

Meeting Title:	Kent Safeguarding Children Board
Date:	4 th October 2017
Time:	2pm – 5pm
Location:	Medway Room, Sessions House, Maidstone
Chaired by:	Gill Rigg

Members Attendance at Meeting:

Name	Title	Representing	Apologies	Attended
Gill Rigg	KSCB Independent Chair	KSCB		✓
Alison Broom	Chief Executive	Maidstone Borough Council		✓
Andrew Ireland	Corporate Director for Social Care, Health & Wellbeing	KCC		✓
Andrew Scott-Clark	Director of Public Health	Public Health, KCC		✓
Gill Cahill	Director of Business Development	CXK	✓	
Alison Brett	Chief Nurse (CCG's)	Clinical Commissioning Groups		✓
Claire O'Brien	Chief Nurse (Acute Providers)	Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust	✓	
Karen Hickey	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children	West Kent CCG		✓
Claire Jones	Head of Service for Assessment, Rehabilitation and IOM	Kent, Surrey & Sussex Community Rehabilitation Centre	Emma Vecchiolla	
Mary Mumvuri	Executive Director of Nursing and Quality	Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust	✓	
Stuart Collins	Interim Director of Early Help and Preventative Services	EYS, KCC		✓
Tony Blaker	Assistant Chief Constable	Kent Police	Tom Richards	
Mark Janaway	Programme and Performance Manager	KSCB		✓
Patrick Leeson	Corporate Director for Children, Young People and Education	KCC	✓	
Roger Gough	Cabinet Member for Children, Young People and Education	KCC		✓
Sarah Hammond	Interim Director, Specialist Children's Services	KCC		✓

Roger Sykes	Lay Member	KSCB	✓	
Charles Unter	Lay Member	KSCB		✓
Tina Hughes	Senior Operational Support Manager	National Probation Service (East & SE Region)		✓
Kelli Gardner	Youth and Community Manager	IMAGO	✓	
Sally Allum (Virtual Member)	Director of Nursing	NHS England	✓	
Sorcha Morgan (Virtual Member)	Head of Practice	CAFCASS Kent	✓	
Kevin Gibbs (Virtual Member)	Assistant Director	CAFCASS Kent	✓	
Sarah Nichols	Project Officer	KSCB		✓

No.	Agenda Item
1.	<p>Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>Introductions were made and apologies noted.</p>
2.	<p>Minutes, Actions and Matters Arising.</p> <p>Minutes were agreed as a true and accurate account of the meeting.</p> <p>Alison Brett and Karen Hickey discussed the agreement at the last Board meeting to provide funding to Child Sexual Exploitation Team (CSET) and agreed to discuss this with Mark Janaway outside of the meeting to clarify arrangements.</p> <p><u>Actions from 2nd August 2017</u></p> <p>6.1 - Mark Janaway to set up a Board development day following discussion with the Independent Chair. Update from 4th October 2017 – Mark Janaway and Gill Rigg confirmed that a Board development day would take place, however, we are waiting for the next iteration of Working Together before planning the event. Action Closed.</p> <p>7.2 - Mark Janaway to ensure that the Neglect Strategy includes a direct reference to Homelessness. Update from 4th October 2017 – Mark Janaway confirmed that homelessness has been included in the neglect strategy and it has been published on the KSCB website. The strategy has been circulated via the website and sub groups and a neglect conference is being planned for Spring 2018 to discuss the learning from the neglect audit and recent SCRs. Action Closed</p> <p>7.3 – Mark Janaway to launch and circulate the Neglect Strategy. Update from 4th October 2017 – As discussed above. Action Closed.</p> <p>8.1 - Board members to provide Jennifer Maiden Brooks with details of their named accountable person to drive forward the gangs strategy. Update from 4th October 2017 – Mark Janaway noted that he had not received feedback from Jennifer Maiden-Brooks and agreed to follow this up with her and provide an update at the next meeting.</p> <p>10.1 - Sarah Nichols to send the recommendations from the Kent Police internal inspection to Board members. Update from 4th October 2017 – Sarah Nichols confirmed she had not been sent the recommendations. Tom Richards agreed to chase this and send it to Sarah Nichols for cascading to Board members.</p> <p>10.2 - Tony Blaker to present to the Board on the Know Project and the request for additional funding. Update</p>

from 4th October 2017 – Tom Richards agreed to provide this update on behalf of Tony Blaker. Tom Richards confirmed that the Know Project is a successful service providing presentations and workshops on CSE as part of a schools awareness project which is running until December 2017. Tom Richards noted that the Police Crime Commissioner is not keen to continue funding as a separate service has been commissioned by him that is match funded by the Music industry. The new service will discuss issues such as online safety and grooming and this can be added to as it progresses. Tom Richards noted that the recommendation to the Board is that we do not need to continue the Know Project and this option comes at no additional cost to Board member agencies. Tom Richards asked Board members to contact him should they have any queries about the new service. Action Closed.

