

MSCB Bulletin - Spring 2015

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Welcome to the Spring 2015 Bulletin from the MSCB

I hope you will find this newsletter of interest and will share it as widely as possible within your organisation.

Following the Ofsted Inspection last year lots of changes have been taking place within the governance structure of the MSCB and these will allow the Board to continue to play its part to improve the services offered to every child and young person in Manchester.

The MSCB has set out its priorities for 2015 onwards in our 2015-17 Business Plan which has been published on our website www.manchesterscb.org.uk Our vision is that “every child and young person in Manchester should be able to grow up safe; free from abuse, neglect or crime; so allowing them to enjoy a happy and healthy childhood and fulfill their potential.” To achieve this we need your continued support to our maxim ‘**communicate, participate and cooperate - safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility**’.

Best wishes

Jane Booth,

Interim Independent Chair MSCB

Ofsted Improvement Plan

In June and July 2014, Ofsted carried out a single inspection of Manchester City Council’s arrangements for children in need of help and protection, looked after children and care leavers. At the same time, Ofsted reviewed the effectiveness of the Manchester Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB). The judgement of Ofsted was that both the Council’s and the MSCB’s arrangements were inadequate.

An Improvement Board, with an Independent Chair, has been put in place to guide the improvements needed. This Board is overseeing the implementation of an Improvement Plan, which sets out how the Council, the MSCB and their partners will comply with the DfE Improvement Notice and transform their arrangements so that the children, young people and families of Manchester get the good services they deserve.

Manchester partners are committed to driving through change and improvement and by working together this will ensure that the changes required are delivered and that services can demonstrate tangible improvements.

Revision of Working Together – published by DfE March 2015

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 has recently been published, replacing the 2013 guidance. The revised document can be found at:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>

The new Working Together document has been updated following a consultation on the referral of allegations against those who work with children, notifiable incidents involving the care of a child; and the definition of serious harm for the purposes of serious case

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reviews and to reflect changes to amendments to legislation resulting from the Children and Families Act 2014.

There are also links to a [version of the guidance for young people](#) and a [version suitable for younger children](#) for practitioners to share. A briefing note outlining the changes can be found at: http://www.trixonline.co.uk/website/news/pdf/policy_briefing_No-144.pdf

The NSPCC Information Service has published [an article](#) explaining how the new Working Together guidance impacts on people working with children in England in addition to two new briefings:

- [Information sharing and confidentiality for practitioners](#) (PDF)
- [Briefing on updated statutory guidance for schools in England](#) (PDF)

What is Working Together?

Working Together is statutory guidance which aims to help professionals understand what they need to do under the law, and what they can expect from one another, to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. It focuses on the core legal requirements and it makes clear what individuals and organisations should do to keep children safe.

Learning and Development Update

Training Brochure 2015-16

We have now published the [2015-16 MSCB Training Brochure](#). This brochure outlines the courses available and the criteria for applying for training through the MSCB.

MSCB training courses remain popular and in high demand. The Multi Agency attendance on MSCB courses adds to the effective understanding of Safeguarding from a Multi Agency perspective. The majority of the training courses are delivered by practitioners and their experience and knowledge enrich the training and is much appreciated. We are always looking for new members for our multi agency training pool – if you are interested in delivering training please email m.doherty@manchester.gov.uk

We will continue to offer our range of core safeguarding courses alongside new courses and briefings e.g. **Female Genital Mutilation, Families and Disguised Compliance, Risky Business** (2 day management course), **Supervision** (managers), **Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)** briefings and further courses covering safeguarding topics. Please keep looking at the website for future dates.

Applying for MSCB Courses

Please read the guidance notes in the brochure before applying for courses. Please also be aware that all applications for MSCB courses need to be completed on-line. All information on MSCB training courses and venue details are on the MSCB website:

<http://training.manchesterscb.org.uk/>

Serious Case Reviews Update

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The [Child C1 SCR](#) was published in December 2014 and is available on our website; a learning pack will be issued in April 2015. Key learning from this SCR included:

1. The role of Reflective Supervision in strengthening assessment practice;
2. The development of MCAF within Early Help;
3. Support or multi-agency training to enable partner agencies to develop staff skills in working effectively with adults;
4. Evaluation of levels of safeguarding awareness within Paediatric Intensive Care Units; likewise in A&E;
5. A safeguarding protocol for responding to children presenting with an Acute Life Threatening Event;
6. Review regarding First Aid information provided to new parents.

