

# MINUTES

## Subject: Dudley Safeguarding Children Board – Extraordinary Meeting in Respect of CSE

Venue: Saltwells Education Centre  
 Date: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014  
 Time: 9.00 am – 12.00 noon

| Attendees         | Agency                            | Apologies       | Agency                  |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Michelle King     | Secondary Heads rep               | Anne Harris     | DACHS                   |
| Andy Proctor      | West Mids Ambulance Service       | Nicola Campbell | CAFCASS                 |
| Helen Ellis       | Integrated Youth Services         | Helen Barlow    |                         |
| Jayne Sargeant    | The Phase Trust                   | Tabetha Darmon  | BCPFT                   |
| Katriona Lafferty | Community Safety Team             | Ian McGuff      | DCS                     |
| Sue Haywood       | Community Safety Team             | Marie Bissell   | Primary & Special Rep   |
| Viv Townsend      | National Probation Service        | Karen Jackson   | Office of Public Health |
| Mike Galikowski   | Dudley YOS                        | Angela Young    | NHS England             |
| Wendy Bird        | West Mids Police                  | Jane Connelly   | Probation 9CRC)         |
| Carol Weston      | Dudley Group NHS Foundation Trust | Rosina Ottewell | Community Safety        |
| Chris Ballinger   | DCS                               | Andy Parsons    | West Mids Police        |
| Jenny Skyrme      | West Mids Police                  | Bob Dimmock     | DMBC                    |
| Martine McFadden  | DSCB                              | Deb Cooper      | DWMHT                   |
| Angie Whitaker    | West Mids Police                  |                 |                         |
| Gill Coldicott    | Further Education rep             |                 |                         |
| Karen Palk        | Lay Advisor                       |                 |                         |
| Pauline Sharratt  | DCS                               |                 |                         |
| Jackie Jennings   | S&R Service                       |                 |                         |
| Tim Crumpton      | Lead Member Children's Services   |                 |                         |
| Rachael Doyle     | DUE                               |                 |                         |
| Su Vincent        | Dudley CCG                        |                 |                         |
| Jassi Broadmeadow | S&R Service                       |                 |                         |
| Nicki Burrows     | DCVS                              |                 |                         |
| Roger Clayton     | Independent Chair DSCB            |                 |                         |
| Julie Winpenny    | West Mids Fire Service            |                 |                         |
| Mayada AbuAffan   | DWMHT                             |                 |                         |
| Jane Prashar      | DCS                               |                 |                         |
| Phil Dolby        | West Midlands Police              |                 |                         |
| Keith Bates       | Education Investigation           |                 |                         |

|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| <b>1.</b> | <p><b>Introductions &amp; Apologies</b></p> <p>A short video clip of a victim was shown to focus the group on the reason for the meeting. Jenny Skyrme gave an overview of the problem profile looking at victims, offenders and locations.</p> <p>Roger Clayton advised there were national and regional responses, but Dudley needs to give some consideration to what can be done locally and to draw up a strategy agreed by the DSCB.</p> <p>The purpose of the meeting today is to look at four key areas and draw up some plans to address current issues. The Vulnerable Children Strategic Group will have the outcome of the Workshops</p> |
|-----------|--|

|    |   |
|----|---|
|    | today and will lead on the DSCB's behalf in this task.  |
| 2. | <p><b><u>Problem Profile</u></b></p> <p>Jenny Skyrme advised that the Problem Profile document is currently embargoed, but that she was able to provide the group with some headlines.</p> <p>A scoping document developed by the West Midlands Police intelligence department, is a tool to be used by local authorities. Phase 1 is to look at CP provision for CSE and scope how the 7 local authorities in the West Midlands receive referrals about CSE, how they are dealt with and how CSE is dealt with at multi-agency panels. This document has already been circulated to the Chief Executives of each of the local authorities. Phase 2 will be to look at specific offenders, victims, locations etc. The draft version is due in mid to end January 2015.</p> <p>In Dudley everyone should already be familiar with how to make child protection referrals. However, when the referral is in relation to CSE and if it is classed as non-urgent it is passed to the YPSE Panel meeting which meets on a monthly basis and carries out a screening process. Urgent S47 cases result in a written referral being made by the social worker and an Initial child protection conference is instigated. In these cases, a decision is made in respect of a course of action within 24 hours. The DSCB needs to give consideration to what a non-urgent CSE case is and whether a monthly meeting is the right place to discuss these concerns. A Pathway for referrals needs to be developed and will be the aim of one of the workshops later in this meeting.</p> <p>The YPSE Panel in Dudley has been established for over six years. However, there are regional procedures which have been signed off by the Chief Executive. Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings are active across other parts of the west midlands. These meetings involve one child who does not meet the threshold for a S47 strategy discussion to be discussed in a multi-agency setting. Dudley has held one MASE meeting, but needs to ensure all appropriate cases are subject to these meetings.</p> <p>The YPSE Panel will evolve over time to concentrate on offenders and locations. To achieve this, YPSE will need to have a radical change in direction and membership to ensure the right people attend.</p> <p>The Problem profile highlighted that Dudley has no designated CSE coordinator, but since the profile was written, Helen Matthews has been commissioned by the DSCB to work 18 hours a week funded by the DSCB. Jenny has been successful in the bid for POCA money (Proceeds of Crime) and has been granted £17,500 which should now be in DSCB funds. Discussion is required in respect of whether the DSCB can fund a full time CSE coordinator and what the role of this post will entail.</p> <p>The Problem profile mentions the volume of referrals into Dudley and a way of flagging CSE cases needs to be explored. Between August 2013 and August 2014, Dudley received 1643 referrals into Children's Social Care which equates to 9 a day and 63 a week. From these referrals, the Problem profile was able to identify some clear hot spots, particularly Dudley town centre through to Brierley Hill and the Lye area in the south of the borough. Dudley north received 42% of the referrals. The Problem profile mapped out where the bulk of the referrals were coming in and this can be used as a tool to deploy resources for the local authority. It also mapped out areas to be focused upon across the West Midlands – there are 33, none of which are in Dudley.</p> <p>The profile noted some difficulties raised by an HMIC inspection of the CRU. However, police were already aware of the issues and were already taking steps to address them. The CRU was created to bring some consistency within the PPU across the 7 west midlands authorities. Sally Holmes is leading on how the service can be improved. Some of the local authorities have a MASH and Dudley is currently exploring options for one in their area. One options for police to consider is whether to break up the CRU and put everything back to local within the MASH or equivalent. Work will continue to improve the service of the CRU pending a decision which is likely to take around 6-12 months. The HMIC will carry out another inspection within 12 months.</p> <p>Jenny Skyrme advised that strategy discussions for non MASH areas has already been transferred back to the local teams. Referrals are made through to the CRU, but then sent out to the local Dudley team where one of the DS's will then have a strategy discussion with the Team Manager at District.</p> |

