

## SSCP Meeting Minutes

**Date:** 13<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**Time:** 1pm- 4pm

**Chair:** Chris Packer, Detective Superintendent (Cluster Vulnerability), GMP

**Venue:** Microsoft Teams

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

a. Attended by:

Karen Armfield, Head Teacher, Boothstown Methodist Primary  
Shahanara Begum, Business Manager, Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership  
Vivienne Bentley, Senior Business Support Officer, Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership  
Deborah Blackburn, Assistant Director: Public Health Nursing, Public Health  
Kalpesh Dixit, Designated Doctor (Safeguarding Children), NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group  
Clare Kelly, Assistant Director of Nursing – Safeguarding, Salford Royal Foundation Trust (SRFT)  
Diane Kinsella, Designated Nurse: Safeguarding Children & Looked After Children, NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group  
Chris Packer, Detective Superintendent (Cluster Vulnerability), GMP  
Charlotte Ramsden, Strategic Director, People, Salford City Council: People  
Tim Rumley, Children's Services Senior Manager, Salford City Council: People  
Elizabeth Walton, Assistant Director: Safeguarding & Quality, NHS Salford Clinical Commissioning Group  
Michelle Warburton, Voice and Influence Manager, Salford Community & Voluntary Services  
Simon Westwood, Independent Adviser, Independent

b. Also, in attendance:

Kate Berry, Early Help Locality Manager, Salford City Council: People (Item 2)  
Deb Drinkwater, Independent Consultant (Item 4)  
Vickie Hollingworth, Service Manager: Child Protection (Item 3 and Item  
Maria Ogunyemi, Participation & Listening Hub Lead, Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership  
Emma Teale, Cafcass

c. Apologies received from:

Zoe Fearon, Assistant Director, Children's Social Care, Salford City Council: People

d. Not expected to attend

Simon Featherstone, Director of Nursing, Salford Royal Foundation Trust (SRFT)  
Kate Pollard, Head of Business & Impact, Salford Safeguarding Children Partnership

e. Did not attend

Jane Bowmer, Business Manager, Salford Safeguarding Adult Board  
Danielle Buckley, Head of Cluster, HM Prison & Probation Service

Presentations/Guest Speakers

## 2. SSCP Spotlight Theme

### a. Assurance Area 1: Early Help/ACES

Kate Berry, Early Help Locality Manager attended to present the Early Help / ACES Spotlight report. The report was included with the papers for this meeting.

Dr Dixit commented on the work in place for Early Help; and asked about the safeguarding and support available to targeted families, explaining that historically there have been cases referred in where children have diabetes and have not accessed the right support, and asked how we integrate Early Help with chronic conditions. The Family Partnership model is a whole family model, this means we will need appropriate pathways to work with these issues. Ms Berry said these issues would be discussed at the triangulation meetings to help identify who is best to take the role of lead professional and support the family. Dr Dixit noted that we also need to include demographics and the health needs in relation to home conditions. Ms Kinsella highlighted that we need to look at how we support parents to meet their children's health needs.

Ms Kinsella asked how the team around the school will work for school age children who are not in school and asked about the detail for cases that were closed and were not successful. Ms Berry explained that service teams are in place and currently looking at Early Help support at Clifton PRU to look at the impact. The focus is on whole family working, wherever the children are placed.

Cases close for various reasons, to be closed successfully the service need to be assured there is stability, some of the unsuccessful cases have been closed due to lack of engagement or the work required has involved partners and not Early Help as the lead support for the family.

Ms Ogunyemi asked whether there has been any consideration to health trainers being involved with families? Ms Berry informed they have tried to link with community connectors and are looking at how the hubs are utilised going forward to help families in all areas.

Mr Westwood highlighted positives included in the report as we need to capture where working well:

- 5% of cases in receipt of whole family targeted support were escalated to CSC, this demonstrates that we are working with families at an earlier level and prevented the escalation to higher level concern.
- The reduction in Early Help assessments at schools needs to be monitored; now that schools are back open to all pupils this should increase again.
- Positive that families who had received support and were referred again and screened as not requiring support.
- Concerned that there was fall in Health Visitor assessments, SSCP has received assurance from the Health Visiting service that they have continued to complete Safeguarding visits; this may be a gap if Health Visitors are only looking at higher level cases.

