



# Safeguarding MATTERS

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## Board Matters

The Annual Reports and their Executive Summaries 2014-15 have now been published.

Annual Reports give an overview of the progress made by the Boards and their member agencies against the Business Plan Priorities. (Click pictures)



## Board Business Planning 2016-2017 We want your views

The role of Safeguarding Boards is to seek assurance on the quality, outcomes and impact of safeguarding services for children young people and adults.

The Boards priorities are informed by:

- Executive Group and Board discussions
- Priority themes from local and national Serious Case Reviews, Alternative Reviews and Domestic Homicide Reviews
- Messages from Service User Surveys
- Feedback from the Chief Officers Summit held on the 13th November
- OFSTED requirements

### We would like to hear from you

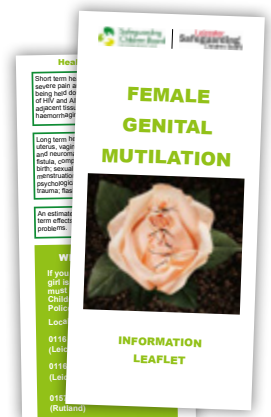
**What do you think are the priority areas for Safeguarding Children and Adults?**

Please call the Board Office on 0116 305 7130 and ask to speak to the Board Manager or Board Officer or email to [sbbo@leics.gov.uk](mailto:sbbo@leics.gov.uk)

## Female Genital Mutilation Mandatory Reporting

The female genital mutilation (FGM) mandatory reporting duty came into force on 31 October 2015. The Home Office has published procedural information to help health and social care professionals, teachers and the police prepare and implement the new measures. Regulated health and social care professionals and teachers must report known cases of FGM in under 18-year-olds to the police on the 101 number.

Source: [Home Office](http://lrsb.org.uk/uploads/fgm-leaflet.pdf) 20 October 2015  
<http://lrsb.org.uk/uploads/fgm-leaflet.pdf>





- |         |           |              |          |
|---------|-----------|--------------|----------|
| 1. BFN  | 6. ILU    | 11. SUGARPIC | 16. 8 -  |
| 2. IWSN | 7. 99     | 12. KOTL     | 17. LH6  |
| 3. GNOC | 8. RU\\18 | 13. (L)MIRL  | 18. WTTP |
| 4. PIR  | 9. 420    | 14. PRON     | 19. LOL  |
| 5. CU46 | 10. POS   | 15. 182-     | 20. GYPO |

Answers to be found on the Leicestershire and Rutland Boards Website  
[www.lrsb.org.uk/text-speak-quiz-answers](http://www.lrsb.org.uk/text-speak-quiz-answers)

# Safeguarding Adults from Abuse Recognition and Alert

## Staff are reminded to familiarise themselves with the Safeguarding Adults Procedures

Regardless of your role it is important that you are able to recognise the signs of abuse and alert the appropriate agency

<http://www.lradultsafeguarding.co.uk/contents/introduction-and-context/>

If you're worried about an adult and think they may be a victim of neglect or abuse, contact your local Adult Social Care office or the Police. The numbers are below.

### Leicestershire Adult Social Care

Customer Services is the first point of contact for most enquiries.

Phone: 0116 305 0004

### Rutland Social Care Services

Phone: 01572 758 341

If you know there is already a social worker involved, you should contact them directly.

If you are calling out of hours (outside of 8:30am-5pm Monday to Thursday or 8:30am to 4:30pm on Fridays or bank holidays) the Emergency Duty Team can be reached on 0116 255 1606.

### Report to the Police

If a crime has been committed and the person is in immediate danger, call 999 and ask for the Police / an ambulance.

If the person is not in immediate danger call the Police on 101.



# Operation Encompass



Enhancing communication between the police and schools where a child is at risk from domestic abuse

Operation Encompass is an initiative being piloted in Leicestershire which will:

- Enhance communication between the police and schools where a child is at risk from domestic abuse
- Ensure schools have more information to support safeguarding of children
- Complement existing safeguarding procedures

By knowing that the child has had this experience the school is in a better position to understand and be supportive of the child's needs and possible behaviours

## Q What is Operation Encompass?

A. This is a process used to inform schools when the police have attended an incident of domestic violence or abuse, where domestic abuse incidents have occurred in the homes of their pupils since the previous school day.

## Q. How will it work?

A. Police will share information with First Response who will phone the school between 8 and 8.30am and ask to speak with the head teacher or a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The school will be informed simply that there was an incident and the name of the child. The First Response officer making the phone call will not be in a position to give more information at that point.

