

## SSCP Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

**Time:** 1pm- 4pm

**Chair:** Charlotte Ramsden, Strategic Director, Salford City Council: People Directorate

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams

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### **1. Welcome and apologies Lead: Chair**

#### Attended by:

Charlotte Ramsden (Chair)	Strategic Director, People / Salford City Council: People
Vivienne Bentley (Minutes)	Senior Business Support Officer / Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership
Karen Armfield	Head Teacher / Boothstown Methodist Primary
Deborah Blackburn	Assistant Director: Public Health Nursing / Public Health
Zoe Fearon	Assistant Director, Children's Social Care / Salford City Council: People
Emma Ford	Head of Safeguarding Children / Salford City Council: People
Clare Kelly	Assistant Director of Nursing – Safeguarding / Salford Royal Foundation Trust (SRFT)
Chris Packer	Detective Superintendent (Cluster Vulnerability) / GMP
Andy Roberts	Assistant Chief Officer / National Probation Service
Tim Rumley	Children's Services Senior Manager / Salford City Council: People (Item 10c only)
Tiffany Slack	Business Manager / Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership
Francine Thorpe	Director of Quality & Innovation / NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group
Michelle Warburton	Voice and Influence Manager / Salford Community & Voluntary Services
Simon Westwood	Independent Adviser

#### Apologies:

Jane Bowmer	Business Manager / Salford Safeguarding Adult Board
Danielle Buckley	Community Director for Salford and Trafford / Cheshire and Greater Manchester Community Rehabilitation Company
Hannah Clegg	Senior Communications Officer / Salford City Council: Service Reform
Kalpesh Dixit	Designated Doctor (Safeguarding Children) / NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group
Nicola Dugdale	Deputy Designated Nurse: Safeguarding Children & Looked After Children / NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group
Simon Featherstone	Director of Nursing / Salford Royal Foundation Trust (SRFT)
Simon Grant	Lay Member / Community
Vicky Pemberton	Senior Communications Officer / Salford City Council: Service Reform

**2. 7-Minute Briefing: [Learning from Lockdown](#) Lead: Emma Ford Paper/Presentation: Paper**

Ms Ford presented the 7-Minute Briefing titled “Learning from Lockdown” which was published on the SSCP website.

**Q: How will we use the lessons learned from lockdown in practice going forward?**

A: Salford CSD are working with Research In Practice (RiP) to use the practice that has worked well during lockdown and improve communication; it is planned to use a blended approach going forward and the Safeguarding Effectiveness(SEG) will also be important to ensure learning is taken forward and face-face contacts continue. This work will feed into RiP and the learning from RiP will be brought back to SSCP and Salford CSSD.

**3. SSCP Minutes (21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020) Lead: Chair Paper/Presentation: Paper**

The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> December 2020.

Matters arising

- Ms Blackburn updated that the CDOP paper has been drafted and will be available to SSCP members ahead of the next SSCP.
- Ms Slack informed that going forward all sub-groups will report to SOG instead of SSCP; this will reduce the amount of papers for SSCP meetings.

**4. SSCP Action Log (21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2020) Lead: Chair Paper/Presentation: Paper**

The action log was reviewed and updated at the meeting.

**5. SSCP Actions from:**

**a. SSCP Executive (21<sup>st</sup> Jan 2021) Lead: Francine Thorpe**

- The 7-Minute briefing was well received
- MASA Peer review findings were discussed; the Executive asked how the action plan would be developed and overseen.
- Received a presentation from Rachael Harrison on the GMP action plan following the inspection report published regarding victims of crime. The Executive asked that when local information and audits are available; we receive that information from GMP.
- Received an updated on CDOP arrangements
- Discussed future arrangements for CCGs
- Covid 19 update
- The DfE bid was discussed; since the Executive we have received confirmation that this bid was successful.

