



Welcome to the KSCB newsletter

The Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board was created on 1 April 2006 in response to requirements set out in the Children Act 2004. The Act places a statutory duty on Safeguarding Children Boards to coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of arrangements of member agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in their local area. The Board replaced the former Kirklees Area Child Protection Committee which did not have a statutory footing.

Agency representatives on the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board are designated senior strategic managers who can:

- speak for their organisation with authority
- commit their organisation on policy and practice matters, and
- hold their organisation to account.

The agencies represented on the Board are:

- Kirklees Council
- West Yorkshire Probation
- West Yorkshire Police
- National Health Service
- NSPCC
- Children & Family Court Advisory and Support Service (CAFCASS)
- Kirklees Children’s Voluntary Action Network

A list of current Board members can be found on our website at www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com and future newsletters will introduce member profiles.

The aim of the newsletter is to keep everyone up to date with what is happening with local and national safeguarding issues and to draw attention to specific news items on the Board’s website.

We would be pleased to hear your views on this newsletter and any ideas for future issues.

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‘Working Together to Safeguard Children’



Message from the Chair of the Safeguarding Board - Alison O'Sullivan

All agencies working with children need to embrace the statement made by Lord Laming:

The support and protection of children cannot be achieved by a single agency....Every service has to play its part. All staff must have placed upon them the clear expectation that their primary responsibility is to the child and his or her family (Victoria Climbié Inquiry 2003).



The aim of the Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board is to achieve effective working together for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children for whom we have responsibility.

As Chair I would acknowledge the importance of the work you are all doing and encourage you to develop in your practice together knowing that it is the quality of individual practice which makes the difference. The Safeguarding Children Board provides the statutory framework for your practice and personal development.

In September last year we were very pleased to welcome Pauline Martin as Safeguarding Board Manager. Pauline oversees and coordinates the operational and strategic responsibilities of the Board ensuring objectives are achieved. She has a lead role in ensuring the Board develops policies and procedures for safeguarding and provides professional guidance with regard to local and national initiatives concerning safeguarding children.

This Newsletter will be one way that the Safeguarding Children Board will disseminate information on significant events, developments and changes about safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of children. Please share this Newsletter with your colleagues.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Alison O'Sullivan". The script is cursive and fluid.

Alison O'Sullivan
Director for Children and Young People

Kirklees Safeguarding Children Board
8th Floor, Oldgate House,
2 Oldgate, Huddersfield, HD1 6QF

Tel. 01484 225161
Email: KSCB Admin@kirklees.gov.uk

Introducing Pauline Martin - Safeguarding Board Manager



Pauline was appointed to the post of Safeguarding Board Manager in September 2007. She moved from the North Yorkshire Safeguarding Children Board where she gained expertise in the safeguarding agenda. Pauline began her career as a social worker in Bradford before moving to Kirklees working in a variety of posts, including child protection training officer, team manager and unit manager for children and families.

Pauline commented: "I am really pleased to be back in Kirklees. It's good to see some familiar faces but it's exciting to be working with some new and different people. I really believe in agencies working together and I hope I can contribute to the development of this type of multi-agency work in Kirklees."

Paul Johnson, Head of Safeguarding and Specialist Provision said: "The knowledge and experience which Pauline brings to the organisation, having recently occupied a similar role in another authority, will be of great help to us."

Pauline will be assisting the Safeguarding Children Board in developing its broader remit within the context of the "Every Child Matters" agenda.

Pauline can be contacted on 01484 225161 or by email to pauline.martin@kirklees.gov.uk

Children's names on the Child Protection Register

From 1st April 2008 children's names are no longer recorded on the Child Protection Register. From this date a child protection conference may make a decision that a child or children will be the **subject of a Child Protection Plan**. The term 'Child Protection Register' and associated terms such as 'Register Custodian' are no longer in use.

However, the actual process of managing cases remains the same with child protection conferences, child protection plans, core groups, review conferences etc., all continuing as before.

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Kirklees Safeguarding Children Procedures

Kirklees has joined with colleagues in Leeds, Calderdale and Wakefield to develop joint procedures for the Local Safeguarding Children Boards in these areas. This means that West Yorkshire agencies such as the Police and Probation no longer have to work to different local procedures.

The procedures are electronic and can be found at: www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com
All agencies with any safeguarding concerns or involvement in any child protection issues must refer to and follow these procedures.

Please ensure that you familiarise yourselves with the Safeguarding Children Procedures. You will find a lot of helpful information on children in specific circumstances, for example, abuse of disabled children, bullying, children moving across boundaries, considerations where parents have mental health problems or learning disabilities, and what needs to be considered when there are drug, alcohol or domestic violence issues in families.

Please note that copies of ACPC Child Protection Procedures are now out of date and obsolete.

Inter-Agency Training & Development

The Safeguarding Board offers a wide range of multi-agency training from essential basic principles to advanced courses for more experienced practitioners.

All course information can be accessed at www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com and all courses can be booked online.

We run an online interactive 'Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect' course which is essential as a baseline for anyone working with children and young people. Go to the website and click on the link E-Learning application form - APPLY NOW.

MAKE OUR WEBSITE YOUR FAVOURITE!

For all your safeguarding information go to www.kirkleessafeguardingchildren.com

The website contains information about the Safeguarding Children Board partner agencies that make up the Safeguarding Children Board. You will also find pages specifically for children and young people, parents and carers, and guidance on what to do if you are concerned about children.

Professionals can find the Safeguarding Children Procedures, up to date Government guidance and useful links to a range of safeguarding information.

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Duty to Safeguard and Promote the Welfare of Children

This means:

- protecting children from maltreatment
- preventing impairment of children's health or development
- ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
- undertaking that role so as to enable those children to have optimum life chances and to enter adulthood successfully.

Each agency has different contributions to make towards safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children depending on the various functions for which they have responsibility, however all agencies need to create and maintain an organisational culture and ethos that reflects the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.

For further information see *Statutory guidance on making arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children under section 11 of the Children Act 2004* (DfES 2007). Download from: www.everychildmatters.gov.uk/safeguarding

Safeguarding Children Board - in the office

Pauline Martin, Safeguarding Board Manager 01484 225161
pauline.martin@kirklees.gov.uk

Diana Flooks, Admin & Information Officer 01484 225161
diana.flooks@kirklees.gov.uk

Adele Gladman, Training & Development Officer 01924 483757
adele.gladman@kirklees.gov.uk

Jane McGill, Training & Development Officer 01924 483757
jane.mcgill@kirklees.gov.uk

Adam Bell, Admin Assistant, Training & Development 01924 482161
adam.bell@kirklees.gov.uk

Please ring if you have any questions about the work of the Safeguarding Board or any queries about safeguarding training.



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