



Our vision is to safeguard and protect all the children in Peterborough

2012/13 ANNUAL REPORT

FUNDING PARTNERS:

Peterborough City Council

Cambridgeshire Constabulary

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Clinical Commissioning Group

Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Probation Trust

Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)

BOARD PARTNERS:

As above

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FOREWORD:

I am pleased to present to you Peterborough's Safeguarding Children Board annual report for the period 2012-2013. This has been a challenging but successful year for the partner agencies within the Peterborough area. The local authority children's services were inspected towards the end of the reporting period in February 2013 by Ofsted who graded the service as adequate and stated.

'At the time of the inspection, no children were found to be inadequately protected or at risk of significant harm. Additionally there were no unallocated child protection or children in need cases. Through robust arrangements in the re-designed contact and referral teams, decisions are made promptly and referrals are appropriately moved in to assessments within required timescales. As a result children are adequately protected.'

Under the requirements of the Children Act 2004, the PSCB is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in Peterborough will co-operate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in its locality. Under this statutory requirement, the LSCB is also required to ensure the effectiveness of what these organisations do.

The core objectives of the LSCB are to:

- Co-ordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in Peterborough
- Ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

The PSCB and its sub-groups & task groups have been established in accordance with the guidance issued in Working Together 2013.

This is my first year of being the Independent Chair for Peterborough and I have found the multi agency partnership to be determined, able and willing to create a safe environment for the children and young people in Peterborough. I would like to thank all of the board members, including the two lay members, for their work, but also the frontline staff from the agencies who work every day to keep children and young people safe.

I would also like to thank Flick Schofield who was the Independent Chair before me and in particular to thank Judy Jones, who was the Board Manager for many years, for her work and to wish her good luck in her retirement.

This report outlines the activity and contribution of the board partners that has taken place during the last year and I commend its contents to you.

The forthcoming year has already presented exciting opportunities for the board and its partners to be involved in that will continue to develop further, safeguarding the children and young people in Peterborough.



Russell Wate QPM

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this report is to

- Provide an outline of the main activity and achievements of the Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) during 2011 – 2012.
- Provide an assessment of the effectiveness of safeguarding activity in the city.
- Provide the general public, practitioners and main stakeholders with an overview of how well children in Peterborough are protected.
- To identify the priorities for the PSCB going forward.
- Identify gaps in service development and any challenges ahead.



The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board (PSCB) is established under section 13 of the Children Act 2004 which required each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) by the 1 April 2006. Updated guidance, issued under section 7 of the Local Authority Social Services Act 1970, is contained in 'Working Together to Safeguard Children; Chapter 3 (2013)'

The Apprenticeships, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 introduced a requirement for LSCBs to produce and publish an annual report on the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. Working Together 2013 confirmed that this report should be submitted to the Leader of the Council, Chief Executive, Local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

LOCAL CONTEXT

2013/14 - PSCB

Within this section a box such as this will indicate that the area is a PSCB priority for 2013/14.

Much of the data is drawn from Children Services but in the future developments to create a multi agency dataset will allow a more multi agency picture.

Peterborough has a fast growing child population:

The early statistical release from the 2011 census tells us that there are 48,200 children and young people aged 0-19 in Peterborough. This is a significant increase from the 2001 census figure of 43,000. This increase has taken place across all age bands but is most pronounced in the 0-4 age range, which has increased by 36% since 2001.

The birth rate in Peterborough is much higher than for our statistical neighbours, with 3,000 births per year. If current trends continue, this will have risen to 3,500 per year by 2021.

Peterborough's population is becoming increasingly diverse:

In terms of the general population, 80% are from White British backgrounds, compared with 85.2% in the East of England and 82.8% nationally. However, diversity among school age pupils is much greater: over 90 different languages are spoken in our schools and the proportion of pupils with an additional language has increased over recent years.

In percentage increase terms, the most dramatic increase in pupils with English as an Additional Language has taken place within the special school sector: between 2007 and 2011, there was a 70% increase in students with English as an Additional Language attending

special schools. The next largest increase is in primary provision, which is consistent with areas that are experiencing significant demographic changes. The proportion of pupils attending primary schools who have English as an additional language increased by 45% over this same period.

There are significant levels of child & family poverty in Peterborough:

Child and family poverty is a significant issue in Peterborough. Peterborough is an area of contrasts that includes some of the most and least deprived areas in the country.

The likelihood is that there are higher levels of child poverty now than there were in 2009, given increases in the level of unemployment since then. However, the areas where the proportions of children and young people living in poverty are highest are unlikely to have changed significantly.

Overall, 25.3% of children and young people living in Peterborough are living in poverty. This compares with an average rate for England of 21.6% and the Eastern Region of 16.4%. Child poverty is concentrated within the urban areas of the council area. Child and family poverty can have a profound impact on the life-chances of children and young people, particularly where it is experienced for sustained periods of time. The harmful effects of poverty are felt most when they are experienced by children at a young age. Children affected by persistent poverty are more likely to:

- Miss periods of schooling and achieve poorer educational outcomes than their peers
- Become involved in crime or anti-social behaviour
- Have lower levels of health, including:
 - Increased risk of premature birth, low birth weight and death before age of 1
 - Increased risk of developing mental health difficulties
 - Increased risk of childhood obesity
- Have lower levels of self-esteem and aspirations for the future.

We need to ensure that there is a good understanding of the safeguarding needs of all sectors of the community and safeguarding is recognised and understood across Peterborough's diverse communities.

2013/14 - PSCB Priority 5

We know and understand the needs of all sectors of our community and are able to identify safeguarding issues within them

EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION

Analysis of data

Children and Families may need support from a wide range of agencies. Where a child and family would benefit from more than one agency there is an Interagency Assessment such as the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). This should prevent the need escalating and require intervention of a statutory nature

- **The total number of CAFs registered in 2012 increased significantly. During 2012 Peterborough registered a total of 494 CAFs. This is 198 more than 2011.** The reduction in CAFs for April and August are consistent with school holidays and follow the same pattern as in previous years. This increase in CAF Activity continues into 2013

- During February 2012 procedures within Children’s Services changed to support better the de-escalation of cases from Children’s Social Care and support cases received by the contact centre that did not meet Children’s Social Care thresholds, but which would benefit from some multi-agency support at a targeted level.
- There was an unexpected dip in the number of CAFs registered during the month of September 2012, likely to be a result of changing to the new Peterborough CAF and launching the new Multi Agency Support Panels which took place during this month.
- October to December 2012 saw a further steep increase in the number of CAFs registered which was a combination of new CAFs and deemed CAFs as a result of de-escalations from Children’s Social Care which are now being managed and supported at a targeted level.
- The number of CAF’s registered will continue to be monitored closely to determine the effect and impact of the new Peterborough CAF and introduction of the Multi Agency Support Panels.
- The largest increase in CAFs has been in the 0-5 and 6-11 age range as shown on the table on page 7. This is attributed to both an increase in CAFs completed by Early Years and Primary Schools and a large number of de-escalations from Children’s Social Care also falling within this age range. This is a very promising increase as previously there have been particularly low numbers in the number of CAFs for 0-5 year olds.

CAF Numbers Full Year 2012-2013

A summary of CAF numbers is provided below for the year beginning April 2012. Up to date CAF numbers for the financial year 2012/13 are shown below (a total of 501).

By Month:

Apr	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
26	55	44	29	17	22	64	60	41	56	32	55	501

By Gender:

Male	Female	Unborn	Total
241	197	63	501

By Age:

Unborn	0 – 5yrs	6 – 11yrs	12 – 15yrs	16+	Total
63	153	158	109	18	501

By Locality:

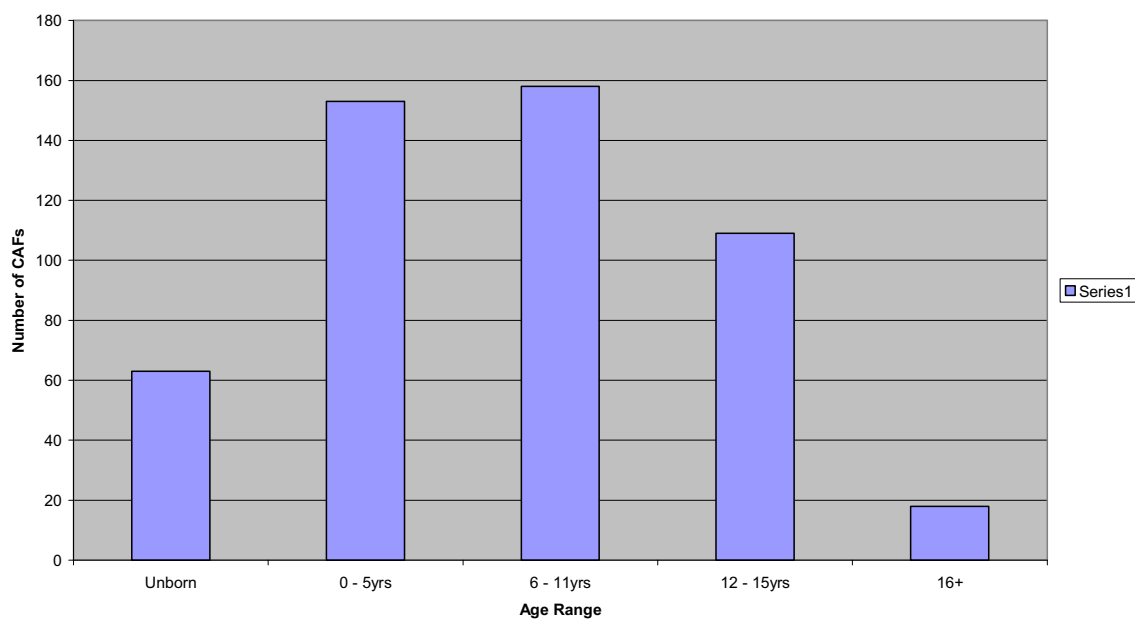
North, West & Rural	Central & East	South	Out of Area	Total
187	152	154	8	501

Who Completed CAF: 2012/13

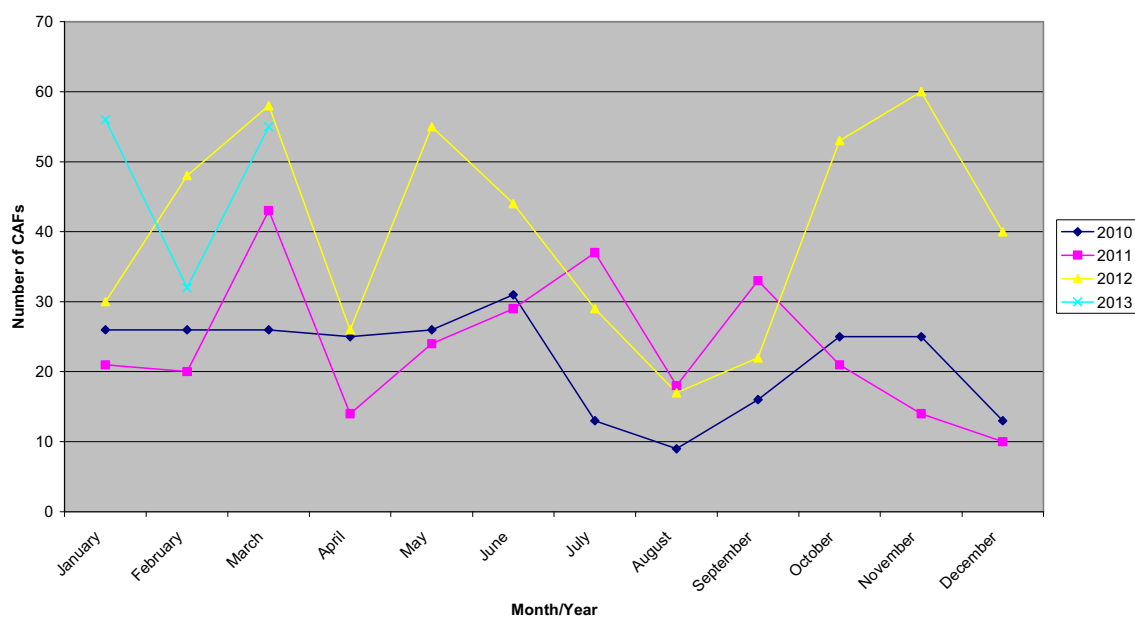
Early Years	Prim. Schl	Sec. Schl	Health	LA	3 rd Sector	Adult Serv.	Misc.	De-esc	Total
18	123	71	92	45	3	0	6	143	501

The Board will work with all agencies to promote the effective use of CAF.

