The launch of Safeguarding Week took place in Wakefield Town Centre on Monday 9th October, 2017. Agencies that took part in the launch included Spectrum, Samaritans, Wakefield District Domestic Abuse Service, Change Grow Live (Substance Misuse Service, Bradford District Care Foundation Trust, Barnardo’s, West Yorkshire Police, West Yorkshire Fire Service, Mid Yorkshire Hospitals NHS Trust, South West Yorkshire Partnership Foundation Trust Children First Hubs, Future in Mind, Kooth, Community Navigators, Wakefield Council Community Team, Public Health and LSCB. There were 5 stalls and the Spectrum trailer with a wide variety of leaflets, booklets and practical accident prevention materials provided by Public Health to hand out to members of the public, including safety holders for hair straighteners and boxes with child safety locks to prevent children accessing medicines and other products. At the peak there were just under 50 professionals in the city centre to raise awareness of safeguarding children and vulnerable adults, handing out information, giving advice and support to members of the public.

A quote about the day was “it was great to see all the services working side by side in a public environment, they spoke with members of the public and you could see how passionate the services were about safeguarding children and young people.”

Edwina Harrison, Independent Chair of the WDSCB highlighted ‘It really is an excellent example of the commitment of the partnership to safeguarding’.
During Safeguarding Week there were 33 different courses run, including 3 adult safeguarding courses, a WRAP session, 2 SEND Provision evening sessions, Young Carers meeting, Voluntary and Community Sector Showcase and LGBTQ open evening. **519** professionals attended the sessions delivered around the District.

This included 68 from other West Yorkshire areas who attended the Suicide Awareness Conference which was open to the 5 West Yorkshire LSCBs and attended by 97 professionals from agencies across the sub region. Mark Burns Williamson, the Police Crime Commissioner for West Yorkshire closed the event and can be seen in the picture supporting the Andy’s Man’s Club in encouraging men that **It’s okay to Talk** highlighting that suicide is the **biggest killer of men under 45** in the UK.

**Working with Vulnerable Teenagers**

It is widely acknowledged that working with teenagers can be difficult at times. Young People often present with a number of vulnerabilities and the risks they are exposed to can be most concerning. In order for professionals to be able to fully able to consider these risks and vulnerabilities the LSCB is pleased to be able to provide a specially written course on some approaches for working with vulnerable teenagers. During Safeguarding Week this session was run for the first time to a multi–agency audience. Participants were invited to go on a “trip down memory lane” to reflect on their own childhood and experience of being a teenager. The session then explored the various areas of vulnerability when working with teenagers and a look at best practice for engaging with young people.

The sessions covered best ways of engaging with young people including:

- **Patience**– the qualities and approaches of the worker are very important when supporting vulnerable teenagers who can sometimes present with challenging behaviour due to their emotions.
- **Tenacity**– the need to persevere and advocate for young people to ensure that their voice is always heard and responded to.
- **Being Non-judgemental**– not judging behaviours of young people and taking the time to understand what it is like to walk a mile in their shoes.
- **Listening to Young People** – a very basic skill when working with young people but a hugely important one.
- **To hear what is not being said by Young People**– often young people communicate through behaviours –so for example self-harm indicates that all is not well for that young person at that time.
- **Helping a young person to build their resilience to life’s challenges**– knowing that sometimes situations for young people do not change overnight and recognising that helping them to build resilience to facing difficult circumstances can make a significant difference.

Further dates are planned for 2018/19 and are available to book on the website [www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk](http://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk)

**Vulnerable birth mothers and recurrent care proceedings**

The Nuffield Foundation has published a summary report looking at vulnerable birth mothers in England who have had children repeatedly removed from their care. Findings from research carried out by a team at Lancaster University between 2014 and 2017, looking at a representative sample of 354 mothers involved in recurrent care proceedings, found that: 66% of mothers had experienced neglect in their childhood; 67% experienced emotional abuse; 52% suffered physical abuse; and 53% were sexually abused. 54% of the mothers had spent a period in out of home care as a child.

