

TAMESIDE AREA CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEE

NEWSLETTER - MAY 2005

CHAIRS MESSAGE:-

The Area Child Protection Committee is now well on its way to becoming a Local Safeguarding Children Board.

Following events in September and December 2004 the Area Child Protection Committee met on 9th May 2005 with the members designate of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

A membership structure, terms of reference and budget have been agreed and a Job Description and Person Specification for Boards Members *see article "A Guide to The New Local Safeguarding Children Board".

The Local Safeguarding Children Board will meet for the first time on 5th September 2005 and so will be well ahead of the statutory start date of 1st April 2006.

This year's ACPC Conference on 15th September will mark the launch of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

This represents considerable progress, none of which would be possible without the willing co-operation of all the agencies involved.

All of this augurs well for the future of safeguarding children in Tameside and we look forward to meeting and working together over the next few months.

Annie Dodd

ACPC STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

Everyone is responsible for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. Sharing information and practice across agencies helps protect children. The Area Child Protection Committee is the designated multi-agency group with the authority to carry out this responsibility.

It works by:

- ◆ Leading collaboration across the agencies.
- ◆ Developing and setting policies and procedures.
- ◆ Monitoring and auditing their implementation.
- ◆ Providing training.
- ◆ Promoting awareness in the wider community.

Issue 6

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WEB PAGE UPDATE

The Web Page has been updated. Further procedures will be added to the Web Page in the near future. All procedures and guidance can be downloaded.

www.tameside.gov.uk/tmbc5/acpc.htm

Since last October there has been 1436 hits to the Web Page.

Contact : If you would like to contribute to the next newsletter please contact: Catherine Jowett, ACPC Administrator, Services for Children & Young People, Quality Assurance Unit, Conference & Review Section, Union Street, Hyde. SK14 1ND. Tel : 0161 342 4343; Fax 0161 368 8612 or e-mail : catherine.jowett@tameside.gov.uk

A GUIDE TO THE NEW LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD

Chair

Ian Smith Executive Director, Services for Children & Young People

Deputy Chair

Cheryl Eastwood Assistant Executive Director, Services for Children & Young People

Children's Social Care

Annie Dodd Head of Children's Social Care, Services for Children & Young People

Rafik Iddin Unit Business Manager, Quality Assurance, Services for Children & Young People

Bev Connolly Unit Business Manager, Assessment & Care Management, Services for Children & Young People

LEA

Lucy Davies Head of Access & School Inclusion, Services for Children & Young People

PCT

Dr Julian Hartley Chief Executive

Dr Gideon Smith Consultant in Public Health Medicine

Dr O Lawson (Designated Dr) Consultant Paediatrician (Named Doctor for Acute Trust)

Elaine Fiveash Designated Nurse

Lily Batterson Director of Operations, PCT

GP

Dr C Greenhough

Acute Trust

Sue Ward (Named Nurse) Children's Services Manager

Adrian Griffiths Director of Surgical Services

Pennine Care Mental Health Trust

Dr Peter Bowers (Named Doctor) Consultant Child Psychiatrist

Mary Hopper (Named Nurse) Substance Misuse Service Manager

David Curtis Director of Nursing

GM Police

CI R Hart

DCI H Hardiman

DI S Harlow HQ Family Support Unit

DS J Little HQ Family Support Unit

GM Probation

Penny Jones District Manager

Janet Armstrong-Burns Senior Probation Officer

CAFCASS

Jane Booth Corporate Director

Connexions

Sheila Piazza Connexions Manager, Tameside

Youth Offending Team

John Whittle Head of Youth Offending Services

NSPCC

Thelma Kennedy Children's Services Manager

Housing

Steve Moss New Charter Housing Trust (for TMBC Housing Strategy)

