

## **HOMES & COMMUNITIES COMMITTEE**

**10 JUNE 2019**

### **CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING ANNUAL UPDATE**

#### **1.0 Purpose of Report**

1.1 To update Members on corporate safeguarding matters and to provide assurance that the Council's activity is in line with its safeguarding responsibilities, policies and procedures.

#### **2.0 Internal Structure Changes relating to Safeguarding Responsibilities**

2.1 As of April 2019, Safeguarding responsibility falls within the Public Protection Unit therefore Matthew Finch, Director - Communities & Environment takes on duties as Corporate Lead for the Council and Alan Batty as the Lead Safeguarding Officer. The Safeguarding Officers remain the same.

2.2 The lead Member role for safeguarding falls to the Chairman of Homes & Communities Committee.

#### **3.0 Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Board Update**

3.1 The Children & Social Work Act 2017 introduced a new duty on three agencies, namely the local authority, the chief officer of police and clinical commissioning group (together referred to as the 'safeguarding partners'), to make arrangements for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area. The new safeguarding arrangements have now replaced The Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Boards (NSCBs). The new Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership came into force working alongside the existing Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board. Following a successful trial period the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Board ceased to operate on 31 March 2019.

3.2 The new safeguarding structure under the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership is provided in **Appendix A**. The Strategic Leadership Team will be chaired by Colin Pettigrew Notts. CC Corporate Director for Children Young People and Schools.

3.3 Under these new arrangements the Business Manager will now attend the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children's Partnership meetings. Any key matters arising will be cascaded to colleagues via the Corporate Safeguarding Group with updates to the Senior Leadership Team.

3.4 The emerging theme arising from the Children's agenda is that of 'Contextual Safeguarding'. The framework that has been established in Nottinghamshire (and nationally) to support the safeguarding of children is based on a family and person centred approach. Contextual Safeguarding is an approach that seeks to identify and respond to harm and abuse posed to young people outside their home, either from adults or other young people. This can be in specific locations are more widely in broad community settings.

### 3.5 County Lines

The County Lines Reference Group met on 25 April 2019 and was attended by the Business Manager - Community Safety.

- 3.6 At this meeting, Newark was raised as a concern for County Lines type activity and is believed to be one of the most affected parts of the County based upon Police intelligence. There is intelligence to support that young people travel from Nottingham to Newark potentially targeting vulnerable young people and adults. The young people from Nottingham may be themselves vulnerable and exploited by drug traffickers.

### 4.0 Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adult's Board Update

- 4.1 The District/Borough representative on the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Adults Board (NSAB) is Ruth Hyde, Chief Executive at Broxtowe Borough Council. The Business Manager – Public Protection will attend and contribute to the work of the board via the six-monthly NSAB Partnership events. The meeting of this group took place on 21 May and the following matters were highlighted.

- 4.2 The NASB has adopted three year plan and it has now entered its second year. The theme for the second year is 'Prevention'. A strategy has been adopted by the NASB. This is entitled 'Preventing Abuse and Neglect Strategy'. A key work stream of the strategy is tackling fraud against the vulnerable. It is anticipated that local actions around this work will involve engagement with Neighbourhood Watch Schemes and the development of the Nominated Neighbour Scheme

### 5.0 Corporate Safeguarding Group

- 5.1 The Corporate Safeguarding Group continues to meet on a quarterly basis, co-ordinating and managing the Council's, Newark and Sherwood Homes, Active4Today and Southwell Leisure Centre Trust safeguarding activity to ensure it is in line with safeguarding responsibilities, policies and procedures. The group last met on 9 May 2019.

- 5.2 Business Unit representation at the Group has been reviewed and the Business Manager - Heritage, Culture and Visitors attends and consideration is being given to whether other Business Units need to be represented (Waste & Cleansing).

- 5.3 The Group will be the assurance for training that is being developed and for identifying potential training needs for Business Units within the authority.

### 6.0 Corporate Case Management

- 6.1 Details are provided below on the number of internal safeguarding referrals received and managed during 2016, 2017, 2017/2018 and 2018/2019.

- 6.2 It can be seen that there are some Business Units that there are a small number of Business Units that generate the majority of referrals. This is to be expected from the nature of the work and the client group that the Business Units work with. However, it should be noted that there is a wide range of Business Units making referrals.

