

B&NES Community Safety and Safeguarding Partnership

Meeting title	Executive Group		
Date	16th June		
Time	2.00-4.00pm		
Venue	Skype		
Distribution	All members		
Present	Name	Initial	Role, Organisation
	Siân Walker-McAllister	SW	Independent Chair, BCSSP
	Kirstie Webb	KW	Business Manager, BCSSP
	Gill May	GM	Director of Nursing & Quality, CCG
	Mike Bowden	MB	Corporate Director, B&NES Council
	Lesley Hutchinson	LH	Director of Adult Social Care, Complex and Specialist Commissioning, B&NES Council
	Samantha Jones	SJ	Inclusive Communities Manager, B&NES Council
	Sally Churchyard	SC	Head of Young People's Prevention Services, B&NES Council
	Cllr Dine Romero	DR	Councillor, B&NES Council
	Neil Liddington	NL	Head of Risk Reduction, Avon Fire & Rescue
	John Smith	JS	Deputy Head of Commissioning, OPCC
	Steve Kendall	SK	Chief Inspector, Police
	Liz Spencer	LS	Probation Service Officer, NPS
Apologies	Bruce Laurence	BL	Director of Public Health, B&NES Council
	Marc Hole	MH	Head of Commissioning, OPCC
	Victoria Caple	VC	Partnership Liaison Manager, Police

1	<p>Welcome, Introductions and Apologies</p> <p>SW welcomed all to the meeting. Due to audio issues it was agreed to look into alternative platforms for the next Executive Group meeting.</p> <p><i>Post Meeting Note: SL asked Council IT if Teams was available to use as a conference platform. IT advised that Teams is not yet available to host a meeting but can be used to join a Teams meeting hosted by another party. A timescale was not available for when hosting capability would be available with Teams.</i></p> <p><i>NPS are only allowed to use information in the public domain if Zoom is used.</i></p>	ACTION
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<p>2</p>	<p>Violence Reduction Unit Update & Governance</p> <p>In March 2019, the (then) Home Secretary announced a £100 million Serious Violence Fund to help tackle serious violence. Of this, £63.4 million has been allocated to 18 police force areas worst affected by serious violence to pay for Surge operational activity, such as increased patrols. £1.6 million will be deployed to help improve the quality of data on serious violence, particularly knife crime, to support planning and operations.</p> <p>The remaining £35 million of the Serious Violence Fund has been invested in Violence Reductions Units (VRUs) in the same 18 areas, which will form a key component to build capacity in local areas to tackle the root causes of serious violence.</p> <p>SC explained that the VRU would report into the Exploitation subgroup. The Exploitation group would then report into the Operational Group via the quarterly subgroup returns.</p> <p>Last summer a bid for funding from the OPCC was successful for the amount of £114,000. This was used to develop a multi-agency response plan to deal with violence reduction.</p> <p>The required project report was finished and submitted within the allotted time requirements.</p> <p>The funding was also used to support the development of new violence reduction interventions of which some are included in a new bid proposal.</p> <p>There is a work program in place for which a steering group has been set up to allocate responsibilities and carry out the required work.</p> <p>While reporting into the Exploitation subgroup, the VRU also reports into the Youth Offending Service as the majority of the caseload concerns young people.</p> <p>There is a focus on how to identify those at risk of perpetrating serious violence from a multi-agency standpoint. Currently young people up to twenty years old are the focus.</p> <p>JS advised there had been an area wide VRU meeting last week regarding how to allocate funding. No decisions had been made as yet as the funding confirmation had only been received very recently, roughly ten days prior to this Executive meeting.</p> <p>Another meeting was scheduled for November, it was agreed that DR should attend as well as SW in an observer capacity.</p> <p>MB thanked SC for the work of the VRU which SW echoed.</p> <p>MB happy to receive a further update at the next Executive Group meeting following the November meeting of the OPCC. This will be an agenda item at the December meeting of the Executive Group.</p>	<p>DR/SW/JS</p> <p>AGENDA</p>
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<p>3</p>	<p>Practice Review Group Update</p> <p>SW asked if the requirements for sign off on SAR's/SCR's/Rapid Reviews were too repetitive in regard to practitioner briefings, LH agreed. All present agreed that in future there would be no need to sign off at Exec level for practitioner briefings, the Operational Group would be responsible for signing off.</p> <p>LH advised the PRG had undertaken a lot of work since the last Executive meeting. Highlighted Rapid Review SQ (included with minutes) which was delivered within timeframe despite Covid and a review of a report to LADO which is currently under investigation involving a schoolteacher. A task/finish group has been created to address concerns of parent who raised complaint. The review does not meet rapid review criteria but learning has been identified.</p> <p>There has been no progress on the Baby X case as the court case is ongoing therefore the report has not yet been published.</p> <p>A DHR has been signed off by the Home Office earlier than expected which is being covered by SJ in agenda item 5.</p> <p>Quoracy has been a problem at the PRG meetings and in particular Probation due to limited resources to provide representation. SW asked if it was possible to share resources with CRC. LS advised that it is not possible for NPS to cover for a commercial organisation such as the CRC. LS also advised that due to limited resources NPS attendance across other local authority area meetings are affected. SW advised that a priority for NPS attendance should be the PRG meeting when resourcing is reviewed.</p> <p>LH advised a learning event had been postponed due to Covid and alternative digital platforms were being looked into.</p> <p>MB asked if the learning and improvement framework will come to the Executive Group for sign off? LH advised it was not planned to present to the Executive Group.</p> <p>SW/MB/LH to meet to discuss what documents require sign off at Executive Group. Further attendants to email KW if they would like to be included.</p>	<p>LS</p> <p>SW/MB/LH</p>
<p>4</p>	<p>Budget Update</p> <p>LH advised that spend between September 2019 – March 2020 was £80,354 which was approximately £7,000 above budget. LH advised her initial expectation was spend would be under budget and so further ratification would be required.</p> <p>The total running cost came in at £120,648 which was under budget by £9,000. Therefore this excess would be carried over to next year.</p> <p>SW asked if the underspend would have been reduced had the Partnership began activities closer to September. LH agreed and advised that no</p>	