Further information: [Vulnerable birth mothers and recurrent care proceedings (PDF)](http://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk)
**Trauma and how it affects development**

During Safeguarding Week Niall Devlin, Education Psychologist delivered a fascinating workshop on trauma, from abuse and neglect and how this affects young people’s behaviour.

The Trauma Tree very clearly represents the areas of a child’s functioning that are likely to have been affected by developmental trauma. As you progress up the tree it becomes clear that the impact and effects of trauma on brain development and physical development are intertwined.

For further information please see;

What About Me?: Inclusive Strategies to Support Pupils with Attachment Difficulties Make it Through the School Day by Louise Michelle Bombèr – 7 Jul 2011

Education psychology offer training on this subject to all schools though Traded Services.

**The Trauma Tree**

This illustration presents the areas of a child's functioning that are likely to have been affected by developmental trauma.

Beginning at the bottom (‘roots’) it is clear as you progress up the tree, that the impact and effects of trauma on brain development and physical development are intertwined.

Whilst a certain amount of stress makes us feel alert, the stress experienced by these particular pupils is way above the usual thresholds. So their performance and learning is often severely compromised.

**Review of children’s mental health services**

The Care Quality Commission (CQC) has published a review looking at the quality and accessibility of mental health services for children and young people in England. Findings from the review, commissioned by the Prime Minister, include: the system is complex and fragmented - mental health care is funded, commissioned and provided by many different organisations that do not always work together in a joined-up way; children and young people expressed major concerns about how long they waited to access mental health support and that mental health care did not always feel person-centred and responsive to their needs; safety is seen as the greatest overall area of concern in specialist child and adolescent mental health services.

Click on the link to read more: Review of children and young people’s mental health services: phase one report (PDF)
Criminal Exploitation of Children & Vulnerable Adults: County Lines Guidance

This guidance is primarily aimed at frontline staff who work with children, young people and potentially vulnerable adults. This includes professionals working in education, health, social care services, housing, benefits, law enforcement and related partner organisations. It is also useful for carers and parents, although they are not the primary audience.

What is County Lines exploitation?

Criminal exploitation of children and vulnerable adults is a geographically widespread form of harm that is a typical feature of county lines activity. County lines is the police term for urban gangs supplying drugs to suburban areas and market and coastal towns using dedicated mobile phone lines or “deal lines”. It involves child criminal exploitation (CCE) as gangs use children and vulnerable people to move drugs and money. Gangs establish a base in the market location, typically by taking over the homes of local vulnerable adults by force or coercion in a practice referred to as ‘cuckooing’.

County lines is a major, cross-cutting issue involving drugs, violence, gangs, safeguarding, criminal and sexual exploitation, modern slavery, and missing persons; and the response to tackle it involves the police, the National Crime Agency, a wide range of Government departments, local government agencies and VCS (voluntary and community sector) organisations. County lines activity and the associated violence, drug dealing and exploitation have a devastating impact on young people, vulnerable adults and local communities.

You can download the Criminal Exploitation of children and vulnerable adults: County Lines guidance document on our website https://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk/professionals-and-practitioners/criminal-exploitation-children-vulnerable-adults-county-lines-guidance/

The WDSCB in recognition of this broader exploitation of young people has replaced the previous CSE and Missing Sub Committee with one which considers all vulnerable and exploited groups. This sub committee is chaired by Superintendent Paul Hepworth.

Home Office to crack down on online CSA with new cutting-edge technology

The UK government is investing £600,000 in ground-breaking technology that allows internet companies to identify and remove indecent images of children from websites at an unprecedented rate, the Home Secretary has announced.

Project Arachnid, which is being developed by the Canadian reporting service CyberTipline, part of the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, can be deployed across websites, forums, chat services and newsgroups to instantaneously detect illegal content, before sending a take-down notice to service providers so they can quickly protect children from further exploitation. Now firms including social media companies will be able to ‘plug in’ Project Arachnid into their system in order to identify and flag for removal indecent imagery even in ‘closed environments’ that only users and the company can see.