Actions from 31st May 2017

4.1 - Mark Janaway to add the concerns raised about South East Coast Ambulance (SECAmb) Service to the Risk Register and Challenge Log. Update from 4th October 2017 – Andrew Scott Clark confirmed that a named individual from SECAMB had been identified to feed into the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) and they are included on the agenda and invited to the meeting. Action Closed.

8.1 – Alison Broom and Mark Janaway to discuss contributions by District Councils with the Chief Executives. Update from 4th October 2017– Alison Broom and Mark Janaway confirmed that this was an ongoing piece of work. The next meeting for Chief Executives is yet to take place. It was agreed for the action to be closed and that Alison Broom would provide a future update to the Board when possible.

9.1 – Andrew Ireland, Bethan Haskins and Tony Blaker to set up a working group to consider the local plans for the wood review and update the Board at the next meeting. Update from 4th October 2017 – It was confirmed that a meeting is scheduled for the 6th November where this will be discussed further and an update can be provided to the Board in December.

Actions from 1st December 2016

4.1 – Patrick Leeson to provide an update on the Programme at a future Board meeting. Update from 4th October 2017 – Stuart Collins provided an update on the programme. A written report was due to go to the Steering Group; however, that meeting was cancelled. The report and an update will be going to the Portfolio Board on the 13th October.

The programme is looking at three key themes:

- 1) Pathways and the interface between the step up and step down process.
- 2) How we engage with communities, schools, families and extended families.
- 3) Ensuring that the offer provided is consistent and that the response across the whole directorate is consistent.

Stuart Collins noted that there are six “quick wins” within the programme:

- 1) Front door integration, the directorate is now in a position to interview for the Assistant Director of the new service on the 16th October.
- 2) Shared dataset between Specialist Children’s Services and Early Help.
- 3) Joint access for staff to EHM (Early Help Module) and Liberi.
- 4) Professionals making the best use of assessments across the services.
- 5) Cases stepping up/down more.
- 6) Consistency in decision making.

Alison Brett referred to a discussion that took place at the most recent Health Safeguarding Group meeting in regards to when and how the engagement would happen and how agencies make sure people are referring into the combined front door appropriately. Stuart Collins confirmed that this was discussed at the most recent Quality and Effectiveness (QE) group and noted that there will have to be a substantial amount of engagement and training and it will be part of the role of the new management team to decide how this is embedded across partner agencies. Stuart Collins confirmed that thresholds are not changing on a large scale, but conversations and

	discussions with colleagues and partners will need to take place.
3.	<p>KSCB Annual Report</p> <p>Mark Janaway presented this item and confirmed that some feedback had been received from Board members.</p> <p>Mark Janaway requested agreement from the Board to sign off the Annual Report and confirmed that the final version needs to be submitted next week to go to Full Council on the 19th October. The Board agreed to sign off the annual report.</p> <p>Gill Rigg commented that she felt the report was a good reflection of the work of the Board and Roger Gough confirmed that he would be introducing the report at the Full Council Meeting. Mark Janaway agreed to forward Roger Gough the cover paper for the report once it had been signed off by Gill Rigg.</p>
4.	<p>Sub Groups Focused Update</p> <p>Policy and Procedures Group</p> <p>Tina Hughes presented this item.</p> <p>The last Policy and Procedures meeting took place on the 11th July and the next meeting is due to take place on the 17th October. At the last meeting feedback from both KSCB and the Medway Safeguarding Children Board (MSCB) was discussed.</p> <p>An update was provided from the Case Review Group and the MSCB confirmed that they were currently undertaking 3 serious case reviews and one was recently presented to their Board for sign off.</p> <p>The group discussed the policy review tracker, tri-x updates and looked at amendments for the trafficking guidance which was adopted. The Sexual Exploitation procedures were reviewed and included in the October tri-x update.</p> <p>The group discussed the possibility of joint Kent and Medway pre-birth procedures and discussed the current concerns with Adolescent Risk Management (ARM) Panels in Kent. Tina Hughes reported that at the last Business Group meeting Patricia Denney confirmed that Specialist Children Services (SCS) are looking at how to take forward safety planning for children subject to ARM. Alison Broom requested that when stakeholders are included in this process that the Community Safety partners are invited as the way ARM currently works across the County is inconsistent.</p> <p>Tina Hughes confirmed that group is also discussing concealed pregnancy procedures and are taking this issue to the Named Nurses for a response.</p> <p>Child Death Overview Panel</p> <p>Andrew Scott-Clark presented this item. He confirmed that the group were up to date with cases and concerns with SECAMB have been resolved.</p> <p>There is an ongoing issue with eCDOP currently as Kent Police have not been using the system as much as expected. Andrew Scott Clark confirmed that he has a meeting with Detective Superintendent Susie Harper to discuss this.</p> <p>Andrew Scott Clark confirmed that an eCDOP webinar took place today with 45 other local authority representatives in attendance who have all expressed interest in both eCDOP and eCR.</p> <p>Andrew Scott Clark confirmed that Kent had seen a recent spike in adolescent suicides. Kent generally experiences two or three a year, however, CDOP has received four since June and three of those took place in September.</p>