	<p>spending had yet occurred for learning & assurance work. This discussion was raised at the Quality & Performance group yesterday.</p> <p>LH advised the funding had been received from the CCG but was unsure whether all of the Police funding had been received. LH also asked that the Police commitment be reviewed as planned prior to the formation of the Partnership. SK to confirm with LH outside meeting.</p> <p>GM asked for confirmation that the CCG had delivered the funding required. LH confirmed.</p> <p>LH advised a review of the training charging policy would be going to the next Training & Development subgroup meeting.</p>	<p>SK/LH</p> <p>LH</p>
<p>5</p>	<p>DHR EV Review</p> <p>SJ confirmed that a letter from the Home Office had been received commending the work done for DHR EV.</p> <p>SJ covered the main aspects of the case being that the father had been referred to AWP from RUH due to multiple suicide attempts. There had also been referrals to MARAC for domestic violence between the father and son. The father later died from an overdose of medication.</p> <p>The review found that agencies could have worked together more effectively to recognise signs of inter-familial violence.</p> <p>Many of the suggested actions were already being carried out as part of a MARAC review.</p> <p>Interventions carried out with the son did not improve the situation.</p> <p>Recommendations included a need for a clear referral pathway and a review of the DASH process for elder abuse.</p> <p>A new DHR report will be available in time for the next Executive Group meeting.</p> <p>MB asked if recommendation 13 – ‘Responsible Authorities Group to commission a workshop based on this case to identify practical changes to communications between agencies in cases where a person with care needs is being abused or is the abuser’ will sit with the PRG. LH confirmed.</p>	<p>LH</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Information Update</p> <p><i>1. Domestic Abuse Partnership</i></p> <p>BL gave apologies, KW presented on his behalf.</p> <p>KW advised there was an increased pressure on services and agencies due to Covid.</p>	

	<p>There are concerns amongst agencies that victims of domestic violence are unable to reach out for support due to the lockdown.</p> <p>A Domestic Abuse Covid Taskforce had been created to analyse statistics and unify communications as it was recognised a lot of information was available from multiple sources. The group are reviewing whether the taskforce continue as a domestic violence data group once Covid measures ease further.</p> <p>As part of the taskforce it has been identified that referrals are now starting to increase for housing providers such as Curo and Julian House as well as SouthSide.</p> <p>KW also advised that funding for the violence against women & girls program is coming to an end and will need to be applied for once again.</p> <p>SW highlighted that a review of safeguarding concerns by Insight indicated a low volume of domestic abuse referrals relating to adults with care & support needs.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2. MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference)</i></p> <p>KW highlighted that MARAC were currently capping weekly cases due to capacity issues. A transition had recently occurred from Professional Choices to a new internal Police system.</p> <p>A MARAC steering group has been set up which meets again in July. One meeting has taken place already to confirm terms of reference and attendance list.</p>	
<p>7</p>	<p>Minutes of Previous Meeting & Quoracy</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>1. Operational Group Minutes & Executive Group Minutes</i></p> <p>Minutes were agreed as accurate with no amendments. Executive minutes were from 10/12/19 as the March meeting was cancelled.</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>2. Quoracy</i></p> <p>Attendance list for all subgroups to go out with minutes. SW encouraged all present to check representation was correct and to fill in any gaps.</p> <p>LS advised NPS were currently under Covid working conditions until mid-September, business as usual approach is currently not possible. It is appreciated that attendance is a priority but daily meetings to ensure service provision take precedence. Although a number of staff are currently working from home, face-to-face meetings are taking place with identified individuals.</p> <p>SW highlighted that safeguarding activities were not subject to any easements and the BCSSP were operating on a business as usual basis. It is appreciated that resources are stretched for all partners.</p>	<p>ALL</p>