It will further boost ongoing efforts by government, law enforcement agencies and NGOs to safeguard children against online CSE. https://www.gov.uk/government/news/home-office-to-crack-down-on-online-child-sexual-abuse-with-new-cutting-edge-technology
This year’s annual report provides a summary of child deaths and the learning from the last five years building on work from previous years. Deep dive exercises of the data continue to take place whenever necessary; this includes adding modifiable factors i.e. additional information now being asked for regarding unsafe sleeping circumstances has become more extensive.

The panel has continued to identify areas that will need further action including continuing to highlight “safe sleeping” messages to parents and parents; work with agencies to promote a reduction in maternal smoking during pregnancy; and link with the new Learning Disability Mortality Review reviewing deaths of children (and adults) with Learning Disabilities.

Safeguarding Children Boards are required to publish annually a report regarding child deaths. You can view the CDOP annual report by going to https://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk/about-us/child-death-review-process/

Working Together to Safeguard Children - draft for consultation

On 25th October, the Department for Education published Working Together to Safeguard Children: changes to statutory guidance for consultation; and new regulations largely being made to reflect the legislative changes introduced through the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

Within the revised Working Together there are minimal changes to the core requirements in Chapter 1: Assessing need and providing help; and Chapter 2 - Organisational responsibilities.

Chapters 3 to 5 in relation to Multi-Agency safeguarding arrangements, Learning from Serious Case and Child Death Reviews have had significant changes to bring them into line with the Children and Social Work Act 2017.

The DfE are also consulting on new guidance for Child Death Reviews and a document that sets out the statutory guidance for the Transitional Arrangements for the move from LSCBs to Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements, once the commencements of the provisions laid out in the Children and Social Work Act 2017 come into force.

The consultation period for feedback is until the 31st December 2017.

The following documents are out for consultation:

Working Together to Safeguard Children - A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children - April 2018

Child Death Review - Statutory Guidance – October 2017

Local Safeguarding - transitional arrangements - Statutory guidance for local authorities, LSCBs, safeguarding partners, child death review partners, and the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel – April 2018

The Executive Group of the Wakefield and District Safeguarding Children Board has begun to consider the draft guidance documents to consider what will work best for Wakefield and District. The next meeting of the WDSCB will include discussion of future plans. There is a need to have a plan for publication by April 2018. Members of the partnership whether on the Board, Sub Committees or professionals delivering services to children and families will be invited to contribute ideas to these discussions. But for now you can log onto the consultation and let the DfE know your views on the new draft Working Together
Anti-Bullying Week 13th – 17th November

Anti-Bullying Week is coordinated by the Anti-Bullying Alliance and takes place this year from 13th - 17th November and is supported by SafeToNet. Anti-Bullying Week shines a spotlight on bullying and encourages all children, teachers and parents to take action against bullying throughout the year. The theme this year is ‘All Different, All Equal’ with the aims:

- Empower children and young people to celebrate what makes them, and others, unique
- Help children and young people understand how important it is that every child feels valued and included in school, able to be themselves, without fear of bullying
- Encourage parents and carers to work with their school and talk to their children about bullying, difference and equality
- Enable teachers and other children’s workforce professionals to celebrate what makes us ‘all different, all equal’ and celebrate difference and equality.
- Encouraging them to take individual and collective action to prevent bullying, creating safe environments where children can be themselves.

Resource packs and further information can be found on the anti-bullying alliance website which can also be accessed via the Anti-Bullying Alliance website https://www.anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/anti-bullying-week

Safeguarding in Education

This academic year’s Safeguarding Audit has now been released to DSL’s in all schools and colleges in Wakefield it includes areas of local priority as well as national legislation, statutory guidance and inspection frameworks.