**Actions agreed:**

1) Mr Packer informed that Work is in place to audit each incident and ensure the relevant crimes are recorded and considered; initially looking at DA incidents and will discuss with Glen Jones, District Commander what can be shared with SSCP from the audits which are happening on a weekly basis.

b. **Safeguarding Operational Group (1<sup>st</sup> Feb 2021)** Lead: Zoe Fearon Paper/Presentation: Paper

Ms Fearon updated the SSCP on the work of the Safeguarding Operational Group (SOG). The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> February 2021 were included in the papers for this meeting and Ms Fearon highlighted the following points:

- SOG considered the findings from the MASA review, and statutory partners have met subsequently to develop the action plan.
- The DfE bid was successful and this will be used for a participation lead for Education
- Paperwork for meetings has been considered and SOG are reviewing the summaries received from sub-groups.
- A separate meeting will be held to consider a development session for SOG; to consider what the group want to achieve. SOG needs to ensure the work of SSCP is functioning.
- SOG looked at the sub-group workplans.
- The Bridge Oversight Group and governance of The Bridge was discussed.
- The Deputy Chair role was discussed as Andrea Patel was deputy chair for SOG; since the meeting this was discussed with GMP and Gareth Jenkins has agreed to take on the role in the interim.

Ms Thorpe updated that CCG have recruited Diane Kinsella who is currently Designated Nurse in Blackpool to the Designated Nurse: Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children role and is expected to be in post in June 2021. Ms Thorpe thanked the SSCP partners for covering in the interim.

Ms Slack informed that the Independent Advisor's contract has been reviewed and agreed for 2021-22.

Training has been arranged and there is a healthy pool set up for Rapid Review and Practice Review Chairs.

## **6. How are we doing Q3 2020/21 Report Lead: Emma Ford**

Ms Ford presented the Quarter 3 "How are we doing?" report and highlighted the following points:

- Good evidence of multi-agency outcomes from single agency audits were included in the report.
- There was a decrease in numbers of children on CP plans; narrative was provided to SEG to explain the story behind this and they were assured of work in place to reduce the length of time on plans and work undertaken prior to ICPC to ensure the family are worked with before they are placed on a CP plan.

- The Neglect spotlight report was discussed, and challenge questions were provided to the author ahead of the report coming to SSCP. It was noted that spotlight reports need to include multi-agency information.
- S11 audit discussed; since the SOG meeting key agencies have attended a panel meeting to inform how they have taken forward the actions identified by their S11. This was a positive meeting and has helped to connect the work into the SSCP system.

Mr Westwood observed that the interaction between indicators, drop in plans, drop in repeat plans and small reduction in LAC figures is a good picture and positive.

Q: Ms Thorpe asked whether the comment on audit of CiN and work on implementation of thresholds, professional challenge and escalation needs to be taken forward in training programmes.

A: Ms Ford informed there is a lot of work ongoing on the need for partners to have healthy challenge in multi-agency forums for a family. This dovetails to the PRSG report and Workforce Development Subgroup have been tasked to lead on understanding how training around positive challenge and support is disseminated and ensuring training is disseminated and understood by practitioners. This has continued to be a theme in practice reviews although not as strong as previously. The PowerPoint will be shared affectively across agencies and teams. The learning has impacted SSCP training and it is asked that it is included on single agency training; SEG will look at what has been done by single agencies and identify if there is anything else the SSCP Business Unit can do to support.

Mr Westwood the way it is explained is important as the understanding and explanation of thresholds is critical; we have seen an increase in intervention around neglect which is positive and demonstrates that thresholds are working. The findings of the HMIP report noted thresholds and Salford is due an Ofsted inspection towards the end of this year and threshold was identified at the last inspection. It is important to be clear about the success of what we are doing and the system in place to challenge it. We need to consider how this is debated, discussed and recorded to indicate the success of the implementations in place and they way it is monitored.

Ms Ford thanked the partnership for their helpful feedback and informed that she is keen to bring partners on board to ensure we are doing the right thing at the right time for the family.