Two further SCRs are due to be published in the near future along with their learning packs. Delays between completion and publication of SCRs are usually due to the need to await the completion of parallel processes.

The [NSPCC repository](#) is a valuable source of learning and development to enable professionals to keep up to date with learning from Serious Case Reviews carried out by other LSCBs. Their series of thematic briefings highlight the learning from case reviews. Each briefing focuses on a different topic and pulls together key risk factors and practice recommendations. The briefings include learning in relation to:

- [Hidden men: learning from case reviews](#)
- [domestic abuse](#)
- [parental substance misuse](#)
- [child sexual exploitation](#)
- [on-line abuse](#)
- [elective home education](#)
- [culture and faith](#)
- [First generation immigrants, asylum seekers and refugees](#)
- [families and disguised compliance](#)
- Lessons for the [education](#) sector
- Lessons for the [housing](#) services
- Lessons for [voluntary agencies](#)

To sign up for email alerts containing the latest child protection news go to the [NSPCC current awareness service \(CASPAR\)](#).

Child Sexual Exploitation

An excellent source of information is the website www.itsnotokay.co.uk [Project Phoenix](#) is behind the 'It's not okay' campaign.

Of particular interest will be the [Project Phoenix Handbook \(pdf\)](#) - a good practice guide for police, local authorities, education, voluntary organisations, health services and other key partners with responsibility for tackling child sexual exploitation.

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Also the [Phoenix Education Guidance \(pdf\)](#) aimed at educating young people at secondary school about the dangers of child sexual exploitation.

[Parents Against Child Sexual Exploitation \(PACE\)](#) have produced a free e-learning course for parents - please do promote widely with your service users:

www.safeguardingchildren.co.uk/safeguarding-news/keep-them-safe/

There have been many reports published recently in relation to CSE and links can be found on our [CSE webpage](#). Some of the more recent reports include:

- Coffey report: [Real Voices](#): Child Sexual Exploitation in Greater Manchester published in October 2014
- Local Government Association: updated [resource pack for councils](#)
- Office of the Children's Commissioner for England report warned that despite heightened awareness of CSE, too many child victims and children at risk are not being identified by local authorities. ["If it's not better, it's not the end": inquiry into child sexual exploitation in gangs and groups: one year on.](#)

Forced Marriage

Forced marriage is a safeguarding issue; it is a form of child abuse, domestic abuse and a breach of human rights. It can affect men as well as women, some may have disabilities and others may be spouses from overseas. It is therefore important to safeguard any child, young person or adult who may be, or has been subjected to a forced marriage.

Guidance can be found on the website in the [GM Procedures](#) and the [MSCB Protocol](#) alongside [Additional Guidance](#) and [Government Guidance](#).

Female Genital Mutilation

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is a form of physical and emotional abuse against women and girls. The Greater Manchester FGM Forum has worked with the GM Safeguarding Partnership to develop a [protocol and set of procedures](#) that all agencies across Greater Manchester should follow. An [information sheet](#) is also available which explains what FGM is, the warning signs and what to do.

The Department of Health DH have published two documents online:

Safeguarding women and girls at risk of FGM

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/safeguarding-women-and-girls-at-risk-of-fgm>

This document provides practical help to support NHS organisations developing new safeguarding policies and procedures for female genital mutilation (FGM).

Commissioning services to support women and girls with FGM

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/services-for-women-and-girls-with-fgm>

This document sets out what some elements of a successful and safe service to support women and girls with female genital mutilation (FGM) might look like.

FGM eLearning

Three more eLearning sessions have been released and the Health Education England eFGM programme is live. For more information please see <http://www.e-lfh.org.uk/programmes/female-genital-mutilation/>

The Home Office has launched free online training for frontline professionals in identifying and helping girls at risk of FGM and this can be accessed directly via the website www.fgmelearning.co.uk or the safenetwork.org.uk website. The [Home Office](#) has also published guidance and the LGA a [councillor's guide](#).

