

## HSCB Business Plan 2016/18

This business plan builds on the work and progress of the 2015/16 business plan. A number of priority areas remain relevant and continued development and improvement should be planned. It is intended that from these strategic priorities the sub groups of the HSCB will develop action plans that interlink, to ensure that practices and processes are in place to improve outcomes for children and young people in Hereford and, protection from significant harm

<b>Strategic Priorities</b>	<b>Priority 1.</b> <i>Identification, prevention and response to Child Sexual Exploitation/ children who go missing.</i>	<b>Priority 2.</b> <i>The child's "journey through the child protection process ensures effective planning and intervention to improve the care, safety and wellbeing of children and reduce/eradicate actual or the risk of significant harm</i>	<b>Priority 3.</b> <i>Identification and response to childhood neglect</i>	<b>Priority 4.</b> <i>The early help services effectively identify needs and concerns relating to children and families, and services address these needs through effective planning and interventions to enable families to function effectively and children's needs are met and they are supported to achieve their full potential.</i>
<p><b>Areas for sub group action plans:</b> Under these strategic priorities the HSCB want the sub groups to develop effective action plans that take in to account the following areas</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The pathway for addressing concerns about cases of suspected CSE are clear.</li> <li>• There is clear data relating to CSE risks and children missing from home</li> <li>• There is good</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The process an decision making at the initial stages of the child protection process (strategy meetings/ section 47 investigations) comply with statutory guidance, and the decisions are consistent with</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concerns about possible childhood neglect are identified early and interventions put in place to ensure children's needs are met and they are not at risk of, or experiencing, neglect.</li> <li>• Where chronic cases of neglect are</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Effective decision making is taking place at the early stage of identification of needs, and appropriately directed to WISH, Early Triage (MAG) or referred to MASH</li> <li>• Common Assessments are taking place within timescales and are effective in identifying needs of children and</li> </ul>

	<p>intelligence from practice to better understand the prevalence of CSE and inform responses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children, families, the general public and professionals know about and understand CSE and how to respond as appropriate.</li> <li>• Return home interviews are of good quality and used at an individual and strategic level to tackle risks.</li> <li>• Children who have experienced CSE receive appropriate</li> </ul>	<p>the levels of need in Herefordshire.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The child protection planning and review process (child protection conferences/ core groups) are truly multi-agency and consistent with guidance and procedures.</li> <li>• Child protection plans are effective in reducing/ eradicating the risk of significant harm to children.</li> </ul>	<p>identified plans are put in place to protect children from further neglect</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Innovative tools and approaches are put in place to support practitioners in assessing and understanding neglect and improving and better targeting work and interventions with families.</li> </ul>	<p>families and planning interventions (there is clear multi agency engagement in this process)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Lead professionals are identified in each case deemed level 2 or 3</li> </ul>
--	--	---	---	--

	post abuse support			
<p><b>Measures:</b> How will we know if we are achieving good outcomes for children in these priority areas?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• As awareness and understanding of CSE develops the HSCB will need to agree about expectations of a rise in cases of known CSE; convictions and disruptions, and at some point expecting reduction in cases</li> <li>• Reduction in the numbers of children going missing and numbers of times missing</li> <li>• Return home interviews take place in all cases,</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• From a base line of numbers of strategy discussions; sec 47 enquiries; child protection conferences; children made subject to a CP plan, targets to be set to reach over the next 12 months.</li> <li>• CP conferences; core groups occur within timescale and have appropriate multi agency involvement</li> <li>• The data on length of time children on a child protection plan/ repeat child protection plans, should indicate that plans are reducing/eradicating risk of significant harm</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in the numbers of children and young people subject to CP plans under the category of neglect.</li> <li>• If agreed, use of neglect tools across the partnerships to assess for and identify incidence of childhood neglect, and factors that impact upon this.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reduction in (inappropriate) referrals to MASH.</li> <li>• Findings from the Herefordshire Family Outcomes Framework indicate identified needs being met, outcomes for children and factors that impact on their care improving.</li> <li>• Is there a value in measuring numbers of CAF's; by agency; numbers receiving interventions from CAF's?</li> </ul>

	consistent with the guidance and procedures.			
--	--	--	--	--

**In addition to the priorities identified above, throughout 2016/17 the HSCB will seek reporting on assurances/ risks in the following areas:**

<b>Safeguarding area</b>	<b>Expectations</b>
Looked after children	Looked after children reviews, including health; education; care leavers, take place within timescales set out by guidance and procedures; the views of children are evident in care planning and views taken account of; numbers of children in care in Herefordshire are not at odds with national average/ statistical neighbours;
Female Genital mutilation (FGM)	There is a clear strategy in place to support identification of and response to cases of FGM
Radicalisation	Awareness of radicalisation is through mediums such as PREVENT training takes place across the authority, particularly in education  Channel meetings take place in response to any referrals of concern of radicalisation, and plans and actions reduce the risks of radicalisation
Health Services assurance reporting	CCG/WVT/2gether all report to the HSCB on any inspections/ reviews/ audits relating to safeguarding children, and progress on any action plans drawn up from the findings
Public Protection Assurance reporting	Police/ Probation (NPS/CRC), YOS report to the Board on any inspections/ reviews/ audits relating to safeguarding children, and progress on any action plans drawn up from the findings. To include MAPPA/MARAC
Education assurance reporting	The Board to receive reports regarding children missing education, and children home educated, being assured regarding plans to respond to any trends or concerns.
Child death Reviews	The Board will receive an annual report regarding child deaths in Herefordshire, and any recommendations/ lessons learnt.
Serious Case Reviews and other case reviews that the Board have identified should take place	These case reviews are completed within timescale and reported to the Board with clear recommendations and actions for improvements. Actions are tracked and included in future auditing.
Private Fostering	Awareness raising/ identification of circumstances that may be private fostering; reporting on the number of private fostering arrangements and assessments/ reviews carried out within timescale.
Adult Factors that impact upon the safety and wellbeing of children	To receive reports and information on the extent of Domestic Abuse/ substance misuse/ mental ill health among those caring for children, how this is impacting upon children, and partner agency responses

The reporting cycle that accompanies this business plan sets out the expectations for when the performance information, data and other reports should be made available to the Board. Alongside the performance score cards there will also be data and qualitative information from:

- Single agency audit activity, findings, analysis and actions
- Board members observations of Child Protection Case Conferences
- Board members visits to front line services
- Audit of agencies responsibilities under Sec 11 Children act 2004, Sec 175; 157 Education Act 2002
- Schedule of multi-agency case audits based on the HSCB priority areas.

All the sub groups of the HSCB will identify plans to progress the priority areas of the Board to improve outcomes for children and keep them safe. The Performance and Quality Assurance sub group of the HSCB will take the lead on identifying issues and progress based on the HSCB scorecard/ data provided from partner agencies; agency assurance reporting; case auditing; findings from Sec 11 audits and progress in actions as a response. This, and other sub groups of the HSCB, will identify any risks / assurances in reports to the HSCB executive group. This will enable the Board to receive clear reporting from the Executive Group to enable the Board to consider risk areas and progress, and the direction/ expectations of the multi-agency partnership working to develop and improve to meet the needs of children in Herefordshire and keep them safe (see diagram below).

Linked documents:

- HSCB reporting cycle
- HSCB reporting process
- Sub group action plans (to be developed)

