

# Cabinet

## 21 October 2015

**Time** 5.00 pm **Public Meeting?** YES **Type of meeting** Executive

**Venue** Committee Room 3 - Civic Centre, St Peter's Square, Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

### Membership

**Chair** Cllr Roger Lawrence (Lab)

**Vice-chair** Cllr Peter Bilson (Lab)

### Labour

Cllr Claire Darke

Cllr Steve Evans

Cllr Val Gibson

Cllr Andrew Johnson

Cllr Elias Mattu

Cllr John Reynolds

Cllr Sandra Samuels

Cllr Paul Sweet

Quorum for this meeting is two Councillors.

### Information for the Public

If you have any queries about this meeting, please contact the democratic support team:

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Some items are discussed in private because of their confidential or commercial nature. These reports are not available to the public.

# Agenda

## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*    *Title*

### MEETING BUSINESS ITEMS

- 1            **Apologies for absence**
- 2            **Declaration of interests**
- 3            **Minutes of the previous meeting (16 September 2015)** (Pages 5 - 14)  
[For approval]
- 4            **Matters arising**  
[To consider any matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting]

### DECISION ITEMS (AMBER - DELEGATED TO THE CABINET)

- 5            **2016/17 draft budget strategy and medium term financial strategy (general fund revenue budgets)**
- 6            **Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board annual report 2014/15** (Pages 15 - 78)  
[To receive the Board's Annual Report]
- 7            **Single Market Position Statement for Adult Services** (Pages 79 - 112)  
[To approve the Single Market Position Statement that will be used to support ongoing dialogue with providers to develop the market]
- 8            **Options paper for the Recovery House/Recovery Team** (Pages 113 - 118)  
[To approve consultations on proposed changes to the Mental Health Recovery House Recovery Team]
- 9            **Outcome of consultation on the future delivery options for Oxley Day Centre and Adults Short Breaks services** (Pages 119 - 126)  
[To consider the outcomes of the consultations]
- 10           **Safeguarding Children Board annual report 2014/15** (Pages 127 - 222)  
[To receive the annual report]
- 11           **Wolverhampton Youth Justice plan** (Pages 223 - 246)  
[To adopt the local Youth Justice Plan]
- 12           **Consultation on special educational needs disabilities strategy** (Pages 247 - 262)  
[To approve consultations on the draft strategy]

- 13 **Proposed new fostering fees and allowances scheme** (Pages 263 - 278)  
[To approve proposals to change the fees and allowances structure]
- 14 **Environmental sustainability implementation plan monitoring report 2014/15**  
(Pages 279 - 332)  
[To comment on the monitoring report]
- 15 **The local strategy for flood risk management in the Black Country** (Pages 333 - 336)  
[To approve consultations on the draft local strategy]

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### Attendance

#### Members of the Cabinet

Cllr Roger Lawrence (Chair)  
Cllr Peter Bilson (Vice-Chair)  
Cllr Claire Darke  
Cllr Steve Evans  
Cllr Val Gibson  
Cllr Andrew Johnson  
Cllr John Reynolds  
Cllr Sandra Samuels

#### Employees

Dereck Francis	Democratic Support Officer
Keith Ireland	Managing Director
Ros Jervis	Service Director – Public Health and Wellbeing
Tim Johnson	Strategic Director - Place
Kevin O'Keefe	Director of Governance
Mark Taylor	Director of Finance

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## Part 1 – items open to the press and public

*Item No.*     *Title*

- 1 Apologies for absence**  
Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Cllrs Elias Mattu and Paul Sweet.
- 2 Declaration of interests**  
Cllr Peter Bilson declared a personal interest in item 7 (Black County Growth Deal Capital Programme – Grand Theatre Grant) in so far as he is a Director of the Grand Theatre Board. Cllr John Reynolds also declared a personal interest in item 6 (Black County Growth Deal Grants to Third Parties) in so far as he is a recent employee of University of Wolverhampton.
- 3 Minutes of the previous meeting (22 July 2015)**  
Resolved:  
That the minutes of the meeting held on 22 July 2015 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chair.
- 4 Matters arising**  
There were no matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting.

5 **Approval for the Combined Authority Governance Review and Scheme**

Cllr Roger Lawrence presented the progress report on the proposal to develop a West Midlands Combined Authority (CA). Approval was sought to the current draft of the proposed 'scheme' for the CA, and to delegated arrangements to agree the final scheme for submission to Government for its consideration in October.

Resolved:

1. That the current draft scheme which is being considered by the Councils that would form the proposed West Midlands Combined Authority be approved.
2. That the current draft of the Scheme and Governance Review be submitted to Full Council on 23 September 2015, with the recommendation to delegate final approval of the Governance Review and Scheme to the Leader of the Council, in consultation with the Managing Director, through an Individual Executive Decision Notice (to allow the timescales to be achieved).
3. That the Council on 23 September receive a paper outlining the Devolution Deal progress to date.
4. That the current draft Governance Review be noted.
5. That the work conducted to date on the Combined Authority Programme be noted.

6 **Black Country Growth Hub - Grants to Third Parties**

Cllr John Rowley presented the report on proposals to approve grants to third parties to enable the continuation of delivery of the Black Country Growth Hub. Interim funding of £400,000 had been offered from the Regional Growth Fund to fund the Hub project to March 2016. The Hub aimed to provide practical advice and assistance to small businesses.

Resolved:

1. That Full Council be recommended to approve grants of £182,550 to the University of Wolverhampton and £60,428 to the Black Country Consortium to deliver products as part of the Black Country Growth Hub.
2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Economy in conjunction with Service Director City Economy to agree the arrangements and allocation of the remaining funding of £157,022 to partners and external bodies as determined by the Black Country Growth Hub Board.
3. That the Director of Governance be authorised to approve the execution of the contracts.

7 **Black Country Growth Deal - Cultural Capital Programme: Grand Theatre Grant**

Cllr John Reynolds reported that since the publication of the report Wolverhampton Grand Theatre had contacted the Council to request that the Council, as the owner of the Grand Theatre building, procure the proposed improvement works at the Theatre on their behalf. It was felt that this approach would be more efficient than the original intention for the Council to issue a grant to the Grand Theatre, who would then procure the works. The Theatre would provide the match funding required of

£400,000 and enter into an agreement with the Council to provide the match funding and deliver certain outputs as a condition of the Grant.

Resolved:

That the Council procure the improvement works on behalf of the Wolverhampton Grand Theatre to be funded through the Black Country Growth Deal.

## 8 **Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme**

Cllr Andrew Johnson presented a report on a proposal to consult on a revision to the Council's local council tax reduction scheme in respect of working age claimants. A change was required as a result of the Government's decision to reduce the amount of working tax credit people receive which had a knock on effect on entitlement to council tax reduction.

Resolved:

1. That the publication of a draft local council tax reduction scheme in respect of working age claimants be approved for consultation containing the following revision:
  - The additional earnings disregard is removed for claimants in receipt of working tax credit.
2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for Resources, in consultation with the Head of Revenues and Benefits, to approve the documents to be issued for consultation.
3. That it be noted that following the outcome of consultation a further report would be submitted to Cabinet on 9 December 2015 to enable a final scheme to be recommended to Council on 16 December 2015.
4. That the potential risk of the impact of universal credit on entitlement to council tax reduction be noted.

## 9 **People Directorate Prevention Values and Principles**

Cllr Sandra Samuels presented a report on a set of principles and values that would promote the prevention agenda across all services commissioned by the People Directorate.

Cllr Val Gibson gave her support to the proposal to bring together commissioning across the whole People Directorate and endorsed the report.

Resolved:

That the proposed People Directorate Prevention Values and Principles listed below be approved:

### **Overarching Values**

The People Directorate is committed to:

- commissioning services that promote the prevention agenda, complying with The Care Act 2014 requirements, the *Charter for Wolverhampton* and relevant National Institute of Health and Care Excellence (NICE) guidance

- working in partnership with key stakeholders and the local community to commission services that address and reduce identified population need, with a focus on prevention

### **Overarching Principles**

The services commissioned by the People Directorate will:

- Promote the physical, mental and emotional wellbeing of the individual needing care and their carer, recognising where brief interventions may prevent, reduce or delay the need for health and social care support.
- Provide services that reduce and delay the demand for health and social care services through targeted early support for individuals and their carers.
- Specify defined opportunities to offer preventative services, where possible and or/plans to incorporate prevention into service delivery.
- Deliver quantifiable outcomes that demonstrate a measurable contribution to the prevention agenda
- Work with individuals, families and carers to build resilience and enhance social integration to maintain independence and support the development of stronger family units and communities

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#### **Director of Public Health Annual Report 2014/15**

Cllr Sandra Samuels presented for endorsement and publication the Director of Public Health's Annual Report 2014/15 which addressed the prevention of lifestyle risk factors that impact on poor health outcomes and premature death.

Cllr Roger Lawrence reported that the Council had been working on tackling the impact of inequality on health outcomes for some time but it takes years for the outcomes to work their way through. The Council was committed to doing its part to encourage people to make healthier lifestyle choices to reduce the demand on health and social care services.

Resolved:

1. That Cabinet support the prevention agenda outlined within the Director of Public Health Annual Report for 2014/15
2. That the Director of Public Health Annual Report for 2014/15 be published.
3. That the high rate of preventable conditions within the current population of Wolverhampton that would escalate if nothing is done to halt poor inter-generational lifestyle choices that impact on health and wellbeing outcomes and create increasing demand for health and social care resources be noted.

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#### **Obesity Call to Action: Action Plan**

Cllr Sandra Samuels presented the progress report on the 'obesity call to action'. She asked Cabinet to support a whole systems approach being taken to tackle obesity, as well as a five year draft action plan containing high level actions required to tackle obesity within the city.



Cllr Val Gibson endorsed the report and indicated that it was pleasing to see within the concise action plan detailed work concerning pre-birth, early years and through to school age. She also thanked the Public Health Team for their work on this issue.

Resolved:

That the whole systems approach being taken to tackle obesity be supported and the draft action plan be endorsed.

12 **Care Act Implementation and Personalisation Programme**

Cllr Andrew Johnson presented the report on the current status of the Care Act Implementation and Personalisation Programme in light of the recent Government announcement to delay the funding reforms outline in the Care Act for another four years.

Resolved:

1. That the report on the future of the Care Act Programme be received and noted.
2. That the wider impact of the delay to the funding reforms outline in the Care Act for another four years be noted.

13 **West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan**

Cllr Peter Bilson presented a report on a proposed formal response to the West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan, to ensure the strategic issues for the City of Wolverhampton Council are appropriately represented as part of this process. The proposed response would emphasise road safety, links to health and connectivity across the region in all modes of transport.

Resolved:

1. That the City of Wolverhampton Council's formal response to the West Midlands Strategic Transport Plan consultation as detailed in Section 4 of the report be approved.
2. That the intention to combine the City of Wolverhampton Council's response within a wider Black Country representation which would include input from each of the Black Country Authorities and as far as possible the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership be noted. This would be submitted before the consultation closing date of 16 October 2015.

14 **City Centre Connected Places (Public Realm)**

Cllr John Reynolds presented an update report on progress in developing the city centre connected places project (formally the public realm project). The city centre connected places project was a comprehensive, wide ranging programme of works designed to substantially improve the city centre environment in both aesthetic and functional terms for the benefit of all. Approval was sought to the development of a strategy and delivery plan for the improvement of the public realm within the city centre.

Resolved:

1. That the principles of the Connected Places strategy and the development of the delivery plan be approved.

2. That the development of the early win work streams identified for Molineux and links between Springfield Brewery and Interchange be approved.
3. That the principle of commissioning external support to accelerate the preparation of the strategy, the identification of delivery mechanisms and to use as a lever to secure external funding be approved.
4. That the required budget and a transfer from the Regeneration Reserve to cover £230,000 of this expenditure be approved.
5. That the application to appropriate external bodies e.g. Local Enterprise Partnership and EU to secure external funding be approved.
6. That further updates on delivery progress of this strategy be submitted to Cabinet.
7. That the change of name of Public Realm to Connected Places be noted.
8. That the progress made to date with a number of work streams which form part of the Connected Places Project be noted.

15 **City Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) - Submission**

Cllr Peter Bilson informed Cabinet that the report would need to be referred to Full Council for approval. The report summarised the key issues raised during consultation on the Publication City Centre Area Action Plan (AAP). He asked Cabinet to endorse the proposed Council response and proposed minor modifications to the Publication City Centre AAP and refer it to Full Council for approval and submission to the Secretary of State.

Resolved:

1. That the issues raised by consultation on the Publication City Centre Area Action Plan (AAP) be approved and the Council's response and proposed minor modifications set out in the appendix to the report be endorsed.
2. That Full Council be recommended to approve the submission of the Publication Wolverhampton City Centre AAP and proposed minor modifications to the Secretary of State.

16 **Joint Black Country Regulators Operating Framework**

Cllr Steve Evans reported that the Council had been working with neighbouring councils and the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership to agree a joint Black Country Regulators Operating Framework in respect to Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing. Cabinet was requested to approve the joint framework.

Resolved:

1. That the proposed draft Black Country Regulators Operating Framework comprising Regulators and Business Charter, Enforcement Policy and Service Standards in relation to Environmental Health, Trading Standards and Licensing services be approved.

2. That the consideration of the principles contained in the Framework by all other City of Wolverhampton Council regulators be endorsed with a view to their adoption of the Framework as appropriate.
3. That the Cabinet Member for City Environment in consultation with the Head of Regulatory Services be authorised to approve the final version of the Framework following any amendments necessary as a result of consultation / comment.
4. That the Black Country Regulatory Services 'offer' be promoted through the Growth Hub website.

17 **Draft Black Country Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document**

Cllr Peter Bilson presented a report which summarised the principles set out in the draft Black Country Air Quality Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) and which sought approval to undertake public consultation on the draft SPD, in parallel with Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall Councils, and adoption of the SPD if no major objections are received, subject to approval by the Cabinet Member for City Assets in consultation with the Service Director City Assets.

Resolved:

1. That public consultation commence on the draft Black Country Air Quality SPD and associated Sustainability Appraisal Report and Strategic Environmental Assessment Screening Report.
2. That authority be delegated to the Cabinet Member for City Assets in consultation with the Service Director City Assets to make any minor amendments to the draft SPD which may be required before consultation to ensure consistency across the Black Country.
3. That subject to no significant objections being submitted, the Cabinet Member for City Assets in consultation with the Service Director City Assets be authorised to approve the Council's response to representations received on the Draft SPD and any minor amendments, and to adopt the document as SPD.

18 **Exclusion of press and public**

Resolved:

That in accordance with Section 100A(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the press and public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business as they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information falling within the paragraphs 3 and 4 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

19 **Canalside Delivery Strategy**

Cllr John Reynolds presented a report on progress made in laying the basis for a delivery strategy for the Canalside Quarter project.

Resolved:

1. That the delivery strategy for the Canalside Quarter (CSQ) be approved.

2. That the preparation of a Consultants Brief to commission a strategic regeneration framework for the CSQ be approved.
3. That the budget of £200,000 to undertake the necessary feasibility work and to engage external support to develop the Strategic Regeneration Framework to bring forward the CSQ be approved.
4. That the Council enter into a Collaboration Agreement with Canal and River Trust to bring forward the regeneration of the CSQ and promote the opportunity of the canal in the City.
5. That the development of a programme of short term options to improve the presentation of sites within CSQ be supported.
6. The progress made in laying the basis for a Delivery Strategy in removing the LPG tanks, undertaking the baseline analysis and the early engagement with partners which would enhance the deliverability of the CSQ be noted.

20 **Former Courtaulds Site Update**

Cllr Steve Evans presented a report which set out the current position in respect of the remediation of the former Courtaulds site and which outlined the steps proposed.

Resolved:

1. That the updates be noted and the proposed way forward be approved.
2. That the delegated authorities as requested within the current position sections of the report be approved.
3. That contract procedure rules be waived to enable the engagement of the Council's external specialist advisors until completion of all remediation work on site.

21 **Waste Framework directive**

Cllr Steve Evans presented a report on recent changes in legislation impacting on the waste and collection service and the outcome of a technically, environmentally and economically practicable (TEEP) assessment undertaken by the Wolverhampton Waste Partnership.

Resolved:

That the continuation of a fully comingled kerbside collection service based on the outcome of the technically, environmentally and economically practicable assessment, with particular attention paid to the quality of recycling collected until the next triennial review has taken place be approved.

22 **Creating additional capacity in the City of Wolverhampton Housing Offer**

Cllr Peter Bilson presented a report on a proposal to create additional expert leadership and capacity in the city's Housing Service to support the Strategic Director Place with the delivery of the regeneration of the city.

Resolved:

1. That the proposals to generate additional capacity in the City of Wolverhampton's Housing Team be approved.
2. That the effective date for the Strategic Director Housing to take up their role would be 1 October 2015.
3. That the arrangements be reviewed by the Managing Director and Chair of Wolverhampton Homes Board after 12 months of operation.
4. That a further report be presented to a future Cabinet meeting on the proposed method, governance arrangements and vehicle for the Council and/or Wolverhampton Homes to deliver further homes for sale or rent.
5. That it be noted that Wolverhampton Homes had been exclusively approached in the first instance to provide expert capacity to the City's Housing Team.
6. That it be noted that any housing development vehicle would be overseen by both the Cabinet Member for City Assets and the Cabinet Member for Resources.
7. That the Wolverhampton Homes Board is recommended to:
  - a. Approve the proposals detailed in the report to generate additional capacity in the City of Wolverhampton's Housing Team.
  - b. Approve that the Chief Executive of Wolverhampton Homes takes up the new role of Strategic Director Housing on 1 October 2015.
  - c. Approve that the Chair of Wolverhampton Homes Board and the Managing Director of the City Council review the arrangements after 12 months of operation.
  - d. Note that Wolverhampton Homes had been exclusively approached in the first instance to provide expert capacity to the City's Housing Team.

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### **Equal Pay Claims**

Cabinet considered a report on the Council's position with regard to equal pay claims to which the Council had not yet made a response. Delegated authority was requested to settle or defend these claims in order that the financial risk to the Council arising from the claims can be effectively managed.

Resolved:

That the Managing Director, Director of Finance and Director of Governance be authorised to defend or settle equal pay claims against the council in the categories of 'second generation claims' and 'claims from unrepresented ex-employees' in order that the financial risk to the Council arising from these claims can be effectively managed.

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# Cabinet Meeting

## 22 October 2015

**Report title** Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board Report 2014-15

<b>Decision designation</b>	AMBER	
<b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>	Councillor Elias Mattu Adults	
<b>Key decision</b>	No	
<b>In forward plan</b>	No	
<b>Wards affected</b>	All	
<b>Accountable director</b>	Linda Sanders, People Directorate	
<b>Originating service</b>	Safeguarding and Quality	
<b>Accountable employee(s)</b>	S Ashton Jones Tel Email	Safeguarding Manager – Adults 01902 553209 <a href="mailto:Sandra.ashton-jones@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Sandra.ashton-jones@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>
<b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>	Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board Strategic Executive Board Health and Wellbeing Board	10 September 2015 September 2015 7 October 2015

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Receive the report in order to ensure a clear understanding in relation to the work of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board (WSAB) over the last year.
2. Note the range of work that is taking place to safeguard adults in Wolverhampton, and the continued challenges, developments and achievements in this critical area of work.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide Cabinet with a copy of the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board's (WSAB) Annual Report and Executive Summary (**Appendix 1 & Appendix 2**), to inform Cabinet of safeguarding activity during 2014/2015 and to present the progress made against the priorities for 2013-16. The Annual Report is agreed by the WSAB and provides an overview of how partners have discharged their safeguarding responsibilities over the preceding year.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 (WSAB became a statutory body in April 2015 following the implementation of the Care Act 2014. The WSAB is independently chaired and its members are senior representatives of all the principle stakeholders working together to safeguard adults with care and support needs in the city.

The core duties of the Board are set out in Chapter 14 of the Care Act Statutory Guidance, issued under S78 of the Care Act 2014 which requires the Board to:-

- Co-ordinate, develop and publish a Strategic Plan for each financial year detailing how it will meet its main objective and what Members will do to achieve this;
- Publish an Annual Report detailing what the Board has done during the year to achieve its objectives and implement its Strategic Plan and what Members have done to implement the Strategy.
- Conduct any Safeguarding Adults Review in accordance with S44 of the Care Act 2014.

- 2.2 The Care Act 2014 requires each Local Safeguarding Adult Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. The annual report must also provide information about any Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SAR's) and how the Board is monitoring progress against its policies and intention to deliver its Strategic Plan. The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report must be submitted to the following:-

- Managing Director and Leader of City of Wolverhampton Council;
- The West Midlands Police Commander;
- The Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board and
- The local Healthwatch

- 2.3 The 2014 /15 Annual Report includes information on national, regional and local safeguarding developments, the structure and work of the WSAB, progress against the Board priorities, strategic priorities for 2015-2016, partner achievements, safeguarding activity data and case studies. One issue to note in the report is the significant increase in safeguarding alerts, the number of alerts rose from 1308 in 2013/14 to 1600 in 14/15.



### **3.0 The Implications to Policy and Practice contained within the Care Act 2014**

- 3.1 The Annual Report provides information on the work that was undertaken during the year to ensure that WSAB has policies, procedures and practice which are compliant with the Care Act.
- 3.2 To support these changes Board membership has been reviewed. Statutory Guidance confirms that three essential members are The Police, The NHS and the local Council. The budget to support the work of WSAB is discussed under the Financial Implications heading.
- 3.3 To support the new philosophy and expectations behind the Care Act there are now revised regional procedures – owned and endorsed by 14 Safeguarding Adults Boards in the region. This has been no small task and Wolverhampton has played a prominent part in achieving this.
- 3.4 The Annual Report reflects the complex and wide ranging agenda that the Board, its working groups and partner organisations have been addressing throughout the year

#### **Progress against Priorities**

- 3.5 The Annual Report outlines our progress and an appendix to the report provides individual assurance statements from the organisations represented at the Safeguarding Adults Board. WSAB has reviewed the 2013-16 priorities to reflect changes in legislation and guidance. More detail on both progress and future priorities can be found in the body of the Annual Report. Obtaining greater quality and consistency of those reports will be an important part of improving the report further next year.
- 3.6 For each of the Board's Priorities there is a lead that is responsible for driving the priority forward. The leads are all Board members and they report regularly to the Board on both the progress made and challenges faced. The Priority Leads make up the Board's Executive Group.
- 3.7 Over the past 12 months work has been undertaken to prevent neglect and abuse. In particular:
- Links have been developed to reach out to Faith Groups in the City to ensure that there is increased awareness of how to identify the signs of risk within congregations and communities.
  - The Cities main Social Housing providers have started a safeguarding group to ensure there is greater understanding and improved responses to safeguarding issues within housing providers.
  - Work has been undertaken with GPs to ensure they also understand what they can do to support and protect their more vulnerable patients.
  - People who have been assisted when at risk tell us that overall they feel much safer as a result of the intervention of those services that support them.

- Increased awareness of the law concerning mental capacity and deprivation of liberty has led to a massive increase in requests for assessments of people who may not have given consent for decisions to be made on their behalf or it could be argued their liberty is being compromised. This has been both a local and a national challenge.

3.8 There is more to do and this report outlines the priorities over the next 12 months and beyond. In particular:

- Consulting with a wide range of local Citizens on future plans to check what professionals believe are the main priorities are endorsed by local communities.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the training that professionals use, ensure that all professionals are up to date and recommend improvements;
- Continuing to work with individuals at risk to ensure they feel safe and when they want intervention, improving the protection they are offered.
- Ensuring that the WSAB has performance data that can help determine where further work is required particularly into prevention.
- Working with faith groups by targeting those who at present are unsure how and in what ways to protect those they know work and worship with.

3.9 It is encouraging that the numbers of incidents of safeguarding that are reported continue to rise as WSAB believe this represents greater awareness and commitment by care professionals and the public to report concerns and intervene earlier to keep people safe. It is equally encouraging that the vast people who had been subject to a safeguarding intervention felt safer as a result of this.

#### **4.0 Financial implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Safeguarding Adults financial budget is included in the Annual Report.

#### **5.0 Legal implications**

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The changes in law and guidance are covered under Section 3 above. The Annual Report is produced in line with The Care Act 2014

#### **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

## **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

10.1 Reports to the;

- Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Report 10.09.2015
- Strategic Executive Board September 2015

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# Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2014/2015



Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board



Wolverhampton Homes



operating as Wolverhampton's Local Police & Crime Board



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# Introduction

Welcome to the 2014/15 annual report of the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB). Anybody who has supported frail disabled or elderly relatives or neighbours will know all too well how vulnerable they can be to abuse or exploitation. This report is produced on behalf of the multi-agency Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board and contains contributions from the wide range of agencies who are its members.

This year has seen a significant amount of work preparing for a change in the law in regards to protecting and supporting vulnerable people who are at risk of abuse or have been abused. From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 the Government put the safeguarding of adults on an equal legal footing to that of children. The past year has been a time for preparing staff for this change and ensuring our policies and procedures reflect that. Many adults, unlike children, can choose to live in risky situations. Part of the job of the Board is to ensure staff and the public understand that although there is much they can do to support adults who may be at risk, there are times when we cannot insist they follow what to us might seem to be sound advice. It is and will remain a challenge.

Over the past 12 months we have done more work to prevent neglect and abuse. In particular we are reaching out to Faith Groups in the City to ensure that they are better aware of how to identify the signs of risk within their congregations and communities. Our main Social Housing providers have started their own safeguarding group to ensure there is a better understanding within housing providers of safeguarding issues and improve their response to it. We are also working more closely with GPs to ensure they also understand what they can do to support and protect their more vulnerable patients. People who have been assisted when at risk tell us that overall they feel much safer as a result of the intervention of those services that support them. Increased awareness of the law concerning mental capacity and deprivation of liberty has led to a massive increase in requests for assessments of people who may not have given consent for decisions to be made on their behalf or it could be argued their liberty is being compromised. This has been both a local and a national challenge.

There is more to do and this report outlines our priorities over the next 12 months and beyond. In particular I wish to highlight:

- Consulting with a wide range of local Citizens on our future plans to check what professionals believe are the main priorities are endorsed by local communities.
- Reviewing the effectiveness of the training that professionals use, ensure that all professionals are up to date and recommend improvements;
- Continuing to work with individuals at risk to ensure they feel safe and when they want us to intervene, improving the protection they are offered.
- Working with faith groups by targeting those who at present are unsure how and in what ways to protect those they know work and worship with.

It is encouraging that the numbers of incidents of safeguarding that are reported continue to rise as we believe this represents greater awareness and commitment by care professionals and the public to report concerns and intervene earlier to keep people safe. It is equally encouraging that the vast people who had been subject to a safeguarding intervention felt safer as a result of this.





Alan Coe - Independent Chair



## **National Developments**

The Care Act 2014 sets out a clear legal framework for local authorities and other statutory agencies on how they should protect adults with care and support needs and who are at risk of abuse or neglect. New duties include the Local Authority's duty to make enquiries or cause them to be made, to establish a Safeguarding Adults Board; statutory members are the local authority, Clinical Commissioning Groups and the police. Safeguarding Adult Boards must arrange Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) in circumstances where the defined criteria is met, publish an annual report and strategic plan. All these initiatives are designed to ensure greater multi-agency collaboration as a means of transforming adult social care.

Wolverhampton has remained committed to the Local Government Association (LGA) and Association of Directors of Adult Social Services (ADASS) Making Safeguarding Personal programme which aims to ensure the individual at the centre of any safeguarding concern has as much choice, power and control over how they are supported and protected. 2014/15 saw many more Local Authorities throughout England adopting the approach. In addition the approach can be clearly seen within the Statutory Guidance Safeguarding Adults section, which supports the implementation of the Care Act 2014.

The Supreme Court Judgement at the end of 2013-14 in relation to Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) widened and clarified the definition of deprivation of liberty. This has resulted in a significant increase in DoLS cases from hospitals and care homes nationally and locally. The judgement also widened the scope of DoLS to include adults living in the community requiring such cases to be put before the Court of Protection.

## **Regional and Local Developments**

Throughout 2014-15 the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board was represented on the West Midlands Editorial Group, our safeguarding policies and procedures are used by all agencies and have been adopted by all 14 Safeguarding Adult Boards in the West Midlands region. They have been reviewed and revised to reflect the new government legislation and guidance.

Regional guidance has been developed in the areas of Self Neglect, Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Position of Trust. Work was undertaken to ensure that all the documents are both Care Act and Making Safeguarding Personal compliant. This is to secure a consistent approach to safeguarding adults across the West Midlands region.

A regional multi-agency Safeguarding Information Sharing Protocol (ISP) has also been developed and agreed by WSAB.

We have established a Housing Providers Safeguarding Forum which is a collaboration of social housing providers in Wolverhampton. It is an objective of the group and indeed the Board to receive assurances that social housing providers have robust policies and procedures in place around safeguarding and the aim is that this will ultimately be extended to private landlords and the private sector more generally. The Forum is chaired by Mark Henderson Director of Housing, Wolverhampton Homes.

In June 2014 we launched the new Safeguarding Adult DVD and workbook. The DVD features dramatized scenarios and an interview with the wife of a man who suffered abuse in an establishment in Wolverhampton. Copies of the DVD are available as a learning resource for care providers and agencies within the City. Please contact 01902 553218 if you are interested in receiving a copy.

## **The Structure and Work of the Board**

The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board is well established and provides strategic leadership for adult safeguarding work and seeks to ensure there is a consistently high standard of professional response to situations where there is actual or suspected abuse.

The Board also oversees the effectiveness of the arrangements made by individual agencies and the wider partnership to safeguard adults from abuse. The remit of the Board is not operational but one of co-ordination, quality assurance, planning, policy and development. It contributes to the partnership's wider goals of improving the well-being of adults in the City.

Alan Coe has been the Board's independent Chair since 2011. In February 2013, Alan also became the independent chair of the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board. There are many advantages of having the same chairperson for the two Boards. A joint chair helps improve ways of preventative working as many issues are common to both adults and children such as domestic violence, and we have seen a greater emphasis on developing joint approaches to recognising and tackling abuse.

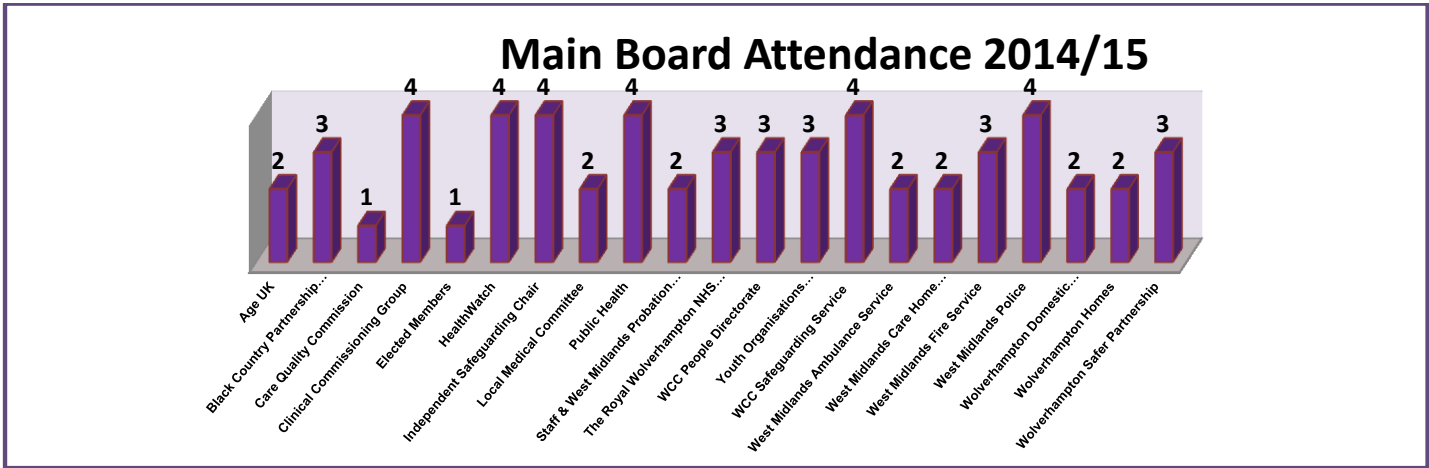
Currently, fifteen agencies are represented on the Board see Appendix 1 for list of Board members. It is agreed that the Care Quality Commission will attend and report on their activity at one Board meeting each year. The Board also has the support of an elected Council Member who attends meetings whenever he is able to do so and has participated in various adult safeguarding events.

The Board has four meetings per year; it also has one development event which usually takes place in March.

The development event this year focussed on preparations for the implementation of the Care Act and specifically reviewed the Board Priorities.

The minutes of all the open part of the meetings can be found on the Councils' Safeguarding Adults webpage: [Wolverhampton City Council - Safeguarding Adults Board \(SAB\)](#)

No Serious Case Reviews (now called Safeguarding Adult Reviews) were requested or undertaken during 2014/15.



## The Board's Priorities

During 2014/15 we identified changes that we need to make to ensure the Safeguarding Board complied with the new legislation. This included developing a Board Constitution and Board Strategic Plan and the tightening of the Board's governance arrangements.

We have promoted the six principles that the Government expects local authorities, housing, health, the police and other agencies to follow and use for monitoring safeguarding arrangements into all Board work. The six principles are empowerment, protection, prevention, proportionality, partnership and accountability.



# Summary of Progress against 2014/2015 Board Priorities

## PRIORITY ONE: Better Outcomes

### Service user experience and involvement in safeguarding enquiries directs improved practice

What did we want to achieve	What did we achieve.....
<p>Ensure that the feedback and experiences of local people, who have had contact or been involved in safeguarding processes, influence and improve the way safeguarding is delivered and received</p> <p>Ensure there are effective mechanisms for collating, analysing and responding to user feedback</p> <p>Ensure that we 'close the loop' by sharing how user feedback and experience has improved the way we work.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Wolverhampton Safeguarding Board partners contributed detailed information on what they do already to get feedback from people who use their service.</li> <li>▪ New questions introduced on Safeguarding forms to find out what outcome is required and whether it has been achieved, also whether the person would be willing to participate in focus groups to discuss experience.</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding leaflets now available and have been reviewed by service users. It is essential to continue to promote and encourage feedback through a range of methods including raising concerns with people who the individual considers can be trusted</li> <li>▪ Healthwatch Wolverhampton worked in partnership with a local GP, to launch a carers corner on their website. This portal provides information for carers and professionals and was developed to be an effective citywide resource.</li> <li>▪ Safeguarding week in October 2014 provided the opportunity to feedback to the public and undertake community engagement to demonstrate the importance of prioritising Safeguarding in Wolverhampton.</li> <li>▪ A Making Safeguarding Personal e-learning package was developed to support social work practitioners to identify different tools and methods of working with adults at risk, maximising their involvement and ensuring they are at the centre of the safeguarding episode and that their views are heard and acted upon</li> </ul>

### Priorities for 2015/2016

- The priority for this year is to develop improved mechanisms to gather feedback and furthering the commitment to 'making safeguarding personal'.
- To undertake an advocacy feedback project, establishment of a reference group, and implementation of the user experience framework.

## **PRIORITY TWO: Quality Assurance**

### **Ensure there are effective Multi-Agency Quality Assurance and Performance Management processes in place**

<b>What did we want to achieve</b>	<b>What did we achieve.....</b>
<p><b>Develop multi-agency processes, including audits of shared cases, to ensure safeguarding practice is proportionate, effective and timely</b></p> <p><b>Explore feasibility of identifying adults whose circumstances may make them vulnerable to abuse</b></p> <p><b>Make sure that agency learning from any Domestic Homicide Review is shared within WSAB Partner agencies</b></p> <p><b>Collate performance measures agreed by WSAB partner agencies, including those relating to service users' experiences, which gives it assurance that safeguarding processes are robust and make people feel safer.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ We now have a set of performance measures for all partners on the board to contribute to rather than just the Council</li><li>▪ This information is presented at each Board. Partners are held accountable to meeting the needs of Safeguarding Board policies and procedures and provide assurance.</li><li>▪ Developed a multi- agency audit framework</li><li>▪ Domestic Homicide Reviews and Serious Case Reviews are a standing item on the Quality Assurance Committee agenda</li><li>▪ Commissioned Service User Feedback project to commence September 2015</li></ul>

#### **Priorities for 2015/2016**

- Collate and analyse feedback from Service User Feedback project to ensure that safeguarding processes are robust and make people feel safer

## **PRIORITY THREE: Information Sharing**

**Improvements are made to how agencies can share personal information legally and ethically to enable adults to be protected from harm or unwarranted risk**

<b>What did we want to achieve</b>	<b>What did we achieve.....</b>
<p><b>Ensure overall Wolverhampton Information Sharing Protocol (WISP) was adopted and embedded across partner organisations</b></p> <p><b>To develop an early warning system of information sharing between partner agencies</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Board agreed and signed off Wolverhampton Information Sharing Protocol</li><li>▪ Survey of partner agencies undertaken to establish Partner organisations and front line staff's understanding of Information Sharing</li><li>▪ Assessment of 'Netcall' product used to collate sensitive information held by different agencies to see if we can apply it here</li><li>▪ Support in scoping/informing the development of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) which will ensure more effective information sharing in the future</li></ul>

### **Priorities for 2015/2016**

- Developing Wolverhampton MASH and ensuring adult safeguarding is effectively contained therein
- Continuation of review of most appropriate early alert systems
- This priority will now be included in the new Governance Priority detailed in the Strategic Plan 2015-18

### **Case Study**

#### **David's Story**

David was supported by the mental health team to monitor his mental health and prevent deterioration after he had had money stolen from him by a "friend" he had met online. The team also supported him to make changes to his social media site. His Housing Association provided him with added security to his front door. David decided to buy a small safe to keep his valuables in at home.

David has remained well and been able to continue with his life in his local community.



**PRIORITY FOUR: Prevention and Early Intervention**

**There is a coherent inclusive approach by both Safeguarding Boards to community initiatives which protect disadvantaged groups**

<b>What did we want to achieve</b>	<b>What did we achieve.....</b>
<p><b>Conduct a cross-agency audit to establish current delivery and gaps in service around prevention and early intervention.</b></p> <p><b>Progress ‘trigger thresholds’ work across agencies to identify vulnerable adults at risk before safeguarding adults risk threshold is met.</b></p> <p><b>Strengthen links to Public Health and extend use of the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment to inform strategic planning for adult safeguarding.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ An audit across partners has been undertaken across partners to identify current prevention and early intervention provision across the city.</li> <li>▪ City-wide roll out of risk assessments which include risk to self, risk to others and a whole family assessment</li> <li>▪ Development of multi-agency action plan protocol and dispute resolution process</li> <li>▪ Development of joint working protocols between the children and adult safeguarding boards and other key strategic Boards</li> <li>▪ Adoption of city’s Overarching Domestic Violence Protocol</li> <li>▪ A review of the city’s Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) arrangements has been undertaken and an improvement plan developed.</li> </ul>

**Priorities for 2015/2016**

- We will ensure there is a coherent inclusive approach by both Safeguarding Boards to reduce risk of harm to children, young people and adults.
- Partners work together to identify risks to children, young people and adults at the earliest point.
- Partners, clients and communities are aware of available prevention and early intervention support and how to access it.
- Recommended improvements in practice are embedded promptly.
- Easier access and awareness of specialist services across the city.
- Prompt multi-agency dissemination of learning from Serious Case Reviews/Domestic Homicide Reviews (SCR/DHR) for managers and front-line staff
- SCR/DHR overview forums to undertake sample auditing to ensure revised practice from is fully embedded
- Develop system for service user feedback regards prevention/early intervention improvements to be communicated to providers
- Implementation of Multi- Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) improvement plan
- Encourage reporting of hidden crimes

## Case Study

### Scam Mail victims – Partnership working

Wolverhampton Trading Standards have teamed up with the National Trading Standards Scams Team & Royal Mail to raise the profile on national scams. We will all have received some form of scam mail over the year, but what do we do with it

Most bin it, however a small percentage respond to that 'once in a lifetime opportunity' And once they have made that initial response their details end up on mailing lists, often referred to as 'Suckers Lists'. The deluge then begins with the victim gradually receive more & more 'exciting opportunities to win prizes etc. As we know, the true prizes never materialise, but the victim can often get caught in a net of false hope that they will be the lucky winner.

Research has shown that the elderly, vulnerable and socially isolated are often the ones more likely to become scam victims,

Trading Standards Service receive details of scam victims identified by Royal Mail, /National Trading Standards Scams Team. Working with Adult Social Care background checks are conducted prior to personal visits being made to confirmed scam victims', where support and advice is given to help stop them handing over money for bogus lotteries, prize draws of clairvoyant scams in the future.

#### Alan's Story



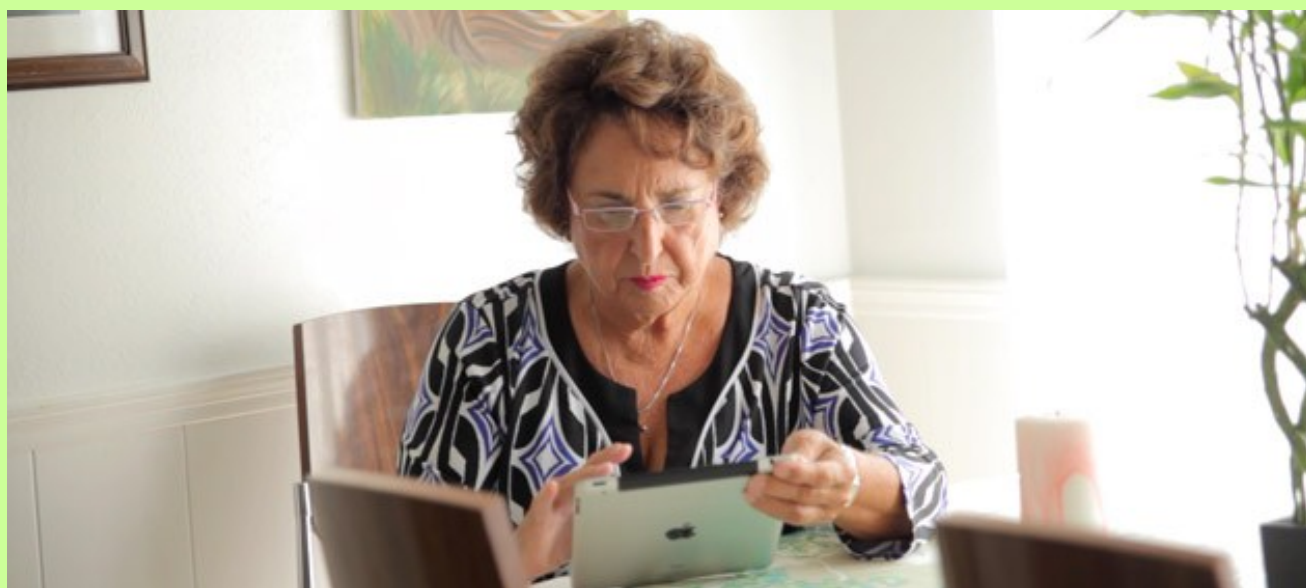
**Alan**, 70 years old, has always been keen on purchasing collectors sets from a wide range of magazines. However, when ill health prevented him from continuing to work, the catalogues with prize draws became his focus. Gradually he had been sending increasing amounts of money to companies all over the world believing he would be entered into a lottery with a



chance to win substantial amounts of money. After a number of visits to Alan, Officers were able to make him understand he had been the victim of scams.

We were able to have his name added to the Mail and Telephone Preference Service to reduce the volume of mail and phone calls he was receiving. We also fitted a call blocking device to allow calls to be screened. Since that first visit, Alan passed the scam mail over to Trading Standards. In three months he had received £150, letters from 20 different companies, along with as many associated telephone calls and sent money in the region of £480 just on eligibility fees for the various bogus prize draws.. Now he bins the scam mail & has continued with a call blocker. The money he sent to the scammers now goes into a 'holiday fund 'for himself and his wife.

## **Veronica's Story**



**Veronica** suffers with poor health which prevents her from getting out much. Receiving post is an important part of her daily routine. Veronica had responded to many prize draws over the years and to date had not received that big win. She retained all the associated paperwork for each prize draw entered all neatly filed ready for the day of that big win. Officers were able to make Veronica understand she had been the victim of various scams, and agreed to the post being handed to Officers for disposal. Officers registered Veronica with the Mail Preference Service and the reduced volume of scam mail she still receives goes in the bin.

## **PRIORITY FIVE: Communication and Engagement**

**There is a consistent and co-ordinated approach to how the safeguarding message for both adults, young people and children is disseminated to all groups and communities**

<b>What did we want to achieve</b>	<b>What did we achieve.....</b>
<p><b>The public and community groups are more aware of how to raise a safeguarding concern</b></p> <p><b>The public and community groups are more aware of what help and support is available and have more confidence in what is available</b></p> <p><b>The public and community groups are more aware of safeguarding issues publicised</b></p> <p><b>The public and community groups are more engaged with safeguarding adults &amp; children</b></p> <p><b>Safeguarding information is more accessible and accessed more</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Improved our communication methods through the advice of specialists which is also informing a Communication Strategy</li> <li>▪ A children and adult safeguarding website has been scoped and developmental work has started</li> <li>▪ Held a week-long safeguarding campaign in the city centre</li> <li>▪ Set up a programme of future campaigns</li> <li>▪ Produced a new DVD on adult safeguarding to better inform staff and protect adults at risk</li> </ul>

### **Priorities for 2015/2016**

- Develop and maintain a shared public-facing safeguarding website and social media presence in conjunction with Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board for the public, staff and organisations

## **PRIORITY SIX: Workforce Development**

**The workforce of all partner agencies have undergone safe and robust recruitment processes and understand safeguarding issues as they relate to their role**

<b>What did we want to achieve</b>	<b>What did we achieve.....</b>
<p><b>Adults can have confidence that processes have been followed to ensure where possible staff and volunteers pose no risk of harm</b></p> <p><b>Adults can have confidence that staff and volunteers are appropriately trained and skilled.</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ A range of partner agencies were contacted and 7 organisations responded and provided initial benchmarking data regarding safeguarding training undertaken within their organisations informs what more we need to do in terms of multi-agency training to support this an</li><li>▪ The four Black Country Safeguarding Boards gave commitment to a joint work programme to ensure more effective and efficient use of scarce resources</li></ul>

### **Priorities for 2015/2016**

- To develop a training reporting mechanism to the Board on a yearly basis
- To pilot a cross-borough training needs analysis to further progress the collaborative work which the group can promote

### **Case Study**

## **Maria's Story**

A safeguarding alert was made regarding Maria, an older woman who has severe dementia. Concerns were raised by a neighbour who stated Maria lives with her daughter and grandson. The neighbour stated he could hear the daughter regularly shouting at Maria and believed she was frequently left alone and locked in the house.

Contact was made with the daughter and an advocate was allocated to support Maria. A case conference was held, Maria did not attend but the advocate attended on her behalf. Maria's daughter and grandson attended part of the meeting and a best interest decision was made regarding alternative care arrangements. Carer Support was offered to Maria's daughter as the main carer, all were in agreement with the support and care offered.



# WSAB Strategic Priorities 2015/2018

From the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2015 every Safeguarding Adult Board must have a strategic plan which is consulted on with the local Healthwatch and community. These are our new strategic priorities under the new statutory arrangements. By this time next year our plan will have been shared with Wolverhampton's residents so that we can be confident that future priorities are shaped and owned by local people. We have reduced our overarching priority areas from six to five by amalgamating two related areas of work.

<b>Effective Governance</b>	We will develop the capacity of WSAB and its infrastructure to effectively deliver the core functions of the Board to help keep adults with care and support needs in Wolverhampton safe.
<b>Performance &amp; Quality</b>	We will ensure that there are effective multi-agency quality assurance and performance management processes in place which will promote the welfare of adults with care and support needs and will hold partners to account.
<b>Prevention</b>	We will ensure there is a coherent inclusive approach by both Safeguarding Boards to reduce risk of harm to children, young people and adults.
<b>Communication &amp; Engagement</b>	We will ensure there is a consistent and co-ordinated approach to how the safeguarding message for adults, young people and children is disseminated to all groups and communities in Wolverhampton, and we will ensure that we engage children, young people, families, adults and communities of all backgrounds and make up in the work of WSAB.
<b>Workforce Development</b>	We will ensure the workforce of all partner agencies have access to and have undergone robust training relevant to their role and understand how to apply it to their role.

# Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Budget

For 2014/2015, the financial contributions for the work of the Board came from Wolverhampton City Council, Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group, West Midlands Police. The total budget was £60,782, comprising of £30,889 Wolverhampton City Council, £15,000 Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and £ £14,873 West Midlands Police.

The contributions made by the above agencies have covered:

- the general expenses of Board business
- the work of the Independent Chair of the Board
- 9.25 hours per week for the Board Manager
- 18.5 hours for the Board Administrator
- the costs of multi- agency safeguarding training during 2014/15
- production of new Adult Safeguarding DVD and Workbook which was launched June 2014

## Board Members Reports 2014/2015

Copies of individual Board Members reports relating to their respective organisation’s safeguarding activity can be found at **Appendix 1**.

## Safeguarding Performance Data 2014/2015

**Appendix 2** provides a range of data to demonstrate safeguarding activity in Wolverhampton from all agencies; this data is collected by Wolverhampton City Council as the lead agency for safeguarding adults.

All data is scrutinised and used to inform prevention work and reviews of guidance and policy. Wolverhampton’s data collection meets the requirements of the annual Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) Safeguarding Adults Return

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## Board Members Reports 2014/2015

### Wolverhampton Homes



Mark Henderson

#### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

The Care Act 2014 places adult safeguarding on the same footing as children's safeguarding. The Act is specific in its reference to the duties on housing providers and Wolverhampton Homes needs to respond appropriately to the safeguarding provisions contained within the legislation to ensure compliance.

The need to meet these requirements and also to ensure that both adult and children's safeguarding processes and procedures are well embedded will require on-going commitment from the company on a strategic and operational level, with financial resources needing to be identified, where necessary, to ensure effective management and legal compliance and accommodate staff training.

Agreement to raise awareness among tenants and service users generally in relation to safeguarding will need to be done in a sensitive manner, ensuring that information is provided in appropriate language and in relevant formats.

#### **Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

Information sharing – Effective sharing of information between professionals and local agencies is essential for effective identification, assessment and service provision to children and adults in relation to their safeguarding.

Awareness of safeguarding and improving our response to children and adults at risk – Raising awareness of our responsibility to respond to safeguarding issues when identified has been, and remains a priority.

#### **Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

A particular challenge remains with effective information sharing. Consequently we will be actively supporting the development of a Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and will be members of the Operational and Strategic Group to see its development.

#### **Impact for Adults**

An increasing number of our customers display and present with safeguarding issues and we believe that a more informed and equipped workforce enables us to respond with effective interventions and referrals.

## **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- a) Ensure Board and the company generally have an understanding of our duty in relation to the Care Act by providing appropriate training/awareness raising sessions.
- b) Continue to recognise that housing staff have a key role to play in safeguarding and promote this role at every available opportunity (e.g. Safeguarding Adult Board, Wolverhampton Information Sharing Group, Housing Provider Safeguarding Group, Early Intervention Board);
- c) In conjunction with partners, continue to research the potential for the development of either a real or virtual MASH to improve information sharing across and between partner agencies.
- d) Continue to learn from Domestic Homicide Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Reviews where appropriate and amend working practices as a result where necessary.

We believe that safeguarding has become more embedded within the Company, our Board and Senior Managers have received awareness training and made a commitment to ensuring that safeguarding is considered a priority and regarded as everyone's business.

The development of a Housing Providers Safeguarding Group continues and a number of social housing providers commit to sharing knowledge and experiences through regular meetings and a social media 'yammer' site.

Our Director of Housing has been involved in national safeguarding events and used the opportunity to raise awareness and profile of work being undertaken by WSAB.

Furthermore Wolverhampton Homes is committed to multi agency working and will offer its full support to the WSAB in its attempts to ensure adults within the city are safe and where necessary protected.

## **West Midlands Police**



**Chief Superintendent Simon Hyde**

## **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

West Midlands Police are committed to engaging with our partners, providing a joint approach to safeguarding those members of our community who are the most vulnerable.

In January 2013, West Midlands Police responded to the national concern of adults at risk of abuse by piloting a Vulnerable Adult Abuse Hub for a six month period. The pilot provided the basis for an established and dedicated team of officers covering the seven Local Authority areas of the West Midlands; the Adult at Risk Team is based at West Bromwich Police Station in Sandwell operating within the Public Protection Unit. Our objective for 2014 /15 was to strengthen and further develop the Team.



The Adult at Risk Team provides a point of contact for vulnerable referrals and work with partner agencies in regards to multi-agency strategy meetings, case conferences and information sharing. The team consists of 18 experienced police officers and four members of business support staff, supervised by three Detective Sergeants and a Detective Inspector. The team work 7 days a week between 08:00 – 20:00 providing a service both internally to West Midlands Police colleagues and externally to victims of abuse. The team are responsible for both safeguarding and investigating all vulnerable adult crime and non-crime incidents where the perpetrator is in a relationship with the vulnerable adult or a position of trust. The offences include:

- Domestic abuse
- Financial abuse
- Physical abuse
- Suspicious death
- Sexual offences committed against a vulnerable adult that has been committed by an offender who is a family members or in a position of trust or a vulnerable adults themselves.
- West Midlands Police adopts the 'No Secrets' definition of vulnerability, namely:
- A Vulnerable Adult is any person aged 18 or over who is or may be in need of community care services, by reason of mental, physical or learning disability, age or illness and is or may be unable to take care of him/herself or unable to protect him/herself against significant harm or exploitation. The definition applies to people with mental health, sensory or other physical impairments, learning difficulties, frailty or confusion, who, as a consequence, are unable to protect themselves and are in need of community care.
- West Midlands Police are one of the only forces in the country to have a dedicated Adult at Risk Team and will work on average with 100 open incidents at any one time across the force area. These incidents can range in severity from low level crime through to high profile, complex investigations. Earlier this year the Adult at Risk Team were responsible for securing a conviction of a 23 year old care worker for the attempted murder of three elderly residents of a care establishment in the West Midlands. Adult at Risk Officers have received training from the Office of Public Guardian, the Crown Prosecution Service, Coroner's Office and have attended multi-agency training on domestic abuse, financial abuse and the Winterbourne View investigation.

#### **Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

All West Midlands Police officers and staff have completed comprehensive training in which safeguarding is paramount; the mission statement for West Midlands Police is 'to protect and serve'. All policies and guidance are easily accessible by all members of staff from any workstation within a police station and all staff have access to advice on-line. Safeguarding inputs form part of initial police training which are regularly updated on designated training days. In addition, Operation Sentinel is West Midlands Police's response to increasing the awareness of vulnerability for all frontline staff which has included the training of all supervisors in recognising vulnerability.

In March 2015, the Adults at Risk Team hosted a Social Care Awareness Event for partners, focusing on the concepts of 'best evidence' and 'criminal threshold' with the aim of improving assessment of concern. The event received positive feedback from partners who could take the learning back into their workplace in order to enhance their safeguarding procedures.

A comprehensive training plan with a layered approach has been put in place for the force in light of The Care Act. Whilst The Care Act is predominantly Local Authority driven, there are many aspects that can be supported within policing which are being linked and picked up through our 'WMP 2020' change programme around the 'Geared to Prevent Harm' strand of this five year programme of work. The training is not mandatory but will give West Midlands Police staff the knowledge to approach vulnerability with confidence.

The training plan consists of bespoke training for the Adults at Risk Team such as external speakers around Mental Capacity Act and dementia training, amongst others to provide them with enhanced knowledge enabling them to offer support and advice to others. There is also a front facing response and contact driven training through Continuous Professional Development days and we are working at a video box delivery with our Learning & Development Department. West Midlands Police are also arranging training sessions with Local Authorities to inform them of Criminal Threshold and Best Evidence to assist them when they are directing a Section 42 enquiry under the Care Act.

There is also a strand that is being developed with partners which assists care establishments professionalise themselves, thus preventing further harm. All the above is supported by West Midlands Police's internal web site and we are currently scoping a link to the external site for reference of Local Authority practitioners.

West Midlands Police have a force wide Review Team that reviews all cold cases, undertake Independent Management Reviews (IMRs) for any Serious Case Reviews involving children (SCRs), Domestic Homicide Reviews involving adults (DHRs) and Vulnerable Adult Serious Case Reviews. There is developing a work plan for disseminating learning from across the West Midlands.

Victims and witnesses are contacted through our dip sampling policy of which is governed through our 'Contact Counts' policy. The new 'Victims Code' ensures West Midlands Police understands the victim's perspective and how our service can be improved.

All West Midlands Police officers and staff are vetted to the required standards and is a requisite condition to their employment within West Midlands Police. DBS/Vetting is not renewed, however should an officer or member of staff breach the Police Code of Conducts or commits a criminal offence they will be subject internal disciplinary proceedings. Part of the proceedings is consideration as to the role/function carried out by the officer/member of staff and a full suitability and risk assessment is conducted. Officers or staff who are subject to gross misconduct proceedings can be removed from the workplace when the circumstances dictate.

West Midlands Police is committed to partnership working and offers attendance at all seven Local Safeguarding Adult Boards across the region. The Care Act states that attendees must be someone who can speak with authority, can commit resources and agree actions on behalf of their organisation and must be an 'Executive Member'. Each Local Policing Unit Commander has agreed for a member of their Command Team to be present at each Local Safeguarding Adult Board (LSAB), supported by a dedicated member of the Adults at Risk Team. Due to the

Adults at Risk Team servicing all seven Local Authority LSAB meetings, it is not possible to provide the same commitment to sub-group attendance. West Midland Police 'match funds' the same donations to Adults Board that it does annually to each Local Safeguarding Children's Board across the force area.

In Wolverhampton there were 63 crimes in 2014/15 which carried the 'vulnerable adult' incident marker. There were 331 incidents that attracted the "VA" non- crime marker.

### **Challenges**

West Midlands Police are in a similar position to other partners in relation to future budgetary challenges. We are in a position where budgets are reducing at a level never seen before, technology is advancing and society is changing. At the end of summer 2014, West Midlands Police entered a partnership with Accenture to help us transform how we deliver policing across the West Midlands by 2020. This work will help us tackle the spending gap of £120 million over the next five years by allowing West Midlands Police to develop new ways of working supported by modern technology.

Complimentary to this work is a 'Zero Based Budgeting' exercise whereby the Public Protection Department will define service levels in line with the future financial outlook. Throughout both of these programmes of work, West Midlands Police will continual to consult with key partner agencies to maintain excellent working relationships.

## **Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust (RWT)**



**Lynne Fieldhouse represented RWT to Dec 2014, Jane O'Daly Dec 2014 onwards**

The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust has undertaken a comprehensive assurance review of safeguarding in the year 2014-15, restructured the team and located them in the Corporate Division and recruited additional staff to work in the field of safeguarding adults and Domestic Violence.

All policies have been updated in the light of The Care Act 2014, case law in relation to DoLS and new policies are being developed to address issues of managing allegations against staff and Domestic Violence for example. An audit schedule has been developed and will be implemented over the coming year.

All training has been updated to address The Care Act 2014 and other developments and training compliance is monitored at the Trust Safeguarding Group. The Annual Report has been presented to the Trust Safeguarding Group and through the governance structure. Performance data is regularly reported through the governance structure at all levels and also in our regular meetings with the CCG.

A comprehensive work-plan is in place and progressing to timescales.

## Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust



Tabetha Darmon

### What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?

1. Data collection system and the monitoring of adult safeguarding activity;
2. Establishing a robust training programme for staff that is sustainable with existing resources;
3. Raising awareness within the organisation that Adult Safeguarding is everyone's business;
4. Increased activity within Domestic violence, e.g. Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Multi- Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH);
5. Capturing service user's experience of Adult Safeguarding.

### Achievements against the above Objectives:-

Our performance system Datix now collects all the Adult Safeguarding activity and other adult concerns; and are shared Trust wide through the introduction of an incident conference call every Tuesday. A review of all safeguarding incidents is still on-going and this data needs to be cross referenced with the information held by local authorities so a more structured system can be developed to ensure all information is captured in a timely manner. Safeguarding Adults Return, Annual Report, England 2013-14, experimental Statistics provides an annual national report (Appendix 3) Figures for 2014/15 are not available until October 2015. Reporting for the trust is in keeping with national averages and increased reporting expected to continue due to increased awareness and improved reporting systems.

There is a Safeguarding Training strategy in place for 2015/16. Monitoring and assurance is in place through a safeguarding dashboard. All staff received basic awareness of adult safeguarding training (Level 1) within the induction programme and the annual Mandatory training. Induction and mandatory training content and quality are audited annually with learning and development. There has been a significant investment in training for adult safeguarding level 2 and 3 adult, Domestic Violence and Deprivation of Liberty/Mental Capacity via external trainers. To enable training levels to be sustained beyond 2015 Train the Trainers has been commissioned. Our Local Authority partners also provide training in specific areas of Adult Safeguarding which are available for staff to attend as appropriate. The 4 Adult Safeguarding Boards have created a Regional Training Group to seek to develop collaborative training events.

Health WRAP training has been delivered to 208 frontline staff and awareness raising provided at mandatory and induction training days. Raising awareness has also been provided through the e-bulletin, intranet and attendance at local authority awareness raising events. Moving forward to 2015/16 BCPFT is further developing training in line with NHS England Competency framework.

1. This is being achieved within BCPFT from the training as stated above and also Safeguarding Teams engaging with the divisional teams for e.g. Safeguarding workshops and meetings. Additionally the Safeguarding Team uses e-bulletin to inform trust wide staff around new legislation, training, policies and much more.
2. The Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) was launched in Sandwell on the 18th November 2013. Domestic abuse screening is incorporated into the MASH arrangements. All domestic abuse cases which have been reported to the Police are submitted to the MASH for multi-agency screening. This enables information to be shared by agencies which is used to assess the level of risk to adult and child victims and determine the most appropriate response. Agencies involved in MASH screening include Police, Children's Social Care, Sandwell Women's Aid, Housing, Health, Probation, Community Safety, Early Help, Adult Social Care and Education.
3. The Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust recognises the impact of domestic violence on its service users, whether they are the victim, perpetrator or children. Adult Safeguarding represents BCPFT at 2 MARACs, Sandwell and Wolverhampton. MARAC workload is increasing and this has been raised by many of the agencies attending. Wolverhampton MARAC now meets weekly as a result of the increases in activity. There is a raised awareness with agencies regarding Domestic violence and the role of MARAC and recent changes to the structure within West Midlands Public Protection Unit and the formation of a multi-agency shared hub (MASH) in Sandwell are possible contributing factors and this is being monitored.

### **Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

Following the Supreme Court judgement on 19 March 2014, health and social care staff must be aware of how to judge whether a person might be deprived of their liberty. It is clear that the intention of the majority of the Supreme Court was to extend the safeguard of independent scrutiny.

BCPFT have taken legal advice , and followed guidance from West Midlands Regional DoLS Group and the Care Quality Commission which are consistent in their interpretation and application.

An action plan to address the challenges that the legal Supreme Court judgement brings has been taken forward through the Quality and Safety Steering Group.

200 staff received DoLS/Mental Capacity Act awareness training between September and January. In addition local authority provided support and advice to individual teams.

BCPFT is engaged in a project in relation to the Mental Capacity Act and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards, the project is hosted by Birmingham South Central CCG and works across Sandwell and West Birmingham CCG.

The project aims to identify local, issues, barriers and challenges, as well as looking at creative ways to share and promote best practice and improve service delivery for people and patients who experience the Act.

BCPFT has got an implementation plan to ensure the requirements of the Care Act 2014 which came into effect in April 2015 are met.

### **Impact for Adults**

Adult Safeguarding team has evolved significantly in the past 2 years which evidences BCPFT commitment to keeping adults at risk safe from harm. The team is making a difference through

its engagement with teams across the organisation and externally through its partnership working with other agencies.

We have vacancies within the adult safeguarding team which we need to recruit to for Mental Capacity Act/Deprivation of Liberty (MCA/DoLS) Lead and Domestic Abuse Nurse, to ensure adults are safeguarded effectively.

### **In relation to safeguarding adults , what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- Implementation of the Care Act 2014, making adult safeguarding personal and capturing service user's experience of Adult Safeguarding.
- Continue to provide a robust training programme for staff that is sustainable with existing resources.
- Raising awareness within the organisation that Adult Safeguarding is everyone's business.
- Meeting the expectations of external partners through full participation in Adult safeguarding boards, Domestic Violence Forums and related sub groups.
- Increasing awareness and expertise for Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and Mental Capacity Act.
- PREVENT: expected statutory requirements through the Counter-Terrorism and Security Bill. Action plan required to meet needs for PREVENT agenda.
- Action Plan required to reflect increase in activity with domestic violence e.g. MARAC and MASH.
- Improving practice through lessons learnt from Domestic Homicide Reviews and Serious Case Reviews.

### **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

Senior Leadership presence within Safeguarding Adults Boards and sub-groups. Engagement with partner agencies in terms of information sharing and lessons learnt.

## **Healthwatch**



**Maxine Bygrave**

### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

The objective was to support collating information from other agencies about their methods of gathering feedback from service users in relation to vulnerable adults and the safeguarding process.

## **Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

We have clarified what needs to be done to get better information from people who have been at risk and who can tell us whether our intervention has made them feel safer, whether they feel they have been given choice and control and whether people have confidence that they are listened to. We are well on the way to getting that and we can make improvements based on the feedback we receive.

We have also ensured our staff understand sharing information with other agencies when adults may be at risk of harm.

## **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

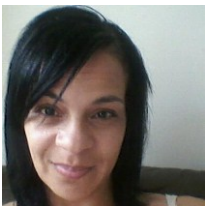
The priority for this year is to develop improved mechanisms to gather feedback - mechanisms included questionnaires to service users during safeguarding process, review of user complaints from all agencies if they related to safeguarding, commitment to 'making safeguarding personal'.

Future plans also include advocacy feedback project, establishment of a reference group, and implementation of the user experience framework.

## **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

A designate member from the Healthwatch Board has been identified and they regularly attend meetings and share information especially around our Enter and View programme which is one of our statutory functions.

## **Safer Wolverhampton Partnership**



Karen Samuels

**The Safer Wolverhampton Partnership did not set any objectives for 2014/2015.**

## **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

### **Domestic Homicides – Shared Learning**

It is proposed to host a shared Serious Case Review/Domestic Homicide Review learning event in the autumn of 2015 to disseminate findings and facilitate change within front-line services, and to ensure prompt dissemination of learning from future reviews.

### **Prevent duty**

Building on work completed so far, following successful delivery of a Channel and Prevent safeguarding awareness event held in March 2015, which alerted organisational safeguarding leads to the vulnerabilities linked to Prevent and arrangements for referring individuals needing support), a key focus for 2015/16 will be on embedding changed practice following introduction of the Prevent duty arising from the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

## **Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)**

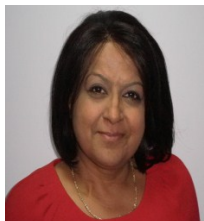
Develop a revised VAWG strategy focussing on domestic and sexual violence, honour based violence, forced marriage and female genital mutilation which will reduce the risks to vulnerable adults and families and highlight areas where WSAB oversight is needed.

### **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The strengthened link between WSAB and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership enables us to collectively drive forward areas of shared responsibility. This relationship has worked well for 2014/15 and will be formalised during 2015/16 to embed that practice.

The additional focus SWP is putting into VAWG and domestic abuse in particular has a significant impact upon safeguarding adults and protecting families.

## **Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)**



**Manjeet Garcha**

### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

#### **Implementation of the Care Act 2014**

- Empowerment – presumption of person led decisions and informed consent
- Prevention – it is better to take action before harm occurs
- Proportionality – proportionate and least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented
- Protection – support and representation for those in greatest need
- Partnerships – local solutions through services working with their communities
- Accountability – accountability and transparency in delivering safeguarding

Incorporate safeguarding into provider contract schedules.

Improve MCA/DOLS training across the health and social care sector

Improve outcomes for patients and service users in nursing and residential homes, identify safeguarding and strengthen reporting and mechanisms for monitoring key themes

Develop a schedule of quality visits.

The Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 (CTSA 2015) seeks to place a statutory duty on NHS organisations, under S24, to have “due regard of the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism”. This becomes statute in July 2015.

Develop monitoring/audit tools for provider education and training specific to adults safeguarding at appropriate levels



Develop CCG safeguarding training at minimum level 1 for all staff as part of mandatory annual updates.

Instill a recognition that safeguarding is everyone's business from board down.

**Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

The CCG has reviewed its internal processes for recording all requests for safeguarding enquiries and information regarding safeguarding concerns, and has utilised the Datix system to capture this (since February 2015).

The West Midlands Multi Agency Policy and Procedures for the protection of adults with care and support needs in the West Midlands has been revised in line with the new statutory legislation and is currently in a working draft format.

Development of local practice guidance

As now required by law we now have a Designated Adult Safeguarding manager who will oversee our approach to adult safeguarding.

Agreed quality schedules into contracts for 2015/16

MCA/DOLS training across Black Country in collaboration with NHSE and Walsall CCG

Close working with LA to identify homes with safeguarding concerns via wider working and via Root Cause Analysis of avoidable pressure ulcers

Schedule of quality visits completed in 14/15, improvement plans in place and large scale strategy meetings have improved quality and safety of care

CCG PREVENT Strategy and web page in operation

Contribute to Domestic Homicide Reviews monitor action plans and provided primary care awareness sessions at Team W event

Monthly monitoring of provider education and training target v plans to ensure all staff are accessing appropriate training according to their individual role.

**Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

Improved collaboration with wider agencies to address barriers. Improved communication.

**In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

Continue and build on the work above

Contribute to the Board's Strategic Plan 2015/18

Contribution to the MASH

Improved guidance on DASM role to ensure CCG is well placed

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The CCG Governing Body are assured that WCCG are compliant of their statutory duties regarding safeguarding adults and provide a high level of oversight of the quality and safety matters of safeguarding and vulnerable adults across the City.

The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board is assured that the CCG is committed to ensuring that its providers provide a safe system that safeguards all adults at risk of abuse and neglect, as set out in the Care Act 2014.

