housing, Culture and Leisure Services, Housing Providers, the Drug Action Team, and representatives of children, young people and parents via existing networks and forums, including the Annual Stakeholders Forum.

All core members are nominated in writing by the Chief Officer of their organisation or the Chair of their partnership/representative body. The Chief Officer/Chair will be asked to ensure that their nominated member has the requisite skills, expertise and capacity to carry out their roles and responsibilities as core members of the Board.

All core members and associate members of the LSCB have been provided with a written statement of their roles and responsibilities and their organisation has confirmed that they are able to:

- Speak for their organisation with authority
- Commit their organisation on policy and practice matters
- Hold their organisation to account (in matters of safeguarding children).

For 2010/11 the attendance records of core member agencies at the business meetings, stakeholders' forum and development day were as follows:-

- 100% Chair, Social Care, Integrated Safeguarding Officer, Learning and Inclusion, Designated Doctor, AWP Mental Health Trust, YOT, Children's Commissioning Service
- 83% Fire and Rescue Service, Police, Adult Service Providers, Strategic Health Authority
- 75% Connexions

- 66% RUH, Schools, Designated Nurse, Barnardos, CAFCASS
- 50% DCS
- 33% Probation
- 0% NSPCC, Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases

2.3 LSCB Personnel 2010/11

Core Members

Jim Gould	Independent Chair
Ashley Ayre	Director of Children's Service
Christine Hounsell	Connexions Development Manager (B&NES), Connexions West of England
Jenny Theed	Divisional Director: Children, Learning Disabilities, Professional Leadership and Quality
Jim Grant	Assistant Divisional Manager for Speciality Division, Royal United Hospital
Liz Morris	NSPCC
Liz Price	Commissioning Strategy Manager, Children Services
Anne King	Assistant Chief Officer, Avon and Somerset Probation Service
Mark Dean	Assistant Director and Head of Safeguarding, Avon Wiltshire Mental Health Partnership NHS Trust
Dave Gill	Chief Inspector, Avon and Somerset Police, B&NES District .
Maurice Lindsay	Divisional Director for Children's Service
Nicola Bennett	Integrated Safeguarding Officer
Sally Churchyard	Service Manager, Youth Offending Team
Simon Lenton	Designated Doctor, NHS B&NES
Sonya Chowdhury	Assistant Director, Barnardos
Mary Lewis	Designated and Named Nurse, NHS B&NES
Sue East	Head Teacher: representative for B&NES Head Teachers
Tony Parker	Divisional Director, Children Services
Trevor Simpson	Service Manager, CAFCASS
Ian Tucker	Strategic Health Authority

Associate Members

David Wilmot	Great Western Ambulance Service
Gary Davies	Representing Community Safety and Drugs Partnership
Graham Sabourn	Housing & Supported Living Services
Hugh Jupp	Avon Wiltshire Partnership NHS Trust, Adult Mental Health Services
Denis McCann	Fire & Rescue Service
Mike MacCallam	Adult Social Care Services
Shirley Ward	Adult Disability Services and Safeguarding Adults Coordinator

Lead Member Children Services

Cllr Christopher Watt

2.4 Safeguarding Children Sub Committee Members

Nicola Bennett	Integrated Safeguarding Officer, Bath & North East Somerset Children's Service (Chair)
Michael Sidey	Independent Chair, Child Protection Conferences
Mary Kearney	Change for Children and Independent Quality Assurance
-Knowles	Manager, Bath & North East Somerset Children's Service
Jill Chart	Named Nurse for Safeguarding, Bath & North East Somerset Primary Care Trust
Fiona Finlay	Consultant Community Paediatrician, Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust
Trina Shane	Assessment and Family Service Manager, Bath & North East Somerset Children's Service
Hugh Jupp	Public Protection Safeguarding Manager, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health NHS Care Trust
Mike Williams	Detective Inspector, Bath & North East Somerset District Police
Nigel Harrison	Inclusion Manager – Special Educational Needs Support Services
Margaret Hudd	Safeguarding Administration Team
Karen Boucher	Consultant in Adolescent Psychiatry, Young People's Service Avon and W Wilts Mental Health NHS Care Trust

Training Management Committee Members

Nicola Bennett	Integrated Safeguarding Officer, Bath & North East Somerset Children's Service (Chair)
Leo Dickens	Inter-agency Training Coordinator
Trina Shane	Assessment and Family Service Manager, Children's Service
Dan Forster	Bath and North East Somerset District Police
Mike Dance	Bath and North East Somerset District Police
Beverley Boyd	Royal United Hospital
Jill Chart	Named Nurse Safeguarding, Bath and North East Somerset, PCT
Jenny Dixon	Early Years Service
Chris Wilford	Youth Offending Team
Fiona Finlay	Consultant Community Paediatrician, Bath and North East Somerset Primary Care Trust
Hugh Jupp	Public Protection Safeguarding Manager, Avon and Wiltshire Mental Health NHS Care Trust
Paula Bromley	Principal Youth Officer, Bath and North East Somerset Council

Budget 2010/11

1. Local Safeguarding Children Board – Main Programme

Sources of Funds	Budget 2010-11 (£)
Children's Social Care Services	51,276
Police	3,335
Bath & NES PCT	11,033
Probation	3,153
Learning and Inclusion	4,968
CAFCASS	550
Other Income	0
	74,315
Expenditure (estimates)	
Admin Staff Salaries	64,605
Car Allowances/ Mileage & Subsistence Allowances	1,041
Equipment Purchase	529
Printing/ Design	500
Postages	1,069
Other Expenses	1,000
IT Desktop & Laptop SLA Charges & Purchase	6,185
MPS - Printing & Copying - Black & White	386
	74,315

2. Local Safeguarding Children Board – Training Co-ordination

Sources of Funds	Budget 2010-11 (£)
Children's Social Care Services	25,385
Police	5,688
Bath & NES PCT	9,069
Learning and Inclusion	9,069
Youth & Community	2,040
Other Income	7,262
Carry forward from prior year	0
	58,513
Expenditure (estimates)	
Admin Staff Salaries	0
Training Co-ordinator Salaries	47,005
Training (including room hire)	6,350
Professional Subscriptions	0
Staff Car Parking	374
Car Allowances/ Mileage	1,617
Printing/ Design	1,607
Hospitality	0
Other Expenses	0
IT Desktop & Laptop SLA Charges	1,490
MPS - Printing & Copying - Black & White	70
	58,513

