

# Solihull Local Safeguarding Children Partnership Newsletter

## February 2022



Welcome to the **LSCP** newsletter.  
Do contact us if you have any queries.

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### Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI)

A Joint Targeted Area Inspection (JTAI) was undertaken in Solihull between 10-14 January 2022 which looked at the multi-agency response to the identification of initial need and risk for children in Solihull.

Following the murder of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes in 2020, and the subsequent convictions of his father and step-mother in relation to offences connected with his death, the Government requested that Her Majesty's Chief Inspector of Education, Children's Services and Skills (HMCI), together with the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the Chief Inspector of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services (HMICFRS) and the Chief Inspector of Probation (HMIP) for England and Wales, carry out a JTAI in Solihull. The JTAI looked specifically at how all local agencies are working together to protect children and improve their well-being.

The letter which summarised the findings was published on 21 February 2022 and can be found at:

<https://www.safeguardingsolihull.org.uk/lscp/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/02/Solihull-Joint-Targeted-Area-Inspection-published-21-February-2022.pdf>

The response from Stephen Cullen, Independent Scrutineer for the Local Safeguarding Children Partnership in Solihull, can be found at:

<https://www.safeguardingsolihull.org.uk/lscp/wp-content/uploads/sites/3/2022/02/Independent-Scrutineer-response-to-findings-of-Joint-Targeted-Area-Inspection-21-February-2022.pdf>

Following consideration of the JTAI findings, partner agencies have developed their own individual Improvement Plans. In addition, the LSCP will have a responsibility to co-ordinate the required improvements for the partnership. Children's Services has already established a multi-agency Improvement Board, to be chaired by Penny Thompson (also the Independent Scrutineer for the LSCP in Birmingham). The Improvement Board will be responsible for overseeing its Improvement Plan and for driving through the necessary changes across all organisations.

All professionals across the wider partnership will have a part to play in the improvement journey as we work together to ensure that children in Solihull are safe. Please speak to your own managers and strategic leads for further information about the role of your specific service area or organisation in supporting an improved response for children in need or at risk.

## New Multi-Agency Referral Form due to launch on the 7<sup>th</sup> March

A group of partner agency representatives have developed a new multi-agency referral form that will be introduced on 7<sup>th</sup> March for those who make referrals to the children's services Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). The new referral form will introduce the need to identify the level of [threshold](#) at the start of the process.

When you are making a referral to another service, you are doing more than sharing information, you are asking for that service to intervene in the life of a child and their family. When completing the new referral form you will be asked to identify if your referral is being made because significant harm has occurred or there is a likelihood of significant harm, or if you are making a referral for a child in need, early help or the youth offending service. The LSCP has produced a [guide to making a referral](#) to assist with this, and the Referral and Advice Officers are available in MASH to help - 0121 788 4300. The LSCP has an [information sharing power point](#) for use by individuals or in team meeting for clarification about information sharing.

Guides to help you explain the reason for your referrals to parents have been developed; [MASH leaflet](#)

[Section 47](#)

[Child In Need](#)

[Early Help](#)

It would be good practice to issue the appropriate guide to parents at the time of making the referral.

## New Solihull procedures for Children Missing from Home, Care and Other Settings

On the 17<sup>th</sup> March we launched the new missing from home, care and other settings procedures. The basis for broadening the scope of missing from home & care to include other settings, like hospitals and schools has come from good practice guidance from the Children's Society. A [recording](#) of the launch is available, and the missing from home, care and other settings procedures can be found [here](#) (If anyone is having problems accessing the recording, please email [lscptrain@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:lscptrain@solihull.gov.uk)).

Children who go missing from education settings should not be confused with the statutory definition of Children Missing Education, but applies to children who should be in school, are expected to be in school by their parents, but are not and after checks they cannot be located and are therefore missing and should be reported as missing.

We are introducing the option for children and young people who are offered welfare return interviews by an independent person to choose to have these reviews carried out by a professional they already know. The LSCP will therefore be offering training on conducting welfare return interviews in the future, and there will be a best practice guide for welfare return interviews developed by the Children's Society included in the procedures.

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018 identified that the minimum offer to children who go missing should be an early help offer, so this has also been included in the procedures. There is also a protocol to be completed with the family and filed with the local police force if it is thought a child may go missing or has gone missing before.

A new parent guide has also been added to the website to explain 'missing' to parents and carers

## New Physical Abuse & Fabricated & Induced Illness Procedures

Dr Alan Stanton introduced the new West Midlands multi-agency child Physical Abuse procedures and Fabricated Induced Illness procedures on the 24th January 2022.

If you were unable to attend please familiarise yourself with the new procedures:

- <https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/pkyzqy/regional-safeguarding-guidance/physical-abuse>
- <https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/pkphp/regional-safeguarding-guidance/fabricated-or-induced-illness>

The LSCP would like to take this opportunity to wish Dr Stanton a happy retirement at the end of March & thanks him for all his hard work and dedication to safeguarding children in Solihull.

## UK National Sibling Sexual Abuse Conference – Information Pack

The **UK National Sibling Sexual Abuse Conference for Frontline Sectors** was held in February 2022; a **web-based post-conference information pack** has been created and a link is being sent to you in this email.

