
Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee 24 September 2019

City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) Update

Summary

1. This report provides an update on the activity of City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) (formerly Board (CYSCB)).

Key Updates

New safeguarding partnership arrangements

2. In York the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) held its last meeting on 23 January 2019 and, as an 'Early Adopter' of the new statutory arrangements, it became the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) on 1 April 2019.
3. Full details of the new arrangements were published online at the beginning of February, having been checked and endorsed by the Department for Education. The document can be found here: <http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/about-the-cyscb.htm>
4. All local authorities who were not 'Early Adopters' had to have published their arrangements by June 2019 and all LSCBs will be replaced with the new statutory safeguarding partnership arrangements from September 2019.
5. Prior to the new arrangements taking effect in York, lead officers from the key statutory partners had presented proposals for the new Partnership, to replace the Board, and these were agreed at the Board and signed off by the Chief Officers Reference and Accountability

Group (CORAG) in October 2018. (Chief Officers from North Yorkshire Police, Vale of York CCG and from the Local Authority.)

6. The opportunity has been taken to 'sharpen' the functioning of the Board/Partnership and its Sub-groups but no changes made simply for changes' sake. The Board had been judged as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted in December 2016 and confirmed as 'effective' and 'influential' and a '*partnership that demonstrates a commitment to shared learning and improvement that is characterised by robust but professional challenge*' by the Joint Targeted Area Inspection as recently as September 2018.

Early Adopters Funding and 'Legacy Project'

7. In July 2018, the CYSCB was one of the 17 successful local authorities in a bid to the Department of Education (DfE) to be an 'Early Adopter'. This resulted in funding for a project attached to the move to the new Safeguarding Partnership arrangements. The City of York project was in relation to enhancing the, already strong, relationship of early years, schools and colleges with the safeguarding agenda and with the new Partnership. The project culminated in a York presentation to a regional DfE conference in March 2019 and a '*City of York Safeguarding in Education Conference*' in April 2019.
8. Rather than simply bringing the project to an end with the move to the new arrangements in April, partners agreed to a 'legacy project' to involve children and young people in delivering safeguarding messages about social media. To date, CYSCP coordinators of the project have met and engaged the support of a Senior Professor in Psychology and Child and Adolescent Development at York St John University and the National Campaigns Manager, NSPCC. Working alongside other stakeholders including schools and the Schools Wellbeing Service and, of course, young people themselves, a peer led charter on the use of social media will be created and an event for young people planned for the Autumn 2019. Discussions are ongoing with the drama department of York St. John's with a view to their input in the project (in the same way that they supported with the CYSCB's nationally acclaimed 'It's Not Ok' child sexual abuse and exploitation campaign which is now established across the country.)

Joint Targeted Area Inspection Action Plan

9. CYSCP is monitoring the Action Plan which resulted from the JTAI in September 2019. The JTAI Action Planning group has recently met to update against the JTAI actions – single and multi-agency. CYSCP will expect a full report on progress with this at the next meeting of the CYSCP Business Group in September and to the Partnership in October.

Safeguarding Week 2019

10. Safeguarding Week 2019 took place in the week beginning 24 June 2019 across York and North Yorkshire with the strap line: *Safeguarding is everybody's business*. A very well attended Safeguarding Conference was held on Tuesday 25 June at the Pavilions, Harrogate with key note speeches on stalking/domestic homicide and on child trafficking and workshops focused on: County Lines; Suicide Prevention; HSB; a local Domestic Homicide Review; Modern Slavery; Adult Self Neglect.
11. Videos of the presentations and workshops are being developed to be streamed online securely at specific times. This will enable practitioners who did not attend the event to benefit from the conference content.
12. A number of events took place across York during the week including:
 - CYSCP and Children's Social Care promoting information, leaflets and posters about Private Fostering in the West Offices foyer
 - Safeguarding Awareness stand – children and adults – in York Hospital foyer
 - Information about early help services in the Children's Centres across York
 - Safeguarding awareness-raising events in York's colleges
13. An impact survey goes out to attendees at the conference in September and a full evaluation report will go to the York & North Yorkshire Safeguarding Systems Leadership Group in due course.