## **West Midlands Care Association (WMCA)**



**Trisha Haywood**

### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

During 2014/2015 West Midlands Care Association continued to support and encourage members to work on previous objectives in relation to training re: DOLs and Safeguarding

The manager and team members of WCC Safeguarding have been regular speakers at our meetings, offering advice and clarification for homes, keeping us informed of changes and the specific parts care homes need to prioritise.

Employment and Recruitment remained a key item on our agenda as prioritised by the CQC.

### **Achievements against the above objectives?**

Attendance at WMCA Meetings to hear presentations on the Care Act and especially the changes to safeguarding under this act were excellent.

The issue of References under the Employment and Recruitment objective remains a problem, many organisations refusing to give more than a generic reference confirming dates of employment.

### **Improvement Plans where barriers have existed**

The major barrier for WMCA Wolverhampton branch has been the removal of funding for training to homes, so this is having to be sourced and funded by homes themselves.

There is some training available re: DOLs during July, August & September 2015.

## Impact for Adults

Care Homes and their staff having an increased knowledge of safeguarding, DOLs and should translate to a greater understanding by staff on which will enrich their day to day working practice with service user.

### **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities for objectives for 2015 / 2016?**

The Care Act - Understanding thresholds.

New Safeguarding Policy - Referral pathways, MASH, POWE HUB.

### **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

WMCA Director for Wolverhampton attends the safeguarding board meetings, facilitates two way information sharing, ensures that changes are passed onto members and facilitates key speakers to come to WMCA meetings to inform / advise members.

We support national safeguarding days e.g. Elder Abuse.

## Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum (WDVF)



Kathy Cole-Evans

### **How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding adults and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?**

#### **a. TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency & multi-agency training**

Our funding contract, policies, procedures, and practice demonstrates that generic safeguarding training is mandatory for front line staff, as is training for subject specific safeguarding elements, for example Prevent training, etc.

Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum (WDVF) has continued to deliver subject specific safeguarding training around Violence Against Women and Girls, for example Domestic Abuse Stalking, Harassment and Honour Based Violence, Risk Assessment training to Children and Adult Social Workers and newly qualified workers, Family Support Workers, Housing Options and Wolverhampton Homes staff; Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) training to 30 agencies; Training and coaching around Domestic Homicide Reviews.

#### **b. POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice**

Relevant policies and procedures are discussed with staff at team meetings, and raised at the multi-agency WDVF Executive Board to be embedded into practice in different organisations.

WDVF is instrumental in developing multi-agency subject specific policies and procedures, for example Wolverhampton's - Over-Arching Domestic Violence Protocol, Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) and Information Sharing Protocol, and was a key partner in developing the first joint adult and child Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Protocol together with the two Safeguarding Boards.

These policies and procedures are embedded by partners who are held accountable through inclusion of policy requirements through Section 11 and other Safeguarding audit processes, and the Domestic Homicide Review Standing Panel.

**c. COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce**

Information is cascaded with WDVF and partner agency staff electronically, and specific items are discussed at WDVF team meetings with a view to identifying if and how WDVF procedures and practice needs to change.

**d. IMPROVING QUALITY– single agency audit, supervision, Section 11**

Due to the nature of our work, every person referred to our service is risk assessed using the national risk model, which identifies any safeguarding adult and children concerns. Supervision of our Independent Domestic Violence Advisers is undertaken by the Strategy Coordinator/General Manager, these staff also receive external clinical supervision for their caseloads. Processes such as Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) that WDVF coordinates and provides governance around are externally audited. The latest audit is wholly positive around all aspects including governance, commitment, attendance, adult and children support, and correct application of criteria.

**e. CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT– supplying performance data and commentary**

WDVF provides Violence Against Women and Girls data and commentary to the Quality and Performance sub-groups to both Safeguarding Boards. WDVF also contributes to and attends quality and performance sub-group meetings to critically analyse, develop, and refine performance dashboards for the Boards. WDVF provides update reports to the Boards from WDVF multi-agency Executive Board.

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

Increase first time reporting of Violence Against Women and Girls

Reduce the prevalence of Violence Against Women and Girls

Reduce repeat Violence Against Women and Girls incidents

Increase Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice

Reduce serious harm from Violence Against Women and Girls including homicide prevention

**Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

Increase in reporting of domestic violence, sexual violence, forced marriage, and honour based violence

Increase in the number of children identified in families suffering domestic violence and jointly screened

Increase in Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice

Increase in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals and joint action plans to reduce those at highest risk of serious harm and homicide

Overwhelmingly positive external audit of MARAC arrangements in terms of governance, commitment, attendance, adult and children support, coordination, and correct application of criteria

### **Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

Safer Wolverhampton Partnership has agreed a funding plan for 2015/16 for resources:

- for multi-agency training and awareness raising around Violence against Women and Girls subjects, including female genital mutilation for which there have been no reports to West Midlands Police
- a resource to raise external funding around Violence Against Women & Girls
- increase capacity for Independent Domestic Violence Advisers to meet demand for victims & their children at high risk of serious harm/homicide
- improvements to governance and operation of the Barnardo's joint screening of children and pregnant women in domestic violence cases
- embed learning from domestic homicide reviews

### **Impact for Adults and their Families**

Increase in identification of victims of Violence Against Women and Girls and their children, and signposting and provision of early help and support, and child in need and protection services leading to:

- reduced repeat victimisation
- reduced serious harm
- increased reporting and help-seeking

### **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

Increase first time reporting of Violence Against Women and Girls

Reduce the prevalence of Violence Against Women and Girls

Reduce repeat Violence Against Women and Girls incidents

Increase Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice

Reduce serious harm from Violence Against Women and Girls including homicide prevention

### **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

WDVF continues to be committed to safeguarding adults and children. Our Strategy Coordinator attends and contributes to Board meetings as a professional adviser to the Board and away day events, and attends sub-group meetings both as a standing member and to make specific contributions – eg with new policies and procedures. WDVF ensures that information is cascaded from the Board into our organisation and to our partners, as well as providing

information, guidance, and advice around Violence Against Women and Girls subjects to the Board and its sub-groups.

## West Midlands Fire Service

WEST MIDLANDS FIRE SERVICE

**How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding adults and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?**

**f. TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency & multi-agency training**

All personnel receive on-going safeguarding training. Radicalisation training has also been delivered to all staff in Wolverhampton in the last year delivered by WMP. Sessions are evaluated. Vulnerable Persons Officers (VPOs) receive higher level training in safeguarding and also attend additional more specific training in areas such as drugs and alcohol awareness and mental health.

**g. POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice**

WMFS has an embedded Standing Order Safeguarding Policy 17/12 which lays out the responsibilities of staff in relation to the protection of children, young people or adults with whom they come into contact through **their work and details the reporting mechanism and procedures.**

**h. COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce**

Information is conveyed to all personnel via WMFS Intranet, Routine Notices, email, various meetings, communication briefings and management briefings.

**i. IMPROVING QUALITY/ SERVICE USER EXPERIENCE– single agency audit, supervision, annual assurance statement etc**

WMFS's The Plan 2015 – 18 sets out the priorities of the organisation over the rolling three year period. The priorities, objectives and outcomes set out in The Plan are informed by our Community Safety Strategy which sets out in detail how we will meet our legal responsibilities to provide an efficient and effective fire and rescue service. The Community Safety Strategy provides the risk analysis and tells us what resources we need and where they are required in order to reduce risk to our community through the delivery of prevention, protection and response services. Following a serious incident (fire death or injury) a Serious Incident Review is undertaken and any learning from this is conveyed to all staff and departments.

**j. CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT– supplying performance data and commentary**

WMFS provides, periodically, data on the work it undertakes – number of Home Safety Checks carried out and number of VPO visits made.

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

Further and on-going training around safeguarding and extremism.

## **Achievements against the above Objectives:-**

Safeguarding and extremism training was carried out for all personnel.

## **Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

A plan to offer more support to VPOs to ensure they are able to keep the most vulnerable people safer and healthier in their own homes.

Going forward, and as a result of the Comprehensive Spending Review, operational staffing is at a minimum and all on duty crews are now always available to attend incidents (previously they were 'off the run'. This is now not an option and means that attendance at community events or training will be carried out 'on the run' and if a 999 incident occurs then they will have to respond to the emergency.

## **Impact for Adults**

WMFS's Service Delivery Model sets out the 5 minute attendance time for category 1 incidents (risk to life or property). Whilst attendance at incidents is the priority, our prevention work and work with vulnerable people will continue to be carried out by support staff and operational personnel when available.

## **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

Reduce number of accidental fires in dwellings by targeting our most vulnerable working with the voluntary sector and other partner agencies.

Delivery and support of national DCLG and CFOA campaigns that are aligned to local risk, priorities and objectives.

All staff will engage with partners and citizens to develop and support healthy and sustainable communities by championing healthy lifestyles through exercise and reduction in obesity.

## **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

Working with our partners will enable us to target communities and individuals who are more at risk from safety related issues at home, including fire. We will respond to issues such as healthier living, anti-social behaviour and safer business premises, through a multi-agency approach enabling us "To Make West Midlands Safer".

## West Midlands Ambulance Service



**Andy Proctor**

West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust (WMASFT) has continued to ensure the safeguarding of all vulnerable persons remains a focal point within the organisation and the Trust is committed to ensuring ALL persons within the region are protected at ALL times.

West Midlands Ambulance Service NHS Foundation Trust serves a population of 5.36 million people covering an area of more than 5,000 square miles made up of Shropshire, Herefordshire, Worcestershire, Warwickshire, Staffordshire and the Birmingham, Solihull and Black Country conurbation.

The safeguarding team provides expert evidenced based clinical leadership on all aspects of the safeguarding agenda. The team have a responsibility for the development of systems and processes, working with partner agencies in line with local and national standards and legislation.

**All Staff** are required to act at all times to safeguard the health and well-being of children and vulnerable adults. All operational staff within WMASFT are issued key rings with the Safeguarding Referral line number and are expected to carry them whilst on duty. All staff and volunteers are expected to be able to recognise and respond to safeguarding concerns.

### **General Overview**

#### ***The Referral Process***

A single point of contact (SPOC) was created in July 2009. It was designed so that crews can make safeguarding referrals quickly and efficiently to a single point without the need for unnecessary paper trails and complex processes. All staff working within the SPOC have received training in both safeguarding adults and children.

### **Achievements**

All members of the safeguarding team have attended multi-agency safeguarding education with the Local Safeguarding Boards. Study days have included identification of sexual exploitation, female genital mutilation, serious case reviews and safeguarding law updates during 2014/2015.

The safeguarding team provide support to the Education & Training Department for delivering safeguarding training. In 2014/2015 training programmes were developed for Ambulance Support Officers (ASO's) and Emergency Operation Centre (EOC), Call Handlers and Dispatchers and the Head of Safeguarding gave an update on safeguarding, the child death process and domestic homicides.

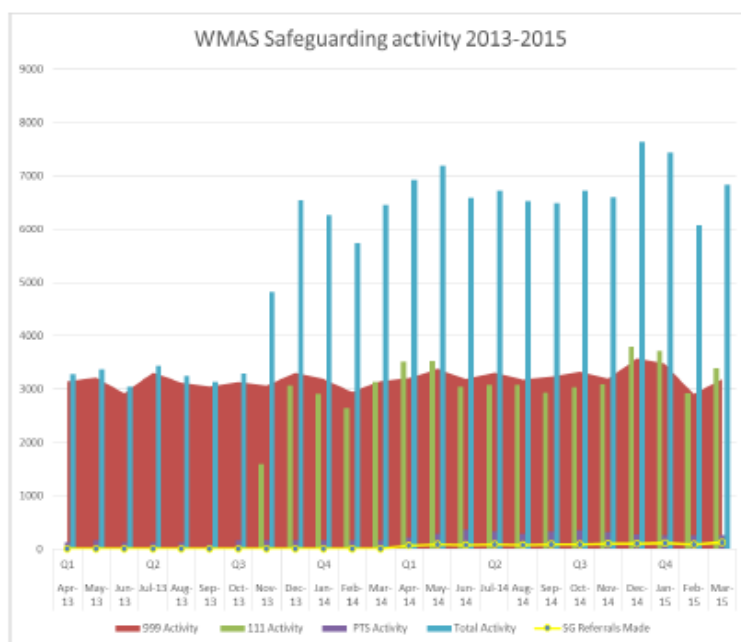


All staff within WMAS have received safeguarding training as part of their mandatory corporate induction.

The 2014/2015 mandatory training for all clinical staff included training on domestic abuse. This will also be complimented by a domestic abuse question set for the safeguarding referral line enabling staff to appropriately refer concerns. Close ties with all Police forces in the West Midlands have also been developed for reporting domestic abuse.

### Safeguarding Activity in Wolverhampton

|                |    | SG Referrals Made | 999 Activity | 111 Activity | PTS Activity | Total Activity | % Total (Number of Referrals against activity) | Average for month |
|----------------|----|-------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|----------------|------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| Apr-13         |    |                   | 3148         |              | 128          | 3276           |                                                |                   |
| May-13         |    |                   | 3211         |              | 154          | 3365           |                                                |                   |
| Jun-13         | Q1 |                   | 2919         |              | 125          | 3044           |                                                |                   |
| Jul-13         |    |                   | 3309         |              | 128          | 3437           |                                                |                   |
| Aug-13         |    |                   | 3120         |              | 126          | 3246           |                                                |                   |
| Sep-13         | Q2 |                   | 3044         |              | 86           | 3130           |                                                |                   |
| Oct-13         |    |                   | 3134         |              | 154          | 3288           |                                                |                   |
| Nov-13         |    |                   | 3062         | 1597         | 168          | 4822           |                                                |                   |
| Dec-13         | Q3 |                   | 3307         | 3065         | 157          | 6529           |                                                |                   |
| Jan-14         |    |                   | 3187         | 2909         | 157          | 6253           |                                                |                   |
| Feb-14         |    |                   | 2946         | 2638         | 157          | 5741           |                                                |                   |
| Mar-14         | Q4 |                   | 3151         | 3136         | 158          | 6445           |                                                |                   |
| <b>Total %</b> |    |                   |              |              |              |                |                                                |                   |
|                |    |                   |              |              |              |                | 1.32%                                          | 1.11%             |
|                |    | SG Referrals Made | 999 Activity | 111 Activity | PTS Activity | Total Activity | % Total (Number of Referrals against activity) | Average for month |
| Apr-14         |    | 59                | 3202         | 3507         | 214          | 6993           | 0.85%                                          | 0.99              |
| May-14         |    | 89                | 3381         | 3523         | 283          | 7187           | 1.15%                                          | 1.01              |
| Jun-14         | Q1 | 77                | 3184         | 3036         | 361          | 6581           | 1.17%                                          | 1.00              |
| Jul-14         |    | 83                | 3311         | 3075         | 327          | 6713           | 1.24%                                          | 1.00              |
| Aug-14         |    | 76                | 3174         | 3071         | 279          | 6524           | 1.16%                                          | 1.05              |
| Sep-14         | Q2 | 87                | 3231         | 2928         | 326          | 6485           | 1.34%                                          | 1.08              |
| Oct-14         |    | 89                | 3330         | 3032         | 350          | 6712           | 1.33%                                          | 1.67              |
| Nov-14         |    | 98                | 3192         | 3090         | 314          | 6596           | 1.49%                                          | 1.11              |
| Dec-14         | Q3 | 97                | 3576         | 3783         | 268          | 7627           | 1.27%                                          | 1.09              |
| Jan-15         |    | 110               | 3473         | 3713         | 254          | 7440           | 1.48%                                          | 1.17              |
| Feb-15         |    | 99                | 2906         | 2915         | 252          | 6073           | 1.53%                                          | 1.13              |
| Mar-15         | Q4 | 124               | 3183         | 3392         | 258          | 6833           | 1.81%                                          | 1.19              |
| <b>Total %</b> |    |                   |              |              |              |                |                                                |                   |
|                |    |                   |              |              |              |                | 1.32%                                          | 1.11%             |



### Wolverhampton City Council



Linda Sanders

**How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding adults and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?**

Many parts of the council contribute towards helping adults who may be at risk of harm keep safe. This includes services as diverse as Public Health, Trading Standards, Licencing, Homeless Families, the council’s Workforce Development Services through to social work operational teams who undertake direct enquiries when a concern about abuse is received.

**a. TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency & multi-agency training**

The council delivered the following programme of safeguarding training over the course of 2014/15:

| <b>Course name</b>                                                                 | <b>Number completed</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Basic Safeguarding Awareness Level for Adults and Children and Awareness Level CSE | 970                     |
| DoLs                                                                               | 220                     |
| Domestic Violence (Adults)                                                         | 210                     |
| Domestic Violence (Children)                                                       | 120                     |
| Introduction to Adult Safeguarding for Social Workers                              | 15                      |
| Legislation & Partnership Working for Social Workers                               | 6                       |
| Multi-Agency Forums for Social Workers                                             | 6                       |
| Safeguarding for Adult Social Care Workers                                         | 176                     |
| Sexual Abuse                                                                       | 27                      |
| Role of the Social Worker in Child Protection                                      | 10                      |
| Role of the Social Worker in Adult Safeguarding                                    | 7                       |
| MCA / DoLs Face to Face attended                                                   | 120                     |
| Marac Face to Face attended                                                        | 38                      |
| Care Act Implications for Safeguarding Face to Face Briefings                      | 50                      |
| Making Safeguarding Personal – e-learning                                          | 72                      |

Evaluation of face to face delivery of Safeguarding and the Care Act training:

|                                |     |
|--------------------------------|-----|
| Overall increase in knowledge  | 10% |
| Overall increase in skills     | 9%  |
| Overall increase in confidence | 8%  |

**b. POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice**

Following the recommendations arising from the Adult Safeguarding Peer Review conducted by the Local Government Authority (LGA) in September 2013 the council updated its Constitution; this now provides clarity of roles and responsibilities of individual Members and officers within the council, in terms of their specific duty to safeguarding adults.

The council also produced a specific guide to safeguarding adults for Councillors to help raise their awareness of the types and symptoms of abuse, legislative requirements and local points of contact.

The council's Safeguarding Service has continued to be instrumental in driving the development of the regional West Midlands Safeguarding Adults Policy and Procedures to reflect the requirements of the Care Act 2014, in readiness for April 2015. The Safeguarding team has been developing local Practice Guidance, which reflects the requirements of the Care Act and will help support staff with new ways of working which came into force April 2015.

The council's CareFirst system has also been updated to ensure electronic records enable practitioners to capture/record information in line with the changes introduced by the Care Act 2014 and MSP.

Wolverhampton has also continued its commitment to the LGA's Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) agenda, ensuring practitioners adopt an outcomes focused and person centred approach when dealing with incidents of safeguarding. MSP training was delivered to frontline practitioners and an e-learning package developed, which was made mandatory for all ASC staff.

The council's Adult Disability Team also developed the role of Advanced Social Work Practitioner who has responsibility for receiving and responding to safeguarding alerts and monitoring the progress of referrals and investigations. Liaison with the Police and other key agencies is an imperative part of this role.

**k. COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce**

Staff briefing sessions have been delivered to the children's and adult's workforce to share key learning from serious case reviews.

Safeguarding newsletters have also been developed and circulated across the council to help raise safeguarding awareness and share key learning from serious case reviews; provide examples of case studies and insights into specific areas of safeguarding work undertaken by safeguarding staff.

A series of workshops facilitated by Research in Practice for adults (RiPFA) have also been provided to staff from across Adult Social Care to brief them on the implications of the Care Act 2014; and requirements for implementation with effect from April 2015. These have been further reinforced through mandatory on-line training provided through the council's Learning Hub.

**I. IMPROVING QUALITY/ SERVICE USER EXPERIENCE– single agency audit, supervision, annual assurance statement etc**

A pilot case file audit process was rolled out across the Directorate as part of the newly developed Quality Assurance Framework to assess the quality of safeguarding practice and compliance with the West Midlands Safeguarding Policy and Procedures. The process involved both strategic and operational staff completing one audit per month using newly developed audit tools and safeguarding standards.

A total of 81 case files were audited over a three month period of which 70% were found to be of a good/excellent quality, suggesting that safeguarding standards were being consistently met by practitioners.

The case file audit tools and corresponding quality standards will now be reviewed to reflect the changes introduced by the Care Act 2014; and the revisions to the local policy and procedures before being reintroduced across the Directorate. Any areas of underperformance will be shared with Workforce Development to inform future training provision.

The council's Place Directorate have established a 'Safeguarding Partnership Forum' which involves strategic and operational representation from across Regulatory Services i.e. Licensing, Private Sector Housing, Wolverhampton Homes and Fleet Management. The forum meets on a bi-monthly basis and looks to raise safeguarding awareness, identify possible resolutions to complex scenarios and improve referral pathways between services and share learning from good practice.

The Quality Assurance and Compliance team have been relocated out of the Safeguarding Service to Commissioning to provide increased assurance of internal/external provider services and help better inform future commissioning decisions.

### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

#### **Training Objectives**

- Mandatory Safeguarding Adults, Safeguarding Children and Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness level e-learning for all employees
- Delivery of Councillor Safeguarding awareness level face to face sessions
- Workforce Development Leads to meet across the Black Country (Dudley, Walsall, Sandwell & Wolverhampton) to plan for some joint delivery in 2015 / 2016
- Launch of Safeguarding Adults DVD & Workbook to internal employees and external providers – copies of DVD one per establishment
- Care Act Safeguarding face to face sessions in preparation of implementation April 2015 for internal employees and external providers
- e-learning Care Act Awareness raising available for internal employees and external providers
- Develop Safeguarding Against Violent Extremism e-learning module for launch in 2015

### **In relation to safeguarding adults, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16?**

1. Ensure the principles of the Care Act and Making Safeguarding Personal are embedded in social work practice.
2. Develop a Safeguarding Forum for staff within other directorates and sections of the Council to ensure best practice is disseminated.
3. Promote awareness and commitment to safeguarding vulnerable people within the City through the Council's Corporate Plan.
4. Increase awareness, reporting and recording of domestic violence.
5. Undertake review of commissioned services in line with personal choice agenda.

## APPENDIX 2

### Safeguarding Performance Data 2014/2015

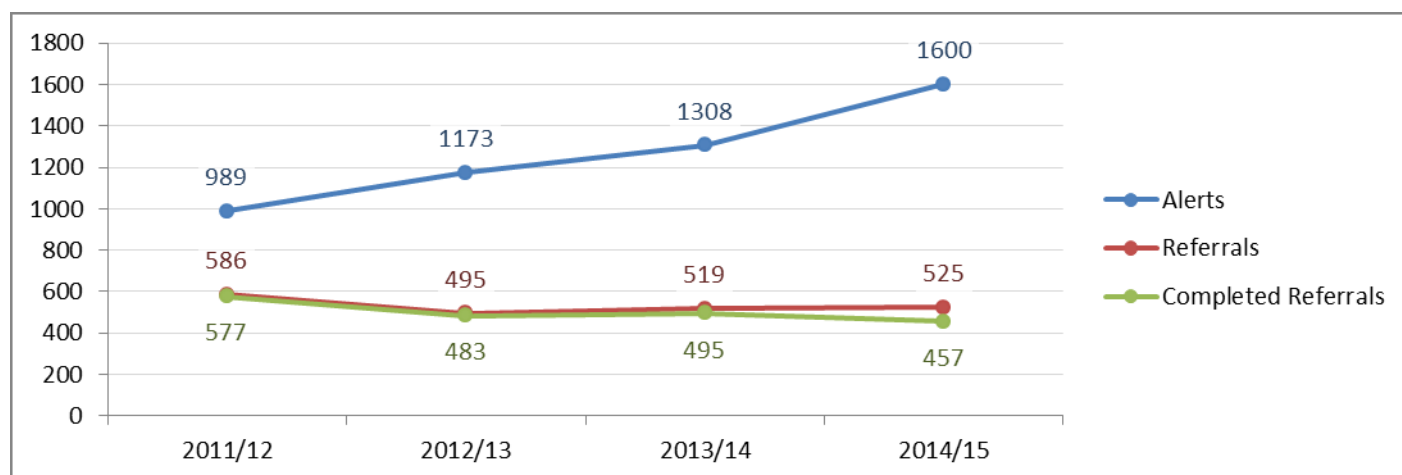
This section details a range of data to demonstrate safeguarding activity in Wolverhampton from all agencies. The majority of data is collected by Wolverhampton City Council as the lead agency for safeguarding adults, but this year includes data from other agencies to demonstrate their commitment to safeguarding adults and is taken from the Boards Performance Report. (Appendix 2) It tells us that there is a greater number of initial alerts suggesting greater public and professional awareness of safeguarding. This is encouraging. Secondly the figures provide evidence that for the vast majority of people who have been subject to multi-agency safeguarding intervention felt safer as a result of this,

All data is scrutinised and used to inform prevention work and reviews of guidance and policy. Wolverhampton's data collection meets the requirements of the annual Health and Social Care Information Centre (HSCIC) Safeguarding Adults Return

#### Alerts and Referrals

The number of alerts has risen significantly from 1308 in 2013/14 to 1600 in 2014/15. The number that precede to referral has not increased. This decreased conversion from alert to referral suggests that the increase in referrals is due to either cases that are not safeguarding related or do not meet the threshold for investigation.

|                            | 2011/12 | 2012/13 | 2013/14 | 2014/15 |
|----------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Alerts                     | 989     | 1173    | 1308    | 1600    |
| Referrals                  | 586     | 495     | 519     | 525     |
| Referrals as a % of Alerts | 59%     | 42%     | 40%     | 33%     |
| Completed Referrals        | 577     | 483     | 495     | 457     |



## Alerts and Referrals by Age and Gender

The charts below show the proportion of alerts in the centre circle and the proportion of referrals in the outer band.

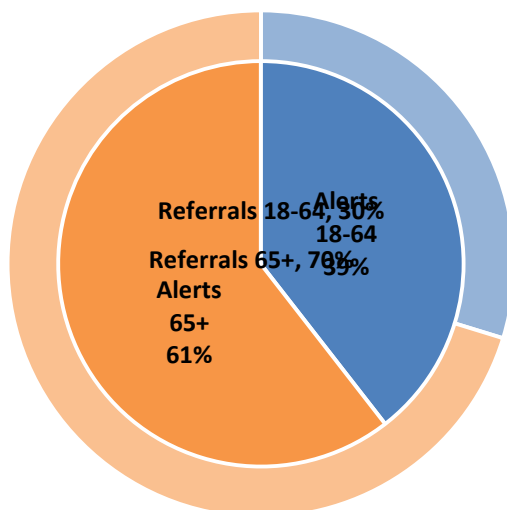
The alerts / referrals by age shows that 39% of alerts received relate to adults aged 18-64 although only 30% of referrals relate to the same age group. This shows that, in general, referrals for the 18-64 age group are less likely to be investigated or, conversely, that referrals for the 65+ age group are more likely to be investigation. This suggests that more alerts for 65+ age group are correct and suitable for investigation whereas alerts for the 18-64 age group are more likely to be inappropriate or not safeguarding issues.

The alerts referrals by gender breakdown does not differ by a significant amount and indicates that gender does not affect the likelihood of investigation.

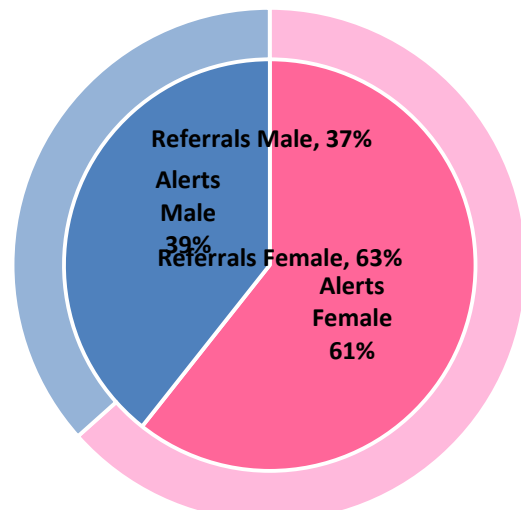
|           | By Age     |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|
|           | 18-64      | 65+        |
| Alerts    | 606<br>39% | 929<br>61% |
| Referrals | 152<br>30% | 359<br>70% |

|           | By Gender  |            |
|-----------|------------|------------|
|           | Male       | Female     |
| Alerts    | 604<br>39% | 931<br>61% |
| Referrals | 187<br>37% | 324<br>63% |

Alerts / Referrals by Age Group



Alerts / Referrals by Gender

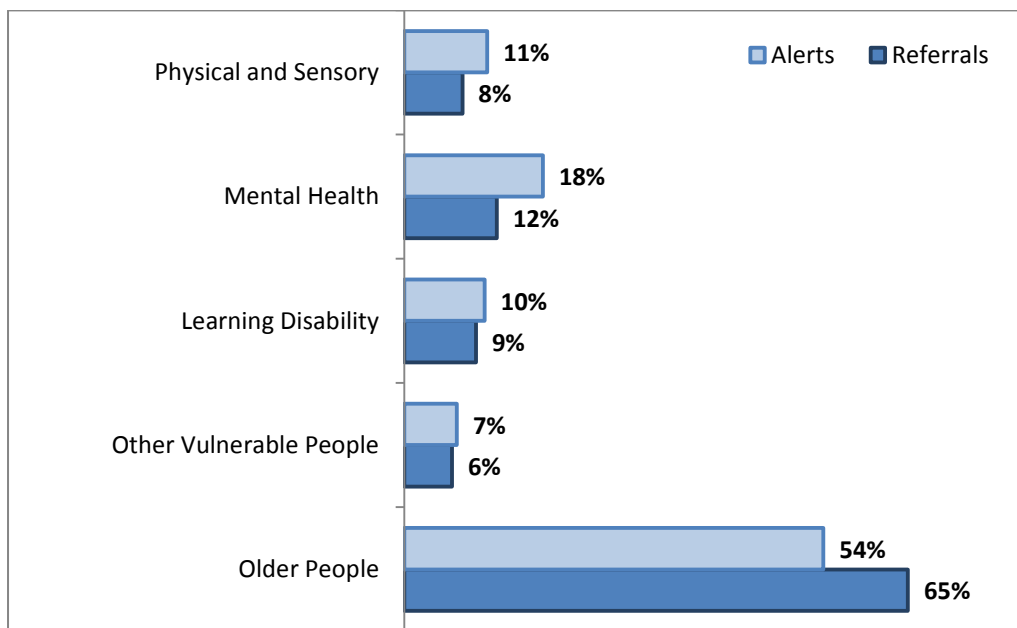


### Alerts and Referrals by Primary Client Group

Alerts and referrals by Primary client group does not show any significant causes for concern. As previously noted in the age breakdown the older people category is more likely to proceed to investigation.

The only point which shows a discrepancy is that of the Mental Health primary client group. Although 18% of alerts relate to Mental Health only 12% of referrals are for Mental Health clients. This again, implies that there is either concerns being raised that are not safeguarding issues relating to Mental Health clients or part of this may be due to the complexity of Mental Health cases.

|                                 | Alerts |     | Referrals |     | % of Alerts that proceed to Referral |
|---------------------------------|--------|-----|-----------|-----|--------------------------------------|
|                                 | Number | %   | Number    | %   |                                      |
| Physical and Sensory Disability | 163    | 11% | 32        | 8%  | 28%                                  |
| Mental Health                   | 226    | 18% | 66        | 12% | 27%                                  |
| Learning Disability             | 157    | 10% | 47        | 9%  | 35%                                  |
| Other Vulnerable People         | 119    | 7%  | 20        | 6%  | 36%                                  |
| Older People                    | 933    | 54% | 360       | 65% | 48%                                  |

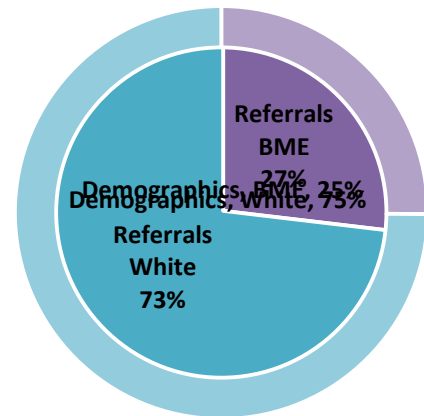


### Referrals by Ethnicity – 18-64

The table below provides figures and the chart to the right shows the proportion of referrals in the centre compared with the demographic breakdown of Wolverhampton in the outer ring. Ideally both inner and outer should match.

The breakdown of referrals by ethnicity for the 18-64 age group show that investigations broadly matched the local authority demographic. The biggest anomalies are that there is an over representation of referrals for Black clients and a smaller under representation of Asian clients. This can be explained by the fact that these over and under representations are generally true of the service user demographic.

18-64 Referrals by Ethnicity



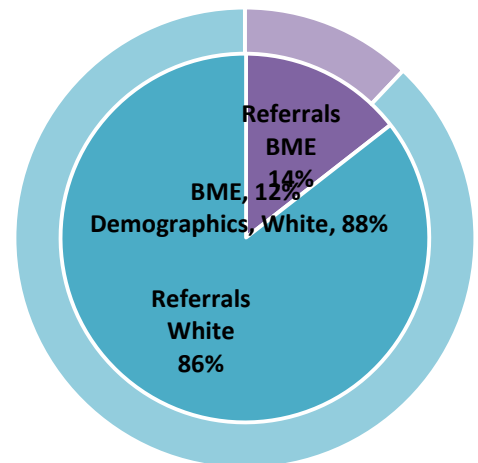
|       | 2012/13 |     | 2013/14 |     | 2014/15 |     | Demographics |
|-------|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|--------------|
|       | Number  | %   | Number  | %   | Number  | %   |              |
| White | 91      | 71% | 117     | 73% | 109     | 71% | 75%          |
| Asian | 19      | 15% | 25      | 16% | 16      | 10% | 15%          |
| Black | 16      | 12% | 14      | 9%  | 18      | 12% | 6%           |
| Mixed | 3       | 2%  | 1       | 1%  | 6       | 4%  | 2%           |
| Other | 0       | 0%  | 3       | 2%  | 4       | 3%  | 2%           |

### Referrals by Ethnicity – 65+

The table below provides figures and the chart to the right shows the proportion of referrals in the centre compared with the demographic breakdown of Wolverhampton in the outer ring. Ideally both inner and outer should match.

The breakdown by ethnicity for 65+ shows that again the figures broadly match the local authority demographic. The biggest anomaly is again that black clients are over represented but as before this is also true of the service users. This discrepancy continues to decreased year on year.

65+ Referrals by Ethnicity





|       |  | 2012/13 |     | 2013/14 |     | 2014/15 |     | Demographics |
|-------|--|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|--------------|
|       |  | Number  | %   | Number  | %   | Number  | %   |              |
| White |  | 260     | 82% | 284     | 86% | 300     | 85% | 88%          |
| Asian |  | 23      | 7%  | 17      | 5%  | 26      | 7%  | 7%           |
| Black |  | 31      | 10% | 30      | 9%  | 23      | 7%  | 4%           |
| Mixed |  | 0       | 0%  | 0       | 0%  | 1       | 0%  | 0%           |
| Other |  | 2       | 1%  | 1       | 0%  | 1       | 0%  | 0%           |

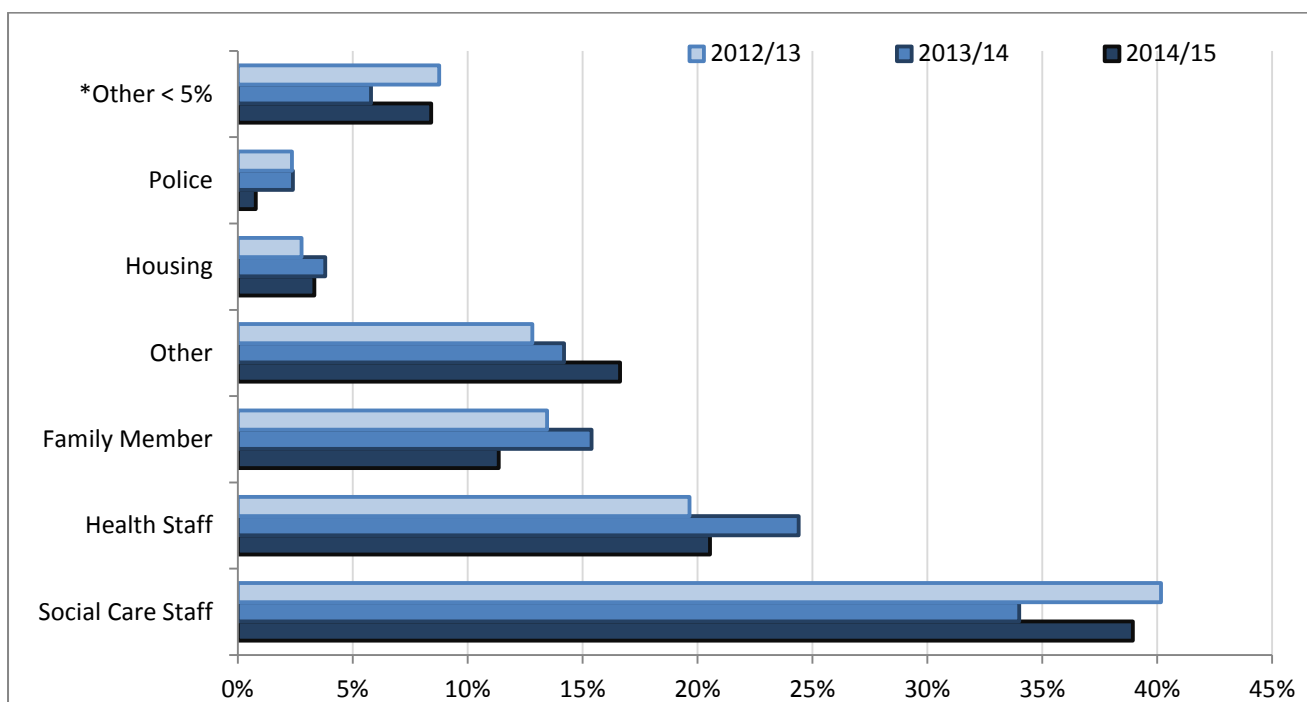
### Sources of Referral

In 2014/15, as in previous years, the highest percentage of referrals came from Social Care Staff with 39% followed by a further 21% of referrals from Health Staff.

The proportion of referrals from 'Other' sources has increased to 17% which suggests that there may be other unlisted sources which could be added to the possible options.

\*Sources marked with a \* have less than 10% of referrals in all years and have been combined in the bar chart.

|                                                 | 2012/13    |     | 2013/14    |     | 2014/15    |     |
|-------------------------------------------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|
|                                                 | Number     | %   | Number     | %   | Number     | %   |
| Social Care Staff                               | 179        | 40% | 170        | 34% | 199        | 39% |
| Health Staff                                    | 92         | 20% | 122        | 24% | 105        | 21% |
| Self Referral*                                  | 9          | 2%  | 3          | 1%  | 4          | 1%  |
| Family Member                                   | 61         | 14% | 77         | 15% | 58         | 11% |
| Friend / Neighbour*                             | 9          | 2%  | 7          | 1%  | 3          | 1%  |
| Other Service User*                             | 0          | 0%  | 0          | 0%  | 2          | 0%  |
| Care Quality Commission*                        | 17         | 4%  | 16         | 3%  | 33         | 6%  |
| Housing                                         | 13         | 3%  | 19         | 4%  | 17         | 3%  |
| Education / Training / Workplace Establishment* | 3          | 1%  | 3          | 1%  | 1          | 0%  |
| Police                                          | 11         | 2%  | 12         | 2%  | 4          | 1%  |
| Other                                           | 56         | 12% | 71         | 14% | 85         | 17% |
| <b>Overall Total</b>                            | <b>450</b> |     | <b>500</b> |     | <b>511</b> |     |

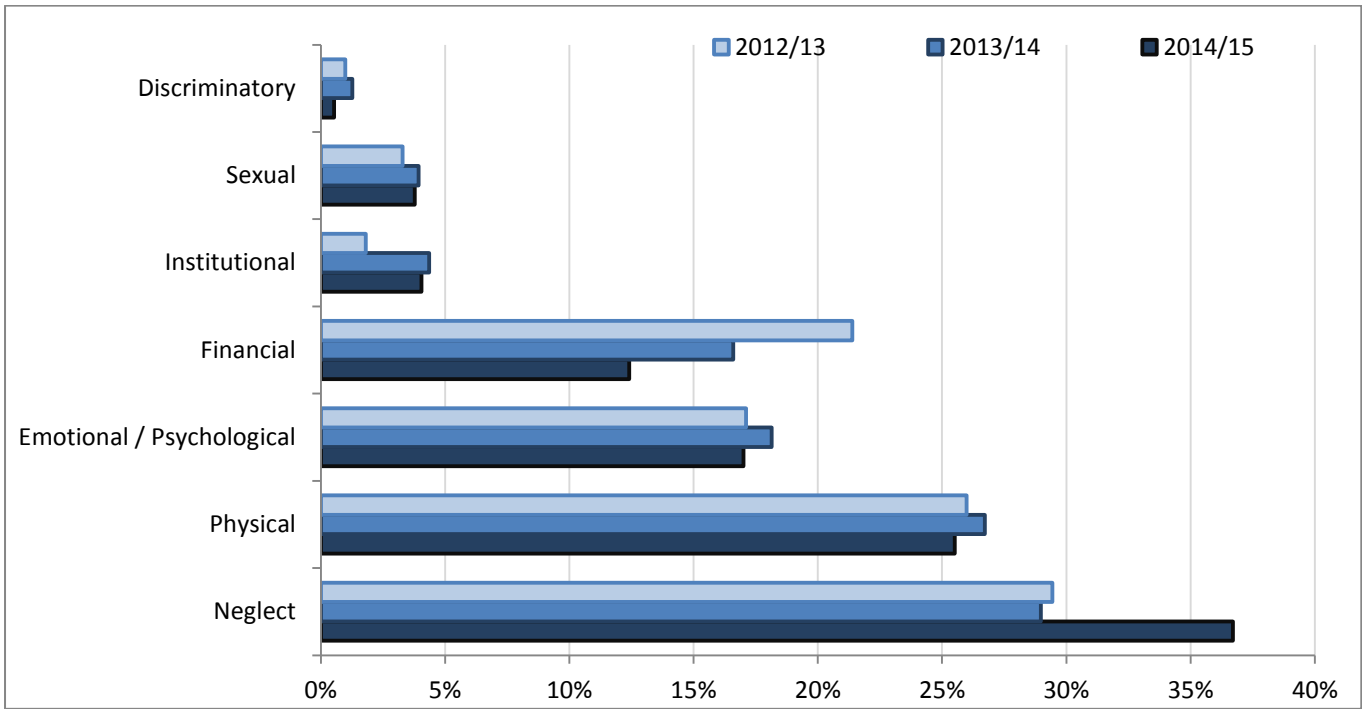


### Referrals by type of Alleged Abuse

Referrals may contain more than one type of alleged abuse and therefore the numbers are greater than the number of referrals.

The type of abuse breakdown remains relatively similar for most types of abuse. The main exceptions are that the proportion of cases with Neglect has increased significantly from 29% to 37% and the proportion with financial abuse has fallen to 12%. The increase in cases of neglect may in part be due to better recording as multiple items can be recorded against each investigation.

|                                  | 2012/13    |            | 2013/14    |            | 2014/15    |            |
|----------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                                  | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          |
| <b>Neglect</b>                   | <b>179</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>206</b> | <b>29%</b> | <b>272</b> | <b>37%</b> |
| <b>Physical</b>                  | <b>158</b> | <b>26%</b> | <b>190</b> | <b>27%</b> | <b>189</b> | <b>26%</b> |
| <b>Emotional / Psychological</b> | <b>104</b> | <b>17%</b> | <b>129</b> | <b>18%</b> | <b>126</b> | <b>17%</b> |
| <b>Financial</b>                 | <b>130</b> | <b>21%</b> | <b>118</b> | <b>17%</b> | <b>92</b>  | <b>12%</b> |
| <b>Institutional</b>             | <b>11</b>  | <b>2%</b>  | <b>31</b>  | <b>4%</b>  | <b>30</b>  | <b>4%</b>  |
| <b>Sexual</b>                    | <b>20</b>  | <b>3%</b>  | <b>28</b>  | <b>4%</b>  | <b>28</b>  | <b>4%</b>  |
| <b>Discriminatory</b>            | <b>6</b>   | <b>1%</b>  | <b>9</b>   | <b>1%</b>  | <b>4</b>   | <b>1%</b>  |
| <b>Overall Total</b>             | <b>608</b> |            | <b>711</b> |            | <b>741</b> |            |

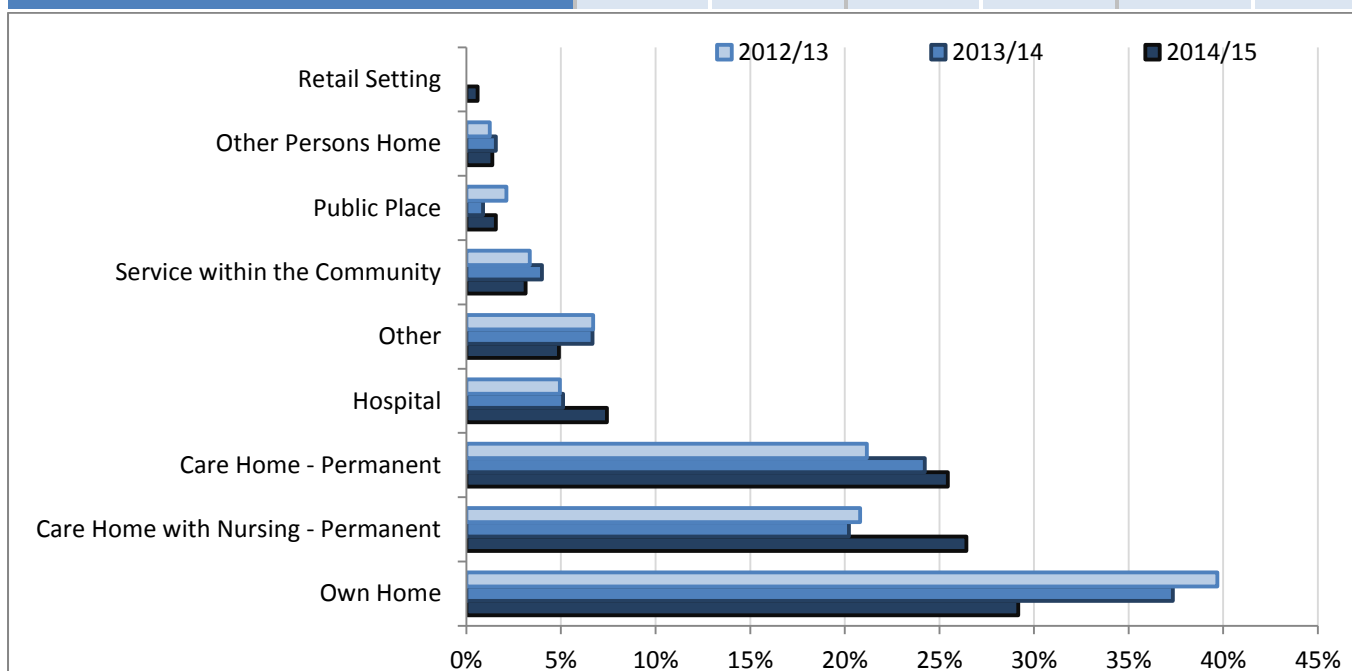


### Location of Alleged Abuse

The most common location of abuse is care homes with 51% of all referrals relating to a residential or nursing care home. The second most common location is the person at risk of harm’s own home with 29% of referrals.

The most significant changes this year are that the proportion of referrals relating to care homes continues to increase whilst the proportion of referrals around the persons own home continue to fall. This suggests that, given the increased number of alerts, there continues to be increased awareness of safeguarding resulting in more cases from care homes being referred.

|                                    | 2012/13 |     | 2013/14 |     | 2014/15 |     |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----|---------|-----|---------|-----|
|                                    | Number  | %   | Number  | %   | Number  | %   |
| Own Home                           | 225     | 40% | 168     | 37% | 149     | 29% |
| Care Home with Nursing - Permanent | 118     | 21% | 91      | 20% | 135     | 26% |
| Care Home - Permanent              | 120     | 21% | 109     | 24% | 130     | 25% |
| Hospital                           | 28      | 5%  | 23      | 5%  | 38      | 7%  |
| Other                              | 38      | 7%  | 30      | 7%  | 25      | 5%  |
| Service within the Community       | 19      | 3%  | 18      | 4%  | 16      | 3%  |
| Public Place                       | 12      | 2%  | 4       | 1%  | 8       | 2%  |
| Other Persons Home                 | 7       | 1%  | 7       | 2%  | 7       | 1%  |
| Retail Setting                     | 0       | 0%  | 0       | 0%  | 3       | 1%  |

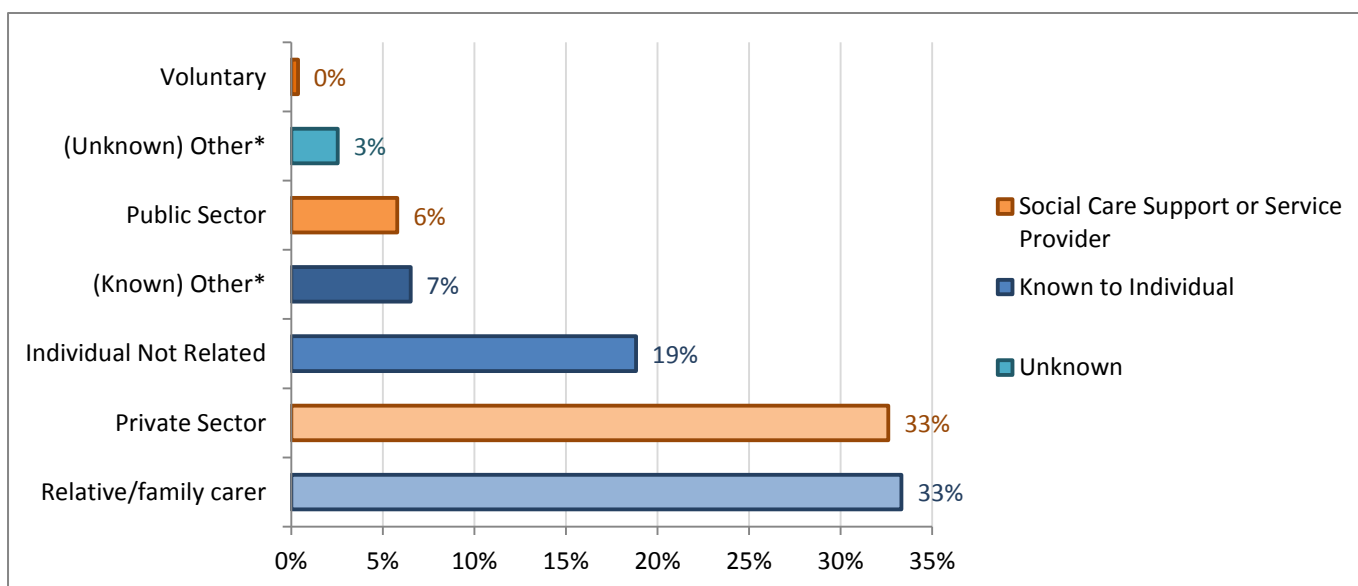


## Relationship with Person Suspected of Causing Harm

The relationship data has changed significantly in this year's return and therefore it cannot be directly compared to previous data.

Where the relationship is recorded the two most common people alleged to be causing harm are relatives / family carers or private sector staff who account for 33% of all referrals each. The figures show that in 97% of cases the person alleged to be causing harm is known to the person at risk of harm.

|                                         |                         |  | 2014/15 |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|--|---------|-----|
|                                         |                         |  | Number  | %   |
| Social Care Support or Service Provider | Private Sector          |  | 90      | 33% |
|                                         | Public sector           |  | 16      | 6%  |
|                                         | Voluntary               |  | 1       | 0%  |
| Known to Individual                     | Relative / Family Carer |  | 92      | 33% |
|                                         | Individual Not Related  |  | 52      | 19% |
|                                         | Other*                  |  | 18      | 7%  |
| Unknown to Individual                   | Other*                  |  | 7       | 3%  |
| Overall Total                           |                         |  | 276     |     |



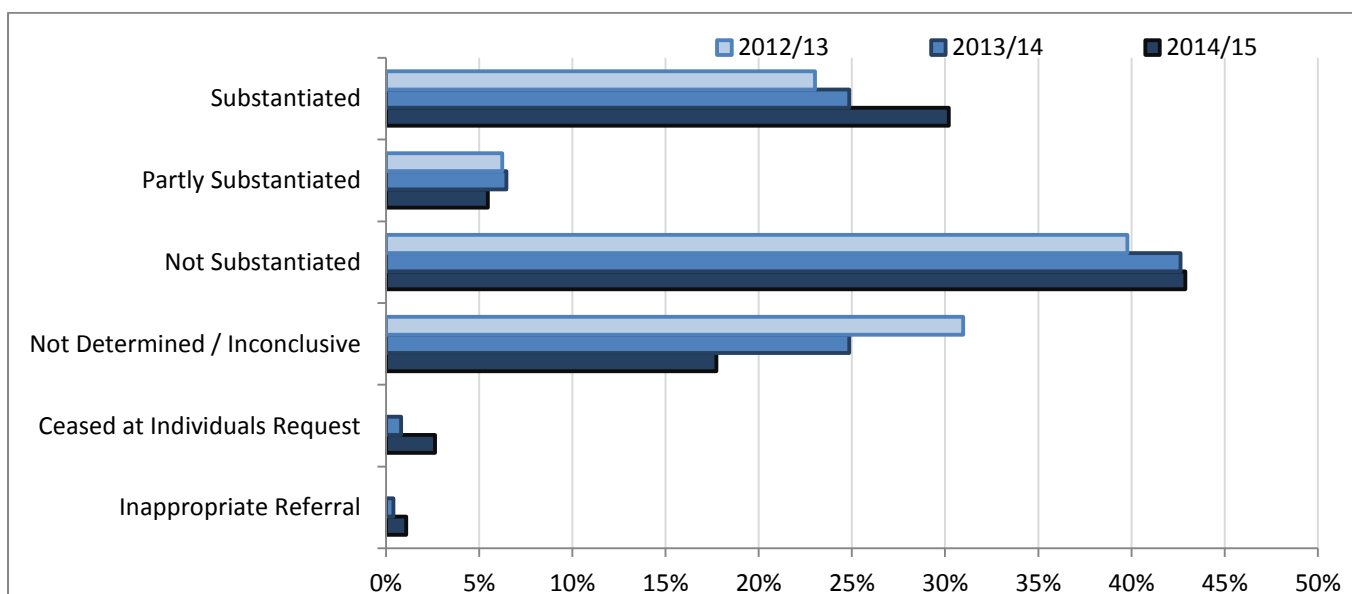
### Case Conclusion

In 2014/15 30% of cases were substantiated and 5% were partly substantiated.

The overall proportion of substantiated or partly substantiated has increased marginally from 2013/14 from 32% to 35%.

The proportion of cases not determined has decreased from 25% to 18% which suggests that investigations are more likely to arrive at a conclusion although at least part of this increase may be due to a small increase in the portion that ceases at the individuals request.

|                                      | 2012/13    |            | 2013/14    |            | 2014/15    |            |
|--------------------------------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
|                                      | Number     | %          | Number     | %          | Number     | %          |
| <b>Substantiated</b>                 | <b>107</b> | <b>23%</b> | <b>123</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>138</b> | <b>30%</b> |
| <b>Partly Substantiated</b>          | <b>29</b>  | <b>6%</b>  | <b>32</b>  | <b>6%</b>  | <b>25</b>  | <b>5%</b>  |
| <b>Not Substantiated</b>             | <b>185</b> | <b>40%</b> | <b>211</b> | <b>43%</b> | <b>196</b> | <b>43%</b> |
| <b>Not Determined / Inconclusive</b> | <b>144</b> | <b>31%</b> | <b>123</b> | <b>25%</b> | <b>81</b>  | <b>18%</b> |
| <b>Ceased at Individuals Request</b> | -          | -          | <b>4</b>   | <b>1%</b>  | <b>12</b>  | <b>3%</b>  |
| <b>Inappropriate Referral</b>        | -          | -          | <b>2</b>   | <b>0%</b>  | <b>5</b>   | <b>1%</b>  |
| <b>Overall Total</b>                 | <b>465</b> |            | <b>495</b> |            | <b>457</b> |            |

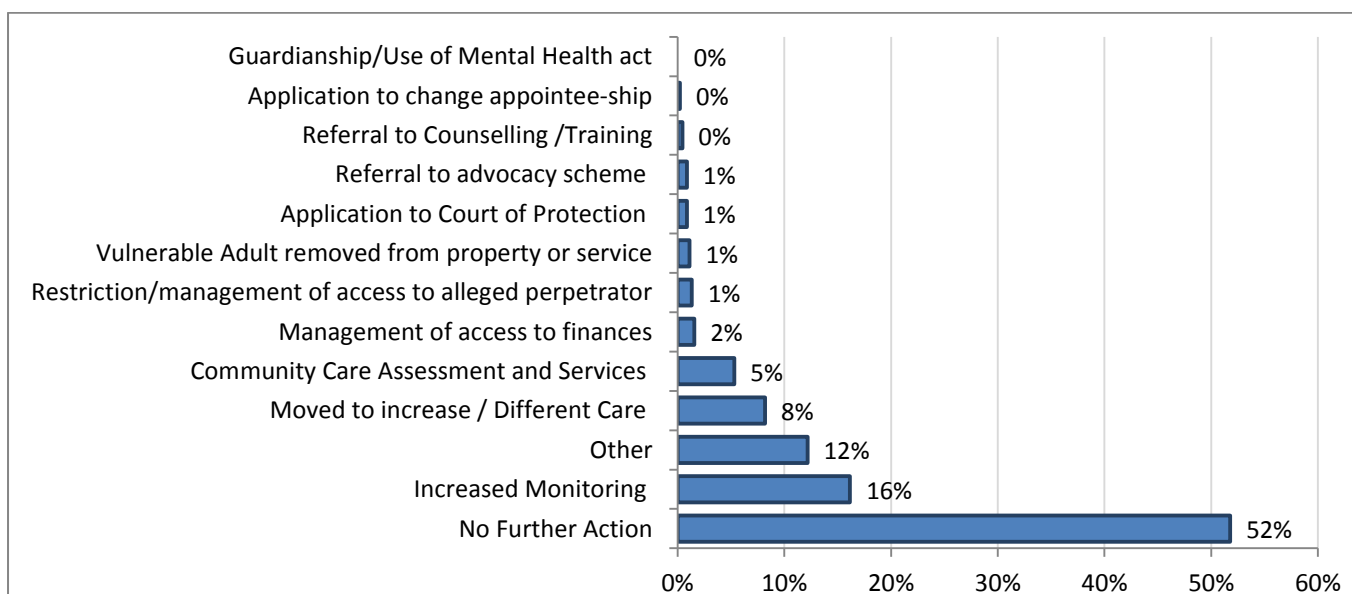


### Outcomes for the Person at Risk of Harm

The proportion of cases where the outcome was 'No further action' ended at 52% which is only a marginal increase from the 2013/14 result of 51%. This is largely expected due to the high proportion of unsubstantiated cases along with the possibility that the investigation itself is likely to have an impact on reducing or negating the risk of future abuse.

The main outcome after this is 'Increased Monitoring' at 16%. All of the outcomes remain relatively static over all three years.

|                                        | 2012/13    |     | 2013/14    |     | 2014/15    |     |
|----------------------------------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|
|                                        | Number     | %   | Number     | %   | Number     | %   |
| No Further Action                      | 234        | 50% | 251        | 51% | 234        | 52% |
| Increased Monitoring                   | 85         | 18% | 82         | 17% | 73         | 16% |
| Other                                  | 37         | 8%  | 40         | 8%  | 55         | 12% |
| Moved to increase / Different Care     | 43         | 9%  | 42         | 8%  | 37         | 8%  |
| Community Care Assessment and          | 22         | 5%  | 28         | 6%  | 24         | 5%  |
| Restriction/management of access to    | 11         | 2%  | 18         | 4%  | 6          | 1%  |
| Vulnerable Adult removed from property | 7          | 2%  | 14         | 3%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Management of access to finances       | 8          | 2%  | 8          | 2%  | 7          | 2%  |
| Application to Court of Protection     | 7          | 2%  | 4          | 1%  | 4          | 1%  |
| Referral to Counselling /Training      | 1          | 0%  | 3          | 1%  | 2          | 0%  |
| Guardianship/Use of Mental Health act  | 1          | 0%  | 3          | 1%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Application to change appointee-ship   | 5          | 1%  | 1          | 0%  | 1          | 0%  |
| Referral to advocacy scheme            | 3          | 1%  | 1          | 0%  | 4          | 1%  |
| <b>Overall Total</b>                   | <b>465</b> |     | <b>495</b> |     | <b>452</b> |     |

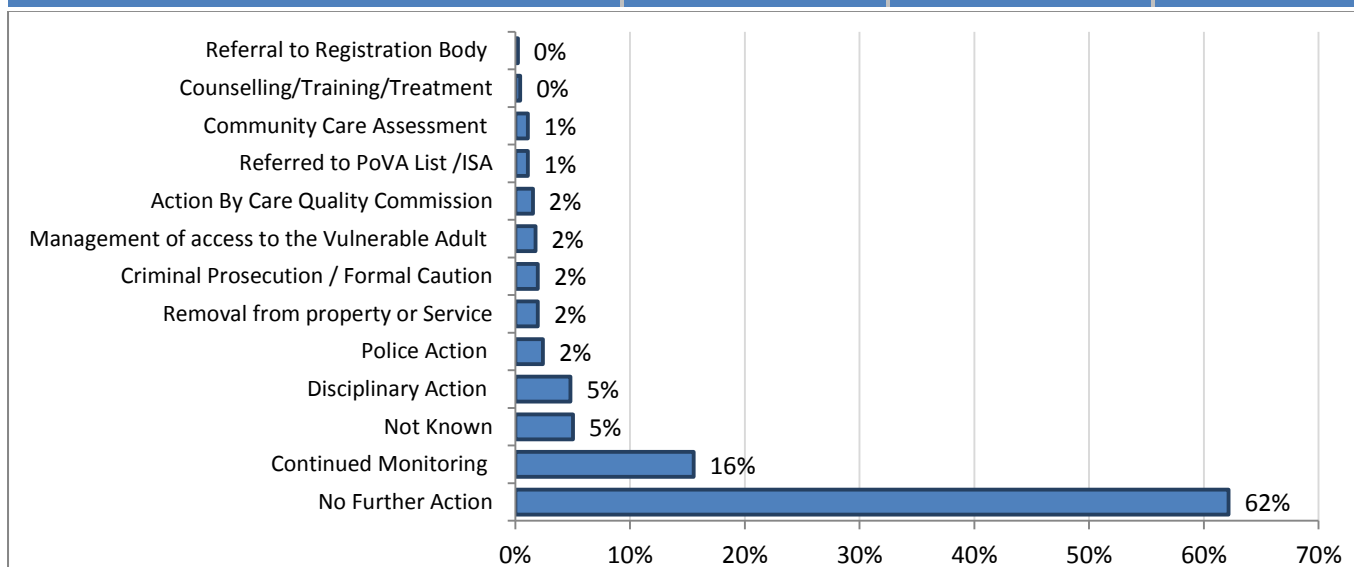


### Outcomes for Person Alleged to be Causing Harm

The proportion of cases where the outcome for the person alleged to be causing harm was 'No Further Action' remains high at 62%. This is largely expected due to the high proportion of unsubstantiated cases along with the possibility that the investigation itself is likely to have an impact on reducing or negating the risk of future abuse.

The most common action taken is 'Continued monitoring' with 16% of outcomes in 2014/15. All of the outcomes remain relatively static over all three years.

|                                              | 2012/13    |     | 2013/14    |     | 2014/15    |     |
|----------------------------------------------|------------|-----|------------|-----|------------|-----|
|                                              | Number     | %   | Number     | %   | Number     | %   |
| No Further Action                            | 273        | 59% | 265        | 54% | 284        | 62% |
| Continued Monitoring                         | 84         | 18% | 91         | 18% | 71         | 16% |
| Not Known                                    | 14         | 3%  | 35         | 7%  | 23         | 5%  |
| Disciplinary Action                          | 23         | 5%  | 22         | 4%  | 22         | 5%  |
| Police Action                                | 12         | 3%  | 18         | 4%  | 11         | 2%  |
| Removal from property or Service             | 11         | 2%  | 13         | 3%  | 9          | 2%  |
| Criminal Prosecution / Formal Caution        | 12         | 3%  | 11         | 2%  | 9          | 2%  |
| Management of access to the Vulnerable Adult | 7          | 2%  | 10         | 2%  | 8          | 2%  |
| Action By Care Quality Commission            | 0          | 0%  | 10         | 2%  | 7          | 2%  |
| Referred to PoVA List /ISA                   | 2          | 0%  | 9          | 2%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Community Care Assessment                    | 6          | 1%  | 5          | 1%  | 5          | 1%  |
| Counselling/Training/Treatment               | 4          | 1%  | 3          | 1%  | 2          | 0%  |
| Referral to Registration Body                | 6          | 1%  | 2          | 0%  | 1          | 0%  |
| Exoneration                                  | 3          | 1%  | 1          | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Action by Contract Compliance                | 7          | 2%  | 0          | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| Action under Mental Health Act               | 1          | 0%  | 0          | 0%  | 0          | 0%  |
| <b>Overall Total</b>                         | <b>465</b> |     | <b>495</b> |     | <b>457</b> |     |



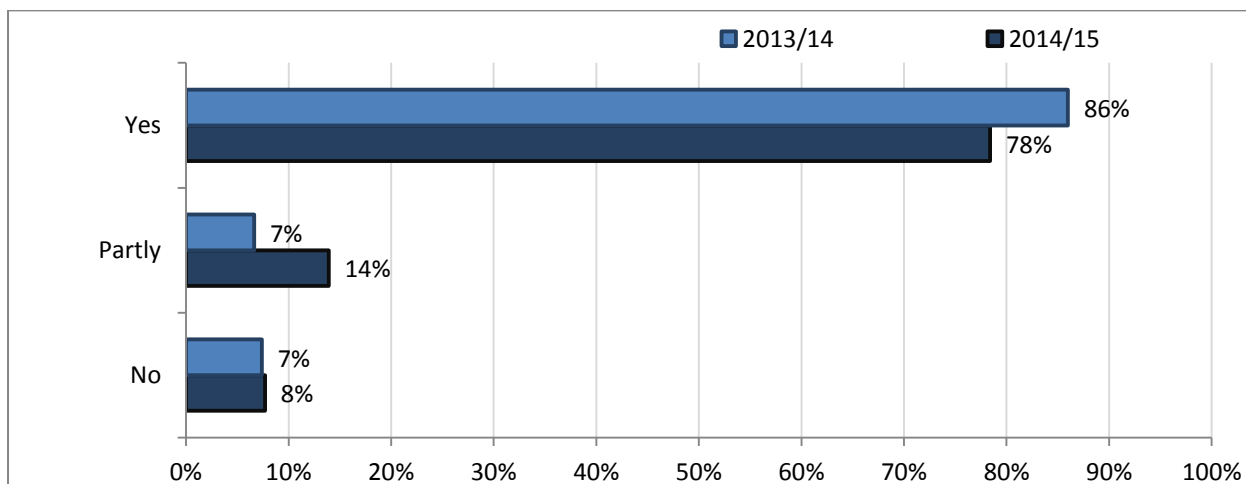


### Were the Expectations of the Adult at Risk Achieved?

The results show that in 92% of cases the person at risk of harm's outcomes are at least partly met. This result appears to be very good and shows that the large majority of safeguarding investigations result in a satisfactory outcome for the adults at risk.

However, it should be noted that 184 cases (40%) are not measured as the outcome was recorded as not applicable. Much of this is where the client is unaware of the safeguarding issue or unable to comprehend the fact that they were at risk. These cases have not been included when calculating the results and may require further investigation.

|                                    | 2013/14 |     | 2014/15 |     |
|------------------------------------|---------|-----|---------|-----|
|                                    | Number  | %   | Number  | %   |
| Yes, expectations were achieved    | 233     | 86% | 214     | 78% |
| Expectations were partly achieved  | 18      | 7%  | 38      | 14% |
| No, expectations were not achieved | 20      | 7%  | 21      | 8%  |
| Not applicable                     | 213     | -   | 184     | -   |
| Overall Total                      | 495     |     | 457     |     |



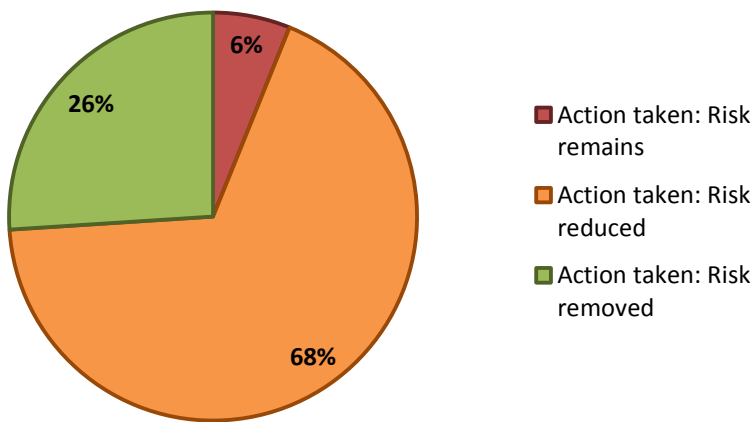
### Was the risk reduced or removed

This is a new indicator for 2014/15.

The result shows that in 94% of all cases where action is taken the risk is at least reduced with 26% of cases having the risk removed altogether. This is a very positive result and shows that safeguarding has been extremely effective.

However, it should be noted that in 56% of cases no action was taken under safeguarding which is primarily due to immediate steps already being taken by other parties, such as care homes, to remove the risk before the safeguarding investigation is completed.

|                            | 2014/15 |     |
|----------------------------|---------|-----|
|                            | Number  | %   |
| No action taken            | 250     | -   |
| Action taken: Risk remains | 12      | 6%  |
| Action taken: Risk reduced | 133     | 68% |
| Action taken: Risk removed | 51      | 26% |
| Overall Total              | 446     |     |



## Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards Summary

The Mental Capacity Act 2005 - Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards came into force in England and Wales in April 2009. The Safeguards provide legal protection for those vulnerable people who are, or may become, deprived of their liberty in a care home or hospital, within the meaning of Article 5 of the European Court of Human Rights, whether placed under public or private arrangements.

