**SESLIP Quality Assurance Leads Meeting – 9 December 2020**

1. **Attendees:**

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| Bracknell Forest | Kogie | Perumall |
| Bracknell Forest | Kim | Barraclough |
| Brighton and Hove | Tina | James |
| East Sussex | Douglas | Sinclair |
| Hampshire (Chair) | Stuart | Ashley |
| Hampshire | Amanda | Meadows |
| Kent | Kevin | Kasaven |
| Kent | Melanie | Spencer |
| Milton Keynes | Sophie | Marshall |
| Oxfordshire | James | Carter |
| Reading | Fiona | Betts |
| Southampton | Stuart | Webb |
| Surrey | Gill | Halden |
| West Sussex | Sophie | Carter |
| West Sussex | Noel | Beckett |
| Windsor & Maidenhead | Shungu | Chigocha |
| Wokingham | Rachel | Oakley |
| SESLIP consultant | Diane | Williamson |

**Apologies:**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Medway | Becky | Cooper |
| Slough | Sandra | Davies |
| IOW | Simon | Dear |

1. **Matters Arising from 17 September meeting** 
   1. Following on from discussion about IROs and CP chairs, Hampshire are currently undertaking a review to look at the contribution of IROS and CP chairs to the added values of QA and improving outcomes for children and are willing to share at a future meeting. West Sussex are also looking at IRO and CPO chair so would like to contribute to discussion.

**Action**

**Agenda IROs and CP Chairs contribution and added value for future meeting – Hants and WSCC to lead**

* 1. Kevin Kasaven, Kent asked whether there is interest in a CP Chairs network. The group are interested in this and it would sit well with this group and the QA project

**Action**

**Stuart and Diane to discuss how to take forward establishing a CP Chairs Network**

1. **Shared Understanding of Good Practice – Contextual Safeguarding and Plans for Adolescents – introduced by Kevin Kasaven, Kent** 
   1. Discussion focused on exploring how LAs are being innovative to work with adolescents where YPs experience extrafamilial risk.  Those YPs won’t be supported well within the typical CIN/CP frameworks and usually need bespoke and crisis driven planning and intervention.  How are LAs recording this and what are Ofsted’s messaging around this? How have Ofsted assessed LAs who have tried to be innovative and created unique plans
   2. Sophie Marshall described the challenge experience in Milton Keynes during recent Ofsted ‘assurance visit’ where Ofsted were very unhappy at a teenager being supported under CIN with a contextual safeguarding plan rather than CP Plan
   3. Wide ranging discussion the recognised the practice challenges in this area and broader contextual safeguarding.
   4. Information shared in “Teams Chat”

* Children’s Social Care Innovation pro gramme: <https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=https-3A__www.gov.uk_guidance_childrens-2Dsocial-2Dcare-2Dinnovation-2Dprogramme-2Dinsights-2Dand-2Devaluation-23adolescents-2Dfacing-2Dcomplex-2Drisks&d=DwMFAg&c=pbUzoxRZCRvayVvkYvkiMO6u1jPMdBrTZxWyx_2PsKs&r=BwMjKRxoB5YJlp4LPcQbm-hrdLaFa2BSCLJ6u2xvjgxuav-ekrBquaEkhPyyyP-c&m=8aLIXsxoZYHVShByb3HM-xPbnhMmnZ5n5KYwor3RN2A&s=EJNLQIX1uJCphVEZxVo9uRwgWvVWwdOenykTipz7fF8&e=>
* Information Southampton have recently from Research in Practice around activity in other authorities:
  + Camden. Early help and YOS (integrated), relationship-based practice, emerging innovation on transitional safeguarding and a young inspectors team
  + · Birmingham. New Preparing for Adulthood programme which includes a team for young adults with experience of trauma, and a SEND type service which complements this
  + · Sheffield. Launching a big ‘Contextual Safeguarding Strategy’
  + · Hackney. Developing an adolescent safeguarding service. Their SAB are leading a programme to adopt transitional safeguarding
  + · Lincolnshire. Adolescent services, integrated YOS and TYS. Link -  Jo Kavanagh
  + · Notts VRU are doing some interesting stuff too – eg requiring all funded services to be co-designed with young people
  + · Devon, Salford have introduced YP plans / YP safety plans
  + · North Yorkshire’s No Wrong Door
  + · Hertfordshire have a new adolescents service specifically aimed at reducing care entry / family crisis. Jo Fisher - link.
* It was acknowledged that contextual safeguarding is an area of practice development and could be an area for further consideration for the group

