



CUMBRIA LSCB

CUMBRIA LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD



Issue 4

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CUMBRIA LOCAL SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD

LSCB Pledge to Tackle Domestic Violence

The LSCB meeting on 12 June considered a report which had been prepared following the recent conference, on how the Board could make a difference regarding child focused outcomes.

It had been agreed that this meeting of the Board should include an opportunity for representatives of all agencies involved to 'offer', on behalf of their organisation, an activity which would commit to making a difference to children living with domestic violence and to start to build a true partnership approach to safeguarding children. The Domestic Violence Strategic Management Board would work with and lead with the Board on compiling the action plan, monitoring and feeding back on the actions and identifying any gaps.

Pledges made by members of the Board at the meeting included the following:

- A more proactive response to allow the relevant agencies to have an earlier awareness of developing situations involving domestic violence
- Better attendance at MARAC meetings
- The need to become more active in working with children who had witnessed domestic violence
- Assessing the risk of harm and working with adults to reduce that risk
- Developing integrated responses at the local level
- De-briefing children in order to understand their motivation in order to help to identify those who had witnessed domestic abuse
- Ensuring that all Acute Trust staff who dealt with domestic abuse realise its impact upon children, together with raising awareness through induction training
- Reinforcing awareness of domestic violence through integrated teams
- Ensuring that Children's Services were represented on MARAC
- Raising awareness through Local Planning Groups and Local Delivery platforms
- Pursuing the issue through the work of a Domestic Abuse Practice Development Group
- Raising awareness of MARAC



USEFUL WEBSITES E-K:

Eating Disorders Association
<http://www.edauk.com/>

Families and Friends of Lesbians Gay Bisexual - FFLAG
<http://www.fflag.org.uk/>

FPA (formerly the Family Planning Association)
<http://www.fpa.org.uk/>

Family Rights Group
<http://www.frg.org.uk/>

Gingerbread
<http://www.gingerbread.org.uk/>

Internet Watch Foundation
<http://www.iwf.org.uk/>

Kidsafe UK
<http://www.kidsafeuk.co.uk/>

Kidscape
<http://www.kidscape.org.uk/>



LSCB Child Death Overview Panel

Cumbria LSCB Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is now well established. The purpose of the group is to:

1. Collect and analyse information about all local childhood deaths (0-18) with a view to identifying:
 - cases requiring serious case review
 - matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children
 - wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths
2. Undertake a co-ordinated agency response to all unexpected deaths of children.

All child deaths are notified to Mark Fishpool who can be contacted on:
mark.fishpool@cumbriacc.gov.uk, Tel: 01228 226831, Fax: 01228 606887

Every Child Matters Even When They Are Working

Young people in Cumbria who have part-time jobs or take part in entertainment and performance whilst still of statutory school age can now look forward to a more secure and safe experience. The county's two Child Employment and Entertainment Officers have been working very closely with county Licensing Officers to raise awareness of the risks inherent with these activities. The result is that the LSCB has recently signed up to the County Licensing Enforcement Protocol ensuring effective information sharing, helping the Child Employment and Entertainment Officers in their drive to safeguard young people. *For more information contact:* -

Janet Poultney – 01946595346, Children's Services, Melbreak House, Hensingham, Whitehaven. CA28 8TH, janet.poultney@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Mary Johnson – 01768242073, Children's Services, 19-24 Friargate, Penrith. CA11 7NX, mary.johnson@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Private Fostering

The Government's new measures on private fostering in section 44 of the Children Act 2004 came into force on 1 July 2005. The new measures, along with the National Minimum Standards, are intended to strengthen and enhance the Children Act 1989 private fostering notification scheme.

They are also intended to focus local authorities' attention on private fostering by requiring them to take a more proactive approach by identifying arrangements in their area. They are expected to improve notification rates and compliance with the existing legislative framework for private fostering.

More information can be found on the Every Child Matters website:
<http://www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/socialcare/safeguarding/privatefostering/>

Or by contacting Sarah Gaskell, Private Fostering Co-ordinator, sarah.gaskell@cumbriacc.gov.uk

Introducing Cumbria's New 'LADO'

Robert Parks has been appointed on a permanent basis as Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) for Allegations against those who work with children'.

Under the procedures published by the LSCB, all allegations against people who work with children must be reported to the LADO by a senior manager within 24 hours if they meet one of the following criteria:

- Any allegations of a possible criminal offence against a child
- Any allegation of possible harm to a child
- Any allegation that suggests that a

person may be unsuitable to work with children.

These arrangements are designed to ensure the speedy and effective follow up of all allegations against those who work with children in accordance with the new requirements of Working Together 2006. Robert will give advice on what to do and set up the necessary meetings with police and social care and advise and support managers through the subsequent procedures.

The procedures are available on the LSCB website www.cumbrialscb.com under (chapter 7).

Robert can be contacted on:
01900 706453 or,
robert.parks@cumbriacc.gov.uk.
Robert, says:

"I am determined to ensure that all allegations are fully and fairly investigated so we can ensure that children are protected against possible abuse whilst supporting staff who may find themselves subject to allegations which may or not prove well-founded. Apart from tracking all allegations to an appropriate conclusion I also want to ensure that our recruitment arrangements prevent unsuitable people being appointed in the first instance."