	<p>KW suggested a temporary clause could be added to the terms of reference to relax quoracy requirements during Covid. MB supported the introduction of a 'covid clause'. KW to amend the terms of references'.</p>	<p>KW</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Covid Impacts & Forward Planning</p> <p>GM advised all staff have been retained during Covid to ensure capacity is available. Planning is now in place to ensure resources are managed effectively over winter.</p> <p>SK advised a spike in referrals is anticipated.</p> <p>LS highlighted that multi-agency working was a highlight for NPS, particularly with the Police. Homelessness Prevention Taskforce has been set up and had good attendance which has helped prison population remain stable. The early release scheme had not performed as successfully as hoped. However, targeting high risk perpetrators of domestic abuse has been successful.</p> <p>SW commended the work of the Homelessness Prevention Taskforce.</p> <p>JS advised crime levels are increasing to expected levels and anticipates an increase in domestic abuse referrals.</p> <p>Short term funding is available (£600,000), bids have been received but have to be spent within a 6-month period. KW to discuss with Lores Savine as a contact within the domestic abuse partnership for funding opportunities.</p> <p>JS concerned with the courts backlog and the effects on victims and perpetrators. Recent BLM developments were also a concern. SW praised the response of the Police to the Colston statue incident. SK highlighted prior experience had strengthened the response to unrest management.</p> <p>MB advised business as usual and easements had occurred below the level that was initially offered. Highlighted the success of multi-agency working in this period. Covid had also exacerbated financial concerns and the Council were facing a shortfall.</p> <p>NL advised Fire & Rescue are looking at ways to support getting staff back into the office. SW asked if the postponements to home visits has seen any effects? NL advised short term workarounds such as phone calls and desktop audits were currently employed. Vulnerable people will be given priority when home visits resume.</p>	<p>KW</p>
<p>9</p>	<p>Persons in a Position of Trust</p> <p>SW advised changes had been made and this version of the document was meant to be presented at the March Executive Group meeting which got cancelled.</p> <p>KW advised the format had been appropriated from the South Glos version.</p>	

	This current version is to be considered the final version. All present were happy with the presented document.							
10	<p>Performance Data</p> <p>SW advised the partnership structure makes compiling data difficult to do as different agencies report different datasets at different timescales.</p> <p>KW still working through with subgroups to gather what audits are available or have been missed.</p> <p>The Scrutiny & Assurance Framework has been amended to include adults, children and community safety based on feedback from subgroups.</p> <p>Data dashboard has been produced in collaboration with the Keeping Bristol Safe Partnership as well as Avon & Somerset Police to inform the structure. Feedback from the Quality & Performance group has led to the formation of a task/finish group to identify audits and data.</p>							
11	<p>AOB</p> <p>SW advised that she has no concerns the BCSSP are operating outside of the DHSE guidelines and timescales. The DHSE letter acknowledges that while there are no easements, delays are understandable and in such situations evidence of good governance may be asked for.</p>							
12	<p>Dates of the Executive Group Meetings</p> <table border="1"> <tr> <td>29/09/2020</td> <td>14:00</td> <td>Keynsham Civic Centre W1.3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15/12/2020</td> <td>14:00</td> <td>Keynsham Civic Centre W1.1</td> </tr> </table>	29/09/2020	14:00	Keynsham Civic Centre W1.3	15/12/2020	14:00	Keynsham Civic Centre W1.1	
29/09/2020	14:00	Keynsham Civic Centre W1.3						
15/12/2020	14:00	Keynsham Civic Centre W1.1						

Action Log

Agenda Item	Action	Actioner
2	Area wide VRU meeting was scheduled for November, it was agreed that DR should attend as well as SW in an observer capacity.	JS
2	Result of November VRU meeting to be discussed at December Executive Board meeting.	AGENDA
3	A priority for NPS attendance should be the Practice Review Group above other subgroups	LS
3	Confirmation required on what documents require sign off at the Executive Group.	SW/MB/LH
4	LH advised unsure whether all of the Police funding had been received. LH also asked that the Police commitment be reviewed as planned prior to the formation of the	LH/SK

	Partnership. SK to confirm with LH outside meeting.	
4	LH advised a review of the training charging policy would be going to the next Training & Development subgroup meeting.	LH
5	MB asked if recommendation 13 – ‘Responsible Authorities Group to commission a workshop based on this case to identify practical changes to communications between agencies in cases where a person with care needs is being abused or is the abuser’ will sit with the PRG. LH confirmed	LH
7	Attendance list to go out with papers. SW encouraged all present to check representation was correct and to fill in any gaps	SL
7	KW suggested a temporary clause could be added to the terms of reference to relax quoracy requirements during Covid. MB supported the introduction of a ‘covid clause’. KW to amend the terms of references’.	KW
8	Short term funding is available (£600,000), bids have been received but have to be spent within a 6-month period. KW to discuss with Lores Savine as a contact within the domestic abuse partnership for funding opportunities.	KW