



NEWSLETTER, ISSUE 04

News

Kent and Medway New Safeguarding Children Procedures are now available www.msrb.org.uk. The new procedures which have been in consultation over the summer should be used by all staff and copies of the old procedures should be discarded. Training events for the new procedures will be held in November and December for practitioners who can lead and disseminate in individual agencies relevant new information as required.



Medway Safeguarding Children Board is proud to announce the winner of its competition for a new logo. The winning entry which was designed by Michael Strawgler.

The Board would like to thank everyone for their entries to the competition which was of a very high standard and to Medway Cool Kids Club for their help in judging. The Board is particularly pleased that our new logo has been designed and chosen by the Children of Medway and is confident it will project a positive image of Safeguarding in Medway for years to come.



Events

The Board recently held an event focusing on Post Natal Depression and its affect on families. The event which was titled 'Keeping the Child in Mind' was a huge success in raising awareness of this difficult issue.

The Board also held the first in a series of practitioner Fora giving front line staff the opportunity to discuss issues which affect them on a day to day basis. The first event focused on Serious Case and Lessons Learned reviews which the Board has responsibility for.

Other training held this quarter included Advanced Child Protection and Substance misuse and further Basic Awareness in Child Protection and Safeguarding Children. Training events held by The Board are extremely popular so make your application as soon as possible.



Forthcoming Events

21 November - Medway Council is delighted to welcome back Professor Sir Al Aynsley Green, the National Children's Commissioner. He visited Medway in the spring and liked it so much he's coming back to give a lecture. Sir Al's lifetime's work has been devoted to our 11 million children and young people. He is passionate and caring and takes feedback from children and those who work with them really seriously.

Sir Keith Ajegbo has agreed to give a Medway lecture on *Tuesday 29 April* 2008 to be held at Chatham South School. Sir Keith is a former headteacher and the principal author of the recent DCSF report on diversity and citizenship.

If you'd like to register an interest in attending either of these lectures please contact Emma Spencer emma.spencer@medway.gov.uk

National Events

Best Practice In Safeguarding Children : 11 December 2007

An unrivalled event focused on finding practical solutions to the challenges of keeping children safe. Benefit from the **key policy and regulatory updates** from the **DCSF** and learn from the successes and failures of LSCBs, local authorities, charities, health authorities and the police who are tackling the same obstacles as you in making the safeguarding agenda work for all children. For more information:

<http://www.haymarketevents.com/conferences/?fuseaction=eventIntro&eventID=3222>

Board Membership

The Board is pleased to welcome Hilary Luke in her position as Senior Army Welfare Worker representing the Armed Forces within the region at The Management Group. Sadly Chris Wood of Medway Secure Training Centre has left the Board having taken up a new position. Her replacement on the Board as is Acting Director Ben Saunders who has previously sat on the Management Group.

Policy

The Quality Assurance And Case Review Subgroup received a briefing from Medway Council regarding the issues of private fostering. There are responsibilities for parents and The Local Authority when a child is privately fostered, this is outlined in this briefing which is available on the MSCB website for your information. Further work is being undertaken by The Council to publicise the issue in Medway.



LSCB's A review Of Progress

Medway Safeguarding Children Board has been involved in the national review of progress for LSCB's. The report which is available at <http://www.info4local.gov.uk/documents/publications/402516> sets out the achievements and challenges faced by Boards across the country. In reviewing this report Medway Safeguarding Children Board has made significant progress against its primary objectives and is exceeding expectations

Focus On—New Safeguarding Procedures

YOUR CHILD PROTECTION PROCEDURES HAVE CHANGED

The Medway Safeguarding Children Board is pleased to announce that the new Kent and Medway Safeguarding Procedures are now available on the MSCB website.

WHY DO WE HAVE NEW PROCEDURES?

There have been a number of national developments that have influenced how we safeguard and promote the welfare of children. These include:

- Children Act 2004
- The new "Working Together to Safeguard Children 2006"
- Every Child Matters
- Common Assessment Framework
- Safeguarding Children and Safer Recruitment in Education

The Children Act 2004 required every Local Authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). LSCB's have key statutory responsibilities for agreeing how the relevant organisations will cooperate to safeguard and promote the welfare of children in that locality, and for ensuring the effectiveness of this work.

Kent and Medway each have their own Safeguarding Children Boards which have been working together to ensure that children and families are provided a consistent service across the 2 areas. The new Joint Kent and Medway Safeguarding Procedures will replace the Child Protection procedures currently in use, and this work is the first initiative of the Safeguarding Children Boards working closely together.



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WHAT'S NEW?

New procedures highlight the importance of all organisations responsibilities to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. The focus on safeguarding means that these procedures go beyond the more traditional Child Protection procedures and cover broader issues such as:

- Racial or religious harassment
- Sexual Exploitation
- Migrant children
- Child Deaths
- Sexually active children
- Child Protection Conferences
- Bullying

BRIEFINGS ON THE JOINT PROCEDURES

The procedures can be accessed from the MSCB website (www.mscb.org.uk) and briefings will be available during November, December and January to highlight the key changes. The dates of these sessions will be available on the Medway Safeguarding Children Board website or you can contact the MSCB Adminis-

Links Safeguarding In The News

New Government drive to tackle child road safety: New think! campaign targets parents for first time

<http://www.info4local.gov.uk/filter/?item=507072>

Criminal Records Check Fear For Junior Doctors

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/health/6918850.stm>

Local Safeguarding Children's Boards: A review of progress

<http://www.info4local.gov.uk/documents/publications/402516>

Review of Implementation of Guidance on Handling Allegations of Abuse Against Those who Work with Children and Young People

<http://www.info4local.gov.uk/documents/consultations/469889>

The Ministry of Justice and the DCSF review of restraint in juvenile secure settings. .

http://www.publications.parliament.uk/pa/cm200607/cmhansrd/cm070726/wmstext/70726m0003.htm#column_104WS



Online safety push for children

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/education/6982428.stm>

Web safety warning for children

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/6652585.stm>

Police to share paedophile data

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/uk/6064046.stm>

No batons for child inmates, YJB chief says

<http://www.communitycare.co.uk/Articles/2007/10/22/106198/no-batons-for-child-inmates-yjb-chief-says.html>






YJB responds to the use of batons on under-18s

<http://www.yjb.gov.uk/en-gb/News/YJBRespondstoUseofBatons.htm?area=MediaCentre>

The Board is interested to hear your comments and views on The work it is Doing and this newsletter. If there is an article you would wish to place in this newsletter, or if you have any comments please contact me by email before the 5th January 2008.

The Board would like to take this early opportunity to wish you a merry Christmas and a happy and Safe 2008.

The Board can be contacted in the following ways:

 Medway Safeguarding Children Board	 mscb@medway.gov.uk
2nd Floor	 01634 336 329
Compass Centre	 01634 331 484
Chatham	 www.mscb.org.uk
ME4 4YH	

Sally Mortimore

*Manager,
Medway Safeguarding Children Board*

Steve Dickens

*Administrator,
Medway Safeguarding Children Board*