CAFs by Age Range (2012/13)



CAF comparison graph (below) for years 2010 – 2013 (to date)



Locality based Multi Agency Support Groups (MASGs)

- Three new Multi Agency Support Groups (MASGs) were launched in September 2012 – one in each of three localities – South, Central & East and North West & Rural.
- The panels are chaired by the Head of Commissioning, Specialist Services. Core members include representatives from Health, Police, Neighbourhoods, YOS, Education (Attendance, Educational Psychologists), Children’s Social Care, CAF team, Housing, Children’s Centres, Connecting Families and the 0-19 Service.
- The panels are there to provide a multi-agency response to complex cases at a targeted level and remove blockages and barriers where existing CAFs and TACs are making little or no progress.

- The panels meet on a fortnightly basis in each locality, providing the opportunity for referrers to attend in person to present their case. All cases presented to MASG will be reviewed in terms of measuring impact and a tool is currently being developed to measure distance travelled as part of this process.
- The panels are there to support referrals direct from partners through a CAF and also to support the de-escalation of Children's Social Care cases in Referral and Assessment following an Initial Assessment or Core Assessment where identified needs do not indicate a need for continuing involvement by Children's Social Care, but where other needs are identified.
- Presenting issues have been domestic violence, overcrowding, homelessness, substance misuse, sexualised behaviour, inconsistent parenting, challenging behaviour, self-harming, missing from home, parental discord, mental health issues, eating disorders, personal hygiene, and language barriers.

MASG data:

- 215 referrals to date
 - Contacts not meeting CSC threshold – 6
 - De-escalation from IA in R&A – 81
 - De-escalation from Core in R&A – 31
 - CAFs – 78
- Top eight presenting issues recorded at time of assessment
 - Challenging behaviour – 92
 - Domestic violence – 53
 - Relationships - 47
 - Health issues – young person - 45
 - Parental mental health – 38
 - Housing – 34
 - Neglect – 32
- Top 5 services / support offered
 - Housing advice & support – 60
 - School / pre-school / nurseries - 58
 - 0-19 service – 57
 - Children's centres – 57
 - Health visitor – 44
- What is working well?
 - Improved multi-agency working leading to better outcomes for families
 - Partners taking responsibility
 - Decisions made by people who are then responsible for carrying out actions
 - Better working relationships between CAF/TAC and CSC
 - Increased information about services and access to them

- What needs to be better?
 - Communication
 - Quality of assessments
 - Wider engagement from currently under-represented services (Adult Mental Health; Adult Social Care).
- In addition to the MASG panels being used to support de-escalations to targeted support, the panels are also a route by which cases can be escalated, usually upon receipt of additional information from partners at the panel meeting.

Conclusion and Future Priorities:

A simplified CAF was launched in Sept 2012 following input from partners. The new CAF has been streamlined and the assessment section mirrors the Peterborough Threshold Document. Already we have seen a rise in CAFs completed by partners who were previously reluctant. The total number of CAFs registered in 2012 increased significantly.

MASG's were launched in Sept 2012 and have had a significant impact on multi agency working and outcomes for families as well as raising awareness about access to services

Priorities: 2013 - 2014

- Embedding and promoting the use of CAF across all relevant organisations.
- Promoting the effective use of MASGs across all agencies
- Promoting the multi agency use of the Locality Toolkit and Services directory.
- Improving communication between partner agencies

2013/14 - PSCB Priority 1
This is how we will know whether early help and preventative measures are effective

CHILD PROTECTION PLANS

Children at risk of significant harm or abuse will be the subject of a Child Protection Plan. A child protection plan is a working tool that should enable the family and professionals to understand what is expected of them and what they can expect of others. The aims of the plan are:

- To keep the child safe
- To promote their welfare
- To support their wider family to care for them, if it can be done safely

Nationally there has been a rise in the numbers of young people subject to a Child Protection Plan as can be seen below in figures published by the Dept for Education. A new method of calculating these statistics was introduced in 2010. These figures are now taken from the Children In Need Census

National Trends in Child Protection

Category of abuse	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Neglect	12,500	13,400	15,800	17,200	18,700	18,220
Physical abuse	3,500	3,400	4,400	4,700	4,500	4,690
Sexual abuse	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,200	2,300	2,220
Emotional abuse	7,100	7,900	9,100	11,400	12,100	12,330
Multiple	2,700	2,500	2,900	3,400	5,000	5,390
Total	27,900	29,200	34,100	39,100	42,700	42850

Peterborough's data is set out below and reveals an increase in the numbers of children subject to a child protection plan this year.

	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13
Child protection	185	139	177	224	270

Age

	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13
Under 1	15	14	18	27	41
1 to 4	64	41	49	73	90
5 to 9	56	45	52	62	72
10 to 15	44	37	58	60	62
Over 16	6	2	0	2	5

Gender

	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13
Male	86	64	82	117	149
Female	98	72	92	104	118
Unknown	1	3	3	3	3

Category of abuse or neglect which triggered Child Protection Plan

	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13
Neglect	86	70	84	119	152
Physical	27	1	27	31	33
Sexual	10	10	10	16	12
Emotional	60	58	56	58	73
Combination	2	0	0	0	0

	Mar-12	Jun-12	Sep-12	Dec-12	Mar-13
Child protection	185	139	177	224	270

Ethnicity

White British	141	85	107	138	159
White Irish	1	0	0	1	1
White Other	18	24	32	27	35
White	160	109	139	166	195
Mixed White & Black Caribbean	1	6	7	8	9
Mixed White & Black African	0	0	0	0	1
Mixed White & Asian	2	1	1	3	5
Any other mixed background	2	7	6	8	12
Mixed	5	14	14	19	27
Indian	2	2	2	6	6
Pakistani	6	7	5	11	15
Bangladeshi	0	0	0	0	0
Any other Asian background	0	0	1	1	3
Asian	8	9	8	18	24
Caribbean	0	0	0	0	0
African	2	2	1	2	5
Any other Black background	1	1	3	3	0
Black	3	3	4	5	5
Chinese	0	0	3	0	0
Any other ethnic group	0	1	0	0	4
Not stated / not yet obtained	9	3	9	16	15

- In the year from April 2012 to 31 March 2013 the number of children with a child protection plan increased from 185 in March 2012 to 270 in March 2013. In October 2012 the total reached the highest with 341 children having a child protection plan.
- There continues to be a higher rate of males than females with a child protection plan. This has been a consistent feature over the past 5 years, with a significant increase in 2012 – 2013 of males subject to a plan.
- Throughout the year the highest numbers of children with a child protection plan are classified as White/British. Of the total number of children with a child protection plan at 31 March 2013, 159 (58.8%) were classified as White British. At the end of the reporting period there were 8 children with disabilities who were subject to child protection plans. This is an area which will be looked at in greater detail in 2013-14.
- The highest category which triggered the child protection plan has been neglect with a 27% increase over the last 12 months. Whilst this has been consistent over the last 5 years, there has been a significant increase in the category, of emotional abuse (25%)

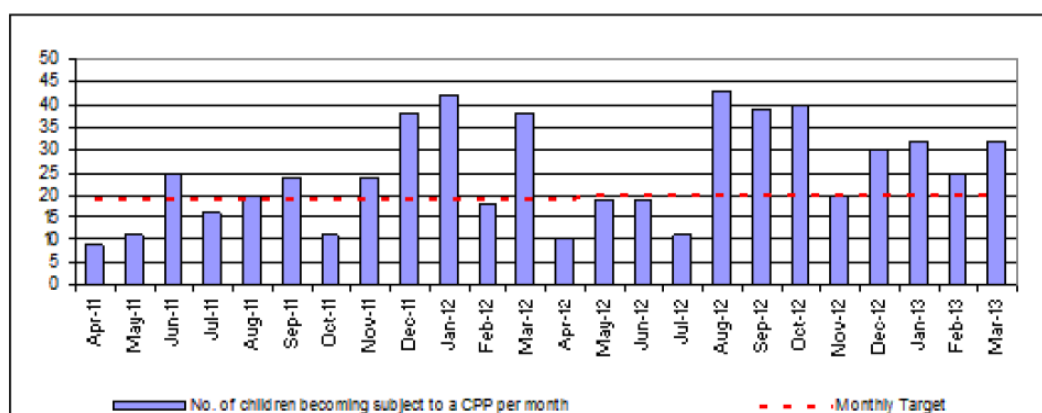
over the last year. Physical abuse is the third highest category with sexual abuse the lowest.

2013/14 - PSCB Priority 6

We know that children are fully protected by all agencies from the effects of neglect because...

There are a higher number of children in the age range 1 to 4 years that are the subject of a child protection plan. At the end of this year children aged 1 to 4 accounted for 33% of the number of children with a child protection plan; 50% of children with a child protection plan were in the 5 to 9 or 10 to 15 age range with the remainder being under 1 year (15%) and over 16 (2%).

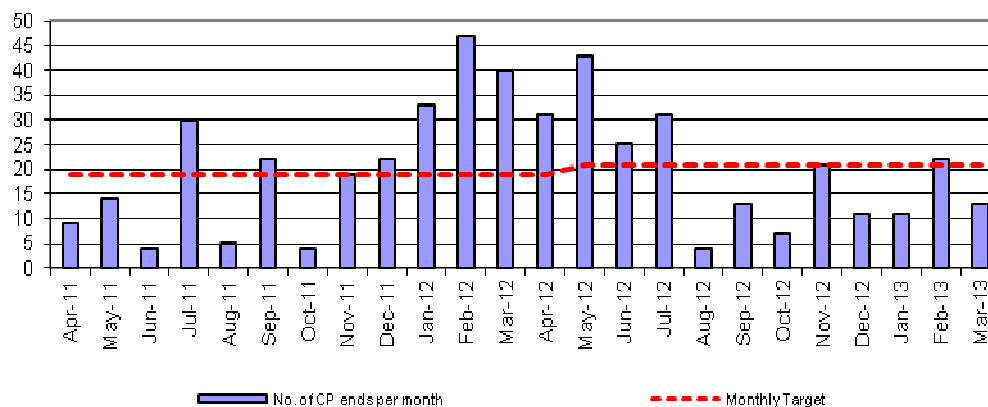
The Number of children becoming the subject of a child protection plan per 10,000 of the local population (aged under 18)



The number who became subject to a CP plan for second or subsequent time

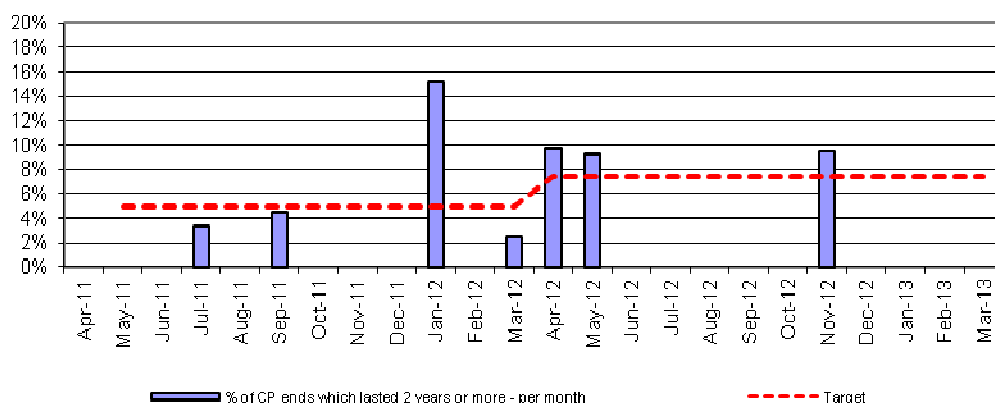
320 (65.4) children became the subject of a child protection plan. This is higher than our statistical neighbours whose 2011/12 target was 53.4. Of the 320 children who were made the subject of a child protection plan, 47 (14.68%) children had previously had a child protection plan in Peterborough.