3. Monitoring and Evaluation/Quality Assurance activity

3.1 Within the local arrangements for the National Performance Indicators across the Every Child Matters outcomes, the LSCB has lead responsibility for the Staying Safe Performance Indicators. Within these, priority is given to the audit and reporting of:-

- Referrals to Children's Social Care going onto an initial assessment.
- Initial assessments for Children's Social Care carried out within 10 working days of referral (previously 7 working days).
- Core assessments for Children's Social Care that were carried out within 35 working days of their commencement.
- Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more.
- Children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.
- Child Protection cases which were reviewed within required timescales.
- Looked After Children cases which were reviewed within required timescales.
- Stability of Care Placements for Looked After Children: number of moves (percentage of children looked after with 3 or more placement during the year).

Performance in respect of these indicators was examined by the Board at each of its Business meetings and actions determined as required. Performance in respect of these indicators was also reported to the Council's Children and Young People's Overview and Scrutiny Panel and the Partnership Board for Health and Wellbeing.

3.1.1 Annual Performance reports were also presented to the LSCB in respect of:-

- People killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (includes young people aged 16 – 18).
- Children killed or seriously injured in road traffic accidents (0 – 15 year olds).
- The timeliness of placements of children for adoption (following an agency decision that the child should be placed for adoption).
- The stability of care placements of Looked After Children: length of placement.
- Children who have experienced bullying.
- Hospital admissions caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and young people.
- Children who have run away from home/care overnight.

3.1.2 Within 2010/11, the LSCB gave priority to auditing:-

- The implementation of duties in respect of private fostering arrangements.
- The implementation of the anti-bullying strategy.
- The provision of appropriate accommodation, support, health care and education/training to young people leaving custody.
- The implementation by agencies of the LSCB core principles for supervision arrangements of staff engaged in child protection work.
- Individual agency implementation of the safer recruitment policy.

3.2 All individual agencies have the responsibility for the quality assurance of child protection activity as it relates to case recording; sharing and communicating information; confirming any referrals in writing; confirming actions taken as a result of such referrals; attendance at and contributions to core group meetings, initial and review child protection case conferences; written reports submitted to child protection case conferences. The LSCB expects that all individual agencies will have systems in place to ensure this quality assurance.

3.2.1 During 2010, all LSCB core members agreed to undertake an audit of their agencies recent reports to child protection case conferences, and report back to the LSCB.

3.2.2 The LSCB's Safeguarding Children Sub Committee (SCSC) has responsibility for auditing all strategy discussions, core group meetings, initial and review child protection case conferences against agreed standards and using an evaluation tool. The Safeguarding Children Sub Committee is a multi-agency forum. Actions arising from these reviews are referred back to the appropriate officer/agency and responses tracked by the Sub Committee. Actions are being taken to ensure that these robust quality assurance arrangements result in sustained improvements in local practice.

3.2.3 The SCSC provides six monthly reports to the LSCB summarising its quality assurance activity, actions taken and outcomes achieved. The LSCB members use these reports to highlight, challenge and improve practice within their respective agencies. Members are now reporting back to the Board on the outcomes achieved.

3.3 Areas of strength and areas requiring improvement

3.3.1 Areas of strength include the range of early intervention and preventative services provided across the Authority area; evidence of good inter-agency working; evidence of good supervision

arrangements and inter-agency training; strategy discussions held in appropriate circumstances; good agency attendance and contributions to initial child protection case conferences and the compilation of individual child protection plans; core group meetings held within required timescales; all child protection plans are reviewed within required timescales; good participation of parents at case conferences; good arrangements in place to facilitate children and young people's participation in case conferences; examples of excellent written reports to case conferences.

3.3.2 Areas requiring improvement include achieving consistency in the quality of social work reports to case conferences; increasing the number of written reports submitted by all agencies and achieving consistency in the quality of those reports; sharing reports with parents prior to the case conference; ensuring that all reports and case conference discussions have a clear focus upon the analysis of risk indicators in respect of each individual child; the timeliness of the completion of initial and core assessments in Children's Social Care; the provision of continuing services to avoid the need for a repeat Child Protection Plan; links and joint working with the Local Adults Safeguarding Board (LASB).

3.3.3 Actions to address the areas requiring improvement will be based upon highlighting and sharing best practice; the revision of existing report formats and processes to facilitate appropriate completion; written guidance to staff; direct support, supervision and training; continuing quality assurance and corrective actions; the use of LSCB stakeholder events, communications and development days to reinforce standards; establishing formal links and progressing common agendas with the LASB.

3.3.4 The LSCB will consider what lessons can be learnt from the Council's Children's Service Lean Review and Re-design of its social care processes to further improve local practice: and how recommendations arising from the Munro Review of Child Protection will be used.

3.4 Needs Analysis

The Bath and North East Somerset Children and Young People's Needs Assessment published in April 2010 and produced to support the Children and Young People's Plan 2011-14 has provided the following detail in respect of staying safe and safeguarding. (Note: this Needs Assessment details the positions at 31.3.2009 and has been updated wherever possible for this Annual Report):-

3.4.1 The introduction of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is leading to the earlier identification of needs and provision of services. The CAF's have identified a wide range of issues, in particular parental health and wellbeing; domestic violence; parental drug and alcohol

misuse; the need for practical family support; the need for a single plan/coordination of the input of professionals. There is however a clear need to increase the number of CAFs completed, especially for the 11 – 18 age range.