Ms Fearon commented that we are often critical of ourselves when something didn't happen; we need to communicate at CiN meetings that it must be the responsibility of the multi-agency group to escalate and challenge until the issue is resolved. Contact challenge meetings were introduced recently; these are multi-agency challenge discussions to indicate if the issues identified have been addressed correctly. When the CiN audit took place these meetings were not in place.

Q: Ms Ramsden noted that in September we discussed including partner performance information in this report, particularly from GMP and health and asked what the progress is with this and if health and GMP can inform partners how cases have been escalated. Agencies should look at CiN responses internally and share with SSCP the multi-agency response and report back their partnership findings.

A: Ms Thorpe informed that from a health perspective performance data is complicated. CCG commission rather than provide health service and we need to ensure the data we receive is

reflective. CCG is in the process of reviewing specifications for several health contracts and they need to check the data for reporting is included in the specifications. We need a targeted piece of work to review the data we have.

Ms Blackburn noted that reviewing the data systems and streamlining the ask to make it work would be helpful. Simon Featherstone is the single agency representative on this group and would welcome the opportunity to discuss this further with him.

Ms Fearon informed that the complex safeguarding subgroup had asked group to identify what was relevant data from the Local Authority team data available. This feedback came back and was found to be useful; this exercise could be replicated for other spotlight areas.

Mr Westwood advised that a clear focus was required and suggested that given the work on CiN, we know there is robust data on Domestic Abuse and Complex safeguarding; we have not got full understanding on how partners respond to CiN referrals. It was suggested to start by focussing on the neglect element of CiN to start a rolling process for different groups.

Mr Packer informed that GMP confidence in the system to share data has increased following the introduction of IOPS. We need to be clear about what information is required and would welcome a bespoke piece of work on specific areas; this would help with resource implications. Mr Packer is keen to support this work and ensure GMP contribute to the data.

Ms Ford commented that this discussion was helpful and reflected that it is difficult to know what the ask is on occasion. High support for the Chairs would be welcome if coordination is led by SSCP and the Business Unit the Chair would be able to lead the discussions. There is an opportunity to go back with a specific ask to all partners on the CiN data to inform what information is required from subgroups. It was also noted that Ms Slack leaves Salford on Friday and there will be a gap until the Business Manager post is refilled.

#### **Actions agreed:**

- 2) Ms Ford agreed to amend the report to demonstrate the successful work with identification of thresholds in Salford.
- 3) CCG and Ms Blackburn will review the performance data available for health and update at next meeting.
- 4) GMP will review the performance data available to support the SSCP performance report.
- 5) SEG will have a collective discussion about what information would evidence that multi-agency work is being undertaken.
- 6) Ms Ramsden will feedback to the SSCP Executive that there needs to be multi-agency ownership and commitment to streamline the request for data, making the request clear.

#### **7. SSCP Spotlight Theme**

- a. Priority 1: Neglect Lead: Debbie Blackburn Paper/Presentation: Paper

Ms Blackburn presented the Neglect Spotlight Report:

- The Neglect strategy was developed, and a needs assessment undertaken.
- The Thriving Families Tool was launched in September 2020.