The Board monitors the numbers of DoLS referrals and authorisations so as to be assured Wolverhampton is meeting the requirements of the Mental Capacity Act 2005 and Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards especially following the Supreme Judgement on 19th March 2014.

The number of DoLS requests received in 2014-15 is significantly higher than in previous years following the Supreme Court Judgement on 19th March 2014.

Due to a ten-fold increase, there are a high number of assessments and authorisations outstanding. All DoLS requests are screened and urgent requests, including those in hospital and those where there seems to be doubt or controversy, are prioritised. Cases where people are in a care home where they have been for some time and there is no controversy are not given a high priority. Additional resources have been allocated for 2015 to significantly reduce the number of unallocated requests for assessment.

| Year                 | 2011/12      | 2012/13      | 2013/14      | 2014/15       |
|----------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|
| No. of new Referrals | 53 referrals | 74 referrals | 75 referrals | 427 referrals |

## **APPENDIX 3**

### **Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Boards Partner Organisations - Members & Their Representatives 2014/15**

Alan Coe – Independent Chair

Chief Supt Simon Hyde/DI Julie Woods — West Midlands Police

Tabetha Damon — Black Country Partnership NHS Foundation Trust

Manjeet Garcha – Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group

Dawn Williams — Wolverhampton City Council, Head of Service Safeguarding & Quality

Sandra Ashton-Jones—Wolverhampton City Council, Adult Safeguarding and Quality Service

Lynne Fieldhouse/Jane O'Daly —Royal Wolverhampton Trust

Karen Samuels — Wolverhampton City Council, Safer Wolverhampton Partnership

Jamie-Ann Edwards/Jas Pejetta — West Midlands Probation Service

Mark Henderson — Wolverhampton Homes

Kathy Cole-Evans — Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum

Councillor Steve Evans — Wolverhampton City Council

Sarah Norman/Linda Sanders — Wolverhampton City Council, Strategic Director

Brian Pearce/Kate Houghton — West Midlands Fire Service

Andy Proctor — West Midlands Ambulance Service

Fiona Davis — Wolverhampton City Council, Legal Services

Trisha Haywood — Wolverhampton Branch, West Midlands Care Association

Anthony Ivko — Wolverhampton City Council, Service Director Older People

Susan Spencer — Age UK

Dr Miles Manley — Local Medical Council

Payal Patel – Care Quality Commission

Ros Jervis - Public Health

Maxine Bygrave – Wolverhampton Healthwatch

Stephen Dodd – YOW (Youth Organisations Wolverhampton)

Councillor Ian Claymore – Wolverhampton City Council

## Safeguarding Activity

The total number of alerts received this year was 1600, a marked increase from last year which totalled 1308.

It is unclear why there has been such an in-crease in the number of alerts, although there has been an increase every year for the last three years. It may be attributed to the increased public awareness through media coverage and locally through safeguarding awareness raising sessions delivered on behalf of the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board and partner organisations.

|                            | 2011/<br>12 | 2012<br>/13 | 2013/<br>14 | 2014/<br>15 |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
| Alerts                     | 989         | 1173        | 1308        | 1600        |
| Referrals                  | 586         | 495         | 519         | 525         |
| Referrals as a % of Alerts | 59%         | 42%         | 40%         | 33%         |

## Risks Removed

The result shows that in 94% of all cases where action is taken the risk is at least reduced with 26% of cases having the risk removed altogether. This is a very positive result and shows that safeguarding has been extremely effective.

|                                 | 2014/15    |     |
|---------------------------------|------------|-----|
|                                 | Num<br>ber | %   |
| No action taken                 | 250        | -   |
| Action taken: Risk remains      | 12         | 6%  |
| Action taken: Risk reduced      | 133        | 68% |
| Action taken: Risk re-<br>moved | 51         | 26% |
| Overall Total                   | 446        |     |

## Our Priorities for 2015-2018

Going forward we have reduced our priorities to five by merging two areas of work. These five areas the Board think are very important and will be working towards with our partner agencies over the coming three years.

|                       |                                                                                                                                  |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Priority One</b>   | We will make sure all the people on the Safeguarding Board <b>know what they should do</b> to keep people in Wolverhampton safe. |
| <b>Priority Two</b>   | We will make sure all the people on the Safeguarding Board <b>do what they should</b> to help keep people in Wolverhampton safe. |
| <b>Priority Three</b> | We will make sure that we all work together to reduce risk of harm to <b>children, young people and adults</b> .                 |
| <b>Priority Four</b>  | We will <b>share information</b> about safeguarding with the public.                                                             |
| <b>Priority Five</b>  | We will make sure that staff have the <b>proper training</b> so they know how to keep adults safe from abuse and neglect.        |

# Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adult Board Annual Report 2014-15 Executive Summary



**WHO CAN I TELL MY CONCERNS TO? To make a Safeguarding Referral ring Adults Social Care Services on 01902 551199. If you would like any advice before contacting the number above, please ring 01902 553218. In an emergency, ring 999.**



Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board

## Introduction

This summary highlights some of the work undertaken by the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board during 2014/15. The Board ensures all partner organisations work together to prevent abuse and to protect people if they are harmed or exploited.

15 agencies are represented on the Board and there are four meetings a year.

There have been many developments and achievements in the last year and details can be found in the full Annual Report. For a copy please contact 01902 553218 or visit our [website](#).

## Preparation for the Care Act 2014

This year has seen a significant amount of work preparing for a change in the law in regards to protecting and supporting vulnerable people who are at risk of abuse or have been abused. From the 1st April 2015 the Government put the safeguarding of adults on an equal legal footing to that of children, our policies and procedures have been updated to reflect the changes.



## Board Priorities 2014-15

What did we achieve against our priorities in 2014-2015?

### **Priority One: Better Outcomes**

Service User experience and involvement in safeguarding enquiries directs improved practice.

- Safeguarding week in October 2014 provided the opportunity to feedback to the public and undertake community engagement to demonstrate the importance of prioritising Safeguarding in Wolverhampton

### **Priority Two: Quality Assurance**

Ensure there are effective Multi-Agency Quality Assurance and Performance Management processes in place.

- We now have a set of performance measures for all partners on the board to contribute to rather than just the Council

### **Priority Three: Information Sharing**

Improvements are made to how agencies can share personal information legally and ethically to enable adults to be protected from harm or unwarranted risk.

- Safeguarding Adults Information Sharing Protocol developed and adopted at September 2014 Board.

### **Priority Four: Prevention**

There is a coherent inclusive approach by both Safeguarding Boards to community initiatives which protect dis-advantaged groups

- A review of the city's Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) arrangements has been undertaken and an improvement plan developed

## **Priority Five: Communication and Engagement**

There is a consistent and co-ordinated approach to how the safeguarding message for adults, young people and children is disseminated to all groups and communities.

- A children and adult safeguarding website has been scoped and developmental work has started

## **Priority Six: Workforce Development**

The workforce of all partner agencies have undergone safe and robust recruitment processes and understand safeguarding issues as they relate to their role.

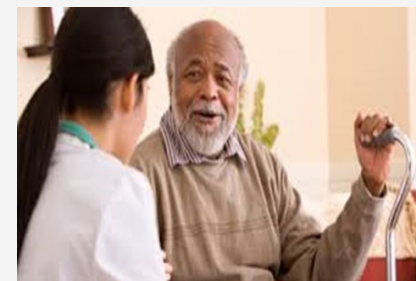
- The four Black Country Safeguarding Boards gave commitment to a joint work programme to ensure more effective and efficient use of scarce resources

**An example of the positive impact that Safeguarding can have on a person's life:**

### **David's Story**

David was supported by the mental health team to monitor his mental health and prevent deterioration after he had had money stolen from him by a "friend" he had met online. The team also supported him to make changes to his social media site. His Housing Association provided him with added security to his front door. David decided to buy a small safe to keep his valuables in at .

David has remained well and been able to continue with his life in his local community.



# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                          |                                                     |                                                                                        |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                                      | Single Market Position Statement for Adult Services |                                                                                        |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                              | AMBER                                               |                                                                                        |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b>           | Councillor Elias Mattu<br>Adults                    |                                                                                        |
| <b>Key decision</b>                                      | Yes                                                 |                                                                                        |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                                   | Yes                                                 |                                                                                        |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                                    | All                                                 |                                                                                        |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                              | Linda Sanders, Strategic Director , People          |                                                                                        |
| <b>Originating service</b>                               | Commissioning                                       |                                                                                        |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                           | Paul Smith                                          | Head of Older Persons Commissioning                                                    |
|                                                          | Tel                                                 | 01902 55 5318                                                                          |
|                                                          | Email                                               | <a href="mailto:Paul.smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Paul.smith@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a>   |
|                                                          | Kathy Roper                                         | Head of Disabilities & Mental Health Commissioning                                     |
|                                                          | Tel                                                 | 01902 55 0975                                                                          |
|                                                          | Email                                               | <a href="mailto:Kathy.roper@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Kathy.roper@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a> |
| <b>Report to be considered by/has been considered by</b> | Cabinet                                             | 21 October 2015                                                                        |
|                                                          | Executive Team                                      | 21 September 2015                                                                      |
|                                                          | Strategic Executive Board                           | 15 September 2015                                                                      |

---

### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve that the Single Market Position Statement for Adult Services so that it can be used to support on-going dialogue with providers to develop the market.
2. Approve the production, following discussions with the stakeholders/providers, of the 'appropriate format(s) and distribution of the Market Position Statement.

## **Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the Single Market Position Statement for Adult Services, (**Appendix 1**) to f to Cabinet; for approval. The aim of this document is to open a dialogue with the wider community stakeholders by providing them with the current picture of care and support delivery, including demand and finance. Similarly, adding in the projection for the future in terms of expected demand, finance and the changes to the commissioning and purchasing market.
- 1.2 The document also includes potential opportunities for developments in the market and any particularly innovative ideas that the Council wants to encourage.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 The Care Act 2014 presents commissioners and providers with new challenges and opportunities for business development through a strategic dialogue. The Act places statutory duties on local authorities to shape the care and support market and promote the diversity and quality of local services, to secure sufficient range and supply of high quality provision for vulnerable people.
- 2.2 The Care Act also places a duty to ensure continuity of care through market oversight which is effectively a shared responsibility with the Care Quality Commission (CQC).
- 2.3 Increasing demand, greater numbers of self-funders and personal budget holders, and constraints in state funding will mean significant change to the care and support market. In order to achieve greater choice and control as to how, where and what care is delivered requires a local diverse care and support market. The Council has a clear role in stimulating, managing and shaping this market to address pressing care needs.
- 2.4 The Care Act Programme Board initially approved the previous Market Position Statements for the Care and Support of Older People and Care and Support Adults with Disabilities and Mental Health needs in March 2015; these documents ran up until 30 September 2015. However, it was noted that a composite Market Position Statement for Adult Services would stand in good stead with endorsing all adult care services delivered by Wolverhampton City Council.

## **3.0 Progress, options, discussion.**

- 3.1 The future challenges for adult social care delivery are increased demand, reduced local authority resources and new ways to meet social care needs. It is recognised that the solutions to these challenges do not sit solely with the Council, but with the wider stakeholder group also. These new challenges present opportunities for innovation and creation and the Market Position Statement is a first step to realising and identifying those opportunities in an open and transparent way.
- 3.2 The Market Position Statement will be a 'live document' that will be reviewed and updated in line with any significant changes that are expected to have an impact on the Care and Support Market and in line with any market development actions identified in commissioning strategies.



- 3.3 The Market Position Statement is there to make existing policies (which are reflected in the commissioning 'plan on a pages') clearer and more transparent for providers. Providers need to be able to use the document to better understand the Council's position and to adjust and develop their business models accordingly to best service the local population's care needs.
- 3.4 The Market Position Statement is not a strategic commissioning plan in its own right, rather a means by which the Council articulates the state of the market and enables conversations about potential business opportunities within the Council's strategic vision. Cabinet will therefore wish to give some consideration as to where the Market Position Statement sits against the Joint Strategic Needs Assessment, and the Local Account.
- 3.5 A print ready version of the Market Position Statement has been worked-on during September 2015, and advice sought from Communications Team on the means of reaching out to appropriate interested parties.
- 3.6 It is proposed that the Market Position Statement is officially launched in November 2015, by the Council; this will be endorsed by the Cabinet Member for Adults and by the Strategic Director for People.
- 3.7 The Market Position Statement will be refreshed annually and advice taken from stakeholders/providers on the most appropriate formats and distribution to ensure wide coverage and means to open dialogue. The document will develop incrementally with annual iterations based on the outcomes of dialogue with providers and interested parties.

#### **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 The Older People and All Age Disabilities Care Purchasing budgets have a combined 2015/16 budget of £34.4 million. The means of facilitating good market dialogue with providers may offer future efficiencies through reducing inefficient transactional costs both for the Council and providers, as well as providing better outcomes for clients.
- 4.2 There are no financial implications arising directly from this report. The resources needed to implement any initiatives arising from the Market Position Statement itself will be met by existing Adult Social Care resources.  
[AS/02092015/Z]

#### **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 As set out in the 2012 White Paper, 'Caring for our future' that 'the Government will introduce a duty upon local authorities to promote diversity and quality in the provision of services'.

5.2 This intent has been codified in the new Care Act 2014 (“the Act”), under general responsibilities of local authorities, Part 1, 5(1): ‘*A local authority must promote the efficient and effective operation of a market in services for meeting care and support needs*’. The Single Market Position Statement for Adult Services will assist to achieve this by, among other things stated in the Act, ensuring that any person within the local authority area wishing to access services in the market has a variety of providers and high quality services to choose from, as well as sufficient information from which to make an informed decision about the same.  
[JB/01092015/B]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 An Equality Impact Assessment is not required. Any work resulting from information provided in the Market Position Statement may require being equality impact assessed and these will be completed as appropriate.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no environmental implications associated within this report.

## **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no human resources implications associated at this stage within this report.

## **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications associated within this report.

## **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

Reports to:

- Executive Team – 21 September 2015
- Strategic Executive Board -15 September 2015
- People Leadership Team – 7th September 2015

City of Wolverhampton Council  
Market Position Statement for Care  
and Support for Adult Services in  
Wolverhampton  
2015-2017



CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

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wolverhampton.gov.uk

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# Foreword and Introduction

The City of Wolverhampton Council is committed to supporting all businesses, including social enterprises, co-operatives and not for profit organisations, to flourish and be competitive within our diverse local market.

The Market Position Statement (MPS) produced by Wolverhampton City Council is intended to provide a comprehensive base for continued change and improvement.

Our strategy sets the challenge of making Wolverhampton a City that delivers prosperity for all, creating new job opportunities, supporting businesses and communities, and closing gaps in education, skills, health and wellbeing.

The evidence provided in this document will help the Council and its partners to take a strategic approach to understanding and meeting local need for the care and support of older people.

The MPS presents a picture of demand and supply now, what that might look like in the future and details how commissioners will support and intervene in a local or regional market in order to deliver this vision.

I am pleased to welcome you to our Market Position Statement (MPS) for Care and Support for Adult Services in Wolverhampton 2015-2017.

We look forward to working with providers, existing and new, to take advantage of the opportunity created by the policy changes of the Care Act and Better Care Fund. The areas we will want to address together will develop existing services by, for example, building in the use of assistive technology. New areas of work will be to develop earlier intervention, preventing and delaying the need for care, integrated working with our NHS partners and others. Our aim is to increase the choice and control over their lives for adults in Wolverhampton. We have to develop ways of meeting needs much more creatively, making best use of finances available, ensuring that innovative relations flourish.

The MPS includes the policy framework of the Council which will direct our future commissioning activity. The inclusion of the City's demography, current service structures and future tender opportunities will inform your own approach to working with us.

Should you have any queries, please contact our Commissioning team for further information. We look forward to working with you commissioning care and support for adults that promote independence and support that increases individuals choice and control over their lives.

*Linda Sanders*  
*Strategic Director - People*



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# A profile of Adults in Wolverhampton

The Wolverhampton overall population is 252,900; both males and females in Wolverhampton having lower overall life expectancy compared to the national average -77.5. years for males and 83.1 years for females retrospectively. In addition, a male in Wolverhampton can expect to live to 56.6 years free of any disability and women to nearly 59 years – over 3 years less than the national average for males and two years less for females. This means that not only do Wolverhampton residents live shorter lives but they also spend more of their lives experiencing ill health and disability.

The need for social care is increasing, mainly because the people who need it most, older and disabled people, represent the two groups growing in size. This is happening at a time when public funding to support these groups are falling, with an 8% cut in spending between 2010/11 and 2012/13 and most councils facing an unprecedented 25% reduction in funding over the next four years.

Wolverhampton has approximately 41,000 residents aged 65+ and 6,000 aged over 85+, and approximately 3,752 residents aged 18 to 64 and 883 aged 65+ with a learning disability or difficulty. Over the next ten years there will be a 2.3% increase in the number of people aged 18 and over with learning disability or difficulty and the total population will increase by 3.7%.

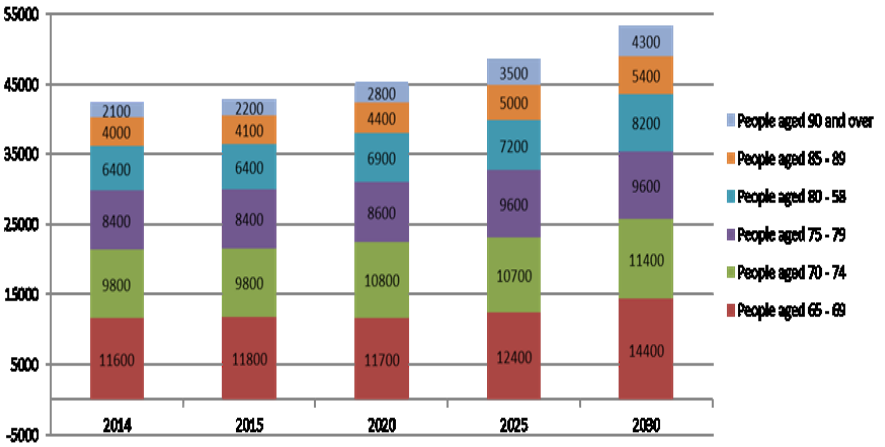
Over the next twenty years there will be a 25.3% increase in the number of people aged 70+ and the 80+ population will increase by 62.5%. 11.8% of older people are Asian and 4.8% are African-Caribbean - both of these populations are set to increase significantly over the next twenty years.

There are approximately 3,100 people with dementia living in the city, and this figure is set to grow by 44% over the next 20 years.

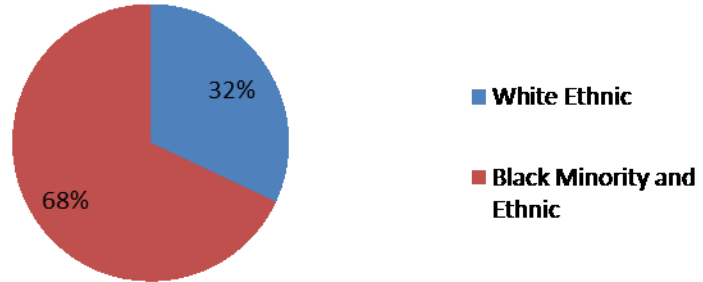
It is estimated that there are around 850 working age adults with moderate to severe learning disability; whereas 636 are actually receiving support from social services. 50% of Wolverhampton’s wards fall amongst the most deprived nationally and our history of heavy industry has left a legacy, with healthy life expectancy a year shorter than the England average and 10.2% of the population reporting long term limiting illness and poor mobility.

The challenge for Wolverhampton is to deliver quality outcomes for people within a decreasing budget. This inevitably means changing the way in which we purchase care and support for those people who need it. The Council is committed to working with our Providers to create a market that will deliver quality outcomes though truly promoting independence in a safe environment.

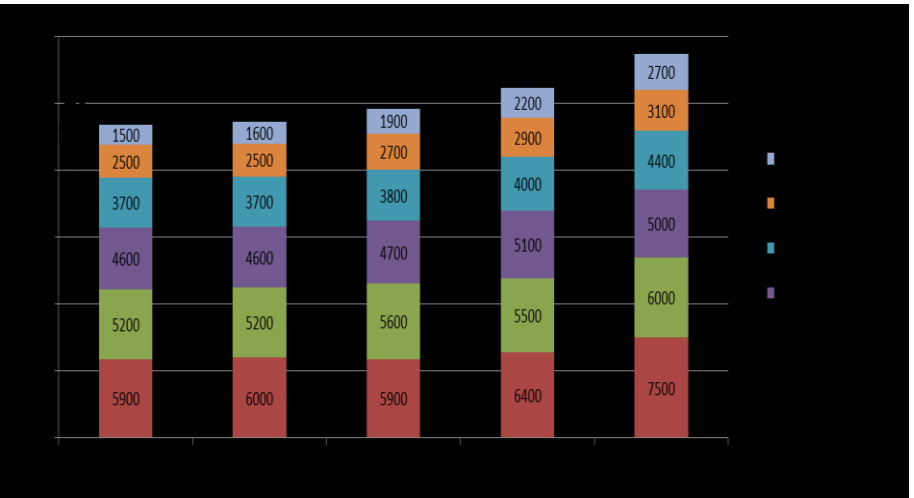
# Population and Future Demand - Older People



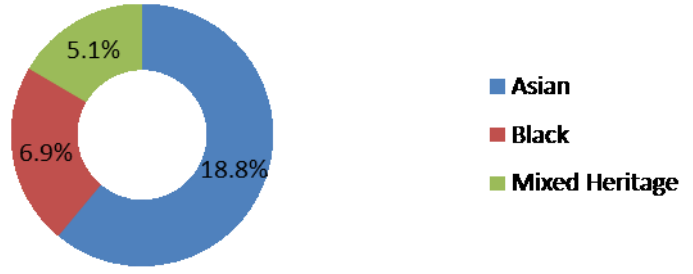
The majority of the population (68%) is from a white ethnic background with the remaining 32% from black minority ethnic backgrounds (BME).



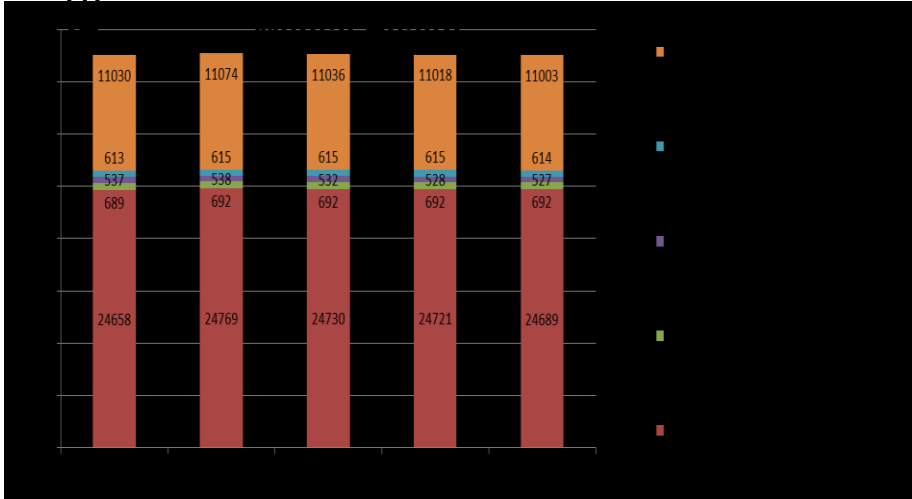
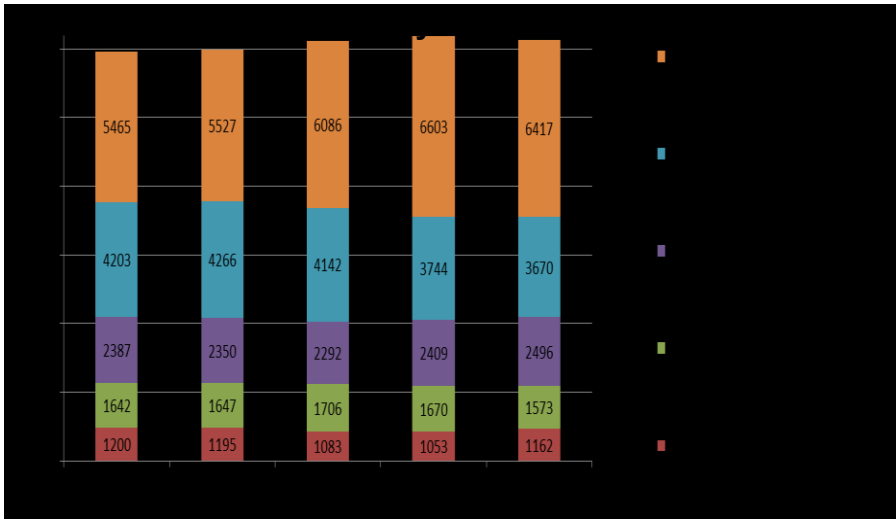
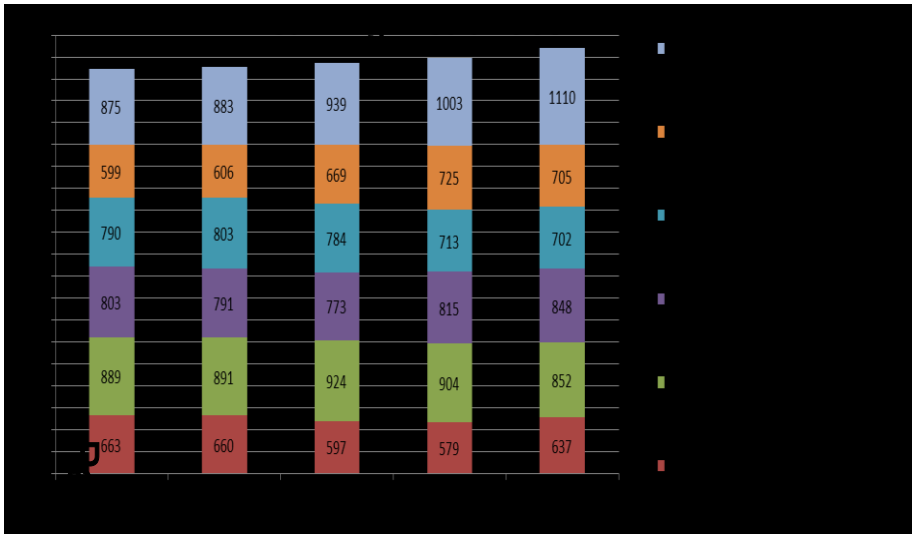
## Gender Breakdown - Older People



followed by black and mixed at 6.9% and 5.1% respectively. This is quite different to the national distribution with only 14.3% from a BME background. The south east of the city



# Population and Future Demand - Disabilities and Mental Health



**Future Direction**

*We will be implementing the national drive to reduce the number of residential placements and the proportion of spending on residential care.*

*This will mean remodelling the provision of long term care to enable people to truly achieve independence, choice and control within budget. We will do this by working with providers to develop a new business model that includes supported living and very sheltered housing models instead of residential care.*



# Where do older people in Wolverhampton live?

The wards with the highest proportions of older residents are:

- Tettenhall Regis;
- Tettenhall Wightwick;
- Merry Hill;
- Penn;
- Bushbury North.

The wards with the higher numbers of older people also have high proportions of one person households for this age group.

The wards with the highest proportion of pension credit claimants and suggesting a link with deprivation are:

- Spring Vale - 52.9%;
- Ettingshall - 46.5%;
- Bilston East - 46.0%;
- Heath Town - 45.5%;
- Bushbury South and Low Hill - 44.7%.



# Where do adults with Learning Disabilities live?

The highest proportion of people registered as having a Learning Disability live in St Peters, Heath Town and Bilston East, with the lowest numbers living in Wednesfield North and Wightwick. The number of people who are receiving care and support outside of the City is 85. This is sometimes to receive specialist support that is not available locally.

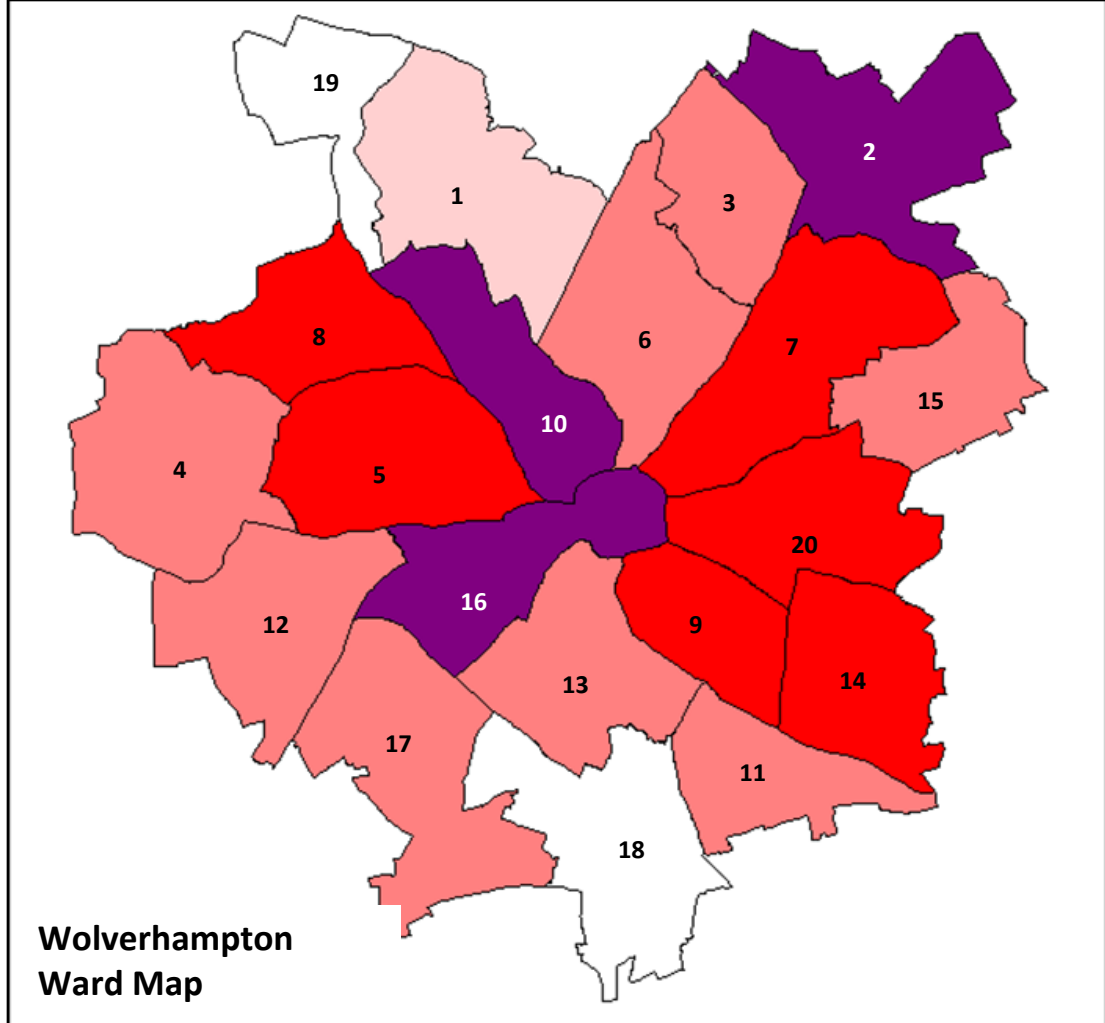
The number of people who are out of City is higher than the Council wants.

**Future Direction**

*We will be supporting people who live out of City the opportunity to move back into the City.*

| LD 18+ as registered by Wton GPs |     |
|----------------------------------|-----|
| 81 to 112                        | (3) |
| 57 to 80                         | (6) |
| 34 to 56                         | (8) |
| 30 to 33                         | (1) |
| Less than 30                     | (2) |

- 1- Wednesfield South
- 2 - Bilston East
- 3 - Bilston North
- 4 - Bushbury North
- 5 - Bushbury South and Low Hill
- 6 - East Park
- 7 - Ettingshall
- 8 - Fallings Park
- 9 - Graiseley
- 10 - Heath Town
- 11 - Merry Hill
- 12 - Oxley
- 13 - Park
- 14 - Penn
- 15 - Spring Vale
- 16 - St Peter's
- 17 - Tettenhall Regis
- 18 - Tettenhall Wightwick
- 19 - Wednesfield North
- 20 - Blakenhall



# Care and Support Sector Workforce Profile

The care and support sector employs just over 1.8 million people in the UK, which is around 6% of the total UK workforce. The sector is valued at least £43bn and services around 2.3 million adults. Just under a third work in the public sector whilst almost half are employed by private or commercial organisations.

The number of adult social care jobs in England as at 2013 was estimated at 1.52 million. The number of people working in adult social care in England as at 2013 was estimated at 1.45 million. There are an estimated 17,300 organisations involved in the delivery and organisation of adult social care. These organisations are made up of some 39,000 establishments across the UK.

There are an estimated 1.3 million jobs (excluding PAs working for direct payment recipients). The private sector is by far the largest employer employing over two thirds (circa 900,000) of all adult social care workers. The voluntary sector employs just over a fifth of all workers while the statutory sector employs just over 1 in 10 workers.

Around half of the workforce are employed in residential settings while a further 38% are employed in domiciliary care settings.

Just over half the workforce (52%) are considered to be full-time while 36% hold a part-time role.

The West Midlands (5.3%) has a slightly lower overall vacancy rate than the rest of England (5.6%). Community Support and Outreach Workers have the highest vacancy rates of all the main job roles (West Midlands 11.3% and England as a whole (7.4%).

## Skilled & Qualified Workforce

The workforce in the West Midlands includes 155,000 people working in 165,000 jobs. Like England as a whole, the majority of these jobs (76%) and workers (77%.) Nationally over half the workforce holds a recognised social care qualification (56%), whilst 43% have no relevant qualifications recorded, the most populated areas of training were Moving and Handling (70%) and Safeguarding Adults (64%).

Within the West Midlands, two thirds (65%) of the workforce have a social care qualification, slightly more than England as a whole (60%). Nearly a third of workers in the West Midlands are qualified to level 2 (30%) and 14% to a level 3. Nearly a quarter (24%) of workers in the West Midlands are working towards a qualification. The majority of these workers are aiming to achieve either a Level 2 qualification (6%) or a different social care qualification (7%).

# Care and Support Sector Workforce Profile

## Workforce Breakdown

- Almost 170,000 people are working in the care and support sector in the West Midlands.
- Workers who provide direct care make up more than 135,000 (77%) of these jobs
- Over 85% of these jobs are in the independent sector (including those working for people who receive direct payment)
- More than 32,000 social care workers in the West Midlands may retire in the next 10 years (21% over 55 years old).
- There are 20,343 direct payment recipients in the West Midlands - it is estimated that they employ over 25,300 workers.
- The largest proportion of workers are aged between 40 and 54 years old (38%).
- Half of workers in roles such as managers/ supervisors (51%) and registered nurses (45%) are aged between 40 and 54 years old.
- Direct care staff are more likely to be aged 24 and under in the West Midlands such as care workers (16%).
- The percentage of workers who are female in the adult social care sector in the West Midlands is 84% and in England as a whole is 82%

- The largest proportion (88%) of workers in the West Midlands are British. There are a small proportion from other nationalities e.g. 3% from countries within the European Economic Area (EEA) and 9% from Non-EEA countries.

## Future Direction

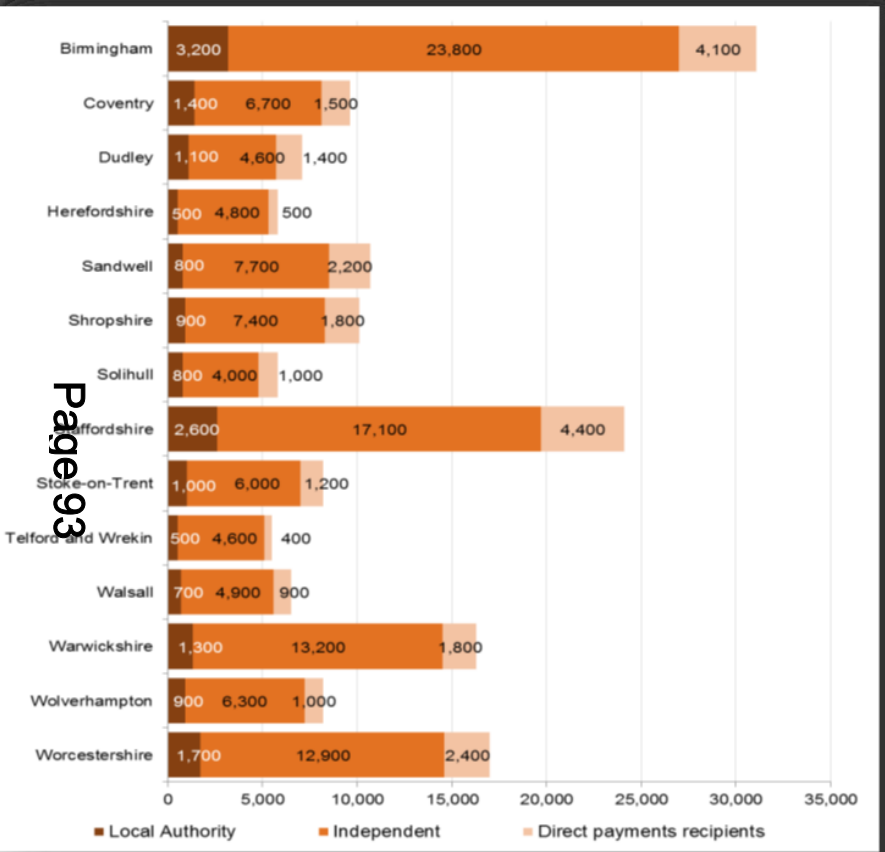
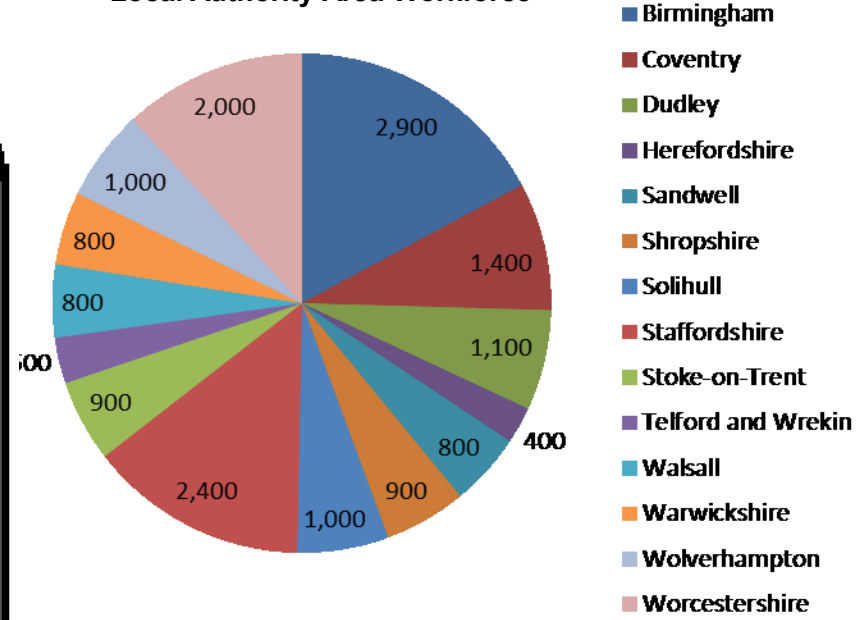
*As demographic trends indicate, people in the UK are living longer and their needs becoming more complex. This need reinforces the growing demands on social care services and the changing expectations of service users who require a workforce which is highly skilled and supported, and able to work in flexible ways.*

*The number of jobs is projected to grow by between 15% and 55% between 2013 and 2025. This means there could be between 1.8 million and 2.4 million jobs by 2025 in the UK.*

# Care and Support Sector Workforce Profile

There is an estimated 170,000 social care jobs in the West Midlands, the largest number (121,000) are in the independent sector, 17,500 in local authorities and 25,000 are those employed by direct payment recipients. The

Local Authority Area Workforce



The National Minimum Data Set for Social Care (NMDS-SC) is an online workforce data collection system for the social care sector. Social care providers can register, maintain and access their business information by setting up an account on [www.nmds-sc-online.org.uk](http://www.nmds-sc-online.org.uk). The data that you enter is used across the whole sector to inform important decisions.

# Prevention

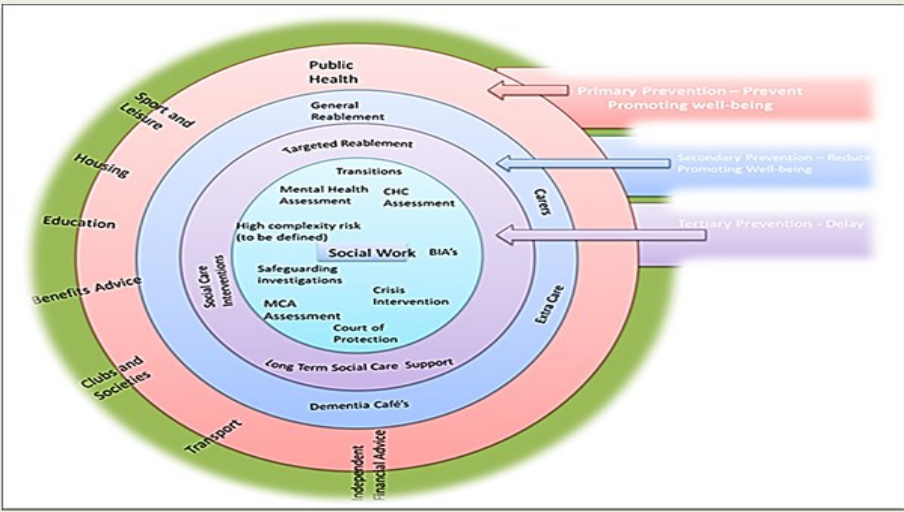
Preventive services represent a continuum of support ranging from the most intensive, 'tertiary services' such as intermediate care or reablement, down to 'secondary' or early intervention, and finally, 'primary prevention' aimed at promoting wellbeing. Primary prevention is generally designed for people with few social care needs or symptoms of illness. A key element of that transformation will be the implementation of a Care Act compliant Adult Operating Model for Social work that is clear about the role of Social Workers. This will provide the foundation for professional expectations within a multi-disciplinary setting.

Many of Wolverhampton's past efforts to redesign the Adult Social care service have focussed on system changes which seek to create more efficient ways of moving people through the traditional assessment and care management process with the outcome of increasing cost without necessarily improving outcomes. The new responsibilities of the Care Act 2014 and adoption of a fundamental principle to promote independence through an individually tailored, personalised approach within a new operating model with nine key features as previously described will underpin the transformation of adult social care.

Scan here for further information on the Wolverhampton's Promoting Independence report.



The Care Act 2014 introduced a duty for Local Authorities to promote Well Being when carrying out any of its care and support functions in respect of a person and their carer. This includes the Prevention of the development or deterioration of needs for care and support. To achieve this, the Council is working to ensure that internal and external services, such as housing, adult and children social care, public health, transport and education are cooperating. The Government defines the following three levels of Prevention:



### Future Direction

We are keen to work with Providers that have a track record in delivering an innovative range of preventative services that clearly benefit people at risk of losing their independence.

- It is nationally acknowledged that 'poor housing costs the NHS at least £2.5 billion a year in treating people with illnesses directly linked to living in cold, damp and dangerous homes' (Friedman 2010 reproduced in The King's Fund paper 2013).
- Housing and Health research is very well documented; falls amongst the over 65's take up 4 million bed days each year in England's hospitals at a cost of £2 billion (Royal College of Physicians 2011). Low level interventions to repair uneven paths and hazardous environments, adding steps to doorways, providing extra rails to stairs and installing other safety measures into the home can prevent falls, and therefore save the health service money should these falls require treatment.
- It's estimated that 75% of all non-decent homes are occupied by the most vulnerable, and that this generates a cost to the NHS treating people with housing related illnesses and injuries. 'Everyone should be given the opportunity to live in a decent home'. The Housing Assistance Policy, Public Health, NHS and Social Care frameworks support work that enable all communities, families and individuals to thrive, with a specific goal of investing in early intervention, reablement and prevention to reduce the need for intensive support; developing a seamless response to care needs linking into the Health and Social Care Act 2012.

Other facts include:

- Postponing entry to residential care by 1 year by adapting people's homes saves approx. £28,000 per person;
- A fall at home that leads to a hip fracture costs the state an average of £29,000, 4.5 times the average cost of an adaptation, and 100 times the cost of fitting grab rails to prevent falls;
- Housing adaptations reduce the costs of home care (saving £1,200 to £29,000 a year);
- Hospital discharge services speed up patient release, saving at least £120 a day.



*Scan here for the Wolverhampton Mosaic Profiles for more information.*

# Residential and Nursing Care for Older People

Currently Wolverhampton City Council funds placements in 55 residential and nursing homes across the City, in addition to providing residential care in two homes owned and managed by the Council.

The gross spend on Residential and Nursing Care for older people is approximately £20 million.

Wolverhampton has three parliamentary constituencies the location of residential and nursing home is given for each of these constituencies, their capacity and the number of placements funded by the Council.

### North East

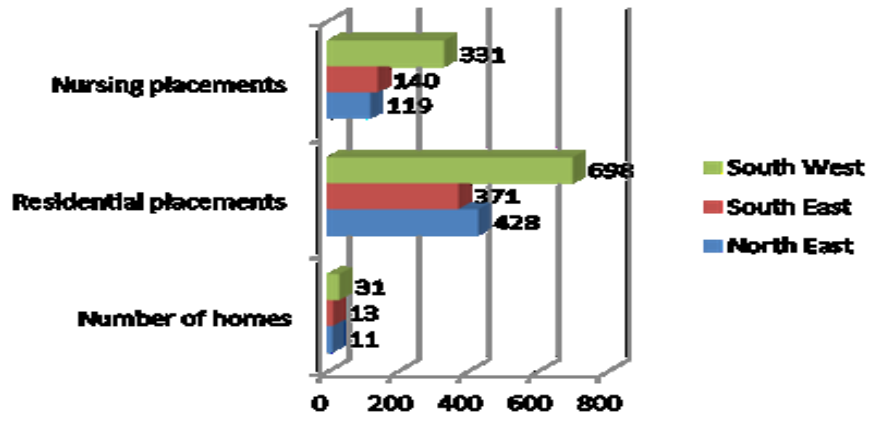
Eleven homes are located in this part of the city including one home which is owned and managed by the Council. The capacity of these homes is 428 placements. Included in these figure are 2 homes that provide nursing care with a maximum capacity of 119 places.

### South East

Thirteen homes are located in this part of the city. The capacity of these homes is 371 placements. Included in these figures are two homes that provide nursing a maximum capacity of 140 nursing care places.

### South West

Thirty-one homes are located in this part of the city including one home that is owned and managed by the Council. The capacity of these homes is 698 placements. Included in these figures are nine nursing homes providing a maximum capacity of 331 nursing care places.



### **Future Direction**

*The Council is moving away from placing individuals in Residential Care settings by exploring robust models of support, that challenges professionals and individual's anxiety of living independently in a safe and familiar environment .*



# Residential & Nursing Care for Adults with Disabilities and Mental Health

The Council took a snapshot of bed based care packages in April 2015 that revealed there were 100 care homes that we purchased care from. The combined capacity of these homes was 2,163 beds. The Council purchased 328 beds which is 15% of the total available.

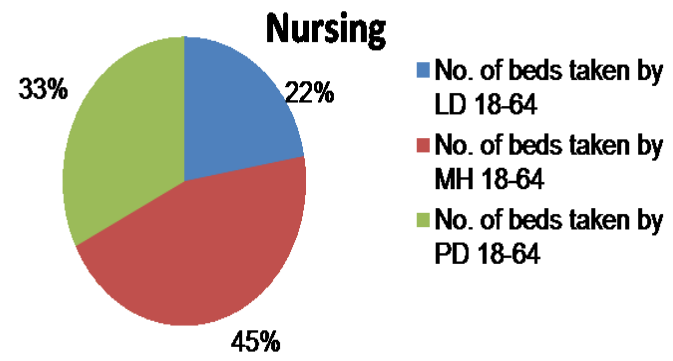
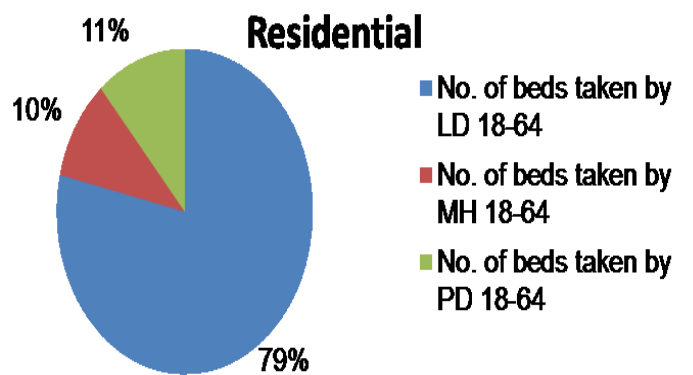
The number of beds purchased for adults with learning disabilities equated to 173 with a weekly spend of £220,873.53 per week. This is the largest cohort currently purchasing residential care packages compared to Mental Health and Physical Disabilities.

**Future Direction**

We do not want to buy as much residential care. The reduction in residential care will enable the Council to divert resources to deliver personalised care such as supported and very sheltered housing.

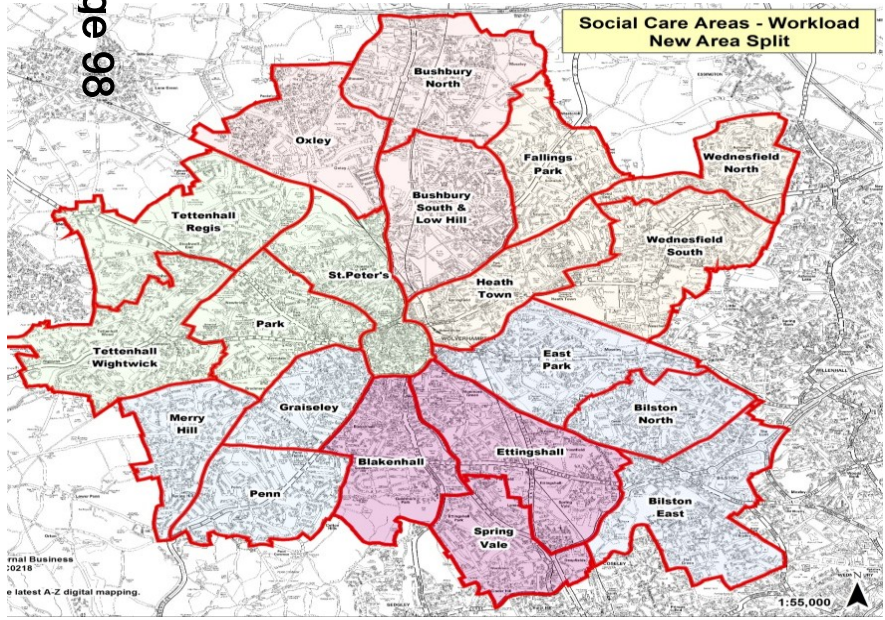
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| Current Bed usage             | Residential | Nursing |
|-------------------------------|-------------|---------|
| No. of beds taken by LD 18-64 | 173         | 24      |
| No. of beds taken by MH 18-64 | 22          | 49      |
| No. of beds taken by PD 18-64 | 25          | 35      |
| All                           | 220         | 108     |



# Domiciliary Care Market

Domiciliary Care is defined as care provided to someone in their own home. The aim of domiciliary care is to enable people to remain living as independently as they can be in their own homes through the provision of personal care and support. The interdependencies that exist to deliver domiciliary care services are significant and we need to take stock of the various outputs and consider what they mean for the commissioning intentions and the strategic priorities for 2015/16 and beyond. The Council has a framework of accredited Providers from which to purchase domiciliary care services.



# Day Time Opportunities

Wolverhampton City Council is committed to supporting and stimulating a diverse market for care and support by offering a real choice of opportunities that enable people to continue living independently.

In Wolverhampton day time opportunities for vulnerable adults can be provided by a range of providers including micro providers, voluntary organisations and the local authority, delivering a menu of opportunities to maximise independent living, which delivers the following:

- A flexible service that is responsive to the changing needs and aspirations of individuals;
- An ethos of enablement to maximise people’s independence
- An outcome-focused model of services;
- A continuing commitment to provide informal carers with breaks from their caring role and assistance to help them continue to care;
- A diverse range of provision enabling people to access community facilities and universal services.

## Future Direction

*The Council is seeking to establish an approved list of providers who are able to offer a wide range of day time activities to older residents.*

*The Council will prioritise working with local providers and also encourages the provision of innovative/non-traditional services.*

# Very Sheltered Housing

Very Sheltered Housing (VSH) is rented housing provision that delivers flexible care and support services. The aim of VSH is to provide supported living so that people have the opportunity to live in their own self-contained property whilst having on sited access to care and housing related support in accordance with assessed needs.

The Council has nine contracts in place for older people with VSH Providers and the care services provided under these contracts are provided on a 'block' basis. Places are allocated to people who have eligible care needs that have been assessed.

## **Future Direction**

*There is low uptake of Very Sheltered Housing in Adults with Disabilities. Commissioners will be increasing this model of housing for adults with disabilities. We recognise that there is a gap in our provision for people on the Autistic spectrum. We will be improving our local provision*

# Transition

Transition workers joined the 0-25 Disability Children and Young Persons Team to create a new team that was developed in February 2015. The Transition workers are able to specifically focus on the transition of young people who are moving through children's services into adult provision. We are working closely with our colleagues in both Children and Adults teams to form robust transition plans for young disabled people from 14 onwards. We are committed to providing a service that builds on the strengths of the young people and promotes independence. We want to work with providers who can deliver innovative and personalised services.

# Public Health

Public Health Wolverhampton has developed an evidence based prevention plan that focuses on improving lifestyle choices (smoking, substance misuse, unhealthy eating and physical inactivity) that have a major impact on the health and wellbeing of the local population.

It is estimated that around 80% of deaths from major disease, e.g. heart disease, strokes and cancer, are caused by poor lifestyle choices.

There is a higher prevalence of unhealthy lifestyle choices amongst individuals with mental health problems (smoking, alcohol and substance misuse) and learning disabilities (unhealthy diet and physical inactivity). Poor lifestyle choices can also contribute to the development of physical disabilities. The five year Public Health Prevention Plan aims to prevent the escalating local need for health and social care support across the life course.

# Micro Providers

Micro providers are small services provided by local people using their gifts and skills to provide flexible and individually tailored support and services to other local people who may need support or care; because they are older, disabled, have ill health or are particularly vulnerable for some other reason.

Micro services can be purchased by individuals who have a personal budget or who are funding their own care, in some instances micro services are provided on a voluntary basis. Micro provider organisations can help you to live more independently and help to prevent the need for more complex care later on.

Why are Micro providers important?

- Micro providers offer increased choices for people who do not wish to become employers of Personal Assistants but who are looking to buy support and services to live their lives and meet health and support needs.
- Micro enterprise provides a route for local people to use their gifts and skills to support and provide services for other local people.
- Micro providers are firmly rooted in their communities and have a good understanding of local issues and deliver individually tailored support to people

Micro Providers are people and organisations that provide support and care to people in their community, who have 5 or less workers (paid or unpaid) and are independent of any larger organisation

Micro Providers can help to support isolated and vulnerable people:

- live independently;
- go shopping;
- work, learn something new;
- sustain hobbies and interests;
- take holidays and short breaks, take part in leisure or social activities;
- keep in contact with family and friends, get out and about ... and a whole lot more!

## **Future Direction**

*In response to the ever changing landscape of adult social care Wolverhampton needs a diverse market to support our citizens with care and support needs.*

*The Council intends to increase the number of Micro Providers, and would be interested in hearing from people and organisations who wish to set up as a Micro Provider.*

Dementia can affect anyone whatever their gender, ethnic group, age or class, however it is particularly prevalent in the population aged 65 years and over and with a growing aging population the number of people with dementia is set to significantly increase. Raising awareness of dementia across all sectors and the importance of delivering a person centred response is critical to making a real difference to the health and well-being of individuals and their families.

- There are 3,100 people living with dementia in Wolverhampton
- This figure is forecast to rise by 44% over the next 20 years, representing an increase of 75 people per year
- Only 40% of people with dementia in Wolverhampton are on a GP dementia register
- It is predicted that the number of people diagnosed with an early onset dementia is underestimated by three times (Dementia UK 2007)

One third of people with dementia are living in care homes (1000 people in Wolverhampton) with two thirds of the care home population at any one time made up of people with dementia (Alzheimer's Society 2007).

Conversely, two thirds of people with dementia are living independently in their own homes (2,000 people in Wolverhampton). 40% of people in hospital have dementia; the excess cost is estimated to be £6 M per annum in the average

General Hospital; co-morbidity with general medical conditions is high; people with dementia stay longer in hospital, have poorer quality outcomes and one third of people with dementia admitted to hospital never return home (Alzheimer's Society, 2009).

In a national survey of 1,000 GPs only 47% said they had sufficient training to diagnose and manage dementia; 58% said they felt confident about giving advice about management of dementia-like symptoms (National Audit Office, 2010).

Alcohol-related dementia is under-recognised and may account for up to 10% of all dementia cases –around 70,000 people in the UK. (British Journal of Psychiatry); 300 people in Wolverhampton.

*Scan here to view the  
Joint Dementia Strategy  
2015-17*



# Carers

In 2011 there were 5.41 million people who provided unpaid care in England. Health and Social Care services are dependent upon the role played by informal carers, and so it is important to recognise the important contribution unpaid carers make to society. The Care Act has ensured that Carers are a key consideration in the way in which services are designed and delivered. Carers offer valuable support, that is often unpaid.

The way in which we deliver services to Carers is changing and is currently under review. The aim of the revised Wolverhampton Joint Carers Strategy and accompanying implementation plan will to ensure that Informal Carers are appropriately supported in their caring role.

This will involve mapping existing service provision for Informal carers of all ages, consulting with them to understand the issues they face and how they would like to be supported in the future and how this support compliments our obligations under the Care Act 2014 that includes:

- Promoting carers well-being;
- Prevention (prevent, delay, reduce the risks associated with informal caring responsibilities);
- Personalisation of services;
- Information, advice and advocacy;
- Integration and co-operation (between agencies to create a smooth pathway for informal carers);
- Diversity and quality of services.

## Employment

Wolverhampton are under performing in supporting people with a disability to gain employment, with figures indicating 2% of the learning disability population as being in employment. Wolverhampton Disabilities Employment Service recognise that there is a need for change. **Future Direction** -*We want to work with a range of supported employment agencies to improve the city offer to disabled adults.*

## People with Age Related Needs

Through our Provider meetings we recognise that there are number of people whose primary need has changed to that of an older person. This means that we are no longer meeting their needs in the best possible way. We will be working with our commissioning colleagues to develop a better pathway, focussing on early age dementia.

Scan here for further information on the Joint Disabilities Strategy



# Shared Lives and Personal Budgets

## Shared Lives

Shared Lives (formerly Adult Placement scheme) offers long term 24 hour care for adults. Shared Lives involves regulated Carers offering a care and support in their own home to people who need it. The individual is able to become part of the family and enjoy the benefits of a community lifestyle.

Wolverhampton has successfully commissioned an external agency to deliver Shared Lives. In April 2015 there were 12 approved Carers available to offer care and support to people with either Learning Disabilities or ill mental health. Shared lives delivers excellent outcomes for individuals and offers value for money.

**In the future** - we want to increase our use of this service.

## Individual Serviced Funds

Individual Serviced Funds (ISF's) and Personal Budgets (PB's) will increasingly need to prioritise safety and risk and the intention is to seek to meet other needs as far as possible through making alternative arrangements. This might be through helping those with their own resources to meet these needs themselves and developing more opportunities to have a personal budget through ISF's.

## Personal Budgets

The Care Act has placed a duty on all Local Authorities that people with eligible needs have access to a Personal Budget to improve choice and control of the services they receive. This includes how, and when their care is delivered, as a result service provision will need to be flexible. A way of truly achieving this is through enabling people to have a Direct payment.

Direct Payments are cash payments made to individuals who have been assessed as needing support under the National Eligibility Threshold. They enable individuals to choose not to receive services purchased by the City Council, instead choosing to receive a payment in lieu of these to arrange their own support. In Wolverhampton Direct Payment Support is divided within 2 elements:

- Access to information, advice, support, Third Party Supported Accounts (TPSA) to hold and administer Direct Payments;
- A full payroll service.

The information, advice and signposting functions are paid as a block. The support service and TPSA's are paid by individual agreements and paid at an agreed rate per unit. The payroll provider is Enable and is paid as a unit cost per payslip. In April 2015 there were 116 people with Learning Disabilities accessing a Direct Payments.

# Reablement

One of the key strategic drivers for older people in Wolverhampton is that home is the hub and services are designed and commissioned in recognition of people's expectation to remain at home for as long as possible.

Placing people directly into residential or nursing care, even for a period of reablement can quickly create an expectation and level of dependency that can therefore lead to a level of usage above what would be the case if more people were able to experience a period of reablement in their home environment.

The key principle articulated in The Joint Reablement Strategy 2014-2016 is to develop a more robust way to support people requiring a short term service in their own home and reduce the number of residential and nursing beds required for this purpose.

*Scan here to view the Joint Reablement Strategy 2014-16*



[wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://wolverhampton.gov.uk)

# Assistive Technology (Telecare)

Technology and equipment (Telecare) is increasingly being used to support people at home; this enables individuals to live independently and securely in their own home. It includes services that incorporate personal and environmental equipment in the home, and remotely, that enable people to remain safe and independent in their own home for longer.

The Council plans for the utilisation and availability of Telecare to significantly grow and this will be an integral part of the new domiciliary care model. Providers will be required to work closely with the Council to ensure utilisation of Telecare.

## ***Future Direction***

*There are approximately 950 people supported with Telecare packages in Wolverhampton but bold ambition is needed to drive change and improvement.*

*It is therefore proposed to create a Telecare service that has capacity to support approximately 3,000 people over the next three years. The medium term ambition is to reach 6,000 people through the proactive Telecare plus service to reduce isolation and promote wellbeing.*

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WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL



## Transformation of In-house Services

People prefer services at home and in line with our Promoting Independence agenda it is planned that services will cease at one bed based resource centre for older people and the money will be re-invested into community based reablement. The decommissioning of the two long stay residential homes and one reablement centre for older people offers the Council the best opportunity to improve and develop the community based offer to better meet the needs of vulnerable older people in the City whilst at the same time meet the current financial challenges.

A key priority for the City's health and social care economy is supporting people to remain independent and minimise the need for more intensive health and social care services wherever possible. This principle of demand reduction is central to the integration agenda with health and the delivery of the requirements of the Better Care Fund, through which closer integration between Health and Social Care is being driven. The transformation and personalisation agenda will require that all services will be redesigned where it can be evidenced that this will deliver advances in:

- Choice and control
- Innovation and Creativity;
- The use of personal budgets including Individual Service Funds and Direct Payments;
- Social impact of the service, Pooled budgets and pooled direct payments.

## Consultation

All of our adults with disabilities in house services have been reviewed and consultations have been carried out with all stakeholders to ensure services are still required and that they provide best value when compared to external markets.

The Council's Employment Service has been reviewed and changing to a Supported Employment Service. The focus will be on reducing the need and supporting the prevention agenda.

In June 2015, the Commissioning Teams held a series of engagement meetings with Providers. We discussed the way in which our models can be changed. These meetings have highlighted opportunities to improve the way in which we communicate with our providers in the future.

The Commissioning Team delivered an overview of the Care Act Training to Providers. In July 2015 members of the Commissioning team held the first 'Clued Up' event on the Care Act and Personal Budgets. It was a successful event with approximately 95 people in attendance; including providers, families and professionals.

### ***Future Direction***

*We will have regular meetings with our Providers to further discussions about future services developments*

The Council currently holds contracts for a variety of different services including Day Services, Residential, Domiciliary Care, Residential Care and Supported Living. The Council's Procurement Team work closely with departments to ensure compliance with legislation, such as the Public Procurement Regulations in addition to the Council's Financial Regulations. The Procurement Vision is to ensure services provided to the people of Wolverhampton are of a high quality cost and effective.

A revised Procurement Strategy is being developed following the key principles of:

- Equal Treatment, Fairness and Transparency and Openness;
- Value for Money;
- On-going commercial management, partnerships and collaboration;
- Stakeholder engagement and market engagement;
- Regulatory compliance and governance;
- Risk Management, technology and efficiency;
- Opportunities to bid to provide services or get involved in market consultation events can be found on the Council's e-tendering portal, which can be found on the Council's web.

Alternatively, the team can be contacted via [corporate.procurement@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:corporate.procurement@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

[wolverhampton.gov.uk](http://wolverhampton.gov.uk)

The Quality Assurance and Compliance Team work in partnership with Providers and Stakeholders to enhance the experience of service users by driving improvements across all commissioned services. They are responsible for monitoring the level of risk and quality of provision in care and support services for children and adults purchased by the council.

*Our main aims are to:*

- Monitor the quality and compliance of care services in accordance with agreed strategies, priorities and systems;
- Inform commissioners and stakeholders of issues relating to services and make recommendations for improvement;
- Advise and support services to enable them to achieve required levels of quality.

## ***Future Direction***

*We want to work with Providers to develop a new Quality Assurance process and our ultimate aim is to publish information about the quality of our local services so that customers can make informed choices.*

# Commissioning Intentions - How we want to achieve change for older people

**CONFIDENT CAPABLE COUNCIL**  
People – Stronger Communities



## Older People Commissioning Strategies

| Strategy |  |  |  |
|----------|--|--|--|
|          |  |  |  |
|          |  |  |  |
|          |  |  |  |

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# Commissioning Intentions - How we want to achieve change for Disabilities and Mental Health

| CONFIDENT CAPABLE COUNCIL                                                          |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------|
| People - Stronger Communities                                                      |                                                                                                                                             |                                                                  |
| People live longer, healthier lives<br>Safeguarding people in vulnerable positions | Promoting independence for older people<br>Promoting and enabling healthy lifestyles<br>Promoting independence for people with disabilities | Enabling communities to support themselves<br>Keep the city safe |

## All Age Disability and Mental Health Commissioning Strategies

| Strategy                            | Objective                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Key Milestones                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Timescales                                                                                                                  |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Promoting Independence              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduce the level of support provided to adults in contact with services as a result of enablement interventions</li> <li>Reduce the number of people living in residential settings</li> <li>Transform the transition pathway from children's for young people with disabilities and mental health needs</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commission re-ablement services for each client group</li> <li>30 new people move into supported living accommodation</li> <li>Enablement service to work with young people in Transition</li> </ul>                                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 2015</li> <li>By March 2016</li> <li>September 2015</li> </ul>                   |
| Transformation of in-house services | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Offer clients more choice and control through access to personalised services</li> <li>Achieve value for money</li> <li>Develop more creative services that promote independence and choice</li> </ul>                                                                                                              | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Implement new service model for supported employment</li> <li>Complete consultation on Outreach services and implement new service model</li> <li>Complete consultation process for Duke Street Short Breaks and Oxley Plus</li> </ul>               | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 2015</li> <li>March - September 2015</li> <li>September 2015</li> </ul>        |
| Transforming Care (Winterbourne)    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Adults with a learning disability and/or autism only stay in a hospital setting while they are being actively treated.</li> <li>People live in the least restrictive setting</li> </ul>                                                                                                                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Care and Treatment Reviews completed on all existing inpatients and all planned discharges are achieved</li> <li>Care and Treatment reviews completed on all new admissions</li> <li>New service commissioned to support timely discharge</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 2015</li> <li>Between January 2015 - March 2016</li> <li>March 2016</li> </ul> |

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# Forthcoming Tender Opportunities

- Domiciliary Care - The Council is tendering for new business with the intention to procure Providers who work across the City. Providers will ensure that they contribute toward a 'whole system' approach, by working with local stakeholders including relevant statutory, voluntary and third sector organisations.
- Reablement Service for Older People and Physical Disabilities -The Council intends to tender for reablement services in the next 12 months.
- Floating Support for people with Mental Health needs
- Framework for Supported Living for Younger Adults.

You can now register free to the Council's Procurement e-tendering portal, which will allow you to tender for Council contracts

Please scan here for further information.



It is intended that all future commissioning activity will be progressed with a common set of embedded themes:

- Personalisation;
- Maximisation of the use of Assistive Technology (telecare);
- Reablement;
- Outcome focussed approach;
- Promoting Independence;
- Co-production;
- User Led.

## ***Future Direction***

*The focus for Younger Adults will remain on ensuring we meet the demand for accommodation by developing alternatives to residential care, which offers opportunities to Providers in the market*

# Summary for Market Development

## Very Sheltered Housing (VSH)

The Council intends to build two to three new VSH accommodations in the next three years.

## Supported Accommodation

Younger Adults are developing alternatives to residential care through Supported Living.

## Residential and Nursing Care

We are particularly keen to hear from Providers of residential nursing care that can provide high quality nursing care at the Council's standard fee.

## Community Activities

You may wish to consider offering leisure, educational, social and support activities in the local community. Helping people to be a part of their community, this could mean setting up group meal times.

## Day Time Opportunities

You could deliver an alternative to traditional day care. This could be a regular club or activity that supports people to enjoy and pursue their interests.

## Personal Budgets and Individual Service Funds (ISF)

We will use personal budgets to ensure that the people requiring longer term care can take as much control over their lives as their needs allow. We will continue to increase the number of people who are in receipt of a direct payment.

The Care Act 2014 places new duties to provide a Market Oversight and provider failure. This is for us to oversee the financial health of difficult to replace Providers of adult social care services, so that we can give an early warning if they are likely to fail. The Act imposes clear legal responsibilities on local authorities where a care provider fails.

Commissioners have developed a set of procedures to support the Council to ensure it protects vulnerable residents who live in a residential or nursing care establishment or receive care and support services in their own homes home from a Provider.

***Scan here to access the Care Act 2014 factsheets***



## Better Care Fund

Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and Wolverhampton City Council, in collaboration and partnership with our two main NHS providers, and other stakeholders, have been working together to define and develop the plans for Wolverhampton which deliver transformational change at both a provision and commissioning level, utilising the Better Care Fund programme.