FGM statistics

From April the DH will have a new information standard and dataset at: www.hscic.gov.uk/isce/publication/sci2026. GP Practices will need to register on the Clinical Audit Platform system to submit their information – the form to do this is available at www.hscic.gov.uk/fgm.

Policies and Procedures

The MSCB has recently published a number of new or refreshed policies and procedures including:

- The [Neglect Strategy](#)
- The refreshed [Safeguarding Online Minimum Standards](#)
- The MCC '[Vetting & Regulation of Visitors to Children's Homes](#)' procedures revised and updated by MCC and endorsed by the MSCB
- The [Early Help Handbook](#) - a resource to support the delivery of early help work with children, young people and families carried out by practitioners. This is a working document which will be continually updated to include any changes around the current Early Help (MCAF) assessments and processes that are under review.
- Child in Need - the model to be used on new cases assessed as Child in Need from 2nd February 2015 – guidance includes the [CiN Framework](#) and [CiN Flowchart](#). This is against a background of increasing numbers of CiN as detailed in the [CiN census](#).

Greater Manchester Safeguarding Procedures Manual

The MSCB has adopted the Greater Manchester Safeguarding Children Procedures – the on-line Procedures manual contains standards and procedures which support a joint GM-wide safeguarding policy. Find this on the [GMSP website](#) or via the [MSCB website](#). To keep up to date with new procedures or amendments to existing procedures [register for alerts](#): <http://greatermanchesterscb.proceduresonline.com/>

National Campaigns, Updates, Items of Interest and Research

Safer sleeping

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The week of 16-23rd March saw the first national campaign from the Lullaby Trust to raise awareness of the safer sleep message.

Sudden Infant Death still claims the lives of around 5 babies every week in the UK. We know the advice around safer sleeping saves lives and therefore we need to ensure the messages reach our families. Practitioners should:

- Refresh their own knowledge by looking at the information for professionals on the www.lullabytrust.org.uk and where applicable their own intranet
- Continue to promote safer sleep advice with families and advise them of the link to the Lullaby Trust for parents
- Remind multi-agency partners who have contact with parents and babies, to share safer sleep messages.

Health Outcomes

The Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum (CYPHOF) [Annual Report](#) published in March 2015 reviews progress on improving health outcomes for children and young people. Accompanying the Annual Report are 6 theme group reports and 2 separate papers that set out key questions and challenges and contain examples of good practice. www.gov.uk/government/publications/children-and-young-peoples-health-outcomes-forum-2014-to-2015

Helping school nurses to tackle child sexual exploitation

Published in March 2015 this [CSE Pathway Document](#) clarifies the role of the school nursing service regarding child sexual exploitation. www.gov.uk/government/publications/helping-school-nurses-to-tackle-child-sexual-exploitation

Disclosure and Barring Service

DBS provides eligibility, workforce and supervision guidance for those working with children and adults. Updated [Workforce Guidance](#) will help identify the type of workforce that a DBS applicant will be working in. www.gov.uk/government/publications/dbs-check-eligible-positions-guidance

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The Good Childhood Report 2014

The Children's Society published its report which revealed that England is lagging behind other countries in Europe and around the world when it comes to how happy and satisfied its children are.

[The Good Childhood Report 2014](#) contains new findings from a nine-year programme of research on children's well-being, involving around 50,000 children. To find out more read the Good Childhood Report 2014 in one of the following formats:

- [Dynamic online report](#)
- [Full text](#)
- [Summary](#)

There is also a [guide for parents](#) on how to support their child's well-being.

www.childrensociety.org.uk/what-we-do/research/well-being

Children's Homes

In March 2015 the DfE published guidance that supplements and explains the Children's Homes (England) Regulations 2015. This guide accompanies the [Children's Homes \(England\) Regulations 2015](#). It provides further explanation and information for everyone providing residential childcare.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/childrens-homes-regulations-including-quality-standards-guide

STAR SEN Toolkit

Childnet has produced a toolkit to help support young people on the autistic spectrum with on-line safety. The package provides practical advice and teaching activities to help educators explore e-safety with young people with autism spectrum disorders in Key Stage 3 and 4. www.childnet.com/resources/star-toolkit

