



LSCB

Bath & North East Somerset
Local Safeguarding Children Board

**The Local
Safeguarding
Children Board: a
guide for young
people**

January 2018

Safeguarding is everyone's business

The Role of the Bath and North East Somerset Local Safeguarding Children's Board (LSCB)

What is the LSCB?

The LSCB is responsible for making sure Bath & North East Somerset is a safe place for children and young people to grow up in. Safeguarding is about protecting children, young people and adults at risk from abuse or neglect.

The LSCB meets 4 times a year to discuss how children and young people are protected from harm and that their welfare is prioritised.

Board members are responsible for the safeguarding in their organisations and work together to ensure that children and young people are kept safe from harm.

The leader / Chair of the LSCB is Independent, that means that they don't work for any of the organisations represented on the Board. This is really important because it means they can look at the LSCB as an outsider and see what the different organisations are doing well and what they need to do better.

What does it do?

There is a set of national guidance that the Board has to follow called *Working Together to Safeguard Children*. This guidance clearly outlines what each professional should be doing within their organisation to safeguard children and young people. This includes, working closely with others, writing policies, delivering training, reviewing how organisations work and sharing learning to keep children and young people safe.

Here is a link to a young person's guide to *Working together to Safeguard Children*

[Working together to safeguard children](#)

[Younger Children's Guide to WT2015](#) (8 pages)

Smaller groups (Sub Groups)

The LSCB is a large group, to enable it to get through its work there are several smaller groups (known as sub groups) who each have a particular 'theme' that

they focus on. Each smaller group is made up of some of the LSCB Board Members, as well as other people in key roles who work with children and young people. Each smaller group presents a report to the LSCB every six months. This is so the groups can share the work they are doing with everyone who has responsibility for safeguarding.

The sub groups of the LSCB and what they do



The LSCB Annual Report 2016-17 and Business Plan 2015-18

The Board has a three year plan (Business Plan) which they use to agree the priorities of their work to safeguard children and young people and each year the Board publishes a Report which describes how the Board has addressed any issues or challenges that have arisen and what the Board will focus on for the next year.

Key achievements for the LSCB over the year 2016-2017:

- Invited the Member of the Youth Parliament (MYP) to speak to the Board about all the work of the Youth Forum and In Care Councils.
- The LSCB has continued to support the work of the Willow Project that supports young people at risk of Child Sexual Exploitation and also funds the work of the CSE consultant who has greatly assisted in the development of the project as well as updating the CSE Protocol, Strategy and Action Plans
- A development day was held to share information about the effect of Domestic Abuse on children, young people and their families
- All schools in B&NES completed an Annual School Safeguarding Audit and the results show schools take safeguarding very seriously.
- Over 800 staff who work with children and young people have attended a range of safeguarding training.
- Launched the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) for staff to raise safeguarding concerns with several agencies to reduce harm.
- Continued importance of Early Help to ensure that children, young people and their families who are experiencing problems can get the best support from an early stage.
- Developing a new safeguarding website with pages for children and young people, their families and those that work with children this website launched in July 2017:
<https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/children/i-am-childyoung-person>

For 2015-18 the key priorities written in the Business Plan are:

Key Priority 1

That all organisations work together to reduce harm and to keep children and young people safe.

Key Priority 2

That when children, young people and their families need support from an organisation they can have a say in how those services are run and how they can be improved in the future.

Key Priority 3

Reviewing and checking that each organisation is clear about their safeguarding responsibilities.

Key Priority 4

That the people who work with children and young people are well trained.

Key Priority 5

That the LSCB does its very best to develop and improve to ensure all agencies work

well together

The LSCB has a webpage. Here you will find all the documents that the LSCB has written. The full Annual Report and Business Plan and the Executive Summary, which is a much easier version to read, are here too, click below:

<https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/children>

If you are worried or scared about the way you or someone you know is being treated don't bottle it up, tell someone, a parent, teacher, friend - REPORT IT

- Call the Children and Families Assessment and Intervention Team on 01225 396312 or 01225 396313.
- If you are worried outside of office hours, please call the social work team (Emergency Duty Team) for help on 01454 615165.
- If a child or young person is in immediate danger then please dial 999

Useful Links:

[Working together to safeguard children](#)

[Younger Children's Guide to WT2015](#) (8 pages)

B&NES Safeguarding website:

<https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/children>

<https://www.safeguarding-bathnes.org.uk/children/i-am-childyoung-person>

This guide to the LSCB has been written with the support of the young people who are members of the B&NES Youth Forum.

Glossary of Words

Board

An independent group made up of representatives from the range of agencies that work with children and young people in B&NES. It makes sure that agencies that work with children and families are safe and that they prioritise the welfare of children.

Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

A type of sexual abuse in which children are sexually exploited for money, power or status. Children or young people may be tricked into believing they're in a loving, consensual relationship. They might be invited to parties and given drugs and alcohol. They may also be groomed online.

Children/ child protection meetings

Meetings with a range of professionals and your social worker to work with you and your family to assess and plan when adults are worried children are not being kept safe at home.

Co-ordinates

Bringing everyone together to work together on an agreed single plan or action

Early Help

Early Help starts from any point when needs arise, from pregnancy through to teenage years and at any stage in adulthood, this is support from agencies other than social services to stop the need for social services to be involved.

Member of Youth Parliament (MYP)

A young person aged 11-18 years who has been elected by their peers to represent their views and opinions. The role involves ensuring that the views of young people are listened to by decision makers (e.g. MP's and local councillors).

Multi-agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)

The MASH is located in one office and involves the key agencies Virgin Care, Police, B&NES Council Adult Services and Children's Services working together to share information about concerns for a particular child and young people (or adult with care and support needs) so that decisions can be made quickly to keep children/adults safe.

Neglect

Neglect is where a child is not being looked after properly. This can include not getting enough to eat or being left alone in dangerous situations. Neglect is not meeting a child's basic and essential needs like not taking them to the doctor when they are ill.

Policy/Policies

A written document that makes it clear what course of action has been agreed for all agencies to follow for a particular issue. Policies help with decision making and give clear plans to follow.

Senior in Care Council

A group of young people in care aged 11-18 years who guide the development and delivery of services for all young people in care in Bath and North East Somerset. They meet regularly with professionals and decision-makers to share their views and experiences.

Youth Forum

A campaign and consultation group open to any young person in Bath and North East Somerset aged 11-18 years. They work closely with the MYP to create positive change through campaigning.