The number of discontinuations of a Child Protection (CP) Plan per 10,000 of the local population under 18



This area will be subject of a PSCB Multi-agency review in 2013

Child Protection Plans lasting 2 years or more



232 children’s child protection plans were ended in the year 2012/13. Of those, 9 children had been subject to a child protection plan for 2 years or more.

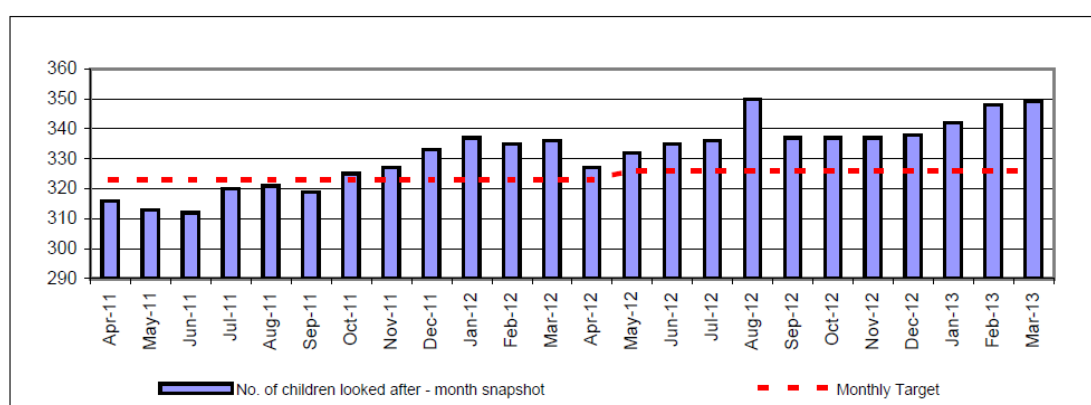
This data demonstrates that the child protection conferencing service has been extremely busy throughout the year. There is a clear focus on child protection plans being reserved for those children who are identified as at risk of significant harm and on removing the plan when evidence shows that the risk has reduced to an acceptable level.

Conclusion

The number of children being made subject to a child protection plan reached its highest in Oct 2012. The number of children also being subject to a plan for a second or subsequent time was significantly higher than our statistical neighbours. The focus will continue across the partnership to ensure that the right level of support and protection is afforded to the right children and young people.

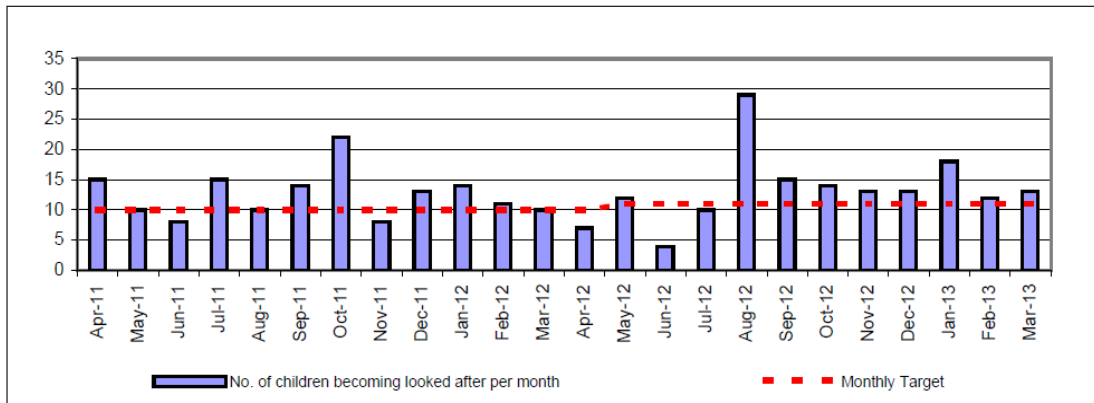
LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN

The number of children looked after at the end of March reached 349 the highest since August 2012 (350). The rate per 10,000 is 79.3, 7.2% above the target (74.0).



Admissions of Children Looked After per 10,000

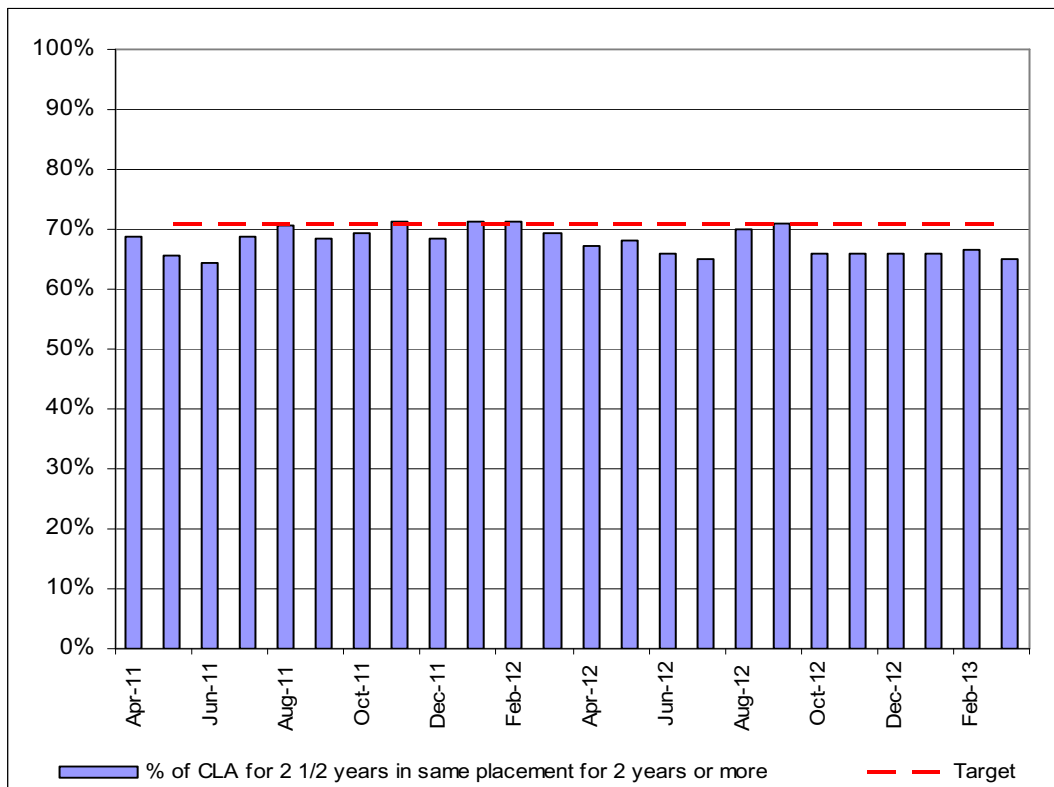
13 children came into care during March 2013, above the target of 11 per month. The 12 month rolling rate is at 36.4, 25.4% above the target.



Priorities 2013 - 2014

Ensure there are structures in place to maintain a PSCB focus on Looked after children, to include strengthening links to the corporate parenting panel and Independent Review Service and reviewing children who are looked after and placed outside the authority.

LAC Placement Stability: Length of Placement



The current rate at 64.9% is lower than the same time last year (Mar12 - 69.4%) and is slightly lower than the previous month.

2013/14 - PSCB Priority 2

We know that children at risk of significant harm are being effectively identified and protected

DOMESTIC ABUSE

Local Profile

The key findings from a City-wide audit conducted by the Safer Peterborough Partnership in April 2012 indicated that:

- In the risk matrix developed by the Safer Peterborough Partnership, domestic abuse was identified as the issue likely to cause the most harm.
- Currently there are a number of different agencies providing a response to domestic abuse including the Police, the City Council, Health and others; The Safer Peterborough Partnership Domestic Abuse strategy 2012-2015 and associated action plan will coordinate this work.
- In addition, the prison is developing responses for both perpetrators and victims within its community, but the Partnership needs to ensure these responses can be continued beyond the gates and are in line with responses being delivered in the community.
- Considerable progress has been made in addressing the needs of high risk victims of domestic abuse, but interventions with low or medium risk victims may have suffered as a result of this focus. This balance needs to be redressed to ensure that investment is made in the earlier stages to prevent escalation in terms of number and seriousness of incident.

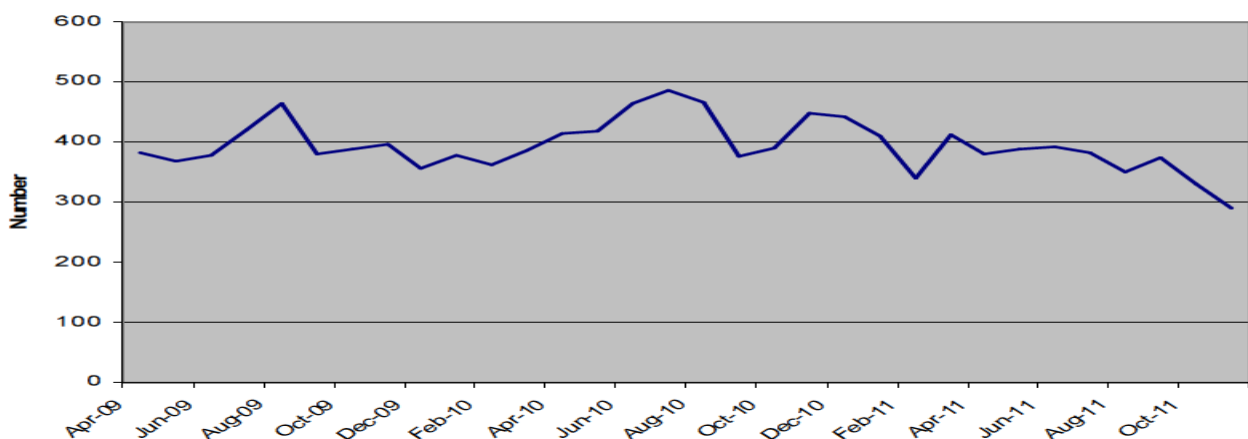
Scale of the problem

- Local information on levels of domestic abuse is available from a number of different sources. Currently, the Police record both the robust data on domestic abuse and the highest numbers however, given that up to a quarter of domestic abuse is not reported to the Police, this data only provides a partial picture.
- There is work to do to develop the data held by other agencies such as the Independent Domestic Abuse Service, Women's Aid, Children's Services and the Sexual Assault Referral Centre, to ensure that this data is interpreted in a meaningful way.

Police Data

The graph below shows the trend in domestic incidents and offences reported to the Police between April 2009 and November 2011, which have remained broadly static over the last three years:

Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents Recorded by the Police



For the period May 2011 to April 2012, police data indicates:

	2010-2011	2011-2012
Number of Domestic Abuse Incidents	5073	4248
Number of Domestic Violence Crimes	1207	972
Number of DV repeat victims	338	263
Number of DV crimes charged	385	305

For the period May 2011 to April 2012, police data indicates:

- There were 909 victims of domestic abuse crimes in Peterborough,
- Of these 909, there were 820 individual victims
- 70 victims were a victim more than once

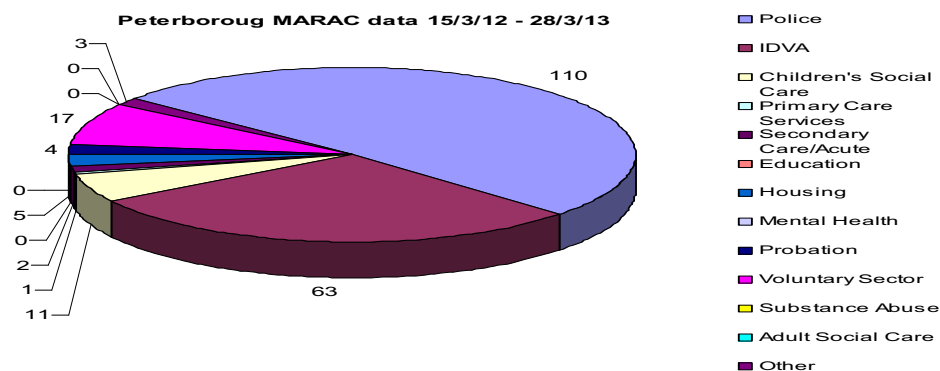
Information on levels of domestic abuse is also recorded by the Independent Domestic Violence Advocacy (IDVA)¹ Service and Women’s Aid who receive referrals from a number of different sources. Incident levels from the IDVAs and Women’s Aid have increased over the last three years however, since there have been major developments to encourage victims of domestic abuse to seek help and to develop the quality of the services that they may receive, this is not surprising. Referrals from Children’s Social Care and Children’s Centres have also contributed to the increase in referrals this year.