**Action:**

* **If colleagues have tools to share these can be sent to Diane for sharing on the website, recognising that this area of work is very much ‘work in progress’**
* **Agenda for forward planning – share what ‘good’ looks like for contextual safeguarding**
* **Diane to explore with SESLIP Consultants Team whether there is already regional work taking place to look at Safeguarding Transitions and Pathways to Adult Services/ Adult Safeguarding.**
* **Douglas Sinclair to check with Adult Safeguarding Colleagues in East Sussex whether protocol developed as part of Care Leavers transitions work can be shared**

1. **Quality of Outcome Focused Plans**
   1. Bracknell Forest are undertaking a focused piece of work aimed at improving the quality of child plans with training and follow up audit.
   2. Bracknell Forest and Hampshire are happy to lead/share discussion about quality of plans
   3. Kogie repeated her offer for colleagues to join the Bracknell Forest training

**Action**

**Forward agenda quality of plans for discussion next year (June agenda)**

1. **Audit moderation and grading**
   1. Audit moderation is a common challenge for authorities alongside the pros and cons of grading which sometimes gets in the way of meaningful discussion and developing a shared understanding of what good looks like across both practitioners and auditors. Sometimes gradings can get in the way of honest learning conversations and can lead to unhelpful discussions with Ofsted
   2. Reading have grading criteria for EH and CSC audits tailored to each thematic audit to support auditors and moderation and help use an evidence-based approach. Bi-monthly they do compliance checklists that don't include gradings. Alternate months they do themed quality audits that separate a grading for overall quality and overall and impact. This helps look at where review of the impact may suggest a different quality to the overall practice (usually linked to level of compliance)
   3. Further discussion about tracking actions and learning from audits
2. **Ofsted update – ILACS Covid-19 assurance visits**
   1. Sophie shared Milton Keynes’ recent experience. In summary, it felt very much like a business as usual ILACS focus rather than COVID focus
   2. Melanie has recently joined Kent from a London Borough where she had experienced a COVID assurance visit and again echoed that it felt very much like an ILACS inspection rather than a COVID assurance visit
   3. Tina shared Brighton and Hove’s experience of planning for the Annual Conversation where Ofsted had raised questions about Early Years Attendance and increase in complex referrals and asked whether other authorities had experienced similar. There appears to be increased focus on children missing education following COVID
3. **QA support to Triad Challenges**
   1. Kent and West Sussex are meeting next week ahead of their Triad Challenge in January. Portsmouth have had to pull out because of the absence of their Head of Safeguarding. The group have met to scope the meeting and a proposed agenda/format has been shared with the group. It was agreed that the focus needs to be tailored to the needs of each LA so each authority will identify the areas that they will to focus on.
   2. Bracknell Forest, Reading and Southampton have a date set for early January

**Action**

**If anyone else would like a similar meeting to be facilitated please let Diane know**

1. **AOB**
   1. If anyone has Neglect Audit tools please share with Tina in Brighton
   2. West Berks are looking at thresholds for exploitation
   3. Surrey asked about how authorities are responding to the minister’s request for assurance in relation to babies – Agenda for next meeting
2. **Forward Agenda:**

**The following have been identified for further work for the group next year:**

* Responding to ministerial requests for assurance
* QA – Children Missing Education (Diane to explore links with wider SESLIP programme work for children missing education)

Contribution of IROs and CP Chairs and added value (Hants & WSCC)

* CP Network proposal (Diane and Stuart to discuss)
* Quality of Plans (Hants & Bracknell Forest)
* Sharing Practice Standards to help develop a shared understanding of good practice
* Audit moderation
* Contextual Safeguarding
* Safeguarding transitions to Adult Safeguarding

1. **Next Meeting**

**10 March 2021 –10am-1pm**

**invitation will be sent out for Microsoft Teams by Stuart Ashley’s PA**