- Over 350 staff have been trained on the use of the tool and working to implement use of the tool in practice.
- The focus of work is on early identification and to support families on a strengths-based voice of family and child way. Practitioners have found the tool a useful supervision tool; although they are not always using the tool in practice, they find it a helpful resource.
- Neglect impact support sessions have started to identify and resolve multi-agency issues and are used to share lessons learned from cases to change practice, using appreciative enquiry appropriately.
- Cath Connors from Welfare Rights is fully embedded in the implementation of the tool; this is important as poverty is often a contributory factor of neglect.
- Performance information is being reviewed; want to see an increase in referrals for neglect to demonstrate we are meeting the need and ensuring families do not get to higher thresholds; the aim is to embed this work into practice to ensure families are identified and worked with early.
- Trauma informed practice and restorative conferencing is in place; this look at safely de-planning cases of neglect.
- Over 400 practitioners have been trained on trauma informed approaches.
- Measurement is currently via The Bridge; looking at how to track use of the tool, where the tools have come from and at what stage they were used.
- Lindsay Barrett, Safeguarding Lead for Housing is doing a lot of training with housing providers, many have identified neglect as a need and concern.
- The Thriving Families Tool will be useful to some professionals for others it will be a prompt and not something they complete as part of their work with the family.
- School Safeguarding Leads are being trained on the tool via Elaine Boulger.
- CCG has included the neglect audit in Level 2 & 3 training and are reinforcing the importance of using the tool and submitting it as part of a referral to CSC.
- Early Help complete questionnaires with practitioners, parents and young people for all cases that have used the tool.
- Neglect impact meetings are held regularly, and things are taken forward from these meetings.

#### Identified Worries:

- Need to have the right performance indicators in place with realistic expectations to identify the difference the work is making.
- Setting up ongoing training sessions to support with implementation.
- Request support from SSCP to implement the use of the tool.

Mr Westwood commented that this report demonstrates a good piece of work overall and shows where SSCP is when dealing with neglect and Early Help is a core part of safeguarding in Salford. Mr Westwood advised splitting the Outcomes Framework into three sections to identify actions in priority order.

The report recognised the difference between poverty and neglect; not all frontline practitioners will have a clear understanding of the two issues. We need to consider how we can help a family to help their self.

The Ofsted report in 2018 identified neglect as an area for improvement; we need to ensure the story and narrative is right to reflect the improvements made.

The timescales for actions should be reviewed to ensure they are realistic; some actions will need more time allocated.

Ms Ford commented that the report is transparent, it is acknowledged that the tool is not being used as widely as it was hoped at this stage. This work is also about being proactive and having as impact on children. There is some detail around wider working which is not specific to neglect. The understanding of data and narrative will be built on and expect to see good impact when the tool is used. As a partnership we need to understand the impact; understand why some things have not been achieved, how are we holding agencies to account in multiagency meetings. We also need to celebrate when it has worked well and utilise good outcome reviews. The outcome of neglect impact meetings is important, and subgroups should have consistent expectations of the partnerships. This needs to be shared wider in the system and be owned and led at senior leadership level.

Ms Thorpe commented that the breadth of multiagency involvement is positive; there is a clear forward plan. There is fantastic work going on and this should be pulled out to promote the work in place to improve children's lives in Salford.

Ms Fearon noted this is a good report and demonstrates the strength of partnership working and asked how success is measured. Success may be a family going to legal planning and may be a step down. A critical issue identified was the delay in decision making; practice has changed and, in The Bridge, the first CiN meeting takes place within 4 weeks, this supports early identification and response when neglect is an issue for a family.

Q: Ms Armfield asked if there are any opportunities for education representatives to sit on the neglect group?

A: Ms Blackburn would welcome additional education representation on the sub-group, Karen Hamer is the only education representative on the group currently.

Ms Ramsden informed that Cathy Starbuck sends out schools briefings on a fortnightly basis and this can be used to share information with schools.

Ms Ramsden is interested to understand why tools are not being completed; Ofsted were critical of the drift and delay, the point of this work and the development and ownership of the tool was to remove wooliness and ensure clear thinking on issues to be addressed. Is the barrier that practitioners think it will take too long to complete, do they feel ill equipped or do they feel it is not their role to complete the tool? We need to be smart and identify who would be expected to complete the tool and consider what is feeding into the quality of referrals. A lot of work has taken place to improve the quality of referrals received from agencies.