Victim

The profile of victims of domestic abuse in Peterborough has largely remained unchanged during 2010 - 2012: victims are generally female, White British and under the age of 50, however there is a peak in the 20-26 age group. White Other victims continue to be over-represented when compared to the population estimates, with victims from Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Latvia most frequently recorded

Women’s Aid and the IDVAs have found increasing numbers of Eastern European women accessing services, with many finding that they have no recourse to public funds. There remains an issue with domestic abuse seen as acceptable in these communities and therefore the actual prevalence reported is likely to be a significant under-estimate of the true picture.

Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) are meetings that seek to bring agencies together to discuss the most high risk domestic abuse cases and put measures in place to prevent repeat instances.



¹ IDVAs work with the most high risk domestic abuse cases

- 216 cases discussed at the Marac
- 51 of these were repeat cases
- 239 children in the household
- Almost 50% of the referrals were from the Police
- 25% of cases discussed were from the BME community
- 6 male victims

Offender

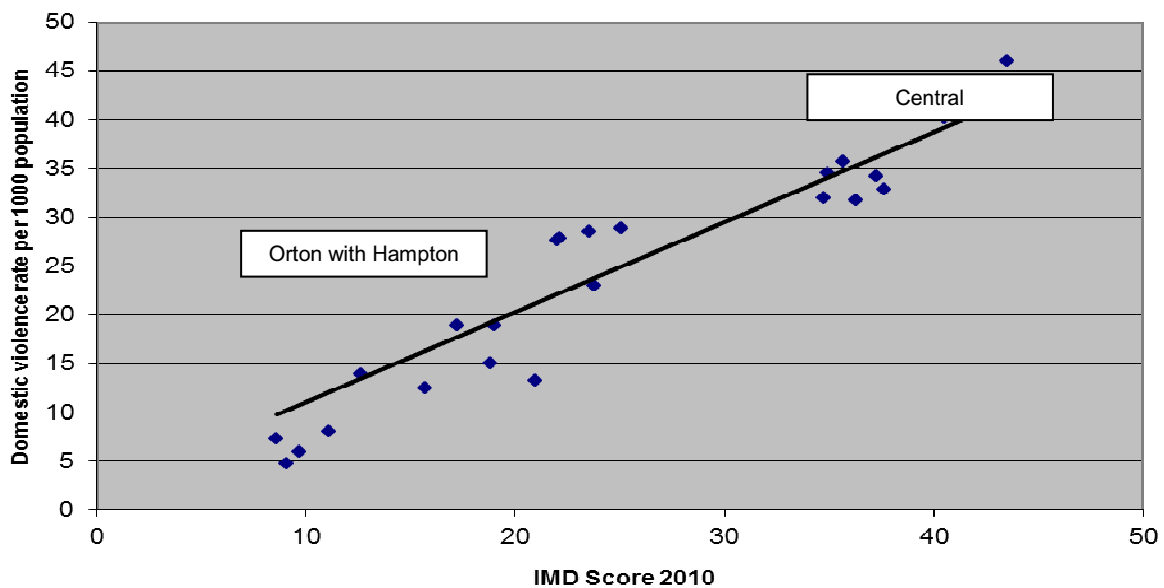
The local offender profile has shown little change over the last year. The average offender is generally male (87% of the offending population) and White British. There is no particular peak age group, with most offenders falling in the 20-40 age group. White Other offenders are generally over-represented compared to population estimates (15% of offender population), with the majority of offenders coming from Lithuania, Poland, Portugal and Latvia. Conversely, Asian Pakistani offenders are under-represented compared to the population profile (4% of offender population). White Other offenders are almost all under 50, however this could be a reflection of the population who have come to live in the City.

Large sections of the New European States Community are displaying a range of additional risk factors such as alcohol misuse, multiple occupancy housing, low wage manual jobs and significant levels of unemployment and therefore we can identify an emerging community vulnerable to domestic abuse.

Location

The link between deprivation and domestic abuse is clear in Peterborough. Those areas which score highly on the Index of Multiple Deprivation and those recording high levels of domestic abuse show a clear correlation as the graph below demonstrates:

Graph to show correlation between domestic violence rates and deprivation



Conclusion and Future Priorities

The Safer Peterborough Partnership has highlighted domestic abuse as key concern within Peterborough. Domestic abuse scored highest on the risk matrix in terms of causing most harm to the Peterborough Safeguarding Partnership. Currently there are a number of

different agencies providing a response to domestic abuse including the Police, the City Council, Health and others.

Priorities: 2013 - 2014

- Ensure the Peterborough Domestic Abuse Strategy is implemented
- Deliver appropriate multi agency domestic abuse and neglect training
- Review and raise awareness of the PSCB good Parenting Guide ensuring it is focused and available to diverse communities.
- Raise the awareness to the signs of neglect in all agencies.
- Marac- Review agency referral process and low number of referrals from agencies other than the Police and IDVA.

2013/14 - PSCB Priority 6

We know that children are fully protected by all agencies from the effects of domestic abuse because...

CHILDREN MISSING FROM HOME AND CARE

There are clear links between Child Sexual Exploitation and children who go missing. Barnardo's has documented that more than half of the children they worked with in 2010 following sexual exploitation had previously been missing from home or care on a regular basis. More than 100,000 young people under the age of 16 run away from home, their care placement or school each year. The PSCB understands that early identification and early support to children and young people at risk is the most important method for preventing CSE

Number of Missing Incidents by month

The table below shows the number of incidents per month that have been reported as missing to the police.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
2010/11	7	24	27	26	18	18	26	16	20	20	12	8	222
2011/12	23	25	13	10	9	16	19	12	4	7	24	47	209
2012/13	7	17	38	17	23	30	31	25	24	26	14	20	272

Number of individuals involved by month

The table below shows the number of individuals reported missing each month. This is subtly different to the above table, as individuals may go missing more than once in a month.

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2010/11	7	22	23	19	15	15	20	16	15	17	11	7
2011/12	23	19	13	10	8	13	17	11	4	6	18	36
2012/13	7	12	26	17	18	25	21	24	21	18	14	18

Number of incidents (children in care):

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Total
2012/13	1	8	9	2	3	13	10	3	5	10	7	3	74

Number of individuals (children in care):

	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar
2012/13	1	4	4	2	2	8	5	3	5	5	7	3

Repeat Incidents

The following tables show the number of incidents by individual. There is one table for all children and one for children in care. These tables show all the children reported as missing between April 2012 and December 2012 and how many incidents they had over that 9 month period. Some of the children will have had prior incidents in the previous two years as well (it is not possible to match that data in).

All Children (inc CiC):

No. of Incidents	No. of Individuals
1	94
2	15
3	7
4	6
5	2
6	0
7	0
8	0
9	2
10 +	1
Total:	127

Children in Care:

No. of Incidents	No. of Individuals
1	14
2	1
3	2
4	4
5	0
6	0
7	1
8	0
9	1
10 +	0
Total:	23

Conclusion and Future Priorities

The number of missing children incidents has increased 30% over the last 12 months (at this stage the reasons for this increase are uncertain, but could partly be due to improved data recording processes implemented by the Police – Police database upgraded Jan 2012). The majority of children who went missing were known to Social Services.

The board will continue to focus on missing children both from home and from care. This is undertaken by a multi agency group which reports to the Quality and Effectiveness Group and seeks to ensure that there is effective use of the multi agency missing person protocol.

The Child Sexual Exploitation Group will focus on the recommendations from national reports and serious case reviews to ensure that the lessons on close monitoring of missing children are learnt.

THE BOARD OBJECTIVES AND FUNCTIONS

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board's purpose is to co-ordinate and ensure the effectiveness of local arrangements and services to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:

- Protecting children from maltreatment
- Preventing impairment of children's health and development
- Ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care
- Undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

Our Vision is to safeguard and protect all the children of Peterborough.

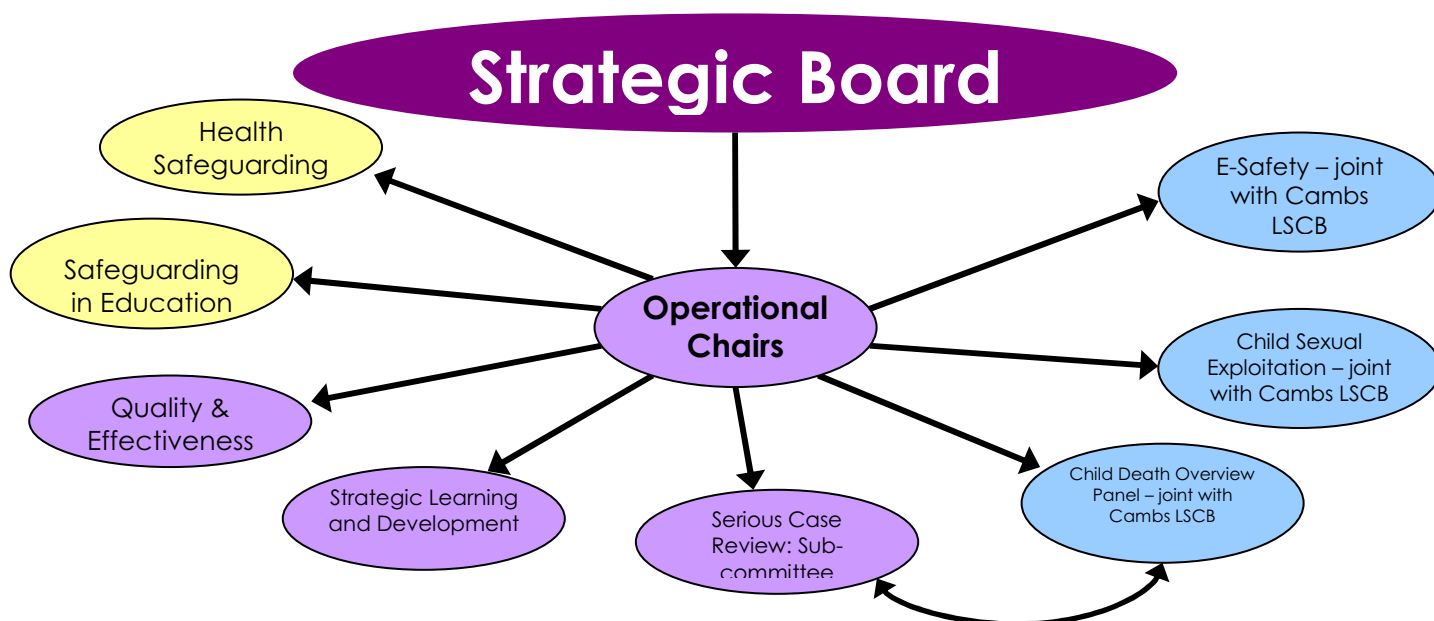
This is achieved through effective safeguarding where

- The child's needs are paramount, and the needs and wishes of each child, be they a baby or infant, or an older child, should be put first, so that every child receives the support they need before a problem escalates.
- All professionals who come into contact with children and families are alert to their needs and any risks of harm that individual abusers, or potential abusers, may pose to children.
- All professionals share appropriate information in a timely way and can discuss any concerns about an individual child with colleagues and children's social care.

Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board undertakes its work recognising the diverse needs of children and will promote equality of opportunity.