- 3.4.2** In 2008/09 almost 1,200 referrals were made to Children's Social Care. The rate of referrals is in line with that for similar authorities, which is much lower than the England average. In 2008/09, there were 333 re-referrals within 12 months of a previous referral. This was around 29% of referrals where needs may not have been satisfactory met following the previous referral, or where needs have changed. This referral rate is higher than the average for similar Authorities and the figure for England as a whole.
- 3.4.3** In 2008/09 there were 395 initial assessments completed and 205 core assessments completed. The low rate of Social Care initial assessments is felt to be attributable to robust early year's services. The proportion of initial assessments leading to core assessments is higher than for similar authorities.
- 3.4.4** 75 children had Child Protection Plans at 31.3.09, with 65 children becoming the subject of a Child Protection Plan within the year. At 31.3.10, 67 children had Child Protection Plans. This is a lower rate than that of similar authorities and of England as a whole. The Authority did not experience the levels of increased numbers reported by many Local Authorities following Baby Peter. There has been a steady increase during 2010/11, with the number standing at 87 on 31.01.11, and reaching 101 at the end of March 2011.
- 3.4.5** Comparing the local and national figures for main categories for Child Protection Plans, in 2008/09 there was a lower proportion locally of those recorded as neglect, physical abuse and sexual abuse, with a higher proportion recorded as emotional abuse. This reflects the increased incidence of domestic violence as an indicator of risk. This in turn reflects the greater awareness and reporting of domestic violence in response to the provision of local, early intervention multi-agency services.
- 3.4.6** In 2008/09 there was a small number and low rate of children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second time – indicative of the effectiveness of ongoing Children in Need Services. There are indications that this number has increased in 2010 and further investigation will be undertaken. There was a higher than average proportion (16%) of Child Protection Plans that have lasted for 2 years or more (although the actual numbers are low) – an investigation of the reasons has not highlighted any common trends or gaps in services.
- 3.4.7** The number of hospital admissions of under 18 year olds (per 10,000 children) caused by unintentional and deliberate injuries to children and

young people have reduced from a recent high of 434 in 2005/06 to 393 in 2008/09. Reductions have been seen for the 10 – 14 and 15 – 17 age bands. The rate locally is better than for the South West. The main recorded reasons for these admissions in recent years have been falls (40%), intentional self poisoning (13%), transport accidents and collisions (12%), and strikes, crushes and jams (6%).

3.4.8 The TellUs Survey includes questions about children's experiences with bullying at school and elsewhere. Whilst our survey results are in line with national averages, bullying is a concern of children and young people. In the 2008/09 survey, nearly half of children (48%) reported that they felt that their school dealt 'not very well' or 'badly' with bullying. In 2009/10 this has improved to 27%. The 2009/10 result for National Indicator 69 – experience of bullying – was in line with national results and that of statistical neighbour authorities.

3.4.9 On 31.01.2011 there were 87 children with child protection plans: of these 46 were male and 37 were female, with 4 unborn: 20% were from black and other minority ethnic communities. Within these age groups, the numbers were as follows:-

0 - 5 years - 41
6 - 11 years - 27
12+ years - 19

3.4.10 The area has low numbers of children in care for the size of the population, however numbers have been increasing steadily and are expected to increase further due to the increased numbers of care proceedings and the Law Lords judgement relating to 16 – 17 year olds. From a recent average of around 120 children in care, numbers rose to 137 by 31.3.10 and have risen to 158 during 2010/11. In a recent snapshot, 60% of children in care were male, 40% female. The main reasons for being in care were abuse or neglect (43%) and family disfunction (29%). 11% were from black and other minority ethnic communities.

3.4.11 The stability of placement for children in care is strong. The proportion who had 3 or more placements in 2008/09 was 7.7%, better than the South West and national averages. The proportion for 2009/10 was 8.8%. This has been built upon during 2010/11 and at the time of writing was 6% – again better than the South West and national averages. The proportion lasting 2 years or more has improved – 69.8% in 2008/09 and 81% in 2009/10 – better than the South West and national averages. Approximately 90% of children in care are in foster care placements.

3.4.12 In 2008/09 there were 369 referrals to Children's Social Care with the presenting issue 'notification of domestic violence'. There were also 595 initial contacts recorded with the issue 'notification of domestic violence'. The recording has now been standardised and henceforth

the trend in numbers of notifications will be clearer. For 2009/10 to follow.

3.5 Appendix 2 details tables and charts in respect of the following:- showing performance for 2010/11

- Referrals of children to Children's Social Care Service.
- Rate of referrals per 10,000 children aged under 18.
- Initial assessments completed.
- Rates of initial assessments per 10,000 children aged under 18.
- Timeliness of completion of initial assessments.
- Core assessments of children completed.
- Rates of core assessments per 10,000 children aged under 18.
- Timeliness of core assessments.
- Children who became subject of a Child Protection Plan within the year.
- Rate of children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population aged under 18.
- Numbers of children who are subject of a Child Protection Plan at year end.
- Rate of children who are subject of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population aged under 18 at end of period.
- Main category of abuse recorded as reason for Child Protection Plan.
- Age and gender of children who were subject to a Child Protection Plan at 31.3.10.
- Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more.
- Children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time.
- Numbers of children in care.
- Children in care rates per 10,000 aged under 18.
- Reasons for being in care.
- Gender of children in care.
- Ethnicity of children in care.
- Age of children in care.

3.6 Review of locally agreed thresholds for referrals of children in need

Building upon previous work and updated threshold matrix has been produced, consulted upon and shared with professionals across all agencies. It is incorporated into the LSCB Training Programme and will be used to help families and professionals to better understand the thresholds for referrals to Children's Social Care. The first unannounced Ofsted inspection of the Council's Social Care contact, referral and assessment processes highlighted that the thresholds were appropriately set and implemented: this was also noted at the second annual inspection in January 2011. During 2010/11 the

process for referrals of children in need has been analysed within a Lean Review of Children's Social Care processes, and in the context of the early findings of the Munro Review of Child Protection.

4. Serious Case Reviews

- 4.1** No Serious Case Reviews were undertaken in 2009/10 nor were there any outstanding actions from Serious Case Reviews commissioned in previous years.
- 4.2** The LSCB has taken steps to consider lessons learned from Serious Case Reviews undertaken in other Local Authorities. Local practice has been evaluated in respect of findings and recommendations arising from those Reviews – and actions taken to inform and improve local practice and services. The LSCB has also considered the lessons arising from the Biennial Review of Serious Case Reviews and how these can be used locally.
- 4.3** The LSCB's Annual Stakeholders' Event in November 2010 focussed upon lessons learnt from Serious Case Reviews and best practice and included a presentation from Plymouth SCB following their Serious Case Review in respect of the Little Ted's Nursery.
- 4.4** The LSCB has contributed to the Management Review undertaken by a neighbouring LSCB of a case which did not meet the criteria for a Serious Case Review but raised issues in relation to how neighbouring authorities work with families moving across boundaries. Actions have been taken to improve local practice and sharing of information.
- 4.5** The LSCB provided the Independent Chair for a Serious Case Review Panel convened by a neighbouring LSCB. This provided valuable experience of the Serious Case Review process. The Ofsted evaluation of that Serious Case Review was 'good'.