The increase in CP plans that were in place for neglect and have ended and not come back demonstrates the impact of this work. We are better at asking the right questions now to receive better information. The quality of referrals is still variable, contact challenge meetings looks at the quality of referrals and feedback is given to agencies individually. Harriet Wall, The Bridge Manager provides quarterly oversight reports which are presented to The Bridge Oversight Group. In liquid

logic, looking at utilising the processes and forms; information received from Early Help colleagues, if referring for neglect concerns, will ask why the tool has not been used. This will be monitored going forward, currently the journey of the child can be evidenced and information is held on a single agency basis, it is expected that thematic information will also be available soon.

Ms Blackburn suggested that the tool may not be used because practitioners think it is like the GCP and should be completed in full; this is not the case. The messages that go out with the tool need to clarify the expectations. Some of the barriers are cultural, we need to break down barriers and provide clear assurance that it has been embedded and understand the barriers from a single agency perspective on the implementation.

Ms Fearon informed that a social worker has used the tool and feedback how much it helped with the work with the family; this social worker will go to team meetings and cascade this message. The use of champions to promote the benefits of using the tool will help to encourage use and embed the tool in practice.

Mr Westwood commented that this is a good political story; it can be used to illustrate how Salford is improving the work of families and the Press Office may support a message about improvements in Salford, using examples of how it has made a difference. A single page scenario of how we help children in Salford as a partnership could be powerful and would get across to the public. Clear mention of how the tool was developed and its purpose to help focus thinking, including the point about improving quality of referrals. It is important to understand why it is not used, and acknowledged that practitioners may be if think will give them more work.

Ms Blackburn informed that the group is trying to change the language used and asked if SSCP would be comfortable to remove the word neglect from the thriving families tool to change the narrative to focus on the point that it is about getting help for each other. Ms Ford commented that the perception is that tool is for social care; neglect is a word used in safeguarding.

Ms Armfield noted that there is some legacy about GCP, the ask was humongous at the time and consideration to dispel the myth and streamline the request is required.

Massive partnership work to take forward, energy and commitment in place. More work is required to develop smart actions to ensure people are doing thinking in right way and see the tool as an enabler that leads to clear understanding of the needs of the family and next steps. This is being monitored by what comes into The Bridge and social care actions but work to do with partners to understand how it is looked at outside children's social care.

Ms Blackburn will review the Outcomes Framework to determine what can be completed in 6 months-1 year and what can be moved to Phase 2 to streamline the framework.

Will collectively continue focus on how we measure the right outcomes, speedy responses and seeing this makes a difference to families and use of the tool is an enabler to this.

**Actions agreed:**



- 1) Ms Blackburn will send the workplan that was embedded in the Spotlight Report to Ms Thorpe.
- 2) Ms Blackburn will have a conversation with Rebecca Bibby to clarify the purpose of the tool and the Early Help Assessment which is based on the Family Partnership Model. This tool can be used before an Early Help assessment and practitioners only need to fill in the section, they are concerned about to provide information required for Early Help assessment. The conversation will clarify how the two fit together and consider communication messages and training.

## **8. Safeguarding strategic leadership in GM Integrated Care System Lead: Francine Thorpe**

Ms Thorpe informed that the NHS is undergoing a major restructure as part of this the CCGs will cease to exist, and their local responsibilities will be aggregated up to a GM level. Legislation regarding the statutory functions is due to go through parliament. CCGs are one of the three statutory partners for SSCP and it is anticipated these will transfer to a GM level.

This paper aims to identify how the CCG designated function would sit following the restructure; the statutory responsibility is likely to sit at a GM level, however as a system, the locality would continue to have primary responsibility of the safeguarding arrangements. It is likely that they will be employed at a GM level, with ownership at a locality level. The group looked at several options and recommended a preferred option, the paper was shared with GM leaders.

Ms Ramsden commented that the paper was written from a health governance view, is pleased that the focus of place for safeguarding is being reinforced and noted there is also WT governance, and this cannot conflict. It would be helpful to reference the WT statutory requirement in the document and informed that strategic directors have challenged the WT requirement nationally.

Q: Mr Westwood noted that WT will need to be re-written if local arrangements are being changed and asked if there is there a planned parliamentary timetable in place as a formal consultation process will need to take place because of the link to WT.