# What do we want Providers to do

We would like Providers to use the information in this Market Position Statement either as a starting point for new business or to review current business models to ensure they are robust and can adapt to meet the changing adult social care agenda.

What Next .....

- We welcome dialogue about how we best work together.
- The Market Position Statement is the start of a process and we are committed to updating the contents on an annual basis and sharing information through various channels. In the next 12 months we will be looking to engage with service users and residents and will include our findings in the update.

Feedback

- We welcome your feedback.
- Have you found the Market Position Statement helpful?
- Which areas were useful?
- Which areas would you like to see more information?
- How can we keep you updated?
- Was anything missing which you thought should be included.
- If you have any feedback or for further information about the Market Position Statement, please email the Adult Social Care Commissioning team at [SC.Market@wolverhampton.gov.uk](mailto:SC.Market@wolverhampton.gov.uk)

The Council has developed a website for everyone who lives and works in Wolverhampton. If you use adult social care, health care or other help and support services, if you fund your own support, or simply wish to find out more about what services and events are provided in your local community, you can find all the information and advice in one place on the Wolverhampton Information Network (WIN) website.

*Scan here for further information on the MPS for Adult Services - Wolverhampton Information Network (WIN) website.*



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# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                    |                                                                          |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Options Paper for the Recovery House/Recovery Team |                                                                          |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                              |                                                                          |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Elias Mattu<br>Adults                   |                                                                          |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | Yes                                                |                                                                          |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | Yes                                                |                                                                          |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                |                                                                          |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders, People                              |                                                                          |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Mental Health                                      |                                                                          |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | June Pickersgill<br>Tel<br>Email                   | Head of Service<br>01902 551393<br>June.pickersgill@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Strategic Executive Board<br>Executive Team        | 15 September 2015<br>21 September 2015                                   |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. To approve a three month service user, stakeholder, public and staff consultation regarding the proposed changes to The Mental Health Recovery House / Recovery Team.

## **1.0 Background**

- 1.1 The Recovery House service has been delivered in partnership with health since 2000 as a four bedded crisis house. It offers urgent and planned interventions for people who are experiencing either an acute mental health episode or are in recovery, and or /are in need of a period of assessment, re-ablement or respite. The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has invested in the service from the outset for use essentially as a step down facility from hospital.
- 1.2 The service was restructured in May 2014 and this brought together the Recovery House and what was the Community Inclusion Team. The restructured service has resulted in a continuation of the four bed crisis unit and an outreach support team. This change has resulted in an increased capacity and capability for re-ablement and community support for those people being resettled from long term care into the Community. However, a four bed unit is not a cost effective model in the future for our health partners and from a social care perspective the service model going forward needs to increasingly support the resettlement programme whereby individuals are supported to live more independently.
- 1.3 The CCG have been considering their future commitment to Recovery House and have indicated that they may wish to withdraw from the current arrangement and source step down beds from an alternative resource. Without the shared funding in place the current model going forward is not financially viable.
- 1.4 Based on 2014/15 activity and financial data it is estimated that the average weekly bed cost is £2,300 per week. This has been calculated based on the total cost of the service less the community support element of care provided by the team.

## **2.0 Options for Consultation**

The range of options for the future of Recovery House presented below describe how it would be if nothing was changed and how it would be if we embrace the Adult model of service delivery in Mental Health and focus on the Promoting Independence model. This model aims to refocus capacity in the workforce to offer more intense support when it is needed to maintain independence for individuals in supported housing or community settings with less reliance on traditional support services.

### **Option 1: Do Nothing Option**

This option would involve the continuation of the current joint funding arrangements between the Local Authority and the CCG and the retention of NHS In-Patient Beds. This model is not cost effective as with the current occupancy offered each bed as already highlighted costs £2,300 per week per bed as an average. The care that is offered is a re-ablement and resettlement model without having a health component and therefore although the beds are available and are used they do not offer health care as the service is social care based. Therefore the delivery model is confused. The building remains unsuitable as it is a domestic dwelling and there are accessibility issues for people with Disabilities and this option does not allow us to progress the Promoting Independence model.

## **Option 2: Promoting Independence Model**

This option has interlocking components that will help to support the Promoting Independence service delivery model. It includes the:

- De-Registering of Recovery House as a CQC regulated residential setting and the retention of the facility as shared tenancy arrangement for four individuals who will be resettled from long stay residential and nursing settings. The building would be transferred for management to an external housing provider and the residents would fund the rent through housing benefit.
- The four people living in the house would be supported through the continuation of an in-house outreach service. This would provide support that has an emphasis on reablement, resilience and on-going maintenance to enable the four individuals to live independently within the community in line with the key policy agenda. This model would enable a level of support over a specific period of time. The time and support would reduce as the level of independence and skill increases.
- A proportion of the remaining staff group will be located with the Community Mental Health Service to support the transition of young people into adulthood and to support other individuals to resettle from nursing and residential care who will be in a position to offer care and support and skill development. This would be achieved by resettlement support work and developing community inclusion for individuals.

The staff group would be reduced over time as the level of resettlement increases and the model of “Promoting Independence” is incorporated into a practice model across adult service provision.

## **Option 3: Complete Decommissioning of the Service**

This option would involve the decommissioning of Recovery House and the outreach team. This option would deliver a significant saving and the total savings target that has been set to achieve by 2018/19 would be achieved by 2016/17. There would be a high level of risk attached to this model as the service users who are in need of being resettled will require the care and support of community reablement workers and this option does not include further support. It would mean a very sudden loss and change and although provision can possibly be sourced using other support services; the risk of not being able to secure the right level of support will impact on the health and wellbeing of the service users. This option would create a significant service vacuum and an inability to deliver continued support of individuals as they are resettled into supported living and community settings.

## **Option 4: Outreach Team Only**

Option 4 is similar to Option 3 other than there would be no shared tenancy arrangement for the use of the building.

- This option would involve the de-commissioning the Recovery House buildings based service and the transfer the building to the Corporate Landlord for disposal.
- The continuation of an enhanced outreach team who will support the assessment and care management Social Work Team in the Resettlement and Transition Programmes for people moving out of long stay residential and nursing settings. The team would have increased capacity to support individuals to resettle from long term care and to support the inclusion of young people who are transitioning from Children’s Services to Adults. If this option is chosen, this would facilitate a pro-active approach to engaging young people at a much earlier stage.

The staff group would be reduced over time as in Option 3 and again when the level of resettlement increases and the model of “Promoting Independence” is incorporated into a practice model across adult service provision.

### **3.0 Financial implications**

- 3.1 The 2015/16 controllable budget for Recovery House is £462,000. The Medium Term Financial Strategy includes a savings proposal for the ‘Reduction in Mental Health Care Management – Social Work Teams’ of £300,000 over the period of 2016/17 to 2018/19 (£100,000 each year).
- 3.2 Initial calculations indicate that with the exception of option 1 all of the options could deliver the full year savings of £300,000. The profiling of these savings over the three year period will vary slightly for each option.  
[AS/12102015/Q]

### **4.0 Legal implications**

- 4.1 Following Cabinet approval, a full and meaningful consultation of each of the available options outlined within this report (not only the option endorsed by cabinet) should commence in good time and in accordance with the standard consultation procedure. The consultation process should take place in a timely manner with all relevant staff members, the general public and all relevant stakeholders. Given the Human Resources implications of potential staff redundancies, consultation with all relevant staff members likely to be affected will be required, in accordance with relevant employment and equal opportunities legislation and guidance.  
[JB/09102015/Q]

### **5.0 Equalities implications**

- 5.1 An Equality impact assessment will be undertaken throughout the consultation process and will inform the final recommendations

### **6.0 Environmental implications**

- 6.1 There are no specific environmental issues.

## **7.0 Human resources implications**

- 7.1 There would be HR implications if any option other than option 1 (do nothing) was agreed, due to the potential for employee redundancies and/or TUPE implications.
- 7.2 The agreed recommendations will be implemented in line with the Council's Human Resources Policies and Procedures and negotiations with Trade Unions. If any of these services are subject to TUPE implications there may be associated costs.

## **8.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 8.1 The Mental health service will work with Corporate Landlord on any implications that will occur through this structural change.

## **9.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 9.1 The Promoting Independence Report that was approved on April 15 and the Mental Health Strategy are attached to provide a context to the proposal.

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# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Outcome of the consultation on the future delivery options for Oxley Day Centre and Adults Short Breaks Services |                                                                                |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                                                                                            |                                                                                |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Elias Mattu<br>Adults                                                                                 |                                                                                |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | Yes                                                                                                              |                                                                                |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | Yes                                                                                                              |                                                                                |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                                                                              |                                                                                |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders, People                                                                                            |                                                                                |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Commissioning (Disabilities & Mental Health)                                                                     |                                                                                |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Kathy Roper<br>Tel<br>Email                                                                                      | Commissioning Team Manager<br>01902 550975<br>Kathy.roper@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Strategic Executive Board<br>Executive Team<br>Adults Scrutiny Panel                                             | 15 September 2015<br>21 September 2015<br>22 September 2015                    |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the All Age Disability in house provider decommissions the service at Oxley Day Centre and provides the services across the city in community venues, which will improve outcomes for individuals.
2. Approve the declaration that the Oxley Day Centre site including Oxley Moor House is surplus to the People Directorate's requirements and approve that they be appropriated to the Corporate Landlord to manage as surplus assets and to deal with the progression of their future use / disposal
3. Approve that the All Age Disability In House Provider Service relinquishes its lease with Corporate Landlord for the use of the Pathways to work Site in Steele Drive, Bushbury

- 4 . Approve the Adult short breaks services delivered at Ernest Bold and Swan Bank sites be merged and delivered from the council owned Ernest site

**Recommendations for noting:**

The Cabinet is asked to note:

The service re-design detailed within this report will deliver savings of £563,000.



## **1.0 Purpose**

1.1 The purpose of the report is to outline the consultation that has been undertaken about the future options for:

- Support Plus day service currently delivered from a number of sites across the City
- Oxley Day Centre
- Pathways to work service at Bushbury woodcraft centre in Steele Drive
- Adult Short breaks services delivered from two sites within the City.

1.2 The report outlines the comments received during the consultation and makes recommendations about the preferred options for the services.

## **2.0 Background**

2.1 In March 2014 Cabinet agreed that work could begin to look at the future options for all in-house services. This report provides information about the outcome of the consultation on three specific services that support people with disabilities.

2.2 The Support Plus service provides support for adults with a learning disability who have complex needs. When it was first commissioned it supported up to 150 people per day. At present 25 adults with a learning disability and high support needs access the service. It operates from Oxley Day Centre, Aldersley Leisure Village and Pendeford Hub. Oxley Day Centre is the last of the old style adult day training centres still operational in Wolverhampton.

2.3 The Pathways to Work service is managed through the Action for Independence service based at Albert Road and offers sheltered vocational training and activities at its Bushbury Woodcraft base.

2.4 The Adult Short Break service is delivered from two sites within the city; Ernest Bold Court (Bilston) which is council owned and Swan Bank (Penn) which is leased from Golden Lane Housing Association.

2.5 The current short break service follows a residential model for people who stay overnight or for a number of days. Ernest Bold Court currently supports up to six people at a time with appropriate staffing. Swan Bank is a smaller building and can support up to four people at a time with appropriate staffing. The two services combined have the capacity to support up to ten service users per night. Data analysis shows that over a 12 month period the average nightly usage across both of the service stood at six. The on-going transformation and service reconfiguration of Learning Disability services and the use of alternative models of care including the adult shared care service being externalised are some of the reasons why the adult short break services is underutilised.

## **3.0 Consultation process**

3.1 A full 12 week consultation started on the 8 June 2015 about the future delivery of the three services, and it was entered onto the council consultation and engagement database. The consultation focused on the following options:

- The council decommissions Oxley Day Centre and associated buildings on the site and continues to deliver the support plus service from a range of smaller, more modern fit for purpose facilities. The service would relinquish the whole of the Oxley site to allow it to be included in the Corporate Landlord asset disposal programme.
- The council ceases delivery of its Pathway to Work service from Bushbury Woodcraft and refers the remaining users of this service into the most appropriate of the following services; enablement, supported employment and community based activities. The All Age Disability provider relinquishes the lease of the site and it is returned to the Corporate Landlord's portfolio.
- City of Wolverhampton Council provides its overnight adult short breaks in just one place at Ernest Bold Court. This proposal would entail a restructure of staff and reduction in posts.

- 3.2 In total 171 people engaged in the consultation process which is 38% of the people invited to participate.
- 3.3 89 staff affected by the proposals across short breaks, support plus, community day opportunity and Bushbury Woodcraft services were involved in the consultation. Employees were invited to attend one of nine consultation briefing sessions meetings and were also able to give comments back via the consultation feedback forms.
- 3.4 The council commissioned Changing Our Lives to provide independent support to users of the services who were identified as not having a family member or carer to support them to understand the consultation information.
- 3.5 In addition a number of events were held with interested stakeholders including Wolverhampton Mencap and the Omega Carers Group forum.
- 3.6 During the consultation employees also promoted the use of personal budgets and direct payments as a way of maximising choice and control in line with the duties contained within the Care Act 2014. Full copies of the consultation reports are available via the links beneath; [Consultation Report - Day Opportunities v2 11 08 15.doc](#)  
[Consultation Report - Short Breaks 100915 v5.doc](#)

## **4 Outcome of consultation**

### **4.1 Oxley Day Centre and Pathways to work**

- 4.1.1 People who used services and their carers recognised the positive improvements that the proposal will deliver. They were, however, concerned about the reasons for the change and were anxious about the implementation of the proposed changes.
- 4.1.2 The ability to exercise choice is positive and was seen as very important to those people that participated. It was felt that the changes should benefit everyone and bring increased and better choices, with opportunities to meet new people and have different experiences. It was acknowledged by some that the transition of current Oxley's users to new sites must be done appropriately and with minimum disruption. Finally it was proposed that

diversity and integration should be promoted and general community groups should be encouraged to utilise services alongside existing users.

4.1.3 As is normal when undertaking a consultation on proposed changes to service provision there were areas of concerns expressed by family carers, these included; Constant changes can cause upset to service users and impacts negatively on their quality of life and has created a level of mistrust with carers. Closing Oxley Day Centre and changing service provision means users could be separated from their friends and staff they have built relationships with and who are able to meet their needs. A number of participants in the consultation felt that the priority for the Local Authority is making savings and not the wellbeing of users. It was pointed out throughout the consultation that the quality of service provision would be improved and that during the transition into new venues the people who use the Support Plus service at Oxley will continue to be supported by their current staff team to minimise disruption and help them adjust to the changes of venue.

## 4.2 The Adult Short Breaks service

4.2.1 Feedback on the proposal to decommission the service at Swan Bank and for the council to expand the overnight provision at Ernest Bold and support people to explore a range of other short stay solutions received positive support from family carers and staff as long as the quality of the service was not compromised. It was commented that 'Everyone is unique and different people have different disabilities and need a range of flexible services to meet individual need'. Comments from staff were also positive about the proposal as it will deliver better outcomes for more people whilst contributing to the Councils savings by achieving value for money.

4.2.2 Areas of concern included worries that service users from Ernest Bold and Swan Bank would have problems sharing the same accommodation given their differing needs. Ernest Bold supports people with profound and multiple disabilities and Swan Bank supports people with behavior that challenges. It was highlighted however that many of these people access the same venues to receive day time support and that all future bed allocations would, as they currently are, be assessed to ensure compatibility with people staying as far as possible.

4.2.3 Swan Bank: The lease on this site expires in 2020 with a 12 month break. This site is included in a wider service review and its future will be dependent on the outcome of this review. Corporate Landlord will be actively engaged with any discussions between the relevant service and landlord (Golden Lane Housing Ltd) to explore an alternative use for the remaining years on the lease agreement

## 4.3 Personal Budgets

4.3.1 It was decided to include a question on personal budgets in the consultation questionnaire to help the council to gauge peoples understanding of how Personal Budgets (PB) could be used, and to improve the way the council provides information, guidance and payment mechanisms to make PB a more attractive alternative.

4.3.2 There was a fear that the take up of personal budgets could end up in a reduction in service provision if there were to be a shortfall in allocation. There is the perception that only the council can provide support to people with higher complex health needs. There was a concern that the quality and monitoring of external services were not as stringent as council services.

4.3.3 In addition the following was identified:

- 60% of respondents who took part in the consultation and answered the questions on personal budgets would be interested in using them to buy part of their care but felt they needed more information and support to make informed choices
- 9 % of people who responded were interested in changing provision and employing a personal assistant
- 10% of respondents would be willing to buy their short stay provision from an external provider using a PB.

4.3.4 This will be followed up by social workers when reviews are undertaken.

## **5.0 Financial implications**

5.1 The Medium Term Financial Strategy includes a savings proposal totalling £2.7 million (£1.1 million in 2015/16 and £1.6 million in 2016/17) to Implement reduced cost delivery models for Disability In House provision.

5.2 To deliver the planned service re-design a refurbishment of Access to Independence centre on Albert Road will be required. The cost of this refurbishment is in the region of £70,000. The capital programme board approved £70,000 for these refurbishment.

5.3 Oxley Day Centre and Oxley Moor House will be declared surplus by the Peoples Directorate and be managed by the Corporate Landlord and the whole site will become part of the asset disposal strategy. Oxley Moor House is a Future in Space 'in scope' asset with a capital return of £125,000 appropriated from its disposal to the Future Space savings programme. A further report will be progressed to Cabinet Resources panel on the marketing plans and potential valuation for the entire site, should Cabinet approve the recommendations within this report.

5.4 The re-design of services detailed within this report will deliver savings of £563,000 towards this target.  
[AB/03092015/N]

## **6.0 Legal implications**

6.1 At this stage there are legal implications in regard to the lease of the Swan Bank facility which are being progressed through legal services.

6.2 The Council has power under s122 of the Local Government Act 1972 to appropriate land which is no longer required for the purpose for which it is held to any other purpose for which it has power to acquire land. [RB/01092015/K]

## **7.0 Equalities implications**

7.1 Initial equality analysis for users of the affected services has been refreshed in light of the preferred options; it concludes that there is no direct discrimination or adverse impacts in the light of the recommendations.

## **8.0 Environmental implications**

8.1 There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

## **9.0 Human resources implications**

9.1 There are human resource implications associated with this report as the recommendations impact on some council employees. The recommendations will be implemented in line with the Council's Human Resources policies and procedures.

## **10.0 Corporate landlord implications**

10.1 The implications for the identified sites are as follows:

10.2 The Oxley Day Centre will be declared surplus by the People Directorate and appropriated to the Corporate Landlord and be managed as part of the Council's asset disposal strategy. The Corporate Landlord will deal with the progression of the marketing and sale of the asset for best consideration and following the closure of the Centre the management of the property as a surplus asset.

10.3 Oxley Moor House site will be declared surplus by the People Directorate and appropriated to the Corporate Landlord and be managed as part of the Council's asset disposal strategy. This site is a Future Space 'in scope' asset and therefore any property savings resulting from the vacation and disposal of this site will be appropriated to the Future Space savings programme.

10.4 Pathways to work, Bushbury Woodcraft based at Steele Drive; the lease for the industrial unit on Steele Drive, which is the current base for the Pathways to Work service, be relinquished with responsibility for the site being returned to the Corporate Landlord for use on the open market.

10.5 The surplus assets will be managed by the Corporate Landlord Service in accordance with the Corporate Landlord Board recommendations prior to disposal with a view to minimising holding costs whilst still ensuring any buildings are maintained in good order (where possible) and secured prior to disposal.

10.6 There will be holding costs associated with these surplus assets and the full financial savings cannot be made until the assets have been disposed of/leases terminated.

## **11.0 Schedule of background papers**

11.1 Cabinet 26 March 2014: Managing the Budget Cuts.  
Full Council 24 July 2014: Managing the Budget Cuts, the next phase.

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# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                    |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Safeguarding Children Board Report<br>2014-15      |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                              |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Val Gibson<br>Children and Young People |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | No                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | No                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders (People)                             |                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Gillian Ming                                       | Wolverhampton Safeguarding Board Manager<br>01902 550640<br>Tel <a href="mailto:Gillian.Ming@wolverhampton.gov.uk">Gillian.Ming@wolverhampton.gov.uk</a><br>Email |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Wolverhampton Safeguarding<br>Children Board       | 16 September 2015                                                                                                                                                 |
|                                                | Health and Wellbeing Board                         | 7 October 2015                                                                                                                                                    |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Receive the report in order to ensure a clear understanding in relation to the work of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board over the last year.
2. Note the range of work that is taking place to safeguard children in Wolverhampton, and the continued challenges, developments and achievements in this critical area of work.
3. Note that this report is a draft. The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report was agreed in principal by the Board on 16 September 2015 as partners wished to make further amendments' these amendments are to be submitted by 18 October 2015 and final sign-off by the Chair on 5 October 2015.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide the Cabinet with a copy of the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board's (WSCB) Annual Report and Executive Summary (**Appendix 1 & Appendix 2**), to inform the Board of safeguarding activity 2014/2015 and to present the Board with progress made against the priorities for 2013-16. The Annual Report is agreed by the WSCB and provides an overview of how partners have discharged their safeguarding responsibilities over the preceding year.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) is a statutory body established under the Children Act 2004. It is independently chaired (as required by statute) and consists of senior representatives of all the principle stakeholders working together to safeguard children and young people in the City. Its statutory objectives are to:
- Coordinate local work to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
  - Ensure the effectiveness of its work
- 2.2 Safeguarding means to: undertake any activity which prevents a child's health, welfare or development being impaired, and includes activity to protect from abuse and other risks such as neglect.
- 2.3 The Board is independent of any of the partners, funded by them all and hosted and supported by Wolverhampton City County Council. The WSCB Chair works closely with all Board partners and particularly with the Director of Children and Adult Services (under Section 18 of the Children Act 2004). The Director of Children's Services has the responsibility within the local authority for improving outcomes for children, local authority children's social care functions and local cooperation arrangements for children's services in Wolverhampton.
- 2.4 Statutory Partner Agencies (which includes both all the health commissioning bodies and provider bodies, the police, probation and the council, are under a duty to co-operate with the Board and those accountabilities are defined in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015.
- 2.5 The Board has no service delivery functions but is required to inform (through its co-ordination and effectiveness responsibilities) the commissioning intentions of partner agencies, It is also required to monitor, quality assure and evaluate the quality and effectiveness of the services commissioned and delivered in the local area.
- 2.6 Working Together (2015) requires each Local Safeguarding Children Board to produce and publish an Annual Report evaluating the effectiveness of safeguarding in the local area. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local Police and Crime Commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.
- 2.7 The report sets out the achievements and progress made during 2014/15 and identifies the challenges facing the Board in 2015/16.



### **3.0 Progress, options, discussion, etc.**

- 3.1 The Annual Report outlines our progress and an appendix to the report provides individual assurance statements from the organisations represented at the Safeguarding Children Board. WSCB has reviewed the 2013-16 priorities to reflect areas for development, with a particular focus on outcomes for children and their families. More detail on both progress and future priorities can be found in the body of the Annual Report. Obtaining greater quality and consistency of those reports will be an important part of improving the report further next year.
- 3.2 For each of the Board's Priorities there is a lead that is responsible for driving the priority forward. The leads are all Board members and they report regularly to the Board on both the progress made and challenges faced. The Priority Leads make up the Board's Executive Group.
- 3.3 Over the past 12 months work has been undertaken to improve children's' safeguarding in Wolverhampton; with particular emphasis on effective governance, front-line service delivery, safeguarding particular vulnerable children and community engagement. Each of these priority areas has demonstrated significant achievements including:
- Ensured WSCB presence at the appropriate level on all partnership/strategic Boards including the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWWB) and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP), Children Trust Board (CTB), Domestic Violence Executive and the Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB).
  - Established a Head-teachers Safeguarding Committee to drive forward and strengthen communication in relation to keeping children safe across all educational establishments.
  - Managed the actions arising from Exec Committee work plan
  - Overseen the review of the Independent Chair's performance.
  - Embedded the work of the Be Safe Group (the young people's shadow safeguarding board)
  - Improved understanding of the local arrangements and service provision relating to all age disabilities.
  - Reviewed the Child death process to improve oversight and improve practice
  - Continued to embed the learning from Serious Case Reviews
  - Completed the s.11 audit which informs the WSCB on the safeguarding position of agencies within Wolverhampton
  - Co-ordinated a series of multi-agency audits
  - Developed a suite of new policies and procedures to inform practitioner practice
- 3.4 There is more to do and this report outlines the priorities over the next 12 months and beyond. In particular:
- To maintain the momentum in developing closer partnership working with other partnership/strategic boards and promote a culture of problem solving
  - To ensure that all services (adults and children) embed the safeguarding of children and young people at the heart of what they do

- To improve communication across the partnership, particularly with frontline practitioners
- To further develop the coordination of safeguarding activity across the partnership and be further assured in regards to the multi-agency intervention and the quality of services through engagement with:
  - The education sector
  - Faith and community groups
  - GP's
- Assuring ourselves that we can respond effectively to issues relating to; Child Sexual Exploitation, Child Trafficking, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Stateless Children
- Increase the awareness of services and support to Disabled children and young people in the City
- Undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of Early Help services in the City
- Responding to the challenges ahead the Board remains committed to:
- Ensuring the 'voice of the child' influences all that we do
- Effective partnerships in the context of change and reducing resources
- A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

#### **4.0 Financial implications**

4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report. The Safeguarding Adults financial budget is included in the Annual Report.

#### **5.0 Legal implications**

5.1 There are no direct legal implications arising from this report. The changes in law and guidance are covered under Section 3 above. The Annual Report is produced in line with The Care Act 2014

#### **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 There are no direct equalities implications arising from this report.

#### **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 There are no direct environmental implications arising from this report.

#### **8.0 Human resources implications**

8.1 There are no direct human resources implications arising from this report.

#### **9.0 Corporate landlord implications**

9.1 There are no corporate landlord implications arising from this report.

#### **10.0 Schedule of background papers**

10.1 Reports to:  
Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Report 16 September 2015  
Health and Wellbeing Board 7 October 2015

**WOLVERHAMPTON  
SAFEGUARDING  
CHILDREN BOARD**

**ANNUAL  
REPORT  
2014 -  
2015**





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## Chair's Foreword

This report summarises what so many of us have done in the past 12 months to better safeguard children. It tells of our successes, where we are falling short and then what we are doing about it.



All of us play a part in safeguarding children and young people. We know so well that partnership is at the heart of safeguarding. No matter what any individual or agency does it the partnership and communication and action between all concerned that can make a difference. This does not just apply in protecting children at risk of harm, it is equally so in preventing young people being harmed in the first place. It is for that reason that I am particularly pleased for the Board to be able to report more on how we link with young people and how we respond to their concerns. We have learnt from young people directly about anxieties surrounding bullying. Face to face discussions and local surveys tell us this. In response our plans this year include an anti-bullying campaign which will link directly with schools.

Last year I mentioned the importance of both schools and GPs in safeguarding young people. They are at the front line and should be the first to notice if things are wrong and to report it. We have made progress. This year we have found out more about how schools safeguard children than we have ever done before. This information is being applied to highlight what is working well and how better we as a Board though training and good practice examples can assist. Similarly we now have better information on where GPs might contribute more to child safeguarding. This report will tell you in the section from the Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group what extra training has been provided. It will lead this year to a specific campaign which we hope will lead to further demonstrable improvements.

So many agencies work hard to protect children and it is right to acknowledge the excellent work their staff do. Inevitably media concerns highlight things that go wrong. I know that nurses, social workers, police officers and doctors many others do much that goes unnoticed to protect children. We will never get everything right and we always want to improve further. This report tells you something about how we go about doing just that.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Coe'.

Alan Coe  
Independent Chair



## Introduction & Purpose of the WSCB Annual Report

By law we must have a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in each local authority area. It is a partnership of the main agencies who help protect young people but also includes strong links with the community and, most importantly, young people. The government provides guidance about their role and function and it also says we must have an Annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area (this is a statutory requirement under section 14A of the Children Act 2004). The annual report should be published in relation to the preceding financial year and should fit with local agencies' planning, commissioning and budget cycles. The report should be submitted to the Chief Executive, Leader of the Council, the local police and crime commissioner and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

The report provides a rigorous and transparent assessment of the performance and effectiveness of local services safeguarding arrangements and reflects multi-agency safeguarding activity across Wolverhampton, highlighting the work undertaken in the year, areas for development and board scrutiny and challenge.

This report illustrates the challenges of improving how we safeguard young people at a time of continuing high demand but reduced resources. As well as making progress in a number of areas the annual report serves to identify where we need to do more which are reflected in the new 2015/16 Business Plan. In the year ahead we know that we need to clarify and strengthen links with other partnership boards, including the Health and Well Being Board (H&WBB), Safer Wolverhampton Partnership, Safeguarding Adults Board and the Children Trust Board to make sure the work of each supports and complements each other.

The annual report lists the contributions made to the LSCB by each partner agency and details of what the LSCB has spent, including on Child Death Reviews, Serious Case Reviews and other areas such as learning events or training. All LSCB member organisations have to provide LSCB's with reliable resources (including finance) that enable us to be strong and effective.

(Ch. 3, para. 16, 17 and 18, Working Together 2013)

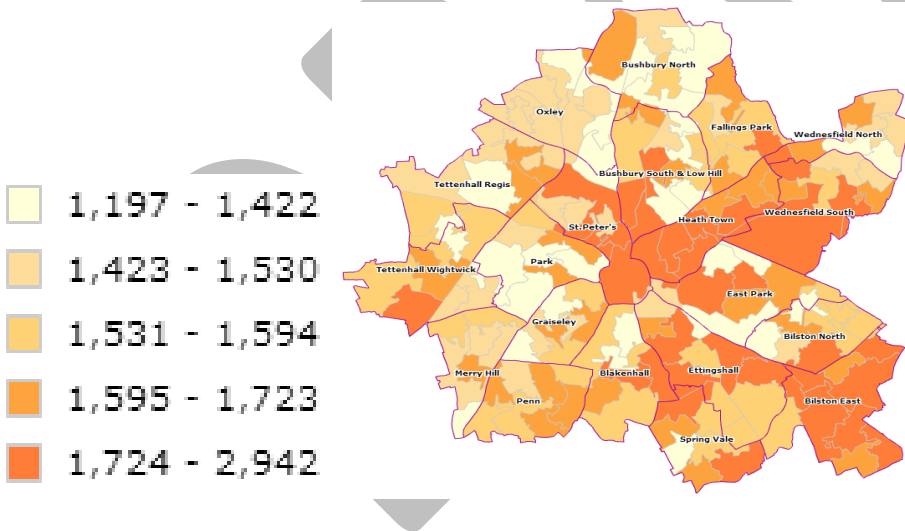
## The City of Wolverhampton, Local Background and Context



- Situated to the west of Birmingham, Wolverhampton is one of the 4 local authorities in the Black Country sub-region (see map)
- Rapid growth in the 19<sup>th</sup> century based on coal and manufacturing industries
- Amongst the most densely populated local authority areas in England: 251,557 people (2013 Mid-Year Pop. Est.) living in its 26.8 square miles.
- Over a third of the population are of non-'White British' ethnicity (35.5% as of the 2011 Census)

([www.bcil.org.uk/](http://www.bcil.org.uk/)) map shows the location of the Black Country within Great Britain and is from <http://www.bcil.org.uk/>

Wolverhampton has a population of 251,851 and is proud of the diverse cultural richness that this encompasses, with 35% of its residents from BME.



- The greatest numbers of people are usually found in the inner city, the north-east, and the south-east

### Children and Young People

- General:** A total of 56,353 children and young people under the age of 18 years live in Wolverhampton. This is approximately 20% of the total population in the area.
  - Approximately 31.5% of the local authority's children and young people aged 0 – 18) are living in poverty; this rises to 50% in 10 LSOA's. This is higher than the national average.

- The proportion of children entitled to free school meals:
  - In primary schools (including reception) is 29.8% (the national average is 18%)
  - In secondary schools (including Academies) is 23.3% (the national average is 15%)
  - Across the total school population is 27.5%
- Children and young people from minority ethnic group's account for 44.2% of all children living in the area compared with 25.5% in England. Approximately 46.5% of school age children are from a minority ethnic group.
- The largest minority ethnic groups of children and young people in the area are Asian Indian (born in the UK).
- The proportion of children and young people with English as an additional language:
  - In primary schools is 22% (the national average is 18%)
  - In secondary schools is 17% (the national average is 14%)

b) **Health:** The health and wellbeing of children in Wolverhampton is generally worse than the England average:

- Wolverhampton currently has an **Infant Mortality** rate of 7.8 per 1,000 (2010-12) compared to 4.3 per 1,000 for England and Wales. Over the past 20 years there has been a 30% reduction in the average infant mortality rate for England and Wales, whereas in Wolverhampton the local infant mortality rate has remained static and latest data indicates Wolverhampton currently has the highest rate of infant mortality in England and Wales. Whilst it is acknowledged that year on year there is fluctuation in the infant mortality rate in Wolverhampton due to small number variation, the rate has been consistently above the average for England and Wales.
- The **Child Mortality** rate (1 – 17 years) is 13.8 per 100,000 (the national average is 12.5). This is slightly higher than the national average.
- Children in Wolverhampton have worse than average levels of **obesity**:
  - Obese children aged 4 – 5 years is 12.7%; a reduction from 13.1% (March 2013), (the national average is 9.3%)
  - Obese children aged 10 – 11 years is 24.1%; a reduction from 24.4% (March 2013, (the national average is 18.9%))





- Under age 18 conceptions per 1000 females age 15 – 17 years in Wolverhampton is significantly higher than the national average; although there is evidence to suggest a reducing trend.

**About our most vulnerable children:**

In line with Section 17 (10) of the Children Act 1989; Children's Social Care have a responsibility to safeguard and promotes the welfare of Children in Need

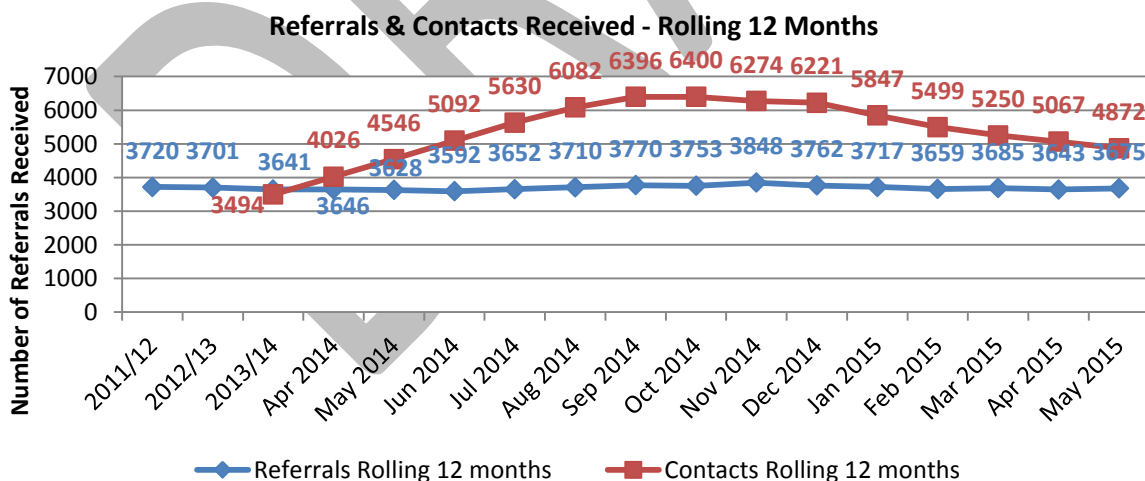
A child is a "Child in Need" if:

- The child is unlikely to achieve or maintain, or to have the opportunity of achieving or maintaining, a reasonable standard of health or development without the provision of services by a local authority;
- The child's health or development is likely to be significantly impaired, or further impaired, without the provision of services; or,
- The child is disabled.

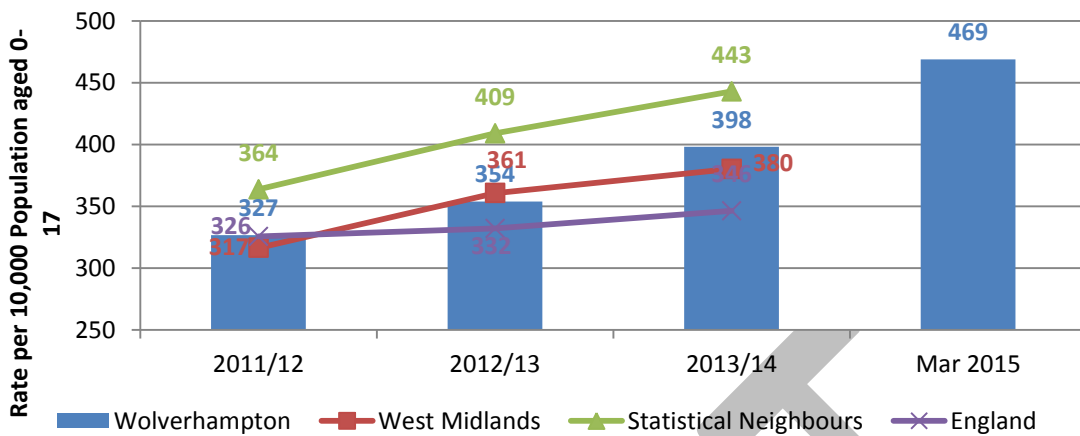
Children (under 18) may be 'looked after' by local authorities under a number of different arrangements such as care orders or emergency protection orders outlined in the Children Act 1989.

Services to Children during the reporting period:

- The chart below shows that there were 5250 contact made which transpired to 3685 children being identified through assessment as being formally in need of a specialist children's services intervention. This represents a slight increase from March 2014 (3641).



**CiN per 10,000 Population aged 0-17**

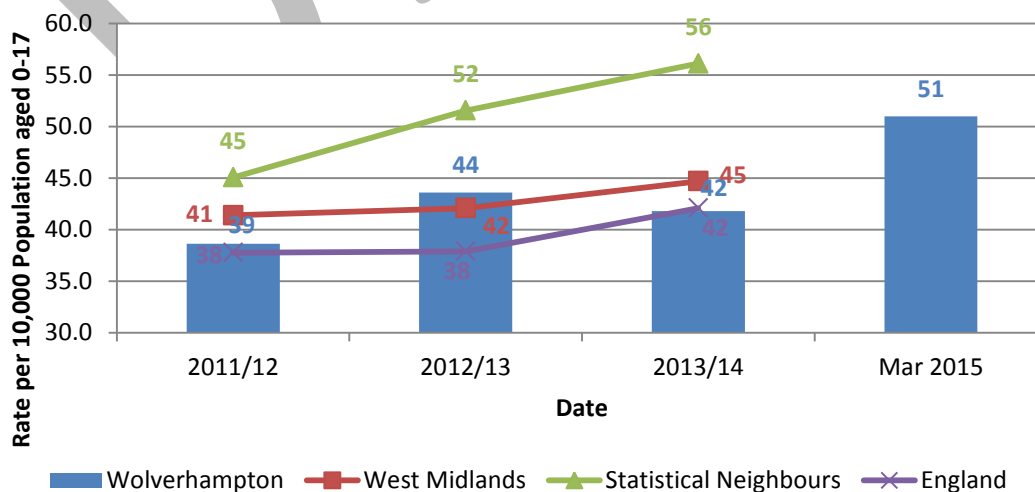


The above graph shows an increase in the rate of children in need over the past three years. The increase in Wolverhampton has been steeper than the increase in rates for England and West Midlands, but is been broadly in line with the increase seen amongst statistical neighbours.

**Safeguards for children suffering; or is likely to suffer significant harm.**

- When a multiagency child protection case conference decides that a child or young person is suffering, or is likely to suffer, significant harm, a child protection plan is created. This is a working arrangement that enables the family of a child and professionals to understand what is expected of them and what they can expect of others.
- As detailed in the chart below, the rate of children who are subject of a **Child Protection Plan** has increased significantly in 2014/15. The rate of children subject of a child protection plan in Wolverhampton has, in previous years, been broadly in line with the England and West Midlands rates but significantly lower than the rate amongst statistical neighbours. Even with the steep increase seen in 2014/15, the rate remains below that of Statistical Neighbours in March 2014.

**CP per 10,000 Population aged 0-17**

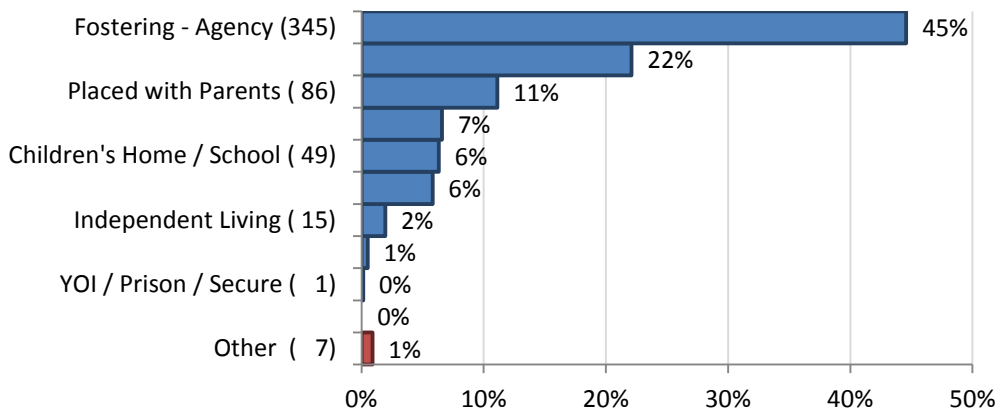




- Wolverhampton has seen a 35% increase in the number of Looked After Children (LAC) over the last three years. This increase has been** significantly higher than that of comparator groups although throughout this reporting period (2014/15) numbers have stabilised and there seems to be to a trend which indicates there may be an end to the rapid increase seen in previous years.

The graph below demonstrates the breakdown of placement arrangements of LAC in Wolverhampton.

**LAC Placements at 31/03/2015**

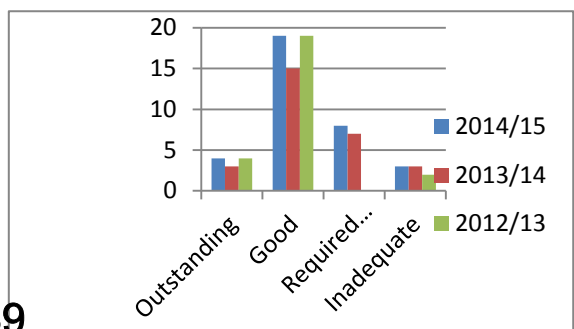


**c) Education in Wolverhampton:**

- In Wolverhampton 56% (as opposed to 44% in 2012/13) of children at Foundation Stage achieved a Good Level of Development (those achieving at least the expected level within the three prime areas of learning: communication and language, physical development and personal, social and emotional development and in the early learning goals within the literacy and mathematics areas of learning) as compared with the National Level of 60%.
- Until recently Wolverhampton was one of only three local authorities nationally where fewer than 60% of primary-age pupils attend good or better schools; a recent review of Ofsted judgements has demonstrated an improved performance in this area with 68% of pupils now (as at 01.10.2014) attending schools judged by Ofsted as good or better. Wolverhampton is amongst the poorest performing local authority's nationally. Conversely the situation for secondary school pupils has deteriorated with 64% of secondary-age pupils are attending schools judged by Ofsted to be good or better.

**Summary of HM Inspections of Wolverhampton Schools**

| Year    | Outstanding | Good | Required Improvement | Inadequate |
|---------|-------------|------|----------------------|------------|
| 2014/15 | 4           | 19   | 8                    | 3          |
| 2013/14 | 3           | 15   | 7                    | 3          |
| 2012/13 | 4           | 19   | 0                    | 2          |





## Healthy Related Behaviour Survey

### What does children and young people tell us about live in Wolverhampton?

Based on a pupil lifestyle consultation exercise carried out with children and young people aged 5 – 15; ('Health Related Behaviour Survey- HRBS), children in Wolverhampton told us the following:-

#### **In relation to Personal Safety;**

- 81% of KS2 pupils said that they 'always' or 'often' feel safe during school playtimes/dinner times. 78% said they feel happy during these periods.
- 66% of secondary pupils said that their safety going to and from school was 'good' or 'very good'. 34% said that their safety going out after dark was 'good' or 'very good'.

#### **About Internet Safety:-**

- 90% of KS2 pupils had been taught how to stay safe online.
- 36% of KS2 pupils reported using social networking sites – the top reasons were for posting messages (72%), gaming (69%) and posting pictures (52%).
- 83% of secondary pupils report using social networking sites and 15% report talking to people they do not know.
- 19% of KS2 pupils had received something online that made them feel worried or upset.
- 9% of KS2 pupils said they had been bullied online, this increased to 11% in the secondary sample.

#### **Concerns about Bullying**

- 28% of KS2 pupils had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months, of these 40% had been bullied in the last month.
- 21% of secondary pupils had been bullied at or near school in the last 12 months.
- 12 % secondary pupils had been bullied in the last month.
- 75% of KS2 said that there school deals with bullying 'quite' or 'very well', this reduced to 51% of pupils in the secondary sample.

#### **What we were told about Abusive Relationships**

- 27% of secondary pupils reported negative relationship behaviour with a current or previous partner.
- 23% of year 10s reported that they were or had been in a relationship with someone who was angry or jealous when they wanted to spend time with friends. 16% reported having their phone checked. 14% reported that a partner had used threatening language towards them. 6% had been hit by a partner.
- 20% of pupils reported shouting and arguing at home in the last month.
- 5% of secondary pupils reported physical violence.

To view the full report, please follow the link:

<http://wolvesnet/citypeople/councilnews/2014/september+2014/260914b.htm>

## Private Fostering Arrangements in The City.



Private fostering happens when a child under the age of 16 (under 18 if disabled) is cared for by someone who is not their parent or a 'close relative'. This is a private arrangement made between a parent and a carer, for 28 days or more. Close relatives are defined as step-parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters, uncles or aunts (whether of full blood, half blood or marriage/affinity).

The Children (Private Arrangements for Fostering) Regulations 2005 sets out the legal responsibilities placed upon Local Authorities to assess and support Private Fostering arrangements. These Regulations are underpinned by the National Minimum Standards for Private Fostering (2005).

During 2014/15, the number of privately fostered carers' notifications has been very small, although it is believed there are likely to be more unknown Private Fostering arrangements. Wolverhampton seems also to be in line with other comparator local authority in how it approaches this matter. The comparator Local Authorities who have been approached for information have similar numbers of private fostering arrangements that they identify and approve.

Over the last year, five cases were brought to the attention of the Local Authority, of these; four met the criteria for private fostering assessments, which have all been completed. From these, three went on to private fostering arrangement, the fourth did not commence.

### Private Fostering Activity 2014/15

|   | Age on 31/03/2014 |
|---|-------------------|
| 1 | 11                |
| 2 | 11                |
| 3 | 12                |
| 4 | 7                 |
| 5 | 2                 |

- All 4 cases had action under Regulations 4(1) and 7(1) taken and completed within 7 working days
- 75% (3 / 4) had all visits completed at 6 week intervals or less
- All four children are British (Three are White British and one is Mixed – White / Asian)

There are 2 Private Fostering arrangements currently in place

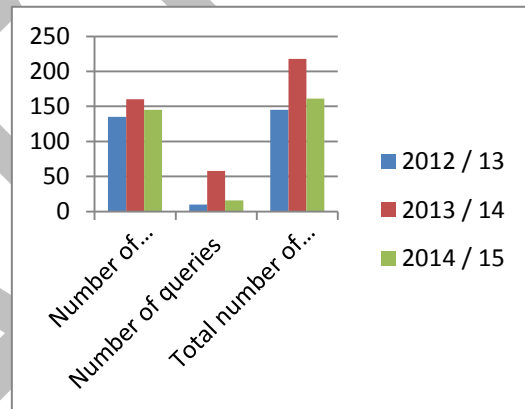
## Allegations against Professionals Activity for 2014 – 2015

The following detail is relates to cases where it is alleged that a person **who works with** children under 18 years of age has:

- behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates he or she would pose a risk of harm if they work regularly or closely with children.

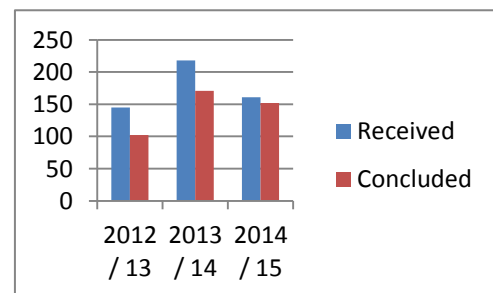
### Number received over 3 years

|           | No of allegations | Number of queries | Total No of referrals |
|-----------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 2012 / 13 | 135               | 10                | 145                   |
| 2013 / 14 | 160               | 58                | 218                   |
| 2014 / 15 | 145               | 16                | 161                   |



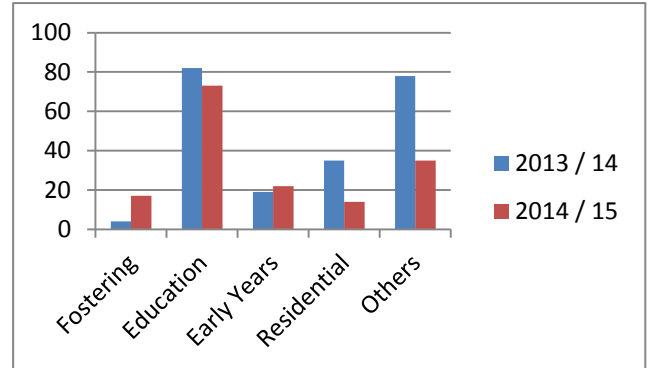
### Number concluded compared to previous years

|                  | Received | Concluded |
|------------------|----------|-----------|
| <b>2012 / 13</b> | 145      | 102       |
| 2013 / 14        | 218      | 171       |
| 2014 / 15        | 161      | 152       |



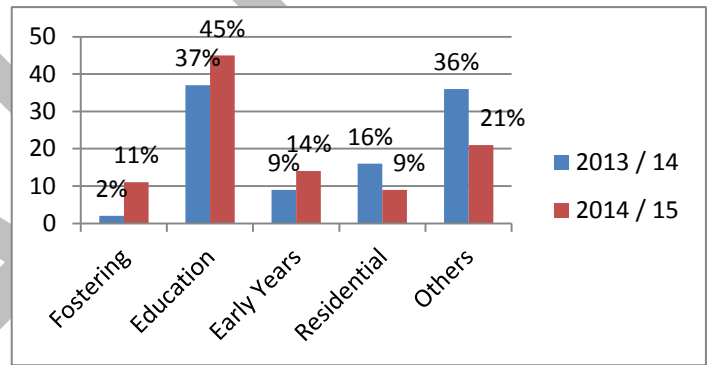
**Received by service area of concern**

|           | Fostering   | Education | Early Years |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 2013 / 14 | 4           | 82        | 19          |
| 2014 / 15 | 17          | 73        | 22          |
|           | Residential | Others    |             |
| 2013/14   | 35          | 78        |             |
| 2014/15   | 14          | 35        |             |



**% received by service area of concern**

|           | Fostering   | Education | Early Years |
|-----------|-------------|-----------|-------------|
| 2013/ 14  | 2           | 37        | 9           |
| 2014 / 15 | 11          | 45        | 14          |
|           | Residential | Others    |             |
| 2013/ 14  | 16          | 36        |             |
| 2014/ 15  | 9           | 21        |             |



What the information tells us about Managing allegations in the City:-

1. The total number of referrals received for the year has gone down by 27% compared to last year but has shown an increase of 11% compared to 2012 / 13.
2. The number of referrals concluded for 2014 / 15 was higher than those received. This reflects the higher than usual number of referrals received in the previous year and that were unresolved at the year end.
3. Referrals are categorised in to the service areas to which the concern relates, using the highest figure areas for 2014 / 15 and compared those service areas to the previous year. This clearly shows that there has been a large increase in concerns regarding fostering and a decrease in those regarding residential services. Education concerns have shown a decrease in numbers but an increase as a percentage. The 'others' category is the combination of other service areas, many of which were single referrals.

In addition, 37 of the referrals required Position of Trust (POT) meetings with 4 of these needing more than 1 POT.



## The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board - Statutory and Legal Context

The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) is the key statutory mechanism for agreeing how the relevant organisations in Wolverhampton will co-operate and work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and for ensuring that this work is effective.

WSCB was established in May 2006 in compliance with The Children Act 2004 (Section 13) and The Local Safeguarding Children Boards Regulations 2006. The work of WSCB during 2014-15 was governed by the statutory guidance in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013, which sets out how organisations and individuals should work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, and the Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006 which sets out the functions of Local Safeguarding Children Boards.

Wolverhampton City Council is responsible for establishing a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) in their area and for ensuring that it is run effectively. The responsibility to the effectiveness of the Board rests with the Chief Officer of Wolverhampton City Council.

### The key objective of WSCB:

To co-ordinate and ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each agency on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in Wolverhampton

We aim to do this in the following two ways:

1. To coordinate local work by:
    - Developing and maintaining policies and procedures
    - Participating in the planning of services for children young people and families
    - Communicate the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
  2. To ensure the effectiveness of that work by:
    - Monitoring what is done by partner agencies to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
    - Undertaking Serious Case Reviews and other Multi-agency case audits to ensure that there is culture of continuous learning from practice.
    - Collecting and analysing data from Child Deaths
- Publishing an annual report on the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements.

The board is led by an Independent Chair, ensuring a continued independent voice for the Board. WSCB continues to be chaired by Alan Coe, who was appointed in February 2013. From April 2013, in line with Working Together 2013, the Independent Chair became accountable to the Chief Officer of the City Council. The Chair also works closely with the Director of Children's Services in addressing local safeguarding challenges.

### Relationships between WSCB and other Strategic/Partnership Boards

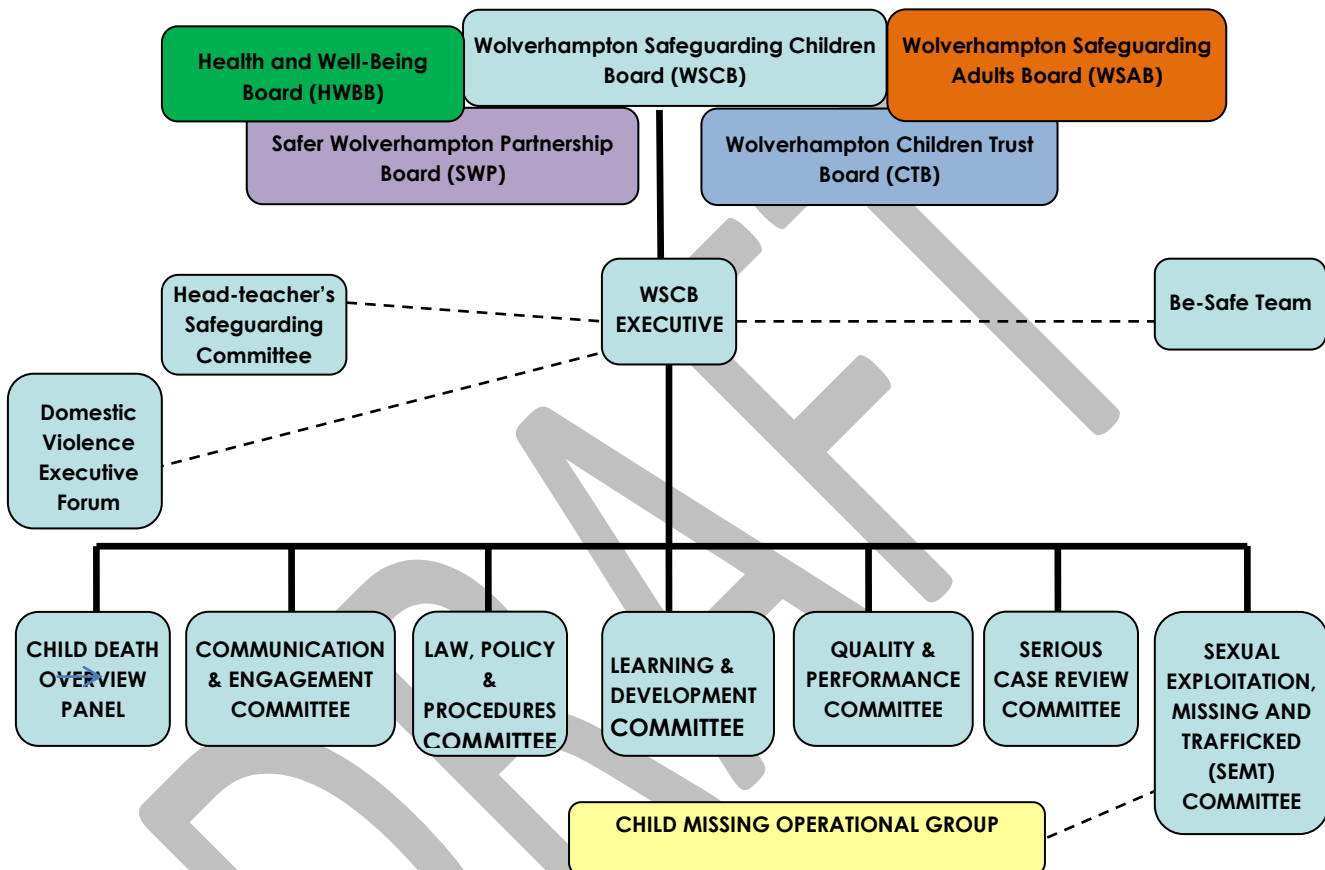
The Health and Wellbeing Board (H&WBB) was established in Wolverhampton during 2013. It brings together leaders from the across the City Council, NHS and District and Borough Councils to develop a shared understanding of local needs, priorities and service developments.





All partner agencies in Wolverhampton are committed to ensuring the effective functioning of WSCB. This is supported by a constitution which sets out the governance and accountability arrangements. Members of the Board are expected to hold a strategic role within their organisation and be able to speak for their organisation with authority, commit their organisation on policy and practice matters and hold their organisation to account.

### WSCB Structure



The above chart offers the Board structure and provides in headline form the main areas of our activity. It works in alliance with other partnership boards and the structure WSCB has formulated to deliver its functions

The Board meets on a quarterly basis and has a membership made up of representatives from all statutory partners and others concerned with safeguarding children and young people.

### Who makes up the WSCB?

Membership of WSCB is in compliance with section 13(3) of the Children Act 2004 and was further updated in Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013. The following organisations are required to cooperate with the local authority in the establishment and operation of the Board and have shared responsibility for the effective discharge of its functions:



- ❖ Wolverhampton City Council (incorporating children's services; adult services, the Youth Offending Team, Education and Public Health responsibilities)
- ❖ The DCI Public Protection Unit, West Midlands Police
- ❖ DCI Local Policing: West Midlands Police
- ❖ Staffordshire and West Midlands Probation Service
- ❖ Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Groups
- ❖ Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust
- ❖ Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust (BCPFT)
- ❖ NHS England
- ❖ CAFCASS
- ❖ Local school representation from: primary, secondary, special and independent schools.
- ❖ City of Wolverhampton College
- ❖ 1 Community Lay Member
- ❖ In addition to those members above as stipulated by legislation, the following organisations have also been invited to become members:
- ❖ Wolverhampton Council of Voluntary Sector (YOW is the named representative for the services providing safeguarding supports to children and young people affiliated to the voluntary sector)
- ❖ West Midlands Ambulance Service
- ❖ West Midlands Fire and Rescue Service
- ❖ The Board also have a number of standing Subject Matter Expert, who provide professional advice to the Board from the following areas:
  - Local Authority; Head of Safeguarding; Adults & Children
  - Designated Doctor for Safeguarding
  - Designated Nurse for Safeguarding
  - Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum
  - Safer Wolverhampton Partnership
- ❖ The Local Authority's Cabinet Member for Children and Families also attends the Board as a participating observer.

### **Attendance**

The board experiences good attendance from its members with representation across board partners, lay member, voluntary sector and the involvement of other agencies and groups. Board attendance and further details of membership is outlined in appendix 1.

### **Contributions made to WSCB**

The Board is funded by contributions from a number of partner agencies – both cash and 'in kind'. The majority of the money comes from the Council, The NHS and the Police. In the past year there was a small surplus but longer term we are predicted to have a deficit. This means we shall not be able to do all that we wish to or we find additional resources.

The full details of the income and expenditure for 2014/15 is detailed in appendix 2.

### **Apportioning the strategic work of WSCB**

- The Board has overall responsibility for scrutinising and challenging the quality of safeguarding work by local agencies so that practice continuously improves. It does this in two ways:
- by co-ordinating the safeguarding activity of all partners; and



- for ensuring that safeguarding work is consistent, of a high quality, and effective.

As defined in *Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013)*, the Board has the following co-ordinating and monitoring role:

- ❖ monitoring how effectively organisations are fulfilling their duties under Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 to safeguard and promote children's welfare, including safe recruitment practices
- promoting better understanding of children's safeguarding issues in the wider local community
- setting up and running a programme of inter-agency safeguarding training
- developing and reviewing inter-agency policies and procedures to safeguard children
- carrying out Serious Case Reviews
- taking an overview of all child deaths (under 18) in the area and identifying any potentially contributory recurrent factors, limitations or limitations in services provided by one or more agencies.

The above functions are delivered through the combined support of a range of Committee made up of nominated representatives or members of the Board. The agreed Priorities are led and monitored by members of an Executive Group made of appointed senior representatives of the main board.

The Executive committee is chaired by the Board's Independent Chair, with the Vice being the Local Authorities Strategic Director for Children Services demonstrates the Cities commitment to keeping children safe in the City. Together they ensure that the focus and momentum afforded to this area of business remains undiluted and there is a strategic lead for WSCB in line with national, regional and local objectives. The role of the Executive is to determine the Boards Business Plan, with some members leading on a specific area of the Boards four Themed Priorities; and to ensure there are links with other strategic groups, including the Health and Wellbeing, Safeguarding Adults, Children's Trust, and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership Boards. The Executive monitors performance against the Business Plan, resources, and determines key issues requiring executive action by partners.



**The Strategic Objective and Business themes for 2014 – 16 are as follows:-**

|   | <b>PRIORITY AREA</b>                                                      | <b>PRIORITY LEAD</b>                                          | <b>ACTIVITY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1 | <b>EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE</b>                                               | <b>E.Bennett</b> - Service Director Children and Young People | We will develop the capacity of WSCB and its infrastructure to effectively deliver the core functions of the Board to help keep children and young people in Wolverhampton safe.                                                          |
| 2 | <b>FRONT-LINE DELIVERY AND THE IMPACT OF SAFEGUARDING</b>                 | <b>M. GARCHA</b><br>CCG EXECUTIVE LEAD<br>NURSE               | We will develop challenging and rigorous approaches to monitoring and evaluating the impact of services on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children & young people; and will hold partners to account.                          |
| 3 | <b>SAFEGUARDING FOR PARTICULAR VULNERABLE CHILDREN &amp; YOUNG PEOPLE</b> | <b>M. KERR</b><br>WMP: DCI - PPU                              | We will ensure that everything we do promotes improved practice to help safeguard and meet the needs of those children and young people who are particularly vulnerable, or are at increased risk of harm and improves outcomes for them. |
| 4 | <b>COMMUNICATE &amp; ENGAGE</b>                                           | <b>S.DODD</b><br>PROJECT COORDINATOR - YOW                    | We will ensure that we engage children, young people, families and communities of all backgrounds and make up, in the work of WSCB.                                                                                                       |

The combined work of WSCB is shaped from the WSCB Business Plan and the delivery against each area is deployed by its Committees, and/or Task & Finish Groups.

**PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE WSCB PRIORITIES DURING 2014-2015**

|                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PRIORITY AREA 1: Business Lead: Emma Bennett: Assistant Director: Children &amp; Families</b>                                                                                 |
| <b>EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE</b>                                                                                                                                                      |
| We will develop the capacity of WSCB and its infrastructure to effectively deliver the core functions of the Board to help keep children and young people in Wolverhampton safe. |

**The Development of WSCB**

To enable the Board to drive forward the comprehensive safeguarding agenda and be a strong and effective, the board sees the continual development of its governance arrangements as one of the key priorities; this is led by a priority lead, Emma Bennett.

Over the reporting period the governance lead has continued to extend and strengthen the activity around governance in the following ways:

- Regularly monitored the appropriateness of representation of WSCB membership and attendance of partners at WSCB meetings and Committees to effectively deliver against the agreed business work-streams.



- o Ensured WSCB presence at the appropriate level on all partnership/strategic Boards including the Health and Wellbeing Board (HWWB) and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP), Children Trust Board (CTB), Domestic Violence Executive and the Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB).
- o Created a 'joint' working protocol between the WSCB, and a number of other local strategic partnership boards including; WSAB, SWP, HWWB and the CTB.
- o Established a Head-teachers Safeguarding Committee to drive forward and strengthen communication in relation to keeping children safe across all educational establishments.
- o Overseen the induction and mentoring of the Lay advisor in the first year in role.
- o Formed of a task and finish group to review the discrete support to the board. This has led to the agreement to increase the operational business support to the Board with an increase in staffing going forward in to 2015/16. This will be reviewed on an annual basis; with continuation dependent of contributions from board partners.
- o Lead on the WSCB development Day
- o Strengthened the attention afforded to, and oversee the Boards Risk Register
- o Managed the actions arising from Exec Committee work plan
- o Overseen the review of the Independent Chair's performance.
- o Improve understanding of the local arrangements and service provision relating to all age disabilities.

### **Work in Progress going ahead in to 2015/16**

At present WSCB has only one lay member who has continued to support stronger public engagement in local safeguarding children issues as he contributes to an improved understanding of the role and work of the Board within the wider community. He is a member of the Communication and Engagement committee as an additional strand to the task of actively challenging the Board on the accessibility, clarity and transparency of its plans, priorities and achieved outcomes to children and the public. The Board is seeking to recruit a further lay advisor to the board.

In compliance with Working Together to Safeguarding Children (2013), the Board has produced a Quality Assurance Framework which is currently out for consultation. This will need to be implemented throughout the coming year to assist the Board in understanding how agencies are monitoring and quality assuring the effectiveness of partner agencies safeguarding activity; including the WSCB priorities. The framework includes a multi-agency data set which reflects national indicators, local needs and WSCB priorities.

We have a Safeguarding Children in Education audit process which is distributed to all schools. We had a 100% response rate, a substantial improvement. This audit helps schools and colleges raise safeguarding children and will also include assessing the compliance of schools with safer recruitment standards. It will be used to identify targeted areas of activity for the Board and its partners to strengthen safeguarding arrangements in educational establishments. During the year ahead, the same model and process will be extended to include City of Wolverhampton College, private and independent schools and other educational providers.

Understanding and learning from practitioners is integral to the work of the Board; practitioner views are captured during training events and they are actively engaged in review learning, audit activity, communication campaigns and procedure development. This



helps our partnership to identify good practice and understand frontline barriers to local safeguarding children practice. Further development is underway to capture the views of practitioners across the multi-agency workforce via a staged evaluation model to be implemented 2015-2016.

### **Activities for 2015/16**

- Monitor the effectiveness of EH services and support
- Align the board priorities to the children and young people plan
- Establish a seamless process to refer information, task request and concerns between the Board, its committees and other partnership/strategic boards
- Create a process for agencies/ front-line staff, children, young people parents and carers to refer concerns
- Review WSCB members involvement and contribution to the board
- Review and update the Boards constitution.
- Implement an Induction programme for all new board/committee members.

### **A word from our Community Lay Advisor; David Perrin**

"It is pleasing to see the continuous improving momentum from WSCB in the safeguarding of our children across the city. I must however hasten to add, we still have a way to go.

As a Lay Advisor my primary aim is to see every single member of the Wolverhampton community understand what safeguarding is; and believe in its principles. The Communication and Engagement Committee are vigorously working towards this end, but it must be seen as an objective for all board members and not solely the responsibility of this committee. This in turn will encourage individuals we all come into contact with to share the message with the same level of interest and application.

One of the objectives of the lay member is to raise the public profile of the Board and its work – I am actively doing this, although I think that for many, it can be difficult to take messages beyond the spheres of influence and activities.

I can see the achievements and developments of the Board in this my first year in post- I just wish that I felt more confident that the messages coming from the Board and its committee are really getting to the frontline and impacting as they should on the dedicated professionals who do their best for the young people of Wolverhampton. This remains a challenge for the Board in the year ahead.

Going forward I'd like to meet individually with the board members I've not yet met with a view of how we can better meet safeguarding needs across the city.

In closing I must applaud those individuals I have been mentored by and have worked closely with; the Independent Chair, Board Manager, Learning & Development Committee Chair and the Communication and Engagement Chair, whom have most definitely led by example in their respective areas".



*Dave Perrin*  
*WSCB Lay Advisor*

## What were the key achievements from the WSCB Committees against the 2014/15 Key Priorities?

**PRIORITY AREA 2: Business Lead: Manjeet GARCHA; EXECUTIVE LEAD NURSE; Wolverhampton CCG**

### **FRONT-LINE DELIVERY AND THE IMPACT OF SAFEGUARDING**

**We will develop challenging and rigorous approaches to monitoring and evaluating the impact of services on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children & young people; and will hold partners to account.**

## Review of Child Deaths

In line with Chapter 5 of Working Together 2013, The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is a joint statutory group for Walsall & Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Boards. This is a cross-authority panel which consists of representatives from both Walsall and Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Boards. This group has the responsibility for reviewing all deaths of children in both Walsall and Wolverhampton. The panel is chaired by the Executive Director Nursing & Quality, Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group and its work is supported by Designated Doctors for Unexpected Death, nurse practitioners, a child death coordinator, partner representatives (including from Public Health); and the Board Managers for both WSCB local areas.