5. Child Death Overview Panel

- 5.1** The LSCB has collaborated with the Bristol, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Safeguarding Children Board's to establish the West of England Child Death Overview Panel. The LSCB currently provides the Chair (Divisional Director, Children's Service), Community Paediatrician representative and Designated Nurse representative to the Panel. The Divisional Director Children's Services and Integrated Safeguarding Officer are also members of the CDOP Operations Group.

- 5.2** Arrangements are in place for lessons learned from any individual child death review to be immediately relayed to the LSCB and relevant agencies, and actions taken. The CDOP Annual Report for 2008/09 was presented to the LSCB in December 2009. Regular reports on the work of the CDOP have been provided to LSCB Business meetings. The CDOP Annual Report 2009/10 was presented to the LSCB in December 2010. The report details recommendations to improve policy, professional practice and inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Actions to respond to these recommendations are taken forward by the CDOP Operations Group on behalf of the LSCB.
- 5.3** The LSCB (in conjunction with its partner LSCB's) has undertaken an evaluation of the effectiveness of the Child Death Review arrangements using the Government Office self assessment tool. This evaluation has been presented to the Child Death Overview Panel and the respective LSCB's.
- 5.4** An evaluation of the effectiveness of the Rapid Response Service arrangements has been undertaken. Further refresher/training has been provided for staff involved in the Rapid Response Service.
- 5.5** The arrangements for the Child Death Review process have been updated in accordance with the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010.

6. Progress on priority policy areas

6.1 Engagement of wider community in safeguarding

- 6.1.1** The LSCB's annual stakeholder events, and the consultations undertaken in respect of the Children and Young People's Plan, achieve good engagement of staff across the statutory, voluntary and community sector working in Bath and North East Somerset – and through this achieves links with the wider community to promote the safeguarding agenda. The Local Area Partnerships have supplemented this to a degree. The wider engagement of the community – and in particular the active participation of young people, parents and carers (notwithstanding their involvement in previous stakeholder events) – is still rather underdeveloped and requires more attention. This has been identified as a priority within the work programme for 2011/12.

6.1.2 The LSCB has an extensive communication strategy in place via its webpages, newsletters, briefings and distribution of its Annual Report and Business Plan – but the effectiveness of this needs to be evaluated. The withdrawal of the proposed LSCB Communication Grant will inhibit efforts to improve this.

6.1.3 The LSCB has an underdeveloped media strategy which has fundamentally been reactive rather than proactive. Work has been progressed during 2010/11 to develop and implement a strategy.

6.2 Safer Workforce

6.2.1 The LSCB has adopted the Safer Recruitment policy as included in the South West Child Protection Procedures.

6.2.2 The LSCB has audited and evaluated individual agency arrangements for Safer Recruitment using the GOSW self evaluation tool and all agencies have agreed to report back to the LSCB on an annual basis.

6.2.3 All LSCB agencies have made preparations for the introduction of the Independent Safeguarding Authority and the Vetting and Barring Scheme, and will take these forward in line with new guidance from the Government.

6.3 Missing Children

6.3.1 The LSCB has adopted a local protocol for children missing from care and home, in line with the South West Child Protection Procedures. The protocol is available locally via the LSCB website.

6.3.2 The LSCB receives and reviews regular reports from the Young Runaways Monitoring Group Chaired by the Children's Social Care Service Manager. The Group meets quarterly and brings together Children's Social Care Managers, Police and other stakeholders to ensure that children who go missing are effectively safeguarded. The Group shares information about all reported incidents of children going missing from home or care in the Bath and North East Somerset Area and ensures that the protocol is followed in all cases. Actions are taken as required and any lessons learnt from specific incidents are used to inform practice.

6.4 Sexual exploitation

6.4.1 The LSCB has adopted the protocol on sexual exploitation as included in the South West Child Protection Procedures.

6.5 Child trafficking

6.5.1 The LSCB has adopted the protocol on child trafficking as included in the South West Child Protection Procedures.

6.6 Forced marriage

6.6.1 The LSCB has adopted the protocol on forced marriage as included in the South West Child Protection Procedures.

6.7 E-safety

6.7.1 During the course of 2010/11 the E-Safety working group has updated its terms of reference, action plan and priorities for the year. It has remained focused on working with schools to assist them in helping children stay safe online and is developing ways of reaching parents via a variety of media and by continuing its provision of parental sessions.

6.7.2 An E-Safety course for all professionals is available as part of the LSCB Training Programme, along with a course on internet child abuse and tailored training for teachers and youth workers. E-Safety is also embedded in the work of the Anti-Bullying Strategy Group.

6.8 Bullying

6.8.1 The Anti-Bullying Strategy Group has updated its terms of reference and broadened its membership to include key professionals in the statutory and voluntary sectors who can target specific support to services for children, young people, parents and carers. All members have clear roles and responsibilities in monitoring and reviewing the Anti-Bullying Strategy with reporting lines to the Divisional Director (Learning and Inclusion Services) in the Council's Children's Service.

6.8.2 A partnership matrix of statutory, voluntary and community sector services is being collated to cross reference how their provision and resources can support the implementation of the Anti-Bullying Strategy. The partnership profiles and information gathered to date have proved useful, and will be disseminated.

6.8.3 A school anti-bullying audit tool has been developed (based on the criteria established on the Safe to Learn resources) and all secondary schools, one special school and 13 primary schools have to date undertaken audits of their anti-bullying policies and strategies. Individual reports have been sent to each schools and a summary overview report with recommendations presented to the multi-agency Anti-Bullying Strategy Group. This report has formed the work plan for

the academic year 2010/11 and the delivery of bespoke support for individual or clusters of schools, and wider generic training modules for schools staff, pupils, parents and carers. Training and support is also being developed for school staff, parents and peer mentors about cyber-bullying, restorative justice and strategies for young people with learning disabilities.