A: Ms Thorpe informed that a briefing session was held on Friday, a timetable will be issued in the next few weeks regarding taking it through parliament. It is expected that the changes will be implemented by April 2022. Ms Ramsden informed that the HR guidance for CCG is due out in April, it is thought there will be a second reading in May and the named people to run ICS likely to be identified in June.

Q: Mr Westwood asked if there is any suggestion of scope for different arrangements in different areas or is it expected there will be a single national model.

A: When the work started the group looked at other areas and their models. The models are broadly similar dependant on how they have aligned with the three statutory partners. In Salford, CCG invested significantly in safeguarding team, this is different in other areas. It has been flagged with Steve Dixon, Chief Accountable Officer for NHS Salford CCG that this should be protected.

Mr Westwood noted that the model can work as the GMCA does work. The model set out in the paper could work effectively, the worry is at a Salford level, if at strategic level it is levelled up, locally they may level down. If there are best practice and outstanding performers, they should be tailoring performance standards to be measured against the best and not brought down to an

average level. Concerned that we will lose resource and expertise locally. The system needs to enable partnerships to have direct involvement with the decision-making process. Commissioner responsibilities are important; who is held to account if SSCP is not happy about the quality of services commissioned by ICS?

Ms Ramsden noted that there are risks that SSCP need to flag and watch and acknowledged that the CCG are doing what they can to manage them, and informed a Salford response is being written and safeguarding will be added to that response.

Ms Blackburn reiterated that the triangulation of information around commissioning decisions are helpful and it will add a layer of complication if this is not done at a local level.

Ms Ramsden informed that the impact of the uncertainty of the CCG interim arrangements means CCG are not recruiting to Ms Thorpe's post when she retires this week. Ms Thorpe confirmed that general agreement is that Executive and Board level posts will not be replaced. Claire Vaughn will pick up most of Ms Thorpe's responsibilities. It has been proposed that Liz Walton, Designated Nurse: Safeguarding Adults will undertake additional strategic responsibilities and support Steve Dixon at SSCP Executive and interface with Directors of Nursing. It is acknowledged there is a gap especially without a Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children in post, there is interim cover in place from the Deputy Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Looked After Children. Mr Packer has agreed to jointly Chair the SSCP with Ms Ramsden in the interim.

## **9. Participation and Listening Hub Update**

Emma presented this item.

Following the 12-month Making a Difference project funded by CCG innovation funding; SSCP recruited to the Participation and Listening Hub lead. It was identified today that this role needs to be recruited to again and possibly reviewed.

Interviews will take place on Wednesday for the SSCP Head of Business and Strategy role.

- The presentation was included in the papers and indicated the direction of the listening hub,
- SSCP placed a successful bid to DfE which will improve participation with Education; this was identified as an area to strengthen in the recent Peer Review.
- The first Squad meeting will take place on Thursday to develop a project plan and confirm who will sit on the Squad going forward.
- Salford is in a good place to implement the plan and the mechanisms are in place to set up the listening hub,
- There is a good mix of people to attend the Squad which include representation from IT, Comms and Education.

Mr Westwood informed that York undertook similar work as part of their Early Adopter project; they seconded a Headteacher to support the work. Mr Westwood agreed to pass on the York Headteacher's contact details to inform this work.

Ms Thorpe asked that as the work originated from an innovation bid supported by CCG which has contributed to the DfE bid, could it be used as a good example of how it has benefited the parentship.

Mr Westwood noted that this is a good example of local work we do not want to lose; we need a paragraph at the beginning of the presentation to inform how it was developed from innovation funding.

**Actions agreed:**

- 1) Ms Ford agreed to contact Nadine Payne to feedback to the CCG on how the Innovation bid funding was used, supported the DfE bid and evidence the impact.