Domestic Violence Forum

Tracey Austin Community Safety Unit, TMBC

Schools Representative

To be identified

Service User Representative

To be decided

Advisors

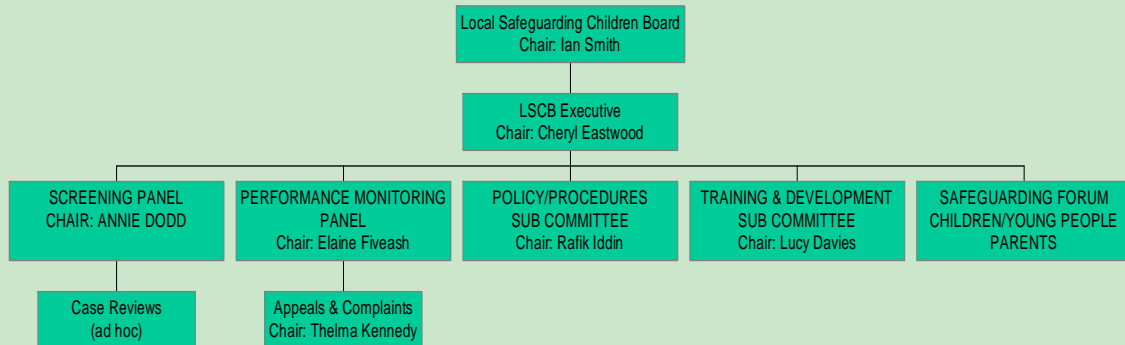
Alison Robertson Solicitor, TMBC

Lynn Ready Training Organiser

Administrator

Catherine Jowett

PROPOSED STRUCTURE FOR LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD



1. **The scope of the LSCB will be somewhat broader than that of the ACPC but will still maintain a focus on children in need of protection.**
2. **The Board will meet four times a year and will receive reports of activities from Sub-committees.**
3. **Sub-committees will write their terms of reference and will look at membership. All are likely to be looking for representation from across the agencies and for people who are prepared to make a positive contribution to their work.**
4. **The responsibilities of the LSCB will be:-**
 - **Local policies and procedures**
 - **Audit and evaluation of services working together**
 - **Development of effective working relationships**
 - **Agreement and understanding of definitions and thresholds**
 - **Evidence informed improvement to ways of working**
 - **Undertaking Case Reviews (part 8 of Working Together)**
 - **Multi-agency training & development**
 - **Raising awareness in the community.**

WORKING GROUPS

Domestic Violence Working Group—Guidance was produced and is now available on the Web Page.

Children with Disabilities—Protocol has been written and will be made available on the Web Page.

Children in Need—Pilot is currently being carried out in Hattersley.

Children Missing From Home and Care—Group continue to meet to produce guidance.

Children in Custody - Guidance being written around dealing with children who find themselves in custody

Advocacy for Parents—looking at the provision of an advocacy service for parents who attend child protection conferences.

Madrassah Project—cultural project looking at providing support and training to the Muslim schools.

ACPC Training 2005/06

The legacy of the Victoria Climbié has been a radical and far-reaching reform of all services to children. Government guidance and legislation has had a profound impact on promoting welfare and safeguarding children and will continue to do so in 2005/06 and beyond. The aim of Every Child Matters and The Children Act 2004 is to maintain what works well and develop systems to further improve services to children.

Inter-agency training and development has never had a better climate in which to grow and government emphasis on integrated working inevitably demands integrated training. The Children Act stresses the importance of a 'highly skilled and competent children's workforce. To this end "common core skills and knowledge for the children's workforce" (Dfes 2004) have been developed which outline the skills and knowledge the children's workforce should have. These skills will need to underpin all ACPC training. The areas covered by the common core include child development; safeguarding and promoting welfare; effective communication and engagement; multi-agency working and information sharing. Most of these areas are already included in ACPC training in Tameside.

Another significant focus for inter-agency training will be the common assessment framework, (CAF) due for implementation in 2006. The CAF will be a common method of assessing the needs of children and young people that can be used by the whole children's workforce.

As we develop into a statutory Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB), responsibility for vulnerable children and accountability for safeguarding and promoting welfare will widen, as will the remit for inter-agency training. Full details of the ACPC Training Strategy, Plan and Programme for 2005/06 can be obtained on the ACPC web page.

EVENTS

Core Group Research—Feedback Session

Representatives who took part in the Core Group Research were invited back to share the findings of this research. Feedback from participants will help shape future practice and has been incorporated into the new guidance for Core Group members.

Fabricated Induced Illness—30th November 2004

At this half-day event Dr Mary Eminson was invited to speak to delegates on Fabricated and Induced Illness. Dr Eminson has contributed to national research and guidance in this area and works as a consultant in this field. She gave an enlightening presentation which enabled participants to consider the signs, symptoms of FII and appropriate responses when it is suspected.

ACPC/LSCB Development Day—20th December 2004

ACPC Members and prospective LSCB members met on this second development day in preparation for Tameside's LSCB. Tony Morrison facilitated the day in which participants explored the type of structure that would need to be in place for the establishment of an LSCB. The remit, purpose, membership and activity of the LSCB was considered with the overall aim of retaining what is good about the ACPC and "adding value" to it as it becomes an LSCB. The views of those who attended the 2004 ACPC Conference were taken into account in these development days.

Emotional Competence for Individuals and Organisations—21st February 2005

This day was arranged jointly by Tameside and Oldham ACPC Training Organisers. Tony Morrison facilitated the day which was attended by over 80 delegates, 45 of which were from Tameside.

Participants were encouraged to consider the emotional content in their work with children and families and the need to be emotionally competent in that work. Tony Morrison provided assessment tools and strategies for developing an emotionally competent workforce and organisation.

Future Planned Events

Domestic Violence Guidance Launch	Safeguarding Disabled Children Guidance Launch Date to be set	The Impact of Adult Mental Health Upon Children Awareness Raising Event & Theatre Group 20/09/05	ACPC/LSCB Annual Conference 15/09/05
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