6.8.4 The Anti-Bullying Strategy Group has benefited from significant contributions from the E-Safety Officer, the PSHE and Drug Education Consultant, and Parent Partnership Advisors.

6.9 Accident prevention

6.9.1 The Avonsafe Strategy has been implemented with a view to reducing the number of children and young people suffering accidental injuries. Within this recognition has been given to the fact that whilst the overall number of accidental deaths and injuries has been falling across the UK, there are persistent and widening inequalities between different social-economic groups. The Strategy has therefore targeted help and support to those identified as most valuable.

6.9.2 Using evidence gathered across the 4 neighbouring unitary authorities, the Avonsafe Strategy has therefore focused on actions to improve child safety this year as follows:-

- Burns and scalds prevention
- Home fire safety
- Child home safety
- Falls prevention
- Child passenger safety
- Child pedestrian safety
- Child cyclist safety

as well as progressing actions to prevent child poisoning – including sampling products for poisons and choking hazards.

6.9.3 The Strategy has also promoted injury prevention strategies in education settings – designed to improve children and young people's knowledge of and ability to take managed risks.

6.9.4 Additional work planned for 2011/12 includes Child Home Safety training sessions for childminders: Avon Fire and Rescue Service Sparks programme for Schools: Falls Prevention and Education and Support.

6.10 Domestic Violence

6.10.1 The Partnership against Domestic Violence and Abuse (PADVA) has been re-established and given a stronger steer from the Responsible Authorities Group – with the Probation Service representative now operating as the Chair. This has resulted in greater cohesion between agencies. The local response to incidents of domestic violence are being jointly screened by the Police Domestic Abuse Investigation Team (DAIT) and the Children’s Social Care Senior Practitioner. Children’s Social Care has also invested dedicated social worker assistant time to improve response timescales and support. The New Way Service has continued to develop and has received additional investment in order to reinforce its work with fathers.

6.10.2 The Chair of PADVA sits on the LSCB and provides annual reports to the Board. The LSCB Training Programme includes specific domestic violence training courses.

6.11 Private fostering

6.11.1 The LSCB has taken actions to promote and increase individual agency and public awareness of private fostering arrangements and the Children’s Social Care Services duties in respect of these. This has been undertaken through LSCB briefings, information leaflets, a web page, press coverage, letters to all agencies and establishments who may place children, staff training and the nomination of an identified lead officer for private fostering. These efforts have not yet resulted in a significant increase in the number of private fostering arrangements reported, assessed and supported. As a result, it is likely (in line with the national picture) that only 50% of private fostering arrangements are known to the Local Authority. The LSCB will support continuing campaigns to highlight the position of these potentially vulnerable children and young people.

6.11.2 The LSCB received an Annual Report detailing how the Council carries out its duties in respect of private fostering arrangements. The Report is also presented to the Lead Member of Children’s Service.

6.11.3 The most recent Ofsted inspection of the Council’s arrangements for carrying out its private fostering duties (2009) judged the arrangements as satisfactory. Work will be undertaken to improve this position.

7. Priorities for the following year

In establishing its priorities for the coming year, the Board has considered the developing national safeguarding agenda: its evaluation of the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements: progress with its 3 Year Strategic Plan 2008-2011: progress with its Annual Report and Business Plan Work Programme 2010/11: its analysis of the Local Needs Assessments: feedback from the Annual Stakeholders’ event:

and its review of the national and local safeguarding context within its Annual Development Day in January 2011. Having done so, the Board has concluded that whilst maintaining its overall commitment to the 5 aims of the Staying Safe Outcome, it must in the coming year give priority to its core business of protecting children and young people from violence, maltreatment, neglect and sexual exploitation.

The Board will therefore compile a Work Programme for 2011/12 detailing the actions it will take primary responsibility for: the actions that it will ensure are taken by others: and the actions that the Board will seek assurance are being progressed by other partnerships and agencies.

Progressing these priorities will be underpinned by actions to ensure that we have a confident, skilled and supported workforce, and that Bath and North East Somerset has an effective Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Our evaluation of the work undertaken during 2010/11 and the evidence arising from our needs analysis has also highlighted the need for actions to:-

- Further improve the quality, and achieve consistency, in interventions, assessment, planning and interagency working to safeguard children and young people.
- Progress workforce development and training to ensure that staff have the requisite skills and experience to intervene effectively to safeguard children and promote their safe and appropriate care.
- Focus on the recruitment, retention and continuous development of front line staff and first line managers in Children's Social Care, Health and Police.
- Engage the wider community in safeguarding children.
- Increase the reporting and assessment of children in private fostering arrangements.
- Utilize the combined resources of the LSCB member agencies to underpin preventative strategies and services in challenging budgetary conditions.
- Maintain the active engagement of schools and GPs in safeguarding children – including Academies and the GP consortia.
- Raise the profile of the LSCB and its safeguarding agenda through effective communication and media strategies.
- Ensure that the potential impact on safeguarding and outcomes for children arising from service changes due to challenging budgetary conditions are overviewed by the LSCB, and that agencies share information and cooperate to minimise the short and long term impact of changes in safeguarding children.
- Further improve practice and service delivery at the interface between Children's Social Care and Adult Mental Health Services to ensure that effective support services are being provided to parents

and to children in need – and ensuring that there is a clear and sharp focus on safeguarding children at all times.

- Continue the promotion and local implementation of the Think Family strategy.
- Achieve the co-ordinated and targeted provision of parenting support programmes.
- Maintain capacity across partner agencies for preventative and early intervention services in amidst of severe budgetary pressures.
- Ensure that messages from the Child Death Review process informs local practice and service development.
- Learn the lessons arising from the process of the Munro Review of Child Protection and being ready to implement its recommendations.
- Improve referrals, cross working and coordination of strategies between the Local Safeguarding Children Board and the Local Safeguarding Adults Board.

And these will be incorporated into the Work Programme.