The overall purpose of the child death review process is to understand why some children die and, wherever possible, put in place interventions to protect other children and to prevent future deaths. Between 1 April 2014 and 31 March 2015 CDOP activity was as follows:-

- CDOP met 4 times in 14/15
- Reviewed 22 deaths
- 19 reviewed within the year and 3 from 13/14
- 2 with modifiable factors for 13/14 and 2 for 14/15
- 13 were male, 9 were female
- 16/22 deaths were in babies aged 0-27 days
- Zero children had child protection plans
- Zero children had statutory orders
- Ethnicities; 15 white, 0 mixed, 3 asian, 3 black caribbean and 1 others
- Zero known to be asylum seekers
- Place of death; 3 emergency department, 4 NNU, 7 paediatric ICU, 5 delivery ward and 2 home



The number of deaths of children normally resident in Wolverhampton reported to CDOP in 2014/2015 was the lowest number since CDOP was established in Wolverhampton since 2008. Nationally there has been a reduction also in the number of child deaths.

**Achievements for 2014/15-** a selection of initiatives joint with various stakeholders have been undertaken to address the wider child death issue. Whilst there will be learning from all, the most significant initiative is the wider city multi agency steering group to address infant mortality which is multi-faceted from pre conception to post delivery.

Promotional activity 2014/15 included

- Safer sleeping
- Family nurse practitioners
- Setting up of multi-agency infant mortality steering group and agreed action plan to address infant mortality in Wolverhampton
- Stop smoking campaigns
- Review of all deaths that met the criteria within the timescales
- Learning from modifiable outcomes and share

### **Priorities for 2015/16**

A continuing focus for the Panel is reviewing the CDOP system and processes, including how agencies can better support staff in being aware of the Rapid Response procedures and in implementing them. This will build on the training already offered, an updated guide to the process and from learning from other CDOPs.

### **Serious Case Reviews**

A 'serious case' is one where:

- abuse or neglect of a child is known or suspected; and either –
  - the child has died; or
  - the child has been seriously harmed and there is cause for concern as to the way in which the authority, their Board partners or other relevant persons have worked together to safeguard the child.

Local Safeguarding Children Boards must always undertake a review of these cases. These reviews are called Serious Case Reviews (SCRs).

The purpose of a SCR is to establish whether there are lessons to be learnt from the case about the way in which local professionals and organisations work together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The Serious Case Review Committee (SCRC) on behalf of the Board is responsible for coordinating serious case reviews and learning reviews and for monitoring the implementation and effectiveness of all of the reviews action plans. The SCRC members act as independent panel members for serious case reviews where their agency is not directly involved with the case. The Committee is chaired by the Designated Dr for Child Death, who is also a Consultant Paediatrician for Royal Wolverhampton Trust (RWT); NHS. The group currently meets six times a year. Progress on the actions arising from serious case reviews (SCRs) and learning reviews are monitored by the SCRC. Progress and exception reports on the actions are presented to the Executive Group on a bi-monthly basis and to the WSCB on a quarterly basis as required.





During 2014-15, 9 cases were brought to the attention of the SCRC. These cases were purely Wolverhampton children. Of the 9 that have been considered by the SCRC, one met the criteria for a serious case review, which has been commissioned, one case review was undertaken by a single agency process within the Youth Offending Team (YOT), 4 are being investigated critiqued further through the committee, and the remaining 3 did not fit within the criteria or remit of work for the SCRC, and have subsequently been forwarded to the relevant service area with advice and guidance for action .

WSCB takes seriously its responsibilities to ensure that lessons learned from serious case reviews are used to shape and improve practice and that learning is disseminated and embedded to support improvements across all partner agencies, with much emphasis on the importance of communicating, Information sharing, reporting concerns in a timely manner and on recording information. These areas are not unique to the findings of local SCR's however, they are regular recommendations threading through most SCR's. This is something that Wolverhampton are keen to improve and will monitor progression going forward, to ensure that intervention pertaining to safeguarding concerns are identified and acted upon at the right time. For 2014-15, the WSCB has included the learning from SCR's, in to its multi-agency training programme, this includes the lessons from local, regional and national SCR, to ensure the key learning s are widely shared. This will in turn enable services to be more responsive to safeguarding concerns and reinforce the message of safeguarding being everybody's responsibility.

### **Looking forward brief overview of work anticipated for 2015/16**

We shall be publishing the findings from the SCR commissioned in 2014 in the coming year. The delay in publication is due to pending court proceedings. But we do not wait to act. In the meantime, the committee has ensured that actions from this SCR are being implemented across all the relevant partner agencies across the city.

This committee will also:

- Ensure that messages from regional and national SCR's and associated research appropriately shared to a wide audience and by way of various methods.
- Continue to scrutinise incidents which do not meet the threshold for the commissioning of a full SCR, but where there are clearly lessons for learning; in these cases, the committee will explore, identify and apply a model to conduct case reviews.
- Organise a development day in addition to the bi-monthly meetings, to evaluate progress against the board business plan and to schedule the activities going forward in to 2015/16 and beyond.

### **WSCB Quality & Performance Function:**

**The quality & performance functions of the Board spans across all priority areas, and is a key focus for the Executive Committee**

We collect data and performance information to tell us how well we are safeguarding children and to pinpoint where to take action if the information tells us there are problems. Through the Quality & Performance Committee (Q&PC); the Board ensures there is a clear focus on ensuring there are processes in place to improve the way the Board captures; coordinates and helps ensure the effectiveness of local safeguarding children arrangements. In response to the Department for Education's Children's Safeguarding Performance



Information Framework, the Board has developed its Multi-Agency Performance Scorecard to support some of this function.

This dataset, coordinated via the Council's Business Intelligence Team, contains a number of key performance indicators covering a wide range of subject specific concerns across the broad areas of safeguarding, and child Protection, activity including the provision of Early Help. We have included new data to help us better understand how we identify how well schools and GP practices are fully-engaged in safeguarding. This has helped us get an improved response in the first instance and identify what we need to do to get this in the latter.

The WSCB Performance scorecard is under constant review and has been refreshed to reflect the requirements as outlined in Working Together 2013.

Within the remit of work for the Q&PC, is the management and oversight of the:

1. Section 11 (Children Act, 2004) audit
2. Themed/targeted Multi-agency case file audits (MACFA);

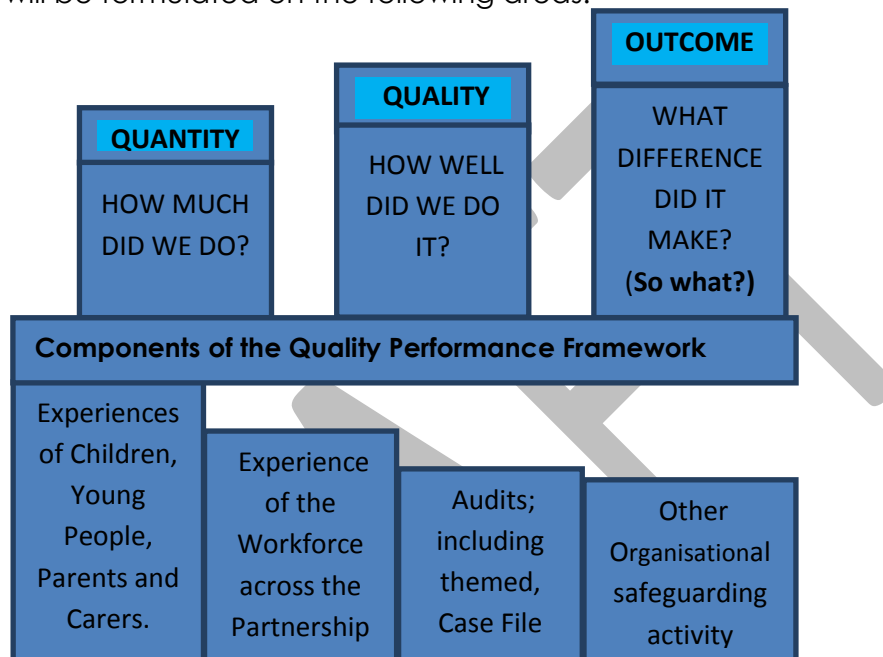
The s.11 audit was issued for completion by WSCB partners in the autumn of 2014. The Board received a summary report in December 2014 and has charged the Q&PC to further scrutinise the findings from the audit and report back to the board during 2015 -16. It is planned that themed audits based on challenges and areas for development identified within the S.11 will be take place during 2015. The Q&PC will also draw on the findings of the s11 audits for challenge and single agency improvement plans.

During 2014-2015 the Q&PC coordinated and contributed to three children's multi-agency audits. These were undertaken via a multi-agency panel consisting of frontline workers and strategic leads. The cases were all thematic and related to the Boards priorities of adolescent neglect, child sexual exploitation and missing. The aim of this audit activity was to understand the child's journey with services and for frontline staff to improve the depth of learning achieved through contributing their own knowledge and experience of working with the child and their family. WSCB audit templates were completed and a systems approach taken to identify key learning and recommendations for improvement. The lessons arising from MACFA is shared with frontline practitioners and managers via WSCB and internal agency communication pathways. This includes sharing the learning through the Communication and Engagement monthly Newsletters; on the WSCB website; and within the delivery of single and multi-agency training.

In addition to the two functions mentioned above, the Q&PC, under the auspices of the board is in the process of agreeing a Quality and Performance Framework to join together all quality and performance activity as required via Working Together 2013. This model will present a new range of outcome indicators that the WSCB monitors and will use to target audit activity, including:-

- The views of children, parents and carers and practitioners
- Single Agency annual reports
- Learning from serious case reviews or learning reviews
- Learning from child death reviews
- Learning from Inspections or internal audits
- Single agency performance and quality assurance activity

The model will be formulated on the following areas:



As part of the WSCB quality assurance function, we audit practice focussing on different themes on a quarterly basis. A challenge in the coming year is to involve more front line practitioners, parents and young people in the audit process. Establishing a 'scrutiny calendar' will enable the WSCB to have in place an evidence based mechanism which allows Board members to hold each other to account for their agency's contribution to the safety and protection of children and young people. This process will continue to be developed and implemented further during 2015-16.

WSCB has undertaken the required 'Section 11' audit of safeguarding arrangements across its partnership during the autumn of 2014. The final report is due to be presented to the Board in June 2015 and a scrutiny panel will be held during the summer of 2015 to scrutinise the agency returns and ensure that appropriate actions are being taken where shortfalls have been identified

**Schools Self- Assessment of Safeguarding arrangement under the Education Act 2002 s.175 /157**

An annual audit of schools safeguarding arrangements is undertaken and reported to the Board. The audit is sent to all Local Authority Maintained Schools, Academies, The purpose of the audit is to enable establishments to:



- Assess schools safeguarding practice, identify strengths and highlight areas of development.
- Develop an action plan to address areas of development which can be reviewed on a regular basis in order to help safeguard pupils
- Have evidence of safeguarding practice available for any Ofsted inspection
- Provide statutory information to the Local Authority and WSCB.

Of the 106 educational establishments sent the audit this year 106 (100%) establishments provided a return. This is a significant increase on previous years when less than 10% of educational establishment responded to this request.

To develop this function further, there are a number of educational establishments that have not yet been included in the activity including, Post 16 Providers and Independent Schools, who will be involved in the next cohort of distributions.

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### **WSCB Learning & Development Activity**

In 2014-15 WSCB Training programme supported our priorities. The demand for some courses throughout the year has meant providing extra events.

Through the Learning and Development Committee, there has been a consistent multi-agency workforce streamlined programme of training activities that:

- Is informed by the Board's Learning and Improvement Framework,
- Is relevant to core business and priorities of WSCB
- Is aligned to statutory guidance, best practice and lessons learnt through the full range of reviews and audits undertaken by WSCB.

This includes reminding the Board, Partner Organisations and Practitioners of their roles and responsibilities in terms of promoting a 'learning culture' in safeguarding children.

WSCB continues to encourage partner agencies to meet their responsibilities to ensure staff receive safeguarding training by providing a varied multi-agency training programme.

'Working Together 2013' requires that Boards' monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of training, including multi-agency training, for all professionals in the area.

We have recognised that further work is required by the Board and partner agencies to understand what difference training is making to frontline practice. This has led to the development of new ways of evaluating training that will identify pre and post course knowledge and skills, provide evidence of the impact of the training on individuals. This in turn will improve practice and outcomes for children, young people and families. In addition there are plans underway to develop this further to ensure feedback from both facilitators and attendees to evaluate the delivery and engagement for each session.

The findings from the previous year's annual report for WSCB training identified a high non-attendance rate for a proportion of our courses. This has an effect on the numbers of places available, and ultimately numbers of individuals trained. This was also not cost effective. To address this we now charge for non-attendance at training sessions to improve attendance rates and recoup money when people still do not come.

**Highlight and feedback on WSCB training:**

The provision of Safer Recruitment training, including a recently devised refresher course remains popular. WSCB has a responsibility to ensure safer recruitment practices are embedded. New guidance; 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' will lead to some updating of course material. We provide 8 events per year which are opened up to the entire workforce, both adults and children's.

The demand for the 'Working Practices; Roles and Responsibilities training was in high demand with positive feedback. It will be necessary to increase the number of courses going forward in to 2015/16.

**Highlights and feedback on WSCB training:**

The provision of Safer Recruitment training, including a recently devised refresher course remains popular. WSCB has a responsibility to ensure safer recruitment practices are embedded. With changes being made to the statutory guidance; 'keeping Children Safe in Education' the course may need to be updated further. We are currently providing 8 events per year which are opened up to the entire workforce, both adults and children's.

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**Trafficking- Jan 2015**

"Useful afternoon for gaining some insight into Trafficking  
A lot of useful resources  
Enjoyed training- opened eyes into what can happen if professionals do not report

**DA and the impact on Families- Dec 2014**

*"Very good day, sensitive issue dealt with appropriately  
I found the training very interesting, lots of experience in the room from different agencies.  
Great to share good practice  
Good delivery of training – relaxed , informative*

## Impact of WSCB Training

Attendees provide evidence of the impact of the training both on their practice and on children and families. It shows that the majority of attendees reported:

- increased confidence,
- improved skills
- much better informed on the knowledge base of each course;
- understood what this means for them in practice, and
- more confident that they would be better able to keep children and young people safe as a result.

### Working Practices roles and Responsibilities- Nov 2014

*"Very Helpful regarding personal situation and how I can now deal with my concerns"*

### Safeguarding Children and Young People From Self Harm- Mar 2015

*"A very interesting and thought provoking training session"*

## Joint WSCB and WSAB Annual Conference – FORCED MARRIAGE AND HONOUR BASED VIOLENCE

On 4<sup>th</sup> June 2014 a joint conference - "Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence" was held in conjunction with Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board, the event was to highlight our joint safeguarding priorities and to improve the awareness of this hidden underreported issue which is of concern for both Boards. The conference attracted 126 delegates who were informed by local and national subject matter experts, including, Karma Nivarna, a national subject relation recognised charity and Home Office subject area Lead.

### Going forward in to 2015/16

The Learning and Development Committee has contributed to the development of, and will lead on the implementation of the WSCB's Learning and improvement Framework. This will amalgamated and drive forward a suite of learning and development opportunities in a range of approaches to cover all aspects of the Boards work and will coordinate the dissemination of learning and messages from all WSCB Committees.

WSCB will also be exploring the implementation of a single agency training endorsement and validation scheme as a means of WSCB fulfilling its responsibilities for quality assuring training in keeping with 'Working Together 2013'.

### Safeguarding Children – A Shared Responsibility- Mar 2015

*"Delegates found the strategy discussion activity useful- raised awareness of decision making."*

### Contributing to Child Protection Case Conferences-Dec 2014

*"Excellent Training, Excellent Trainer, incredibly knowledgeable and approachable when asked questions"*

*"Maggie is brilliant; this training needs to happen for all staff"*

## Developing and Maintaining Policies and Procedures

All inter-agency policies and procedures, training materials, communications and relevant documentation have been revised in line with Working Together 2013 including other national, regional or local guidance, research or learning. This includes a local threshold to support model for assessment. The 'child social work assessment' sets out clear arrangements for how cases will be managed once a child is referred to Children's Social Care (CSC) services.

The Law, Policy and Procedures Committee (LPPC) continue to develop multi-agency policies and procedures together to help to promote shared clarity and improve consistency of practice for agencies and their practitioners across the city. The most recent examples include the development of the Forced Marriage Protocol which has been recognised as the first for the region

The LPPC has been working with our IT providers to ensure the multi-agency child protection procedures and guidance can be linked via a website <http://wolverhamptonscb.proceduresonline.com/>

During 2014-2015 the website was redesigned in order to improve the content and accessibility of the site; there this will be further upgrades to this area during 2014-2015

To support the Board in ensuring that safeguarding practice keeps abreast of new developments, during 2014-2015 the LPPC have reviewed, revised, devised and published policies, procedures and practice guidance in relation to:

- Children missing from home and care,
- Self Harm Protocol,
- Sexual Exploitation, Missing and Trafficked (SEMT) strategic process, Child Sexual Exploitation induction programme, Multi agency sexual exploitation (MASE) meetings; and Child Missing Operational Group (CMOG) processes.
- Unborn Baby pathway for intervention
- Supporting Children and young people vulnerable to violent extremism strategy
- Cross Border Child Protection guidance under 'Hague Convention
- Safeguards for children who may be affected by gang activity
- Threshold for support practice guidance
- Escalation Policy; and
- Information Sharing Agreement which all member agencies have now endorsed has been developed to strengthen communication between the WSCB partners

Going forward, the LPPC will:

- ❖ To continue to scrutinise and localise all Board policy and procedural guidance to increase the support of local practice
- ❖ Maintain a close eye on new ways of working alongside the introduction of 'early help' support services and the associated 'new operating model', and ensure practice guidance, policies, procedures and protocols are revised accordingly.



- ❖ Liaise with other WSCB committees and partnership boards to ensure regular briefings, updates of new policies are widely circulated across all agencies
- ❖ To provide launch events to ensure key practice related messages involving changes in delivery are shared
- ❖ To ensure all updated policies are transferred to the Learning and Development Committee to be included in training, to ensure implementation.
- ❖ The committee has set a work-plan with timescales to review key areas, some of which include: Children on the edge of Care, Teenage Suicide, Stateless Children, children of Detained Parents, Female Genital Mutilation; and to closely monitor and updates in relation to areas of concerns; i.e., children at risk of child sexual exploitation, practice and arrangement for Children with Disabilities, and pre-birth assessments.

**PRIORITY AREA 3, Business Lead; Michaela Kerr; Detective Chief Inspector – West Midlands Police PPU**

### **SAFEGUARDING FOR PARTICULAR VULNERABLE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

**We will ensure that everything we do promotes improved practice to help safeguard and meet the needs of those children and young people who are particularly vulnerable, or are at increased risk of harm and improves outcomes for them.**

### **Safeguards for Vulnerable Children and Young People; Sexual Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (SEMT) Committee**

The WSCB SEMT Committee is a multi-agency partnership with a remit and duty to safeguard children and young who may be at increased vulnerability from sexual exploitation, missing episodes and trafficking in accordance with the policies, procedures and guidance outlined in local and national guidance and that of (WSCB).

SEMT Committee has been tasked with ensuring that children who are victims of Sexual Exploitation and are at risk of exploitation have their needs addressed and are effectively protected.

The group has sought to develop an improved understanding of the situation relating to Child Sexual Exploitation within Wolverhampton, and across the region. The establishment of SEMT, chaired by a senior police officer ensures information is appropriately shared regarding potential offenders and victims of particular vulnerable groups, and an effective action

plan developed to protect the potential or actual victim from further harm.

The principles of SEMT which underpin our work include:

- ❖ Integrated working (e.g. co-location) – Close collaboration in multi-agency working is essential in developing 'real time' risk assessments to enhance decision making. A truly integrated approach helps to break down cultural barriers, leading to greater understanding and mutual respect among different agencies.
- ❖ Joint risk assessments – these ensure clear and sufficient information about particular cases and joint plans for individual interventions.
- ❖ A victim focused approach – the needs of the victim must be at the



forefront of our approach not systems and processes.

- ❖ Good leadership & clear governance – strong leadership can often bind different organisations together to develop a shared culture.
- ❖ Frequent review of operations – to continue to drive improvement of service.

Our delivery plan for 2014/15 was built on good practice and local guidance including :-

- ❖ The West Midlands Regional framework for CSE
- ❖ Working Together to Safeguard Children (DfE 2013)
- ❖ Sexual Exploitation of Children: It Couldn't Happen Here, Could It?
- ❖ A thematic report by Ofsted, November 2014
- ❖ See Me: Hear Me ( OCC 2013), Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation (DCSF, 2009),
- ❖ Tackling Child Sexual Exploitation Action Plan (DfE, 2011)
- ❖ *I thought I was the only one in the world: The Office of the Children's Commissioner's Inquiry into Child Sexual Exploitation in Gangs and Groups*, (OCC 2012); and
- ❖ The recommendations made by the Association of LSCB chairs (2013)

These have all been considered alongside the revised WSCB CSE Framework adopted across the 7 West Midlands Police Force areas to manage and better Safeguard Children and Young People at Risk of Sexual Exploitation –has been implemented throughout 2014/15 and will continue in to 2015/16 to include Practice Guidance and Procedure.

### Achievements for 2014/15

- We obtained funding for a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Co-ordinator
- Introduced Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation meetings for every child identified as at risk of CSE
- Embedded Regional CSE framework fully in Wolverhampton
- Developed and published on WSCB website CSE Induction /Awareness pack for all professionals
- Completed CSE multi-agency audit in January 2015
- Developed and delivered a multi-agency CSE training course
- Identified and implemented screening tool for CSE victims; which means we can better understand who is or is likely to be at risk and act on this
- Reviewed national guidance, reports and inspections to benchmark and improve practice in Wolverhampton
- Ensured every child is invited to participate in the multi-agency discussion around their needs.
- By auditing case files established, there was clear evidence of positive responses to the thoughts, wishes and engagement of the child needs being, prioritised and responded to.

### Plans for 2015/16

- ❖ The committee has set a work-plan with timescales to review key areas, some of which include: Children on the edge of Care, Teenage Suicide, Stateless Children, children of Detained Parents, Female Genital Mutilation; and to closely monitor and updates in relation to areas of concerns; i.e., children at risk of child sexual exploitation, practice and arrangement for Children with Disabilities, and pre-birth assessments.

**PRIORITY AREA 4: Business Lead: Stephen Dodd; Project Coordinator – Youth Opportunities Wolverhampton (YOW)**

**COMMUNICATE & ENGAGE**

We will ensure that we engage children, young people, families and communities of all backgrounds and make up, in the work of WSCB.

**Improving Communication and Engagement**

The whole purpose of the Local Safeguarding Children’s Board WSCB is to ensure that children in the local area are safeguarded at every point of service delivery. Having the right level of support at the right time; is critical if children to be able to achieve their full potential. Wolverhampton recognises the fact that if children are not safeguarded they will undoubtedly be healthy, be able to enjoy and achieve, be positive and or enter adulthood successfully. As such, we have established a ‘Young people’s forum’ known as ‘Be-Safe Team, to ensure children views opinions and concerns are central in the planning and delivery of our work and is used to shape how we attend to the needs of children and families in the city.

Throughout 2014/15 the Be-safe team has focused its attention to the formalising the group in the following ways:

**Be Safe Objectives for 2014/15**

- Recruiting, train and establish a dedicated group of young people as the first B-Safe Junior Safeguarding Board.
- To facilitate regular meetings and activities for the new Team, to include a combination of awareness of key safeguarding issues, training and consultation.
- To create and maintain a dedicated web presence for the B-Safe Team, including the use of social media as a communication channel to raise awareness of the Team and its activities.
- To recruit a dedicated B-Safe Team coordinator to provide additional capacity for the Team within the wider HeadStart Team, reporting to the Peer Support Coordinator.
- To give priority to bullying and online safety, coinciding with the national awareness days.
- Supporting of additional opportunities for the B-Safe Team to attend and report to the Safeguarding Board and vice-versa.



**The Communication and Engagement Committee (C&EC), has a dual function to support both the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards to:**

- Improve communication to the workforces of partner agencies
- Develop city-wide communication channels (websites, social media, press coverage, leaflets posters)
- Develop constructive and mutually respectful relationships with communities; making sure that equality and diversity is appropriately considered in all communication and engagement activity.
- Liaise and collaborate with WSCB and WSAB, relevant committees, partnership forums and service users in the above activities

The monthly newsletter continues to be widely distributed to front line practitioners and managers and this promotes the WSCB priorities, the learning from serious case or learning reviews or domestic homicide reviews, as well as key national and local news relating to the safeguarding of children. This communication approach is also supported via a range of short practitioner guides and briefing papers. Managers and practitioner feedback can evidence how useful this newsletter is in keeping frontline staff up to date with national and local learning.

Activities undertaken throughout 2014/15:

- Branding inc logo agreed for 'Wolverhampton Safeguarding' following consultation with public
- Consultation on website carried out in Oct 2014
- Website scoped and brief agreed
- 1 x public engagement activity to raise awareness of safeguarding and consult about branding and information needs carried during half term in October 2014 – Wolverhampton's Safeguarding Week
- 4 x Campaigns for 2015-16 agreed – Prevent, CSE, Violence Against Women and Girls, What does good care look like?
- Identified channels of communication available to WSCB across WSCB partners
- Undertaken work to inform future campaigns / community engagement – e.g. vulnerability of disabled children (inc. those not registered disabled), need to raise awareness of private fostering
- Established with individual faith groups, Sikh Partnership Forum and Community Cohesion Forum.
- Created and started to implement a Faith group engagement plan developed with Inter Faith Wolverhampton
- Worked to establish a greater understanding of the range and nature of faith groups in the city. – key partners have shared information about faith groups.
- Workforce communication is now clearly agreed as the responsibility of C&E committee – with all WSCB committees responsible for identifying key messages / information to share



## Evidence of the Voice/Contribution of Children and Young People

Working with younger people and by accessing the Healthy Related behaviour Survey (<http://wolvesnet/citypeople/councilnews/2014/september+2014/260914b.htm>), we identified priorities and actions including

- Joint work programme
- 2014/15 agreed with B-Safe Team linking with C&E C support for B-Safe team's chosen campaigns around:
  - ✓ Bullying (in run up to and during Anti-Bullying Week in Nov 2015)
  - ✓ Internet Safety in and around Safer Internet Day Feb 2016

Data from Health Related Behaviour Survey (<http://wolvesnet/citypeople/councilnews/2014/september+2014/260914b.htm>), also has strong bearing on choice of these 2 campaigns

## Work anticipated for 2015/16:

- Develop 2 x practitioner forums to formalise workforce feedback on safeguarding progress / lack of progress
- Commission, produce, launch and develop Wolverhampton Safeguarding website
- Plan, carry out and measure impact of 4 x campaigns inc. public engagement activity around: Prevent, CSE, Violence Against Women and Girls, and 'What does good care look like?'
- Undertake an additional workforce communication campaign to promote Information Sharing
- Identify capacity to collate a list of faith groups; ascertaining up to date contact details for as many as possible; and encouraging faith groups to register on Wolverhampton Information Network and with WVSC database to receive information and support. Build working relationships with faith groups from each of major faiths inc small, unaffiliated groups
- Explore external funding opportunities for a faith group engagement worker jointly with Inter Faith Wolverhampton
- Carry out a survey to better understand safeguarding arrangements in faith groups
- Hold a city-wide high profile event for faith groups to:
  - celebrate their contributions to the city
  - listen to their needs and suggestions
  - highlight their safeguarding responsibilities and offer support to meet these;
  - connect faith groups with support from WVSC and YOW and promotional opportunities presented by Wolverhampton Information Network
  - Support B-Safe Teams campaigns around Bullying and Internet Safety

## Agencies Annual Contribution to the Safeguarding of Children and Young People 2014/15

Each agency with a link to the Board produces their own summary of what they have done individually. People wishing to find out more about any of them can find them in Appendix 4

### Summary and final remarks

The WSCB has continued to develop multi-agency arrangements in order to improve the safeguarding of children and young people in Wolverhampton over the last twelve months. The Board throughout this report has illustrated good multi-agency working and co-operation which can be evidenced in the way in which agencies work with each other to safeguard children.

The Board through its governance structures now collaborates with other partnership/strategic boards in the city on a number of different issues including Domestic Violence, CSE, Missing, Gang activity, and self-harm processes and auditing, and is making steady progress in joining the adult and children agenda at relevant points.

Appropriate arrangements are in place to ensure that the Board complies with its statutory obligations and functions as outlined in Working Together 2013, and at the point of writing this report, the release of the 2015 working together guidance has been released and will further strengthen the role and functions of the board going forward.

The Board has agreed its Learning and Improvement Framework which will be implemented to ensure that where best practice and lessons are learned, these are used to drive service improvements across agencies, this will be instrumental as we are waiting to publish the findings from a SCR commissioned during this period with delayed publications pending court proceeding. It is also likely that the Board will need to consider undertaking a further SCR, or an alternative learning review having recently received a request from DFE in regards to a case of neglect that has recently reached the public domain.

The Business Plan is approaching its third year and a great deal of progress has been made towards the delivery of the plan which concludes in March 2016. The Business Plan is used by each WSCB Committee and Task and Finish Groups to identify and shape the workplans and drive priorities at both a local and regional level and has influenced the development of the Children's and Young People's Plan. Information sharing is an area in which the Board is striving to develop. The Board has undertaken a number of actions in relation to child sexual exploitation and to ensure members are fully engaged in driving this agenda. Over the next twelve months, the Board will give consideration to how these activities can be developed and expanded to ensure risk to children as a result of abuse can be reduced.

Overall the Board is an effective learning organisation which seizes opportunities to learn from a variety of sources in order to develop training and practice, and to ensure safety and optimal outcomes for the children of Wolverhampton.

We anticipate our challenges for the coming year include the following:

- To maintain the momentum in developing closer partnership working with other partnership/strategic boards and promote a culture of problem solving
- To ensure that all services (adults and children) embed the safeguarding of children and young people at the heart of what they do
- To improve communication across the partnership, particularly with frontline practitioners
- To further develop the coordination of safeguarding activity across the partnership and be further assured in regards to the multi-agency intervention and the quality of services through engagement with:
  - The education sector
  - Faith and community groups
  - GP's

We also need to turn attention to:-

- Recruiting a 2<sup>nd</sup> lay member to the board
- Assuring ourselves that we can respond effectively to issues relating to; Child Trafficking, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Stateless Children
- Increase the awareness of services and support to Disabled children and young people in the City
- Undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of Early Help services in the City
- Ensure that the learning from the deaths of children are disseminated across the partnership and used to inform practice.

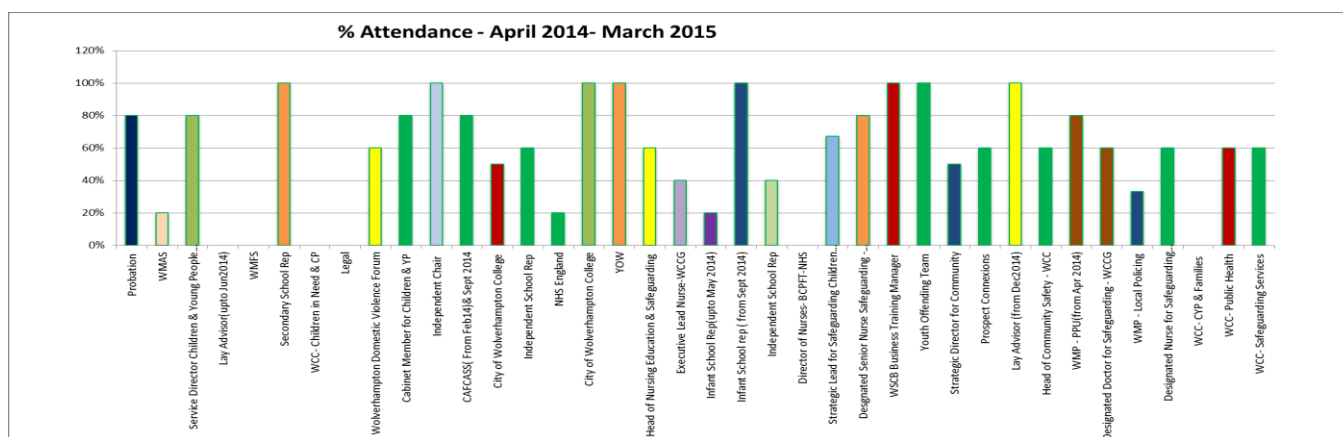
Responding to the challenges ahead the Board remains committed to:

- Ensuring the 'voice of the child' influences all that we do
- Effective partnerships in the context of change and reducing resources
- A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

**Appendix 1**

**Board Attendance**

The full board meets 4 times a year. During 2014 -2015, there was also the Board Development Day; 4<sup>th</sup> April 2014.



DRAFT

| Name                                                      | % attendance - April 2014- March 2015 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Probation                                                 | 80%                                   |
| WMAS                                                      | 20%                                   |
| Service Director Children & Young People - WCC            | 80%                                   |
| Lay Advisor(upto Jun2014)                                 | 0%                                    |
| WMFS                                                      | 0%                                    |
| Secondary School Rep                                      | 100%                                  |
| WCC- Children in Need & CP                                | 0%                                    |
| Legal                                                     | 0%                                    |
| Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum                     | 60%                                   |
| Cabinet Member for Children & YP                          | 80%                                   |
| Independent Chair                                         | 100%                                  |
| CAFCASS( From Feb14)& Sept 2014                           | 80%                                   |
| City of Wolverhampton College                             | 50%                                   |
| Independent School Rep                                    | 60%                                   |
| NHS England                                               | 20%                                   |
| City of Wolverhampton College                             | 100%                                  |
| YOW                                                       | 100%                                  |
| Head of Nursing Education & Safeguarding                  | 60%                                   |
| Executive Lead Nurse-WCCG                                 | 40%                                   |
| Infant School Rep(upto May 2014)                          | 20%                                   |
| Infant School rep ( from Sept 2014)                       | 100%                                  |
| Independent School Rep                                    | 40%                                   |
| Director of Nurses- BCPFT-NHS                             | 0%                                    |
| Strategic Lead for Safeguarding Children & Adults - BCPFT | 67%                                   |
| Designated Senior Nurse Safeguarding - WCCG               | 80%                                   |
| WSCB Business Training Manager                            | 100%                                  |
| Youth Offending Team                                      | 100%                                  |
| Strategic Director for Community                          | 50%                                   |
| Prospect Connexions                                       | 60%                                   |
| Lay Advisor (from Dec2014)                                | 100%                                  |
| Head of Community Safety - WCC                            | 60%                                   |
| WMP - PPU(from Apr 2014)                                  | 80%                                   |
| Designated Doctor for Safeguarding - WCCG                 | 60%                                   |
| WMP - Local Policing                                      | 33%                                   |
| Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children - WCPT/RWHT    | 60%                                   |
| WCC- CYP & Families                                       | 0%                                    |
| WCC- Public Health                                        | 60%                                   |
| WCC- Safeguarding Services                                | 60%                                   |

**Appendix 2**

**Budget 2014-15**

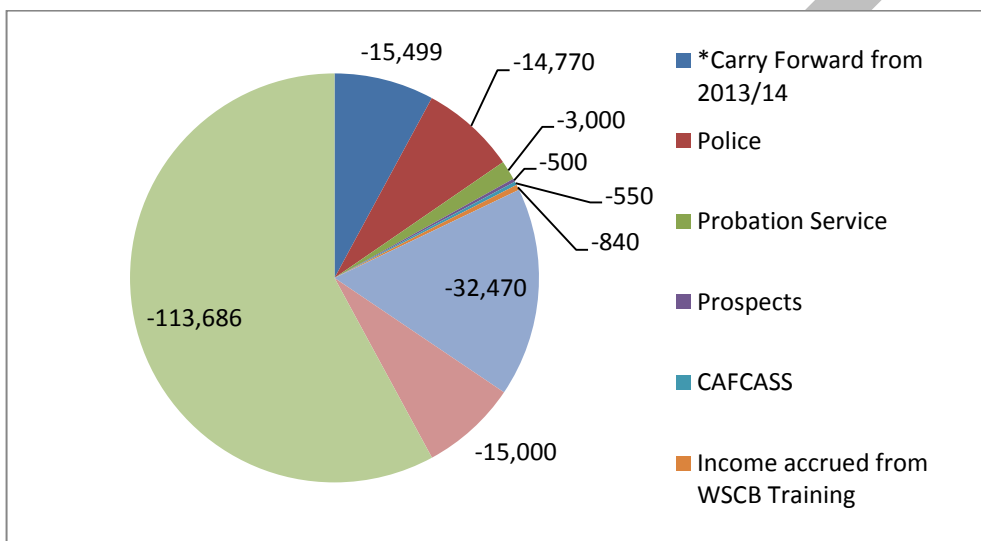
The WSCB income is largely generated from its members, with the exception of any additional carried forward from previous years, and/or income accumulated from WSCB training.

The income revenue for the period 2014-15 is detailed as follows:

| <b>Contributions</b> |                                                   |         |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------|---------|
|                      | *Carry Forward from 2013/14                       | -15,499 |
|                      | Police                                            | -14,770 |
|                      | Police - One off contribution to CSE Co-ordinator | -15,000 |
|                      | Probation Service                                 | -3,000  |
|                      | Prospects                                         | -750    |
|                      | CAFCASS                                           | -550    |



|                                                   |                 |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| CCG                                               | -32,470         |
| CCG - One off additional contribution for 2014/15 | -15,000         |
| CCG - One off contribution to CSE Co-ordinator    | -15,000         |
| Wolverhampton City Council (WCC)                  | -113,686        |
| WCC - One Off Public Health Contribution          | -40,000         |
| WCC - One off contribution to CSE Co-ordinator    | -15,000         |
|                                                   |                 |
| <b>Total Contributions</b>                        | <b>-165,226</b> |



- The carried forward Munro initiative grant funding from 2011 is expected to be fully consumed in this financial year.
- Outlined in the details above are a number of 'one-off' contributions, most of these are additional allocated funds from key partners towards the newly created CSE Coordinator position.
- The CCG and Public Health have also allocated further amounts to support the Board to strengthen its capacity in the business unit.

The LA is the largest financial contributor to the Board totalling 58% of the combined income. The CCG is the next largest contributor providing 25% of the Boards income. The balance with the exception of the carried forward and income generated from training is funded by; Prospect, Probation and West Midlands Police which equates 9% of the total income

### Expenditure 2014/15

Below is a breakdown of expenditure for the board and its related activities during 2014/15. This includes the budget projection for the remainder of the year.

#### Expenditure:

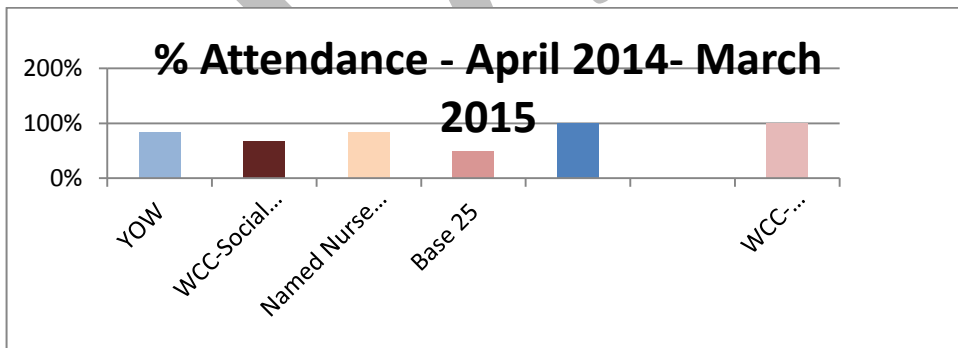
|  |                                   |                |
|--|-----------------------------------|----------------|
|  |                                   |                |
|  | Salary Costs                      | 69,806         |
|  | Training Expenses                 | 31,600         |
|  | Venue Cost                        | 2,000          |
|  | Car Allowances                    | 2,160          |
|  | Catering                          | 2,000          |
|  | Stationery                        | 4,640          |
|  | Independent Chair                 | 15,000         |
|  | Serious Case Review               | 9,000          |
|  | Computing - Purchase of Software  | 4,800          |
|  | Public Liability Insurance        | 220            |
|  | Payments to Walsall LA "CDOP Post | 24,000         |
|  | <b>Total Expenditure Budget</b>   | <b>165,226</b> |

- **TRAINING;** It is projected that there will be at least a 10% underspend in relation to training which reflects the changes to commissioning of training that has taken place throughout the year. The Underspend will be carried forward. It is intended that further savings of a similar amount will be facilitated during the 15/16 financial year.
- The **CDOP Co-ordinator** is jointly funded with Walsall Local Authority. The above costs represent the **full cost** of the post.

Appendix 3

COMMITTEES ATTENDANCE 2014-15

Law Policy and Procedure

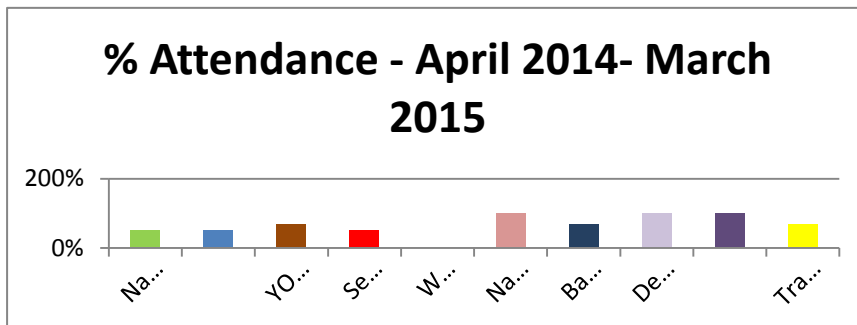


Met 6 times during 2014-15

| Organisation                                        | Attendance % |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| WCC- Head of Safeguarding Services ( <b>Chair</b> ) | 100%         |
| YOW                                                 | 83%          |

|                                              |      |
|----------------------------------------------|------|
| WCC-Social Inclusion and Children Centres    | 67%  |
| Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children - RWHT | 83%  |
| Base 25                                      | 50%  |
| WSCB Business & Training Manager             | 100% |
| WCC-Integrated Working                       | 0%   |

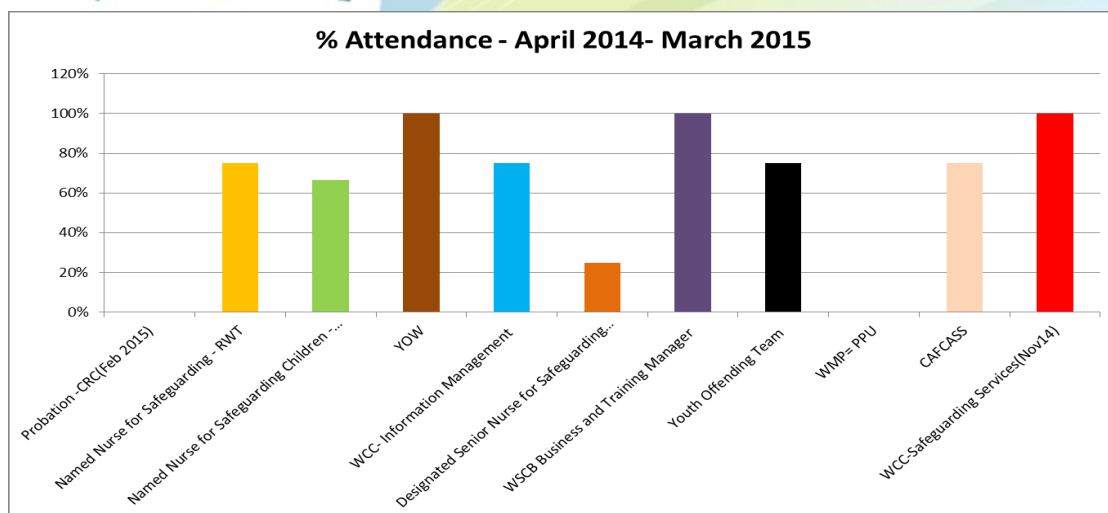
### Learning and Development



| Name                                              | % Attendance |
|---------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Designated Nurse for Safeguarding – WCC – (Chair) | 100%         |
| Named Nurse for Safeguarding - BCPFT-NHS          | 50%          |
| City of Wolverhampton College                     | 50%          |
| YOW                                               | 67%          |
| Senior Nurse for Safeguarding Children -RWT       | 50%          |
| WMP-PPU                                           | 0%           |
| Named Doctor for Safeguarding                     | 100%         |
| Base 25                                           | 67%          |
| WSCB Business & Training Manager                  | 100%         |
| Training Facilitator                              | 67%          |

### Quality and Performance Committee

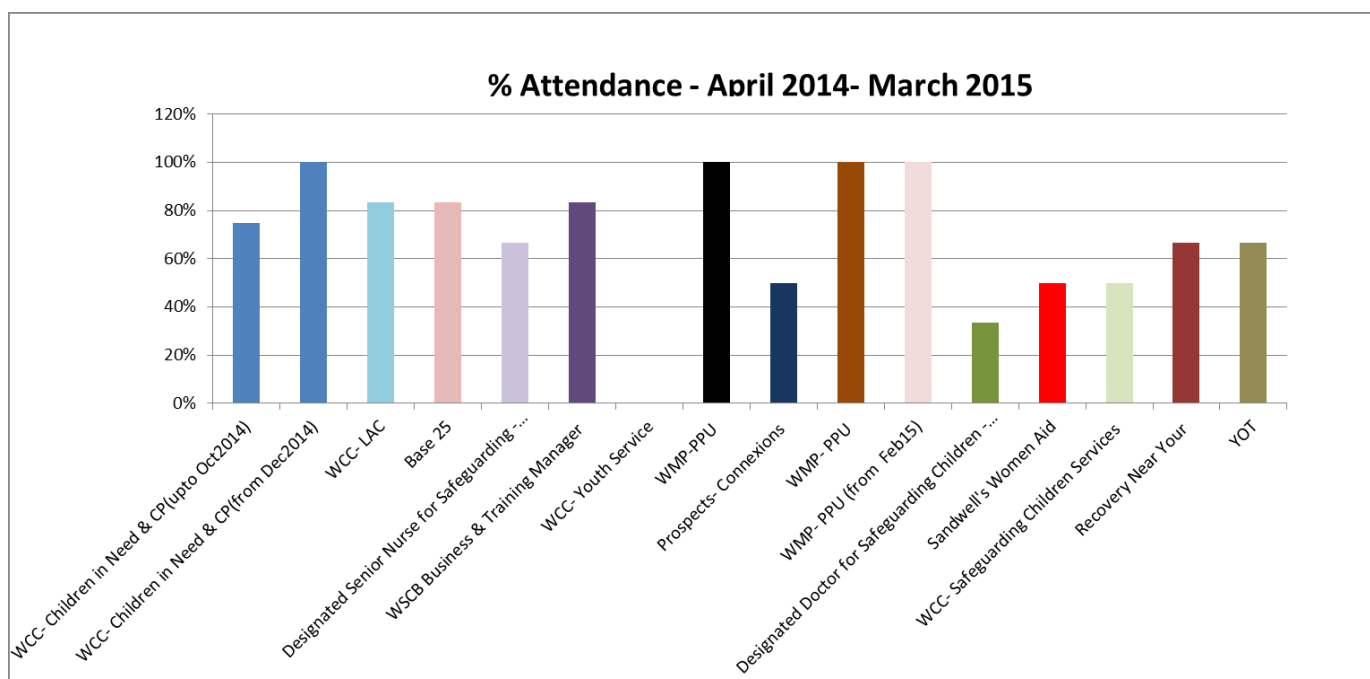
4 meetings



| Organisation                                                 | % Attendance |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Named Nurse for Safeguarding – RWT ( <b>Chair</b> )          | 100%         |
| Probation –CRC( from Feb 2015)                               | 0%           |
| Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children - BCPFT- NHS ( Aug 14) | 67%          |
| YOW                                                          | 100%         |
| WCC- Information Management                                  | 75%          |
| Designated Senior Nurse for Safeguarding Children - WCCG     | 25%          |
| WSCB Business and Training Manager                           | 100%         |
| Youth Offending Team                                         | 75%          |
| WMP= PPU                                                     | 0%           |
| CAFCASS                                                      | 75%          |
| WCC-Safeguarding Services(from Nov14)                        | 100%         |

**Sexual Exploitation Missing and Trafficked Committee**

6 meetings



| Organisation                                       | % Attendance - April 2013-March 2014 |
|----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| WCC- Children in Need & CP (up to Oct 2014)        | 75%                                  |
| WCC- Children in Need & CP (from Dec 2014)         | 100%                                 |
| WCC- LAC                                           | 83%                                  |
| Base 25                                            | 83%                                  |
| Designated Senior Nurse for Safeguarding - WCCG    | 67%                                  |
| WSCB Business & Training Manager                   | 83%                                  |
| WCC- Youth Service                                 | 0%                                   |
| WMP-PPU                                            | 100%                                 |
| Prospects- Connexions                              | 50%                                  |
| WMP- PPU                                           | 100%                                 |
| WMP- PPU (from Feb 15)                             | 100%                                 |
| Designated Doctor for Safeguarding Children - WCCG | 33%                                  |
| Sandwell's Women Aid                               | 50%                                  |
| WCC- Safeguarding Children Services                | 50%                                  |
| Recovery Near Your                                 | 67%                                  |
| YOT                                                | 67%                                  |

Appendix 4

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |  |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Partner Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust (BCPFT)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| <b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Develop reliable data collection regarding children living in households where adult mental health is an issue</li> <li>2. Monitor numbers of Children and Young People (CYP) where adult mental health issues have resulted in a CP Plan/CIN/CAF</li> <li>3. Offer joint training/supervision opportunities for children and adult mental health services.</li> <li>4. Increased involvement in early intervention and identification of CYP, who are affected by adult mental health issues.</li> <li>5. To continue to raise the Toxic Trio and Hidden Harm Agenda across multi-agency partners</li> <li>6. Undertake case file audit as outlined in the Safeguarding Team Audit forward Plan to ensure safeguarding children risks are identified.</li> </ol> | <b>Achievements against the above Objectives :-</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Development of a Safeguarding Dashboard.</li> <li>2. BCPFT have had Audits which supported monitoring numbers of Children and Young People (CYP) where adult mental health issues have resulted in a CP Plan/ CIN /EHA.</li> <li>3. Supervision provides opportunities for reflective practice by staff, and action plans are devised.</li> <li>4. BCPFT have worked in partnership with Wolverhampton CCG , Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board and other partners to effectively comply with the self-harm policy.</li> <li>5. A number of audits have been undertaken in line with LSCB Performance Frameworks and the Safeguarding Children Team Audit</li> <li>6. Plan which includes:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HV/SHA records audit (CP/CIN/LAC)</li> <li>• Conference Reports (quality and standards)</li> <li>• Quality of BAAF form</li> <li>• Service user feedback (LAC)</li> <li>• Adult Mental Health File audit</li> </ul> </li> </ol> |  |

**Improvement Plans where barriers have existed.**

- A more robust system for collecting safeguarding performance data which will help the teams to review compliance with CCG and Safeguarding Boards requirements.
- Additional work is required to design a safeguarding module to uncover and report on difficulties with compliance of data collection.
- An internal Safeguarding Performance Dashboard will offer assurance to the Trust Board that safeguarding is meeting the required targets.
- Effective engagement with the Divisions from the Named Nurse perspective.

**Impact for Children, Young People and Families**

- BCPFT needs to continue to improve in terms of developing “voice of the child” within all Divisions. Therefore, training is on-going.

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- To ensure that lessons learnt from Serious Case Reviews (SCRs), and case file audits etc. are shared with all staff
- To continue to ensure the Trust offers clear accountability; ownership and clarity around governance structures
- Increase capacity to deliver safeguarding training.
- Improve IT systems to enable sharing information with other agencies,
- Improve engagement with MARAC/DARTs by increasing capacity e.g. appointment of a Domestic Abuse nurse across adults and children.
- Review the role of the LAC and Paediatric Liaison, and the governance around Rapid Response.
- Development of Safeguarding assurance frameworks and monitoring of serious case reviews/DHR's/ CQC action plans.
- Safeguarding needs to review structure and capacity to meet demand.
- BCPFT to continue to deliver internal single agency training to all staff and also encourage our staff to attend multi agency safeguarding children training e.g. in specific areas like CSE, FGM, Forced Marriage, Modern day Slavery etc...

Robust systems of reporting out of area LAC continues to need monitoring.

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

Senior Leadership presence within Safeguarding Children Boards and sub-groups. Engagement with partner agencies in terms of information sharing and lessons learnt.

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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | CHILD and FAMILY COURT ADVISORY and SUPPORT SERVICES (CAFCASS)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |  |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <p>Cafcass (the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service) is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Ministry of Justice. The role of Cafcass within the family courts is: to safeguard and promote the welfare of children; provide advice to the court; make provision for children to be represented; and provide information and support to children and their families.</p> <p>Cafcass' statutory function, as set out in the Criminal Justice and Court Services Act 2000, is to "safeguard and promote the welfare of children". Safeguarding is therefore a priority in all of the work we undertake within the family courts and the training and guidance we provide to staff reflects this.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | <p><b>- Effectiveness of Safeguarding Arrangements</b></p> <p>A key focus during 2014/15 was continued improvement following our "good" Ofsted judgement in April 2014. Ofsted summarised that Cafcass consistently worked well with families to ensure children are safe and that the court makes decisions that are in the children's best interests. The report also highlighted areas where Cafcass should make improvements, and these areas formed a dedicated action plan which we implemented throughout the remainder of the year.</p> |  |
| <p><b>In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To undertake three thematic audits in 2015/16, focusing on further improvements required, in the joint working between the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) and the Guardian.</li> <li>• Alongside our internal methods of quality assurance, we record and disseminate learning identified within service user correspondence, including correspondence received from children and young people. The learning points are fed back to the National Improvement Service (NIS) which maintains a national learning log, updated and disseminated throughout the organisation on a quarterly basis. The learning log sets out clear action plans designed to improve safeguarding practice and systems across the organisation, this area of work will be continued and further strengthened going forward.</li> <li>• There will be further scrutiny given to our safeguarding practice and processes by the Family Justice Young People's Board (FJYPB) comprising young people with direct experience of the family court. The FJYPB contribute to our publications, review our resources for direct work with children, and are involved in the recruitment of frontline staff. Board members also review the complaints we receive from children and young people.</li> </ul> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |
| <p><b>Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?</b></p> <p>Cafcass is committed to joint working, as demonstrated in some of our work as recorded in the full agency report. We continue to work with partners such as the Association of Directors Children's Services (ADCS), the FJYPB and the National Family Justice Board. With ADCS in particular we will continue to work in partnership to identify and share good practice.</p> <p>Cafcass also plays a strong leadership role at a local level, actively participating in Local Family Justice Boards. Cafcass chairs 10 out of 42 local Family Justice Boards and has a strong</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |  |



leadership role on all others.

Number of serious incidents involving children and young people and outcomes from reviewing them

Cafcass has contributed to 26 Individual Management Reviews (IMRs), requiring a variety of methodological approaches. Of all the child deaths Cafcass has been made aware of from April 2014 – March 2015, in 52% of cases, maltreatment was suspected. This information is collated and managed nationally.

The learning from IMRs is collated and reported in an annual paper, which is disseminated nationally within Cafcass. We also publish externally a redacted version of the report, with a focus on wider learning points within the family justice system

**Agency**

National Probation Service

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

All colleagues must read the Working Together as part of their induction. There are resources accessible to allow staff to refresh their own knowledge of safeguarding. It also has to be seen in conjunction with other public protection practices like Multi-Agency Public Protection Arrangement (MAPPA), Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) and Safeguarding Adult arrangements.

NPS activities must reflect the importance of safeguarding children at all levels of need. This includes a clear line of accountability for the commissioning and/or provision of services designed to safeguard and promote the welfare of children:

- Senior Management to lead the organisation's Safeguarding Children arrangements,
- Active participation with Local Safeguarding Children Boards
- A culture that supports the child's safety and development,
- A clear process for eliciting and sharing information, in order to safeguarding children and to promote their welfare.
- Safe recruitment practices, including Disclosure & Barring Scheme.
- Supervision and support of staff (including mandatory training and learning opportunities to develop practice),
- Clear procedure and working arrangements with Local Authorities for investigating allegations against staff with regard to their work/contact with children.
- Strategic and operational involvement in multi-agency arrangements for safeguarding children, including MAPPA, MARAC, Multi Agency Safeguarding Hubs (MASH) etc.
- A clear risk escalation and transfer process for Community Rehabilitation Companies and NPS to follow when the risk towards a child/ren escalate to the level that requires management of the case by NPS (in line with the Risk Escalation Policy).
- NOMS Whistle-blowing policy must be integrated into training and codes of conduct.

NPS will:-

- Assess the risk of serious harm posed to children by offenders due to their actual offending

including targeting children or the impact it has on them, for example domestic abuse.

- Highlight concerns in relation to potential harm e.g. substance misusing parents /carers, challenging environments.
- Identify children at increased risk of exposure to victimisation including CSE, Honour Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation, Organised Crime and Serious Group Offending as either victims or perpetrators.
- Identify children at risk of anti-social behaviour and other negative behaviour due to the behaviour of parents and others.
- Include the impact of caring responsibilities on the parents/carers ability to comply with the proposed sentence of the Court.
- Consider the impact imprisonment will have on the child/ren's welfare when custody is a stated option of the Court.
- Support families (Think Family Approach) to access services to support rehabilitation for parents/carers and positive outcomes for children and families.
- Share information to support the safeguarding, protection and welfare of children at both strategic and operational levels.
- Respond to requests for Serious Case Reviews, including archived cases, and review their involvement in the management of the cases including court process and allocation.
- Liaise directly with CRC colleagues to complete risk escalation processes and support the completion of Serious Case Reviews to include court process and allocation.

#### **Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

Despite a challenging year of flux and organisational shift the safeguarding procedures in place for staff to follow have remained constant. Staff have continued to work closely with Partners to ensure that risk assessments are completed where we are aware of children at risk of harm and that these are collectively followed through.

Staff continue to be integral to MAPPa and MARAC and through IOM arrangements work with partners to manage those offenders at highest risk to the public.

All staff have a personal development objective to keep children safe from point of contact with an adult and this is continually reviewed through the sentence.

Where recruitment has taken place, this is in line with NPS Policy and Procedure and ensures safe vetting practice.

#### **In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

As above. The NPS continues to drive these objectives as an organisation through the current business year.



Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?

- The recent organisational split has rendered both NPS and CRC's responsible authorities for LSCB's. During the past 12 months, there has been a stabilisation period of both NPS and CRC's identifying where the resource critical needs are. This has impacted on the attendance to Board and Committees for Wolverhampton however contribution to driving forward the changes has remained strong from within both NPS and CRC.
- The development of MASH is fully supported by the NPS in Wolverhampton.
- NPS has provided a financial contribution to the Board in 14/15.
  - NPS has provided attendance at committee level or has shared attendance with CRC's to ensure appropriate level of cover.

**Agency**

City of Wolverhampton College

**How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children**

**TRAINING**

- All named designated safeguarding officers have received safeguarding officer training.
- 276 staff members had attended safeguarding awareness training in 2014/15.
- 27 managers had successfully completed safer recruitment training in 2014/15.
- In 2014/15 safeguarding team have attended 6 workshops delivered by the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Board.
- Members of the safeguarding team have attended: the following multi agency training:
  - Guns and Gangs
  - Bullying
  - Young people and the internet.
  - Contributing to child protection case conferences
  - Sexual Exploitation of Children
  - Domestic abuse
- During student induction period the safeguarding team deliver 20 minutes safeguarding awareness sessions for all students.
- The College's Student Services Director is the Vice Chair for the Learning and Development Committee.

**a) POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

- College has a safeguarding policy in place which is updated annually and reflects the guidance provided by Department for Education – Keeping children safe in education and HR Government document Working together to safeguard children.

**b) COMMUNICATION**

- Termly safeguarding reports are submitted to the governing body.
- Student Services Director keeps the Executive Management Team updated on any changes in relation to safeguarding.
- Heads of school are briefed during the one to one meetings to discuss areas of student services including safeguarding.
- The College's Student Services Director is a member of the WSCB Communication and Engagement Committee. Through this work the college's Head of Marketing has supported the development of the new logo for the safeguarding boards website.

#### **c) IMPROVING QUALITY**

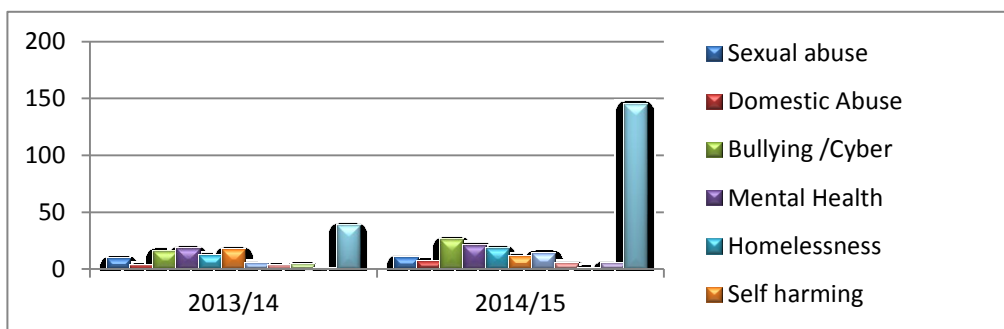
- College has in place safeguarding risk register action plan for 2014/15. The action plan is monitored by the Director of student services and updated on an annual basis.

#### **d) CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

- To date 263 safeguarding referrals made to the college safeguarding team.
- 10 referrals made to children social care and 3 referrals to adult social care in 2014/15.
- 4 referrals made to the police in 2014/15
- 246 referrals dealt by the safeguarding team as early intervention (welfare issues).
- In 2014/15 there were 170 female and 93 male safeguarding referrals made to the safeguarding team.
- There has been an increase of 88% of safeguarding referrals in 2014/15 of White British students compared to 2013/14
- In 2014/15 Indian student safeguarding referrals have almost doubled compared to the previous year.
- In 2014/15 Black & White Caribbean students safeguarding referrals have increased by 9 compared to the previous year.
- In 2014/15 there was an increase of 16-18 year old student safeguarding referrals by 80% compared to the previous year. An increase of 153% of 19+ student referrals.
- There has been an increase of 55% referrals from Essential Skills - SLDD, Pathways & Alternative Provision compared to previous year.
- There has been an increase of 127% of referrals from Creative Arts in 2014/15 compared to previous year.
- Princess Trust referrals have increased by 85% in 2014/15 compared to previous year.
- There has been an increase of 167% of learner referrals in 2014/15 from health industries compared to 2013/14.
- 100% increase of learner referrals from service industries in 2014/15 compared to previous year.
- There has been an increase of 186% learner referrals from technology in 2014/15 compared to previous year.

- There has been an increase of 171% of learner referrals from Bilston East ward in 2014/15 compared to previous academic year.
- In 2014/15 there was a sevenfold increase of referrals from Bushbury south and low hill compared to 2013/12.
- Merry hill ward had an increase of threefold of referrals in 2014/15 compared to the previous academic year.
- In 2014/15 Dudley district had seen an eleven fold increase of referrals compared with the previous academic year.

• **Nature of referrals**



- There has been an increase of 40% of referrals made to children social care services and the police in 2014/15 compared to previous academic year 2013/14.
- There has been an increase of 25% of referrals from the youth offending team compared to the previous academic year.
- In 2014/15 there has been an increase of 8% of learners who identify themselves as Looked after children compared to previous academic year.

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

Students and staff feeling safe, being able to share concerns and manage risk of harm either to themselves or others.

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

- During our Ofsted Inspection in October 2014 safeguarding was graded as Good with Outstanding features
- 30 safeguarding awareness training workshops delivered to staff.
- 8 safer recruitment workshops delivered to managers
- 96 safeguarding student inductions delivered.
- 2 PREVENT face to face workshops delivered by the police.
- Channel general awareness on line training for all staff.

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

Students and staff feeling safe, being able to share concerns and manage risk of harm either to themselves or others.



**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The Student Services Director is a highly engaged member of both the Learning and Development Committee and the Communications and Engagement Committee.

Through the Learning and Development Committee we have supported the review of multi agency training, evaluations and quality procedures.

Through the Communications and Engagement Committee the college has involved its marketing department to support the developments of the new joint board website. The college provided a number of ideas for a new logo layout and colour scheme and supported the committee in gaining the views of local users to identify a new logo for the site.

The Student Services Director is a member of associated boards including: Children's Trust Board and SEND Partnership Board. This ensures that the work of the board is considered in the wider remits of associated boards, ensuring that young people are safeguarded within the city.

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| <b>Agency</b> | Prospects Services [Connexions] |
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**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

- Launch of corporate self-assessment process to inform internal risk management. Initial assessment to be launched by Autumn 2014
  - Safeguarding Management group to devise and approve internal risk matrix and monitor high risk contracts more closely
  - Development of procedures to bring safeguarding work into company quality procedures currently certified under ISO9001
  - Review Allegation Management procedures and devise code of conduct for delivery staff by September 2014
  - Embed the Early Help assessment into PA practice
  - Attend relevant safeguarding training within the city
- Contribute to multi-agency case file audits and any other audits/reviews/inspections.

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

- Initial assessment launched October 2014
- Internal risk matrix completed and internal safeguarding group remit redefined in light of this.
- Company quality procedures- work underway.
- Code of conduct for staff completed and launched
- Early Help embedded in service delivery
- Relevant training attended
- MASE work extended and a high level of attendance sustained by Personal Advisers.

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

Not applicable-organisation is no longer on Safeguarding Board and Connexions service has been brought in house to the City Council

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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       | The Royal Wolverhampton NHS Trust [RWT] |
| <p><b>How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board?</b></p> <p>The Chief Nurse who is also Deputy Chief Executive holds safeguarding in her Executive Director portfolio.</p> <p>The Trust Board receives an annual child safeguarding report.</p> <p>The Trust Board members receive safeguarding training on an annual basis</p> <p>The Trust Safeguarding Group meets bimonthly and reports through the Trust governance structure to the Trust Board</p> <p>The RWT safeguarding team has this year undergone a process of assurance using the Markers of Good Practice (DH 2008) and has a robust work-plan in place to address the key areas of risk highlighted in the assurance process. The team has undergone a process of restructuring and investment in key areas to meet the demands of the domestic violence and child sexual exploitation agenda.</p> <p>The Trust has a Named Nurse for safeguarding children, a Named Midwife, a Named Nurse for Looked After Children, a Named Doctor for Looked After Children and a Named Doctor for safeguarding children</p> <p>A comprehensive training needs analysis has been undertaken and all staff having contact with children, young people and parents or carers received level 2 safeguarding training (RCPCH 2014) and staff working in paediatrics, midwifery and community health undertake level 3 safeguarding training annually.</p> <p>The FNP, Health Visitors, Midwives, School Nurses and Children's Nursing Service receive regular safeguarding supervision</p> |                                         |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To ensure that acute and community health services in Wolverhampton develop a robust communication pathway with local authority children's centres and social care that is overviewed and transparent to the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board.</li> <li>• Ensure that Royal Wolverhampton Trust (RWT) provide health care services that incorporate their statutory duty as highlighted in Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) and feedback to, contribute to and are monitored by the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |                                         |

- To ensure that community and acute health services provide a health care service that embraces lessons learnt from Serious Case Reviews and that the existing work programme reflects these values.
- RWT as the main provider of health services in Wolverhampton work closely with the Wolverhampton CCG to ensure that the rising number of Looked After Children in Wolverhampton receive Initial and Review Health Assessments as is required from the legal framework.

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

Regular communication facilitated by colocation of key professionals in the children's centres and referrals to social care are monitored and followed up by the safeguarding team

Serious case review action plans were monitored and overseen by the Joint Health Service Safeguarding Children Group

- The service for Looked after Children has worked collaboratively with the CCG to ensure services and reviews for Looked After Children are effective and timely consistent with statutory requirements

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

**To ensure connectivity across the organisation in relation to the sharing of information for children at risk of CSE and DV**

- To collaborate in the Child Protection Information Sharing programme with HSCIC and the Local Authority
- To collaborate with partner agencies in the development of the Wolverhampton MASH and ensure timely information sharing and consultation on cases of concern
- To further develop the Trust TNA and ensure that all staff working with children, young people, parents and carers receive training at level 3 (RCPCH 2014) in relation to learning from serious case reviews and domestic homicide reviews
- To work with partner agencies to develop a quality assurance framework that identifies the impact of safeguarding on children, young people and families

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The Trust has representation at a senior level on the safeguarding Board and representation at every Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children's Board Committee. Key staff Chair and contribute to the work of the Board including it's Committee's and ensures participation in regular multi-agency case-file audit and table top reviews.



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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Safer Wolverhampton Partnership (SWP) |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <p>Channel and Prevent</p> <p>Raise awareness across partners of Channel referral pathways; partners need to be briefed on the current Prevent risks and feel confident in directing individuals to available support. A series of joint briefings/workshops will be held for safeguarding boards to facilitate this.</p> <p>Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)</p> <p>A revised VAWG strategy will highlight key areas of development which will reduce the risks to children and young people and where WSCB oversight is needed.</p> <p>Gangs and Youth Crime</p> <p>A refreshed Gangs and Youth Crime Problem Profile will inform the development of a revised strategy and targeted interventions needed to support children and young people.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                       |
| <p><b>Achievements against the above Objectives :-</b></p> <p>A Channel and Prevent safeguarding awareness event was held in March 2015 to alert organisational safeguarding leads to the vulnerabilities linked to Prevent and arrangements for referring individuals needing support. The event was well attended and has provided a catalyst for an increase in referrals. Additionally, the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015 has introduced a statutory Prevent duty on a range of agencies and placed Channel Panel on a statutory footing.</p> <p>The VAWG Strategy refresh is well underway and due for sign off in the autumn of 2015. In the interim, significant steps have been taken to improve the management of high risk domestic violence cases and embed learning from Domestic Homicide Reviews.</p> <p>A refreshed gangs problem profile has been completed which is being used as a basis for developing a revised Reducing Gang Harm Strategy. This will include an enhanced focus on young people and prevention. This should be finalised by autumn 2015.</p> |                                       |
| <p><b>In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16</b></p> <p><b>Domestic Homicides – Shared Learning</b></p> <p>It is proposed to host a shared Serious Case Review/Domestic Homicide Review learning event in the autumn of 2015 to disseminate findings and facilitate change within front-line services, and to ensure prompt dissemination of learning from future reviews.</p> <p><b>Prevent duty</b></p> <p>A key focus for 2015/16 will be on embedding changed practice following introduction</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                       |



of the Prevent duty arising from the Counter Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

**Youth Crime**

To reduce the number of young people involved in crime either as victims or offenders.