### Internal Referrals

CHILD/ADULT SPLIT PER YEAR	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2016	1 Jan – 31 Mar 2017	1 April - 31 March 2018	1 April – 31 March 2019
Child	16	3	20	26
Adult	30	5	27	30
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>

REFERRERS	1 Jan – 31 Dec 2016	1 Jan – 31 Mar 2017	1 April – 31 March 2018	1 April – 31 March 2019
Housing Options	13	1	11	14
EH and Licensing	2	1	4	1
A4T	1		3	4
CMT	1			
Community Safety	15	2	9	7
Planning	3		2	
Customer Services	2		4	1
HB Intervention Team	3	1	2	3
Palace Theatre	1		1	1
Democratic Services	1			
Human Resources	2		1	
NSH	2	3	4	21*
Parks		8		2
Waste & Cleansing			1	2
Other			5	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>56</b>

*\*Of note, increase in referrals for 2018/19 is reflective of N&S Homes revised reporting*

### 6.3 Categories for the Q1 period 1 April 2018 – 31 March 2019

<b>Adults</b>	
Self-Neglect	13
Emotional Abuse	
Modern Slavery	
Physical Abuse	
Domestic	6
Sexual	
Organisational	
Financial	1
Neglect	1
Discrimination	
Other	9
	<b>30</b>

<b>Child</b>	
Emotional	4
Physical	2
Neglect	15
Sexual	3
Other	2
	<b>26</b>

## **7.0 Serious Case Reviews**

### **7.1 SAR ROONEY Family – “Operation Pottery”**

A Serious Adults Review Independent Management Review Meeting has been arranged by Lincolnshire Adults Board on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> May 2019 and any report or findings from this meeting will be circulated in due course.

## **8.0 Domestic Abuse**

### **8.1 Update on Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR’s):**

#### **8.2 Operation Honey**

Incident of August 2016 involving elderly couple in Perlethorpe; husband murdered wife and pleaded guilty to manslaughter due to diminished responsibility and was given a suspended sentence by the Court. The perpetrator remained in nursing home until he died earlier this year.

#### **8.3 Operation Haslock**

Incident of August 2017 whereby a 59 year old female was murdered in Millgate Newark. Her partner admitted manslaughter by diminished responsibility in August 2017. He was sentenced to 9 years in prison.

8.4 The Chair and Author have met with the family to discuss the findings. The report was presented and approved at the Joint Strategic Group on 12 April 2019. The report action plan is being reviewed by the Panel and when this is complete, the report will be submitted to the Home Office.

#### **8.5 Domestic Violence – Assurance Learning and Implementation Group (“ALIG)**

A County wide group has recently been set up to share good practice, lessons learned and to monitor any actions identified through the DHR process. This will be chaired by DCI Clare Dean and the group will report to the DSA Executive Group of the SNB.

## **9.0 Training**

### **9.1 Employee Training**

Training is scheduled in quarterly (delivered by the Safeguarding Officers and Domestic Violence Co-ordinator) for all new starters and this is now embedded into the new starters induction programme.

9.2 The Safeguarding Officers have worked with HR Officer to devise an online training package using Tiger Page to provide to all existing staff as refresher training with 2 modules complete; one on Modern Day Slavery and one on Safeguarding and Domestic Abuse. This training will be rolled out to all staff with a completion target date of 31 December 2019.

9.3 Discussions will take place at the next Corporate Safeguarding Group on 1 July 2019 as to A4T and Newark and Sherwood Homes’ arrangements for refresher training for their respective employees.

9.4 Members Training

All new Members will be invited to attend a face-to-face Safeguarding Training session; a date is yet to be confirmed but with a deadline of before 31 July 2019.

9.5 Existing Members will be asked to complete the Page Tiger online refresher training.

9.6 Safeguarding Training for Council Volunteers

At the Corporate Safeguarding Group meeting of 9 May 2019, discussions took place about safeguarding training for volunteers and whether there is a necessity to have a consistent approach across Business Units.

9.7 HR will undertake an audit of Business Units to establish the current training provided to volunteers. When this is complete the Corporate Safeguarding Group will assess what, if any, volunteer training is required.