8. Work Programme for 2011/2012

The Work Programme has been compiled by the LSCB to deliver its key priorities. Progress with it will be reported to and reviewed by the business meetings of the Board, its Stakeholders' event and Development Day in 2011/12 and evaluated in the next Annual Report.

**Maurice Lindsay
Divisional Director
Safeguarding, Social Care and Family Service
Children's Service**

Appendix 1 – LSCB Work Programme 2011 - 2012

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
1. Protection from violence maltreatment, neglect and sexual exploitation.	Multi-agency implementation of child protection plans	1.1 Review all child protection plans to ensure effective interventions and help to families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multi-agency quality assurance Thematic reviews 	Safeguarding Children Sub Committee	June 2011 December 2011	Reduction in number of child protection plans
	Provision of effective early interventions and services	1.2 Improve the timeliness and quality of initial and core assessments and provision of services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Review all Section 47 investigations and strategy discussions Improve practice within Social Care 	Safeguarding Children Sub Committee Quality Improvement Manager/Service/Team Managers	September 2011 March 2012	Reduction in number of child protection plans. Improved performance indicators
	Early identification and support of vulnerable families	1.3 Provide multi-agency support to targeted families through existing assessment processes and Team Around the Child support	Identify most vulnerable families (establish criteria). Ensure appropriate assessment completed and identify range of intervention options for multi agency Team Around the Child. Establish protocols and quality assurance framework for services	SCSC in conjunction with sub group of Adults Safeguarding Board; Children's Centre Leadership Group; Children's Social Care Service	December 2011 March 2012	Integrated Working performance report. Evidence of change re included families identified for this project. Implementation of step down protocols
	Provision of services to improve protection of identified vulnerable groups (i) children who have witnessed	1.4 Provide early, evidence based interventions to address the needs of parents, ensuring the experience of the child is fully	Ensure parents can access services in their community by means of CAF. Children's wishes and feelings identified and recorded by all professionals. Maximise as appropriate use of	Trina Shane Jenny Theed	March 2012	More parents accessing services, reduced referrals to Children's Service, or more appropriate referrals with clear assessments

	domestic violence; parents with substance misuse issues and/or learning difficulties	understood and their needs recognised	Community Based Assessment.			
	(ii) Disabled children vulnerable to abuse and neglect	1.5 Create a more integrated disability service that is visible and engages others in recognising the potential risk of these vulnerable children	Promote a focus in universal services of the needs of disabled children and their parents	Disabled Children's Strategy Group	December 2011	More disabled children correctly identified as at risk of harm being provided with services at home. The establishment of a more integrated disability service
	(iii) Young perpetrators of sexual abuse	1.6 Promote early intervention programmes in school. Including those related to emotional literacy: SEAL, Turtles, Friends. Continue to support the work of Keepsafe	Roll out these programmes to schools where there have been risks identified in pupil behaviour.	Kate Murphy, Julie Hudson	Annual report to LSCB December 2011	Data on number of schools that have adopted these programmes, fewer young people prosecuted for sexual offences, reduction in re-referrals of YP with sexually harmful behaviour
	(iv) Children where there are e-safety issues	Have an overview of e-safety issues as they affect safeguarding within LSCB agencies	Receive annual report regarding issues relating to e-safety	John Barnes Strategic Planning Officer/ Nicola Bennett ISO	December 2011	Report received and any issues responded to.
	Parents and Carers are supported to safeguard their	1.7 Review parenting programmes on annual basis	Coordinate evaluations of parenting programmes	Sara Willis	March 2012	Feedback from parents

	children					
	More effective joint working between Adult and Children's Services around the family to safeguard children	1.8 Review how Children's Services and Adult Services work together.	Review implementation protocol between Children's and Adult's Social Care.	Trina Shane Jenny Theed	March 2012	Documented examples of joint interventions and assessments. Joint commitment to Think Family agenda evidenced in practice
		1.9 Maintain effective ongoing multi agency responses to manage cases where the level of risk has been reduced from Child Protection to Children in Need – where Social care no longer involved	Analyse performance and determine effective changes to achieve this e.g. improve "Team Around the Child/Family" processes. Step down arrangements to be evaluated.	Trina Shane and Children's Centre Leadership Group.	September 2011 March 2012	Analysis of number of children moving from Child Protection to Children in Need and outcomes 6 months/12 months later.

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
2. Children are protected from accidental injury and death.	To reduce the number of children and young people suffering accidental injury and death	2.1 Promote delivery of the Avonsafe Strategy	All LSCB members to promote within agencies. Formal link with Avonsafe and Annual Report to LSCB	Nicola Bennett Wendy Harris (Avonsafe)	December 2011	Avonsafe strategy effectively delivered across the area and contributing to reductions in accidental injuries and death
		2.2 Reduce road traffic accidents, burns and scalds by improved	Promote NICE guidance regarding avoidance, reduce hazards and improve treatment	Simon Lenton Mary Lewis	Annual Report to LSCB December 2011	Reduction of children and young people presenting at Emergency

		knowledge and better risk management				Departments with accidents and injuries
		2.3 Ensure that key messages from the Child Death Overview Panel are implemented locally	By receiving and reviewing the CDOP Annual Report and key messages arising from Child Death Reviews	Chair of LSCB/LSCB members	Standing agenda item at LSCB business meetings/ongoing	Any key messages are suitably considered and acted upon

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
3. Children feel safe from bullying and discrimination.	Effective promotion of strategy and adoption by schools and other settings	3.1 Promote implementation of anti-bullying strategy	(i) Publish a Local Authority Anti-Bullying Policy (ii) Promote the Strategic Health Education Unit survey as method of measuring incidents (iii) Support schools to consistently measure and record incidents of bullying (iv) Support schools developing anti-bullying policies	Sadie McNab leading anti-bullying strategy group	December 2011	Reduction in reports of bullying (use SHEU survey)
		3.2 Promote E-Safety (including cyber bullying)	Through E-Safety strategy group	John Barnes	Annual Report to LSCB December 2011	Feedback from children, young people and parents

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
4. Children and young people feel safer from crime and anti-social	Fewer children will be victims of crime and anti-social behaviour	4.1 Reducing Re-offending Strategy and Youth Justice Plan implemented	Input to Reducing Re-offending Strategy and Youth Justice Plan	Youth Offending Team Service Manager – Sally Churchyard	March 2012	Reduction in reported incidents of crime.

