



**Report to Bucks Health +  
Well-being Board  
7 December 2017**

**Fran Gosling-Thomas: Independent Chair**

# Introduction

- Role + responsibilities of the LSCB
- Membership + sub-groups
- Health + Social Care Act
- Summarise the key priorities + achievements during 2016/17 (in BSCB Annual Report)
- What we are now doing well
- Areas for improvement

# Role + Responsibilities of the LSCB

- Since 2004 and until recently, all LA areas required to establish a LSCB. Which is:
- a multi-agency partnership responsible for co-ordinating local arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; and
- Ensuring that these arrangements are effective (via data, audits, surveys, reports)
- Particular focus on the effectiveness of Early Help services across the partnership

# Role + Responsibilities of the LSCB ctd...

- Developing shared policies + procedures for safeguarding
- Raising awareness within communities of their responsibilities to safeguard children
- Monitoring + evaluating the effectiveness of the Board + the partners to safeguard children
- Undertaking reviews of serious cases and child deaths and advising the LA + partners on the lessons to be learnt

# Health + Social Care Act (HSCA)

- Greater freedom + flexibility about local arrangements
- Key partners (LA, Police and Health) will need to consult and agree
- Learning from other areas/models
- Board has reviewed annually its own impact and performance
- Agreed to focus on sustaining + extending improvement in services + local arrangements, at least until after Ofsted
- Working Together Guidance out for consultation
- Opportunities to rationalise + sharpen partnership working

# Top Priorities 2017/18:

- Early Help, Thresholds particularly Neglect
- Child Exploitation
- Child's Voice and Journey
- Workforce
- Impact + effectiveness of the BSCB Board

## But also work on....

- Escalation
- Pre-birth assessment
- Fabricated + induced illness
- FGM
- E-safety
- Disguised compliance
- Prevent
- Child Protection Core Groups
- Domestic Abuse
- Children placed out of county
- Involving parents
- Escalation of concerns
- Health of Looked After Children
- Launched new BSCB website, CYP's zone
- Updating policies + procedures

# Achievements: Early Help, Thresholds + Neglect

- ✓ Good external validation of threshold awareness
- ✓ Partnership contribution to Early Help Panels
- ✓ 934 staff attended multi-agency training
- ✓ Early help assessment tool for working with families
- ✓ Positive user feedback about impact for them
- ✓ Briefing sessions to raise awareness on neglect
- ✓ Neglect strategy + action plan



# Workforce:

- ✓ Improving agency understanding of LADO
- ✓ Monitoring capacity at front line across services
- ✓ Ensuring domestic abuse notifications are shared with schools
- ✓ Improving LADO + IRO service
- ✓ Safer recruitment training + toolkit
- ✓ Multi-agency training well regarded, impact evaluation in place

# Child's Voice + Journey

- ✓ Referrals to Early help appropriate
- ✓ Reduction in repeat Child protection Plans
- ✓ Improved attendance of partners at CP Conferences
- ✓ Strengthening Families framework
- ✓ Involvement of Youth voice
- ✓ Young People's zone in re-vamped BSCB website
- ✓ E-safety conferences with schools
- ✓ Audit reports include voice of child as standard
- ✓ Work with victims/survivors

# Child Exploitation:

- ✓ 7,000 pupils seen 'Chelsea's Choice' performance
- ✓ Serious Case Review of CSE
- ✓ Work with parents (PACE)
- ✓ CSE awareness raising at school Parents Evenings
- ✓ Awareness campaigns
- ✓ Exploitation and transition to Adults Services
- ✓ Training for taxi + school transport drivers
- ✓ R U Safe + Swan Unit services
- ✓ Reduction in missing episodes

# What is Working Well:

- ✓ Multi-agency training
- ✓ Increase in challenge + transparency
- ✓ Partnership engagement + accountability
- ✓ Vision + priorities
- ✓ Governance + sub-groups driving the work
- ✓ Distance travelled, need to maintain momentum for sustainable change
- ✓ Collective ownership of risks/issues
- ✓ Strong collaborative action
- ✓ Performance data + quality multi-agency audits
- ✓ Board infrastructure

# Areas of improvement:

- Re-referrals to children's social care
- Parents getting to view CP reports
- Ensuring all schools receive DV notifications
- Capacity + resilience of MASH
- Need stronger focus on Neglect
- Updated Domestic Violence Strategy

# Next steps

- Need to retain scrutiny + oversight of multi-agency working in any new arrangements
- Importance of independent element/lay input
- Maintaining focus on core safeguarding work
- Shrinking resources
- Differing Government Dept agendas
- Changing health landscape
- Not losing local footprint/focus