In order to promote the highest standards of safeguarding work, Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board encourages a culture of constructive challenge and continuous improvement by and between member organisations. (Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 para 6/p.7)

STRUCTURE CHART



The main board, the operational chairs group, serious case review panel, child death overview panel and each subgroup have their own terms of reference, annual work plans and reporting expectations. The work plans of the groups are the way in which the PSCB business plan is progressed.

Each subgroup is chaired by an agency representative and each has multi-agency representation. Groups are supported by the Business Manager and Business Support Officers. The Independent Chair of the Board meets with group chairs on a bi-monthly basis. The Board receives reports on a regular planned basis from the chairs of the groups.

MEMBERSHIP

Name	Agency
Russell Wate	Independent Chair
Mark Hopkins	Assistant Chief Constable Cambridgeshire Constabulary and PSCB Vice-chair
Sue Westcott	Executive Director Children's Services
Jean Imray	Assistant Director Safeguarding Families & Communities
Jill Houghton	Director of Nursing and Quality, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough CCG
Paula South	Associate Director Safeguarding Children and Vulnerable Adults, Cambridgeshire & Peterborough CCG
Emilia Wawrzkowicz	Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children,
Mike Dyson	Assistant chief Probation Officer, Cambridgeshire
Issy Atkinson	Service Manager, CAF/CASS
Melanie Coombes	Director of Nursing, Cambs & Peterborough Foundation Trust
Chris Wilkinson	Director of Nursing, Peterborough & Stamford Hospitals NHS Foundation Trust
Nick Edwards	Service Manager, NSPCC
Tim Bishop	Assistant Director Strategic Commissioning, Adult Social Care
Iain Easton	Head of Youth Offending Service
Georgina Billin	Assistant Principal; Representing Secondary Schools
Chris Emerson	Lay Member
Sue Hartropp	Lay Member

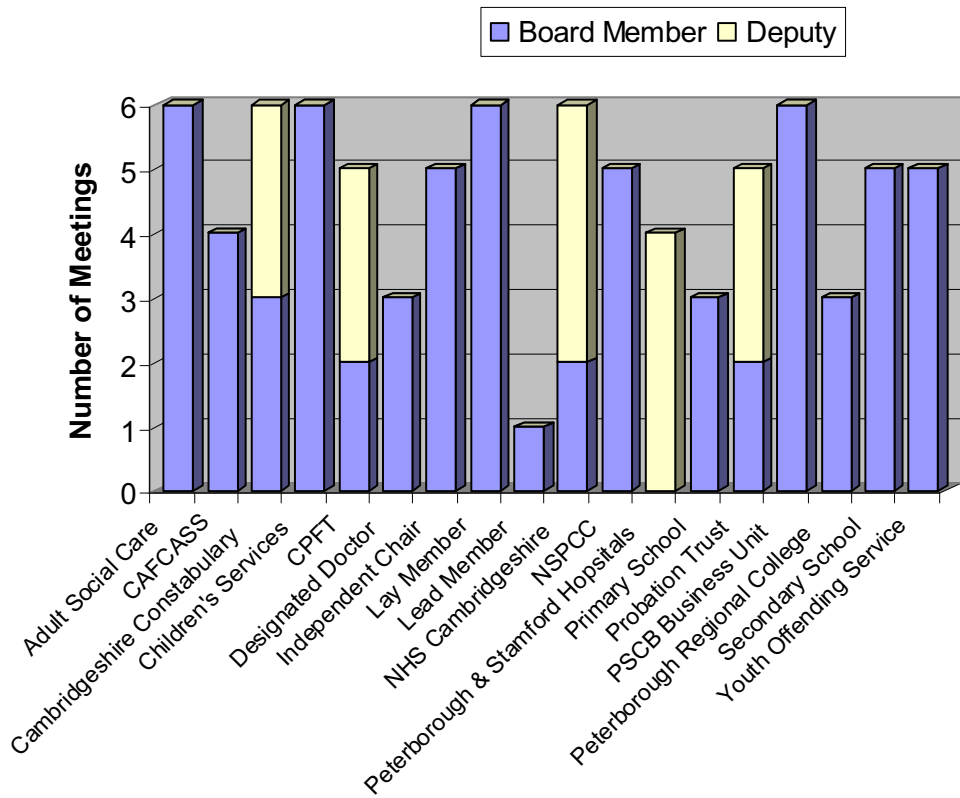
The board has two lay members who operate as full board members and participate on some subgroups. The lay member role is to make links between the LSCB and community groups, support stronger public engagement in local child safety issues and improved public understanding of the LSCB child protection work

Peterborough City Council has two lead members who have shared responsibilities. Councillor Sheila Scott, lead member Children's Services and Councillor John Holdich OBE, lead member Education, Skills and University. They attend as participant observers. Elaine Lewis from Legal Services at Peterborough City Council is the Legal Adviser to the Board.

ATTENDANCE AT BOARD MEETINGS

The PSCB held 6 regular meetings during the year; regular and consistent attendance at these does make a difference. Analysis of the attendance for 2012-13 is good, as can be seen below. The chart does not show attendance at the Development Day which was open to subgroup members also nor, the extraordinary meeting which was held to discuss the appointment of a vice-chair and the advertisement for a new Independent Chair.

Agency Attendance April 2012 - March 2013

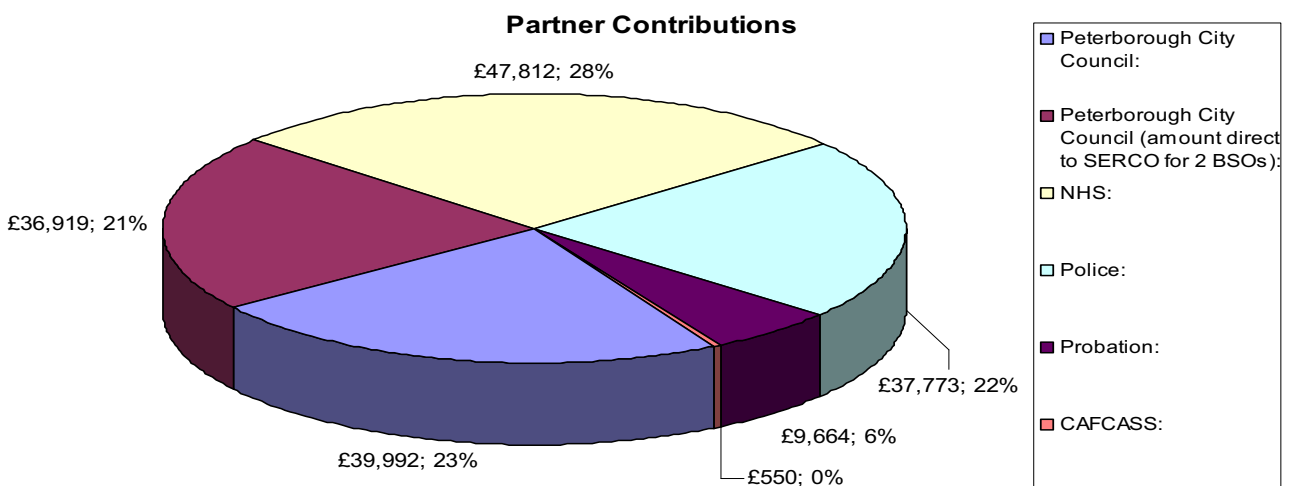


PSCB Priority 3

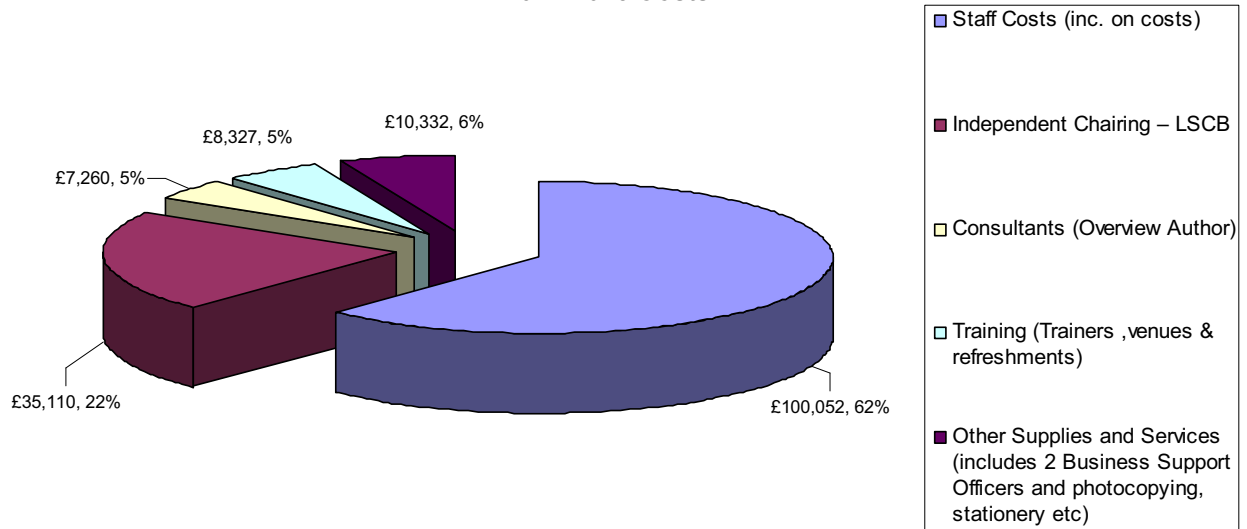
We know that everyone is making a significant and meaningful contribution to safeguarding children because...

BUDGET 2012 - 13

The budget for the PSCB is made up of contributions from partner agencies.



2012-2013 Costs

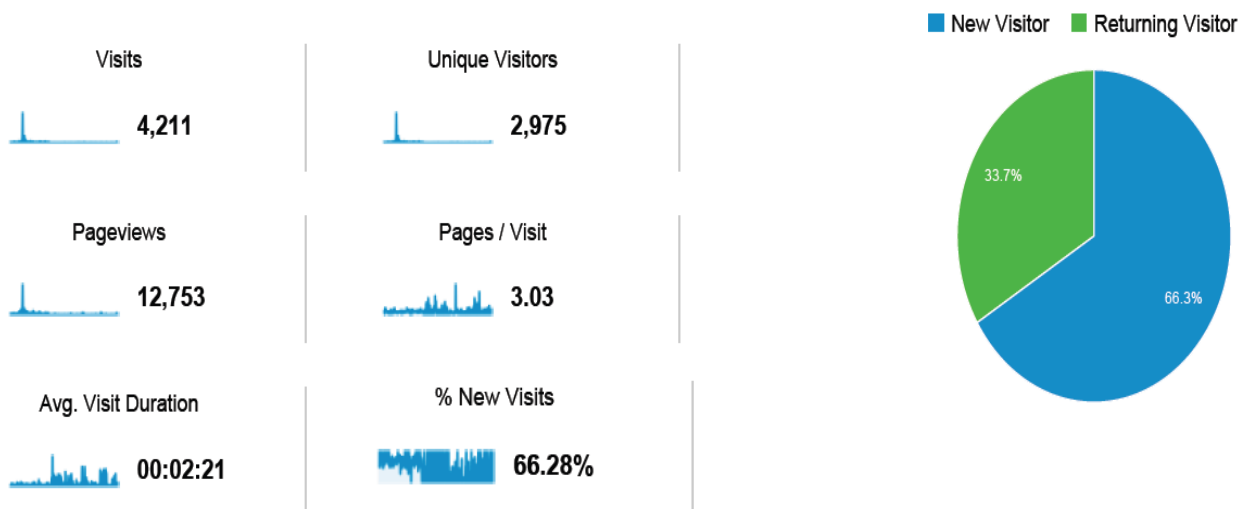


The PSCB has maintained a carry over of £80,000 as a contingency for Serious Case and other reviews that are required.

Raise Public Awareness and the profile of the board

It remains a priority for the board to raise its profile and by doing so increase the awareness of safeguarding. One of the ways in which it does this is to have a website that is available to children and young people, professionals and parents / carers. Some statistics on the use of the website can be seen below.

2,975 people visited this site



The board intend to initiate some new projects to increase further the overall awareness of the safeguarding board such as;-

- Staff recognition scheme
- Safeguarding suggestion scheme
- Attending organisational staff forums.