Andrew Scott Clark confirmed that work is taking place with a suicide prevention group that includes the whole population and work is ongoing to ensure Kent has an action plan that is detailed around children. The work that has happened so far would suggest that the three are not linked and they are not linked to any of the others.

Risks, Threats and Vulnerabilities (RTV) Group

Nick Wilkinson presented this item. He confirmed that the group has a wide remit and therefore, although the group is larger, the membership could be even larger, therefore, it is incumbent that attendees cascade information. It is a positive meeting and attendance and engagement is strong.

The RTV group is a joint children and adults group; standing items on the agenda are topics such as prevent, human trafficking and modern slavery, online safeguarding and missing children.

Nick Wilkinson explained that often the group will receive presentations on a number of key issues, such as on sextortion and the Immigration Enforcement Team. The group is due to receive a presentation on the 'dark web' at the next meeting.

Nick Wilkinson confirmed that the Online Safeguarding group reports into both the Education and Early Help and RTV groups, however, he raised concerns that it is taking a long time for staff to sign up to attending the group and representing their agency.

Case Review Group

Mark Janaway presented this item.

Mark Janaway agreed to provide an anonymised update sheet for all current case and serious case reviews (SCR). Both Child B and Child C SCR's have been published.

The Child D Panel met last week and are hoping to submit a final draft to the Case Review Group this week ahead of the extraordinary Case Review Group meeting on the 11th October. The extraordinary Board meeting to discuss this SCR has been scheduled for the 23rd October.

Following the last Board meeting on the 2nd August, there was a discussion about whether Child E met the criteria for a SCR. Gill Rigg has requested feedback from the Board, Case Review Group and the Child E Panel. Gill Rigg commented that in this case, what was thought at the beginning is different to what we learned at the end, it has been difficult to obtain a consensus and Working Together is loose on its interpretation. Gill Rigg noted that the Board will need to lobby for a clearer definition in the next iteration of Working Together when it is published for consultation and confirmed that she hoped to make a decision on Child E this week.

Charles Unter noted that whatever the final decision is to be, the learning from Child E is still important and needs to be shared and cascaded to all staff. Mark Janaway confirmed that regardless of the decision, the final report would still be published on the KSCB website.

Mark Janaway discussed the Child F and G SCR's. The deadline for agency reports was Monday 2nd October. Both reviews have practitioners' learning events taking place in the next few weeks. Identified issues will be discussed at these events and from this; the writing of the final reports will take place. A discussion took place regarding the publication date for Child F and Mark Janaway confirmed that the review is currently not at a position to know when the report will be published, however, Child D and E will be published before then.