**10. Subgroup Updates:**

a. **Practice Review** Lead: Emma Ford

Ms Ford presented the Practice Review subgroup update report and thanked Jane Maguire for her work to produce a quarterly report which identifies themes from practice reviews held over the last 2 years.

The Practice Review data available at the January meeting indicated the group is good at signing off action plans. The SSCP action plan from rapid and practice reviews are timetabled to go back to the sub-group; this ensures no drift and offers healthy challenge and discussion on the impact of the action plans.

Action plans from historic practice reviews are being closed, this allows the group to review newer action plans with more immediate practice learning. Practitioners are encouraged to demonstrate how the actions are making a difference before the action plan is signed off.

Since 2018 the SSCP received referrals for several case reviews which identified similar actions; Ms Ford and Ms Maguire have met to look at these action plans to produce a single action plan. Single agencies will have their own action plans to address learning, as a partnership it would be good if these recommendations can be brought to the PRSG meeting to build on the principles and expected standards when working with families in Salford. This links with the earlier conversation on CiN working and the work Rachel Prest completed with the Making a Difference project which looks at what works for children and families. We need the listening hub lead to be involved in this work. Mr Westwood suggested updating the published safeguarding arrangements when this work is completed and asked if there is any cross referencing with GM standards.

**Actions agreed:**

- 1) Ms Ford to progress work on principles and expected standards when working with families in Salford and link with GM standards.

b. **Education** Lead: Karen Armfield

Ms Armfield presented the safeguarding in Education summary report which highlights the role of this sub-group. Headteachers have discussed the challenges experienced regarding welfare checks

and the effects of Covid. All schools have needed to update policies and a Covid 19 annex was added to school safeguarding policies.

Since writing the report, schools have received a summary of S11 responses, this has identified areas to develop which include the use of the formal challenge and escalation process, reflective supervision, ensuring documents are accessible, improving consultation with parents particularly regarding safeguarding. This links to the previous discussions and it is hoped to develop this as part of the listening hub work.

Ms Kelly commented that this fits with SRFT's work with the 0-19 team to develop capacity to focus more on early help. It is acknowledged that there will be some challenges but believed to be the right approach.

Ms Ramsden informed that schools have been helpful particularly with safeguarding work; children's services noticed a reduction in referrals when schools were not open and encouraged Ms Armfield to ask for help as required. Ms Armfield agreed to pass on thanks to the Headteachers.

Mr Westwood noted that the report references Elective Home Education (EHE), given there has been so much home-schooling over the last year, we need to monitor this area closely as there appears to be an increase in EHE nationally. There is a risk that some children could get lost in this process; the local authority has a role to monitor this and the SSCP should consider if they want to receive feedback on EHE towards the end of the calendar year or early next year after the schools have fully opened and lockdown restrictions removed. Ms Armfield informed that the sub-group has monitored EHE and invited Karen Hamer to meetings to review EHE. Headteachers have all received comprehensive guidance on EHE and will do all they can to encourage parents to retain a place in school and inform that EHE is very different to remote education as the responsibility for learning sits with the parent.

Ms Ramsden informed that there is an active national discussion on EHE as well which aims to ensure families are not signed into EHE too quickly. Another group to watch is children who went overseas during lockdown and have not returned yet. We do not have the actual number for this cohort in Salford, and it is thought there will be a national enquiry. Some of these children may not return, and some may be prevented from returning due to restrictions on travel and quarantine measures.

c. **Voice of the Child** Lead: Tim Rumley Paper/Presentation: Paper

Mr Rumley attended the meeting for this item:

The group met on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2021; representatives from Youth Council and Fight for Change attended and the group is working to encourage wider membership.

A proposal was discussed at the meeting for young people to become commissioners with the vision that services for children and young people have children and young people involved in the commissioning process. Oldham have developed a course which can be used, and it was proposed to use Lledr Hall as a place to train young people as commissioners and young inspectors. The VoC group accepted this proposal and work is underway to plan how we do this, and the Commissioning Team have agreed to support the process. It is planned to recruit from June 2021 and discussions with pay roll are required.