**10.0 Equalities Implications**

10.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

**11.0 Financial Implications**

11.1 There are no budgetary impacts arising from this report

**12.0 RECOMMENDATION**

**That the Committee consider the contents of this report and comment accordingly.**

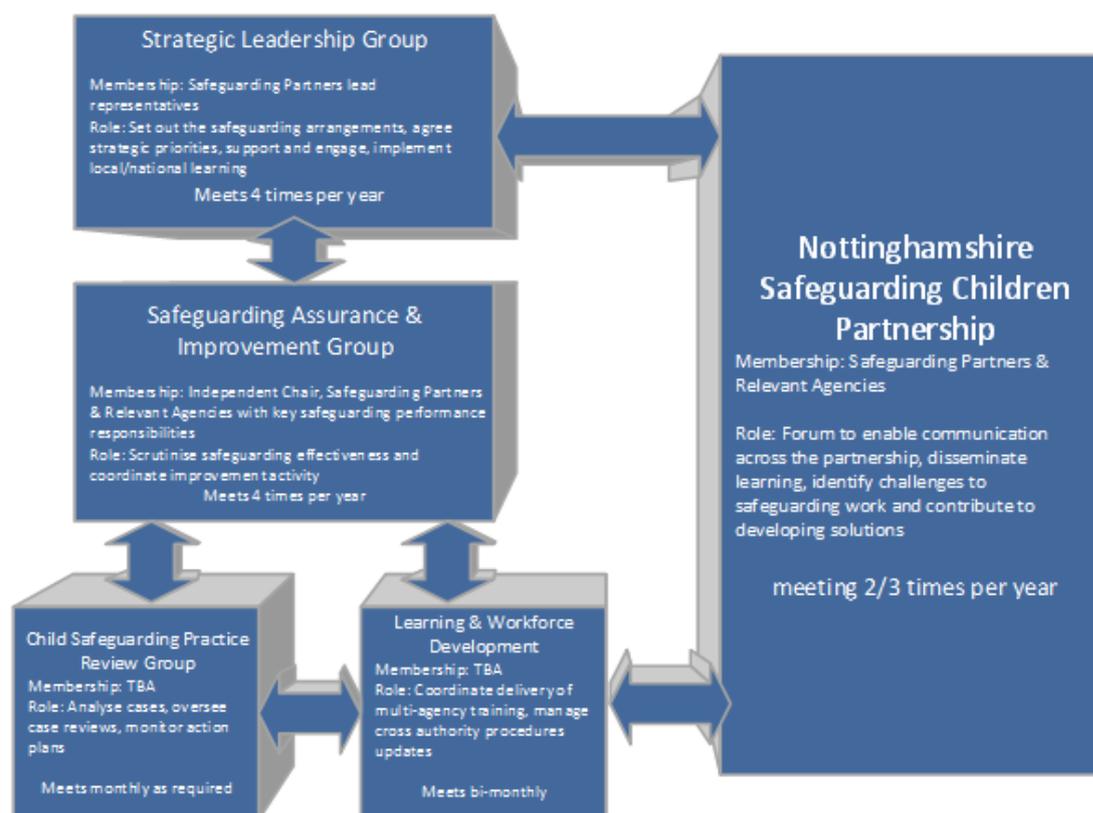
Background Papers

Nil

For further information please contact Alan Batty, Business Manager – Public Protection on extension 5467.

Matthew Finch  
Director – Communities & Environment

**Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children’s Partnership Structure**



***The Strategic Leaderships Group is made up of safeguarding partners responsible for the safeguarding arrangements under the Nottinghamshire Safeguarding Children Partnership; the 3 agencies are:***

- **Greater Nottingham Clinical Commissioning Groups**
- *NHS Nottingham North & East CCG*
- *NHS Nottingham West CCG*
- *NHS Rushcliffe CCG*
- *Mid Nottinghamshire Clinical Commissioning Groups*
- *NHS Mansfield and Ashfield CCG*
- *NHS Newark and Sherwood CCG*
- *NHS Bassetlaw Clinical Commissioning Group*
- **Nottinghamshire County Council**
- **Nottinghamshire Police**

***All three safeguarding partners have equal and joint responsibility for local safeguarding arrangements.***

## **Case Study 1**

### **TAXI/AMBULANCE DRIVERS – Cheska**

## **Case Study 2**

A referral was received from Palace Theatre Business Manager requesting advice regarding a male who was frequently attending the Palace Theatre asking to use the toilets and insisting upon using the female toilets stating he was transgender. The male presented predominately dressed as a male. Staff offered the alternative of using the disabled facilities but the male insisted on using the female facilities. The male did not attend events at the Theatre but started to ask for a drink stating he was unwell; on one occasions he sat in the café having been provided with a glass of water and urinating in his seat-stating he had a bladder issue. The staff attempted to engage with him but the male was reluctant to provide any details other than he lived in Bingham.

At the same time Newark Town Council approached Safeguarding Officers for advice as similar issue was occurring at one of the public toilet facilities. CCTV provided by Palace Theatre and Town Council showed this to be the same male.