Quality and Effectiveness Group

Stuart Collins provided an update on the recent activity of the Quality and Effectiveness (QE) group. The group has been reviewing the audit process and have noted that the last five or six audits have tended to focus on either EHM or Liberi as the main providers of information. Stuart Collins noted that the audit findings show a number of

	<p>themes. He has spoken to colleagues in the QE group about how we get assurance that the themes are being actioned by partner agencies.</p> <p>Stuart Collins confirmed that as part of the regular updates to the group, there are single agency update reports; the group are looking at how we change the way the information is reported in to see if we can improve the inter-agency sharing of information and responding to the recommendations from serious case reviews, including the findings of the national SCR's.</p>
5.	<p>Business Group Update</p> <p>Mark Janaway confirmed that the Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) group has a new chair, DCI Lee Whitehead, as the previous chair, DCI Angie Chapman has moved to a new role as part of the Kent Police Change Programme.</p> <p>The KSCB Business Unit has now developed eCDOP, eCR and eINTEL. eINTEL is a similar portal for CSE Intelligence notifications in the CSET team. Mark Janaway has undertaken work with CSET to set up their receiving system; instead of the current paper system through the KSCB website, people fill in the form online, download and save and submit directly and securely to CSET. The sender receives an acknowledgement and CSET receives an alert and can pick up and triage the intelligence. The system allows for the cutting and pasting of information, the downloading of documents and the system can highlight repeat items in selected fields. Mark Janaway confirmed that he is meeting with CSET on Friday to set them up as users. The KSCB Business Unit will do a wider launch of the online portal.</p>
6.	<p>Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) Annual Report</p> <p>Becky Cooper presented this item.</p> <p>Gill Rigg noted that she found the report to be useful and Board members confirmed that they had read the report.</p> <p>Becky Cooper commented that many of the statistics within the report speak for themselves. One of the highlights is the South and East regions of the county continue to provide the LADO team with the majority of their work. Becky Cooper noted that some of this is due to the high levels of Independent Fostering Agency's (IFA) and residential Children's homes in that part of the county. Becky Cooper attended an independent fostering association forum last week that was referring to the benefits of IFA's but this in turn impacts the team.</p> <p>Becky Cooper wished to take an opportunity to reflect on the wider safeguarding activity that the LADO team has sought to promote. As a result of approximately 2000 referrals, 60 people were removed from working with children and 30 were referred to the Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS).</p> <p>The wider role of the LADO team is beyond allegations; over the last year there have been opportunities to provide training through KSCB in the form of quarterly training sessions on allegations and the role of LADO. This training is available to anyone who works with children and it is an important part of getting the message and role of the LADO service out to staff in Kent. The timetable of training is available to SCS district teams and has been helpful in getting the message of the team out into the wider workforce but there is still work to be done, even within KCC. The team are keen to promote and infuse positive links across the districts and raise awareness of the LADO role and the need for the team to be involved at every point.</p> <p>The LADO team deliver training to all fostering teams across Kent; therefore, it is not unsurprising that this has seen an increase of 119% referrals into the team against KCC foster carers. This increase is concerning, but it also highlights that the reporting system has been improved. Becky Cooper felt that the LADO service can become more reassured that issues are not slipping through the net and they are receiving the appropriate referrals.</p> <p>Substantial work has taken place around agency nurses and the use of physical interventions when dealing with</p>