GM commissioned work on safeguarding under 1s and work is in place for several things discussed in the report. Mr Westwood recommended someone in the partnership looking at the report and

considering the GM work as there is some dovetailing of areas including more consistent maternity pathways. Ms Berry informed there is work in place with DfE to consider the journey for families 0-2 years.

Ms Blackburn assured that Salford do not struggle with recruitment to Health Visiting roles and explained that there is a change in terms of Universal and Universal + model. The reduction of referrals from Health Visitors in 2021 was due to national guidance that Health Visitors should not undertake home visits.

**Action: Ms Blackburn will provide assurance regarding the Salford Health Visiting Service and an update on the Universal and Universal Plus service at the next SSCP meeting.**

**Ms Berry agreed to send Dr Dixit the link to the Solihull family programme.**

Mr Westwood highlighted that as Arthur Labinjo-Hughes was resident in Solihull, there will be a review of the tools used in that area and advised agencies to be mindful when using that model.

Mr Packer thanked Ms Berry for her attendance.

**Agreed:** SSCP members were assured by the Early Help / ACES Spotlight report and welcome assurance in this area annually.

### **3. Young Person's Plan 7-Minute Briefing: Lead: Vickie Hollingworth Paper/Presentation: Paper**

Ms Hollingworth, Service Manager: Child Protection attended to present this 7-Minute Briefing which was included in the papers.

Ms Hollingworth informed that Young Person Plans (YPPs) are currently used for children over the age of 15 and at risk of significant harm however consideration is being given to reduce the age to 14.

YPPs work using a relationship-based model, based on the resilience framework from "[boing boing](#)".

Ms Kinsella asked whether young people on a YPP are included in CP data as they have met the threshold for significant harm, Ms Hollingworth assured that they are included in CP data.

Ms Kinsella informed that some of the timelines provided for rapid reviews indicate that when there have been concerns about a child at risk of knife crime, the social worker visit deemed the parent(s) were acting appropriately and asked if this is a gap. If a case is closed or de-escalated to CiN do we lose a cohort of children. Ms Hollingworth explained that the model can be used prior to YPP, most social workers are trained on the model and the coordinators run drop-in sessions. Working with young people is different to working with younger children and requires a different set of skills. Social Workers do approach the Safeguarding Unit for consultations and the coordinators support Social Workers to use the tools.

Dr Dixit noted that the YPP is used when young people have reached the threshold of significant harm, for younger children there is a threshold for CiN and asked what happens with children over the age of 15 who are struggling and at risk of significant harm later, for example by not managing their health condition, is there scope for young people to move between Levels 2 and 3. Ms Hollingworth explained that when a multi-agency decision is made that a coordinated approach is required, the multi-agency group would look at a health led plan, CiN coordinators (CINCO) are the same team as YPP coordinators and their skills are used in both models, it is a multi-agency decision to allocate a CINCO.

Mr Westwood noted there was consideration being given to reducing the age for YPP to 14. Looking at the design and purpose of YPPs Mr Westwood was concerned this may blur the use of CPPs and suggested that if the YPP was to be expanded to include under 15s, this should be on specific need rather than age. Ms Hollingworth informed that from learning in Salford and reviews, is the consideration is whether the young person is confident and competent to look at their plan. Mr Rumley agreed that guidelines and competence need to be considered rather than the age of the individual. Ms Hollingworth assured that all the CINCOs are competent to decide whether CP or YPP is most appropriate for the young person.

#### **4. Education Listening Hub**

##### **a. Final Report Lead: Deb Drinkwater: Presentation**

Deb Drinkwater, Independent Consultant attended to present the PPP on the final Education Listening Hub report and highlighted that the use of listening loops should be a priority for all agencies.