PROGRESS AGAINST THE PRIORITIES OUTLINED IN THE 2012 – 2013 BUSINESS PLAN

The Business Plan for 2012 – 2013 was published as an appendix to the annual report 2011 – 2012. It was developed around 5 priorities which in turn informed the work of the sub-committees.



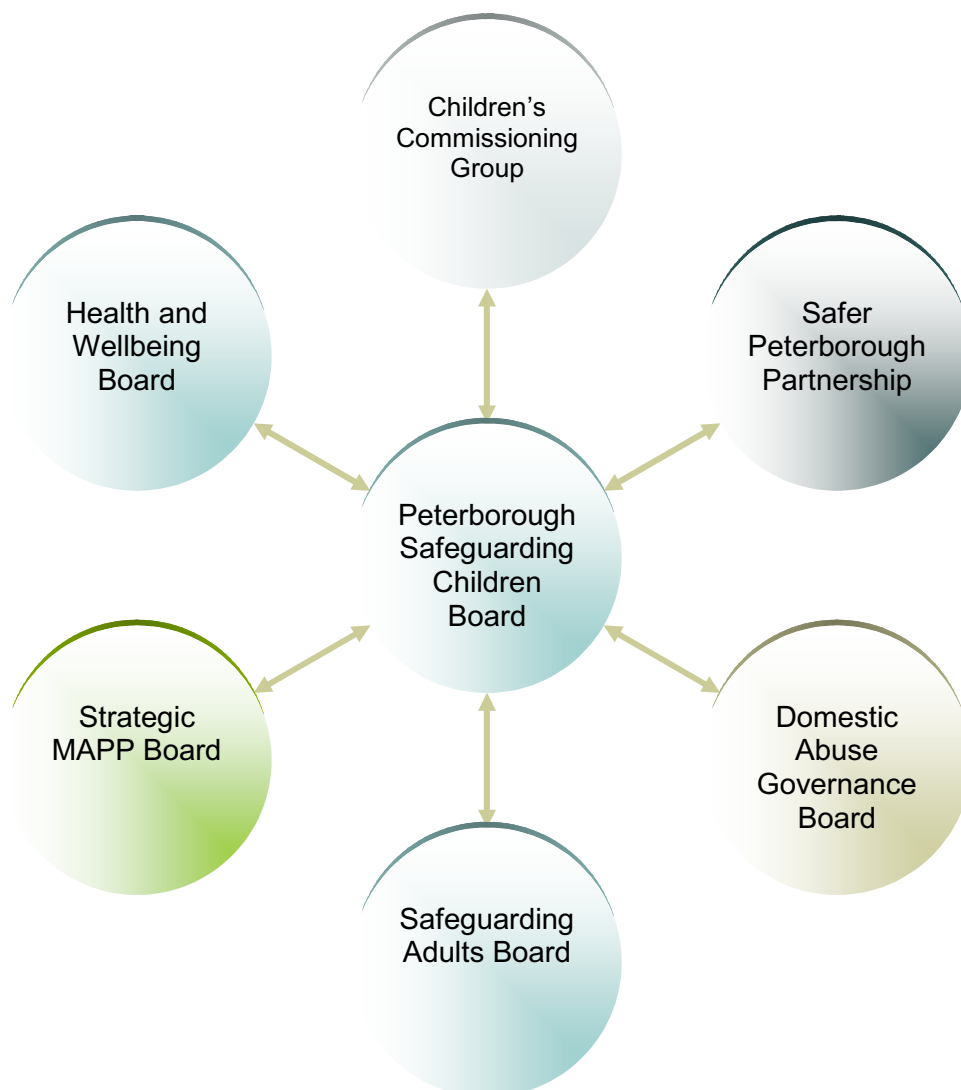
	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcome
1.	Embed the monitoring of Quality and Effectiveness Linked to Children’s Services Improvement Linked to the Simpson review of the Board Linked to Ofsted evaluation schedule Jan Linked to existing Working Together 2010	PSCB Quality and Effectiveness Group	See Performance Framework/Monthly Audit Plan	Audit planner in place and monitored. See Quality and Effectiveness update
		Communication and Information Group	Ensure voice of children, young people and their families is heard and informs practice	First group developed further work in 2013/14 see Voice of children and YP in report.
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Ensure engagement with practitioners to inform an understanding of current practice	See SLDG update
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Monitor the impact of continuous learning	See SLDG update
2.	Monitor the effectiveness and value for money of early help services including early years provision Linked to Munro Review Linked to Children’s Services Improvement Plan Linked to Ofsted Evaluation Schedule Jan 2012	PSCB Quality and Effectiveness Group	Receive regular reports and monitor impact of universal and targeted services	See update on Early Intervention and Prevention
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Ensure training meets the needs of practitioners to manage risk	See SLDG update and training brochure
		PSCB	Monitor the impact of current resource constraints on the provision of services	Subject of continuous board monitoring

	Objective	Lead	Actions	Outcome
3	<p>Ensure PSCB Inter agency procedures and practice guidance are developed, reviewed, implemented and are compliant with equalities legislation</p> <p>Linked to Children's Services Improvement Plan</p> <p>Linked to existing Working Together 2010</p>	Policy Practice and Procedures Group	Embed revised Working Together and Assessment Framework	Working Together 2013 effective from 15/4/13. Necessary changes to procedures being undertaken.
			Establish Task and Finish Group to develop and promote guidance in the area of child sexual exploitation	This group is now a permanent subgroup. See CSE update.
		Safer Employment Group	Review agencies HR policies	No current risks
		Quality and Effectiveness Group	Monitor if thresholds are understood by all	Thresholds reviewed and to be re-launched by PSCB
		Strategic Learning and Development Group	Develop training which meets the needs of staff working with child sexual exploitation	See SLDG update
		E Safety Group	Promote best practice e safety work	See E safety Update
4	<p>Ensure the governance of the PSCB reflects its relationship to other Boards and establishes the framework for its leadership role</p> <p>Linked to the Simpson review of the PSCB recommendation</p> <p>Linked to the Children's services Improvement Plan</p> <p>Linked to the Ofsted evaluation schedule 2012</p>	PSCB Board and Chairs Group	Review membership of PSCB and governance arrangements in line with Simpson review	Review to be undertaken 2013/14
			Establish a "risk matrix"	Completed aligned to developed priorities.
			Review the Memorandum of Understanding with the revised Children's Trust arrangements	Chair now sits on HWB

MONITORING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF LOCAL WORK TO SAFEGUARD & PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

PSCB AND THE CONNECTION WITH OTHER GROUPS.

For the board to be effective in the coordinating and ensuring the effectiveness of safeguarding arrangements it is important that it has strong links with other groups and boards who impact on child services. The board also has a role in being part of the planning of services delivered to children in Peterborough.



EARLY INTERVENTION AND PREVENTION

Working Together 2013 recognises the need for all agencies to work together to identify and deliver help to children and young people help at the very earliest opportunity. The board can do much to promote and coordinate this approach and to hold organisations to account to ensure that safeguarding is at the forefront of all activity.

The Children and Families Joint Commissioning Board (CFJCB) brings together a wide range of partners to undertake the analysis of need, resources, strategic service development and commissioning priorities and outcomes, setting the framework for joint working arrangements. This work has been captured in the [Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy in Peterborough](#).

The work of the CFJCB and its delivery groups is to be based on our desire to work together to ensure the sustainable delivery of:

- The right services
- To the right children, young people and families
- In the right place
- At the right time
- For the right price.

The strategy includes a wide ranging, cross-cutting set of aims and objectives. These are being taken forward by a small number of delivery groups.

Some of the work has included establishing Multi Agency Support Groups (MASG), as already set out in this report and the Connecting Families Project which seeks to coordinate better the service provided to high need families by all agencies. Each contributing agency has provided the services of a 'Connector' who come together as a virtual team and whose activity is coordinated by the Connecting Families coordinator.

The PSCB Independent Chair sits on the CFJCB and the continued activity of all agencies to promote and embrace early intervention and prevention strategy will be monitored by the board.

eCAF

Peterborough City Council has committed to move towards an electronic version of CAF (eCAF). An initial focus group workshop has been held to look at the product, seeking the views of a range of partners in its development. Visits and further discussions are due to take place with other local authorities who are already using the eCAF.

Summary of expected benefits:

- Case Management and record keeping facilities for children who do not breach social care thresholds, but merit some support and attention; including forms, assessments, plans, alerts and workflow.
- eCAF - recording and management of the whole Common Assessment Framework process.
- Referrals in and out of Social Care - the ability to escalate and refer cases electronically into Social Care, and similarly to receive electronic referrals from Social Care.
- Team around the Child - the ability to set up the team around the child or family to coordinate all their activities
- No restriction on the number of end users enabling full engagement from partners.

CHILD DEATH OVERVIEW PANEL

The Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) was established in April 2008 as a new statutory requirement as set out in Chapter 7 of 'Working Together to Safeguard Children' 2010. Its responsibilities remain largely unchanged in the recently published 'Working Together' 2013.

It is chaired by the Cambridgeshire LSCB Independent Chair. Its primary function is to review all child deaths in the area, which it does through two interrelated processes; a paper based review of all deaths of children under the age of 18 years and a rapid response service which looks in greater detail at the deaths of children who die unexpectedly.

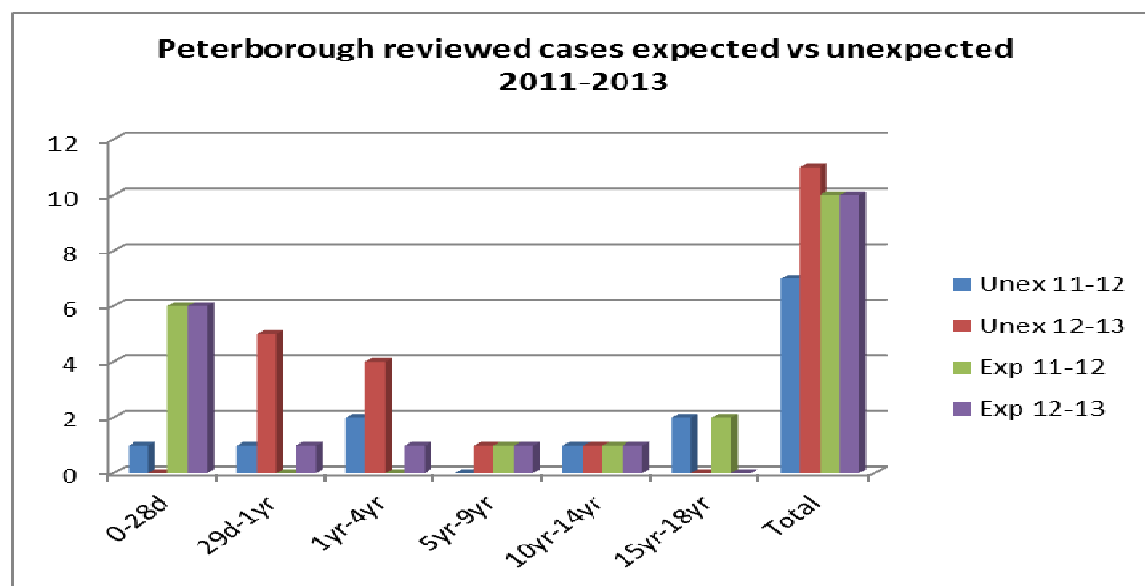
Over the last year, twenty five children have died in Peterborough, which is considerably more than the previous two years, when 20 children died in both years. Of those children who died, over 60% were babies under a year old with the majority not leaving hospital and dying in the first few days and weeks of life. This pattern is similar to previous years and mirrors the picture nationally.

Not all the children who died this year have been reviewed by the CDOP panel, which this year reviewed the deaths of twenty one Peterborough children (some of whom will have died the previous year). There is often a gap of several months between a death and that death being reviewed, whilst all relevant information is gathered.

Of the deaths which were reviewed, the pattern of deaths was similar to that noted above with the majority being babies under a year old. The next largest group was children aged one to four years old with four children dying for a number of different reasons including a child who was murdered and the subject of a serious case review.