behaviour in and out of school.				LSCB Children's Trust Board		
	Children in custody and leaving custody are recognised by all service providers as a priority vulnerable group who will receive proper provision in order for them to be safe	4.2 Ensure LSCB holds agencies to account for service provision through representation to YOT Management Board	LSCB receive exception reports from YOT if child/young person not had access to appropriate <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Accommodation Support and parenting support if returning home Healthcare including re mental health and substance misuse. 	Youth Offending Team Management Board Local Safeguarding Children Board	September 2011, March 2012	Number of exception reports, reduction in re-offending of young people leaving custody

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
5. Children have security, stability and are cared for.	Children in care have security, stability, are cared for	5.1 Ensure children and young people in care have secure, stable placements	Implement Placement Strategy. Maintain quality of performance plans through training, revised guidance, quality assurance and audit	Children in Care Quality Assurance and Strategy Group Mary Kearney-Knowles	September 2011 March 2012	Placement stability and evidence that this contributes to better outcomes
	Continue to promote security and welfare of privately fostered children	5.2 Implement Private Fostering action plan	All LSCB members to promote greater awareness and reporting and evidence this.	Trina Shane	Annual Report December 2011	Increase in number of notifications of private fostering arrangements. All arrangements have been assessed.
	Young people leaving home or care live in suitable accommodation	5.3 Implement young people's housing strategy and evaluate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint housing assessments Alternatives to B&B Prevention of youth 	Young People Housing Group – Charlie Moat	September 2011	Number of young people in suitable accommodation

		impact	homelessness			
	Effective responses to young people who go missing from care or home	5.4 Report on practice in implementing local action and outcomes achieved/any gaps in provision	Fully implement young runaways protocol and audit practice	Charlie Moat	December 2011	Evidence of effective responses to young people who go missing from care of home
	Promote children's safety in independent schools	5.5 Implement national review recommendations and report to LSCB	Independent school to attend Schools Forum	Integrated Safeguarding Officer	March 2012	Robust links with all independent schools
	Children of prisoners experience improved life chances	5.6 Undertake annual review of local position	Audit, identify numbers and current practice, identify what needs to change	Safeguarding Children Sub Committee Sally Churchyard	September 2011	Audit results report to be considered first

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
6. Ensuring that the LSCB operates effectively and influences other strategic partnerships.	An effective LSCB that aids service developments: engages stakeholders: builds partnerships: provides leadership and direction: ensures delivery of the work programme	6.1 Given the changing landscape for many agencies, ensure the engagement of appropriate commissioners and providers in the safeguarding agenda	i) Invite GP Consortia and Academies to identify core members for LSCB ii) Secure the engagement of commissioners and providers of services associate members	Maurice Lindsay (Divisional Director) Jim Gould (Independent Chair) Liz Price to lead	June 2011 March 2012	Core members identified and active participants in Board's work Associate members identified and links established Attendance at Stakeholders' event
		6.2 Ensure that there is a skilled, competent and confident workforce	i) Ask all agencies to evidence that their single agency training and supervision arrangements	LSCB Training Management Committee	March 2012	Annual audit undertaken which highlights strengths and areas for

		using their professional judgement to make decisions in the best interests of children	are of a high standard ii) Ensure the provision of inter-agency child protection training and evaluate outcomes	LSCB Training Management Committee	June 2011 December 2011	development Evidence of training having positive impact on practice and outcomes for families
		6.3 To utilize the combined resources of LSCB member agencies to underpin preventative strategies and services in challenging budgetary conditions	i) Report to Children's Trust Board ii) Develop multi-agency triage arrangements for first contacts	Jim Gould Maurice Lindsay David Gill Jenny Theed	April 2011 September 2011	Evidence of continuing provision of preventative services and impact upon number of children with protection plans: number of children in care
		6.4 Establish effective arrangements with Children's Trust Board and other partnerships to meet the needs of groups of children and young people for whom the LSCB has identified lead agencies/ partnerships	i) Identify lead agencies/ partnerships ii) Report to CTB iii) Receive annual reports from agencies/ partnerships	Maurice Lindsay Liz Price Jim Gould LSCB	June 2011 June 2011 March 2012	Effective arrangements in place with CTB Annual Reports provide assurance to LSCB that needs are being met
		6.5 The LSCB is well placed to respond quickly to recommendations	i) Complete audit of local position in respect of recommendations arising from Munro Review	Maurice Lindsay to coordinate	June 2011	Clear actions to respond to recommendations of Munro Review

		arising from national review/reports	ii) Implementation actions to respond to recommendations	LSCB core members to lead	September 2011 and Review March 2012	Actions effectively in operation
		6.6 In collaboration with the Local Safeguarding Adults Board ensure commitment to safer recruitment and this is evidenced in practice	i) Ensure that all commissioners and providers are advised of LSCB safer recruitment policy ii) All agencies to complete an annual audit of safer recruitment practice and report to LSCB	All LSCB agencies All agencies (on a rota basis to each business meeting)	March 2012 June 2011 September 2011 December 2011 March 2012	Annual audit shows that safer recruitment is consistently applied in practice
		6.7 Establish joint strategic safeguarding arrangements for children and vulnerable adults, and establish joint operational arrangements wherever possible	i) Progress work to establish joint strategic arrangements ii) Explore opportunities for - joint training arrangements - joint safer recruitment - joint policy and procedures	Jim Gould Maurice Lindsay with Janet Rowse: Lesley Hutchinson Maurice Lindsay Lesley Hutchinson	December 2011 December 2011	Provisional plans in place to achieve Evidence of joint arrangements and sharing of resources and expertise
		6.8 Continue to contribute to the Child Death Review arrangements and local rapid response services	i) Membership of Child Death Overview Panel and Operations Group ii) Ensure lessons from Child Death Reviews are shared with LSCB	Mary Lewis Nicola Bennett Mary Lewis Nicola Bennett	March 2012 Each LSCB meeting	Effective Child Death Review arrangements in place Direct sharing of lessons