Ms Kinsella asked about transition, particularly the transition from high school to college, recent reviews highlighted limited provision for 16–17-year old’s during the pandemic and asked what is in place for this age group now. Ms Armfield informed that there is college representation will on the Education subgroup and agreed to take this question there.

**Action: Ms Armfield will ask the Education Subgroup to consider the transition from High School to College.**

Mr Westwood commented that this is an excellent piece of work, the Wood review highlighted education in his report particularly that partnerships and education need to work on education. We need to continue with this work; and consider how we fund and maintain this going forward, any financial implications would need to go to the Exec group.

Schools were identified as community hubs; some families will live in one area and receive support in that area and access support from schools in a different area. There will also be several children living in Salford that attend school outside Salford; we need to ensure those children also receive support.

Ms Armfield informed that there is commitment from the local authority and a Safeguarding Coordinator is now in post. The role of the Safeguarding Coordinator includes supervision, updating and networking and demonstrates a positive impact of the Education Listening hub work. Early Help Coordinators have helped with developing the community hub of schools and explaining to families what help is available via Early Help. There has been an increase in education representation at more subgroups for SSCP.

**Action: Mr Westwood noted that a lot of the information and evidence included in the Education Listening Hub report should be included in the SSCP annual report.**

Ms Ogunyemi informed that as the SSCP lead for the Listening Hub she has supported the Education Listening Hub. There have been two events from the education project: Keeping Children Safe Online workshop and Listening to Voices of Children, Young People & Professionals. The themes were identified from the work with schools and the next event will focus on emotional health and wellbeing. There was some discussion at SEG about how to continue with this work.

Dr Dixit noted that this needs to be discussed at the GM Safeguarding Alliance and shared with them to address any cross-boundary issues. Mr Westwood informed that there are ongoing discussions currently.

**Action:** Mr Westwood will share the Education Listening Hub work with the GM Safeguarding Alliance with a view to address any cross-boundary issues.

Mr Packer thanked Ms Drinkwater for attending the meeting today.

b. Update Lead: Karen Armfield (Paper)

Ms Armfield informed that the Q3 update report was included in the papers for information, this report has been submitted to the DfE.

## SSCP Business

### 5. SSCP Minutes (27<sup>th</sup> September 2021) Lead: Chair: Paper

a. Mental Health & Wellbeing - SSCP response to next steps (Sharn Begum)

Mr Westwood asked if the presentation on Mental Health and Wellbeing had been shared with SSAB and CSP; Ms Blackburn confirmed that the update has been presented to all Boards.

Ms Begum assured that the presentation has been embedded in SSCP training and communications.

b. Thresholds Document (Paper) – (Lead Sharn Begum)

Mr Westwood has not written a foreword for this document and agreed to do this prior to publication if required.

**Agreed: The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2021**

### 6. SSCP Action Log (27<sup>th</sup> September 2021) Lead: Chair: Paper

The action log was updated at the meeting and circulated with the minutes of this meeting.

### 7. SSCP Actions from:

a. SSCP Executive (21<sup>st</sup> October 2021) Lead: Charlotte Ramsden: Paper

The minutes of the SSCP Executive meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> October 2021 were included with the papers for this meeting.

b. Safeguarding Operational Group (8<sup>th</sup> November 2021) Lead: Zoe Fearon: Paper

This item was deferred as Ms Fearon was not in attendance today; the minutes of the Safeguarding Operational Group meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were included in the papers for this meeting.

*Ms Ramsden apologised and left the meeting at this point.*

## 8. How are we doing Lead: Diane Kinsella: Paper

- a. Q1 2021/22 (Deferred: from September 2021)
- b. Q2 2021/22

Ms Kinsella presented the How Are we Doing report which included data up to the end of Q2.

Ms Blackburn noted that there are several good tools available, and we need assurance that they are being used. CDOP Action Planning meetings need to be established and the Safe Sleep policy needs to be published on the SSCP website.