## Q. What is the school meant to do with this knowledge?

A. By knowing that the child has had this experience the school is in a better position to be supportive and understanding of the child's needs and possible behaviours. The head teacher or DSL will share this information on a need to know basis e.g. the form teacher.

The initial approach is that the sharing of information should not, in itself, provoke a proactive response to individual children by the school, but informs the school's response to any presenting behaviour. Some schools will have the staff and resources to reassure the child that they know. This can be a real relief to a child as it can give them tacit permission to talk about how they feel and what has been happening to them. The key aim of this process however, is to ensure that the child is offered sensitivity and understanding following a distressing incident.

In the first 7 weeks of the project Operation Encompass made 65 calls to schools regarding 88 children.

**Information can be found on the Safeguarding Boards Website**  
<http://lrsb.org.uk/advice-for-schools>



# Preventing Violent Extremism – Learning from a local case

In Oct 2013 18 year old Michael Piggan from Leicestershire was charged with two terrorism offences. The case received significant media attention

Michael, who was 16 at the time of the offence, had stockpiled petrol bombs, weapons and armour at his home and allegedly planned to use them against staff and pupils at his former school in Loughborough.

He had a notebook with a list of possible targets in his hometown, including a school, a Mosque and other individuals and organisations he held a grudge against.

A 'Che Guevara' notebook, which was emblazoned with Nazi swastikas and English Defence League mottos, also discussed tactics on how to carry out a "new Columbine", with reference to one of America's worst mass shootings.

The criminal trial received significant media attention and as a result the police and partners have looked at the learning from the case, at the same time the government has introduced new legislation: Section 29 of the Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015. This places a statutory duty to specified authorities including County and District/ Borough Councils, the Police, Health and Schools to have "due regard to the need to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism".

Every school in Leicestershire and Rutland will receive appropriate training in recognising the signs of radicalisation, the links to safeguarding and awareness of referral pathways. This includes training for head teachers and governors.

A dedicated Prevent Officer has now been recruited he will be based with the Community Safety Team. This officer will attend Channel meetings, he will receive intelligence from schools, attend the Joint Action Groups (JAGs) where there is discussion about Prevent cases, he will work directly with young people who have been identified as vulnerable to radicalisation and he will link into the Hate Project work to ensure we tackle radicalisation at the earliest stage.

If you have concerns about a young person please refer to

[http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\\_viol\\_extrem.html](http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_viol_extrem.html)

If you have concerns about an adult please refer to

<http://www.llradultsafeguarding.co.uk/contact/local-contacts/>



## FORCED MARRIAGE – A SHORT AWARENESS RAISING FILM

The Forced Marriage Unit has released a new film demonstrating the devastating impact of forced marriage on victims and their families. The film aims to raise public awareness of the issue and warns of the criminal consequences of involvement

Source: [Foreign and Commonwealth Office](#)  
21 October 2015



## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLISH NEW GUIDANCE

The Department for Education has published new advice for professionals on identifying and responding to child abuse. It replaces the previous version of 'What to do if you're worried a child is being abused' (2006).

Source: [Department for Education](#) 26 March 2015



## Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

### Working Together to Protect

Children and young people who are sexually exploited, or at risk of sexual exploitation, are the victims of sexual abuse and should be safeguarded from further harm.

Partner agencies must work together to tackle CSE. No agency alone can meet the holistic needs of children and families and support prevention, disruption and prosecution.

Regardless of the pathway of support is being undertaken with a child, young person or family, if CSE is identified as a factor, then a CSE referral form must be completed and a risk assessment undertaken.

Should the principal focus be CSE, it is important the process of Child Protection and Child in Need processes are not forgotten.

### CSE Spotting the signs

[http://lrsb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\\_sg\\_ch\\_yp\\_sex\\_exploit.html](http://lrsb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_sg_ch_yp_sex_exploit.html)

CSE risk assessment tool

The Leicester and Leicestershire & Rutland LSCBs CSE risk assessment tool and guidance has been updated and is available at:

<http://lrsb.org.uk/cse-risk-assessment-tool-and-ref>

# The Role of Housing in Safeguarding Adults



Adult Safeguarding for housing staff: New Guide

A new Guide, [A new Guide](#) produced by the Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), is designed to improve communication and joint working between housing staff and their safeguarding partners, particularly local authority social care staff with safeguarding responsibilities. SCIE has also produced a promotional film to raise awareness of the Guide. [promotional film](#)

## Mental Capacity Act Learning Resources

The SCIE eLearning resource ( link below) is targeted at all staff working with people who lack or may lack capacity in the health and social care sectors.