			iii) Receive and review CDOP Annual Report 2010/11	Jim Gould	September 2011	Evaluation of effectiveness of CDOP arrangements
		6.9 Ensure safeguarding reports presented to all key forums and partnerships	i) Children's Trust Board ii) Health and Wellbeing Partnership Board iii) Children and Young People Overview and Scrutiny Panel iv) Lead Member Children's Service	Jim Gould Maurice Lindsay Maurice Lindsay Ashley Ayre	From April 2011 to April 2012	Safeguarding is embedded in work of other strategic partnerships and forums
		6.10 Achieve the effective engagement of children, young people and families in the safeguarding agenda	i) Convene stakeholders' event for children, young people, parents and carers ii) Seek direct feedback from users of the child protection services iii) Engage schools' Councils iv) Work with HWPB and elected members to engage their communities in the safeguarding agenda	LSCB Task and Finish Group Safeguarding Children Sub Committee Tony Parker Nicola Bennett Maurice Lindsay Ashley Ayre Jim Gould	December 2011 From June 2011 – review December 2011 December 2011 December 2011	Stakeholders' event informs service development and practice Evidence that informs services and practice Active input to work programme 2012/13 As above

Outcome	Sub Outcome	What we will do	How we will do it	Who	Review	Evidence
7. Workforce Skills Ensure that all those working with children in public, private, voluntary, faith and community sectors are sufficiently managed, supported and trained to play their part in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.	Supervision and management arrangements are in place to ensure appropriate reflection and direction in child protection work	7.1 Annual audit of LSCB agencies of supervision arrangements	Produce a supervision review template and disseminate	Nicola Bennett	September 2011	All agencies report effective arrangements in place
		7.2 Develop skills of managers in supervising staff in child protection cases	Commission a supervision in child protection course for inclusion in LSCB training programme	Training Management Committee (TMC)	April 2011	Evaluation of outcome of training programme
	LSCB has a broad understanding of the impact of training provided on practice	7.3 Sample courses with pre- and post-questionnaires	Questionnaires to be distributed to participants and managers. TMC members to follow up within their agencies	Leo Dickens and Training Management Committee	September 2011	Qualitative information regarding impact
	Ensure all agencies have access to child protection training programme	7.4 Provide flexible programme accessible in various formats	e-learning module; T4T to deliver whole agency child protection training; weekend/evening multi-agency training; free child protection training	TMC and Leo Dickens	April 2011	Annual Review of training needs
	Ensure reviews	7.5 Review	Incorporate into	Leo Dickens	September 2011	Report to LSCB

	such as Munro Review findings and recommendations are reflected in the training programme and courses	literature and incorporate salient points and any subsequent changes in delivery/service provision into programme	appropriate courses – advanced and refresher			
	Staff are confident in using professional judgement	7.6 Incorporate Munro findings and recommendations across programme i.e. risk principles	Reflective practice workshops Common Induction and refresher training courses to reflect	Training Management Committee	September 2011	Evaluation report to LSCB
	School staff and volunteers to be appropriately trained and knowledgeable according to their role and responsibilities	7.7 TMC to have oversight of child protection training in schools	Child Protection Forums; web pages; Whole school T4T	Nikki Bennett Leo Dickens	September 2011	Report to LSCB and Schools Forum

Appendix 2 -

Data for Annual Report of Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children Board 2010/11

All data relates to the 12 month period 1 Mar 2010 to 28 Feb 2011

1	Referrals of children to Children's Social Care Service	1323
2	Rate of referrals per 10,000 children aged under 18	397
3	Number of Initial Assessments completed	1092
4	Rate of Initial Assessments per 10,000 children aged under 18	327
5	Initial assessments completed within 10 days	646 59%
6	Core Assessments completed	274
7	Rate of Core Assessments per 10,000 children aged under 18	82
8	Core Assessments completed within 35 days	110 40%
9	Children who became subject to a Child Protection Plan within the period	98
10	Rate of children becoming subject of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population aged under 18	29
11	Numbers of Children subject of a Child Protection Plan at 28/02/2011	101
12	Rate of children subject of a Child Protection Plan per 10,000 population aged under 18 at end of period	30

13. Main category of abuse recorded as reason for Child Protection Plan for those subject to a Child Protection Plan on 28 Feb 2011

Category	Number	%
Emotional Abuse	54	53%
Neglect	36	36%
Physical	7	7%
Sexual	4	4%

14. Gender of children subject to a Child Protection Plan on 28 Feb 2011

	Number	%
Female	42	42%
Male	55	54%
Unborn	3	3%
Unknown	1	1%

15. Age of children who were subject to a Child protection Plan on 28 Feb 2011 (age as at 28 Feb 2011)

Age	Under 1	Between 1 and 4	Between 5 and 9	Between 10 and 15	16+
Number of children	12	30	28	29	2
% of children	12%	30%	28%	29%	2%

16. Child Protection Plans lasting two years or more (former National Indicator 64)

Child Protection Plans ending in the period	143
Number lasting two years or more	21
% lasting two years or more	15%

17. Children becoming subject to a Child Protection Plan for a second or subsequent time (CPP repeats, former National Indicator 65)

Child Protection Plans starting in the period	98
Number becoming subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time	22
% becoming subject to a CPP for a second or subsequent time	22%

18. Children in care

Number of children in care on 28 Feb 2011	158
Children in Care rate per 10,000 aged under 18	47.4

19. Main reason for being care for those in care at 28 Feb 2011

Category	Number	%
Abuse or neglect	63	40%
Family dysfunction	52	33%
Parental illness or disability	16	10%
Family in acute stress	13	8%
Disability	8	5%
Absent parenting	3	2%
Socially unacceptable behaviour	3	2%

20. Gender for children in care at 28 Feb 2011

Gender	Number	%
Female	64	41%
Male	94	59%

21. Ethnicity of children in care at 28 Feb 2011

Category description	Number	%
Black or Black British - other Black background	2	1%
Black or Black British - Caribbean	3	2%
Mixed - any other mixed background	5	3%
Mixed - White and Black Caribbean	9	6%
White - any other White background	2	1%
White British	137	87%

22. Age of children in care at 28 Feb 2011

Under 1	Between 1 and 4	Between 5 and 9	Between 10 and 15	Age 16+
6	16	29	61	46
4%	10%	18%	39%	29%