Mr Packer asked whether the implementation and recording of use of tools is a training issue; Ms Blackburn informed that the Neglect Subgroup will host a learning event to promote the use of the tools and informed that System Leaders report that the Thriving Families tool is used and is in case files and agreed that consideration should be given to linking with the WFD group.

Ms Kinsella asked if there is somewhere to prompt regarding the use of toolkits when referrals are submitted; Ms Blackburn informed that since the implementation of LiquidLogic there are prompts in place.

**Agreed: SSCP Members agreed to the proposal for a Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) subgroup. The first meeting of this subgroup is arranged for 21<sup>st</sup> January 2022.**

**Action: Ms Kinsella will review the proposed membership of the CSA subgroup to ensure all relevant agencies are represented.**

Mr Westwood asked whether there is a template used for strategy meetings that includes a point to remind people to record the four points that need to be recorded from strategy meetings. Ms Hollingworth informed that Practice Managers do use a template when chairing the strategy meetings and the implementation of Liquid Logic includes the four headings as prompts; it is expected to see an improvement going forward.

Mr Westwood asked if attendance is recorded and if we have looked at facilitating attendance for agencies as the time and volume of meetings may impact on agency capacity to attend. Ms Kinsella informed that the audit is scheduled to be repeated next year.

**Action: Provide assurance at a future meeting that attendance at Strategy Meetings is recorded and consideration given to how to facilitate agency attendance.**

**SEG will schedule the repeat audit on Strategy Meetings earlier than planned.**

Mr Westwood noted that if the professional focus is on the child, perhaps need to emphasise the importance of parental mental health and highlight that parental mental health is a critical area for risk children to encourage the use of the parental mental health toolkit. It was noted that schools have also identified this as a critical area. Ms Kinsella agreed these are valid points and can be included in response to the report on safeguarding under 1's. Some of the issues identified for ICON are issues across Greater Manchester.

Ms Blackburn informed that work is in place to increase capacity at The Bridge to support parental mental health and there are trauma response practitioners who can support staff.

## 9. Ofsted Report: Sexual Abuse in Schools & Colleges

Ms Armfield updated on the work in Salford so far in response to this report.

Mr Westwood noted that the Minister asked for a template to be completed with an update and asked for a copy of the response submitted by Salford.

Ms Kinsella noted that we need to consider the wider partnership and joint response; we need to be sure the emotional wellbeing services know what to do when they get disclosures. Mr Packer asked which subgroup will lead on this work.

### **Action:**

- i. Circulate a copy of the Salford response to the Ofsted report on Sexual Abuse in Schools coordinated by Cathy Starbuck.
- ii. Circulate a copy of the briefing presented by Ms Armfield at this meeting
- iii. Ms Kinsella will discuss with Cathy Starbuck to clarify which group will lead on this work.

## 10. Impact of Covid on the partnership

The impact of Covid on the partnership, workforce and community in Salford was discussed; it was noted that Plan B was announced recently which will impact on daily lives and the way we operate. The Executive view was that the public sector will continue to provide safeguarding services.

Ms Blackburn informed that there has been a massive rise in numbers of cases in the country and this is also true in Greater Manchester; local authorities have struggled with contact tracing and Covid is affecting children at school.

Mr Westwood noted that we need to monitor access to face to face visits for children; the current position on working from home is "if possible"; it is critical that we maintain home visits where we can.

Ms Armfield informed that schools have returned to whole class isolation for 10 days following a positive case. Schools in the local authority have raised concerns that services have been reluctant to undertake face-face; this has and continues to be escalated.

**Agreed: The impact of Covid will continue to be discussed at subgroups and SSCP meetings.**

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

### a. SSCP Subgroups

Mr Packer informed that a meeting was held last week with subgroup chairs to discuss how the subgroups are working together and the function of SOG and SEG. It was agreed to reconnect with the original themes from when the current safeguarding arrangements were put into place.

Ms Kinsella informed that when she came into post earlier this year, she asked what SOG and SEG do, colleagues that attending SSCP, SOG and SEG meetings note that they see the same reports at each meeting; we need to reduce duplication especially if the same people are attending all three meetings.