The eLearning resource can be integrated into your learning programme as either directed or self directed study.

These eLearning resources are freely available to all. They provide audio, video and interactive technology to assist in exploring the many areas of the Mental Capacity Act.

<http://www.scie.org.uk/publications/elearning/mentalcapacityact/index.asp>

For information on:

- Assessment Of Capacity
- Best Interest Decision
- MCA 2005 v MCA 1983
- MCA Case Studies
- Paternalism vs Empowerment - safeguarding and the MCA
- Specific decisions and Serious Medical Treatment

Click on the Green button

**Mental Capacity Act -  
information to support  
best practice**

# Children's Serious Case Reviews and Safeguarding Adult Review – Criteria



Priority 4 of the Safeguarding Boards is “To be assured that our Learning and Improvement Framework is raising service quality and outcomes for children, young people and adults”

Placed within the Learning and Improvement Framework is the statutory duty to undertake reviews of cases in certain situations:

## Serious Case Reviews

The criteria for when the LSCB should conduct a Serious Case Review (SCR) are detailed in Chapter 4 within the statutory guidance document ‘Working Together 2013’

The LSCB should consider whether to conduct a Serious Case Review whenever a child has been seriously harmed in the following situations:

- 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.

## Safeguarding Adult Reviews

The criteria for when the SAB should conduct a SAR are detailed in the Care Act 2014 Safeguarding Guidance 14.122

SABs must arrange a SAR when an adult in its area dies as a result of abuse or neglect, whether known or suspected, and there is concern that partner agencies could have worked more effectively to protect the adult.

SABs must also arrange a SAR if the same circumstances apply where an adult is still alive but has experienced serious neglect or abuse.

## Alternative Processes

Included in the Learning Framework are a number of methods of reviewing cases, including those that, while not meeting the criteria for an SCR/SAR, offer significant learning opportunities to be shared:

- Multi-Agency Case Review (using Appreciative Inquiry method)
- Multi-Agency Case Review (using Significant Incident Learning Process)
- Multi Agency Case File Audit (MACFA) - includes round table discussion

The Serious Case Review Subgroup may wish to see the learning that has arisen from

Single Agency Internal Investigations e.g. Health, Police

## Learning From Best Practice

Regardless of the process used to undertake a review, it is important to look at what worked as well as areas for improvement.

- Each agency / organisation should ensure that serious incidents which may meet the criteria for a SCR/SAR are brought to the attention of the Leicestershire & Rutland Boards
- Staff who feel a case may meet the criteria must notify their agency / organisation Safeguarding Lead as soon as possible
- The Safeguarding Lead will ensure that the information known to the agency / organisation is made available and shared appropriately with the SCR Subgroup.

# Information Sharing to protect Children and Young People



It is important to remember that sharing information is an intrinsic part of any practitioner's role. Early sharing of information is key to providing effective early help where there are emerging problems. At the other end of the continuum, sharing information can be essential to put in place effective child protection services.

You should weigh up what might happen if the information is shared against the consequences of not sharing the information.

A general principle is that information will only be shared with the consent of the subject of the information. However, in some circumstances it will not be appropriate to seek consent before sharing information with others and/or information can be shared where consent has been refused.

Consent should not be sought where to do so would:

- Place the child or others at increased likelihood of suffering Significant Harm or
- Place an adult at risk of serious harm; or
- Undermine the prevention, detection or prosecution of a serious crime (i.e. any crime which causes or is likely to cause significant harm to a child or serious harm to an adult) including where seeking consent might lead to interference with any potential investigation.

Practitioners, whilst respecting the wishes of children or families who do not consent to share confidential information, must always consider the safety and welfare of a child when making decisions on whether to share information about the child.

Using their professional judgement, there may be sufficient need to override that lack of consent.

Practitioners should seek advice where they are in doubt, especially where the doubt relates to a concern about possible Significant Harm to a child or serious harm to others.

Practitioners should ensure that the information they share is accurate and up-to-date, necessary for the purpose for which they are sharing it, shared only with those people who need to see it, and shared securely.

Practitioners should always record the reasons for their decision - whether it is to share information or not.

Your legal framework to share information across agencies

There is often uncertainty and sometimes confusion when practitioners and managers are considering sharing information with another professional agency or organisations to assist with the Safeguarding of Children. This can cause delays in sharing information and occasionally, information that should be shared is withheld.

The Leicester, Leicestershire & Rutland Local Safeguarding Children Boards decided, in order to help practitioners share information between different agencies, for the purposes of safeguarding children,

they needed to provide a new Information Sharing Agreement (ISA).