The pack, like the conference itself, has been created as a **free training and information resource** for people working across all frontline sectors; this includes education, policing, health, and social care. We would encourage you to **share it as widely as possible** throughout your own professional networks.

The web-based **conference information pack** contains:

- Full recordings of all seven conference sessions – individually packaged.
- Three new information/training films developed by our project (one for adult survivors, two for professionals).
- Information and links on working with children harmed by sibling sexual abuse; children who have harmed their siblings; affected families; and, adult survivors of sibling sexual abuse.
- Information on further training on sibling sexual abuse and Harmful Sexualised Behaviour.

Here is the link to the pack – <https://www.sarsas.org.uk/conference-information-pack/>  
It can also be accessed via our webpage here: <https://www.sarsas.org.uk/ssap/>

This information is also available in the LSCP e-learning section.

## Parent webinars – county lines and criminal exploitation

**PACE** is offering parents and carers the chance to join interactive webinars where they can learn from a panel of experts what criminal exploitations is, how to spot signs it may be happening to their child and how to seek help.

The webinars will help parents and carers to:

- Learn what county lines is
- Understand what is happening in your local area
- Understand the signs that your child might be at risk
- Learn how offenders groom and exploit children

**North Webinar, 2<sup>nd</sup> March, 7:00 – 8:30pm**

**South Webinar, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 7:00 – 8:30pm**

For more information and to register, go to <https://paceuk.info/for-parents/parentwebinars/>.

## Spotlight on Existing Multi-Agency Procedure

### **Honour-based abuse**

'Honour Based Abuse' is a crime or incident which has or may have been committed to protect or defend the honour of the family and/or community. This guidance aims to provide practitioners across the region with information about honour-based abuse and guidance about what to do if they are concerned about a young person. It should also be read alongside the regional forced marriage procedure. Please have a look at the procedure here

<https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/pkqgo/regional-safeguarding-guidance/honour-based-violence> and the forced marriage procedure can be found here

<https://westmidlands.procedures.org.uk/pkplo/regional-safeguarding-guidance/forced-marriage>

## Solihull School Nurses Office Relocation

The Solihull School Nursing Team based at Bishop Wilson Clinic relocated offices on Thursday 27th January 2022 to Cranmore Place, Cranmore Drive, Shirley, Solihull, B90 4RZ. The telephone number is 0121 726 6754.

## MARAC and DASH Training Dates

MARAC and DASH Basics training is being delivered across the West Midlands region every week from Monday 14th March. If you or anyone in your organisation are likely to receive disclosures of domestic abuse, or work with victims, perpetrators or children affected by it, please join us. Our sessions are free, interactive and the feedback is always positive around confidence building for referring to MARAC and understanding why we consider cases to be high risk.

Look for "MARAC and DASH Basics" in the link below and, as always, your onward shares within your networks are greatly appreciated.

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/o/west-midlands-marac-19706467367>

*"I would highly recommend this course as it helps give practitioners who work with victims of DV an insight on how to identify those who are at high risk of harm and when cases should be referred to MARAC in order to help manage risk."*

Please note if you are having trouble booking on to the training this may be caused by the web browser you are using. If there are issues accessing the link please try using Google Chrome or Microsoft Edge in the first instance.

## LSCP Training

The courses we are currently offering are detailed below. All courses can be booked through the LSCP website <https://training.solihullscp.co.uk/Learning-and-Development.aspx>

Course	Dates
An Introduction to Safeguarding Children for the Voluntary & Community Sector Virtual Training	5.4.22 30.6.22 9.30-12.30
Module 1 Early Help Virtual Training	26.4.22 25.5.22 28.6.22 9.30-12.30
Module 1b – Early Help- Recognising and supporting parents in parental conflict Face to Face training	4.5.22 6.7.22 9.30-16.30
Module 2 – Child Protection; an introduction to multi-agency working Face to Face training	28.4.22 7.6.22 7.7.22 9.30-16.30
Module 5a – All Age Exploitation Awareness Virtual Training	5.5.22 14.6.22 20.7.22 13.30-16.30
An Introduction to Contextual Safeguarding Virtual Training	23.6.22 9.30-12.30
Working with Parents as Partners in Child Exploitation	9.6.22 9.30-12.30
Module 6- Neglect; impact on child development Face to Face training	6.4.22 17.5.22 22.6.22 9.30-16.30

<p>Module 6c Neglect; Graded Care Profile 2 Face to Face training (unless you are a qualified social worker or Paediatrician you will need to have completed Module 6 before attending this course)</p>	<p>11.5.22 8.6.22 29.6.22 9.30-16.30</p>
<p>Module 8 Emotional Abuse Face to Face</p>	<p>16.6.22 9.30-12.30</p>
<p>Module 9 Sexual Abuse Face to Face</p>	<p>7.4.22 9.30-16.30</p>
<p>Managing Allegations Against Staff Face to face</p>	<p>15.6.22 9.30-12.30</p>

Booking is made via the LSCP website; <https://training.solihullscp.co.uk/Course/CoursesDetailListing.aspx>

\*Please be aware that face to face training has resumed with Covid safety measures in place; please read further information & risk assessments provided on the website, and be aware that changes may need to be made in line with Government guidance at the time.



To contact Solihull LSCP please email [lscp@solihull.gov.uk](mailto:lscp@solihull.gov.uk)