	<p>the most distressed and vulnerable people in Kent. Becky Cooper met with the nurses from a Kent Hospital to look at trends, themes and recommendations from the recent Care Quality Commission (CQC) inspection in order to put forward recommendations for the hospital safeguarding team. Becky Cooper confirmed that once there is a full team in December 2017 there will be more opportunities to provide this level of service.</p> <p>Gill Rigg commented that the report demonstrates a significant amount of work that has been undertaken and is reassured by its contents. Gill Rigg noticed that Specialist Children's Services (SCS) seemed to understand the role of the LADO team less well than expected. Becky Cooper confirmed that training is being implemented across the districts and that historically, there has been misunderstanding about the role and where it fits into the referral system. The training is designed to enable staff to understand why the LADO need to be involved.</p> <p>Becky Cooper confirmed that the LADO are beginning to chair their own strategy discussions for select cases, but because many children are placed from outside Kent, the strategy discussions are sent to districts, yet the districts are not involved in the cases and therefore do not have a lot of investment. The LADO hope to begin chairing outcome strategy meetings in January to oversee that work so it does not go out to the districts where they are not allocated cases.</p> <p>Andrew Ireland discussed the issues of trying to get Ofsted to be clear about the role of the LADO. It has been necessary to make sure that staff across the service are clear on what the LADO does. Andrew Ireland queried how much activity is taking place and whether we are confident that processes for cases known to the LADO team to then be referred by agencies to their regulatory bodies is happening as they should be. Becky Cooper commented that it is about ensuring that the LADO team see cases through to the final outcomes and that the LADO advice is always to tell the regulatory body and DBS if a member of staff is fired or resigns.</p> <p>Alison Broom discussed the voluntary sector and queried that the remit is broader than residential care. Becky Cooper confirmed that the LADO team work with all regulatory bodies; however, unfortunately there are a number of sports that do not have to be regulated. If an agency has a member of staff within that organisation who professionals are concerned about, it is difficult to progress if there is not enough information for a criminal investigation. Alison Broom queried how well known it is that there is a channel of reporting. Becky Cooper confirmed that her team are still trying to work closer with many of the voluntary organisations engaged across the county.</p> <p>Andrew Ireland noted that the residential sector and IFA's do not share the Authorities concerns about the numbers of children in care from outside the County and there is no meeting of minds about the sufficiency issue of services available.</p>
7.	<p>Private Fostering Annual Report</p> <p>Gill Rigg commended Sophie Baker for her report and commented that she found it helpful.</p> <p>Sophie Baker provided an overview of private fostering which is arrangement where a child or young person is looked after someone for 28 days or more who is not a family member.</p> <p>Sophie Baker noted that there are two separate parts of her role in private fostering. One is in raising awareness of private fostering through different websites, such as KELSI (an online resource for educational professionals in Kent) and KNET (Kent County Council's intranet) through activity during the Private Fostering awareness week. It is hoped that SCS will see an increase in numbers of notification rates due to this awareness raising.</p> <p>Sophie Baker confirmed that schools send the highest amount of private fostering notifications and Sophie is working on increasing positive relations with language schools and raising awareness within the host family population who can sometimes be surprised about the in-depth questions from social workers</p> <p>Sophie Baker discussed the inspection from Ofsted in early 2017. The quality of assessments undertaken was discussed and they undertook an audit of all children in placement. The annual report details what areas are</p>

working well in the team and what areas they are worried about and need to develop in the future. Sophie Baker discussed the complicating factors identified in the report and noted that she reviewed how private fostering arrangements are allocated across social workers in Kent. Private fostering assessments are now allocated as they would be for any child, this is moving away from there being a specific sense of expertise and instead identifying that we are assessing the needs of children regardless of circumstance.

Sophie Baker confirmed that she is bringing the private fostering audit in line with the online audit process. The procedure for the audit has been updated and it has brought it back to basics when considering regulations and requirements. Sophie Baker confirmed that there is a continuing issue of raising awareness and more SCS staff are attending the private fostering need to know sessions. More general private fostering workshops are being held for all SCS staff.

Charles Unter noted that when Ofsted inspected the service there were three good cases identified from the 25 audited. Sophie Baker confirmed that the remaining cases required improvement to be good as there were issues that were identified. Sophie Baker confirmed that she is designing an online short course that staff can access on allocation of a private fostering case to refresh their knowledge. Sophie Baker confirmed that the monthly audit process for private fostering has been agreed and that it will open up wider questions within the current audit tool when it is a privately fostered case.

Charles Unter discussed the regulation 8 visits. Sophie Baker confirmed that they are different from an initial assessment. A social worker will undertake an initial assessment to ensure that the placement is adequate, once the child is in a private fostering placement the visits are called regulation 8 visits, initially these happen once a week then they move to every six weeks.

Andrew Scott-Clark queried what health assessments privately fostered children receive as the lifestyle choices of the parents or host parents may impact on the health of the child. Sophie Baker confirmed that there are no specific requirements for private fostering foster carers, unlike in SCS fostering arrangements. Sophie Baker confirmed that as professionals, when they talk about private fostering placements there is an acknowledgment that the care is not always to the level of care an SCS foster carer would provide or that we would expect. Often workers can be faced with a private fostering arrangement they do not deem to be excellent but they have to weigh this up in consideration with the possibility of a young person becoming homeless.

Alison Brett queried whether GPs sufficiently respond to requests for information? Sophie Baker confirmed that they do, however, she feels the service needs to be specific about why they need the information from GPs so they can be clear on what they need to provide. Sophie Baker discussed the issue with GPs charging for this information as the numbers fluctuate depending on the practice and it does not come under the statutory requirement to provide the information for free. Sophie Baker confirmed that she emailed James Fallon from NHS England to raise this with him but did not receive a response. The service also pays for the DBS checks for the foster carers as not all the language schools or host families have a regulatory body, therefore, DBS checks are completed for all those in the homes aged 16 or older. Alison Brett agreed to raise this as an issue at the Health Safeguarding Group.