The schools policy template has also been updated for the new year and this is available on the Education web page of WDSCB website. Also on the website, and sent out to schools, are new safeguarding and signs and indicators posters, disclosure reminders, a template for a visitor leaflet and a quiz for all staff to reflect the statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education. The education resources have been updated to include County Lines a CCE report, a new pack for schools in dealing with suicides and resources to assist in the teaching of emotional health and wellbeing of students. The templates section now includes the new Children First Hub Referral form.

For more information and resources please visit the Safeguarding Children’s Board website: https://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk/education/

WDSCB Twitter Account

The LSCB Team now has a twitter account, to follow them on twitter follow the link below and become a follower to find out the latest news, events and training courses https://twitter.com/Wakefield_LSCB
Current Available Courses

Real Love Rocks
29th November 2017—Wakefield Town Hall

Stress Awareness for Professionals
10th January 2018—Wakefield Town Hall

Children Living with Domestic Violence & Abuse
16th January 2018 – Wakefield Town Hall

Serious Case Reviews
8th February 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Teen to Parent Abuse
12th February 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Autism Awareness
14th February 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Working Together, A Shared Responsibility
7th March 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Responding to Allegations Made Against Staff
8th March 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Autism Awareness
14th March 2018 - Wakefield Town Hall

Online E-Learning

To register, or log onto Virtual College and complete an online course please follow the link: https://wakefieldlscb.safeguardingchildrenea.co.uk/ We can confirm that the online training is free to register and undertake. There are 63 courses to choose from, below are some of the areas available:

Safeguarding Children Courses:
- Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect
- Safeguarding Children in Education
- Basic Awareness of Child and Adult Sexual Exploitation
- Self-harm and Suicidal thought in Children and Young People
- Safeguarding Everyone—Protecting Children, Young People and Adults at Risk
- Trafficking, Exploitation and Modern Slavery
- Understanding Pathways to Extremism & the Prevent Programme

Safeguarding Adults Courses:
- Mental Capacity Act
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- Dementia Awareness
- Safeguarding Adults at Risk
- The Role of the Health and Social Care Worker
- Person Centred Approach in Adult and Social Care Settings
- Falls and Fracture Prevention in Older People
Website News

The LSCB update the website on a regular basis, to find out about the latest news and events follow the link below. You will find out about last minute available courses and newsletters. The LSCB also support national events such as Safeguarding Week and Anti-Bullying Week.

https://www.wakefieldlscb.org.uk/latest-news-events/

The Young People’s section of the website has been updated following feedback from the Children In Care Council on the appearance and content. Check it out and you will find easily accessible information in the form of graphic stories and pictures recently completed by the Board Apprentice, Jasmine Gakhal.

Thank you to Paula Leung

Paula Leung left the WDSCB Business Team on 28th July, 2017, after providing 6 months support to maintain efficient Child Death Review arrangements. Paula had been seconded by the Clinical Commissioning Group to ensure that the CDOP Panel meetings continued to review the deaths of children in a timely way and draw out the learning.

New Business Admin Apprentice

Jasmine joined the Wakefield District Safeguarding Children’s Board in July 2017 as an Apprentice, having moved from Kent. She is looking forward to completing her two year Apprenticeship within the LSCB team, gaining knowledge about the key role they play within the district. She is also excited about working alongside other agencies that protect and safeguard children and young people within Wakefield. Jasmine will be learning about the training the team provide to the different multi-agency professionals, schools and voluntary sectors within the District. And what an administrator does on a day to day basis. Jasmine is an energetic, enthusiastic person with an eagerness to learn. The LSCB team has welcomed Jasmine and when you call about training, she will be the person providing guidance.

Thank you and Goodbye

John Wilson, Corporate Director for Children & Young People Services recently announced his decision to retire on the 6th December. John informed WDSCB members at the September Board meeting, as this was to be his last.

Board members wished John well and thanked him for his very strong commitment to the safeguarding partnership.

This commitment was evident when John joined the professionals in the town centre of Wakefield for the launch of Safeguarding Week.

John, members of the Board and Business Unit want to express their very best wishes for an action packed and fun filled retirement.

John’s last day with Wakefield Council will be Friday 17th November.