The meeting also looked at Make your mark ballots and the SSCP agenda. Make Your Mark Ballots include local, national, and regional ballots. The group identified homelessness and domestic abuse as local issues and Mr Rumley is looking forward to the young people campaigning on these issues.

The main risk for the group is to engage young people and prepare them effectively to enable informed discussions at the meeting.

It was identified that the Young Person Commissioning concept may incur some expenses for SSCP; some costs can be covered in kind but remuneration of young people will need to be considered.

The young person tech committee has worked with the gateways to look at how they can be a resource for young people in the digital arena and get gateways to be more technology friendly.

Ms Ramsden commented that the issue of engagement will hopefully be resolved when face-face meetings can be resumed. The SSCP look forward to hearing about the progress of commissioners and young inspectors.

## **11. Feedback to (Items to evidence impact, challenge and good practice?):**

### **a. SSCP Subgroups**

Q3 How are we doing report to be updated and circulated to subgroup chairs and members

### **b. SSCP Safeguarding Executive**

Ms Ramsden will feedback to the SSCP Executive that there needs to be multi-agency ownership and commitment to streamline the request for data, making the request clear.

### **c. Other Local Boards/Partnerships**

Ms Ford and Jane Maguire will attend a meeting in Wigan to support some peer discussions on how to do Practice Reviews and Rapid Reviews and will revisit the work Carole Brooks led on with regional tools which aimed to provide consistency regionally on how rapid reviews are conducted.

### **d. Regional Meetings**

The paper on strategic leadership in GM Integrated Care System presented by Ms Thorpe will include responsibilities under WT. Ms Thorpe will feedback via directors of nursing and quality and there is a locality position statement being prepared and will include WT responsibilities and safeguarding from a CCG perspective. It will also feed into the Salford Position Statement, and once the HR for CCG is out it will be picked up via Steve Dixon for the CCG accountability options.

### **e. Children, Professionals & Communities**

## **12. Any other business**

Francine Thorpe:

Ms Ramsden noted that Ms Thorpe has been an excellent joint chair of the SSCP and her contributions to the partnership will be missed hugely. On behalf of the SSCP, Ms Ramsden wished Ms Thorpe all the best in her retirement and thanked her for her work with the partnership.

Ms Thorpe commented that the working relationships across the partnership are amazing and she will miss everyone.

Tiffany Slack:

Ms Ramsden thanked Ms Slack for her work with SSCP, Ms Slack has taken us through massive changes and held complex information together. The partnership working in strengthened by Ms Slack’s organisation and attention to detail, which has massively contributed to the way we undertake the business of the partnership. Ms Slack will be missed in Salford.

Ms Slack commented that Salford is a great partnership; the relationships and people make a difference and she is proud to have been part of the journey and loved her time in Salford.

**Key Information: Items Circulated for Information**

**13. 2020-21 Q3 Scorecard Contact details: [sscp@salford.gov.uk](mailto:sscp@salford.gov.uk)**

**Dates and themes of future SSCP meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Spotlight Theme</b>	<b>SSCP Lead</b>
<b>5/7/2021</b>	Assurance Area 3: Emotional Health & Wellbeing.	Debbie Blackburn/ Emily Edwards
<b>27/9/2021</b>	Assurance Area 1: Early Help/ACES	Rebecca Bibby/ Debbie Blackburn
<b>13/12/2021</b>	Priority 3: Comms and Engagement	Hannah Clegg
<b>TBC</b>	Priority 2: Complex safeguarding- CCCE/Abuse	Rachael Harrison
	Assurance Area 2: Domestic Abuse	Emma Ford/Rachael Harrison
<b>TBC</b>	Priority 1: Neglect	Debbie Blackburn

**Minutes approved by:** Charlotte Ramsden, Strategic Director, Salford City Council: People Directorate

**Minutes approved on:** 14<sup>th</sup> April 2021