Andrew Ireland commented that there is a need to be mindful that private fostering situations can be some of the most risky because the parents, who may have their own issues, are making decisions not always in the best of circumstances. The parents can be living with a certain level of risk and often are not able to become involved in the situation. Sophie Baker agreed and noted that professionals need to consider whether the arrangement was made in crisis as they have no one else to rely on or whether the parent genuinely feels confident in the level of care being provided.

Alison Brett queried whether privately fostered children were subject to the annual Looked After Children (LAC) health assessments. Sophie Baker confirmed that the information from the GP is often about the carer and the child's health info is from the parents. Sophie Baker confirmed that she does inform the GP that the child is privately fostered and noted that the expectation is that the parent has a level of oversight so they can appropriately use their parental responsibility. Andrew Scott Clark discussed the issue of organised collusion and Sophie Baker confirmed that trafficking and domestic servitude are part of the assessment.

	<p><u>Actions</u> 7.1 – Alison Brett to discuss GP charges in privately fostered cases at the next Health Safeguarding Group meeting and to feedback to the next Board meeting.</p>
8.	<p>Prevent Update</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson presented this item. He confirmed that a number of national reviews have taken place.</p> <p>In November/December 2017, it is likely there will be a new bill published that addresses counter terrorism powers for internet service providers and other agencies. It will expand on the current number of specified authorities to potentially include agencies such as fire and rescue, housing providers and GPs.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson discussed the operational improvement review from the Home Office and reported the numbers of subjects of interest who sit as a residual threat. As part of this review there will be a regional power (similar to the Channel/Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) process that will look at these individuals. MI5 and the Home Office are looking to manage this and there is currently no idea of the numbers in Kent. There are certain sensitivities regarding how partners working in the field will share information with each other.</p> <p>The revised Contest Strategy will be published in spring next year, this increases the responsibilities and legislation.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson confirmed that a letter is expected that will discuss the return of children to Syria and Iraq from the UK. It was confirmed that Prevent guidance is being provided to Members in December and noted that in a recent speech by the Home Secretary the importance of Prevent was discussed.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson noted that it is a duty under the counter terrorism security act to prevent people being drawn into terrorism. Part of the process is the package the police produce (profile) which has a limited briefing; this is then shared by Nick Wilkinson with a range of strategic bodies and Boards who then cascade the wider understanding.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson provided an update on the statistical data relating to Prevent and the current evolving threats. Kent's position with migration and recent arrests were also discussed. As part of this role Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children (UASC) are considered as a vulnerable group and National Counter Terrorism Policing is interested in what Kent are doing and key events happening in the county such as demonstrations by certain groups, some of which can cross over into criminal and extremist acts.</p> <p>Tom Richards commented that the UASC issues are distinct and that it is particularly busy in Kent due to the proximity to Europe. Kent Police are working hard to make sure that all partners are complying with their duty and those at risk or involved with CSE and gangs are also more likely to be at risk of radicalisation. All agencies have a shared duty to recognise and refer in these cases.</p> <p>Andrew Ireland noted that Kent has a large UASC and care leaver population and, to further complicate this issue, other local authorities also place children and young people in Kent.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson discussed the Dovetail and Channel panel and commented on the excellent referrals received, however, some referrals are not being received from specific agencies and therefore we must consider how embedded the process is within those agencies. Nick Wilkinson queried whether the training is robust enough or whether there are thresholds in organisations that are stopping referrals coming in.</p> <p>Nick Wilkinson confirmed that there is good engagement with KSCB and noted that focus is needed on keeping Prevent in the minds of professionals. Nick Wilkinson confirmed that he can provide an anonymised briefing to the board that provides a page of key facts.</p> <p><u>Actions</u> 8.1 –Nick Wilkinson to provide Sarah Nichols with the anonymised briefing for circulation.</p>

9. Disabled Children Update

Mark Walker and Penny Southern presented this item, below is their presentation:



KSCB Disabled
Children for Oct 4th 2

Mark Walker discussed the KSCB draft Business Plan and confirmed that they advised Mark Janaway on the disabled children item within the plan.