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The strengthened link between WSCB and Safer Wolverhampton Partnership enables us to collectively drive forward areas of shared responsibility. This relationship has worked well for 2014/15 and will be formalised during 2015/16 to embed that practice.

The additional focus SWP is putting into VAWG and domestic abuse in particular has a significant impact upon safeguarding children.

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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Wolverhampton CCG |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <p>WCCG fulfil their statutory duty to be members of the Local Safeguarding Children Board as the Director for Nursing and Quality for WCCG is a member of WSCB, and the Designated Doctor and Nurse for Safeguarding Children attend as advisors to the WSCB. The agreed objectives for 14/15 were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chairing of 3 WSCB committees, and are active members on several committees.</li> <li>• Employ services of designated professionals and a Named GP lead for Children's Safeguarding.</li> <li>• Continue to make financial contribution to the safeguarding board, including an additional £15,000 (15/16) for the Sexual Exploitation Coordinator role.</li> <li>• Completion of Bi Annual Section 11 audits.</li> <li>• Monitoring provider compliance with nationally mandated requirements and additional local KPIs agreed in the quality schedules in each contract.</li> <li>• Commission, manage and monitor LAC placements contributing to the overarching ambition to reduce the number of children in LAC placements and also to ensure placements are close to home</li> </ul> |                   |
| <p><b>Achievements against the above Objectives :-</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All key designated and named professionals have been recruited and are in place</li> <li>• Timely completion of reviews contributing to the publishing of SCRs. The action plans are completed with learning cascaded across primary and secondary care. Key learning is the improved collaborative working arrangements now in place between addiction services and primary care by developing a joint protocol to enable collaborative working with complex patients.</li> <li>• Audits in place to monitor compliance with implementation of SCR recommendations in primary care.</li> <li>• Marginal decrease in the number of reportable child deaths in Wolverhampton.</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                   |

Significant improvement in reportable number of child deaths which involved co-sleeping as a modifiable factor following a sleep safe campaign launched in October 2012.

- Training plans in place for all appropriate staff and volunteers who work with or have contact with children and families (professional roles and responsibilities)
- All CCG staff is aware of their own responsibilities and those of the organisation for safeguarding and protecting children; Level 1 Safeguarding Training is included in the mandatory training for all employees.
- Engagement with children and young people
- CCG led the health component of the SEND local offer which has been recognised as best practice nationally
- Quality assessments of all External Placement Panel placements (due to be completed September 2015) and the development of a robust data base to monitor and record LAC activity.
- Enhanced and improved monitoring of provider compliance via monthly Clinical Quality Review Meetings
- CCG hosted 4 sessions of mandatory level 3 Safeguarding Children Training for GPs and their practice staff. 355 individuals attended including 134 GPs from 46 practices. Ongoing training schedules are being planned.
- Providing supervision to other health care professionals; the CCG Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children provides supervision to the Family Nurse Practitioners. Designated Dr provides supervision for the Named Dr for Safeguarding Children and Named GP for Safeguarding Children.
- A safeguarding web page has been developed and available on the CCG Intranet
- A self-populating template is being developed to support GPs in the writing of child protection conference reports.
- Contribution to the WSCB table top review chronology reports

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- Development of education and training framework
- Improved working with agencies i.e. MAPPA
- Improved compliance with education and training levels in provider contracts
- Raising awareness in primary care across GPs and practice staff
- Raise awareness for PREVENT, CSE, FGM and SEMPT
- Be integral partner for MASH
- Continue to work with GPs to improve attendance at case conferences
- Monitor action plans to assure actions completed across the provider landscape

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

The CCG Governing Body are assured that WCCG are compliant of their statutory duties regarding safeguarding children and provide a high level of oversight of the quality and safety matters of safeguarding and looked after children across the city.

The Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board is assured that the CCG is committed to ensuring that its providers provide a safe system that safeguards children at risk of abuse and neglect, as set out in:

- Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 Statutory Guidance on promoting the Health and Wellbeing of Looked After Children 2015

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                     |
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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum (WDVF)</b> |
| <p><b>How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?</b></p> <p><b>a) TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency &amp; multi-agency training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Our funding contract, policies, procedures, and practice demonstrates that generic safeguarding training is mandatory for front line staff, as is training for subject specific safeguarding elements, for example Prevent training, etc.</li> <li>• WDVF has delivered a range of subject specific safeguarding training around Violence Against Women and Girls.</li> </ul> <p><b>b) POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Relevant policies and procedures are discussed with staff at team meetings, and raised at the multi-agency WDVF Executive Board to be embedded into practice in different organisations.</li> <li>• WDVF is instrumental in developing multi-agency subject specific policies and procedures, including being instrumental as a key partner in developing the first joint adult and child Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence Protocol together with the two Safeguarding Boards.</li> </ul> <p><b>c) COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Information is cascaded with WDVF and partner agency staff electronically, and specific items are discussed at WDVF team meetings with a view to identifying if and how WDVF procedures and practice needs to change.</li> </ul> <p><b>d) IMPROVING QUALITY– single agency audit, supervision, Section 11 etc</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Every person referred to our service is risk assessed using the national risk model, which identifies any safeguarding adult and children concerns.</li> <li>• Supervision of our Independent Domestic Violence Advisers is undertaken by the Strategy Coordinator/General Manager, and these staff also receive external clinical supervision for their caseloads.</li> <li>• Processes such as Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conferences (MARAC) that WDVF coordinates and provides governance around are externally audited.</li> <li>• The latest audit is wholly positive around all aspects including governance, commitment, attendance, adult and children support, and correct application of criteria.</li> </ul> <p><b>e) CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT– supplying performance data and commentary</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WDVF provides Violence Against Women and Girls data and commentary to the Quality and Performance Committee to both Safeguarding Boards.</li> <li>• WDVF contributes to and attends quality and performance committee meetings to critically analyse, develop, and refine performance dashboards for the Boards.</li> <li>• WDVF provides update reports to the Boards from WDVF Executive Board.</li> </ul> |                                                     |

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

- Increase first time reporting of Violence Against Women and Girls
- Reduce the prevalence of Violence Against Women and Girls
- Reduce repeat Violence Against Women and Girls incidents
- Increase Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice
- Reduce serious harm from Violence Against Women and Girls including homicide prevention

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

- Increase in reporting of domestic violence, sexual violence, forced marriage, and honour based violence
- Increase in the number of children identified in families suffering domestic violence and jointly screened
- Increase in Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice
- Increase in Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) referrals and joint action plans to reduce those at highest risk of serious harm and homicide
- Overwhelmingly positive external audit of MARAC arrangements in terms of governance, commitment, attendance, adult and children support, coordination, and correct application of criteria

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- Increase first time reporting of Violence Against Women and Girls
- Reduce the prevalence of Violence Against Women and Girls
- Reduce repeat Violence Against Women and Girls incidents
- Increase Violence Against Women and Girls offences brought to justice
- Reduce serious harm from Violence Against Women and Girls including homicide prevention

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

WDVF continues to be committed to safeguarding adults and children. Our Strategy Coordinator attends and contributes to Board meetings as a professional adviser to the Board and away day events, and attends sub-group meetings both as a standing member and to make specific contributions – eg with new policies and procedures. WDVF ensures that information is cascaded from the Board into our organisation and to our partners, as well as providing information, guidance, and advice around Violence Against Women and Girls subjects to the Board and its committees.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |                            |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | West Midlands Fire Service |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ensure safeguarding training is completed</li> <li>• Ensure policy is up to date and reviewed to ensure the correct standard is met.</li> </ul> |                            |



- Section 11 is reviewed

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

- All staff within Wolverhampton has received basic level safeguarding training, also all relevant information in regards to Child trafficking.
- Information around FGM, county terrorism and radicalisation has also been disseminated to staff at all levels.
- WMFS policy on safeguarding is reviewed and updated at regular intervals.
- All staff has access to safeguarding policies and are required to ensure they are up to date and also adhere to the policy.
- Section 11 is completed and reviewed 6 monthly or whenever actions have been completed.

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

To ensure all relevant and up to date information is given to staff as soon as possible.

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

All objectives relevant to West Midlands Fire Service have been implemented and upheld as part of the commitment from West Midlands Fire Service to assist in the delivery of the Boards objectives and effectiveness.

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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Youth Organisations Wolverhampton |
| <p><b>How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?</b></p> <p><b>TRAINING -</b></p> <p>YOW has promoted safeguarding training opportunities through the Monthly Safeguarding Updates it has produced and circulated since May 2014.</p> <p>WSCB multi-agency training (including general awareness of the WSCB multi-agency training programme, as well as notice of particular forthcoming courses, and those that are undersubscribed)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• voluntary sector specific training – Early Help, Introduction to Safeguarding to individual organisations and VCS more generally.</li> <li>• external training and webinars – e.g. courses organised by Anti-Bullying Alliance, and Safe Network</li> </ul> |                                   |

**POLICY AND PROCEDURES** – *embedding policy and procedure in practice*

- Details of all new policies and procedures approved by WSCB have been circulated to vol orgs via the WSCB database (around 550 organisations) via the monthly safeguarding Updates and occasionally via a specific communication e.g. updated Multi-Agency Referral Form.
- A Safeguarding Forum was held in Oct 2014 - various policies and procedures were highlighted at this event too.
- The YOW Co-ordinator has also worked directly with around 10 groups to develop their safeguarding policy and practice.

**COMMUNICATION** – *sharing all relevant information with the workforce*

- Since May 2014 YOW has produced and circulated a monthly Safeguarding Update to all 550 voluntary and community organisations on the Voluntary Sector Database held by WVSC. This has covered safeguarding adults as well as safeguarding children topics and drawn from the following: WSAB and WSCB board meetings and committees; DfE; Safe Network; Children and Young People Now; UK Safer Internet Centre; CEOP; Anti-Bullying Alliance; NSPCC CASPAR email.
- This has been circulated to partners on WSAB and WSCB since Jan 2015.
- YOW Co-ordinator has taken a lead role in chairing the Communication and Engagement Committee.

**IMPROVING QUALITY** – *single agency audit, supervision, Section 11 etc*

- YOW Co-ordinator sits on the Quality and Improvement Committee and has co-ordinates Early Help Implementation under the Children's Trust Board.
- This has proved a trickier area for YOW. Having no control over what individual organisations do, the tasks around quality improvement are more around promoting and encouraging good practice.
- Engagement from VCS in Section 11 audit has been minimal although a number of groups attended the Section 11 online audit tool training in June 2014.
- A range of organisations were identified for encouragement to participate in Section 11 audit and suggestion was made to include Section 11 completion in contracts over a certain amount for VCOs from local statutory organisations – but no action has resulted from either.

**CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT** – *supplying performance data and commentary*

- YOW co-ordinator sits on the Quality and Performance Committee.

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

- Establish a VCS safeguarding forum
  - Promoting VCS involvement in demonstrating their safeguarding effectiveness via Safe Network Standards and Section 11
  - Continuing to develop and build on links with faith groups
  - Improve safeguarding information to the VCS
- Increase the numbers of VCS reps on WSCB committees

**Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

1. Establish a VCS safeguarding forum

One meeting of the Safeguarding Forum was held in Oct 2014, with, no further progress during the reporting year.

2. Promoting VCS involvement in demonstrating their safeguarding effectiveness via Safe Network Standards and Section 11

Development is in its infancy.

3. Continuing to develop and build on links with faith groups

- Lists of faith groups collected.
- Volunteer resource now secured to collate these and update contacts wherever possible. Also to connect Faith Groups up with Wolverhampton Information Network and WVSC's voluntary sector database.
- Agreement on improving faith group engagement has been reached with Inter Faith Wolverhampton – including joint bid to Reaching Communities for Faith group engagement worker.
- Relationships initiated with some Individual Faith groups and collaborations of faith groups.
- Survey of Safeguarding processes in use in Faith Groups was circulated but had a poor response – maybe because relationships aren't good enough yet?

4. Improve safeguarding information to the VCS

- Monthly Safeguarding Updates have been circulated to all VCOs (and circulated within WSCB partner organisations through the Board)
- Feedback from all groups that have mentioned it has been positive.

5. Increase the numbers of VCS reps on WSCB committees

- Because of lack of development of the VCS Safeguarding Forum there have been no new reps for WSCB Cttees.

**In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

1. Establish a VCS safeguarding forum
2. Improve VCS access to key safeguarding training
3. Promoting VCS involvement in demonstrating their safeguarding effectiveness via Safe Network Standards and Section 11
4. Continuing to develop and build on links with faith groups
5. Increase the numbers of VCS reps on WSCB committees





**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

YOW has been an active member of WSCB and of all the Cttees it sits on (Communication & Engagement cttee; Executive cttee; Law, Policy and Procedures cttee; Quality and Performance cttee; and Serious Case Review cttee).

In terms of effectiveness, YOW contributes a perspective which focuses on small groups and contributions to Threshold Document, Development of shared Safeguarding website (slow but now sure)

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| <b>Agency</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Base 25 |
| <p><b>How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?</b></p> <p><b>TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency &amp; multi-agency training.</b> Base 25 has continued to share its expertise through offering its training programme across the city. Base 25 staff has also attended relevant safeguarding training and other relevant training to ensure that staff are up to date with current standards and duties.</p> <p><b>e) POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice.</b> Base 25 continues to review and update its policies to ensure their relevance. All staff and volunteers receive training and briefings around any changes in policy.</p> <p><b>f) COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce.</b> Base 25 has regular meetings to ensure that information is shared. There are also internal electronic systems for effective information sharing purposes.</p> <p><b>g) IMPROVING QUALITY– single agency audit, supervision, Section 11 etc.</b> Base 25 project co-ordinators audit all case closures and cases are reviewed on a regular basis. All staff and volunteers receive the appropriate level of supervision.</p> <p><b>h) CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT– supplying performance data and commentary.</b> Through attending and contributing to EHA, CIN, CP, MASE, CMOG and Serious Case Review meetings Base 25 contributes to various plans.</p> |         |
| <p><b>What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To improve the early identification of young people at risk.</li> <li>2. To increase self-esteem of young people.</li> <li>3. To increase self-confidence and emotional resilience</li> <li>4. To improve young people's ability to make informed decisions</li> <li>5. To increase self-awareness and sense of identity</li> <li>6. To minimise harm to self and others.</li> </ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |         |

### **Achievements against the agreed Objectives:-**

1. To improve the early identification of young people at risk:
  - Increased number of referrals made to projects
  - Increased number of agencies referring to projects (increase in the number of referrals from 'mothers')
  - There has been an increase across the projects with regards to lower risk young people, this demonstrating that young people are being identified at an early stage of intervention. This has also enabled preventative work to be delivered with those identified and where necessary, their siblings.
2. **To increase self-esteem of young people.**
  - Utilising a range of assessment tools, there has been an increase demonstrated in self-esteem with young people accessing the projects. Tools used to measure impact have included: Warwick and Edinburgh Mental Health assessment, Outcome Star, Outcome wheels and various goal setting tools.
3. **To increase self-confidence and emotional resilience**
  - Emerging themes from professionals, parents and young people involved in the projects have included: comments, observations and reflections around perceptions of the young person's level of increase in their confidence and self-esteem and what that looks like:
  - an improved ability to communicate more positively with peers, parents and professionals; Increased involvement in positive activities and an improved ability to manage emotions more effectively.
4. **To improve young people's ability to make informed decisions**
  - Reduction in the risk indicators for young people assessed now making safe/better decisions
  - Parent and/or professional perspective has shown an improvement in the decisions made by young people.
  - Increased knowledge around healthy relationships, staying safe, identifying risk and risky situations, sexual health, around protective behaviours and utilising this knowledge when making decisions.
5. **To increase self-awareness and sense of identity**
  - Through the programmes developed through the projects, concepts of self and identity have been explored at all stages across all of the thematic areas. Young people have been able to locate themselves within the context of their own lives and have demonstrated an awareness of those that have influence on them and how they influence and impact on others. This has also impacted on their confidence, self-esteem and their ability to make decisions. Young people have shown ability to empathise with others and an understanding around their own emotional literacy with regards to how others make them feel.
  - A lot of work developed with young people around de-constructing concepts around negative beliefs and values. Young people have demonstrated an understanding of the realities of negative lifestyle and have identified alternative perspectives on change.
6. **To minimise harm to self and others.**
  - Decrease in the assessed risk factors.

A lot of the thematic work has been delivered around sexual health, exploitation,

grooming, drugs and alcohol misuse, crime, violence and engaging in gang related activity. This has positively impacted on the behaviour choices of the young people involved in the projects. Most have demonstrated a change in attitude and a more confident approach towards staying safe.

#### Case study 1

Young person A was aged 14 and referred to the project by the Youth Offending team due to displaying a number of risk factors. At the point of referral she had been going missing and had been found in London with no explanation of why, she was believed to be in a relationship with a 19 year old male who was known for exploiting underage girls however she denied this relationship. Young person A was not in education and had a negative peer group, she would not engage in the project as she stated she did not need it. The worker had to use an assertive approach and gave her the control of when and where the sessions would take place. She eventually engaged and sessions were delivered over a 6 month period on self-esteem, grooming, healthy relationships, identifying risk and sexual health. As a result of the intervention the young person made a statement to the police as she disclosed CSE. The statement encouraged other young people to come forward and the perpetrator was convicted. Young person A is now in full time education and has had no recent missing episodes and is making positive friendships at school.

#### **In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

To identify and generate new funding for projects

- To continue developing partnerships with other organisations
- To offer more external training opportunities for professionals around the thematic areas of the various projects, to raise awareness and increase referrals

#### **Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

Base 25 continues to support young people in shaping their lives through the early identification of young people at risk and providing projects that offer both prevention and intervention to ensure that children and young people are safeguarded.

## Case Study 2

Sally was referred to SAFE due to displaying abusive behaviour towards mum; she had previously witnessed domestic abuse from dad. Sally was controlling with mum and had previously cut up her clothes due to not wanting her to go out. At the start of the intervention Sally was reluctant to focus on making changes to her behaviour stating, "It works and gets me what I want so why do I need to change." Through the SAFE programme Sally was able to reflect on her own experiences and gain an understanding that her behaviour was learnt from what she had observed from her dad. The worker used a new tool looking at the impact of female to male domestic abuse and the consequences that her behaviour could have on her future relationships as she transitioned into adulthood.

Sally is now at the stage that she is recognising that she needs to make different choices around her negative behaviour. Mum has stated that she has begun to see changes in her daughters behaviour at home and there has been a decrease in her abusive behaviour.

DRAFT

**Agency**

**West Midlands Police**

**Executive Summary**

In June 2014 Her Majesty's Inspector of Constabulary (HMIC) carried out an inspection of the West Midlands Police response to Child Abuse; the report can be found at:

<http://www.justiceinspectorates.gov.uk/hmic/?type=publications&s=&cat=child-protection&force=west-midlands&year=2014>

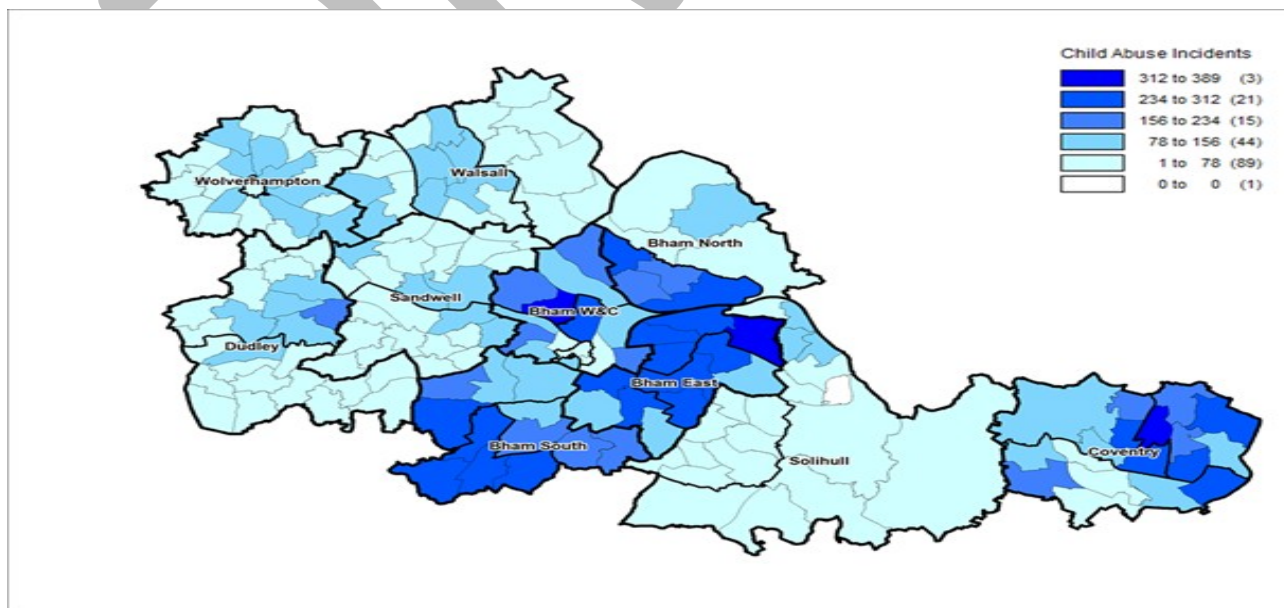
The report made a number of recommendations that were accepted by the force. An action plan was drawn up to address the issues highlighted and the work to improve the service to children in the force has continued. The updated action plan and was presented to Wolverhampton Local Safeguarding Board in February 2015

The report was independent and represents an in depth assessment into child abuse services within the force. It should be noted that the revised force structure for public protection had not been implemented at that time, have commenced implementation in late June 2014, reaching completion in November 2014.

**Emerging Themes**

The increase in cases (crime and 'non-crime' child abuse investigations) that have to be managed and investigated by the Wolverhampton Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) has increased significantly between April 2014 and March 2015, with non – crime incidents concerning children having shown a particular increase to over 65% compared with the previous year.

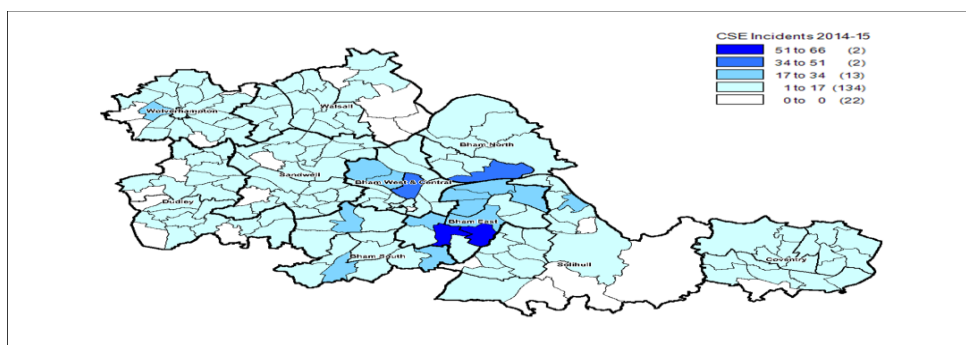
The below graphic shows the number of recorded Child abuse incidents (crimes and non-crimes) across the West Midlands Police area, including Wolverhampton between 1 April 2014 and March 31 2015



Child Sexual Exploitation cases are continuing to increase; the improved focus of all

partner agencies in this area of child abuse is leading to the early identification of victims and offenders. As a result in Wolverhampton the workload for the police CSE Coordinator has increased significantly and with it the demand from local policing colleagues and partnership teams.

The below graphic shows the number of recorded CSE incidents (crimes and non-crimes) across the West Midlands Police area, including Wolverhampton between 1 April 2014 and March 31 2015



The structure and governance for the Wolverhampton child sexual exploitation and missing group (CMOG) from a police perspective has continued to develop and improve; the volume of cases is a challenge in terms of being able to progress actions and to obtain effective updates however the excellent relationships within the CMOG and the commitment by all agencies has ensured that each child has a robust and appropriate plan in place, updates are provided by partners at each meeting and outcomes are being tracked..

### **Challenges**

The level of resource required to review, manage and complete investigations within the child abuse investigation arena is significant.

West Midlands Police are also committed to the introduction of a multi-agency safeguarding hub for children in Wolverhampton (MASH) and to developing enhanced structures around bringing offenders to justice for CSE.

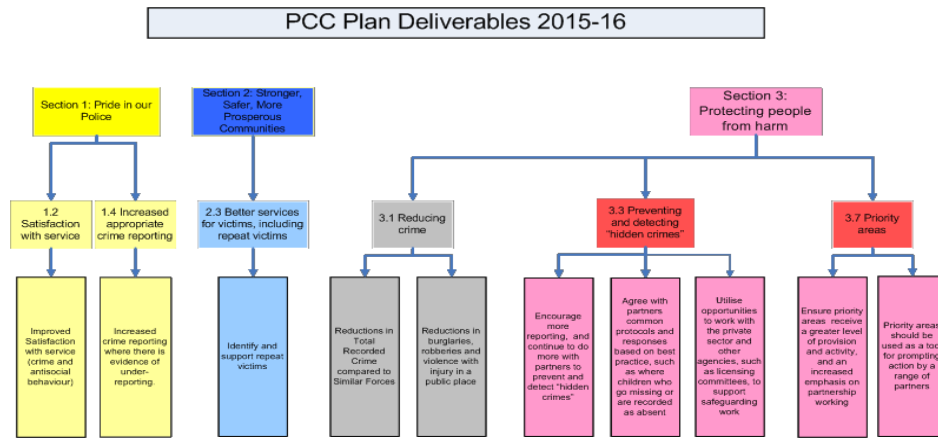
These present significant resourcing challenges which will continue to be kept under review to ensure that we are meeting the increasing demands for service in these critical areas.

West Midlands Police is still facing considerable funding reductions over the next five years and the imperative to identify a sustainable resourcing model is clear; therefore the need to work closely with partners to improve the early identification of risk and 'need' is vital to ultimately reducing the demand and volume of cases that present a greater risk.

The challenge facing West Midlands Police financially over the next five years equates to saving £25 million per year; to this end the force has developed a programme to redesign the organisation (Policing 2020).

The Policing and Crime Plan developed and implemented by the Chief Constable and the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) sets out the force priorities; this clearly reflects

the commitment of West Midlands Police to tackle crime against the vulnerable, reach all communities and tackle 'hidden crime' and is as follows:



## **TRAINING**

The force has invested heavily in a structured learning and development training plan for all areas of vulnerability; this programme has now been delivered to the vast majority of operational 'front-line' police officers and supervisors.

All dedicated child abuse investigators are either experienced, trained detectives or are working towards detective status on the nationally accredited ICIDP (investigative training) programme

All CAIT officers attend the specialist child abuse investigators course (SCADIP) and supervisors the responding to child death course

All local policing officers and child abuse specialists have been given specific training on key areas of child abuse, including ensuring that the voice of every child is captured and put at the heart of our decision making, that children who are impacted on by domestic incidents are identified and referred for joint agency discussion and appropriate response, that appropriate processes used to capture evidence from children are utilised and specially trained officers deployed and that indicators of CSE are identified and referrals made accordingly.

West Midlands Police have a structure for bringing together Sergeants and Inspectors to discuss the findings of multi and police only reviews and examples of good and poor practice; this supports the development of teams.

West Midlands Police have delivered a training package to all frontline police officers (constable and sergeant level) to improve their knowledge and awareness of child safeguarding within the broader context of vulnerability.

In addition the force has developed an awareness package supported by an 'Aide Memoire' titled 'Improving our services to children'; this was developed to address the need to improve practice and recording information obtained by police officers from their interaction with children. This has been delivered by local policing senior leaders to their teams so that the commitment of local police leaders is clearly heard by frontline officers.

West Midlands Police will seek to increase the level of multi-agency training for police officers and staff within the MASH and those who require training around Strengthening Families.

Police Officers are also required to complete 'E-learning' packages that are provided through the National Centre for Applied Learning technologies (NCALT) system.

### **POLICY AND PROCEDURES**

Following a review of investigative structures and processes across the force area introduced in June 2014, there are now 153 constables dedicated to local Child abuse investigations across the force, made up of 7 teams each covering a local authority area, including Wolverhampton. These are supported by a central online child sexual exploitation team (14 constables), the central CSE team (15 constables) and a central referral unit into which all referrals from partners regarding potential child protection issues are received and initially assessed before being forwarded to local CAIT for further action / strategy discussion and section 47 activity (joint agency response with children's services)

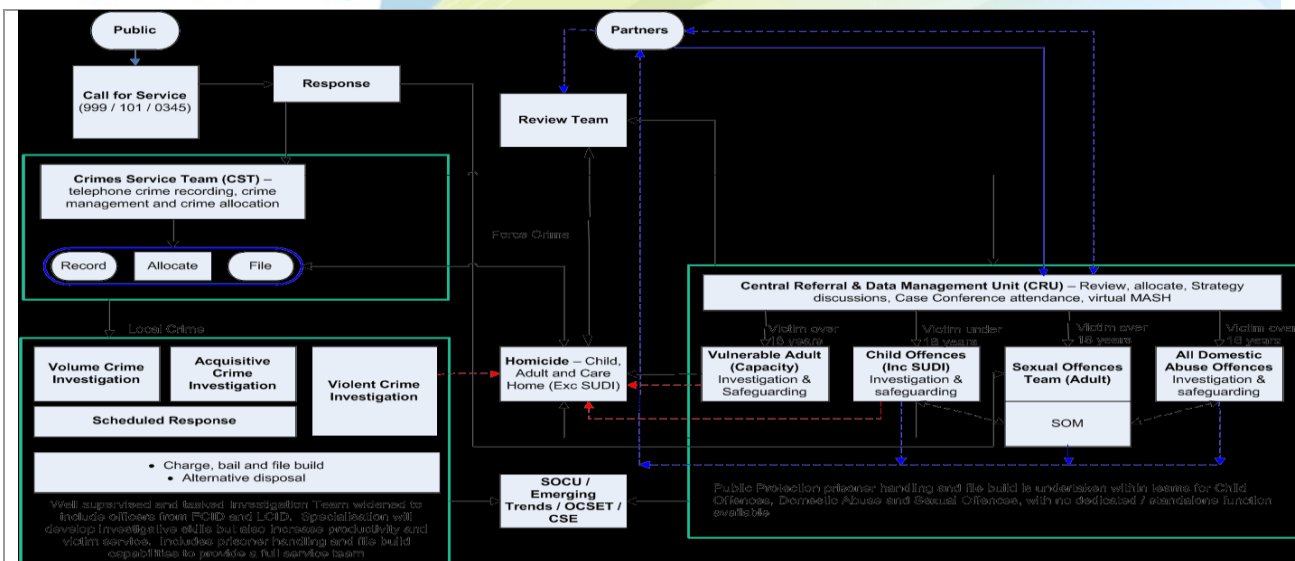
Local CAITs manage all investigations into sexual abuse of a child under 18, all neglect, physical and emotional abuse of a child under 18 where offender is inter familial, in a position of trust or by someone with responsibility for the child, all HBV, FGM, FM on a child under 18 and all SUDI and SUDC's (sudden, unanticipated death of an infant under 2(SUDI) or a child aged 2-18 (SUDC). This includes all CSE investigations with the exception of the most critical, complex and voluminous CSE investigations which are managed by the Central CSE team and allocated via force tasking processes

To support this change in the structure and processes for managing investigations across the West Midlands, clear and detailed operating principles and service documents have been developed for every team and officer working within Child Abuse which are accessible on the force intranet page.

There is a trained child abuse manager on duty between 8x4 every week day and on call from 4pm each night and at weekends. Standard operating principles have been developed determining the roles and responsibilities of all officers within child abuse, including on call functions.

The following diagram details the process for responding to and investigating child abuse / child protection issues by West Midlands Police:





WMP has fully implanted the regional framework for CSE, including the CSE risk assessment and screening tools, each CAIT DI chairing the local authority CSE and Missing multi agency operational groups and the police CSE coordinator attending each multi agency sexual exploitation (MASE) meeting.

### **COMMUNICATION**

West Midlands Police have a comprehensive internal and external communications strategy which incorporates the West Midlands Police website ([www.west-midlands.police.uk](http://www.west-midlands.police.uk)) that not only provides the public with general information regarding organisational communication and information, but includes hyperlinks to local geographic areas, including Wolverhampton Local Policing Unit (LPU) so that localised, specific information on information and police contacts unique to Wolverhampton can be assessed 24 hours a day.

West Midlands Police utilises social media opportunities to communicate with and engage our local communities both at a force and local level, including each of the neighbourhood teams in Wolverhampton having Twitter pages which daily tweet updates and local information (plus an overarching LPU twitter feed @wolvespolice and the LPU Senior Leadership team, @fraser9529wmp)), the Wolverhampton Police Facebook site ( which currently has over 5000 'likes'), a Flickr and a Wolverhampton Police YouTube presence.

All West Midlands Police officers and staff have a personal email account that can receive and send internal and external email correspondence, we have a West Midlands Police intranet site which communicates force issues and information to staff, supported by a dedicated Wolverhampton LPU and PPU intranet sites where further local and Child Abuse specific information is made available to all staff.

West Midlands Police produce a daily e-bulletin called 'Newsbeat' which disseminates to all police employees daily key information, good news and updates on policy, processes and organisational structures.

Within the PPU a dedicated PPU specific newsletter is also regularly produced and made



available to all staff.

These 'electronic' communication opportunities are supported by public and partnership meetings and communication forums (further details of which can be found on the local police webpage and LSCB site), daily team briefings and a structured 'team talk' programme whereby senior managers deliver awareness raising and discussions around key topics.

### **IMPROVING QUALITY**

West Midlands Police completes Section 11 audits for all 7 Local Authority areas, including Wolverhampton.

We are active participants in the schedule of multi – agency audits co-ordinated by the LSCB and support this with an internal programme of audit and lessons learnt within the organisation both at LPU and PPU level.

In response to the findings from HMIC and as part of our 'next steps' plans to continue to improve the service we are delivering to children, West Midland Police is seeking to strengthen its audit processes and invest in a small dedicated team of officers who will undertake regular, structured single agency audits determined by identified areas of risk and requirements that will feed into our bi – monthly Service Improvement meeting structure and allow us to conduct comprehensive analysis and develop action plans around where we can improve our service to children and vulnerable people.

### **CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT**

Following the restructure of investigative functions an updated data set around performance management has been developed.

This provides a range of criminal justice and staffing information (including outcomes from calls for service, reported crimes, vacancy rates, outstanding suspects and timeliness of investigations).

Each LPU has monthly performance meetings where this data is considered alongside other management information (such as response times, training information) and good practice / opportunities to improve and barriers to service identified.

As referenced above, the PPU are committed to strengthening their internal audit and data management team and recognise that this is an area for development going forward, with a clear focus on agreeing consistent and appropriate data sets with all LSCBs and ensuring that we provide timely and accurate data to partners to support a fully informed and cohesive partnership approach to improving our service to children in the future

### **Contribution to the LSCB and sub committees**

West Midlands Police is an active contributor to the LSCB and its committees and is equally held to account by the board.

Each LSCB meeting is attended by the Chief Superintendent of Wolverhampton LPU) and the DCI responsible for all Child Abuse investigations across the city.

The DCI leads on Priority area 3 for the board and is the chair of the LSCB SEMT Committee, with the DI for Child Abuse chairing the CMOG.

The DCI also sits on the Wolverhampton LSCB Chief executive group and Serious Case



Review committee with the DI being a member of the Child Death Overview panel.

West Midlands Police do not provide representation for the Quality, Performance, Communications, Learning and Development sub committees of the Wolverhampton board, however attendance and commitment to the work of the LSCB is strong and energetic and informed contributions (and challenges) to all business areas made through those and virtual forums.

Moving forward, West Midlands Police remains committed to the introduction of a Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub and provides the post of Vice Chair to the strategic group overseeing the development and implementation of a MASH in Wolverhampton and is a member of the Operational group designing the agreed model.

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                    |
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| Agency                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Wolverhampton City Council: Children's Social Care |
| <p><b>How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?</b></p> <p><b>TRAINING - Promoting, delivering and evaluating single agency &amp; multi-agency training</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Basic Awareness – Neglect</u>: including two train the trainer's workshops to agree what the single agency training should consist of.</li> <li>• <u>Learning lessons from Serious Case Reviews and Audit</u>: A series of 6 briefings were held in December 2014/January 2015</li> <li>• <u>The WSCB Multi-agency training programme</u>: Supporting the delivery of training to ensure that the workforce maintain appropriately updated on their knowledge in respect of legislative changes; new guidance and local policies and procedures.</li> <li>• <u>Induction</u> - A number of e-learning modules have been developed and incorporated into the Councils Induction Programme to ensure that all employees irrespective of the Directorate understand their personal responsibilities to ensure children and young people are safeguarded; including what to do if they believe a child is vulnerable to child sexual exploitation. These e-learning modules are also available for Councillors to complete.</li> <li>• Social Workers have had single agency training opportunities and trained in the use of the Home Inventory (Child and Family Training) –They were also trained in Safeguarding Children: Assessment and Analysis Framework (SAAF) –</li> </ul> <p><b>POLICY AND PROCEDURES – embedding policy and procedure in practice</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>WSCB CSE Toolkit</u> –Work was undertaken jointly with the West Midlands Police Constabulary PPU to agree the processes to be followed by the Police, Children's Social Care and the Safeguarding Service to ensure that children vulnerable to Child</li> </ul> |                                                    |

Sexual Exploitation were appropriately supported.

- Children Social Care Policies and Procedures – local policies and procedures are aligned with WSCB procedures; which are referenced to ensure front-line staff are working in accordance with the WSCB Inter-agency Child Protection and Safeguarding Procedures. All staff are notified of new procedures as these have been authorised for publication by the Service Director (Children, Young People and Families); and case file audits undertaken by the local authority consider whether policies and procedures are being adhered to. The Children Social Care, Policy Officer is a member of the WSCB Law, Policy and Procedures committee to ensure consistency.
- Safeguarding Guidance for Councillors – This guidance is reviewed annually and briefings are offered to new Councillors as required; to ensure they are cognisant of their safeguarding and corporate parenting responsibilities.

**COMMUNICATION – sharing all relevant information with the workforce**

- Safeguarding Newsletter – The Safeguarding and Quality Service publishes a newsletter which is circulated to staff across the People Directorate.
- Children's Social Care – A quarterly newsletter is published and circulated to staff across the Children's workforce.
- Safeguarding Newsletter; compiled on a monthly basis by the Voluntary Sector Representative, is disseminates to all WSCB partners of both adults and children workforce, including Council employees.
- The Lead Member for Children, Young People and Families meets weekly with the Strategic Director (People) and Service Director (Children and Young People); which promotes robust scrutiny and challenge.
- Safeguarding Challenge Meetings are undertaken with the Lead Member, Managing Director and Leader of the Council quarterly with a focus on performance management information and safeguarding; to examine the effectiveness of service provision. The Council has a good understanding of its corporate responsibilities in regards to ensuring children are effectively safeguarded and their welfare promoted. To support Councillors the guidance in respect of their duties and responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children, young people and adults 'at risk or in need of protection' has been updated.

**IMPROVING QUALITY– single agency audit, supervision, Section 11 etc**

- Case File Audits – These have been undertaken by the Children's Social Care Management Team (including the Managing Director and Strategic Director – People) on a monthly basis. Learning from audits has been discussed at the quarterly cross-service Safeguarding Meetings to ensure learning is disseminated as widely as possible and recommendations from audit have been addressed through the development of service related actions plans. Findings from audit have contributed to the Workforce Development Programme for Social Workers and Managers.
- Health Check – the local authority is required to undertake an annual 'health check' of the organisation on a range of issues affecting the workload of social workers and to support the implementation of a set of national standards for employers and a supervision framework for practitioners. The framework identifies five key topics and

areas that require improvement; as follows:

- Effective Workload Management
- Pro-active Workflow Management
- Having the Right Tools to Do the Job
- A Healthy Workplace
- Effective Service Delivery

The Annual Health Check Report 2014/15 for both Children's and Adults Social Care Services will be submitted to the People Directorate Social Work Development Board.

- Dip Sample Audits – In addition to the monthly Case File Audits; the Head of Service for Children in Need of Help and Protection; and the Head of Service for Looked After Children have undertaken a number of dip sample audits to ensure that changes in policy/practice directly arising from the 'monthly' audits has been embedded across Children's Social Care services.
- Supervision – Whilst supervision audits have been undertaken; these have not resulted in consolidation of learning across Children's Social Care. It has been recognised that this is an area of management oversight which requires strengthening and work will be undertaken during 2015/16 to develop a 'Competence Based Supervision and Appraisal Policy' which will include the use of reflective practice; and a report is scheduled to be submitted to the People Directorate Social Work Development Board in 2015.
- Multi-Agency Case File Audit – The WSCB undertakes quarterly multi-agency case file audits; and this process is actively supported by Children's Social Care.

#### **What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

- In order to achieve these priorities senior managers have continued to examine how to:
  - Do things differently for less
  - Manage affordable demand
  - Shift the balance of care
  - Ensure the 'Home First' principle is embedded
  - Ensure personalised approaches are embraced and services reshaped to support Asset based working
- Develop and embed whole system, corporate and integrated approaches with partners
- Further stimulate innovation and creativity
- Ensure those we serve continue to be at the heart of everything we do

There is a genuine commitment within Wolverhampton to promoting early intervention work ensuring children and families get access to early help.

### **Achievements against the above Objectives :-**

- During 2014/15 the People Directorate achievements included:
  - Implementation of new operating model integrating early help
  - Families are First programme
  - Decrease in numbers of Looked After Children
  - Transfer of Families in Focus programme into Early Help
  - DCLG funding
- The service was re-structured to align early help services and those of Children's Social Care across the City. This resulted in the creation of 18 Social Work Units, which are co-located with early help services and Health Visitors in Children and Family Support Centres.

### **In relation to safeguarding children, what are your priorities/objectives for 2015/16**

- The City Strategy outlines a shared partnership vision for Wolverhampton and its goal of 'prosperity for all' will be achieved through the close collaboration of partners in: encouraging enterprise; empowering people and communities and re-invigorating the city. A shared commitment to undertake early intervention and prevention is one of the five priorities within its 'empowering people and communities' theme.
- Wolverhampton's Corporate Plan confirms the Council's commitment to vulnerable families; and sets out the way in which the Council intends to develop and improve its services. It focuses on a combination of those issues that matter the most to local people, the national priorities set by Central Government and the unique challenges arising from the changing social, economic and environmental contexts.
- Strengthening Families Where Children are at Risk is the principle objective of the Children and Young People's Service for 2015/16 and aims to ensure effective early help and support is provided to vulnerable families at the earliest point possible. This is underpinned by a number of policies and strategies which support the strengthening families' agenda:
  - Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015-2025
  - Wolverhampton Youth Justice Board Plan
  - Early Help Plan 2015-2018
  - Looked After Children Sufficiency Strategy 2014-2017

**People** Stronger Communities

**Objective: Strengthening Families Where Children are at Risk**

Accountable Officer: **Service Director for Children and Young People**

**Why is this important to Wolverhampton?**

Targeting effective early help and support to vulnerable families at the earliest point works. It will strengthen families, keep children and young people safe and improve their life chances.

**What are our key policies and strategies?**

There are a number of key policies and strategies which support strengthening families

- Children, Young People and Families Plan 2015-2025
- Wolverhampton Youth Justice Board Plan
- Early Help Plan 2015-2018
- Looked After Children Sufficiency Strategy 2014-2017

For information about our policies and strategies, please visit our Policy Library.

**What will we do to achieve this?**

| Action Description                                                                           | Lead Officer                                                         |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| • Working together to keep children safely in stable families.                               | Service Director for Children and Young People                       |
| • Ensure services are targeted at the right level, to the right families, at the right time. | Service Director for Children and Young People                       |
| • Working with the whole family to demonstrate and achieve positive sustained change.        | Head of Early Help 0-5 Year-olds / Head of Early Help 5-18 Year-olds |
| • Ensure families get swift and co-ordinated access to the right services.                   | Service Director for Children and Young People                       |

- Improve the engagement and achievement of young offenders and care leavers in education, training and employment. Head of Youth Offending / Head of Looked After Children
- Deliver quality services through ensuring we have a stable, skilled and effective workforce Strategic Director for Children and Young People

**How will we monitor our progress?**

| Measured by:                                                                                                 | 2015/16 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| • a) Number of families whose situation has improved as a result of targeted family support.                 |         |
| • b) Proportion of which have been as a result of the Families in Focus Programme.                           |         |
| • Percentage of young offenders and care leavers engaged/ not engaged in education, training and employment. |         |
| • Engagement with the most deprived children in the city.                                                    | 67%     |
| • Number and Rate of Looked After Children per 10,000 population.                                            |         |

As part of the Service Transformation Phase 2, the Local Authority has engaged iMPower Consultancy Service to undertake a short term piece of work with Wolverhampton, funded through the LGA. iMPower's findings has resulted in a decision being made that the Council should establish an Edge of Care Service as a matter of priority due to the continued challenge it faces in relation to the numbers of children who are looked after. It is recognised that there is a need for a high quality, responsive support for families in crisis and the development of the Edge of Care Service is geared to address this gap in provision.

The current service structure for Early Help Services of a 0-5 and 5-18 service areas will as a consequence require transformation such that the proposal is for Early Help Services 0-18 to be bought under the management of a single Head of Service and the Edge of Care Service being the responsibility of a second Head of Service. All of these developments are part of a whole system review and the specific details of what the service will look like going forward will be defined over coming months.

|               |                      |
|---------------|----------------------|
| <b>Agency</b> | Youth Offending Team |
|---------------|----------------------|

**How does your agency demonstrate its commitment to safeguarding children and the work of the Board in relation to the following areas?**

**TRAINING –**

Over the last year, the YOT has actively sought opportunities to train staff in Safeguarding specific issues on a multiagency basis. Key training provided included: Learning from SCRs., PREVENT training, Risk and vulnerability management training, Information sessions re MASE. The YOT has also participated in the mandatory WCC training.

**POLICY AND PROCEDURES –**

The YOT has redesigned its Risk and Vulnerability Strategy to ensure it is fit for current purpose and it embraces current issues such as PREVENT, MASE and other procedures. All staff have been trained in respect of this policy.

**COMMUNICATION**

YOT awaydays have been utilised to share all relevant information with the workforce along with other meetings such as case managers, YOT officers etc.

IMPROVING QUALITY– the YOT has undertaken a number of audits over the last year relating to a sample caseload. Learning is embedded by staff sharing in the audit process and being sighted on the findings which are followed up in supervision.

The YOT also has in place an active Section 11 audit.

All YOT Court and Panel reports are gate kept to ensure standards are maintained and Safeguarding issues are to the fore.

**CONTRIBUTING TO PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT–** the YOT supplies regular returns to the YJB , CYP, and SWP in respect of current performance. Current National Standards audit relates to victims and prevention services.

**What were the agreed safeguarding objectives for 2014/15?**

Our main objective for 14/15 was to ensure that our risk and vulnerability policy and procedures was modernised and embedded in the work of the YOT and that has been achieved. Two of the YOT management team were trained as PREVENT trainers. The YOT is working to embed MASE procedures as part of our mainstream work. The YOT is an active partner in WSCB committees.

**Provide a statement on the effectiveness of the contribution made by your organisation/service to the Board and/or its committees?**

In a climate of reducing resources, the YOT strives to be an active WSCB member and contribute to the development of Safeguarding children. The YOT is active in the development of the MASH.



## Acronyms Explained

|                  |                                                      |
|------------------|------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>A &amp; E</b> | Accident & Emergency                                 |
| <b>BCPFT</b>     | Black Country Partnership Foundation Trust           |
| <b>BME</b>       | Black and Minority Ethnic                            |
| <b>CAFCASS</b>   | Children and Families Court Advisory Support Service |
| <b>CDOP</b>      | Child Death Overview Panel                           |
| <b>CP</b>        | Child Protection                                     |
| <b>CPP</b>       | Child Protection Plan                                |
| <b>CiN</b>       | Child in Need                                        |
| <b>CMOG</b>      | Child Missing Operational Group                      |
| <b>CP-IS</b>     | Child Protection Information Sharing                 |
| <b>CRH</b>       | Central Referral Hub                                 |
| <b>CRU</b>       | Central Referral Unit                                |
| <b>CSE</b>       | Child Sexual Exploitation                            |
| <b>CTB</b>       | Children's Trust Board                               |
| <b>CYPS</b>      | Children and Young People's Services                 |
| <b>DFE</b>       | Department for Education                             |
| <b>DHR</b>       | Domestic Homicide Review                             |
| <b>FGM</b>       | Female Genital Mutilation                            |
| <b>FM</b>        | Intensive Surveillance and Supervision'              |
| <b>HWBB</b>      | Forced Marriage                                      |
| <b>IRO</b>       | Health and Well-Being Board                          |
| <b>IMR</b>       | Independent Review Officer                           |
| <b>ISS</b>       | Independent Management Review                        |
| <b>JSCG</b>      | Joint Safeguarding Children Group                    |
| <b>LAC</b>       | Looked After Children                                |
| <b>LADO</b>      | Local Authority Designated Officer (Allegations)     |
| <b>LSCB</b>      | Local Safeguarding Children Board                    |
| <b>LSOA</b>      | Local Super Output Areas                             |
| <b>MARAC</b>     | Multi-agency Risk Assessment Conference              |
| <b>MACFA</b>     | Multi-agency Case File Audit                         |
| <b>MASE</b>      | Multi-agency Sexual Exploitation Meeting             |
| <b>POT</b>       | Position of Trust Meeting                            |
| <b>PPU</b>       | Public Protection Unit                               |
| <b>RWT</b>       | Royal Wolverhampton Trust                            |
| <b>SWP</b>       | Safer Wolverhampton Partnership                      |
| <b>SCR</b>       | Serious Case Review                                  |
| <b>SEN</b>       | Special Education Need                               |
| <b>SEMT</b>      | Sexual Exploitation, Missing and Trafficked          |
| <b>SWMPT</b>     | Staffordshire & West Midlands Probation Trust        |
| <b>VAWG</b>      | Violence Against Women & Girls                       |
| <b>VCO</b>       | Voluntary & Community Organisations                  |
| <b>WCC</b>       | Wolverhampton City Council                           |
| <b>WDVF</b>      | Wolverhampton Domestic Violence Forum                |
| <b>WIFRN</b>     | Wolverhampton Inter-Faith & Regeneration Network     |
| <b>WMP</b>       | West Midlands Police                                 |
| <b>WSAB</b>      | Wolverhampton Safeguarding Adults Board              |
| <b>WSCB</b>      | Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board            |
| <b>YOT</b>       | Youth Offending Team                                 |
|                  | Youth Organisations Wolverhampton                    |

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**WOLVERHAMPTON SAFEGUARDING  
CHILDREN BOARD  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2014 -2015**

**Executive  
Summary**

This executive summary highlights some of the work undertaken by the Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board during 2014/15. It describes the Board's structure, activity and highlights the key progress achieved against the priorities for the reporting period.

The annual report provides an analysis of the effectiveness of the Board and reflects on the activities and best approaches to ensure constant improvement.

There have been many developments and achievements during this reporting period, with this, it is hoped that you will find the annual report interesting and useful and urge you to share it far and wide so that more and more people become aware of who we are, what we do and, critically, speak to us about how we can improve the lives of our children. For a copy of the full annual report; please contact 01902 550645 or visit our website: [www.wolvesscb.org.uk](http://www.wolvesscb.org.uk)

In Wolverhampton, we advocate that Safeguarding is Everyone's Responsibility, this is the case whether you are a professional, a parent, a volunteer or none of those we all have a responsibility to ensure that children have the best possible start in life, growing up happy, healthy, safe and have the opportunity to access the right level of service and support, at the right time, to be able to achieve their full potential. The job of the Board is to ensure that the efforts of those agencies and groups who have contact with children work individually and collectively to ensure that children are helped, supported and protected.



Wolverhampton is the home town to approximately 56,353 children and young people under the age of 18 years, or approximately 20% of the total population in the area.

The annual report details the Boards role and function to safeguarding children in line with Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 which required each local authority area to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB); it also specifies the organisations and individuals that should be represented on the LSCBs. The membership of Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children Board (WSCB) complies with this requirement. Information relating to the Boards membership can be found within the appendices of the full report.

LSCB's have a range of roles and statutory functions, for the purpose of this years' annual report, the full objectives, role and functions are outline in the statutory guidance; Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013).

The current business priorities covering a three year period (2013-2016) were agreed by members' at the annual development day 2013 to help drive improvements against the core functions and requirements of the Board. These support the key objectives of the Business Plan priorities and themes which offers the underpinning framework for the work throughout this period

On the basis of all of the above, the work of the Board is informed by a set of clear priorities that is underpinned by an up to date and well-structured Business Plan.

Full information on progress against the strategic priorities can be found in the full report.

**The Board's Objective and Business themes for 2014 – 16 are:-**

|          | <b>PRIORITY AREA</b>                                                      | <b>PRIORITY LEAD</b>                                                   | <b>ACTIVITY</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|----------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE</b>                                               | <b>E. Bennett</b><br>Service Director Children and Young People - WCC. | We will develop the capacity of WSCB and its infrastructure to effectively deliver the core functions of the Board to help keep children and young people in Wolverhampton safe.                                                          |
| <b>2</b> | <b>FRONT-LINE DELIVERY AND THE IMPACT OF SAFEGUARDING</b>                 | <b>M. Garcha</b><br>CCG EXECUTIVE LEAD NURSE                           | We will develop challenging and rigorous approaches to monitoring and evaluating the impact of services on safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children & young people; and will hold partners to account.                          |
| <b>3</b> | <b>SAFEGUARDING FOR PARTICULAR VULNERABLE CHILDREN &amp; YOUNG PEOPLE</b> | <b>M. Kerr</b><br>WMP: DCI – PPU                                       | We will ensure that everything we do promotes improved practice to help safeguard and meet the needs of those children and young people who are particularly vulnerable, or are at increased risk of harm and improves outcomes for them. |
| <b>4</b> | <b>COMMUNICATE &amp; ENGAGE</b>                                           | <b>S. Dodd</b><br>PROJECT COORDINATOR - YOW                            | We will ensure that we engage children, young people, families and communities of all backgrounds and make up, in the work of WSCB.                                                                                                       |

The combined work of the Board is shaped from the WSCB Business Plan and the delivery against each area is driven by Committees, and/or Task & Finish Groups.

## PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE WSCB PRIORITIES DURING 2014-2015

### PRIORITY AREA: **EFFECTIVE GOVERNANCE**

PRIORITY LEAD: **E. Bennett**; Service Director Children and Young People – WCC.

- Regularly monitored the appropriateness of representation of the Board and its Committees
- Increased the influence of the Board by strengthening relationships with other key strategic groups, e.g. the Health & Wellbeing Board and the Adult Safeguarding Board, Children Trust Board
- Established a Head-teachers Safeguarding Committee to drive forward and strengthen communication in relation to keeping children safe in educational establishments.
- Increase the funding stream to the Board to ensure there is capacity to deliver its core functions.
- Routinely reviewed the work of all Committees to ensure this is being effectively undertaken and where applicable influencing practice
- Reviewed the membership and Terms of Reference for each Committee
- Monitor the activities of the Boards Business Plan
- Introduced and monitor the Board's Risk Register

### PRIORITY AREA: **FRONT-LINE DELIVERY AND THE IMPACT OF SAFEGUARDING**

PRIORITY LEAD: **M. Garcha**- CCG EXECUTIVE LEAD NURSE

#### **Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)**

During 2014/15, 19 children died in our area, the CDOP reviewed each circumstance to identify any issues that could require a Serious Case Review (SCR); any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area; or any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in the area; and make specific recommendation to the Board.

### **Serious Case Review**

During 2014-15, 9 cases were brought to the attention of the SCRC. These cases were purely Wolverhampton children, one of which met the criteria for a serious case review. There is a delay in publication that is due to pending court proceedings. But we have not delayed responding, as the committee has ensured that actions from this SCR are being implemented across all the relevant partner agencies.

### **Quality and Performance Functions**

Quality of Performance has been a key priority for 2014/15. The Committee have throughout the year reviewed and scrutinised child protection activity performance data. Through the development of a more effective multi-agency dataset the Committee has provided written reports at each Board meeting on the analysis of data around safeguarding children.

The dataset has also been significantly improved during the year to a more multi agency tool to give the Board a picture of whether activities are making any differences to safeguard children and to adequately alert the Board of any risks in the system. Other subject areas monitored and reported on through this Committee; includes **Section 11 Audits, Private Fostering, and Management of Allegations.**

This Committee has also led on 3 Multi-Agency Case File Audits (MACFA) over the year. The themes; **Children Missing, Self Harm and Adolescent Neglect**, are summarised and findings disseminated through the partnership to frontline staff. Some of the findings from these exercises offered the assurance that practice was generally effective, there was evidence of good engagement from relevant agencies and that plans led to change in families and improvement in children's lives.

Whilst progress has been made in respect of the Quality and Performance functions of the Board, this area remains under further improvements for the Board.

### **Learning & Development Activities**

Through this Committee there has been a consistent multi-agency programme of training that:

- Is informed by the Board's Learning and Improvement Framework,
- Is relevant to core business and priorities of WSCB



- Is aligned to statutory guidance, best practice and lessons learnt through the full range of reviews and audits undertaken by WSCB.

### **Highlight and feedback on WSCB training:**

- Safer Recruitment training, including a recently devised refresher course remains popular.
- The demand for the 'Working Practices; Roles and Responsibilities training was in high demand with positive feedback. It will be necessary to increase the number of courses going forward in to 2015/16.

The most popular statements recorded over the year includes:

- increased confidence,
- improved skills
- much better informed on the knowledge base of each course;
- understood what this means for them in practice, and
- more confident that they would be better able to keep children and young safe as a result of the attending courses.

We held a conference with the Safeguarding Adults Board to raise awareness of Forced Marriage and Honour Based Violence

### **Going forward, the Committee intends to:**

- further embed the WSCB's Learning and improvement Framework.
- Develop and implement of a single agency training endorsement and validation scheme to ensure the Board is fulfilling its responsibilities for quality assuring training in compliance with 'Working Together 2013'.

### **Law, Policies and Procedures**

To support the Board in ensuring that safeguarding practice keeps abreast of new developments, during 2014-2015 this Committee have reviewed, revised, devised and published policies, procedures and practice guidance in relation to:

- Children missing from home and care,
- Self Harm Protocol,

- Sexual Exploitation, Missing and Trafficked (SEMT) strategic process, Child Sexual Exploitation induction programme, Multi agency sexual exploitation (MASE) meetings; and Child Missing Operational Group (CMOG) processes.
- Unborn Baby pathway for intervention
- Supporting Children and young people vulnerable to violent extremism strategy
- Cross Border Child Protection guidance under 'Hague Convention
- Safeguards for children who may be affected by gang activity
- Threshold for support practice guidance
- Escalation Policy; and
- Information Sharing Agreement which all member agencies have now endorsed has been developed to strengthen communication between the WSCB partners

**Going forward**, the LPPC will:

- ❖ To continue to scrutinise and localise all Board policy and procedural guidance to increase the support of local practice
- ❖ Maintain a close eye on new ways of working alongside the introduction of 'early help' support services and the associated 'new operating model', and ensure practice guidance, policies, procedures and protocols are revised accordingly.

**PRIORITY AREA: SAFEGUARDING FOR PARTICULAR VULNERABLE CHILDREN & YOUNG PEOPLE**

**PRIORITY LEAD: M. Kerr;** DCI West Midlands Police

### **Sexual Exploited, Missing and Trafficked (SEMT)**

The WSCB SEMT Committee is a multi-agency partnership with a remit and duty to safeguard children and young who may be at increased vulnerability from sexual exploitation, missing episodes and trafficking in accordance with the policies, procedures and guidance outlined in local and national guidance and that of (WSCB).

SEMT Committee has been tasked with ensuring that:

- children who are victims of, or at risk of CSE have their needs addressed and are effectively protected.
- There is increased understanding of the situation relating to Child Sexual Exploitation within Wolverhampton, and across the region.
- information is appropriately shared regarding potential offenders and victims of particular vulnerable groups, and
- effective action plans are in place to protect the potential or actual victim from further harm.
- This Committee also has oversight responsibility for CMOG and MASE activities.
- Progressed work in supporting the identification, assessment and safeguarding intervention of children at risk of **sexual exploitation** through the establishment of the tailored Multi-Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings

### **Achievements for 2014/15**

- obtained funding for a Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Co-ordinator
- Introduced Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation meetings for every child identified as at risk of CSE
- Embedded Regional CSE framework fully in Wolverhampton
- Developed and published a CSE Induction /Awareness pack
- Completed CSE multi-agency audit in January 2015
- Developed and delivered a multi-agency CSE training course
- Identified and implemented screening tool for CSE victims;
- Reviewed national guidance, reports and inspections to benchmark and improve practice in Wolverhampton
- Ensured every child is invited to participate in the multi-agency discussion around their needs.

**PRIORITY AREA: COMMUNICATE & ENGAGE**

**PRIORITY LEAD: S.DODD ; PROJECT COORDINATOR - YOW**

**The Communication and Engagement Committee (C&EC), has a dual function to support both the Children and Adults Safeguarding Boards to:**

Improve communication to the workforces of partner agencies

- Develop city-wide communication channels (websites, social media, press coverage, leaflets posters)
- Develop constructive and mutually respectful relationships with communities; making sure that equality and diversity is appropriately considered in all communication and engagement activity.
- Liaise and collaborate with WSCB and WSAB, relevant committees, partnership forums and service users in the above activities
- Promoted awareness of **Private Fostering** which has helped ensure that more privately fostered children and young people can be identified and supported

Oversee the activities of the B-Safe Team who this year has:

- Recruited, train and establish a dedicated group of young people as the first B-Safe Junior Safeguarding Board.
- Facilitated regular meetings and activities for the new Team, to include a combination of awareness of key safeguarding issues, training and consultation.
- Created and maintain a dedicated web presence for the B-Safe Team, including the use of social media as a communication channel to raise awareness of the Team and its activities.
- Employed a dedicated B-Safe Team coordinator
- Focused much of its attention on tackling bullying and online safety, coinciding with the national awareness days.
- Created a avenue of opportunities for the B-Safe Team to attend and report to the Board and vice-versa.

### **Summary of Challenges for 2014/15**

In summarising, the Board can evidence that progress is being made, equally, we recognise that we have a number of challenges, these include:

We anticipate our challenges for the coming year include the following:

- To maintain the momentum in developing closer partnership working with other partnership/strategic boards and promote a culture of problem solving

- To ensure that all services (adults and children) embed the safeguarding of children and young people at the heart of what they do
- To improve communication across the partnership, particularly with frontline practitioners
- To further develop the coordination of safeguarding activity across the partnership and be further assured in regards to the multi-agency intervention and the quality of services through engagement with:
  - The education sector
  - Faith and community groups
  - GP's

We also need to turn attention to:-

- Recruiting a 2<sup>nd</sup> lay member to the board
- Assuring ourselves that we can respond effectively to issues relating to; Child Trafficking, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), Stateless Children
- Increase the awareness of services and support to Disabled children and young people in the City
- Undertake an evaluation of the effectiveness of Early Help services in the City
- Ensure that the learning from the deaths of children are disseminated across the partnership and used to inform practice.

Responding to the challenges ahead the Board remains committed to:

- Ensuring the 'voice of the child' influences all that we do
- Effective partnerships in the context of change and reducing resources
- A clear focus on assuring ourselves of the effectiveness of quality of our multi-agency work with children and young people.

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# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                                     |                                 |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Wolverhampton Youth Justice Plan                                    |                                 |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                                               |                                 |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Val Gibson,<br>Children and Young People                 |                                 |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | No                                                                  |                                 |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | Yes                                                                 |                                 |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                                 |                                 |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders, Strategic Director<br>Emma Bennett, Service Director |                                 |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Youth Offending Team (YOT)                                          |                                 |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Sally Nash                                                          | Head of Service - YOT           |
|                                                | Tel                                                                 | 01902 553722                    |
|                                                | Email                                                               | sally.nash@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Strategic Executive Board                                           | 6 October 2015                  |
|                                                | Safer Working Partnership                                           | 7 August 2015                   |
|                                                | Scrutiny Panel                                                      | 21 September 2015               |
|                                                | YOT Management Board                                                | June, September 2015            |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Formally approve the adoption of the local Youth Justice Plan previously approved by the Youth Offending Team (YOT) Management Board.

### Recommendation(s) for noting:

2. Recognise the progress and ongoing challenges in delivering Youth Justice interventions in the current economic climate.

## 1. Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of the local Youth Justice Plan that is the product of partnership working under the oversight of the Safer Wolverhampton Partnership. Underpinning this Plan is an action plan which is regularly reviewed and monitored by the YOT Management Board which meets quarterly with membership from Wolverhampton City Council, West Midlands Police, The Royal Wolverhampton Hospital Trust, Recover Near You (*substance misuse service*), National Probation Service and the Chair of the Black Country Youth Court Bench.

## 2. Background

- 2.1 Under the Crime and Disorder Act 1998, each Local Authority Area is required to have in place YOT arrangements. Central government provides a grant to support local Youth Justice Services via the Youth Justice Board (YJB) which sits within The Ministry of Justice. A condition of this £581,000 grant is the provision of satisfactory services that are outlined in an annual Youth Justice Plan.
- 2.2 The format for Youth Justice planning is prescribed by the Youth Justice Board and has varied over the years. The attached plan is compliant with current guidance and has utilised the opportunity to provide a plan for the forthcoming two years.
- 2.3 This plan has routinely involved significant partnership consultation and planning. The plan is formally approved by the YOT Management Board and signed by the local Chair of this Board, which locally is Superintendent Keith Fraser from West Midlands Police.
- 2.4 During 2014/15 Wolverhampton YOT worked with 286 young offenders who had committed 543 offences. In addition the YOT is working to address the increasing number of less formal Community Resolutions intended to prevent the escalation of offending.
- 2.5 The Youth Justice Board local Performance Adviser regularly monitors local YOT performance and feedback indicates that we continue to perform well in respect of reoffending rates and also in keeping the number of our young people detained in custodial establishments at the lowest rate that is possible and safe for the community. There has been a recent slight increase in the number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice system but this is in part a reflection of police policy and procedures.
- 2.6 Youth Justice services in Wolverhampton have long been considered as a success with exemplary work. Wolverhampton YOT anticipates a formal inspection within the next six months when our progress will be measured in a climate where resources have significantly decreased in line with the challenges within the Public Sector.

## 3. Financial Implications

- 3.1 The YOT budget is outlined in the attached Youth Justice Plan. Many partner contributions are 'in kind' staffing and the YOT has secured some other grants from partnership streams.  
[NM/06102015/Q]



#### **4. Legal Implications**

- 4.1 YOT services are mandated in legislation and oversee statutory Court Orders. It is a requirement for every area in England and Wales to provide YOT services. There are no direct legal implications arising from the report.  
[TC/09102015/C]

#### **5. Equalities implications**

- 5.1 The YOT provides services for some of the most vulnerable young people in society both as offenders, and also for victims of youth crime. There is significant disproportionality in the Youth Justice system and African Caribbean young men are far more likely to be represented in our custodial population than their white peers. This YOT is currently working with the Youth Justice Board to investigate how this can be further addressed.

#### **6. Environmental implications**

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications

#### **7. Human Resources implications**

- 7.1 YOT staff work to WCC Terms and Conditions or to those of their seconding agency. The experience of managing a multidisciplinary team is useful in the development of other initiatives such as the Multiagency Safeguarding Hub (MASH).

#### **8. Corporate landlord implications**

- 8.1 There are no immediate corporate landlord implications although the YOT is subject to Future Space considerations.

#### **9. Schedule of Background Papers**

Safer Wolverhampton Partnership 7 August 2015  
Adults and Safer City Scrutiny Panel 21 September 2015

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# **WOLVERHAMPTON YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM**

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## **YOUTH JUSTICE PLAN 2015-2017**

## **Introduction**

The aim of the Youth Justice system is to prevent offending and reoffending. Multiagency Youth Offending Teams (YOT's) comprise staff from partner organisations who work together in co-location to improve outcomes for children and young people and enhance the safety of the community. This plan sets out how Youth Justice Services are provided and resourced in Wolverhampton which has a strong track record of delivery and improvement against government targets.

During 2014/15 the YOT worked with 286 young offenders who had committed 543 offences. In addition the YOT is aware of the increasing number of Community Resolutions issued and in 2014/15 there are 260 of these outcomes recorded. The local YOT partnership is working to widen our ability to offer responses to those young people on the cusp of the more formal Youth Justice system.

Within Wolverhampton, the last year has presented significant challenges for all partners involved in delivering Youth Justice Services given the widespread austerity programme and reduction in resourcing. The local YOT partnership has worked hard to try to ensure that frontline services are sustained to the high quality that produces better quality outcomes. In June 2015 the local YOT Management Board was able to sign off our previous costed Youth Justice Plan and noted the following achievements:

- In respect of reoffending rates, Wolverhampton sustains a good level of performance against national comparators, with both the binary and frequency rates being ahead of national average.
- The number of young people entering the Youth Justice System has not increased and previous significant reductions have been sustained.
- The number of young people in Wolverhampton receiving custodial sentences is very low, and the local YOT Management Board is satisfied that those who are within the Secure Estate received proportionate sentences appropriate for their own safety and that of the Community.
- Efforts to improve service user participation in shaping our services is progressing and we now have an electronic feedback system in place that young people can utilise to routinely share their feedback with us.
- The Youth Justice Board National Standard audit demonstrated a very high level of compliance with standards of work particularly with young people subject to Community Sentences and this YOT was commended for its performance.

**PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]**

- The YOT has been a key player both strategically and operationally in the delivery of our 'Troubled Families' programme contributing to the successful completion of the Phase One programme.
- Working with partners in Children' Social Care, the YOT has piloted the 'Supporting Adolescents in Families'
- The YOT has continued to respond to the growing need for diversionary schemes to constructively occupy young people and provide positive choices. In the last year we have progressed a bike project involving cycling and maintenance, a music Arts College summer programme and a healthy lifestyles programme including cooking and preparing food.
- The YOT has refreshed and re-designed its 'Risk and Vulnerability Strategy and Policy' to ensure it is fit for modern purpose and addresses current features of concern including the PREVENT agenda and Child Sexual Exploitation. The document has been commended by the Youth Justice Board for providing a comprehensive yet accessible approach.
- The YOT contributed to the Regional approach to reviewing Restorative Justice delivery. Locally we are improving the diversity of its Indirect Reparation offer but also looking to improve the number of face to face victim/offender encounters.
- The YOT has greatly improved its performance in respect of ensuring documents necessary to safeguard young people entering the Secure Estate are transmitted in a timely and appropriate manner.
- Staff training has focussed on key challenges including Learning from Serious Case Reviews, PREVENT, Restorative conferencing, work with Harmful Sexual Behaviour, training students and management.
- As part of our membership of the local Children's Safeguarding Board, the YOT completed a Section 11 Audit with an accompanying action plan against which we have achieved our milestones.
- The YOT has also utilised the findings from a recent Thematic Inspection into Resettlement to inform the development of our work with the Secure Estate and to improve our National Standards of delivery.
- The YOT has been instrumental in the development of a multiagency Youth Crime Prevention group which has facilitated for this summer a joined up approach to funding and oversight of a summer programme of activities.

Overall, 2014/15 was a successful year of delivery within the YOT despite the challenges within the public sector.

## **Structure and governance**

Under statute, a local YOT is accountable to a YOT Management Board who oversee and scrutinise the work of YOT's. Over the last year there have been significant personnel and organisational changes for most within our local partnership. In this context it has been necessary to refresh and revisit the functioning of our YOT Management Board, ensuring it is fit for purpose.

The local YMB meets at least quarterly and regularly receives performance and financial reporting in respect of the YOT. In addition 'spotlight reporting' focusses on different but particular areas of practice to give strategic partners insight into the detail and reality behind the work. The YJB local Adviser is an Observer member of the Board and provides feedback to the partnership in respect of compliance with grant requirements such as secure estate placement information and National Standards and regional or national trends in Youth Justice that should shape and inform decision making in addition to our local intelligence. Following the reconfiguration of various key YOT partnership organisations the YMB representation is being refreshed to ensure the range of interest and expertise available to oversee our Youth Justice services is the best possible. The current Chair of the Board is our local Police Superintendent which also reinforces the partnership approach to our work.

This Youth Justice Plan and the work of the YMB reports to our wider Safer Wolverhampton Partnership which will also offer governance and oversight in line with the requirements of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998. In addition the YOT Head of Service is a full member of our local Safeguarding Children's Board which ensures that the vulnerabilities of our population are also represented within that partnership. The WSCB also provides a 'critical friend' oversight to any of our YJB commissioned Community Learning Reviews that are utilised to reflect incidents of concern.

For Business purpose the YOT is located within the Children and Family Directorate of Wolverhampton City Council which places our work within the wider services for vulnerable children. The significant representation of the LAC population within our YOT cohort also requires us to work very closely with colleague services to improve outcomes for our most vulnerable young people.

## **Partnership Arrangements**

The YOT is well placed within Children's Services, our Safer Partnership and Safeguarding Board to ensure that wider strategic drive reflects the needs of young offenders. There are a variety of key documents and partnership fora within our local partnership which assist drive the work of the YOT:

- Local Police and Crime Plan
- Wolverhampton Children and Young People's Plan
- Wolverhampton City Council Corporate Plan
- The Safer Wolverhampton Partnership
- Children's Trust Board
- Strengthening Families Board
- Wolverhampton Safeguarding Children's Board

The YOT also leads in the local youth Multiagency Public Protection Arrangements (MAPPA) targeting those young people who have the potential to cause the most harm in our community. We have also worked alongside WSCB to refresh the arrangements in respect of those posing a risk to children (PPRC) and ensure that the right young people are identified for targeted intervention.

As the partnership strives to continue to sustain our progress in respect of minimising the number of First Time Entrants to Youth Justice, we are currently developing our delivery arrangements with the local Voluntary Sector so that we can target those young people of concern to the Police who receive Community Resolutions where youth violence and/or substance misuse are a feature of their wrongdoing. A strong partnership approach is being piloted to target these young people to ensure their risk factors are addressed in a proportionate but accessible way. It is hoped that by providing a wider partnership commissioned approach, we can ensure improved relevance and delivery to our whole population and encourage young people from ethnic minorities to engage with our services at a much earlier stage.

Since April 2015, the local YOT has taken on the management and oversight of Bilston Junior Attendance Centre. As the service is reviewed and modernised, we have been pleased that our local College, with whom we already have a strong relationship is

looking to provide some specialist activity that can contribute to our plans for a programme for which young people can achieve accreditation.

A key area of concern and development for the partnership is the step down from our statutory services to ensure that at the end of their court orders, any unmet needs of young people are addressed to avoid the 'revolving door' of re-entering the Youth Justice system. The close links with Early Help Services and Targeted Youth Support (TYS) workers will be utilised to ensure this process occurs in the community where young people live.

Wolverhampton is moving into Phase 2 of our 'Troubled Families' / Families in Focus work. The YOT has been a provider for Troubled Families and is well placed to ensure that this becomes much more of 'business as usual' work and a 'whole family' approach. We have strongly advocated for a whole family approach in relation to some of the more recent issues in the Secure Estate and have ensured that local families are informed and engaged in any concerns and improvements.

Partnership working with our local Secure Estate provider is very strong, and we have regular links and visits at both strategic and operational level. In this context we have been a regional lead in developing the implementation of ASCL reforms ensuring the two way transmission of relevant education based information between community and secure providers. We are looking to widen this approach with other Secure estate providers particularly Secure Training Centres. Following the National Standards Audit we are working to ensure that all our work is timely in respect of resettlement and that partners understand their responsibilities to help the YOT deliver. We are looking to ensure that Release on Temporary Licence/Mobility arrangements are actively used to assist the release and rehabilitation process.

The YOT has contributed to the local response and developments in relation to the SEND reforms and has been part of working groups where the needs of young people who can be in conflict with the law should be represented. The full impact of SEND reform is not yet known, but our contact with SAM panel and monitoring of EHCP implementation will be an area of focus in future YOT Management Board. We are currently refreshing our Education Training and Employment Action Plan and this work has been undertaken on a cross partnership basis.



**Resources and value for money**

This plan outlines the planned financial contributions to the YOT, all of which are utilised in the delivery of Youth Justice services. In July 2015 the YMB approved the proposed budget for the YOT.

| Agency                    | Staffing Costs<br>£ | Payments in Kind - Revenue<br>£ | Other Delegated Funds<br>£ | Total<br>£       |
|---------------------------|---------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------|
|                           |                     |                                 |                            | 0                |
| Local Authority           | 1,155,714           | 72,170                          | 301,960                    | 1,529,844        |
| Police Service            | 27,360              | 46,500                          |                            | 73,860           |
| Probation                 |                     | 107,395                         |                            | 107,395          |
| Health Service            |                     | 20,256                          |                            | 20,256           |
| Police Crime Commissioner | 66,000              |                                 |                            | 66,000           |
| YJB Grant                 | 581,100             |                                 |                            | 581,100          |
| Other                     |                     | 19,176                          |                            | 19,176           |
|                           |                     |                                 |                            |                  |
| <b>Total</b>              | <b>1,830,174</b>    | <b>265,497</b>                  | <b>301,960</b>             | <b>2,397,631</b> |
|                           |                     |                                 |                            |                  |

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Audit certification and YMB scrutiny all confirm the appropriate use of the YJB grant which is a key resource for this YOT. In addition, all statutory partners have sustained a level of commitment to the YOT, albeit all partners have reduced their contributions to varying degrees over the last five years. This Youth Justice Plan is for 2015/17 but the financial resourcing here will only address 2015/16 and a refresh of the plan for 2016/17 will address the future budget. A key delivery gap at present is within the mental health services, but the YOT specification is part of the wider local CAMHS delivery review. West Midlands Police are providing some additional peripatetic cover to support the development of Community Resolutions.

Attached as appendices to this plan are a YOT staffing structure and profile breakdown.

The use of the resources described above is largely to assess and intervene with young people on the cusp or already within the Youth Justice system. However some resources are targeted at improving our systems and streamlining processes which is particularly important in a climate of stringency. The YOT is currently in the process of changing our software systems in order that we can be fit for purpose to take on the new Youth Justice prescribed assessment system known as ASSETplus. YOT management time and Capital reserve resources are identified to support these necessary business improvements.

This YOT has also participated in the development of restorative training for a range of practitioners, managers and volunteers and we currently have 12 personnel trained in accordance with YJB requirements. We also work staff from the Local Policing Unit many of whom are accredited in Restorative processes.

### **Risks to future delivery**

The YOT partnership has worked hard to sustain services in the current public sector climate, but clearly services are affected by disinvestment and reduction. The devolvement of the Youth Detention Accommodation budget has challenged our partnership to address the potential of secure remands efficiently and effectively. There is evidence to show that the number of YDAs in Wolverhampton is very small, however the fact that those young people need to be detained in the more expensive provision has budgetary implications and the devolved grant for 2015/16 is anticipated to be fully utilised by September 2016 leaving a shortfall for the rest of the year.

Within the small numbers of young people we have in Secure Estate, we recognise the disproportionality of representation, as well as the under-representation of engagement with preventative services. A key challenge to the partnership is the engagement with those who are most disaffected particularly when this requires creative and potentially more expensive resources. The YOT partnership is seeking to innovatively use the strong partnership links in Wolverhampton to creatively address these presenting needs. The development of the local Housing Protocol is also a useful tool to address the urgent accommodation crisis that often befalls young people appearing before the courts. The YOT is also a key player in the development of the local 'Edge of Care' Services which will seek to ensure young people stay with their families safely and constructively.

### **Key Priorities going forward**

This strategic plan is supported by a forward looking action plan which will be regularly monitored by the YOT Management Board and refreshed in 2016/17. The action plan will focus around our key forward looking priorities.

**For 2015/16 our key priorities are:**

**1. Internal Processes, Quality Assurance and Business Support:**

- Migration onto new software system that is fit for future business purpose
- Anticipation of Her Majesty's Inspection within the next nine months
- Sustaining our audit culture and continued quality assurance process

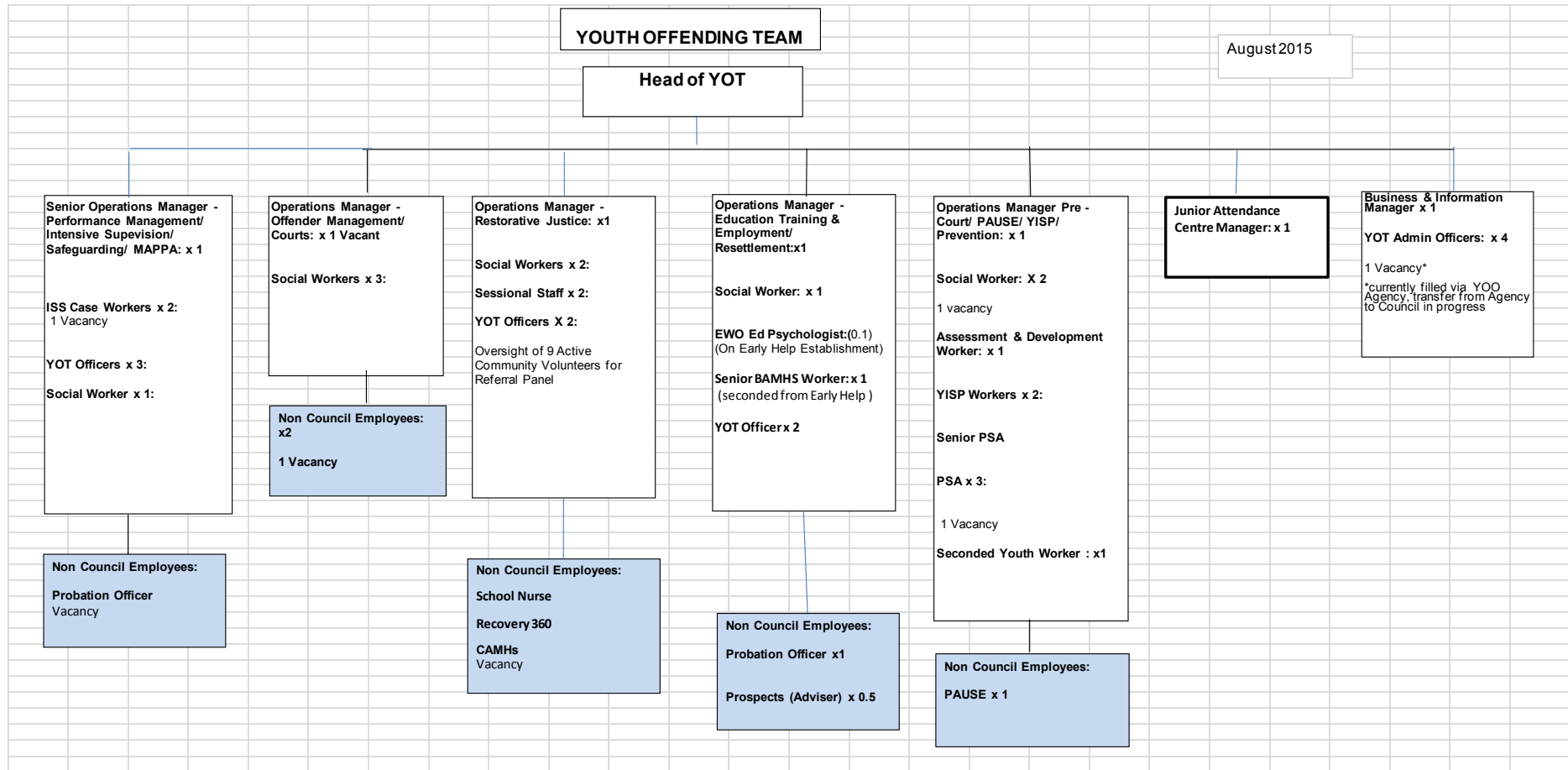
**2. Response to changes in legislation:**

- Developing a partnership response to targeted 'Out of Court disposals' to prevent progression in the YJ system
- Offering interventions and response to the new requirements of the Antisocial Behaviour legislation
- Ensuring the YOT fulfils its duties under the SEND education reforms

**3. Supportive and proportionate responses to changes in local practice:**

- Contribute to the local Transformation of Children's Services and ensuring that services are 'joined up' to ensure smooth transitions in and out of Youth Justice interventions
- Contribute to the local development of Edge of Care Services ensuring that young people can stay safely within their own families wherever possible
- Work to implement the revised approach to Gangs and Youth Violence as outlines in the recently revised SWP Gangs Strategy
- Modernise our local Attendance Centre to provide appropriate and proportionate interventions with young people
- Develop our links with schools to address the mutual inclusion agenda
- Support the increasing focus on Child Sexual Exploitation, being an active member of the efforts to address the local concerns through initiatives such as MASE meetings
- Ensure Safeguarding remains at the heart of what we do and refresh our Section 11 Audit Action Plan.

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Appendix 1



Staffing of the YOT by Gender / Ethnicity

| Ethnicity               | Managers Strategic |          | Managers Operational |          | Practitioners |           | Administrative |          | Sessional |          | Student  |          | Volunteer |          | TOTAL     |           |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|----------|---------------|-----------|----------------|----------|-----------|----------|----------|----------|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
|                         | M                  | F        | M                    | F        | M             | F         | M              | F        | M         | F        | M        | F        | M         | F        | M         | F         |
| White British           |                    | 1        | 1                    | 1        | 8             | 15        |                | 2        |           |          |          |          | 2         | 7        | 11        | 26        |
| White Irish             |                    |          | 1                    |          | 1             |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 2         | 0         |
| Other White             |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| White & Black Caribbean |                    |          |                      |          |               | 1         |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 1         |
| White & Black African   |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| White & Asian           |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Other Mixed             |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Indian                  |                    |          |                      | 1        |               | 3         |                | 2        |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 6         |
| Pakistani               |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Bangladeshi             |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Other Asian             |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Caribbean               |                    |          |                      | 1        | 1             | 3         |                | 2        | 1         | 1        |          |          | 2         | 1        | 4         | 8         |
| African                 |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Other Black             |                    |          |                      |          |               | 1         |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 1         |
| Chinese                 |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Any other ethnic group  |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| Not Known               |                    |          |                      |          |               |           |                |          |           |          |          |          |           |          | 0         | 0         |
| <b>TOTAL</b>            | <b>0</b>           | <b>1</b> | <b>2</b>             | <b>3</b> | <b>10</b>     | <b>23</b> | <b>0</b>       | <b>6</b> | <b>1</b>  | <b>1</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>0</b> | <b>4</b>  | <b>8</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>42</b> |

Appendix 2




**Staffing of the YOT by Employing Agency**

| Type of Contract                   | Strategic Manager (PT) | Strategic Manager (FT) | Operational Manager (PT) | Operational Manager (FT) | Practitioners (PT) | Practitioners (FT) | Administration (PT) | Administration (FT) | Sessional | Students / Trainees | Volunteers | TOTAL       |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------|---------------------|------------|-------------|
| Permanent                          |                        | 1                      |                          | 5                        | 2                  | 21                 |                     | 5                   | 2         |                     |            | 36          |
| Fixed-Term                         |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| Outsourced                         |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 2                  |                     | 1                   |           |                     |            | 3           |
| Temporary                          |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| Vacant                             |                        |                        |                          |                          | 0.5                | 2                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 2.5         |
| Seconded Children's Services       |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| Seconded Probation                 |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 2                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 2           |
| Seconded Police                    |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 1                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 1           |
| Seconded Health (Substance Misuse) |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 1                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 1           |
| Seconded Health (Mental Health)    |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| Seconded Health (Physical Health)  |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 1                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 1           |
| Seconded Health (Speech/Language)  |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| Other/Unspecified Seconded Health  |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 0.5                |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0.5         |
| Seconded Education                 |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    | 1                  |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 1           |
| Seconded Connexions                |                        |                        |                          |                          | 0.5                |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0.5         |
| Seconded Other                     |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                       | <b>0</b>               | <b>1</b>               | <b>0</b>                 | <b>5</b>                 | <b>3</b>           | <b>31.5</b>        | <b>0</b>            | <b>6</b>            | <b>2</b>  | <b>0</b>            | <b>0</b>   | <b>48.5</b> |
| Disabled (self-classified)         |                        |                        |                          |                          |                    |                    |                     |                     |           |                     |            | 0           |

Appendix 3

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|                                                                                    |                                                        |                                                      |                                          |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|
|  |                                                        |                                                      |                                          |
| <p><b>Wolverhampton</b></p> <p><b>YOUTH OFFENDING TEAM</b></p>                     |                                                        |                                                      |                                          |
| <p><b><u>Number of Staff Trained in Restorative Justice</u></b></p>                |                                                        |                                                      |                                          |
| <p><b>No. of Trained YOT<br/>Operational<br/>Managers</b></p>                      | <p><b>No. of Trained YOT<br/>Restorative Staff</b></p> | <p><b>No. of Trained YOT<br/>Voluntary Staff</b></p> | <p><b>TOTAL No. of Trained Staff</b></p> |
| <p>6</p>                                                                           | <p>6</p>                                               | <p>12</p>                                            | <p>24</p>                                |



Wolverhampton Youth Justice Plan 2015/17

As Chair of the YOT Management Board I confirm approval of the above plan and action plan

Superintendent Keith Fraser West Midlands Police

Youth Justice Action Plan 15/16

| Key Issue                                                                | Action                                                                                                                                   | Lead                                             | Timescale                               | Progress                                                                                                                            | RAG Rating |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| 1. <b><u>New bespoke YOT software</u></b>                                | Implement child view - migration, training, full usage                                                                                   | HOS, WCC ICT, YOT senior Operations Manager,     | By March 2016                           | Project management group functioning including ICT support. Timeline plan in place. Still some negotiations with supplier re detail |            |
| 2. <b><u>Readiness for new Youth Justice assessment - ASSET plus</u></b> | Implementation of new software (1 above)<br>Attendance at YJB events<br>Staff training when imminent                                     | Senior Operations Manager<br>YOT Management team | Youth Justice timescales likely 2016/17 | Software – see above<br>In feedback and meeting loop with YJB<br>Staff training will require backfill.                              |            |
| 3. <b><u>Inspection preparation</u></b>                                  | YOT Manager to train as peer inspector<br>Continued work on assessment and intervention planning<br>Domestic arrangements for inspection | Head of Service<br>YOT Management team           | By September 2016                       | Ongoing in accordance with Quality Assurance processes (see 4 below)                                                                |            |
| 4. <b><u>Sustain and develop Quality Assurance culture in YOT</u></b>    | Involvement of practitioners in audits<br>Regular audits undertaken<br>Staff briefings undertaken in respect of findings                 | YOT Management team                              | Ongoing                                 | All functions in place , needs sustaining                                                                                           |            |

**PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]**

| <b>Key Issue</b>                                                 | <b>Action</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>Lead</b>                                                                        | <b>Timescale</b>                                          | <b>Progress</b>                                                                                                                                                | <b>RAG Rating</b> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                                                  | Supervision follow up of audit<br>Sustain court and Referral Order report gatekeeping<br>Dip Sampling for supervision<br>National Standards audit<br>CSPPI undertaken when appropriate                                                     |                                                                                    |                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                |                   |
| <b>5. Develop partnership response to Out of court Disposals</b> | Sustain Youth Caution and Youth Conditional Caution delivery<br>Develop assessments and interventions for Community Resolutions<br>Ensure YOT partners (eg Recovery Near You, school nursing, Connexions) actively participate in delivery | West Midland Police<br><br>YOT Prevention manager<br><br>HOS<br><br>YOT partners   | Ongoing, Community Resolutions to be reviewed in Nov 2016 | Youth Cautions and Youth Conditional Caution clinics in place and mature.<br>University evaluation commissioned by West Midland Police<br>CR clinics still WIP |                   |
| <b>6. Ensure YOT is able to respond to new ASB legislation</b>   | Meeting with ASB manager<br>Ensure clear consultation protocol with West Midland Police<br>Liaison with courts<br>Staff trained to understand requirements                                                                                 | ASB manager<br>West Midland Police<br>YOT prevention management<br>Head of Service | As from July 15                                           | Liaison and meetings have occurred and some consultations have commenced.<br><br>Needs reviewing Dec 2015.                                                     |                   |

**PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]**

| <b>Key Issue</b>                                                   | <b>Action</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <b>Lead</b>                                                                                   | <b>Timescale</b>   | <b>Progress</b>                                                                                                                                                                              | <b>RAG Rating</b> |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>7. Ensure YOT fulfils SEND reform duties</b>                    | Participation in SEND working groups<br>Liaison with custodial establishments<br>Ensure all young people are identified appropriately                                                                                  | Head of Service<br>YOT Manager<br>ETE,                                                        | April 15 onwards   | YOT has fully participated in working groups<br>Custodial visits undertaken<br>Continued monitoring and oversight of relevant cases<br>Needs review Dec 2015                                 |                   |
| <b>8. YOT to participate in CS transformation</b>                  | Pursue action plan with LAC in respect of mutual population and include partners in developments<br>Participation in CFYP events and initiatives<br>Pilot of SAIF<br>Support for ongoing change                        | Head of Service YOT and<br>Head of Service<br>Looked after Children<br>YOT partners eg health | Ongoing            | Work in ensuring clear identification of population<br>Work to identify escalating behaviours to ensure appropriate response from all services<br>Development/refresh of YOT/LAC action plan |                   |
| <b>9. Be part of Gangs and Youth Violence Strategy and actions</b> | Participation in development of strategy<br>Clear action planning re issues<br>Refresh of understanding of gang issues<br>Refresh of approach to gangs and deter<br>Need to ensure OM coordinator has some youth focus | YOT Head of Service<br>YOT SOM                                                                | May 2015 onwards   | Strategy launched<br>SOM refreshing approach and overlap to Deter and gangs<br>YOT part of appointment of Offender Management coordinator                                                    |                   |
| <b>10. Modernise local attendance centre</b>                       | Separate action plan in place being monitored by YMB and CFYMT                                                                                                                                                         | YOT Head of Service<br>Attendance Centre Officer in                                           | April 2015 onwards | Personnel issues resolved, new approach being piloted, Black Country offer has been clarified, presentation at future Youth Caution panel meeting awaited.                                   |                   |

**PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]**

| <b>Key Issue</b>                                                                                    | <b>Action</b>                                                                                                                                                           | <b>Lead</b>                                                  | <b>Timescale</b>       | <b>Progress</b>                                                                                                                             | <b>RAG Rating</b> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------|
|                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                         | Charge                                                       |                        | Three Court Orders achieved so far this year                                                                                                |                   |
| <b>11. Improve the YOT Education/Training and Employment engagement levels</b>                      | Separate YOT ETE action plan in place being monitored by YMB and CFYMT                                                                                                  | YOT Education Training Employment manager<br>Head of Service | July 2015 onwards      | Education Training Employment action plan adopted by CFYMT and YOT Management Board, YMB now has education rep from WCC                     |                   |
| <b>12. Support Safeguarding initiatives in respect of Child Sexual Exploitation</b>                 | Inclusion of MASE and Child Sexual Exploitation processes in YOT risk strategy<br>Active staff attendance at CSE meetings                                               | All staff                                                    | April 2015 onwards     | MASE coordinator has provided presentations to staff, staff attending meetings, Child Sexual Exploitation awareness highlighted within team |                   |
| <b>13. Refresh Section 11 Safeguarding audit action plan</b>                                        | Review action plan and ensure staff are proactive                                                                                                                       | YOT Head of Service<br><br>All staff                         | October 2015           | Action plan to be considered at November YOT Management Board                                                                               |                   |
| <b>14. Participate in school nursing training and awareness raising across the health community</b> | Ensure GPs are more aware of the issues relating to YOT young people,<br>Ensure school nurses are aware of YOT work<br>Tie in with Looked After Children nurse delivery | YOT nurse<br>School nursing manager<br>YOT health manager    | September 2015 onwards | Health reviews to consider progress<br>Consolidate progress and ensure in place across whole caseload                                       |                   |
| <b>15. Consider potential for standard induction input</b>                                          | YOT substance worker, YOT health manager and RNY to consider capacity and viability                                                                                     | YOT health manager<br>RNY strat and                          | By January 2016        | New proposal just underway                                                                                                                  |                   |

**PUBLIC [NOT PROTECTIVELY MARKED]**

| Key Issue                                                           | Action                                                                                                                                      | Lead                                      | Timescale       | Progress                                                                                                                                            | RAG Rating |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| for YOT young person in respect of Substance misuse                 |                                                                                                                                             | operational managers<br>YOT worker        |                 |                                                                                                                                                     |            |
| <b>16. Further volunteer recruitment/ development</b>               | Work with RNY on exchange programme re volunteers<br>Standard volunteer recruitment and training                                            | YOT Restorative Justice Manager           | By January 2016 | Work progressing, capacity for training delivery remains an issue given YJB requirements                                                            |            |
| <b>17. Work with NPS to ensure transition arrangements are good</b> | Implement software connectivity when available<br>Ensure close communication and relationships between staff<br>Utilise secondees to assist | YOT Management group<br>NPS staff         | ongoing         | Software progress halted due to YJB resource issues<br>Need to consolidate arrangements with local NPS                                              |            |
| <b>18. Workforce development</b>                                    | Ensure YOT workforce development plan is implemented                                                                                        | WCC Workforce Development<br>YOT partners | From April 2015 | Workforce Development plan in place, and a variety of appraisal linked training in place<br>YOT staff participating in corporate training programme |            |

**RAG Rating:**

**Off Track** 

**In Progress** 

**Completed** 

# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                         |                                                                                |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Consultation on Special Needs and Disabilities Strategy |                                                                                |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                                   |                                                                                |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Val Gibson<br>Children and Young People      |                                                                                |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | Yes                                                     |                                                                                |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | Yes                                                     |                                                                                |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                     |                                                                                |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders, Place                                    |                                                                                |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Disabilities and Mental Health                          |                                                                                |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Kathy Roper<br>Tel<br>Email                             | Commissioning Team Manager<br>01902 550975<br>Kathy.roper@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Strategic Executive Board<br>Executive Team             | 15 September 2015<br>21 September 201                                          |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. The report presents the draft Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy and seeks permission from Cabinet to undertake a three month period of consultation. This will enable all key stakeholders to have active involvement in shaping the final strategy.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to present the draft Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy for consideration by Cabinet and to seek permission to consult with wider stakeholders.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 This Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) strategy developed by the SEND Partnership Board outlines the commitment from partners in education, health and social care in the city to making sure that disabled children and young people get the same life chances as children who do not have a disability.
- 2.2 This strategy aims to highlight the good practice already achieved in co-production with families and young people by the City Council, Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and other partners during the local implementation of the SEND code of practice. It also highlights the challenges emerging in the city and areas for further development.
- 2.3 There is much to celebrate but we know that there are also many challenges, in particular the increasing number of children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, autistic spectrum disorder, social, emotional and mental health difficulties (SEMH), specific and moderate learning difficulties and language and communication difficulties.
- 2.4 Listening to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their carers is an integral part of the work we do, and they have told us that we should be striving for well-planned support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities from birth to 25. This means integrated services across education, health and social care, which work closely with parents and carers and where needs of the young person are identified in their Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and that these are met without unnecessary bureaucracy and delay.
- 2.5 This strategy is a high level document designed to highlight key strategic priorities. There is a risk that stakeholders will not feel that the strategy provides sufficient detail to cover all areas. The implementation of the strategy will therefore be supported by a number of detailed implementation plans that will be influenced by the information gathered during the consultation activities.

## **3.0 Financial Implications**

- 3.1 There are no financial implications directly associated with this report, however, once the consultation is complete the implementation plans associated with the delivery of the strategy will need to include comprehensive financial plans. The delivery of the new strategy will need to be within the existing financial resources.

[AB/03092015/T]



3.2 The Joint Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Strategy outlines the City Council's and the Clinical Commissioning Group's response to the requirement set out in the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities reforms set out in the Children and Families Act 2014.

#### **4.0 Legal Implications**

4.1 This strategy supports the City Council and the CCG in the delivery of their statutory duties in relation to the SEND reforms as set out in Chapter 3: Working together across education, health and care for joint outcomes of the Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Code of Practice 0 – 25 years.  
[RB/01092015/F]

#### **5.0 Equalities implications**

5.1 There are equalities implications associated with this report as it relates to disabled children and young people. An Equalities Analysis will be completed before consultation commences and updated throughout the consultation process.

#### **6.0 Environmental implications**

6.1 There are no environmental implications associated with this report.

#### **7.0 Human resources implications**

7.1 There are no human resources implication's associated with this report.

#### **8.0 Corporate landlord implications**

8.1 There are no corporate landlord implications associated with this report.

#### **9.0 Schedule of Background Papers**

Nil

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# Wolverhampton's Joint Strategy for Children and Young People with Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND)

2015-2020



**NHS**  
Wolverhampton  
Clinical Commissioning Group

Version 4 13.7 15

CITY OF  
WOLVERHAMPTON  
COUNCIL

## Introduction

Wolverhampton is passionate about improving the lives of all children and young people, the Children's Trust Board has developed an ambitious 10 year Children, Young People and Families Plan – 'Healthy, Happy Families'.

This Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) strategy developed by the SEND Partnership Board outlines the commitment from partners in education, health and social care in the city to making sure that disabled children and young people also get the same life chances as children who do not have a disability.

This strategy aims to highlight the good practice already achieved in co-production with families and young people by the city council, Wolverhampton Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and other partners during the local implementation of the SEND code of practice. It also highlights the challenges emerging in the city and areas for further development.

There is much to celebrate but we know that there are also many challenges, in particular the increasing number of children and young people with profound and multiple learning disabilities, physical disabilities, autistic spectrum disorder, social, emotional and mental health difficulties (SEMH), specific and moderate learning difficulties and language and communication difficulties.

Although these are national challenges, locally we know that the number of children growing up in the city will be increasing by approximately 1000 children to 64,200 over the next 10 years. 4.9% of these children will have some form of disability, Up to 10% of children will have some type of learning disability or difficulty, 1 in 100 children will be diagnosed with an autistic spectrum condition, of which 50% will also have some degree of learning disability.

There has been significant investment in our special schools, with 3 of the 7 schools being rebuilt through the Building Schools for the Future programme and co-located with mainstream schools. 6 of the 7 special schools are rated good or outstanding by Ofsted. In 2015 a Free School called Wolverhampton Vocational Training Centre providing vocational courses opened offering provision for 16-18 year olds

In addition across our mainstream schools there are 6 Resource Bases in primary schools and 2 within secondary schools and a range of outreach services provided through devolved budgets to the special schools in the city.

However increasing demand for specialist educational provision for children with complex needs is one of the challenges the city is facing and this needs to be addressed through a comprehensive review of the City's Graduated Response with an emphasis on early help and support and inclusion in mainstream for all but those children and young people with the most severe special educational needs and disabilities.

Integrated and collaborative working between the city council and the CCG has improved enormously as a result of the requirements of the SEND reforms within the Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND code of Practice 2014. Children with complex health care needs are now proactively identified by the CCG and the Children's Continuing Health pathway is now aligned with the Adult Continuing Health Care and the Education Health and Care planning process resulting in an improved experience for young people with complex health care needs and their journey of transition into young adulthood. The CCG are also now working with family carers and young people to improve decision making processes and to embed co-production in all elements of the organisation. The involvement of young people and parents in the creation of the health information on the Local Offer has been recognised nationally as an example of good practice.

The transition into adulthood is always described by young people and parents as one of the most difficult times in their lives. The care management teams responded to this challenge by being one of the first areas in the country to move to an All Age Disability model with the disabled children and young people's team now supporting young people and their families until they are 25 years old, in line with the principles of the SEND Code of Practice.

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=5794&p=0>

While much progress has been achieved we are aware that a more integrated strategy is needed to make sure that we achieve further improvements and that education, health and social care must work more closely to respond to the challenges we face. This strategy is designed to address these issues and bring about the necessary improvements in the quality of provision and better outcomes for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities from early years to adulthood.

## Our Vision

Listening to children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their carers is an integral part of the work we do and they have told us that we should be striving for well-planned support for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities from birth to 25. This means integrated services across education, health and social care, which work closely with parents and carers and where needs of the young person are identified in their Education Health and Care Plan (EHCP) and that these are met without unnecessary bureaucracy and delay.

We believe that every child and young person with special educational needs and disabilities from Wolverhampton should, where ever possible, have their needs met locally, and that they should be able to use high quality provision which promotes good health, care and educational progress and achievement. This includes access to

universal services as well as specialist support where required.

Our vision is also that children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities should be recognised as full citizens with the ability to contribute to their local community, and that when they need support to do this that the right support is available.

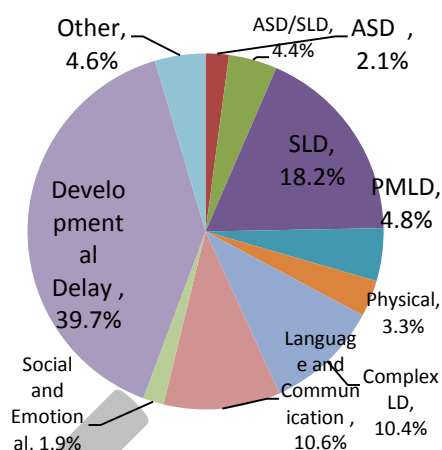
We expect every early years provider, mainstream school and post 16 setting to make effective provision for children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities, so that they can make good progress in their learning and can move easily on to the next stage of their education and have aspirations for employment and independent adult life.

The principles of the SEND code of Practice 2014 underpin this vision, and they state that Local Authority as the lead agency must have regard to:

- the views and wishes and feelings of the child or young person and the child's parents.
- participating as fully as possible in decisions; and being provided with the information and support necessary to enable participation in those decisions.
- the need to support the child or young person, and the child's parents in order to facilitate their development and to help them achieve the best possible educational and other outcomes, preparing them effectively for adulthood.
- the use of effective practice, data and wider intelligence and independent assessment to drive improvement.
- the development of clearly defined roles, responsibilities and accountability.

Our vision is therefore to fully include children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their parents or carers, in all decisions about their individual support and about local

education health and care provision. We will continue to embrace the principle of co-production and provide high quality accessible information, advice and guidance to support children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families throughout their early lives and into adulthood.



## Key Priorities

### Early Years

Specialist support for early years children with special educational needs or disability is provided by the Child Development Centre (CDC) and Special Needs Early Years (SNEY).

The SNEY provides assessment, diagnosis and early intervention for individual children from birth to 5 through a co-ordinated multi-agency approach.

Referrals to the SNEY multi-agency panel show an increase year on year, there has been a 12% increase since September 2011, with referrals from schools nearly doubling in 2014/15. This reflects schools requiring higher levels of support to implement the SEND reforms for children at SEN Support and the increasing number of children with complex needs in mainstream provision. The team has a current caseload of 479.

There were 20 referrals for children with a visual impairment and 10 referrals for children with a hearing impairment in 2014 in the early years. Children with visual and hearing impairments under 5 years of age make up 22% and 14.8% of the current staff workload.

Within the city there is an under 5's Autistic Spectrum Condition diagnostic panel. Between September 2011 and July 2012 the panel received 38 referrals and diagnosed 21 children. Between September 2014 and June 2015 the panel received 35 referrals and diagnosed 15 children with ASC.

### Good practice

The 'Team Around the Child' (TAC) continues to be the most effective way of providing co-ordinated support for children with complex needs. 78 children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities SEN received a full TAC approach.

Wolverhampton City Council are cited in '*Paving the way*' as an area of outstanding practice.

*"Wolverhampton is best example in the country of key working for disabled children under 5"*. Christine Lenehan, Director, Council for Disabled Children

Integrated multi-agency work for under 5's between the SNEY team and a Health

colleague at The Gem Centre is well established and works well.

A child with complex visual impairment has been successfully integrated and supported by the Visually Impaired Service into mainstream nursery with double funding.

There are excellent links between the Hearing Impaired Service and Children's Hearing Services including information sharing, liaison and training.

### Challenges

53.8% of children supported by SNEY and 40% of children supported by the Visual Impairment Team have complex needs that require Team Around the Child (TAC) and multi-agency meetings that are requiring increased contact visits.

The under 5's Multi Agency Referral Panel have referrals from health professionals, early years settings and schools of children who have significant behaviour difficulties but not assessed developmental delay.

However, as there is currently no service that we can signpost or suggest for families SNEY are also seeing children referred to them from CAMHS who do not meet their criteria. There is a gap in service delivery for these children, and services need to be re-designed to respond to the changing needs of children.

From 2016/2017 with the move to increase childcare to 30 hours per week for working parents, means there is a need to develop appropriate levels of provision for families that include children with SLD/PMLD.

**AIM 1:** to identify solutions to support children under 5 who need support with their mental health in partnership with the CAMHS service.

**AIM 2:** to develop a full range of suitable early years provision for children with complex needs and Autism.

### Education

The city council supported 1415 children and young people with a Statement of Educational Needs (SEN) in 2015 and 85 children with an Education Health and Care plan (EHC). Special School provision has capacity to provide places for up to 792 children with the rest being included within our mainstream schools.

Boys are two and a half times more likely to have statements of Special Educational Needs at primary schools and nearly three times more likely to have statements at secondary schools compared to girls, this is likely to be linked to the increase in diagnosis of conditions such as ASC and ADHD where there is a higher prevalence of boys with the diagnosis. This is also true for Special Educational Needs without statements up to the age of 10, after which the prevalence declines from a peak of 18.6% at ages 9 and 10 to 15.7% for 15 year olds.

For pupils with statements the most common primary type of need is autistic spectrum disorder (22.9%). The most common at School Action Plus are behaviour, emotional and social difficulties and speech, language and communication needs (both 23.8%) and moderate learning difficulty (21.3%). These have consistently been the most common types of need over the past few years..

**AIM 3:** To ensure that Wolverhampton's Special School estate is fit for purpose and meets the full range of more complex needs of the children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities now being placed.

Within mainstream school settings across the City there are currently 5714 children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities who do not have a Statement of SEN or an EHC Plan being supported through reasonable adjustments and additional SEN support funded from school budgets.

Mainstream schools are increasingly having to support a wider range of children and young people with more complex needs that previously would have been accommodated within special school provision. Mainstream schools therefore need increased levels of support and training through outreach services, nurture groups and more targeted resource bases across the City to be able to meet the needs of these children and young people.

**AIM 4:** to identify a more robust graduated response with an emphasis on early support and intervention in order to enable mainstream schools to meet the needs of the range of more complex needs now being included within the schools.

**Percentage of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities by primary need**

Almost 7 in 10 Looked After Children (LAC) have special educational needs. There has been a significant increase in the number of LAC children in the city. This has affected the Out of City placements and needs to be investigated further as a majority have high needs (Statements/EHCP).

**AIM 5:** to develop local provision in order to reduce the number of children needing residential provision

An SEN & Inclusion working group has been recently established and is reviewing SEND provision within the city. They will develop an action plan to respond to this challenge.

**Considerations**

- Special schools may need to be reconfigured to a broad spectrum approach.
- A more targeted and graduated approach, with an emphasis on early help and support, is required to meet needs of children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities. This includes support for mainstream schools such as outreach and nurture groups.

**Education Health and Care Plans**

Parents and carers have been involved in the development, introduction and piloting of Education Health and Care plans. Co-production will continue as the EHCP process evolves and is reviewed and we receive feedback from parents about the process.

From 1st September 2014 local authorities were required to consider new requests for an assessment of special educational needs under the new legislation, and co-ordinate services around a child or young person. Children and young people with existing statements are currently being transferred to the new system in a phased way, prioritised at key transition points. 85 Education Health and Care plans have been completed since 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014; this is the highest number of transfers to EHC plans within the Birmingham and West Midlands area. Children and young people with a current Statement of Educational need will not automatically have a new EHC plan. Children with a current Statement of Educational needs will undergo an EHC Needs Assessment. Schools are expected to meet the first 15 hours of Teaching Assistant support. If the needs of the child can be met from within the schools own resources then this will be taken in consideration in determining whether or not an EHC plan is required which is in line with national guidelines.



This is a particular concern for parent support groups nationally and locally.

The EHC plan must be child centred; outcomes focused, and involve the child or young person, their family and all the relevant professionals. The CCG and health providers have fully co-operated with the introduction of the new assessment and planning process.

Wolverhampton has been commended by the Department of Education on the quality of the local EHC plan template.

The Department of Education have put some challenging timescales on the single assessment process, with new referrals, conversions from Educational Statements and conversions from LDA's to statements being completed within 20 weeks, achieving these timescales is a challenge if we truly want to embrace the delivery of person centred plans.

**AIM 6:** to support all children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families through a process of co-productions to develop a person centred, outcome focused Education Health and Care Plan.

**AIM 7:** Where a children and young people with special educational needs and disabilities does not transition to an EHC plan it is our aim to make sure that they have the most comprehensive support plan possible and that families are provided with appropriate information, advice, and support.

### Personal Budgets

For children and young people assessed as needing an EHC plan, they have the right to request a personal budget from April 1<sup>st</sup> 2015. The local authority, CCG,

families and young people are currently working collaboratively to develop local policy, procedure and processes to implement this new requirement which will be included in the local offer.

At present a funding matrix is established for the education component of a personal budget, children and young people assessed as meeting the Continuing Health criteria can have a direct payment from the CCG and children assessed as having social care needs can have direct payment to meet their needs in the community.

A Multi-agency Funding Panel has been established to consider all requests for personal budgets following an EHC plan. To date areas that have attracted the most requests for a personal budget are for home to school or home to short breaks transport.

**AIM 8:** to develop a single integrated Resource Allocation System (RAS) to support eligible social care outcomes and ultimately to develop a single combined Resource Allocation System for all three elements of the EHC plan.

### Health

Data has been collected by the Clinical Commissioning Group via the GP practice systems using GRAPHNET. The data set is in its early stages and still needs to be ratified. Further work is being undertaken by Public Health as part of Joint Strategic Needs Analysis (JSNA). This information shows that there are more boys than girls identified with SEN and health/physical conditions including autism, ADHD, acquired disabilities, learning disabilities, and congenital conditions. There is a variation by condition but in general there is a higher prevalence of conditions recorded in older children aged 10-19. When the data is compared with the deprivation quartile it shows that there are

in general more people registered with these conditions living in the poorest 20% of the population than we would expect.

The CCG has led a health based work stream since April 2014 in order to develop and deliver on new requirements. It has actively involved parent representatives from the parent/partner forum and this work has been cited in Department for Education and national Contact a Family best practice training and guidance tools.

A video has been made to demonstrate this good practice and can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tcBUk1G8YqA>

All information published on the health sections of the Local Offer have been reviewed by parents to make sure that it is accessible and relevant for parents and carers who may need to access these health services.

Voice 4 parents (the local parent forum) and Changing Young Lives ( a local rights based organisation working in co-production with disabled young people) have also been commissioned by the CCG to work with them to improve transparency in decision making and the involvement of local parents and young people in the development of local health services.

A new Children's Continuing Care pathway has been established by the CCG. This is delivered in partnership with the local authority and other partner organisations to provide seamless high quality care for disabled children and young people who have specialist and complex needs that cannot be met by existing universal or specialist services alone.

The aim is to review all packages of care for children who have been assessed as being eligible for Continuing Care at least annually, to make sure that they still meet the needs of the young person. Systems and processes have been put in place to support early planning and seamless transition for young people in to adult continuing health career services and this

is made possible by a range of transition clinics at the Royal Wolverhampton Hospital Trust

The provision of community equipment including tele-care can support and maintain the independence of a young person, both at home, school and in the community. New technology can revolutionise a young person's life.

Equipment can be provided to the young person via Wheelchair services, Occupational Therapy services, the Independent Living Service, School, hospital, and the Clinical Commissioning Group. Each service has difference criteria and referral pathways.

However at present equipment is not transferred from school to home, or other services and so a young person can have multiple pieces of the same equipment, in different localities, which can need replacing on a regular basis as the child grows.

**AIM 9:** to review the children's equipment services and to develop a more stream line and integrated equipment service, which is responsive to the needs of disabled children, disabled adults and their families.



### Short Breaks

Children and young people's short breaks were reviewed between 2013-2014, they are now provided in four distinct ways;

- Community based activities
- Schools based activities

- Direct Payments
- A range of residential overnight services

In April 2015 40 children and young people were in receipt of an overnight short breaks, 38 young people are in receipt of a direct payment and approximately 800 community based short breaks were provided from a range of providers. The short breaks offer also includes two short breaks caravans that families can use and which are fully booked during school holidays.

If the options of personal budgets, outreach (supporting families in their homes and in community settings) and shared care become more developed and utilised we would expect to see a reduction in the demand for residential provision.

Around two thirds of the services are provided following and assessment of needs and one third are direct access.

Since the end of the Aiming High for Disabled Children's programme and the removal of the ring fence from funding, we have had to re-evaluate and target funding to activities that genuinely give families a break, that respond to the outcomes identified in an EHC plan and to those areas activities that families have told us are most beneficial.

During consultation families were clear that short breaks were most beneficial at weekends and in school holidays. Families also wanted a co-ordinated programme of activities with better information about access and availability

“(We need) good variety of activities that offer something for children of all abilities over the course of the year. Appropriately trained staff who are interested in helping the children get the most out of the activities they attend.”

**AIM 10:** to increase the number of young people provided with a personal budget for their short breaks and to develop and extend the range of providers available for them to use.

Using information from the Local Offer feedback facility we have started to work closely with colleagues in leisure services to improve the leisure offer to disabled children and young people.

**AIM 11:** to embrace digital media as a way to provide up to date information about the short breaks, universal services and child care options for disabled children.

### Transport

We currently provide transport to 800 pupils and spend £2.2m. The principle journeys are to and from special schools.

Wolverhampton City Council should review and make a decision about whether the provision of transport for pupils of statutory school age is necessary to facilitate the attendance at a designated school. Transport deemed necessary must be provided free of charge.

To date one of the key areas that families request a personal budget for as part of their EHC plan is transport.

**AIM 12:** is to include a personal budget for transport as part of the creation of a single resources allocation system, and to do this in co-production with families.

### Local Offer

Wolverhampton Local Offer was co-produced with young people and parents and published on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2014. [WWW.wolverhampton.gov.uk/send/localoffer](http://WWW.wolverhampton.gov.uk/send/localoffer) .

Parents of disabled children and young people have been an integral part of the process of developing Wolverhampton's Local Offer. They have worked

collaboratively on the design and the content with professionals from health, social care, and media teams.

*One parent involved said “it was important to be involved and get the message across to others parents in a similar position”*

The local authority has commissioned the local young people’s rights based organisation ‘Changing Young Lives’ to provide critical commentary on the Local Offer so that it can be subject to on-going improvement.

*“It is so important to work in a co-production with us young people. Our unique views on what should be done will shape the Local Offer website and our contribution to decision –making will enable us to build our self-confidence, self-esteem, and empower us to make decisions about our own lives” (Young Leader CYL)*

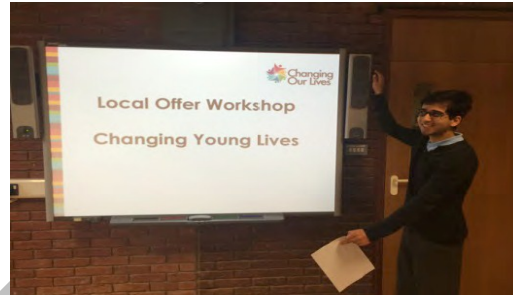
The Young Leaders have involved 57 young people aged 12-19 in their work and have made a number of recommendations for future development of the Local Offer including:

- the addition of film clips
- the use of an accessible toolbar on the web pages
- The use of ‘easy to understand’ language

We have a duty to seek views on our Local Offer but more importantly we want to make sure that the services and information we provide reflect the needs of parents, carers and young people.

Maintaining and upkeep of the Local Offer remains an area for on-going development by the local authority and CCG so that the information remains relevant, meaningful and accessible for children, young people and families. This is overseen by the SEND Partnership Board.

**AIM 13:** to further develop the Local Offer into a vibrant accessible interactive Local Offer that is up to date, easy to use and that meets the needs of local people.



#### Joint Commissioning

The Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND code of Practice requires local authorities and the CCG to make joint commissioning arrangements for education, health and care for children and young people with SEN from 0-25. Joint Commissioning should be informed by a clear assessment of local needs to support prevention identification, assessment and early intervention.

In order to better understand our local population needs and plan accordingly the CCG and local authority have worked together to develop a local needs analysis. This has not been without its challenges due to different recording systems. However, colleagues in public health remain committed to support the collection and collation of the most reliable and accurate record of disabled children and young people in Wolverhampton.

Our aim is to continue to work with collaboratively with Public Health to develop a joint strategic needs analysis for disabled children and young people that the city is responsible for. This will be supported in the future by the use of a child’s NHS number in their EHC plan.

From September 2014, commissioners within social care, health and education

have worked together to develop and deliver the EHC assessment, planning and funding of services to support the identified needs and outcomes for individual children and young people. The necessary EHC funding panel process has been implemented and all commissioners are party to this.

The implementation of the SEND strategy and the formal joint commissioning arrangements between the LA and the CCG is a current priority. It is important that these developments are placed within the wider context of partnership discussions to improve commissioning arrangements for children and young people.

#### Preparing for Adulthood

The move from children to adult provision can be one of the most daunting times for a disabled young person and their families. There are so many things to consider including where to carry their education, how to become more independent, the possibility of employment and somewhere new to live. The journey for every young person is different but planning early and getting the right information and support is critical.

A guide to 'Preparing for Adulthood' is available for parents and young people on the Local Offer.

<http://www.wolverhampton.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=5794&p=0>

Young People preparing for adulthood with the most severe forms of special educational needs find it difficult to enter the world of work, with an employment rate as low as 7% (national average). Wolverhampton has one of the lowest rates in the West Midlands at 2.7%.

Many disabled young people find that there is no clear pathway to employment once they have completed their chosen college courses, and often find themselves having to rely on the Council for provision of day activities when, given the right support,

they would have chosen to pursue employment options.

A recent government trial of supported internships resulted in 36% of students with SEND gaining paid employment.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> March 2015 a Government initiative was announced allocating £5 million to be spent by local authorities to support 'more talented young people in supported internships and work placements, helping them make that first step onto the career ladder'.

**AIM 14:** to support 25 disabled young people into work in the next 12 months

#### Measuring Success

The SEND strategy has been developed in partnership with a wide range of stakeholders. It will be further informed by the independent SEND review. A performance framework is being developed in order to monitor the success of the priorities outlined below. The indicators are also reflected in the performance framework for the Children, Young Peoples, and Families Plan.

- The attainment gap between the children with Educational Health and Care plans and other pupils at key stage 2.
- The attainment gap between the children with Educational Health and Care plans and other pupils at key stage 4.
- The number of SEND pupils that are excluded from school.
- The percentage of schools and settings with a good quality published SEND information report.
- The percentage of SEND children aged 16-18 who are in education training or employment.

**Acknowledgements:**

Changing Young Lives  
Voice for Parents  
Jill Wellings  
Sandy Lisle  
Maria McCaffrey

- The rate of EHC plans per 100,000 population.
- The number of EHC plans issued for social, emotional and mental health needs.
- The percentage of EHC plans issued within 20 weeks.
- The percentage of people who felt that involvement in their EHC plan had a positive impact.
- The percentage of the children and young people and their parent/carers with EHC plans opting for a personal budget.
- The percentage of children and young people with continuing care plans who have timely transition into adult mental health services.
- The percentage feedback rate from the Local Offer that has resulted in a change to services.
- The number of families accessing the Wolverhampton Information, Advice and Support Service in relation to the whole SEND population.



# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                    |                                   |
|------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Proposed New Fostering Fees and Allowances Scheme  |                                   |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                              |                                   |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Val Gibson<br>Children and Young People |                                   |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | Yes                                                |                                   |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | Yes                                                |                                   |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                |                                   |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Linda Sanders, People                              |                                   |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Looked After Children                              |                                   |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Alison Hinds                                       | Head of Service                   |
|                                                | Tel                                                | 01902 553035                      |
|                                                | Email                                              | alison.hinds@wolverhampton.gov.uk |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | People Leadership Team                             | 20 July 2015                      |
|                                                | Strategic Executive Board                          | 15 September 2015                 |
|                                                | Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel | 28 September 2015                 |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve the proposed new fostering fee and allowance structure.
2. Support the Council wide incentives (as outlined in section 8 of this report), to be progressed via the Corporate Parenting Strategy group.

### Recommendations for noting:

The Cabinet is asked to note:

1. This item has been considered as pre-decision scrutiny and will therefore not be available to call-in.
2. The feedback from Children, Young People and Families Scrutiny Panel as set out in appendix 1.

## 1.0 Purpose

- 1.1 This report sets out a proposal to change the fees and allowances structures paid to approved Wolverhampton foster carers including Family and Friends (Connected persons) carers who care for Wolverhampton Looked After Children.
- 1.2 The proposal aims to ensure that the Council retains and recruits sufficient foster carers to meet the needs of the looked after children in the City and to compete more effectively with Independent Foster Care Agencies
- 1.3 The proposal also reduces our risk of judicial review in relation to the payment of family and friend (connected person) carers as the proposed fee structure takes into account previous court judgments and current regulations relating to Family and Friends carers. Wolverhampton family and friends foster carers have not historically attracted or received a fee for caring for LAC. This is because unlike other foster carers who are specifically recruited and assessed to care for any child, family and friends foster carers only care for specific children to whom they are related. However, recent regulations state there should be equity of provision and entitlement for all approved foster carers, irrespective to whether they are related or unrelated. *'Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations' (2010)*
- 1.4 The proposed new model supports a fee payment to all approved foster carers to support their skills, experience and expertise, rather than reward them for their time as a Wolverhampton foster carer.

## 2.0 Background

- 2.1 Local authorities are responsible for Looked After Children. Where a child is placed in foster care, the cost of caring for the child is paid to the foster carer in the form of a fostering allowance.
- 2.2 The requirement for local authorities to be responsible for this is underpinned in the following legislation:
  - Children Act 1989
  - Children Act 2008
  - Fostering Regulations 2011
  - Family & Friends Guidance 2011
  - Children Leaving Care Act 2000
  - Care Planning and Placement Review Regulations 2013
  - Fostering National Minimum Standards 2011
- 2.3 Wolverhampton has a high Looked After Children (LAC) population and as such over the past three years has seen the LAC budget being overspent. Over the past 18 months the Children and Young People service area has implemented a new model of delivery redesigning children's social care and integrating this service with early help services in order to provide a locality based model of help and support for children and their families to promote a smoother journey and reduce the need for repeat assessments.



- 2.4 In addition, the 'Families r First' programme has been introduced in order to support children to remain safely within their families, ensuring only the right children come into the looked after system and where they do, that permanency with a family is sought for them in a timely manner.
- 2.5 Whilst these two major changes have made improvements both in terms of the customer and stakeholder experience of support and in stabilising the LAC numbers within Wolverhampton, there is still a long way to go in terms of whole system transformation and as such the LAC numbers remain very high which in turn is continuing to impact significantly on the Council's financial challenges.
- 2.6 331 of Wolverhampton's LAC are cared for by external foster carers who are approved by Independent Fostering agencies (IFA's) as the number of internal carers has been unable to meet the demand in the rising numbers. As part of the transformation work phase two, it remains an important priority for Wolverhampton City Council to recruit local foster carers for local children, and the current foster care recruitment campaign delivers this message. There are many advantages to recruiting local foster carers;
- children can remain living locally enabling on going contact with their family
  - children will have the opportunity to remain at their current school
  - children maintain connections with their community and the local services to support their needs
  - internal foster carers incur a much lower unit cost than those procured externally from the IFA's.
- 2.6 It is anticipated that the fostering service will approve 25 foster carers between April 2015 and March 2016. The newly approved carers will add to the existing cohort of approved foster carers offering opportunities for LAC to be cared for within the internal provision. It is imperative that the number of foster carers is increased, not only to ensure that there is an internal provision, but also to ensure carers are of the appropriate calibre to meet the complex needs of many of our looked after children. Wolverhampton can be confident in the quality of foster carers and ensure that they receive good quality support and training.
- 2.7 Wolverhampton's current foster carer's recruitment and retention fee structure scheme was approved in April 2008. The scheme is based on a recruitment and retention model for approved carers (this excludes Family and Friends (connected person carers)). Foster carers are paid a recruitment and retention fee which increases year on year up to nine years where they then stay on the maximum amount.
- 2.8 The existing recruitment and retention fee structure for mainstream foster carers is detailed in the table below:

| Time as Foster Carer for Wolverhampton City Council | Weekly Payment to each foster care household<br>£'s |
|-----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| 0 – 2 years                                         | 170.57                                              |
| 2+                                                  | 181.23                                              |
| 3+                                                  | 191.89                                              |
| 4+                                                  | 202.55                                              |
| 5+                                                  | 213.21                                              |
| 6+                                                  | 223.88                                              |
| 7+                                                  | 234.53                                              |
| 8+                                                  | 245.19                                              |
| 9+                                                  | 255.85                                              |

- 2.9 In addition foster carers receive allowances for the specific children they care for. These allowances are paid to cover the full cost of caring for a child. The allowance includes payment for food, clothing, extra household costs, pocket money and savings. The allowance rates are currently in line with those as set out by Fostering Network.
- 2.10 The table below details the child allowances currently paid to foster carers for looked after children:-

| Age of child | Weekly Rate<br>£'s |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 0 – 4        | 137.18             |
| 5 - 10       | 156.26             |
| 11 – 15      | 194.53             |
| 16+          | 236.64             |

- 2.11 Under the existing scheme Family and Friends (connected person) carers are approved as child specific foster carers and receive the child's allowance for the child but do not receive a recruitment and retention fee.
- 2.12 Family and Friends (connected persons ) foster carers are required to comply with regulations the same as any other carer, and “will be entitled to the same support and services, including any fees and allowances payable/available within the relevant fostering provider/local authority scheme to unrelated local authority foster carers”. *‘Family and Friends Care: Statutory Guidance for Local Authorities’ (2010)*
- 2.13 This review has taken into account the risk to our current policy around the payment of Family & Friends (connected person) carers, being open to challenge/judicial review as regulations state there should be equity of provision and entitlement. “It is not acceptable to discriminate against foster carers on the basis that they have a pre-existing connection with the child they are fostering.” *‘Care Planning, Placement and Case Review Regulations’ (2010)*

### 3.0 Proposed new fee structure

3.1 A new model of fee payment to foster carers is proposed, moving from a scheme that rewards retention of foster carers, to one that supports the skills, experience and expertise of foster carers to meet the needs of our looked after children.

3.2 The advantage of moving to this scheme will be:

- Foster carers will receive a fee based upon and recognising their experience and expertise
- Foster carers will receive extra reward if they take more than one child
- Foster carers will be expected to care for children in a wider age range
- Foster carers will be approved to care for children on a temporary and permanent basis, but will also provide emergency and shared care placements
- The revised reward scheme will provide greater placement choice and reduce Wolverhampton's reliance on external provision

3.3 The table below outlines the new fee structure and includes the requirements in terms of training and assessment for each level and the fee per child in placement up to three or more children.

| Level            | Training (basic)                                                                                                      | Assessment                                                     | Fee (1 child)<br>£'s | Fee (2 children)<br>£'s | Fee (3+ children)<br>£'s |
|------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| One (Basic)      | Skills to Foster<br><br>Completion of training, support and development standards<br><br>Attendance at support groups | Form C assessment as specified under the fostering regulations | 85                   | 102                     | 119                      |
| Two (Generic)    | Completed Level 1<br><br>Skills to Foster<br><br>Personal Development Plan outcomes focused                           | Form F assessment as specified under the fostering regulations | 255                  | 306                     | 357                      |
| Three (Advanced) | Completed all of Level 1 & 2<br><br>Diploma in Child Care Studies/Fostering                                           | Form F assessment as specified under the fostering             | 331.50               | 397.70                  | 463.40                   |

|                   |                                   |                                                                |     |     |     |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|
|                   | Or working towards equivalent     | regulations                                                    |     |     |     |
| Four (Specialist) | Completed all of Levels 1, 2 & 3. | Form F assessment as specified under the fostering regulations | 600 | N/A | N/A |

3.4 The descriptions of each level are as follows:

**Level One - Basic**– Foster Carers are assessed and approved for a named child or young person in line with the child’s permanence plan to care for the child and be supported to move onto a Special Guardianship Order (This is an order made by the court appointing a person or persons to be able to make decisions for the child), or its equivalent arrangement within 12 months from the point of approval. Level one Foster Carers can move to level two where further training and assessment is undertaken to equip them to care for non-specified Looked After Children in the 0-18 approval category. This will require a change of approval status, which will be heard at the Fostering Panel and approved by the Decision Maker.

**Level Two - Generic**– Foster Carers are assessed and approved under the 0-18 approval category in line with approval and training requirements outlined. 0-18 approved foster carers will be able to have the following placements:

- Temporary placements,
- Respite
- Permanent Placements (long term where linked and matched).

In addition level two carers will be expected to assist the Local Authority in duties such as recruitment, training and the buddying scheme.

**Level three - Advanced**– Foster carers are assessed and approved under the 0-18 approval category in line with the assessment, approval and training requirements outlined.

Level three foster carers will be expected to have at least three or more years fostering experience and be able to evidence a varied successful fostering placement history.

They will offer placements for more challenging children. In addition to the criteria for level two they will evidence significant childcare experience.

They will be able to take the following placements:

- Temporary placements,
- Emergency (including PACE),
- Respite
- Shared Care
- Short Breaks

- Mother and Child Placements
- Permanent Placements (long term where linked and matched).

**Level four – Specialist** – Specialist Carers incorporates levels one, two and three and includes the following:

- Significant formal childcare experience e.g. previous fostering
- Five years minimum fostering including children with complex needs /employment in childcare or related experience e.g. nursing, youth work, teaching.
- Ability to reflect upon professional experience and relate this to the fostering task
- One carer within the household being available on a full time 24/7 basis
- Must be able to provide specialist foster care in key areas; Assessment for challenging children and young people; Children having experienced significant disruption / placement breakdowns; placements linked to Youth Justice system (including Legal Aid, Sentencing and Punishment of Offenders); Emergency Placements for challenging behaviours (children and young people) Placements for young people with particularly challenging behaviours where residential placements may be the alternative. This will be in line with the Specialist Foster Care Protocol.

- 3.5 Approved Foster Carers will be able to move up and down levels where appropriate. This will be based on the relevant level criteria, yearly foster home review evaluation and re-assessment (where required).
- 3.6 Research indicates that Independent Fostering Agencies (IFA) pay foster carers a fee per child, Wolverhampton currently only pay additional fees for 3 or more children. To bring Wolverhampton in line with the IFA's and enable a greater range of flexibility, it is proposed that the model will pay a slight uplift (20%) based on the number of children in placement. It is acknowledged that in some cases carers may only be able to accommodate one child due to the child's assessed needs. Where this is the case, and the carer is approved for two or more children, the carer will continue to receive the relevant rate for the number of children that they are approved for.
- 3.7 Under the current scheme where a carer does not have a LAC in placement their recruitment and retention fee is reduced on a sliding scale. This is an extremely complex system to administer, but also acts as a disincentive for carers to take another placement immediately as they continue to receive a proportion of their fee for a number of weeks without having a child in placement.
- 3.8 The new proposal is that the under the new scheme the fee will cease immediately when a foster carer does not have a child in placement and refuses the offer of a placement or has a planned placement ready to move in. This will have the potential to reduce the use of external provision and make full use of available in house placements.
- 3.9 The only exception to this will be where there is:
- Certified ill health (reward fee will continue for four weeks)
  - The foster carers are subject to an allegation

### 3.10 Planned Short Break Carers

Carers providing planned short break care will be approved under level two. These carers will be paid the weekly fee pro-rotta if offering 90 plus days per year. In addition, to this a fee of £10 per day will be paid for the attendance at meetings etc outside of the placement schedule.

### 3.11 Mother and child placements

Mother and child placement payments will attract an additional 50% of the fostering fee and an additional 50% of the child's allowance. These additional payments are to support the carer in the assessment and supervision of the mother to care for the baby and maintain the placement as determined by the care plan. We would expect foster carers at level three to take mother and child placement.

### 3.12 Holiday allowances

Two weeks child's fostering allowance in respect of holidays or day trips shall be paid annually, at the Foster Carers request.

## 4.0 Proposed changes to children's allowances:

4.1 Following consultation with the Children In Care Council (CICC), the new structure will also include changes to allowances paid in respect of the child. It is proposed to amend allowances and utilise the Department for Education recommended rates as opposed to the national Fostering Network work rates that are currently used.

| Age of child | Weekly Rate<br>£'s |
|--------------|--------------------|
| 0-4          | 126                |
| 5-10         | 139                |
| 11-15        | 159                |
| 16+          | 185                |

4.2 These allowances will be increased annually in line with the official Retail Price Index rate.

4.3 Following a bench marking exercise across the West Midlands region and consultation with the CICC, the new structure incorporates some changes with regard to pocket money, savings birthday and festival allowances. The CICC were in support of a reduction in pocket money and savings, as they felt that the allowances given to them were unrealistic to maintain when they moved into independence or returned home. They also highlighted that it created unfairness with siblings who may remain at home.

4.4 The table below shows the current payments, with pocket money, savings and clothing coming out of the child's weekly allowance and birthday and festival allowances being paid annually in addition to the allowance:

| Age of child | Current saving per week £'s | Current pocket money per week £'s | Clothing per week £'s | Birthday (annually) £'s | Festivals (annually) £'s |
|--------------|-----------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0 – 4        | 11.00                       |                                   | 21.77                 | 137.18                  | 137.18                   |
| 5 – 10       | 16.00                       | 5.54                              | 24.34                 | 156.26                  | 156.26                   |
| 11 – 15      | 21.00                       | 9.23                              | 29.67                 | 194.53                  | 194.53                   |
| 16+          | 36.00                       | 13.85                             | 36.92                 | 236.64                  | 236.64                   |

4.5 The table below illustrates the proposed new payments

| Age   | Pocket money (weekly) £'s | Long term savings (weekly) £'s | Birthday (annually) £'s | Festivals (annually) £'s |
|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0-5   | nil                       | 5                              | 100                     | 100                      |
| 6-10  | 4                         | 6                              | 110                     | 110                      |
| 11-15 | 7                         | 8                              | 150                     | 150                      |
| 16-17 | 10                        | 13                             | 180                     | 180                      |

- 4.6 The pocket money and savings will be paid from the children's allowances. Birthdays and festival payments will be paid as additional allowances. Clothing allowances will not be specified; instead this will be left to the discretion of the foster carer, the child's social worker and the foster carers' supervising social worker who will ensure there is appropriate and adequate clothing available to the child in placement.
- 4.7 For all looked after children born after the 3 January 2011 a Junior ISA is required to be opened. The trust funds are a long term investment for the child and cannot be released until the child is 18. A maximum of £1,200 can be paid into existing funds each year and foster carers can pay directly into the fund.
- 4.8 It is proposed to give foster carers flexibility to savings e.g. where a child requests something that could be of benefit for the future e.g. music lessons, once in a lifetime holiday etc. a separate savings account can be opened and savings split between the ISA/Savings account to facilitate this. Where a foster carer/child is going to use savings to purchase goods/services this must be agreed with the child's social worker.
- 4.9 The proposal to reduce the minimum required savings for Looked After Children will make a greater portion of the allowance available to the carers to meet the individual needs of the child.

## **5.0 Family and Friends (Connected Persons) Carers**

- 5.1 The proposed fee structure takes into account previous court judgments and current regulations relating to Family and Friends carers. The new structure incorporates the requirements of the Care Planning and Case Review Regulations 2010, which states that, Family and Friends (Connected Person) carers approved under these regulations will be entitled to the same support and services, including any fees and allowances payable/available within the relevant fostering provider/local authority scheme to unrelated local authority foster carers.
- 5.2 The proposed scheme will pay all Family and friends (Connected persons) at Level One.

## **6.0 Training**

- 6.1 Currently carers are paid a delegate fee of £100 per day to each foster carer that attends training. This is paid annually for a maximum of eight days training within the first year following approval as a foster carer and six days training per year subsequently.
- 6.2 The proposal is to remove the additional fee and expect that all foster carers comply with the training requirements outlined in their personal development plan. This is to ensure they are complying with the requirements outlined in the statutory guidelines which expect training and support to be provided to enable foster carers to undertake their role.