|    |  |
|----|--|
|    | <p>Another issue highlighted by the profile is that police intelligence is not readily available and is sometimes not heard until the YPSE Panel or at a strategy meeting if it is a S47 joint investigation.</p> <p>MASE meetings need to be implemented as quickly as possible. MASE meetings provide an opportunity for the CSE police coordinator to get all the information to the partnership quickly and efficiently, but also to draw in partnership intelligence to feed into police systems.</p> <p>The last issue highlighted is the lack of collation of CSE data and information being readily available. Dudley needs to look at a centralisation of data to ensure information is readily to hand. This could perhaps be a role of the CSE coordinator to coordinate the collation of data into one central system.</p> <p>Roger Clayton noted that the police problem profile was needed, but as with any other problem profile, it only puts in detail what is already known and there could be a certain amount of danger in creating a focus on certain areas. Although the west midlands profile does not see Dudley as a major area, it does not mean to say that Dudley should not.</p>  |
| 3. | <p><b><u>Current Practices</u></b></p> <p>Helen Matthews is currently the part time CSE coordinator in Dudley, but it is already clear there is a need for a full-time role. Police also have a CSE coordinator in post.</p> <p>From chairing the YPSE Panel, Wendy Bird is able to see how the group has developed – instead of discussing 25-30 cases, the focus is concentrated on those considered most at risk. There are still some further areas for development.</p> <p>Intelligence gathering is difficult – more information is required from people who work with children such as in care homes, education settings etc.</p> <p>Wendy also needs to be informed when a child at risk moves out of borough, so that police in the other local authority can be alerted to take over and manage the risks. There is no formal process for transferring young people – some girls go missing for days and are picked up in other policing areas. If police in other areas are notified and an alert is on the PNC, the young person can be brought back to Dudley much more quickly and can be allocated to a police officer from the CAIU to start building a relationship. Wendy noted that initially, these young girls are anti-police, but by developing a relationship with them, can produce disclosures. The quicker these girls can be returned to Dudley the quicker evidence can be secured and preserved.</p> <p>Wendy advised police already have trigger plans in relation to young people and specially trained officers to conduct debriefs. Support from other organisations on the Panel is really good and the young people in Dudley are supported and managed</p> <p>Intelligence forms need to be completed with a concentration on offenders and locations and meetings will be held in relation to targeting these.</p> <p>Screening tools need to be developed and the perception by some that these girls go out and put themselves at risk needs to be challenged.</p> <p>One young person who had a period of being missing would not cooperate with police. She had not had a wash for 5 days in the belief that no one would want sex with her if she was not clean. Everyone needs to respond immediately and give priority to suspected CSE cases.</p> <p>Jackie Jennings pointed out that although there had been a lot of talk about girls going missing, it also applies to boys, children with learning difficulties, disabilities, special needs etc. A clear message needs to go out about people who have a suspicion that a child has been moved – this is trafficking. In the CSE film, practitioners had asked if it was trafficking when Chloe got dressed up, went to a party and knew several guys were going to have sex with her. Jackie pointed out that practitioners need to ask how she knew about the party and where it was, where the invite came from – and yes, this was trafficking.</p> <p>The age of consent is often raised, but no one can consent if drunk, drugged or in fear.</p> |

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  | <p>A pilot scheme was launched in September 2014 and will run until August 2015. Jackie asked that anyone with suspicion of a child or young person being moved for any form of exploitation, that she is provided with information on that child so that she can feed into government statistics for the pilot. The information will also be fed into a pilot run by Barnardos. Any information should be forwarded to Jackie by e-mail <a href="mailto:jackie.jennings@dudley.gov.uk">jackie.jennings@dudley.gov.uk</a> or can be faxed to the Safeguarding &amp; Review Service secure fax on 01384 813062.</p> <p>Two-day training is run 4 times a year and there are 2-hour training sessions held every six weeks at Saltwells. There has been a lot of progress in work with hotels and it is hoped small hotels and B&amp;B's can also be targeted in the near future.</p> |
|  | <p><b><u>Way Forward – Workshops</u></b></p> <p>The group separated into four Workshops. For details of the discussion and feedback, please see separate documents for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pathways and role of YPSE</li><li>• Role of the CSE Coordinator</li><li>• Education – Prevent</li><li>• Disruption of Offending</li></ul> <p>There was also some discussion in respect of the way forward for Dudley.</p>   |