Focus on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB)

14. In 2018 CYSCP commissioned a Learning Lessons Review (LLR) which had a focus on Harmful Sexual Behaviour. The review was presented and discussed at the Partnership meeting in April and a practitioner's workshop, delivered by the reviewer, took place on the same day.
15. CYSCP is focusing on HSB as a priority during 2019. A strategic task and finish group has been set up by the safeguarding partners to look at a variety of work streams including:
 - Creating and driving forward a new multi-agency HSB Strategy for York and guidance for practitioners
 - Providing HSB training, workshops and seminars for practitioners across the workforce.
 - Working with partners to ascertain how practitioners trained to assess and work with children and young people who are victims/perpetrators of HSB can be expanded to include specific assessments for children and young people with learning difficulties and disabilities.
 - Making a direct link to the recommendations from the Learning Lessons Review. (CYSCP will be delivering practitioner workshops on the learning from the LLR in the Autumn)
16. The lead officers from the three statutory safeguarding partners – Local Authority, North Yorkshire Police and the Clinical Commissioning Group have agreed that between them to commission the HSB Framework and support from the NSPCC.

Audit and Review activity

17. Audit work by the CYSCP in 2019 has included **scrutiny of the Child Protection Case Conference process**. Although no particular concerns had been expressed by partners, previous audits had shown discrepancies in the agencies invited to attend or to submit information and reports, plus variations in planning and in recording outcomes.

Actions from the audit were identified for partners to carry out and these are being reviewed by the CYSCP Case Review and Audit Group.

18. The CYSCB/P worked with colleagues in North Yorkshire to carry out the biennial **S11 (of the Children Act 2004) audit** of safeguarding practice with partner organisations. The audit was carried out with those explicitly defined in the 2004 Children Act as having a duty to safeguard children
19. A full analysis report was circulated to partners and partners were asked to note the areas for development and of good practice and consider applying these practices to their own processes if not already in place. (None of the agencies were specifically identified to others in connection with each finding.)
20. CYSCP requires updates on individual partners' areas for development via the Agency Assurance Report process and reports to sub-groups

Child Death Overview Panel

21. The statutory guidance in Working Together 2018 means that in 2019 the processes for reviewing child deaths changed. These processes are now led by the Child Death Review Partners: the Local Authority and the Clinical Commissioning Group rather than by the LSCB. In York and North Yorkshire the Child Death Review process is still to be administered (on behalf of City of York) by the North Yorkshire Child Safeguarding Partnership and the Child Death Review Partners have agreed that the Overview Panel continues to report the Safeguarding Partnerships in both York and in North Yorkshire. York and North Yorkshire will work closely with regional colleagues to ensure that lessons can be learned from any themes emerging across the region.

CYSCB Annual Report 2018/19

22. Many more details of the activity and outcomes of CYSCB/P and partners during 2018/19 and the transition to the new arrangements can be found in the Annual Report 2018/19. This will be published very shortly and available at: <http://www.saferchildrenyork.org.uk/annual-reports-and-business-plan.htm>

Council Plan

23. The information included in this report is linked to the Council Plan priorities of “A focus on frontline services to ensure all residents, particularly the least advantaged, can access reliable services and community facilities” and “A council that listens to residents to ensure it delivers the services they want and works in partnership with local communities.”

Implications

24. There are no other direct implications arising from this report.

Recommendations

25. The recommendation is that the Children, Education & Communities Policy & Scrutiny Committee note the new safeguarding partnership arrangements and that the City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership (CYSCP) replaced the Local Safeguarding Children Board in April 2019.

Reason: To ensure that the Committee is aware of the transition to, the new arrangements and of the ongoing business of the Safeguarding Children Partnership.

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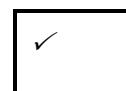
Report Approved



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Wards Affected:

All



For further information please contact the author of the report

Abbreviations

CCG – Clinical Commissioning Group

CORAG - Chief Officers Reference and Accountability Group

CYSCB- City of York Safeguarding Children Board

CYSCP- City of York Safeguarding Children Partnership

DFE - Department of Education

HSB- harmful Sexual behaviour

JTAI- Joint Targeted Area Inspection

LLR – learning lessons Review

LSCB - Local Safeguarding Children Board

NSPCC- National Society of the Prevention of Cruelty to Children