Mark Walker discussed the Disabled Children Service and noted that disabled children in Kent are a changing demographic as more children and young people are being seen on the autistic spectrum. More children and young people with complex needs are living longer and most live with their families. It was noted that disabled children are more vulnerable to abuse than the general population and that neglect and complex health needs can be linked. Mark Walker discussed the fallacy that disabilities protect individuals from mental and physical abuse.

In Kent the majority of disabled children are not known to SCS or disabled children teams and only 1200 of the most disabled are known.

The team are dealing with a small cohort of children; therefore, there must statistically be a large group of disabled children within SCS. Stuart Collins confirmed that he has been discussing this with Penny Southern and Sarah Hammond in order to join up this work.

Sarah Hammond confirmed that there are large numbers of children with a disability that will be open as Children in Need (CIN) or Child Protection (CP) plans within SCS and another large group who do not reach the CIN or CP threshold but are known to Early Help or education. There is a gradient of need within this special cohort of children, the disability need may be under the Disabled Children Team threshold, but the child may be within a foster placement or child protection placement.

Gill Rigg queried whether Health colleagues could assist in mapping? Alison Brett responded that it depends on what services the children and young people are accessing such as Health Visitors, GP's, acute hospitals and special schools. Most of the health colleagues would be good at identifying safeguarding within this group but training is always helpful in assisting with this. Mark Walker confirmed that mapping the figures would be helpful as the service is not aware of the scale of the numbers in Kent.

Alison Mendes confirmed that from the perspective of an acute trust it is difficult to map as the child is not necessarily an obviously disabled child.

Andrew Ireland discussed that there are possibly two fundamental issues; the first is about reassurance, does the Board have assurance that the professionals seeing the children are able to use and are using the same thresholds? Professionals are clear about being able to seek protection where real issues have been identified and set in place CIN or CP Plans in the same way and to the same threshold. In cases of disabled children, there are often other complex needs such as medical or educational needs to plan for. If a child is at a significant level of risk over and above the other issues, do we have sufficient reassurance practitioners can deal with this. Furthermore are we sufficiently robust in our practice and providing appropriate support for families' and practitioners.

As this is an issue that cuts across many of the KSCB sub groups, it was agreed to discuss this issue at the next Business Group meeting and see how the groups can respond. Penny Southern urged groups to consider the voice of the disabled child in their responses. Mark Janaway confirmed that KSCB and the Disabled Children Team are developing multi-agency training to increase staff knowledge.

Actions

9.1 – Mark Janaway to raise the issue of disabled children in Kent at the next Business Group meeting.

10.	<p>Strategic Group Update</p> <p>Domestic Abuse Strategy Group</p> <p>Tom Richards provided an update on behalf of Tony Blaker.</p> <p>Tom Richards reported that Tony Blaker is currently reviewing and reformatting the group. It will now be an executive group, focusing on domestic and sexual abuse with invitations being sent to the proposed members. Tom Richards reported that the combined focus is due to the high proportion of rapes taking place as part of wider domestic abuse and there are often complex issues around coercion and control.</p> <p>Tom Richards confirmed that Kent Police were recruiting a Detective Chief Inspector to specialise on domestic abuse and it is hoped this post will be filled quickly. The new Kent Police model was launched on the 12th September 2017 and there are now 700 more dedicated investigators in vulnerability fields.</p> <p>Tom Richards confirmed that the Kent Police enhanced responsibilities are up and running in the Central Referral Unit (CRU) and Officers are identifying vulnerabilities at an earlier stage. There is now a 24/7 domestic abuse advice line so frontline officers can request advice whilst on the scene.</p> <p>Tom Richards confirmed that a post implementation review will be undertaken in due course and noted that Kent Police will welcome feedback from partners.</p>
11.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>Alison Brett queried when the next KSCB Annual Conference would take place. Mark Janaway confirmed that there would not be an annual conference and the KSCB Business Unit were planning smaller, more focused conferences such as the neglect conference and SCR workshops.</p> <p>Mark Janaway discussed a recent article that reported that it was the responsibility of Local Safeguarding Children Boards to see assurance on safety in high rise properties following the fire at Grenfell Tower. Roger Gough confirmed that assurance could be sought from the Kent Resilience Forum as they are looking at this issue already and agreed to bring an update to the next meeting.</p> <p><u>Actions</u></p> <p>11.1 – Roger Gough to seek assurance from the Kent Resilience Forum on safety checks in high rise buildings and report back to the next Board meeting.</p>

Future Board Meetings:		
06 December 2017	14:00 - 17:00	Medway Room, Sessions House