**Local Safeguarding Children Group (LSCG) – Breckland**

**Date: 29th January 2024**

**Time: 14:00 – 16:00**

**Microsoft Teams**

**Present:**

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| **Name** | **Title** | **Organisation** |
| Mark Osborn | Safeguarding Intelligence & Performance Co-ordinator (SIPCo) | NCC |
| Hayley Bullock | Team Manager | NCC |
| Heather Heslin | Team manager | NCC |
| Kate Faulkner | Assistant Head/ DSL | Attleborough Primary |
| Lesley brown | Coordinator | Leeway |
| Katie Griffiths | Attendance and Entitlement Manager | NCC |
| Abby Whittaker | Administration Assistant (level 2) | NCC |
| Julie Mobbs |  | Action for Children |

**Apologies:**

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| **Name** | **Title** | **Organisation** |
| Steve Creasy | Headteacher | Ashill VC Primary School |
| Judi Cooke |  | CCS |
| Mike Townsend |  |  |
| Vicki Horton | Head of Service – West/ Breckland | NCC |

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| **No.** | **Item** |
| **1** | **Welcome - Minutes from the last meeting including updates from actions –**   * Welcomed the attendees to the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves. |
| **2** | Presentations from LSCG members  **Hayley Bullock – Team Manger Breckland – Job share with Holly McDermott**  The Family Hubs and Start for Life approach is a government program that aims to support families from a child's conception, right through to their adult life. The program is designed to join up a wide range of support services and outreach support for families with children aged 0-19 (25 with SEND), including for example, wellbeing and mental health support, employment assistance, and activities for older children and teenagers. Norfolk has been selected as one of 75 local authority areas to take this forward and will receive around £6m of additional time-limited funding to build on and further develop prevention and early help services for families with children and young people up to the age of 19 (25 if they have special educational needs and disabilities).  We started in June and moved into the old ECFS location and we will need to be fully embedded by March 2025.  We have the healthy child programme and the colleagues from ECFS who also work with us. Ideally, we want parents to be able to self-refer or self-help themselves. There is loads of information on the JON platform. However, sometimes we need to do some more information gathering for the parent, they may need an EHAP or have safeguarding issue. Which will then need to go over to CADs.  You can make a referral by the early help website or any of the promotional materials where there is a QR code.  EHAP, or Early Help Assessment and Plan, is an approach that is relationship-based and focuses on the strengths of the family. The goal is to help families achieve achievable goals by working with them. EHAP is promoted with all partners, and when all partners are uploading EHAPs, they are made sure to be on the child's profile.  Heather Heslin – How are these parents working as volunteers? As I notice you didn’t call them volunteers.  Hayley – We gather parent volunteers through baby groups and other likeminded groups and offering them training. So, if a parent feels they need some support then they can get their support from other parents who are champions for that support. These parents can help share their experiences and further help the parent in need. Majority of our referrals are around mental health.  We have a new audit officer; she has met with Vicki around dip samples. We haven’t however had that follow up from the meeting with Vicki. The voice of the child was missing on one of them which wasn’t as prominent as it should be. It should be ‘Family should only have to tell their story once’.  Are there any dads in the parent/ carer volunteers do we know?  Hayley has confirmed we have had a male interest but not yet completed the training.  **Heather Heslin – Team Manager -Breckland (Intensive support)**    Been in existence since 2020 and started the process the day before we went into lockdown. Which has been a challenge but we have adapted.  The service was designed for children who need specialist or intensive support. We are called in when there is a need for intensive work for families. Anything from 4 weeks to 16 weeks.  Paul Finion is Head of Service and Mary Baldwin is the lead. There are 6 ISS teams, and each locality has a team and each paired team have a specialist support team.  Specialist service has domestic abuse workers and child therapeutic workers in the west and Breckland. They work up to 16 weeks (However this can be for up to 26weeks and it can be longer depending on what the family need) and all work is reviewed at 6 weekly intervals. Harmful sexual abuse falls under their review as well as the child mental health team, which will refer cases to them via the specialist team.  Dads matter – (which HH facilitates) – I have recently taken this over and we are trying to provide one of these services in Breckland and are working jointly with ECFS and this will be on a lunchtime on a Friday but this wont be until April. This is around encouraging dads to share their experiences, meet other dads etc.  To successfully complete a dads matter session, they need to attend 10/12 sessions to complete the course. |
