



Bolton Safeguarding Children Partnership Children's Scrutiny Update

'In Bolton we want to give all our children the best possible start in life, so that they have every chance to succeed, be safe and be happy'



BSCP ROLE AND FUNCTION



Effective Communication

Comprehensive
and Robust
Safeguarding
Guidance

Skilled and
Knowledgeable
Workforce

Culture of
Learning and
Development

Scrutiny and
Challenge to the
Safeguarding
System



Emerging Risk/Stubborn Challenges



Dedicated Resources

1 FTE Business Manager; 1 FTE Training Officer; 1.5 FTE Administrator



Comprehensive Safeguarding Guidance

- Redevelopment and launch of partnership threshold document – Framework for Action
- Active contribution to Greater Manchester Safeguarding Procedures
- Challenge and Escalation Local Process Launching in Spring 2022
- Bolton Neglect Toolkit



Skilled and Knowledgeable Workforce

- Partnership provides a comprehensive safeguarding children training offer
- In the current year delivered 35 training events to 961 practitioners
- Introduced new training methods to make best use of technology and respond to restriction of Covid; Network Bites and Knowledge Nuggets
- Evaluations of the training offer are consistently good
- Developing the offer to strengthen knowledge on familial sexual abuse, social media and serious youth violence



Culture of Learning and Development

- 2018 – Change from Serious Case Reviews to Rapid Review and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Serious Child Safeguarding Cases – ‘a child has been seriously harmed or died and abuse or neglect is suspected or known to be a factor’
- 2018-2022 – 13 Rapid Reviews completed in Bolton that led to 2 Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Engaged over 120 practitioners in the review process and benefited from their practice knowledge to identify learning and improvement areas



Themes from Learning Reviews

Practice Messages

**INFORMATION
SHARING
ACROSS THE
MULTI-AGENCY
NETWORK**

**CHILD'S LIVED
EXPERIENCE**

**NEEDS AND RISK
ASSESSMENT**

**EARLY HELP
EFFECTIVENESS**

**APPLYING
THRESHOLDS**

**TIMELY USE OF
CHILD
PROTECTION
PROCESSES**

**CHALLENGE AND
ESCALATION
ACROSS THE
MULTI-AGENCY
NETWORK**

**IMPACT OF
PARENTAL
MENTAL HEALTH**

Scrutiny and Challenge

- Developed and implementing a comprehensive quality assurance process
- Assurance methodologies



WE LEARNED	WE HAVE
There is a need to further strengthen partnership child protection processes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertook multi-agency observations of child protection case conferences and improvement plan developed • Facilitated a 'Child Protection' community of practice session with multi-agency practitioners to create a best practice resource/standards for launch Spring 2022 • Supporting Childrens Social Care to implement Bolton Family Framework with partners
Multi-agency practitioners want to know more about the services and interventions available in Bolton to help and support children and their parents	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the last twelve months BSCP have hosted a series of 'Network Bites'; each session showcases a local service or team that works with children and/or their families • Sessions delivered have included topics such as Adoption Support, Adult Substance Misuse, Housing and Tenancy Services, Children Emotional Health and Well-being etc. • Approximately 40 to 60 practitioners attend each session; they are also recorded to increase accessibility for those who can't attend • The sessions have received positive feedback in terms of increasing practitioners knowledge and awareness of local services and interventions
Practitioners don't always feel confident in understanding adult mental and its impact on parenting and parental engagement with services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introduced a Parental Mental Health course into the multi-agency training programme • Positively promoting the advice and guidance service offered by the Adult Mental Health Service Single Point of Access (SPOA) to practitioners
Opportunities for universal services to make timely use of early help processes have not always been taken	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shared the learning from reviews with the Strategic Lead for Early Help • Independent scrutiny of Early Help will be completed in Spring 2022 and report findings to the Safeguarding Partnership and Children and Young People's Board • Information Sharing Project to strengthen knowledge about when and how information can be shared using DPA and GDPR legislation well
Effective safeguarding supervision is important for all practitioners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Planned a Section 11 themed audit on partners supervision arrangements for Summer 2022
All reviews identified a passionate and committed partnership workforce	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continually promote and recognise the strengths in local practice



Comments/Questions