Ms Kinsella informed that ICS reforms will include an integrated care partnership (ICP) and an integrated care board (ICB). All GM CCGS will become an ICB. ICPs will be inspected by CQC and

possibly JTAs. Third statutory partner for SSCP will be ICB instead of CCG. We need to look at the governance structure across GM. Ms Kinsella has produced a PPP to explain these changes.

Mr Westwood informed that following the meeting last week he reviewed the previously agreed model of working and shared this with Ms Ramsden. There is another meeting planned in February. It appears there has been some shift in the processes we agreed to embed in arrangements e.g., to be proportionate, accountable, consistent, transparent, and targeted. There needs to be some scrutiny on what is critical, what is an emergency, what is interesting.

- No paper should be shared with more than one group. If the spotlight report goes to SEG; any issues should be raised with SSCP.
- No member should sit on more than one group or subgroup as a member unless they are the Chair.
- The role of SEG & SOG was clear and required increased delegation; we should trust in the delegation and not expect information to be reported up. SOG should coordinate the work of the subgroups and SEG should monitor quality and performance and feedback via exception and report any concerns to SSCP.
- Need to consider how effective the Executive can be when ICBs are set up.
- Need to address capacity gaps, currently have interim arrangements in place i.e., interim business manager and interim arrangements for the Head of Safeguarding.

#### **Actions:**

- iv. Ms Kelly will contact Ms Kinsella and Ms Walton to discuss ICS developments from health provider perspective.
- v. The analysis Mr Westwood has prepared will be considered at the SSCP Assurance meeting in the New Year.
- vi. Ms Kinsella will share the PPP explaining the changes expected from the ICS reform
- vii. Ms Begum will look for the GM ICS update and circulated to SSCP members

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

- Continue the work of the Education Listening Hub.
- Thresholds document to be circulated for information

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

#### **d. Regional Meetings**

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

### **12. Any other business**

#### **a. Thresholds document:**

Ms Hollingworth informed that now that Liquid logic has been implemented the Thresholds document is ready to be launched with the suggested date of 1<sup>st</sup> January 2022. The document will be published on the SSCP website and included in SSCP Working Together training on 14<sup>th</sup> January. Featured articles will be included on the SSCP website news page and multi-agency lunchbowls will run to ensure the document is embedded across the partnership.

SSCP members feedback that the Thresholds document is well presented, simple and easy to use. It Mr Westwood noted that we need to move away from using the term thresholds.

Ms Blackburn asked if the trauma informed approach and reference to thriving families can be included; Ms Hollingworth agreed.

**Agreed:** SSCP members approved the Thresholds document for publication, it will be shared with SSCP Executive for their information.

**Threshold's document will be launched in the New Year.**

**Action:** Ms Blackburn will send Ms Hollingworth information to include in the Threshold document on the trauma informed approach and reference to thriving families

b. Spotlight Themes

SSCP members were informed that there will be limited data available to support the Domestic Abuse spotlight report in March 2022 as they are going through a procurement process currently.

**Key Information: Items Circulated for Information**

13. SSCP Scorecard Contact details: [sscp@salford.gov.uk](mailto:sscp@salford.gov.uk)

14. [SSCP Annual Report 2020-2021](#)

15. [Partners in Salford](#) – Updated information about all our Partnerships in Salford including [Latest news](#)

16. Dates and themes of future SSCP meetings

Date	Spotlight Theme	SSCP Lead
21/03/2022	Priority 2: Complex safeguarding-CCE/Abuse	Chris Packer
	Assurance Area 2: Domestic Abuse	Clare Baddley
04/07/2022	Priority 1: Neglect	Debbie Blackburn
26/09/2022	Priority 3: Comms and Engagement	
12/12/2022		

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Minutes approved by: Chris Packer, Detective Superintendent (Cluster Vulnerability), GMP  
Minutes approved on: 24<sup>th</sup> December 2021

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