It is the purpose of the child death overview panel to identify any 'modifiable' factors for each death, that is, any factor which, with hindsight, might have prevented that death and might prevent future deaths. There were five cases where a modifiable factor was identified, all of which were different and included drowning, suicide and trauma. Consequently it is not possible to make general statements.

However, regional figures suggest that there is only one type of child death which appears as both significantly prevalent and significantly modifiable and this is sudden unexpected death in infancy. Over the past year, the CDOP has established a task and finish group whose purpose was to identify ways to ensure that a clear and consistent message is being delivered on safe sleeping across Peterborough and Cambridgeshire.



THE SERIOUS CASE REVIEW PANEL

The SCR panel reviews cases where it is apparent that there is some multi agency learning to be achieved. A serious case review must be undertaken when a child dies or is seriously harmed and neglect is known or suspected.

'Working Together 2013' which became effective on 15th April 2013 has changed the method by which these reviews can be conducted and has moved organisations to take a more systems investigation approach to identify the issues.

PSCB is developing a review approach which will not only focus on cases that fit Serious Case Review criteria but also other cases where there is learning opportunity and examples of good practice.

All review findings need to be linked to an effective learning and development framework. The PSCB through all of its subgroups and partners ensures that any learning identified is communicated to the workforce.

Summary of cases

In May 2012 the PSCB published the details of a case where a 5 year old boy was killed by his step father who was subsequently convicted of the murder.

The learning from this case included raising the awareness of and training in domestic abuse and effective assessment of male partners where there are concerns.

More information on this review is available on the PSCB website

The SCR commissioned a Partnership Case Review on a case that did not reach the criteria of a SCR. This case involved the multi agency management of a sex offender.

The review concluded that there were lessons for professionals including greater awareness of the process and risks of managing offenders.

The group has a responsibility to ensure that these lessons and others gained from regional and national partners are effectively communicated to the workforce. The PSCB achieves this by providing SCR briefings and updates. The panel monitors any actions emanating from reviews to ensure compliance and impact on outcomes for children.

THE QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS GROUP

The Quality and Effectiveness Group is responsible for analysing the effectiveness of safeguarding services both in single agencies and across partners.

Four multi agency audits have been undertaken in order to check on the quality of practice.

Strategy Discussion Audit

The strategy discussion audit presented to the PSCB in May 2012 identified two significant areas for improvement:

- Firstly – timescales and methodology of meetings.
- Secondly the quality of the paperwork required improvement.
- Following the presentation to the Board it was agreed a Re-Audit of strategy discussions would take place in June 2012. From this Audit it was clear that substantial improvements had been made.

The next audit of Strategy Discussions will take place in July 2013, where these areas will be reviewed in order to ensure further progress has been made.

Core Group Audit

A PSCB multi agency core group audit was carried out in August 2012. The purpose of undertaking the audit was to provide a “snap shot” of recent core group practice across agencies. A total of 16 open cases were randomly selected; they included children and young people of a range of ages, gender and ethnic background. Almost all of the cases were having a positive impact for the child/young person,

Recommendations:

- The format for the recording of core group minutes should be standardised within the Children’s Social Care ICS system and appropriate guidance written.
- Where agencies do not attend core groups they should provide a written report and these should be attached to the core group minutes.

- There was evidence from the audit that whilst mothers are engaged in the core group process, fathers, step Fathers and partners were frequently absent.

Threshold Audit

An Audit to identify how well and consistently Thresholds are being applied within the Contact Centre and how well partner agencies understood the CSC threshold was undertaken in Nov 2012. In general Thresholds were being applied appropriately and agencies were contacting the Contact Centre when there were serious concerns. The Contact Centre were prompt at dealing with concerns and providing feedback to the agency or individual that had made the initial contact. There was generally a good understanding of the CSC Threshold Levels and evidence to suggest the Threshold Document was being used with a good understanding of different levels of need amongst agencies.

Section 11 Audit

Statutory agencies completed the S11 Audit (requirement of the Children Act 2004) which places a duty on key people and bodies to make arrangements to ensure their functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The peer review process was based on self evaluation. All the PSCB statutory and non statutory partners completed the review.

The overall quality and detail within the Section 11 statutory audit returns was mostly good. Most organisations clearly reflected on the systems they have in place, identifying what needs to be developed to ensure children and their families are safeguarded. There was some variation in the depth and detail of information provided. There were 12 returns in total. 1.12% of the indicators were not met, 14.88% were partly met, 82.6% were fully met, 1.4% were unanswered.

The Quality and Effectiveness Group will review the returns where the standards warrant further exploration, including:

- **Standard 5. Staff training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children for all staff working with or in contact with children and families.**

This deeper analysis will be reported to the Board in Sept 2013 when agencies report against their action plans.

Conclusion and Future Priorities

The returns were overwhelmingly positive.

Priorities

- Action plans for each Agency are in place and will be followed up on a quarterly basis
- QEG to review and identify areas for further investigation and monitor progress against action plans

Strategic Learning and Development Group to review Standard 5; Staff training on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children for all staff working with or in contact with children and families



PRIVATE FOSTERING

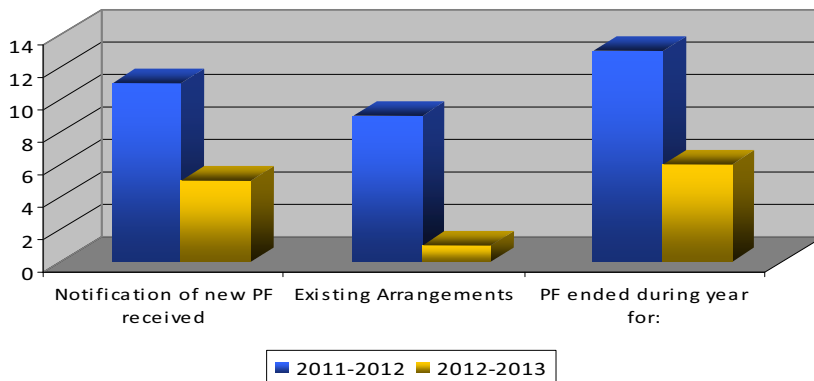
Private fostering is legally defined as an arrangement that occurs when a child who is under 16 (or 18 for a child with learning difficulties and/or disabilities) is cared for by someone other than their parent or a close relative for 28 consecutive days or more. A private foster carer may be a friend of the family or the child’s friend’s parents. However, a private foster carer is sometimes someone who is not previously known to the family, but who is willing to foster the child privately.

The Children Act 1989 requires parents and private foster carers to give the Local Authority advance notice of a private fostering arrangement. It also places specific duties on local authorities with responsibilities for children’s services. The legislation made what was considered a private arrangement into a public matter by giving Local Authorities a role in ensuring that children are safeguarded.

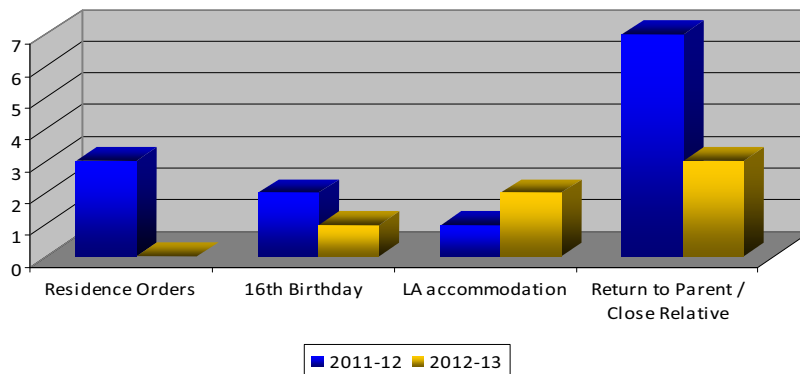
The Board role in Private Fostering is to have an overview of the numbers of cases being notified and that those cases are being dealt with within the guidance.

The low numbers of notified cases could be a concern and therefore the PSCB takes the role of ensuring that all partners are aware of what Private Fostering is and their responsibility to notify the Local Authority when they become aware of this sort of arrangement.

Private Fostering Arrangements



Reasons for Private Fostering arrangements ended during year:



More information and a leaflet is available on the Peterborough County Council website

<http://www.peterborough.gov.uk/pdf/ChildrenFamilies-adoptionandfostering-privatefostering-someoneelseschild.pdf>

ALLEGATIONS MANAGEMENT

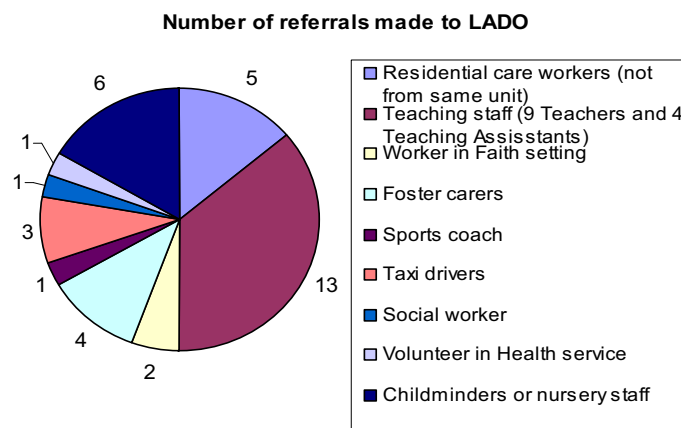
Working Together 2006 introduced the concept of the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who has the responsibility to have oversight of all allegations against a professional working with children from beginning to end, (subsequently updated by Working Together 2010). The LADO must also provide advice to employers, liaise with the police and other agencies, monitor the progress of cases, collect relevant data and report on this data. The LSCB has a responsibility within this guidance for ensuring that there are effective inter-agency procedures in place for dealing with allegations against people who work with children, and for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of these procedures. The new version of working Together 2013 does not alter this responsibility.

Once an allegation is received it will be assessed to see what action is required and if warranted it will progress to a Complex Strategy Meeting. (CSM)

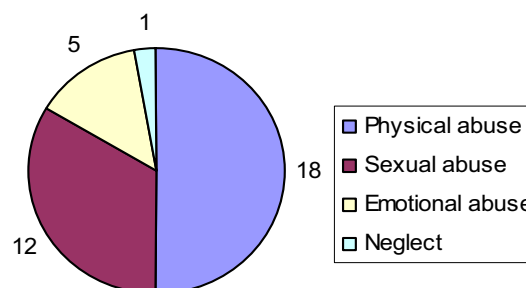
During the period of this report **58** concerns were discussed with the LADO which did not meet the threshold for a CSM: these concerns have been raised by a range of organisations including social care, early years settings, education settings, secure accommodation, foster carers, youth work settings and the police which suggests that there is an increasing awareness of the process and the role of the LADO.

36 referrals have been made to the LADO which resulted in CSMs being held, as compared to **17** referrals in the preceding 6 months.