The new ISA provides the detail required to enable agencies to share information in various situations including the following:

- Section 47 Child protection
- Section 17 Children in need
- Early Help/Common Assessment Framework (CAF) services
- Prevent
- LSCB Serious Case Reviews and other review processes
- Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)
- Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

The ISA is based on Section 10 of the Children Act 2004 which places a duty on each local authority in England to make arrangements to promote co-operation between:

- (a) The authority
- (b) Each of the authority's relevant partners

and

- (c) Such other persons or bodies as the authority considers appropriate, being persons or bodies of any nature who exercise functions or are engaged in activities in relation to children in the authority's area.

[http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p\\_info\\_shar\\_confid.html](http://llrscb.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_info_shar_confid.html)

# My role

## Paul Henry

**Job title:** Family Court Advisor

**Organisation:** Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service (Cafcass)



## Tell us about Cafcass

Cafcass is a national organisation which represents children in family court cases. We make sure that children's voices are heard and safe decisions are made in their best interests. In 2014-15, we worked with 115,314 children and young people across England. Of these, 73,113 children were referred to us in new cases by the Family Courts. Most children and young people we worked with were under 10 years old.

We operate within the law set by Parliament and under the rules and directions of the Family Courts. Our role is to:

- safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- give advice to the family courts
- make provision for children to be represented
- provide information, advice and support to children and their families.

We are inspected by Ofsted with our most recent inspection grading us as 'good' and our aim is to be 'outstanding'.

We are independent of the courts, social services, education and health authorities and all similar agencies. Our sponsoring department is the Ministry of Justice.

Our priority is always the safety of the children and young people with whom we work.

Family Court Advisers represent children's views in family courts. We have different titles in different proceedings.

- In Public Law, where the Local Authority is taking action to protect a child or children, we are appointed as 'Children's Guardians'.
- In Private Law Proceedings, often where parents do not agree about their child/ren or when one parent is worried about the behaviour of the other parent and thinks that they pose a risk to their children, we are Court Reporters.

All front line practitioners and managers are registered social workers.

It is our job to assess the family situation and endeavour to assist the parents to protect their child/ren and resolve their differences. Where we might assess the family and have significant safeguarding concerns about the welfare of the child/ren, we have a duty to refer to the relevant Local Authority.

Within the team I am the team 'champion' in relation to preventing 'Child Exploitation' issues (including Child Sexual Exploitation) in accordance with the Cafcass National Strategy in relation to identifying and managing Child Exploitation.

## Tell us about a typical day

Our day inevitably starts with a check on emails that have arrived overnight! Our office is light and airy but we don't always work there. We all carry smart phones with access to the internet and the Cafcass data base. We have laptops or tablets to be able to work flexibly.

We might start the day with an early visit to observe a family or with an interview of parents; our 37 hour weeks are flexible to enable us to visit families when they are available. Sometimes we are needed to give evidence in Court or to listen to the evidence that is given by other people. We meet with children, independently ideally, and with their families, perhaps in their homes or in the Leicester Cafcass office. We attend significant meetings for children who are temporarily in the care of the Local Authority, ensuring that we communicate with other people who are involved in the decisions that are to be taken.

Communication across agencies is a vital part of our safeguarding work. This can involve talking to GPs, health visitors, school nurses, midwives and experts in many fields of medicine. We communicate with teachers, probation officers, the police, social workers, review officers, judges, magistrates and other court officers. We communicate with anyone who might be able to give us information about



the welfare of a child and this often includes their extended family.

Once we have completed an assessment we write a report for the Court as we only undertake assessments that are ordered by the Court.

### What is your Safeguarding best practice top tip?

For me communication involves careful listening, sharing of information and never making assumptions that someone knows what you know about children and their families.

When speaking with children and parents, I summarise and feedback their views to them to ensure that I have recorded their version of events correctly. In this way I can capture their views and clarify their use of language, to fully inform my assessment emphasising the child's voice throughout.

### What one thing would you find most beneficial to help you in your safeguarding role?

Agencies sharing their concerns about children more openly and not assuming that I know what their threshold of safeguarding concerns are.

**From 1<sup>st</sup> October 2015 it will be illegal to smoke in vehicles with someone under 18 present**

From  Public Health England



**Search Smokefree and find your way out of smoking**



## Contact us

Leicestershire and Rutland Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adults Board  
The Safeguarding Boards Business Office, Room 600, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicestershire, LE3 8RA. Telephone: 0116 305 7130  
Email: [SBBO@leics.gov.uk](mailto:SBBO@leics.gov.uk)