Safeguarding Officer contacted the local Police Beat Manager to establish if the male was known to Police and whether contact could be made with local Bingham officers to see if this male was known.

Through contact with Police, the male was identified and this behaviour was known to Police and deemed his behaviour to possibly being linked to a sexual fetish and inappropriate, a risk to himself and others.

The male has a learning disability and complex needs; he has an allocated Social Worker; he lives in Bingham but attends Newark every weekday morning to see his support advocate. Police discussions with Social Care ascertained that the male wanted to be a female hence wanting to access female toilet facilities.

An Acceptable Behaviour Contract was put in place excluding him from all female toilets in Newark; this was done in conjunction with his social worker and support advocate. The Police will continue to monitor.

Arising from this case, discussions took place around self-identified transgender discrimination with Legal and discussions with Customer Services Business Manager to alert them to this male, who could attempt to access the female toilet facilities at other Council buildings.

**ANNONOMISED CASE STUDIES**

**Case 20/17:** An internal referral came from a member of staff in Financial Services concerned about 3 young children living in a property nearby her home address. The staff member would take any opportunity to speak to the children to ensure they were okay and would often find them in their night clothes all day, stating their mum was in bed asleep and they had fed themselves, the oldest child being 8. The staff member also reported concerns about the road worthiness of the mother's car and that she would often see the children being driven in the car without seatbelts.

This family had also been referred to the ASB team by another neighbour stating the children were causing nuisance and left unsupervised.

A referral was made and accepted by MASH. The information regarding the car was passed to Police who stopped the mother the following day (no tax/insurance/MOT).

Two perspectives on the same behaviour – NSDC employee looked upon it as safeguarding/neglect whilst other resident as nuisance.

**Safeguarding (Historic) & LMAPS Case:** Safeguarding referral received in 2016 in relation to an elderly adult male, alcoholic, with the onset of dementia, in relation to a known female offender taking advantage of him, financial abuse and directing others to his property to steal from him. The case was referred to Adult Safeguarding and a Social Worker appointed. Referred to LMAPS in 2016 and referred for the same in 2017. On Monday, 13 November 2017 the female was convicted of 2 burglaries at the male's address and sentenced to 2 years 5 months in prison; on the back of these offences, Community Safety supported Police in applying for a Restraining Order to come into force upon her release from prison and the Judge ordered this to be in place for life with the conditions of not to contact the male and not to visit the road he lives on.

**Consideration for Serious Case Reviews – Request for Information (specific to NSDC/NSH)**

**SCR Consideration 1**

A mother and her four children moved into Seven Hills, there were various concerns regarding domestic abuse between the mother and her partner and relevant referrals made to social care.

The tenancy support officer raised concerns that the youngest child had unexplained marks on his face and body and forced the mother to access medical help. The boy was admitted to hospital and all the children were subsequently removed from the family home and placed into foster care due to child neglect.

Medical staff identified the marks as burns which may have been inflicted by the eldest child.

Recommendations have been made that the case is not considered for Serious Case Review but there is a great deal of learning from the case.

## SCR Consideration 2

A male with learning disabilities and treatment resistant schizophrenia resided with his brother in Newark. His brother has no diagnosed condition but has been described as potentially having a mild learning difficulty (not confirmed).

The male was susceptible to urine infections which had a negative impact on his mental capacity and physical and mental health.

The male was not independent in most aspects of daily living such as shopping, cooking, keeping the house clean and personal care. He did not access the community independently.

There were previous safeguarding concerns regarding possible neglect by family members dating back to 2014.

The male died on 1 December 2017

NSDC and NSH information was returned to the Safeguarding Board and we are awaiting the outcome of the initial review held in March 2018

## **Young People of Concern**

Verbal update

## **Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHR's)**

Legislation introduced in 2011 places responsibility on Community Safety Partnerships to undertake DHRs.

The Community Safety Partnership is currently dealing with two DHR's in the N&S area; one relating to a husband who killed his wife in the family home in Perlethorpe and the other in relation to a husband who killed wife in the family home in Newark. Both are subject to full DHR's that will be submitted to the Home Office for approval.

Any learning points from the DHR's will be shared through the Safeguarding Group and across a wider audience to promote wider acceptance of the learnings

Domestic Abuse – Assurance Learning and Implementation Group (ALIG) A countywide meeting has been set up - ALIG (Assurance Learning and Implementation Group) to look at outcomes from DHRs. The ALIG met on 12 April 2018 and is looking at how the group will function, standardising processes countywide and sharing common themes and learning. This is a sub group of the SNB Domestic and Sexual Abuse Executive Group.