| **3** | **CoNG toolkit**  The Continuum of Needs Guidance has replaced the threshold guide, and sitting under this is a whole new toolkit.    The Ages and Stages document is still in development. It uses the flourish outcomes for different age groups and provides a tool to consider how well these outcomes are being achieved. At the end of last year, we had a safeguarding review and looking back at the chronology for the young man (AL) who committed suicide last year and it was noticeable in the review that none of the FLOURISH outcomes within the framework had been achieved for him.    Mark went through the website (<https://norfolklscp.org.uk/people-working-with-children/norfolk-continuum-of-needs-guidance> ), which showed us where all the resources and documents are kept. One thing we are hoping when we come back together for a face-to-face meeting in March is to begin to explore how some people are using these toolkits, and how they work.  Mark - Hoping Jo Todd is going to attend the March meeting to do an activity around genograms.      **Action:** All members to look at the new Ages and Stages tool with colleagues and give some feedback about whether the descriptors are right and can be used to inform local practice. Feedback to be brought back to the March meeting.  Please note that this document is in development and not to be shared beyond consultation.      **A Staged Intervention Pathway for Promoting Good School Attendance**    The Attendance and Behaviour Service (ABS) is a team of professionals who work with schools, families and other agencies to promote and support good attendance and behaviour in schools. The ABS offers a range of services, including:   * Attendance networks in each district, where schools can share good practice and access training and resources. * A whole school training package on attendance and behaviour, which is universally free and can be tailored to the needs of each school. * A self-evaluation framework for schools to assess their strengths and areas for development in relation to attendance and behaviour. * Attendance surgeries for all professionals, where they can consult with an attendance officer or a behaviour support worker on individual cases or general issues. * An e-learning module for children's services staff, which covers the legal aspects of attendance and the role of the ABS.   The ABS has been working to improve attendance and punctuality in schools, especially considering the challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The ABS has conducted a parent/carer survey, analysed the attendance data, and communicated key messages to schools and families. The ABS has also focused on punctuality this term and has taken on board some feedback from schools on how to address this issue.  Summary of Findings  The ABS has found that:   * Historically, City has had lower attendance figures than the national average, but the gap has been narrowing over the years. * The COVID-19 pandemic has had a significant impact on attendance and punctuality, with some groups of pupils being more affected than others. * There are various factors that influence attendance and punctuality, such as parental attitudes, school policies, transport issues, health conditions, and safeguarding concerns. * There are good examples of effective practice in schools, such as clear expectations, consistent rewards and sanctions, early intervention, and multi-agency collaboration. * There are also areas for improvement, such as raising awareness, engaging parents, monitoring data, and providing support and challenge.   The ABS is committed to working with schools, families and other partners to improve attendance and punctuality in schools, and to ensure that all pupils have the opportunity to achieve their full potential.  **Action -** Please contact Katie Griffiths on [csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:csattendance@norfolk.gov.uk) or please call us on 01603 223681 if you ever need any attendance related support. |
| **4** | Transitional safeguarding  There has been a challenge nationally for a long time to tackle supporting vulnerable young people as they move from child to adult. The 18-25yr olds cohort, are generally not well supported We have services where they support young children but when they become 18, they get lost and there aren’t enough services for them.  In Norfolk we are taking on a piece of independent scrutiny and this will help us understand where we are at. The scrutiny is being done on transitional safeguarding and being done in collaboration with adult safeguarding. This will be going on until May and the report will show us how to understand the issue and move forwards.  We can learn from good practice and service models from other parts of the County which can help to improve the service, consider the voice of the young adults and help them to prepare into adulthood.  Phase 1 is the research stage where conversations are happening and there is a review of national guidance going on where the legal thresholds are looked at in more depth for working with 18-25.  Phase 2 is going out and talking with professionals and service users from the feedback we have gained from phase 1.  Action - Any examples of good practice please send Mark an email. Suggestions around 18-25 safeguarding issues to support transition safeguarding would be welcome. |
| **8** | A.O.B.  Alex Cox - Briefing session about the insight library and how to join, which Alex will be presenting on 31st Jan. If anyone is interested, please get in contact with Mark and he will share the invite as the capacity is now full on Eventbrite due to them decreasing the maximum numbers. |
| **9** | Next meeting  Wednesday 13th March 2024  10–12 |