Mental health and behaviour in schools

Last year the DfE published guidance to help identify and support those pupils whose behaviour suggests they may have unmet mental health needs.

www.gov.uk/government/publications/mental-health-and-behaviour-in-schools--2

NSPCC

In January 2015 the NSPCC was added as a "prescribed body" to receive whistle blowing disclosures under the Public Interest Disclosure Act (PIDA) 1998, as incorporated into the Employment Rights Act 1996 Overview. For more information see the [gov.uk website](#)

Neglect or emotional abuse in children and teenagers: core-info leaflets

The NSPCC has published two leaflets in its core-info series:

- Core-info: neglect or emotional abuse in [children aged 5-14](#)
- Core-info: neglect or emotional abuse in [teenagers aged 13-18](#)

Both leaflets summarise the research findings and consider the implications practice for those working with and supporting children and young people. Both leaflets can be viewed on the [NSPCC website](#)

Read [How safe are our children? 2014](#), the second NSPCC annual report presenting the most robust and up-to-date child protection data in the UK. Find out about the 20 indicators used to answer the question "how safe are our children?" as well as a briefing on our data sources and a spotlight on the criminal justice response to child sexual abuse. www.nspcc.org.uk/Inform/

ChildLine has published a review of issues affecting children in 2013/14. Findings include: four of the top ten issues that children get in touch with ChildLine about relate to mental health; and there was a 168% increase in counselling about online sexual abuse since 2012/13. [Under pressure: ChildLine review: what's affected children in April 2013- March 2014 \(PDF\)](#).

Share aware Campaign

Keeping children safe online is the biggest child protection challenge of this generation. Parents have a vital role to play but social networking sites need to respond to parental concerns about their children's safety and privacy. The NSPCC continues to challenge and work with internet companies and the Government to make the internet a safer place for children.

Social networks are websites, games or apps that allow people to interact with each other, and share things. Users create a profile and can:

- share content
- meet new people and chat to strangers
- message each other (sometimes in a group)
- chat with people via video.
- share photos and images
- play games
- make voice calls

Help children stay safe on social networks visit www.net-aware.org.uk OR www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware

Standards for safeguarding children in sport

The Child Protection in Sport Unit has developed an online self-assessment tool to help organisations keep children and young people safe in sport. The tool uses the [Standards for safeguarding children in sport](#) to assess what an organisation needs to do and can be found on the website www.thecpsu.org.uk/self-assessment-tool/

Private Fostering

Ofsted has published a report - [Private fostering: better information, better understanding](#) - which explores ways in which local authorities, local safeguarding children boards and the Department for Education can improve the collection and management of information about private fostering.

Missing From Home

The DfE published statutory guidance setting out the steps LAs and their partners should take to stop children from going missing and to protect those who do; the version of the

[MFH Guidance](#) published in January 2014 was with immediate effect. The guidance includes a useful [flowchart](#) and in [Annex A](#) a checklist regarding all the provisions in the guidance.

LSCBs have a key role in this area and must demonstrate their awareness through information provided by the local authority.

Working with offenders' children and their families

Are you aware that 7% of children experience the imprisonment of a father during their time at school? And that these children are twice as likely to experience mental health problems?

i-HOP is a national one-stop information and advice service for all professionals working with offenders' children and their families. The i-HOP knowledge hub www.i-hop.org.uk collates and promotes examples of services, interventions, resources, policy and research around this vulnerable group and is supported by a free telephone helpline **0808 802 2013** for professionals who need further assistance.

i-HOP has been commissioned by the Department for Education and is delivered by Barnardo's in partnership with [POPS](#) (Partners of Prisoners and Families Support Group).

Consultation outcome

A report summarising the response to joint proposals for integrated inspections of services for children in need of help and protection, children looked after and care leavers and joint inspections of Local Safeguarding Children Boards was published in February 2015. The report also outlines the main learning points arising from the pilot inspections undertaken to test these proposals and the next steps the inspectorates plan to take.

www.gov.uk/government/consultations/integrated-inspections-of-services-for-children-in-need-of-help-and-protection-children-looked-after-care-leavers-joint-inspection-of-the-local-s

Information Governance

All partners are reminded of the need to share information safely and securely. Front-line practitioners often have to make decisions on sharing information with other practitioners about those they are involved with. Uncertainty about the legal framework can sometimes hamper effective information sharing.