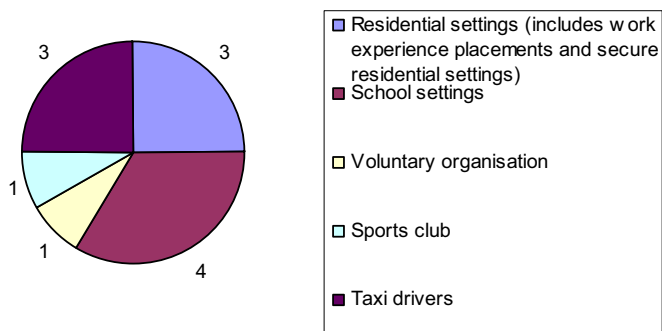
The highest number of referrals come from those groups that have the most direct contact with children and young people; as follows:



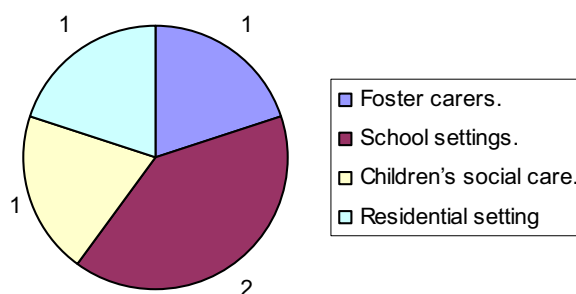
The 36 allegations broken down by category:



Of the 12 allegations of sexual abuse:



Of the 5 allegations of emotional abuse:



The allegation of neglect relates to foster carers

ALLEGATIONS DATA

Total number of allegations referred to the Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)					
<i>Oct 09 – Mar 10</i>	<i>Apr 10 – Sep 10</i>	<i>Oct 10 – Mar 11</i>	<i>Apr 11 – Sep 11</i>	<i>Oct 11 – Mar 12</i>	<i>Apr 12 – Mar 13</i>
26	19	21	11	17	36

Number of referrals by agency:			
Agency:	Oct 10 – Mar 11	Apr – Mar 12	Apr – Mar 13
Social Care:	2	5	1
Health:	1	1	1
Education:	6	8	13
Foster Carers:	1	4	4
Connexions:			
Police:			
YOT:			
Probation:			
CAFCASS:			
Secure Estate:	4	1	1
NSPCC:			
Voluntary Youth Organisations:			1
Faith Groups:	4	2	2
Armed Forces:			
Immigration/Asylum Support Services:			
Other	3	7	13

CO-ORDINATING LOCAL WORK TO SAFEGUARD AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

As noted earlier the subgroups carry out the work of the business plan which is monitored by the Chairs' group who in turn report to the Board on progress. The work of the Quality and Effectiveness Group, Child Death Overview Panel and Serious Case Review Group has already been highlighted. This section will focus on the work of the other subgroups.



STRATEGIC LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT GROUP (SLDG)

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 states:

“Local safeguarding Children Boards should maintain a local learning and improvement framework which is shared across local organisations who work with children and families. The framework should enable organisations to be clear about their responsibilities, to learn from experience and improve services as a result.”

In the year April 2012 to March 2013 the SLDG has striven to provide a programme of multi-agency training that meets the needs of local organisations to ensure that practitioners are confident and competent to work with children and their families. The training is developed in line with national and local needs and includes learning from serious case reviews.

A core programme of 14 courses was offered and delivered in 28 sessions. In addition to these courses Themed Practitioner workshops were introduced and run for an hour over lunchtime once a month. These workshops covered a number of subjects and proved to be very popular. We also developed 2 courses in response to a serious case review which included domestic abuse workshops for first line managers and strategy meeting workshops for managers who chair strategy meetings.

The Children's Workforce Development Council (CWDC) provided funding of £17,000 which was used for extra courses in line with the recommendations in the Munro Report.

Training courses were:

- Assessments – why do we get men wrong? This was delivered by Rachel Sensicle in three half day sessions and was well attended by all organisations;
- PSCB annual conference – Child Sexual Exploitation attended by 128 practitioners;
- Eyewitness Theatre Group – working with resistant families attended by 44 practitioners
- Cultural Competence – 2 half day sessions (running in this financial year)
- Risk-taking behaviour in adolescents – 2 half day sessions (running in this financial year).

During this year the venue for training was moved to Northminster House and we were able to increase the number of places available on courses from 15 to 20 per course. One of the most pleasing achievements of the SLDG was that the number of people attending our courses rose from 307 participants in the previous year to 749 this year.

Two new courses were developed and delivered with Cambridgeshire LSCB including 'The Impact on Practice of Serious Case Reviews and the Child Death Overview Process' and 'Induction for New Board Members'.

The final training event of the year was level 3 training for General Practitioners (GPs) and was attended by 68 GPs. There are three more courses planned for the coming year across Cambridgeshire.

A new training data base was developed which has significantly improved our ability to report on training including numbers and agencies attending. It has also enabled us to inform organisations of the number of their staff attending our courses and to be able to send out flyers for courses where places were still available.

The validation panel has met on six occasions and has validated a total of 10 courses for 8 organisations including 2 independent trainers who have contracts with Peterborough City Council. Initially the panel only validated level 1 training but has now included levels 2 and 3.

The learning impact tool has been completed by 33% of participants and is to be reviewed for the coming year.

A training pool has been developed to deliver level 1 training over the next year and will be supervised by the Training and Development Manager.

Evaluation of the courses continues to be very positive but for the coming year the core programme has been changed to reflect current training needs with additional courses at level 3 to meet the needs of qualified practitioners.

The SLDG annual report is available on our website www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk

CHILD SEXUAL EXPLOITATION

During 2011 a joint task and finish group was formed with the Cambridgeshire LSCB to scope and raise awareness on the issues presented by Child sexual Exploitation.

During the course of 2012, due to the high profile of this area of work the group was formed as a permanent subgroup of PSCB.



The group is also responsible for the strategic overview for missing children. Peterborough also has a multi agency group, The Missing from Home and Care group, which ensures that there is a coordinated response to missing children and the risk of Child Sexual Exploitation is assessed.

The CSE group has developed a multi agency strategy taking into account the action plans released by Department for Education and Association of Chief Police Officers, structured under the headings of :-

- Identification
- Engagement
- Responses
- Prevention/disruption
- Prosecution

The early work with professionals identified the level of understanding of the issues and signs of CSE. This was further advanced with workshops and the annual conference, all on the subject of CSE.

The group has developed information to assist parents/carers and professionals to identify early signs of exploitation and information for children and young people to identify risk to peers and seek assistance where required.

A risk assessment tool and pathways for investigation were developed to ensure that there was a clear understanding between agencies and a coordinated response.

The work in this important area continues with planned activity in all Peterborough Secondary schools to raise understanding and awareness of this form of exploitation.

E SAFETY

This is a group shared with the Cambridgeshire Safeguarding Children Board. This area continues to be a focus for the Board. In February the Board surveyed young people and they identified the Internet as being one of their greatest concerns to safeguarding.

The group has a workplan which is structured under five priorities.

- To support agencies in the safer use of Information Communication Technology
- Develop procedures for dealing with e safety incidents which also identify trends.
- Promote the awareness and understanding of E-safety issues.
- Develop standards by which agencies can self audit.
- To support children and young people's participation in developing information for parents, carers and others.



The work of this group over the last year has included the development of the PSCB website to provide guidance on E safety to professionals, parents/carers and children and young people.

The group developed an auditing tool which organisations can use to understand where there are any gaps in their processes, training and policies.

All this information is available on www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk

HEALTH SAFEGUARDING GROUP

This is a joint group with Cambridgeshire and brings together all the elements of the health system, providers and commissioners in Peterborough.

This group becomes all the more important as the health system transforms to incorporate Clinical Commissioning Groups. It is through this group that the PSCB will seek assurance that there continues to be strong a focus on safeguarding and the welfare of children.

The group has developed Terms of Reference and will be the focus for developing policies across the health economy. The group works to improve outcomes and will act as the conduit into the wider health environment where there is learning to be disseminated from reviews.

THE VOICE OF CHILDREN, YOUNG PEOPLE AND FAMILIES

The Board and their partners are very aware of the need to engage with children and young people in a meaningful way to understand and act on their views and concerns.

Work has been undertaken to start this and will continue to develop the best ways possible to capture this vital information.

Peterborough Children Services commissioned two youth consultations, one on Feeling Safe and the other on Domestic abuse.

A report was completed on each and recommendations made as to how some of the issues raised could be addressed.

These consultations led the way for a further event held in February where the PSCB sought the views of some 60 young people on what made them feel safe/unsafe in Peterborough.

Their views have been used to inform the board where to focus activity and to help to inform the business priorities outlined in this report.

The next stages of the Board approach will be to map the structures and methods that all partners use to engage with young people. This will enhance the coordination of this activity.

The board will seek to replicate the youth consultation events three times per year, focusing on areas that appear to be concerning young people.

BUSINESS PRIORITIES AND BOARD DEVELOPMENT 2013/14

The Board recognises that clear priorities are essential to improve the outcomes for children. At the February youth engagement day the Board sought the views of children and young people as to what they considered important to them to make them feel safe and what concerned them most.

The Board then consulted with partners as to what their priorities were for Peterborough to ensure that all children are safeguarded and their welfare promoted.

The Board considered other consultations undertaken to develop the Early Intervention and Prevention Strategy and actions resulting from the recent inspection of safeguarding arrangements.

The board has now refined the priorities for activity in 2013/14 and these are structured under areas:-

1. We know that early help and preventative measures are effective because....
2. We know that children at risk of significant harm are being effectively identified and protected because....
3. We know that everyone is making a significant and meaningful contribution to safeguarding children because.....
4. We know the workforce has the skills, knowledge and capacity to appropriately safeguard children in Peterborough because
5. We know that children are fully protected by all agencies from the effects of domestic abuse and neglect because.....
6. We understand the needs of all sectors of our community and are able to identify safeguarding issues within them because
7. We know that children are fully protected by all agencies from Child Sexual Exploitation because.....

Each of these priorities is monitored by selected multi agency indicators that will inform the board as to where any potential risks may lie and will give the board better opportunity for healthy and appropriate challenge and dialogue.

The thread of the voice of the child, young person and families runs through all the priorities and the Board will seek to collect and understand these views in assessing the progress of delivering these priorities.

A business plan structured under the priorities gives ownership and accountability to actions which will deliver the priorities is available on www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk

FINAL ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

The Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board is a strong partnership which has worked well together to coordinate their activity to provide the best outcomes possible for children and young people in Peterborough.

The partnership has delivered the outcomes it set itself for the period 2012/13 and has worked with children and young people to again identify priorities for 2013/14 which will build on the work already undertaken.

The PSCB recognises that the way in which it engages with young people and all sections of the community can always be improved and has included these aspect in their business plan moving forward.

The PSCB also recognises that the partnership is more necessary than ever as organisations are re-structured and feel pressure from reducing resources. The PSCB will continue to offer supportive scrutiny and challenge across organisations to ensure that the needs of children and young people in Peterborough are met and they are effectively safeguarded.



SAFEGUARDING - KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES

In order to ensure children stay safe, it is important that everybody knows their responsibilities around safeguarding. This guide is here to help:

1. Members of public

If you have any concerns about the safety of a child or young person, or that they may be subject to abuse or harm:

- **Don't ignore your concerns** - contact the Police or the Children's Services Contact Centre (contact details below) who will make appropriate and sensitive enquiries. Your confidentiality will be maintained at all times.
- It is better that a nagging doubt is reported, and turns out to be nothing than for nobody to help a child who is suffering harm.

2. Practitioners

All those who come into contact with children and families in their everyday work have a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This duty extends to your private life as well as your professional one.

We would expect you to:

- Be familiar with and follow your organisation's policy and procedures for safeguarding the welfare of children.
- Know who to contact to express concerns about a child's welfare.
- Attend training that raises awareness of safeguarding issues and equips you with the knowledge and skills you need.
- Never ignore a 'nagging doubt' and to report any concerns you have.

3. Organisations

All organisations that work with children and young people need to be aware of how the issues of safeguarding apply to the organisation, staff, volunteers and trustees.

Your organisation needs to make appropriate plans for:

- A member of your staff team reporting concerns about the safety of a child they are working with.
- Your organisation being asked by Children's Social Care or the police to provide information about a child or a family.
- An allegation being made against a member of your staff.
 - To help your organisation deal with these issues you should have a safeguarding policy and a set of procedures that all staff, volunteers and trustees must follow. These should be based on the Safeguarding Board's multi agency procedures (see PSCB website www.peterboroughlscb.org.uk).
- Your organisation should provide appropriate training for staff, to ensure they have the knowledge and skills they need to keep children safe (see PSCB Workforce Development Brochure on the web site).

- You should ensure that you are recruiting safely, so that checks are made for any staff who may have access to vulnerable people during their work.
- Two key pillars of a safeguarding culture are rigorous risk assessments and a code of conduct. It is essential that everyone involved in your organisation knows what behaviour is acceptable and what is not. Creating a safeguarding culture within an organisation is much easier if everyone is fully aware of the behaviour and conduct that is expected from all.

Useful Contacts:

- Contact Centre Duty Officers 01733 864180 and 864170 (out of hours 01733 561370)
- Cambridgeshire Constabulary 101
- NSPCC 0808 800 5000
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board 01733 863744
- Peterborough Safeguarding Children Board web site www.peterboroughscb.org.uk



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