## **7.0 Foster Carers subject to allegations**

- 7.1 Foster carers currently receive the recruitment and retention fee whilst any allegation is being investigated and until a decision is made.
- 7.2 It is proposed that in the event of carers being subject of an allegation that necessitates the removal of the child to allow for an investigation, the carers fostering fee will continue for 28 days to allow an investigation. However the child's allowance will cease immediately upon the removal of the child/ren.

## **8.0 Respite for carers**

- 8.1 Under the current scheme carers can receive up to seven days of respite annually. It is proposed that carers are only provided with this respite where there is a natural break between placements or in exceptional circumstances.

## **9.0 Council Wide incentives**

- 9.1 Following benchmarking work across other Local Authorities it is recommended that the following incentives to support recruitment of foster carers could also be explored by the Corporate Parenting Strategy group. :



- Reduction in Council Tax for Fostering Households within Wolverhampton
- Reduction in the cost of the use of Council leisure facilities

9.2 The findings and recommendations of the Corporate Parenting Strategy group will be reported back to Corporate Parenting Board.

## 10.0 Outcome of Consultation

10.1 Consultation has taken place with all foster carers. All foster carers have received a copy of the proposed scheme, and opportunity has been offered for carers to offer written comment and feedback. In addition 4 face to face consultation meetings have taken place, to which all foster carers have been invited.

10.2 Having reviewed the feedback, the following key issues were raised:

| Foster Carer Feedback                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Response/ Under New Scheme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Concern that placements are not always made based on need.</li> <li>• Foster carers currently receive a reduced fee if they have a vacancy.</li> <li>• Does the new scheme prohibit foster carers from progressing levels if they have a permanent child placed with them?</li> <li>• Carers who offer placements for 4 or more siblings will lose out under the proposed scheme.</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fostering Service will ensure clear matching considerations are made for all placements.</li> <li>• A retainer fee will be paid for up to 4 weeks if there are no children for the foster carer to consider.</li> <li>• A process for progressing between levels will be introduced for permanent carers, but will be subject to the needs of the child and the carer meeting the criteria for the appropriate level.</li> <li>• Carers who care for sibling groups of 4 or more, subject to an agreed exemption, will receive a fee of £614.06 for level 2 carers and £663.00 for level 3.</li> </ul> |

10.3 In addition, consultation has also taken place with the Children In Care Council (CICC). This consultation was specifically in relation to the change in children's allowances. Overall the children were positive with regard to the proposals.

## 11.0 Risks

11.1 The following risks have been identified:

| Risk                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Action to minimise impact                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Existing foster carers not currently approved under the 0-18 approval category and not willing to change this to the 0-18 category may decide to leave Wolverhampton City Council's Fostering Service. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- As a good will gesture place all existing carers on Level two to retain them on the same payment they currently receive now.</li><li>- Where skill base and experience exist within the current carer population we will encourage and support them to move into Level three category to expand our placement provision.</li></ul> |

## 12.0 Case Example

- 12.1 In order to make a comparison of the impact of the new proposed scheme it is useful to consider an example.
- 12.2 Under the existing scheme if a foster carer who has been fostering for four years is caring for two siblings aged 10 and 13 they would currently receive £553.34 per week. If they had been foster carers for 9+ years this would be £606.64.
- 12.3 In the proposed scheme, if they were a level two carer they will receive £604 per week or as a level three carer they would receive £695.00 per week.
- 12.4. Under the proposed scheme the carers will have greater flexibility with regard to the children's allowance which is included in this calculation as they will not have to allocate as much as they currently do per week for savings and pocket money. This will increase the money than they currently have available to spend each week.
- 12.5 If the two children were placed with external carers approved by an IFA this would cost the Local Authority a minimum of approximately £1600 per week.
- 12.6 If the two children were placed in a residential placement, as a minimum this would cost a minimum of £5,000 per week.

## 13.0 Financial Implications

- 13.1 In order to compare the impact of the proposed fees and allowances paid to foster carers a typical week was extracted from the payments system in order to profile the age of the children in foster care and the skills of current carers, in order to group to group these into where it is assumed current skill sets will fall in terms of the proposed fees and allowances.

13.2 The data for the specific week in question showed payments to 136 foster carers and 36 family and friends carers, using this as the basis the following two scenarios have been calculated for comparison purposes:

- Scenario One – Assumes all foster carers receive payments at level two generic.
- Scenario Two – Assumes 98 foster carers receive payments at level three advanced with the remainder at level two generic.

13.3 The table below shows the impact of the two scenarios using the proposed fees and allowances compared to the approved 2015/16 budget:

|                                                                                | Scenario One     |                | Scenario Two     |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
|                                                                                | £'s              | £'s            | £'s              | £'s              |
| <b>Budget 2015/16</b>                                                          | <b>4,277,960</b> |                | <b>4,277,960</b> |                  |
| <b>Costs of proposed fees and allowances:</b>                                  |                  |                |                  |                  |
| Reward Fee                                                                     |                  | 2,169,977      |                  | 2,575,127        |
| Children's Allowances                                                          |                  | 1,660,489      |                  | 1,660,489        |
| Birthday and Holiday Allowances                                                |                  | 4,885          |                  | 4,855            |
| Training Allowances                                                            |                  | 206,400        |                  | 206,400          |
| Total Cost                                                                     |                  | 4,041,751      |                  | 4,446,871        |
| <b>Potential annual saving/(cost pressure) on proposed fees and allowances</b> |                  | <b>236,209</b> |                  | <b>(168,911)</b> |

13.4 Scenario one shows an indicative saving of £236,209 whilst Scenario two shows an indicative cost pressure of £168,911 when compared to the approved budget for 2015/16 for fees and allowances. Any cost pressure that arises as a result of the implementation of proposed fees and allowances will be contained within the children's transformation work.

13.5 In both scenarios it is assumed that both foster carers will take up the maximum training sessions proposed in the body of the report at an indicative annual cost of £206,400. The trend over the last three years shows the average spent on training is only in the region of £80,000 as both foster carers do not normally complete all training elements. If the trend continues into the future then there could be a further indicative savings of £126,400.

13.6 Based on the new proposed fees and allowances, if the Council were to recruit a new foster carer the average cost would be £18,484 compared to the cost of an external foster carer at £40,000, giving rise to a cost pressure saving of £21,516 for each looked after child placed in internal foster care. **[NM/24082015/K]**

#### **14.0 Legal implications**

- 14.1 Legal services have been consulted on this proposal and are supportive of the proposals. With regard to the policy, in the recent case of X, R (on the application of) v London borough of Tower Hamlets 2013 the court found that the criteria for the differing levels rested solely on the question of whether or not the carer's were related to the child. It was said that there is no reason why a local authority should not design a fee structure based on qualifications. A family carer who met the appropriate criteria would then be entitled to receive the same fees as any other foster carer. Provided that the criteria were genuine and reasonably related to the task of fostering children, and provided that family foster carer's were not excluded from seeking to meet the criteria that could be appropriate.
- 14.2 The above was taken into account when formulating the current policy. It is hoped that the new policy will reduce the risk of challenge through Judicial Review as it is felt to be a clear, fair and transparent policy set out in clear language how and when an allowance will be paid.  
**[TC/03082015/S]**

#### **15.0 Equalities implications**

- 15.1 A full equality analysis is currently being undertaken.

#### **16.0 Environmental implications**

- 16.1 There are no environmental implications.

#### **17.0 Human resources implications**

- 17.1 There are no human resources implications.

#### **18.0 Corporate landlord implications**

- 18.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications.

## Appendix 1

The following is a summary of key comments from Children and Young People Scrutiny Panel 28/09/15 - Proposed new fostering fees and allowances

### Clothing allowances

1. The panel were concerned about the reference in 4.6 of the report about the monthly inventory check on the clothing stock of the foster child(ren) and that it was not be appropriate or sensitive to the needs of the young person concerned to have this done. Emma Bennett explained the reasons for doing the clothing checks and the responsibility on the Council to protect the interests of the young person.
2. Emma accepted that the paragraph gives a misleading view of what happens in reality and agreed to make changes to the paragraph in response to the concerns expressed

### Changes to allowances

3. The panel expressed a concern about the reduction in allowances paid to children aged 16 and over in the new scheme. Alison Hinds explained that the changes were discussed with representatives of children in care council and also comparator work done across the other local authorities. The view of children in care council was that current amount was too high and they did not feel comfortable when they returned home with a large amount of savings. The panel were assured that young people would be given advice on how to manage their savings.

### Recruitment of Foster Carers

4. The panel commented on whether the fees in the new scheme could be increased to compete with the amount paid by private sector foster when considering the cost differential. The panel queried if there was view about what the ideal balance between the number of agency and local authority foster carers working in Wolverhampton and how the planned proposals would help the Council move towards this target. Emma Bennett responded that there is an issue generally about the shortage of foster carers and the plan is set a realistic recruitment target. The challenge for the service is recruiting enough specialist foster carers to meet the needs of children in Wolverhampton. Emma Bennett explained that work is being done across the region to increase the pool of foster carers.

### Children placed outside Wolverhampton

5. The panel commented on the 331 LAC being cared for external foster carers by approved independent fostering agencies and how they would be affected by the change. The panel supported the idea of wanting to recruit local foster carers.
6. The panel queried the transition arrangements under the proposed new working arrangements would not mean children being moved when they reach a certain age. Alison Hinds explained that in this situation the Council would normally leave the child with the family.

7. The panel queried the implications of the scenario which assumes all foster carers receive payments at level, but who decide not to gain the skills and experience needed to become an advanced or specialist foster carer – and the extent the payment scheme would be a disincentive. Cllr Gibson commented that the Council wants all foster cares to be skilled practitioners and receive an appropriate level of allowances to reflect the skills gained and used to care for our children.

### **Future potential**

8. The panel commented on the potential for Wolverhampton to become a leading authority if the proposed scheme is successful that in the future it could deliver the service on behalf of other local authorities by acting as a fostering agency. Emma Bennett outlined the work done with other local authorities to build good working relations.
9. Wolverhampton Youth Council fully support the proposals in the report. The panel welcomed the report and supported the proposals.
10. The panel queried if foster children would be encouraged and supported to take advantage of opportunities at the Youth Zone. Alison Hinds confirmed that the new arrangements foster children would funded to take part in out of school activities and other interests or hobbies.

### **Recruitment of foster carers**

11. The panel discussed the requirements for foster carers to have a specific level of English and details of basic training that would be offered. The panel queried the need to have numeracy and language skills to be a foster carer. Emma Bennett explained that there is a requirement on the council to meet its corporate parent responsibilities. The Council needs to have detailed records of the care and support in order to meet national minimum standards

# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                              |
|------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan Monitoring Report 2014/15                                                                                             |                                                                              |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                                                                                                                                                  |                                                                              |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor John Reynolds<br>City Economy                                                                                                                               |                                                                              |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | No                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                              |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | No                                                                                                                                                                     |                                                                              |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                                                                                                                                    |                                                                              |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Keren Jones, City Economy                                                                                                                                              |                                                                              |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Planning                                                                                                                                                               |                                                                              |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Ric Bravery<br>Tel<br>Email                                                                                                                                            | Sustainability Officer<br>01902 552177<br>Ric.bravery@wolverhampton.gov.uk   |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | Sustainability Delivery Group<br>Place Leadership Team<br>Sustainability Advisory Group<br>Strategic Executive Board<br>Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny<br>Panel | 5 June 2015<br>6 July 2015<br>22 July 2015<br>28 July 2015<br>1 October 2015 |

### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Provide comments on the Council's Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan monitoring and Climate Local Wolverhampton progress report for 2014/15
2. Provide guidance on the projects and actions in the draft Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan programme for 2015/16
3. Approve the report for publication, with delegated authority to the chair of the Sustainability Advisory Group to approve, firstly, a final version of the monitoring and progress report and, secondly, amendments to the 2015/16 programme as projects and actions develop

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform Cabinet of progress in the second year of the Council's joint Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan and Climate Local Action Plan, to seek comments on the monitoring report for 2014/15 and to seek guidance on the projects and actions contained in the draft Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan programme for 2015/16. It is further to seek approval of the report for publication, subject to any further amendments to be agreed by the Chair of the Sustainability Advisory Group.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 On 24 April 2013 the leaders of the Council's three political parties signed the Climate Local Wolverhampton commitment on behalf of the City Council, following approval by Cabinet. Climate Local is an initiative, led by the Local Government Association, to assist councils in reducing carbon emissions and adapting to the effects of climate change. The Council's Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan 2013-18 was subsequently approved by Cabinet on 24 July 2013. It also forms the Council's Climate Local Wolverhampton Action Plan.
- 2.2 The Sustainability Strategy identified the main challenges facing the Council and City with regards to sustainability and these are reflected in four priorities:
1. Provide effective support to deliver a green economy and achieve sustainable economic development
  2. Address the causes and effects of climate change and support the move to renewable and low carbon energy
  3. Promote social inclusion and equal opportunities
  4. Protect and enhancing the natural and built environment
- The aim of the Sustainability Implementation Plan is to deliver these priorities.
- 2.3 The Implementation Plan contained a range of actions with a timetable for implementation. The first Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan monitoring and Climate Local progress report, for 2013/14, was approved by the Sustainability Advisory Group on 8 July 2014 and the Vibrant, Safe and Sustainable Communities Scrutiny Panel on 17 July 2015. It was subsequently published on the Council's website.
- 2.4 The Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan superseded a number of previous documents and provides a streamlined approach to delivering sustainability. It has succeeded in co-ordinating council activities and identifying both good practice and gaps where further work is required. Its first year highlighted the breadth of its scope and the resources required to deliver such a broad range of actions and to monitor this activity. At the same time the Council's financial challenges focussed attention on its key corporate priorities and the need to make the most of opportunities for partnership working.



2.5 Following discussions between councillors and senior managers, including at the Sustainability Advisory Group on 14 January 2014, a review of the Council's sustainability function was led by the Service Director for the City Economy. This review produced an Implementation Plan focussed on a more limited range of key projects and areas of work and on identifying opportunities for partnerships with other organisations to assist in their delivery. This report provides monitoring results for the revised Implementation Plan for 2014/15 and forms the Council's Climate Local progress report for the same period. It also provides a draft Implementation Plan for 2015/16.

### **3.0 Progress on the revised Environmental Sustainability Implementation Plan**

3.1 A summary of the 2014/15 monitoring report for the Implementation Plan, aligned to the priorities of the Corporate Plan 2015/16, is contained in Appendix 1 along with full monitoring details. Each action is given a reference starting with an identifying letter, aligning them to outcomes which are linked to the priorities of the Sustainability Strategy.

3.2 The programme for 2014/15 contains 28 actions, down from 72 in the previous programme, providing a more focused Implementation Plan. There are 11 key projects which provide the main focus for developing further the Council's work on sustainability; six being delivered and five being developed. In addition there are 17 on-going actions. Of the 10 of these within the Council some involve annual programmes while others are activities which have the potential to produce individual projects. There are also seven on-going actions in partnership with external agencies which have the potential to produce projects.

3.3 Of the six key projects being delivered, all are making progress despite continued slippage on the implementation of sustainable procurement practices (E2). Projects on leading for the Black Country LEP on development of low carbon projects (E1), on a Smart City Strategy (E3), on the Council's renewable and low carbon energy programme on council property (C1) and on the Travel Plan and Active Travel Strategy (A1 and A2) all show good progress during the year.

3.4 Of those five projects being developed, four show significant progress with funding bids being successful for 'smart grid' (E4) and Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) projects (A3), both of which have commenced in 2015-16; these are included as key projects for implementation in the draft 2015-16 programme. The Council was unsuccessful in its funding bids to support Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (E5), either alone or in partnership, but continued to explore opportunities. Public Health also successfully established a project to support self-reliant communities which is continuing into 2015-16 (S1). With regard to the fifth action (A4), two opportunities have been identified to develop an environmental project to improve the image of the City. Both are best pursued at a wider Black Country level and are continuing to be explored in 2015-16.

3.5 With regard to the on-going actions, of the 10 within the Council the annual programmes, such as improvements to the Council's housing stock and open spaces (C3 and A7), proceeded successful as did the establishment of the Planning for Urban Health Working Group to improve public health (S2). In other areas the Housing Service and

Wolverhampton Homes continued to explore opportunities to generate renewable energy from the Council's housing (C2) and the Waste and Recycling Service continued to work hard to reduce the level of contamination of recycling (A6). The project to maximise the energy efficiency of council corporate buildings is moved into the key projects being delivered in the draft programme for 2014/15 as the Futurespace initiative for the Civic Centre is developed and the Corporate Landlord service provides a stronger focus on this area.

- 3.6 The seven on-going actions in partnership cover a broad range of areas. Some, such in as the commencement of the Interchange Block 10 development to BREEAM Excellent standard and publication of the West Midlands Community Risk register (C8) and Low Emission Towns and Cities programme (A9), show specific results. Other actions, such as exploring the potential for renewable and low carbon energy projects (E6) and fully delivering the Affordable Warmth Grant programme (C7), have proved more challenging.
- 3.7 Appendix 1 also includes a draft programme for 2015/16. This contains 10 key projects being delivered including the addition of: a 'smart grids' project (E4); maximising energy efficiency on council property (C5); delivering the LSTF project for the Stafford Road corridor (A3); and supporting self-reliant communities (S10).
- 3.8 The key projects being developed are reduced to three actions and further work is required to identify potential projects for implementation as existing projects are complete. It is in this area that guidance from the Panel is particularly welcome. For this reason, and to retain flexibility to amend the Implementation Plan through the year as project ideas develop or prove unfeasible, this programme is presented as a draft.
- 3.9 One issue raised in the discussions about the Council's sustainability function in early 2014 was the need to raise its profile within the Council. For this reason the report has been brought to Cabinet for comment and final approval. Prior to this the report has been considered by: the Sustainability Advisory Group, who commented on the need to identify external funding for projects, to learn from best practice elsewhere and identify resources to develop and deliver projects; and by the Vibrant and Sustainable City Scrutiny Panel, who commented on the need to take further action to improve air quality and to combat climate change, again looking at best practice from other councils.

#### **4.0 Financial implications**

- 4.1 There are no financial implications arising from this report which reports progress against agreed actions. [TK/10092015/J]

#### **5.0 Legal implications**

- 5.1 There are no legal implications arising from this report which reports progress against agreed actions. [RB/11092015/M]

## **6.0 Equalities implications**

6.1 An equalities analysis was prepared and reported upon as part of the process of preparation and approval of the Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan. Further equalities analyses will be produced as required as individual projects are developed.

## **7.0 Environmental implications**

7.1 This report outlines progress against actions contained in the Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan which will reduce the negative effects of climate change, pollution and other negative forces on the City and assist in producing a better quality natural and built environment.

## **8.0 Schedule of background papers**

8.1 Environmental Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan 2013-18.

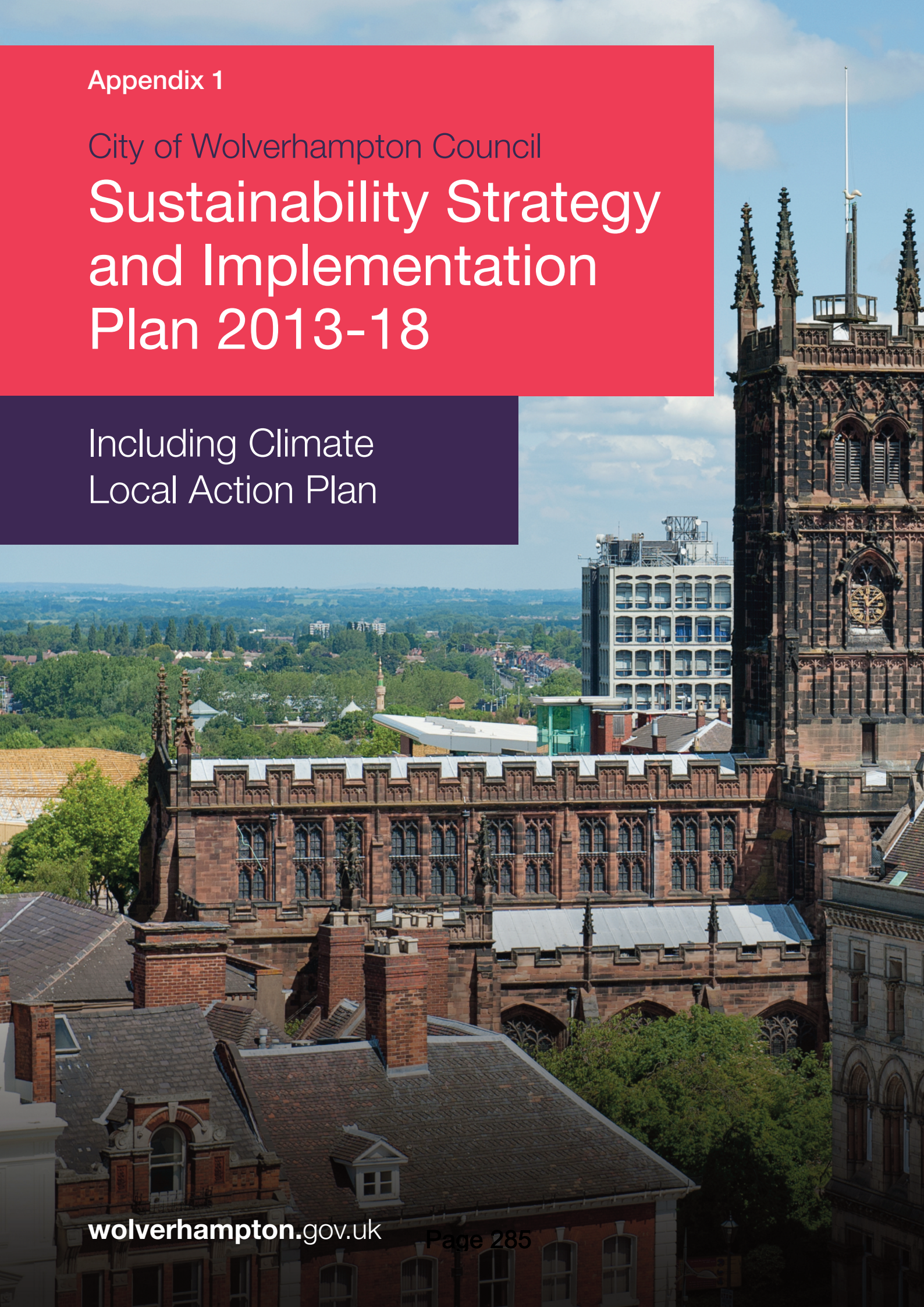
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Appendix 1

City of Wolverhampton Council

# Sustainability Strategy and Implementation Plan 2013-18

Including Climate  
Local Action Plan



# 2014/15 Annual Monitoring Report: Summary

| Project                                                                                                                | Progress<br>2014/15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Corporate<br>Plan Priority |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>1. Key Projects being Delivered</b>                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |                            |
| E1: Lead on supporting the development of low carbon projects for the Black Country Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) | LEP Low Carbon Project Officer appointed December 2014 & working with potential partners                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Stronger Economy           |
| E2: Implement sustainable procurement practices within the Council & promote them to partners through the City Board   | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Councillors &amp; employees briefed on new public procurement regulations, including social value, in March 2015. Principles for a procurement strategy due to go to Cabinet in June 2015, out for consultation &amp; be adopted October 2015</li> <li>2. Work on Charter for Wolverhampton commenced &amp; first draft produced, due to go to City Board July 2015 for approval</li> </ol> | Stronger Organisation      |
| E3: Develop a Smart City Strategy for the City                                                                         | Background research undertaken & cross-council links established. Due to report progress to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in April 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Stronger Economy           |
| C1: Increase renewable & low carbon energy generation on council property (excluding council housing)                  | Solar programme on council buildings; 15 schemes generating 154,000 kWh of electricity & benefiting council by £23,000 for the year, bringing total generating capacity up to 680 kW of power.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Stronger Organisation      |
| A1: Adopt & implement the Council's Travel Plan to promote sustainable travel by staff                                 | Staff Travel Plan adopted September 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | Stronger Economy           |
| A2: Develop an Active Travel Strategy to increase rates of walking, cycling & public transport use in the City         | Active Travel Strategy preparation commenced February 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Stronger Economy           |

| Project                                                                                                                                               | Progress<br>2014/15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Corporate<br>Plan Priority |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>2. Key Projects being Developed</b>                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                            |
| E4: Support partnership bid to Innovate UK to explore potential of 'smart grids' for managing energy demand in a variety of locations across the City | Funding bid for 'smart grids' project approved January 2015 for delivery 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Stronger Economy           |
| E5: Develop funding bids to support promotion of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)                                                                  | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. OLEV Go Ultra Low City scheme: Joint West Midlands and Warwickshire bid, February 2015 (unsuccessful)</li> <li>2. OLEV Readiness Fleet fund: Bid submitted to introduce ULEVs to the council's fleet, January 2015 (unsuccessful)</li> <li>3. Green Fleet Review: For council fleet, March 2015 (successful, due for completion summer 2015)</li> <li>4. OLEV Taxi Scheme: For study of taxi fleet. Genex commissioned March 2013 to assist in submitting a bid, due June 2015</li> </ol> | Stronger Economy           |
| A3: Develop Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) 2015/16 project for the Stafford Road corridor                                                    | Funding bid approved for delivery 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Stronger Economy           |
| A4: Explore potential for an environmental project to improve perception of the city & support regeneration                                           | Two main opportunities identified both at Black Country level; Black Country Garden City concept & restoration & improvement of canal & redundant rail corridors. Potential for Bilston Urban Village & Bradley Canal Arm                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Stronger Economy           |
| S1: Supporting self-reliant communities                                                                                                               | Project commenced September 2014 establishing citywide financial health, healthy living, digital inclusion and smoking cessation programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Stronger Communities       |

| Project                                                                                                                                    | Progress<br>2014/15                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Corporate<br>Plan Priority |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>3. On-going Actions: within the council</b>                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |                            |
| C2: Explore opportunities to increase renewable & low carbon energy generated by the Council's social housing stock                        | On-going exploration of opportunities. Desktop analysis commissioned of solar PV potential of housing stock                                                                                                            | Stronger Economy           |
| C3: Continued programme to improve the energy efficiency of the Council's social housing stock                                             | Due to changes in the operation of Green Deal and ECO, limited progress was made in 2014/15. A programme of External Wall Insulation (EWI) is programmed for 2015/16 using ECO funding                                 | Stronger Economy           |
| C4: Maximise achievable energy efficiency of new social housing, including a minimum standard of Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4        | 40 council houses built to Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4                                                                                                                                                          | Stronger Economy           |
| C5: Maximise achievable energy efficiency of Council property (excluding housing) through management & design                              | Works commenced on revised 'Futurespace' initiative for refurbishment of Civic Centre. Discussions commenced in March 2015 about potential to apply to European Structural & Investment Fund (ESIF) to support project | Stronger Organisation      |
| C6: Continue to record & report on carbon production from City Council activities                                                          | Carbon Reduction Commitment (CRC) emissions of 42,114 tCO <sub>2</sub> at a cost to Council of £505,367                                                                                                                | Stronger Organisation      |
| A5: Incorporate needs of pedestrians, cyclists & public transport users in the design & construction of new developments & highway schemes | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 69,888 cycle movements recorded on monitored routes, a 35% increase since the 2009/10 baseline</li> <li>2. 1,440 m of new or improved cycle way delivered</li> </ol>         | Stronger Communities       |
| A6: Programme of initiatives to improve the efficiency of the Waste & Recycling Service                                                    | Reduction in contamination levels of recyclates achieved in target areas                                                                                                                                               | Stronger Economy           |



| Project                                                                                                                                               | Progress<br>2014/15                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Corporate<br>Plan Priority |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>3. On-going Actions: within the council</b>                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                            |
| A7: Implement Council's Open Space Strategy & Action Plan                                                                                             | 8 open spaces improved or created                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Stronger Communities       |
| A8: Improve management of surface water in City                                                                                                       | Drafts of Surface Water Management Plan & Flood Risk Management Strategy produced. Discussions among the Black Country councils about partnership working                                                                                                                                                                                    | Stronger Organisation      |
| S2: Improve delivery of public health outcomes                                                                                                        | Planning for Urban Health Working Group established, November 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Stronger Communities       |
| <b>4. On-going Actions: in partnership</b>                                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |                            |
| E6: Explore potential for partnership in developing renewable & low carbon energy projects                                                            | Number of opportunities explored including: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discussions with European Bioenergy Research Institute at Aston University on potential projects</li> <li>2. Exploration of potential for district heating</li> <li>3. Discussions with possible partners about potential for urban biomass</li> </ol> | Stronger Economy           |
| E7: Promote sustainability through local regeneration schemes, including meeting BREEAM Excellent or equivalent, where deliverable, on specific sites | Construction of Interchange Block 10 commenced September 2014 to BREEAM Excellent standard                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Stronger Economy           |
| C7: Promote energy efficiency and affordable warmth across housing sectors                                                                            | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) biennial report published, March 2015</li> <li>2. Affordable Warmth Grant programme awarded 40 grants (38 complete, 1 planned, 1 on hold)</li> </ol>                                                                                                           | Stronger Economy           |

| Project                                                                                                                                        | Progress<br>2014/15                                                                                                                                                  | Corporate<br>Plan Priority |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| <b>4. On-going Actions: in partnership</b>                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                      |                            |
| C8: Promote adaption to extreme weather events by contributing to West Midlands Community Risk Register                                        | West Midlands Community Risk Register published, August 2014                                                                                                         | Stronger Communities       |
| A9: Seek improvement of air quality in the City through continued partnership involvement in the Low Emission Towns & Cities Programme (LETCP) | Published Good Practice Air Quality Guidance on Planning (May 2014) & on Procurement (September 2014) & produced Low Emission Zone feasibility study (February 2015) | Stronger Communities       |
| S3: Support economic & social inclusion actions at a neighbourhood level to include work in targeted neighbourhoods                            | Council's Economic Inclusion Service supported 160 individuals, of which 29 have moved into employment, & 46 enterprises                                             | Stronger Communities       |
| S4: Promote Fairtrade through membership of & support for the Wolverhampton Fairtrade Partnership                                              | Continued to support partnership including attending meetings & events & hosting annual Civic Reception                                                              | Stronger Communities       |

# 2015/16 Draft Project Programme

| Project                                                                                                                                               | Corporate Plan Priority |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>1. Key Projects being Delivered</b>                                                                                                                |                         |
| E1: Lead on supporting the development of low carbon projects for the Black Country                                                                   | Stronger Economy        |
| E2: Implement sustainable procurement practices within the Council & promote them to partners through the City Board                                  | Stronger Organisation   |
| E3: Develop a Smart City Strategy for the City                                                                                                        | Stronger Economy        |
| E4: Support partnership bid to Innovate UK to explore potential of 'smart grids' for managing energy demand in a variety of locations across the City | Stronger Economy        |
| C1: Increase renewable & low carbon energy generation on Council property (excluding council housing)                                                 | Stronger Organisation   |
| C5: Maximise achievable energy efficiency of Council property (excluding housing) through management & design                                         | Stronger Organisation   |
| A1: Adopt & implement the Council's Travel Plan to promote sustainable travel by staff                                                                | Stronger Economy        |
| A2: Develop an Active Travel Strategy to increase rates of walking, cycling & public transport use in the City                                        | Stronger Economy        |
| A3: Develop Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) 2015/16 project for the Stafford Road corridor                                                    | Stronger Economy        |
| S1: Supporting self-reliant communities                                                                                                               | Stronger Communities    |
| <b>2. Key Projects being Developed</b>                                                                                                                |                         |
| E5: Develop funding bids to support promotion of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)                                                                  | Stronger Economy        |
| A4: Explore potential for an environmental project to improve perception of the City & support regeneration                                           | Stronger Economy        |
| C9: Apply for support in developing a climate adaption plan for council services                                                                      | Stronger Communities    |

| Project                                                                                                                                        | Corporate Plan Priority |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>3. On-going Actions: within the council</b>                                                                                                 |                         |
| C2: Explore opportunities to increase renewable & low carbon energy generated by the Council's social housing stock                            | Stronger Economy        |
| C3: Continued programme to improve the energy efficiency of the Council's social housing stock                                                 | Stronger Economy        |
| C4: Maximise achievable energy efficiency of new social housing, including a minimum standard of Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4            | Stronger Economy        |
| C6: Continue to record & report on carbon production from City council activities                                                              | Stronger Organisation   |
| A7: Implement Council's Open Space Strategy & Action Plan                                                                                      | Stronger Communities    |
| A8: Improve management of surface water in City                                                                                                | Stronger Organisation   |
| S2: Improve delivery of public health outcomes                                                                                                 | Stronger Communities    |
| <b>4. On-going Actions: in partnership</b>                                                                                                     |                         |
| E6: Explore potential for partnership in developing renewable & low carbon energy projects                                                     | Stronger Economy        |
| E7: Promote sustainability through local regeneration schemes, including BREEAM Excellent or equivalent, where deliverable, on specific sites  | Stronger Economy        |
| C7: Promote energy efficiency and affordable warmth across housing sectors                                                                     | Stronger Economy        |
| C8: Promote adaption to extreme weather events by contributing to West Midlands Community Risk Register                                        | Stronger Communities    |
| A9: Seek improvement of air quality in the City through continued partnership involvement in the Low Emission Towns & Cities Programme (LETCP) | Stronger Communities    |
| S3: Support economic and social inclusion actions at a neighbourhood level to include work in targeted neighbourhoods                          | Stronger Communities    |
| S4: Promote Fairtrade through membership of and support for the Wolverhampton Fairtrade Partnership                                            | Stronger Communities    |

# 2014/15 Annual Monitoring Report

## Project key

The projects are organised with identifying letters aligning them to the following outcomes, linked to the priorities of the Sustainability Strategy:

**E = Outcome 1:**

Growth in the low carbon Economy of the city (reflects Priority 1 – Provide effective support to deliver a green economy and achieve sustainable economic development)

**C = Outcome 2:**

Increase in generation of renewable & low Carbon energy & reduction in the city's contribution to climate change (reflects Priority 2 – Address the causes and effects of climate change and support the move to renewable & low carbon energy)

**S = Outcome 3:**

A more Socially inclusive and resilient city where more people benefit from the city's growth (reflects Priority 3 – Promote social inclusion and equal opportunities)

**A = Outcome 4:**

A more Attractive city where people choose to live, work and do business (reflects Priority 4 – Protect and enhance the natural and built environment)

# 1. Key Projects being Delivered

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Ref:</b>             | <b>E1</b>                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Project:</b>                 | Lead on supporting the development of low carbon projects for the Black Country LEP                                                                                                            |
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Strategic project                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To support the development of low carbon projects for submission for Growth Deal or ESIF funding                                                                                               |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Wolverhampton City Council as the lead council in supporting the development of low carbon projects for submission for Growth Deal or ESIF funding                                             |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of projects submitted, amount of funding received                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | 2014/15 to 2020/21                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | £65k Grant funding from Black Country LEP for project officer                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Heather Clark, Service Development Manager, City Economy                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | University of Wolverhampton, Sustainability West Midlands, Black Country LEP & constituent partners, including four Black Country councils, Accord Housing & other Green Growth Group partners |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | To contribute on development of programme & lead on specific projects                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Project officer appointed December 2014 & working with potential partners                                                                                                                      |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Project Ref: | **E2**

**Project:** Implement sustainable procurement practices within the council & promote them to partners through the City Board

**Sustainability Theme:** Economy

**Type of Action:** Practices & procedures

**Corporate Plan Priority:** Stronger Organisation

**Objective:** Include sustainability criteria as a key element of new Procurement Policy, Code & Procedures & ensure their application in the council's procurement activities

**Action:**

1. Including sustainability criteria as a key element of new Procurement Policy, Code & Procedures, reflecting the requirements of the Public Services (Social Value) Act 2012 & including Best Value, economic, social and environmental factors in assessment criteria
2. Promote the adoption of sustainable procurement practices to partners through the City Board

**Status:** Good practice

**Outputs:**

1. Procurement Policy, Code & Procedures to include sustainability as key element
2. Procurement to be included as consideration in revised Charter for Wolverhampton being progressed through Inclusion Board and Wolverhampton City Board

**Timeline:**

1. December 2014
2. 2015/16

**Funding:** Revenue; no additional funding required

**Lead:**

1. Andy Moran, Head of Service, Procurement
2. Sheila Collett, Head of Service, Economic Inclusion

*continued on next page*

Project Ref: | **E2**

**Partners:**

1. Low Emission Towns & Cities Partnership, Sustainability West Midlands
2. City Board

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**Partner Contribution:**

1. Advise on development of policy, code & procedures as required
2. Lead on development

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**Progress:**

1. Councillors & staff briefed on new public procurement regulations, including social value, in March 2015. Adoption of new corporate Procurement Policy slipped due to changes in staff & procedures. Principles for a procurement strategy now due to go to Cabinet in June 2015, out for consultation July to Sept 2015 & be adopted October 2015
2. Work on Charter for Wolverhampton commenced & first draft produced, due to go to City Board July 2015 for approval

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**For 2015/16:** Retain

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Project Ref: | **E3**

**Project:** Development of a Smart City Strategy for the city

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Strategy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To promote the city as a Smart City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Adopt the EU framework for Smart City developments.<br>Develop a Smart City Strategy based upon: co-ordinating existing activities and branding them as Smart; promoting Wolverhampton as a Smart City: developing a strong pipeline of projects; seeking funding opportunities; and promoting Smart City thinking within the council and among partners at a sub-regional and regional level |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Smart City Strategy; programme of Smart City projects; Initiatives promoting Wolverhampton as a Smart City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Approval of process, April 2015; development of Smart City Strategy, 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue; no additional funding required                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Andy Hoare, Head of Service, ICT                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Various including University of Wolverhampton, Centro, other Black Country councils & new combined authority, depending on area of work                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | advise on development of strategy; contribute projects to work programme & lead on project development                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Background research undertaken & cross-council links established. Due to report progress to Cabinet (Resources) Panel in April 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

Project Ref: | **C1**

**Project:** Increase renewable & low carbon energy generation on council property (excluding council housing)

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Increase renewable & low carbon energy generation from council's estate, generating revenue, saving money & reducing carbon emissions                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Increase the generation of renewable & low carbon energy on the council's own property by investigating and, where feasible, implementing a programme of measures including solar & biomass on council buildings & land, exploring schools as the next phase     |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of schemes implemented & their projected returns in Kwh of energy generated p.a. & £ cost benefit to council                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Capital programme; prudential borrowing                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Mark Bassett, Strategic Property Advisor; Keith Daw, Energy Manager                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Contractors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Deliver projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | 15 solar PV schemes implemented, generating 154,000 KWh & providing cost benefit to council of £23,000 for year, bringing total generating capacity up to 680 KW of power. 1 biomass scheme due to be installed in April 2015 with 200 KW of generating capacity |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain with revised lead                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Project Ref: **A1**

**Project:** Adopt & implement the council's Travel Plan to promote sustainable travel by staff

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Deliver cost savings, reduced energy consumption & reduced carbon emissions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Implementation of the council's revised staff travel plan                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Increase in % of staff travelling to work by sustainable modes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual monitoring from Feb 2015, following approval in Sept 2014                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue & DfT via Local Sustainable Transport Fund                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Linda Downing, Professional Lead, Sustainable Transport                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Centro, public transport operators, cycle suppliers                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Development of Travel Plan & delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | <p>Travel Plan adopted Sept 2014, baseline staff travel data established through survey, annual monitoring to commence Feb 2016.</p> <p>In 2014/15 the council has: been awarded both Top Cycle and Top Walking location status by Centro; provided walk leader training; held regular events such as Dr Bike &amp; Bikers' Breakfasts; &amp; undertaken promotional events such as the Christmas Countdown Challenge.</p> <p>The Travel Plan also supports the council's Smart City &amp; Active Travel Strategies</p> |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

Project Ref: **A2**

**Project:** Develop an Active Travel Strategy to increase rates of walking, cycling & public transport use in the city

**Sustainability Theme:** Attractive City

**Type of Action:** Practices & procedures

**Corporate Plan Priority:** Stronger Economy

**Objective:** To increase walking, cycling and public transport use as a proportion of trips in the city and contribute to improved air quality & public health through physical activity

**Action:** Production of Active Travel Strategy to increase rates of walking, cycling & public transport use in the city

**Status:** Good practice

**Outputs:** Commissioning of Active Travel Strategy

**Timeline:** Commissioning 2014/15, Production 2015/16

**Funding:** Revenue

**Lead:** Tim Philpot, Professional Transport Lead, Transportation Service

**Partners:** Centro, Joint Local Access Forum, Wolverhampton Cycle Forum & wider stakeholders

**Partner Contribution:** Development of strategy & programme

**Progress:** URS AECOM commissioned to produce Active Travel Strategy, work commenced February 2015, due for completion October 2015

Also supports council's Smart City Strategy & Travel Plan

**For 2015/16:** Retain with revised lead

## 2. Key Projects being Developed

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Ref:</b>             | <b>E4</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Project:</b>                 | Support partnership bid to Innovate UK to explore potential of 'smart grids' for managing energy demand in a variety of locations across the city                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To support the creation of a more open and flexible electricity distribution network by participating in an innovative project, using Wolverhampton as a case study, to model the development of new kinds of control equipment for substations. In doing so enabling local, decentralised generation and distribution of electricity and supporting regeneration and the local economy |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Participate in joint bid, led by Encraft, with a view to implementation in 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Successful bid to be implemented in 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Submission November 2014, implementation April 2015 if approved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Innovate UK (UK government) including all council costs                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Ric Bravery, Sustainability Officer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Encraft Ltd, AE Technology Ltd, e2E Services Ltd, Aston University, Western Power Distribution                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Match funding & delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Bid approved January 2015, commencement due May 2015                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Move to Key Projects being Delivered for 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

Project Ref: | **E5**

**Project:** Develop funding bids to support promotion of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To support the development of the low carbon economy through promotion of Ultra Low Emission Vehicles (ULEVs)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Participate in bids for funding, to the Office for Low Emission Vehicles (OLEV), EU and other funding bodies, for low emission vehicles, infrastructure and other supporting measures, where appropriate in partnership with other organisations                                                                                               |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of successful bids and amount secured in funding                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going as opportunities arise                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue for funding bid; if successful OLEV, capital (to be identified) & other sources (to be identified)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Ric Bravery, Sustainability Officer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Centro, taxi and public transport operators, vehicle manufacturers and suppliers, other councils                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Bid development, match funding & project delivery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | 1. WCC led for Black Country on working with West Midlands ITA, other West Midlands councils, Warwickshire CC & Centro on a joint West Midlands and Warwickshire application to be shortlisted for the OLEV Go Ultra Low City scheme. The application, submitted in February 2015, was unsuccessful although further joint work is anticipated |

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Project Ref: | **E5**

2. A bid submitted in January 2015 to the OLEV the Readiness Fleet fund, for funding to introduce ULEVs to the council's fleet, was unsuccessful
3. An application was made in March 2015 to the Energy Saving Trust (EST) for a Green Fleet Review and Plugged in Fleet Initiative (PiFI) review; subject to submission of data this is due to take place in summer 2015
4. Learning from lack of success in previous bids, in March 2013 Cenex were commissioned to assist in submitting a bid to the OLEV Taxi Scheme for a feasibility scheme into the promotion of ULEV taxis in the city. This bid is due to be submitted in June 2015

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For 2015/16:

Retain

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Project Ref: **A3**

**Project:** Develop Local Sustainable Transport Fund (LSTF) 2015/16 project for the Stafford Road corridor

**Sustainability Theme:** Attractive City

**Type of Action:** Project

**Corporate Plan Priority:** Stronger Economy

**Objective:** To tackle congestion and increase number of trips by sustainable transport along the Stafford Road corridor between the city centre and i54/ M54 as well as supporting social inclusion by improving access to i54 by sustainable transport modes

**Action:** To work with Centro and other partners to support a bid to the Department for Transport for LSTF funding for the Stafford Road corridor as an extension of the existing 'Smarter Network, Smarter Choices' project

**Status:** Good practice

**Outputs:** Successful bid for implementation in 2015/16

**Timeline:** Implementation 2015/16

**Funding:** LSTF (UK government) + existing capital & revenue budgets

**Lead:** Marianne Page, Service Lead – Transport Strategy

**Partners:** Centro, bus operators, private businesses

**Partner Contribution:** Bid & programme development & delivery

**Progress:** Bid approved & to be delivered 2015/16

**For 2015/16:** Move to key projects being delivered



Project Ref: | **A4**

**Project:** Explore potential for an environmental project to improve perception of the city & support regeneration

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To improve perception of the city by outsiders, attract residents & investment & support regeneration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | To identify opportunities, work in partnership with other organisations and seek to develop project ideas                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Identified potential projects & partners to be developed further in 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | 2015/16                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | To be identified; options include ERDF                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Ric Bravery, Sustainability Officer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | To be determined                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | To be determined                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | <p>Two main opportunities identified. Both fall within the Black Country as Urban Park concept as previously identified in Black Country Study and, most recently, as the Environmental Vision of the Black Country Environmental Infrastructure Implementation Plan, November 2014.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Black Country Garden City concept as submitted, as Albion Garden City, by MADE for the Wolfson Economics Prize 2014 and adopted by the Black Country LEP Board. Development of this is being led by Accord Housing in discussion with MADE and, on behalf of the four Black Country councils, Sandwell Council</li></ol> |

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Project Ref: | **A4**

2. Restoration and improvement of redundant & existing railway and canal corridors to provide greenspace, habitats, sustainable transport routes and as a means of improving the image of Wolverhampton and the Black Country. This links into money secured by the Black Country from the Local Growth Fund for 'Managing Short Trips' and the low carbon and environmental strands of the Black Country ESIF funds, both of which have the potential to fund improved walking and cycling infrastructure

Within Wolverhampton there is potential to link the existing Bilston Urban Village project, with its extensive areas of greenspace and walking and cycling routes, and proposals to reopen the adjoining Bradley Canal Arm to draw together these two subject areas and create a higher profile environmental project for the city

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For 2015/16:

Retain

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Project Ref: | **S1**

**Project:** Supporting self-reliant communities

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Society                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To encourage self-sustaining community provision within community hubs and community centres across the city                                                                                                        |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Establish citywide financial health, healthy living, digital inclusion and smoking cessation programmes                                                                                                             |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Increased utilisation of & income from community buildings, skills obtained by residents, uptake of health related programmes & number of volunteers working in community buildings & reduced feelings of isolation |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | 2 year programme September 2014 – August 2016                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Andrea Fieldhouse, Community Development Manager, Public Health                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Community associations across city, Gazebo Theatre, NHS Healthy Lifestyle Service                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Programme delivery                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Project commenced September 2014. Digital inclusion and health related programmes have commenced at community sites and a programme of training for community champions is being developed                          |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain, move into Key Projects being Delivered                                                                                                                                                                      |

### 3. On-going Actions: within the council

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Ref:</b>             | <b>C2</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Project:</b>                 | Explore opportunities to increase renewable & low carbon energy generated by the council's social housing stock                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To save money for the council and tenants, reduce fuel poverty, generate revenue & reduce carbon emissions from the social housing stock                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | To seek to maximise opportunities for all social housing stock, including council housing managed by Tenant Management Organisations & Wolverhampton Homes, to generate additional renewable & low carbon energy by investigating &, where feasible, implementing a programme of measures including solar & biomass |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Programme of potential projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | To be identified                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Kenny Aitchison, Service Manager Housing Strategy, Housing Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Wolverhampton Homes, Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs)/ construction sector/ renewable energy sector                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Development of programme & delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | On-going exploration of opportunities. Desktop analysis commissioned of solar PV potential of entire stock, the results of which will be used to investigate implementing a programme of solar panels alongside other improvement works (see project C3).                                                           |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

Project Ref: | **C3**

**Project:** Continued programme to improve the energy efficiency of the council's social housing stock

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To save money for the council and tenants, reduce fuel poverty, generate revenue & reduce carbon emissions from the social housing stock                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | <p>To seek to maximise opportunities for all social housing stock, including council housing managed by Tenant Management Organisations &amp; Wolverhampton Homes, to improve energy efficiency by developing an approach to promoting energy efficiency &amp; reduce fuel poverty including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>The Decent Homes initiative (to 2015) &amp; estate-based regeneration schemes</li><li>Implementing schemes under the Energy Company Obligation (ECO), where funds are available, and the Green Deal, where a viable approach has been identified</li></ol> |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of properties improved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Housing Revenue Account                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Kenny Aitchison, Service Manager Housing Strategy, Housing Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Wolverhampton Homes, Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs) / construction sector                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

*continued on next page*

Project Ref: | **C3**

**Partner Contribution:** Development of programme & delivery of programme

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**Progress:** Due to changes in the operation of Green Deal and ECO, limited progress was made in 2014/15. A programme of External Wall Insulation (EWI) is programmed for 2015/16 using ECO funding.

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**For 2015/16:** Retain

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Project Ref: | **C4**

**Project:** Maximise achievable energy efficiency of new housing, including a standard of Code for Sustainable Homes Level 4

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To save money for residents and tenants, reduce fuel poverty & reduce carbon emissions generated by the housing stock                                                                                 |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | To seek to build all new affordable housing, including council housing, to a minimum standard of Code Level 4 of the Code for Sustainable Homes & promote building to Code Level 4 for market housing |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Social and market housing built to CfSH Level 4 or equivalent                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual programme                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Capital & private sector                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Kenny Aitchison, Service Manager Housing Strategy, Housing Service                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Wolverhampton Homes, housing associations, construction sector                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | 2014/15, 40 council houses built to Code Level 4 at Thompson Avenue which also generating revenue for the council from solar panels                                                                   |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain. Another c.40-45 council homes to be built 2015/16 to CfSH Level 4                                                                                                                             |

Project Ref: **C5**

**Project:** Maximise achievable energy efficiency of council property (excluding housing) through management & design

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To reduce council's energy consumption, thereby reducing costs and carbon emissions                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Maximise energy efficiency of council property (excluding housing) through management & design, including construction or refurbishment projects, via: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Strategic Asset Review</li><li>2. New Corporate Asset Management Plan</li><li>3. Service Area Asset Management Plans</li><li>4. Development of individual Energy Management Plans for facilities management (automated building control) &amp; service managers</li></ol> |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of schemes implemented & their returns in KWh of energy saved                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Capital                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Mark Bassett, Head of Corporate Landlord; Keith Daw, Energy Manager                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Contractors                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |



Project Ref: | **C5**

**Progress:**

Works commenced on revised 'Futurespace' initiative for refurbishment of Civic Centre. Discussions commenced in March 2015 about potential to apply to European Structural & Investment Fund (ESIF) to support project.

At a broader level the Corporate Landlord service is seeking to incorporate energy issues in mainstream asset management activities.

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**For 2015/16:**

Move to key projects being delivered with revised lead

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**Project Ref: | C6****Project:** Continue to record & report on carbon production from city council activities

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Annual monitoring                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To meet the council's legal requirements & inform work to reduce the council's carbon emissions, energy consumption & energy costs                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Continue to record & report on carbon production from city council activities in line with the Carbon Reduction Commitment Energy Efficiency Scheme (CRC) and any other legal requirements                                                                                                    |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Annual CRC returns in compliance with Climate Change Act, 2008 & any other as required                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual returns                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Mark Bassett, Head of Corporate Landlord; Keith Daw, Energy Manager                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | None                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Not applicable                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Annual return completed for 2013/14; CRC emissions were 42,114 tCO <sub>2</sub> at a cost to council of £505,367. Forecast purchase made for 2014/15 of circa 27,700 tCO <sub>2</sub> at a cost of circa £432,00; this figure would have been £454,000 if bought in the 'buy to comply' sale. |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain with revised lead                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

Project Ref: **A5**

**Project:** Incorporate needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users in the design & construction of new developments & highway schemes

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Practices & procedures                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To increase walking, cycling and public transport use as a proportion of trips in the city and contribute to improved air quality & physical activity                            |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Incorporate needs of pedestrians, cyclists and public transport users in the design & construction of new developments & highway schemes including the need for cross-city links |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | 1. Increase recorded use of cycle routes<br>2. Increase delivery of cycle network by 12 km per annum                                                                             |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual programme                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Capital programme & private developers                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Gwyn James, Transportation Manager                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Centro, NEWM, Arriva, Diamond, other bus operators, Sustrans, Canal & River Trust, Living Streets, framework contractors                                                         |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Design & delivery of schemes                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | 2014/15:<br>1.69,888 cycle movements recorded on monitored routes, a 35% increase since the 2009/10 baseline<br>2. 1,440 m of new or improved cycle way delivered                |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                           |

Project Ref: **A6**

**Project:** Programme of initiatives to improve the efficiency of the Waste & Recycling Service

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Reduce costs of domestic waste service and increase proportion of waste recycled                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | <p>On-going programme of initiatives to improve the efficiency of the Waste &amp; Recycling Service, supported by the Waste Partnership Communications Plan, to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Increase recycling rates in areas with low take up</li><li>Explore potential to extend the recycling service to 'hard to reach' properties</li><li>Increase efficiency of collection routes</li><li>Address communication barriers with Black &amp; Minority Ethnic (BME) communities</li></ul> |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Reduction in contamination levels of recycled materials ('recyclates')                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue & government grant                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Chris Huddart, Head of Service, Delivery                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Amey                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Reduction in contamination levels of recyclates achieved in target areas though not to required levels; further work required                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

Project Ref: | **A7**

**Project:** Implement council's Open Space Strategy & Action Plan

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Increase quality & availability of open space across the city                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Implement Open Space, Sport & Recreation Strategy & Action Plan, March 2014                                                                                                       |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of open spaces improved or created                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Annual monitoring from 2014/15                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Section 106 + small amounts of capital & other external sources                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Richard Welch, Head of Service, Community Recreation                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Private developers & funding providers                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Funding & delivery of programme                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | In 2014/15 8 open spaces improved or created: East Park, Dukes Park, Taylor Road O.S., All Saints Play Rationalisation, Barnhurst Lane, Rakegate Wood, Claregate P.F. & Penk Rise |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain with revised lead                                                                                                                                                          |

Project Ref: | **A8**

**Project:** Improved management of surface water in city

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Policy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Organisation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Meet legal requirements, reduce surface water flooding, adapt to climate change, promote water conservation & promote biodiversity                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Improved management of surface water in city through: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Developing &amp; implementing a sustainable drainage systems (SuDs) policy in line with regulations under Schedule 3 of the Flood &amp; Water Management Act 2010</li><li>2. Finalising &amp; implementing a Surface Water Management (SWM) Plan to promote sustainable urban drainage &amp; biodiversity</li><li>3. Developing a local Flood Risk Management (FRM) Strategy</li></ol> |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Delivery of SuD policy, SWM Plan & FRM Strategy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. SuDs policy: March 2015</li><li>2. SWM Plan: Final draft October 2014</li><li>3. FRM Strategy: Final draft December 2014</li></ol>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Keith Rogers, Service Lead, Highways Assets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Severn Trent Water, other Black Country councils                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Contribution to development of policy/ plan/ strategy & their implementation                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

Project Ref: | **A8**

**Progress:**

Implementation of Schedule 3 of Flood & Water Management Act 2010 has been further delayed. Meanwhile drafts of both the SWM Plan & FRM Strategy were produced in 2014/15 but not approved or published. Both have been superseded by discussions about partnership working between the Black Country councils, including the creation of a Black Country Flood Risk Manager post & proposed joint FRM Strategy which will include a SuDs policy

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**For 2015/16:**

Retain

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Project Ref: | **S2**

**Project:** Improve delivery of public health outcomes

|                                 |                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Society                                                                                                          |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Practice & procedures                                                                                            |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                             |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To improve delivery of public health outcomes through greater co-ordination of the council's services            |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Establish a Planning for Urban Health Working Group within council                                               |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                    |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Establish Planning for Urban Health Working Group & scope its potential areas of work                            |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | March 2014                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                          |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Richard Welch, Head of Healthier Place Service, Public Health                                                    |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Public Health England                                                                                            |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Advise on formation & scope of group                                                                             |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Planning for Urban Health Working Group established Nov 2014, principles of working group established March 2015 |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                           |



## 4. On-going Actions: in partnership

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Project Ref:</b>             | <b>E6</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Project:</b>                 | Explore potential for partnership in developing renewable & low carbon energy projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Strategic project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To support job creation and retention                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Explore opportunities, including through the Black Country LEP's Green Growth Group, to develop renewable & low carbon energy projects, including district heating                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Unspecified; dependent on project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | To be identified, depending on project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Ric Bravery, Sustainability Officer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Black Country LEP & constituent partners, including four Black Country councils                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Identification, development & delivery of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | <p>Opportunities explored in 2014/15 include:</p> <p>Visit to European Bioenergy Research institute (EBRI) at Aston University &amp; on-going discussions</p> <p>Explored potential for bid to Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) for funding for district heating study</p> <p>Discussion with a number of parties about potential of urban biomass, including at Black Country Environment Forum &amp; Green Growth Group</p> |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Project Ref: | **E7**

**Project:** Promote sustainability through local regeneration schemes, including BREEAM Excellent or equivalent, where deliverable, on specific sites

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Economy                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Ensure regeneration schemes in which the council is a partner address economic, social & environmental sustainability including climate change, energy efficiency & renewable & low carbon energy                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Ensure that regeneration schemes in which the council is a partner meet specified standards of local training & employment, energy & water efficiency in construction & operation, renewable & low carbon energy generation & standards & promoting biodiversity, including meeting specified standards such as BREEAM |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Sqm of floorspace built to a sustainable environmental standard such as BREEAM                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Dependent on scheme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Marie Bintley, Head of Service, Physical Regeneration                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | HCA, Neptune Developments, Network Rail, Centro, Virgin Trains, Canal & River Trust Balfour Beatty & other development partners                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Development & delivery of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | Construction of Interchange Block 10 commenced Sept 2014 & on time; being built to BREEAM Excellent standard. Local Growth Fund contribution of £4.5 million secured for Interchange Project.                                                                                                                          |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

Project Ref: | **C7**

**Project:** Promote energy efficiency and affordable warmth across housing sectors

**Sustainability Theme:** Energy & Climate Change

**Type of Action:** Programme of projects

**Corporate Plan Priority:** Stronger Economy

**Objective:** Develop and monitor energy efficiency and affordable warmth in Wolverhampton, thereby assisting in reducing fuel poverty & carbon emissions

**Action:** Develop and monitor energy efficiency and affordable warmth in Wolverhampton including following specific actions:

1. Report progress against Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) targets in biennial report
2. Produce a Domestic Energy Efficiency Implementation Plan as part of Housing Strategy
3. Secure funding for Green Deal and ECO programmes wherever possible
4. Deliver Affordable Warmth Grants to vulnerable homeowner

**Status:** Good practice

**Outputs:**

1. Home Energy Conservation Act (HECA) biennial report
2. Domestic Energy Efficiency Implementation Plan
3. Green Deal/ ECO programme
4. No. of households given Affordable Warmth Grant

**Timeline:**

1. Biennial HECA report (due 2014/15)
2. 2015/16
- 3 & 4. Annual programme

**Funding:** Revenue, capital (Affordable Warmth Grant) & external funding as available

*continued on next page*

Project Ref: | **C7**

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Lead:</b>                 | Mandy Findlay/ Lynda Eyton, Housing Improvement Officers, Housing Service                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Partners:</b>             | Wolverhampton Homes, Tenant Management Organisations (TMOs) / Housing Associations/ Age UK, Citizen's Advice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b> | 1 & 2. Input to development of report/ plan<br>3 & 4. Delivery of programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Progress:</b>             | 1. HECA reported published March 2015<br>2. Work commenced, completion planned 2015/16<br>3. Unable to deliver programme due to changes in government policy & operation of Green Deal/ ECO<br>4. Affordable Warmth Grant programme awarded 40 grants (38 complete, 1 planned, 1 on hold), less than anticipated due to limited resources to deliver, tighter criteria & lack of permanent contractor to deliver |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>          | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

Project Ref: | **C8**

**Project:** Promote adaption to extreme weather events by contributing to West Midlands Community Risk Register

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Energy & Climate Change                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Project                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Better equip the city to deal with extreme weather events & other identified risks related to climate change & the environment                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | Contribute to the Community Risk Register for the West Midlands conurbation, incorporating consideration of extreme weather events & other identified risks related to climate change & the environment, & to Wolverhampton Resilience Board Work Programme                                                   |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Good practice                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | West Midlands Community Risk Register & Wolverhampton Resilience Board Work Programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | March 2015 for production of Community Risk Register; Resilience Board Work Programme reviewed quarterly                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Neil Rogerson, Resilience Manager                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Other West Midlands metropolitan councils, emergency services, health agencies, Environment Agency & other responsible bodies under the Civil Contingencies Act (2004)                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Development of register & delivery of work programme                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | West Midlands Community Risk Register published August 2014. This identified flooding, severe weather & environmental pollution as top risks for the West Midlands. This in turn informed the Wolverhampton Resilience Board Work Programme which creates plans to deal with the consequences of these risks. |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

Project Ref: | **A9**

**Project:** Seek improvement of air quality in the city through continued partnership involvement in the Low Emission Towns & Cities Programme (LETCP)

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Attractive City                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Practices & procedures                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | Improve air quality in the city & reduce ill health & premature deaths                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | <p>Seek improvement of air quality in the city through continued partnership involvement in the Low Emission Towns &amp; Cities Programme (LETCP) aimed at reducing emissions from vehicles through following workstreams:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Overarching Low Emission Strategy</li><li>2. Good Practice Guide on Procurement of low emission vehicles</li><li>3. Good Practice Planning Guidance document, promoting low emission vehicles through the planning process</li><li>4. Low Emission Zone (LEZ) feasibility studies</li></ol> |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Improvement in air quality                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | Anticipated completion 2017/18                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Anna Spinks, Service Lead, Environmental Services                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Low Emission Towns & Cities Partnership of seven West Midlands councils, which has engaged with Centro, West Midlands ITA & various other transport organisations (e.g. Freight Haulage Association)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Delivery of workstreams                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

Project Ref: | **A9**

**Progress:**

Published Good Practice Air Quality Guidance on Planning (May 2014) & Procurement (September 2014), discussions took place on joint Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) putting Planning Guidance into practice for Black Country councils. Consideration of the findings of the second Low Emission Zones Feasibility Study, produced February 2014, looking at feasibility of Low Emission Zones in six different areas around West Midlands. Further Feasibility Study produced on economic & health impacts of air pollution reductions brought about by introduction of LEZs produced February 2015. Development of overarching Low Emission Strategy document continued & due for finalising in 2015/16

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**For 2015/16:**

Retain

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Project Ref: | **S3**

**Project:** Support economic and social inclusion actions at a neighbourhood level to include work in targeted neighbourhoods

**Sustainability Theme:** Society

**Type of Action:** Programme of projects

**Corporate Plan Priority:** Stronger Communities

**Objective:** Increased number of local SMEs & social enterprises, people in employment & people engaged in learning activity

**Action:** Support economic and social inclusion actions at a neighbourhood level to include work in targeted neighbourhoods through:

1. Providing support to local communities to develop micro-enterprise, social enterprise and small scale businesses
2. Working with communities to identify and address the specific barriers to employment within specific localities e.g. language barriers; health issues; accessibility of job opportunities; skills issues
3. Identifying and working with other council services to address the wider barriers to enterprise and economic regeneration at the local level e.g. blight and a poor quality local environment; availability of buildings and sites for community enterprise; access to timely and bespoke advice and support

**Status:** Good practice

**Outputs:** Number of people taken into employment in target areas: Number of enterprises supported

**Timeline:** Annual programme from October 2014

**Funding:** Revenue

**Lead:** Sheila Collett, Head of Service, Economic Inclusion



Project Ref: | **S3**

|                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Partners:</b>             | Wolverhampton College, AES, University of Wolverhampton, training providers, local companies, community organisations                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b> | Development & delivery of programmes                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>Progress:</b>             | <p>In the first 6 months of 2014/15 the council's Economic Inclusion Service supported 160 individuals, of which 29 have moved into employment. 46 potential enterprises have also been supported.</p> <p>Burrows Home Comfort is developing an initiative, in partnership with Wolverhampton Homes, University of Wolverhampton &amp; training providers to develop an Employment, Skills &amp; Training programme to develop local recruitment and training to develop skills as part of its External Wall Insulation programme for Wolverhampton Homes.</p> |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>          | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |

Project Ref: | **S4**

**Project:** Promote Fairtrade through membership of and support for the Wolverhampton Fairtrade Partnership

|                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Sustainability Theme:</b>    | Society                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Type of Action:</b>          | Programme of projects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Corporate Plan Priority:</b> | Stronger Communities                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>Objective:</b>               | To increase sales of Fairtrade products in the city                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Action:</b>                  | To continue to be a member of the Wolverhampton Fairtrade Partnership, support and participate in events and seek to increase sales of Fairtrade products in council outlets                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Status:</b>                  | Trailblazing                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| <b>Outputs:</b>                 | Number of WFP activities supported                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Timeline:</b>                | On-going                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>Funding:</b>                 | Revenue                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Lead:</b>                    | Ric Bravery, Sustainability Officer                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Partners:</b>                | Wolverhampton Fairtrade Partnership                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Partner Contribution:</b>    | Lead on development & delivery of programme of events                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <b>Progress:</b>                | The council continued to support the Fairtrade Partnership at a number of events in the 10th anniversary year of the Partnership and beyond including printing a booklet to mark the anniversary, speaking at the AGM in January 2015 & hosting the annual Civic Reception in the Mayor's Parlour in February. The council also assists with publicity and attends the Partnership meetings as well as the newly formed Task Group to organise the Partnership's programme of events. |
| <b>For 2015/16:</b>             | Retain                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |



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City of Wolverhampton Council, Civic Centre, St. Peter's Square,  
Wolverhampton WV1 1SH

# Cabinet Meeting

## 21 October 2015

|                                                |                                                                   |                                           |
|------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Report title</b>                            | The Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country |                                           |
| <b>Decision designation</b>                    | AMBER                                                             |                                           |
| <b>Cabinet member with lead responsibility</b> | Councillor Steve Evans<br>City Environment                        |                                           |
| <b>Key decision</b>                            | No                                                                |                                           |
| <b>In forward plan</b>                         | No                                                                |                                           |
| <b>Wards affected</b>                          | All                                                               |                                           |
| <b>Accountable director</b>                    | Nick Alderman, City Environment                                   |                                           |
| <b>Originating service</b>                     | Operational Transport and Highway Services                        |                                           |
| <b>Accountable employee(s)</b>                 | Bob Willis                                                        | Urban Traffic Control and Traffic Manager |
|                                                | Tel                                                               | 01902 555790                              |
|                                                | Email                                                             | bob.willis@wolverhampton.gov.uk           |
| <b>Report to be/has been considered by</b>     | No other meetings                                                 |                                           |

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### Recommendation(s) for action or decision:

The Cabinet is recommended to:

1. Approve that consultation on the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country is carried out with the public, other flood risk management authorities and others with an interest.
2. Approve that a further report is made in due course on the outcome of the consultation and to consider approval of the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country.

## **1.0 Purpose**

- 1.1 This report seeks approval to carry out public consultation on the draft Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country and its associated Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA). This is a statutory requirement of the Flood and Water Management Act 2010.

## **2.0 Background**

- 2.1 Following the severe flooding during the summer of 2007 the government commissioned an independent review (the 'Pitt Review') which in 2008 recommended that local authorities should lead on the management of local flood risk, working in partnership with other organisations.
- 2.2 Two key pieces of legislation have brought this forward; the Flood Risk Regulations (2009), which transpose the EU Floods Directive into UK Law, and the Flood and Water Management Act 2010 (FWMA 2010).
- 2.3 The Council is now a Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) and has relatively new powers and statutory duties to co-ordinate local flood risk management activities related to surface water (overland runoff), groundwater and smaller watercourses (known as Ordinary Watercourses). The Council works together with other organisations including the Environment Agency, which manages flooding from generally larger rivers (known as Main Rivers, the main example in Wolverhampton being Smestow Brook), and infrastructure or utility providers such as Severn Trent Water.
- 2.4 The FWMA 2010 places a duty on the City Council, as the LLFA, to develop, maintain, apply and monitor the implementation of a local flood risk management strategy, including a duty to consult the public and other risk management authorities as part of its development. The consultation period for the Black Country strategy is proposed to last for six weeks from 2nd November until 10th December 2015. Six weeks is the Council's standard consultation period as defined in our Consultation Framework. The Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) has stated that strategies must be published by April 2016.
- 2.5 While each Local Authority has a duty as LLFA for its particular area the Association of Black Country Authorities and the Environment Agency have encouraged joint working arrangements between Dudley, Sandwell and Walsall Metropolitan Borough Councils and City of Wolverhampton Council in respect of flood risk management functions.
- 2.6 Under these joint working arrangements a Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country and its associated SEA are currently being finalised ready for public consultation. These are public documents which explain the local flood risk, clarify who is responsible for managing it and set out an action plan to mitigate its worst impacts. They will be accessible through the "current consultations" section of the City Council's website shortly and copies will also be made available in the members' rooms.
- 2.7 The Local Strategy complements a number of other planning policies, legislative requirements and flood risk strategies including the National Planning Framework, The

FWMA 2010, the Black Country Joint Core Strategy, the Black Country Strategic Flood Risk Assessment and the Preliminary Flood Risk Assessments for each authority.

- 2.8 Following consultation a report will be made to Cabinet on the outcome of the consultation and to consider approval of the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country.

### **3.0 Financial implications**

- 3.1 The Council's contribution towards the cost of preparing the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country and its associated SEA is £6,712.50. This is funded from the Surface Water Management revenue budget managed by Highway Assets.  
[TT/08102015/L]

### **4.0 Legal implications**

- 4.1 Section 9 of the FWMA 2010 places a duty on the Council, as LLFA, to develop, maintain, apply and monitor the implementation of a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy. The Act also places a duty on the Council to consult both the public and other risk management authorities about its local flood risk management strategy.  
[TS/07102015/F]

### **5.0 Equalities implications**

- 5.1 There are no equalities implications arising from this report. An equalities impact assessment has not been undertaken as carrying out public consultation on the Local Strategy for Flood Risk Management in the Black Country is not believed to impact significantly against the protected characteristics.

### **6.0 Environmental implications**

- 6.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report. However, if approved, this report would instigate events that could lead to notable environmental improvements in Wolverhampton.

### **7.0 Human Resources implications**

- 7.1 There are no Human Resources implications arising from this report.

### **8.0 Corporate Landlord implications**

- 8.1 There are no Corporate Landlord implications arising from this report.

### **9.0 Schedule of background papers**

- 9.1 None

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