Guidance on information sharing can be found on the [ICO](#) site or the [DfE](#) site. More specific advice should be available from your agency lead.

MSCB website

In the next few months we will be launching our new, user-friendly website which we are building in partnership with the Manchester Safeguarding Adults Board (MSAB). We hope this will provide a valuable resource to all our partners and the public.

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Any suggestions regarding the content of the site would be very welcome – please send to g.stott@manchester.gov.uk

Please discuss the updates and learning in this Bulletin in your team meetings and raise any questions with your Line Manager or Safeguarding Lead.

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Please make sure you contact the right person:

The MSCB Business Unit receives a number of calls concerning children – please ring the Contact Centre in the first instance on 0161 234 5001.

Likewise please DO NOT send Referral Forms to our email inbox – these should go to the Manchester Contact Centre

mcsreply@manchester.gov.uk or socialcare@manchester.gcsx.gov.uk

Please make sure your correspondence is correctly addressed:

The MSCB Business Unit receives, in error, a lot of mail labelled 'Children's Safeguarding' which is actually meant for one of the City Council's services.

Any questions, comments or for further information - please contact:

- **Your Line Manager or Safeguarding Lead**
- GENERAL: Andy McLean, MSCB Business & Performance Manager
Tele: 0161 234 1573 Email: a.mclean@manchester.gov.uk
- WEBSITE: Gail Stott, MSCB Media & Communications Manager
Tele: 0161 234 1828 Email: g.stott@manchester.gov.uk
- TRAINING : Marion Doherty, MSCB Multi Agency Safeguarding Training Officer
Tele: 0161 234 1523 Email: m.doherty@manchester.gov.uk
- GMSP: Lee Emery, GMSP Coordinator
Tele: 0161 474 5720 Email: Lee.emery@stockport.gov.uk

Worried about a child?

If you have any worries about a child's safety or welfare, in the first instance speak to the **Manchester Contact Centre** on **0161 234 5001** (24 hour service) or email at mcsreply@manchester.gov.uk or socialcare@manchester.gcsx.gov.uk

If you think a child is at risk of immediate harm, please contact the **police** by calling **999**.

In addition, you can call the **NSPCC Child Protection helpline** on **0808 800 5000** (24 hour free service) to discuss your concerns; or ask for advice by [email or on-line](#).

The NSPCC also provide a helpline services for children themselves who are looking for someone to talk to at **Childline 0800 1111** or [on-line](#).

Contact us on Tele: 0161 234 3330 or at mscb@manchester.gov.uk
www.manchesterscb.org.uk

MSCB Business Plan

Summary 2015/7

Our vision

“Every child and young person in Manchester should be able to grow up safe; free from abuse, neglect or crime; allowing them to enjoy a happy and healthy childhood and fulfil their potential.”

Our strategic priorities

Leadership - collective leadership, improvement and responsibility to ensure children and young people are safe.

Challenge - through focused inquiries or investigations into particular practice or issues on the basis of evidence, practitioner experience and the views of children and young people.

Learning – to achieve the highest standards of development and to ensure all practitioners have the skills and knowledge to be effective. This will include listening to the voice of children and young people and using what we hear to inform best practice.

Our strategic outcomes

Preventing harm and promoting welfare

Protecting vulnerable children

Our focus areas

- **Child Sexual Exploitation** and **Missing from Home**
- **Early Help** - acting early, supported by a clear pathway to services and interventions.
- **Neglect**
- **Vulnerable adolescents**
- Reducing numbers of **Looked after Children**

Your part in achieving our vision

Communicate, participate, cooperate – safeguarding is everyone’s responsibility

The logo for the Manchester Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) features the letters 'MSCB' in a bold, blue, sans-serif font. The letters are closely spaced, with the 'M' and 'S' overlapping slightly.

MANCHESTER SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN BOARD

The full published MSCB Business Plan 2015-7 and Annual Report 2013-14 can be found on our website www.manchesterscb.org.uk