

The Newsletter for everyone

7th Edition—12th February 2021

who works and volunteers in Slough



Watch out for daffodils!



The symbols of hope and renewal are upon us! Snowdrops and daffodils are brightening up the gloom and with them comes the ray of hope we are looking for!

This newsletter contains the essential information practitioners in the voluntary and statutory sectors need about the latest local safeguarding partnership developments.



Partners are consistently working together on the local challenges our residents are experiencing and are continuing to learn and improve on safeguarding practice, even through these difficult times.

A new “Advancing safeguarding practice group” has been created and is working on the final stages of the neglect strategy, the threshold document and revising the Multi-agency referral form.

New pathways are being created by the Safeguarding Children from exploitation Group so that we can provide a rapid and robust multi-agency response to children who are getting involved in knife crime and/or county lines or being exploited.

An exciting new early intervention tool is being tested out. (Children’s Well Being tool) Rooted in the un convention on the rights of the child, the tool helps parents to work out how they are doing in providing for their children’s basic needs and helps them to identify the gaps and seek help if they need it.

We cannot fit everything in to this newsletter so have just put the recent highlights, if you want to find out more, visit our website [Click Here](#). or e-mail shakir.hussain@slough.gov.uk

Finally, **it is helpful to remind ourselves that it’s ok not to be ok!!!** Your agency will have arrangements in place when it all gets a bit much for you, so do take time out to care for yourself!

With very best regards from

The safeguarding partnership team.

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New pathways for child exploitation in development

The Safeguarding Children from Exploitation Group (SCEG) co-ordinates the work of partners in tackling the exploitation of children and is currently working on new multi-agency risk management pathways. These new arrangements will provide a swift and robust multi-agency response to children identified as at risk of exploitation and/or getting involved in violent crime, creating a multi-agency risk management plan. This involves agreeing together a holistic understanding of the risk to the child and coming up with a plan to reduce that risk, working with the child and parents. Carers. The SCEG groups aims to complete this work in March 2021 and launch in April.



New ways of working: Transitional Safeguarding Meetings

It has long been an ongoing issue to determine the most effective ways to ensure that post 18 years of age, young adults at risk of exploitation continue to be safeguarded in to adulthood. Information needs to be shared between services in both a proportionate and timely way so as the young person approaches 18, they receive access to the guidance, information and advice they will need as a young adult.



Slough Children's Services Trust is currently running a pilot for young people transitioning from 17 to 18 years of age who are risk of exploitation. A series of transition meetings have been held to discuss issues faced by each young person, have a shared understanding of risk, and explore viable services for intervention and continued support. The Multi-agency Risk Tool (MART) (LINK IN HERE) which has been used for the last 18 months to manage risk for adults has been a key instrument to ensure the correct questions were discussed, the risk identified, the right people were around the table and achievable actions/ timescales are implemented to transition each young person successfully.

As a result, there have been a succession of successful meetings one of which the trust was able to ensure that the relevant provisions were signposted for a young person to prepare for his housing needs as well as referrals made to Aik Saath and the YES consortium to address NEET support.

Next steps are to continue the transitional meetings, assess what is working well and not so well and ways in which we can remain consistent in improving outcomes for young adults.

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Hoarding Protocol and Toolkit for professionals

In partnership with organisations across Slough, a new hoarding protocol and toolkit has been approved by the Health and Social Care Partnership Board. The aim of this document is to provide information and practical guidance to professionals that work with people that hoard.

In recognition that cases are often complex and involve many agencies, the toolkit includes resources as well as an assessment tool to manage risks effectively. It details how professionals can use the multi agency risk tool to mitigate risks and work with colleagues effectively.



This is hot off the press; there will be more communication when the document is published online. If you are too intrigued to wait, a word document can be requested from Victoria Tutty by emailing victoria.tutty@slough.gov.uk

Domestic Abuse Virtual Surgery: Discussion Forum

It was recognised that during the first wave of lockdown, which resulted from the Covid-19 pandemic, that practitioners were facing a number of challenges and complex cases in relation to domestic abuse (DA).

It was felt that peer support and discussion in managing these cases would be welcomed. A monthly DA surgery discussion forum has been set up as a safe place to discuss cases which may have a degree of complexity.

Please note that this group does not replace MATAC and MARAC, or other formal processes, referrals, and pathways.

The monthly surgery will be a drop in session where practitioners from across the partnership will be present during a two hour time slot:

If you would benefit from joining the group to help support victims of DA, we will be holding these surgeries via bluejeans conference facility online; please see dates below. Please join the group by logging on via www.bluejeans.com. Any problems with access, please contact corletta.rolle@slough.gov.uk.

There will be no set chair but an open discussion to support practitioners.

- 2 December 2-4pm (ID 7568440403/ passcode: 3216)
- 28 January 2021 (ID 7568440403/ passcode 3216)
- 25 February 2021 (ID 7568440403/ passcode 3216)
- 25 March 2021 (ID 7568440403/ passcode 3216)

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Safeguarding Partnership Training News

Bite Size Seminars running this quarter

We are so pleased to be able to offer multi agency safeguarding training again. The training is conducted via Microsoft Teams so that all partners can access it. To replicate the classroom learning experience as best we can, attendees numbers are kept to a small number to ensure quality interaction. It is therefore advisable to book early. All the training is 2 hours long and can be booked via our website Simply log onto our website and click on “Book training” on the first page.

<https://www.sloughsafeguardingpartnership.org.uk/>.



Courses currently being offered

Exploitation of Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults.

24th February 2021 and 23rd March 2021

If you work with children, young people or vulnerable adults and need to recognise or respond to concerns of exploitation, then this course is for you. It covers all aspects of exploitation across all generations including Child Exploitation, Criminal Exploitation, Gangs and Modern Slavery.

Multi agency Risk Tool for Adults who do not access services

25th March 2021

This course is targeted at all practitioners who work with adults at risk, including 17 – 25 year olds transitioning from support from SCST. It provides a multi-agency framework to provide support when safeguarding support is inappropriate or refused. It improves confidence and competence around multi agency working to share the risk when working with complex and challenging cases.

Core Groups in Children’s Safeguarding

17th March and 30th March

This course is for practitioners who work directly with children and families who would attend Child Protection Conferences and/or Core Group. It is relevant for investigators (Police and Social Workers) and referrers. Areas covered include overcoming barriers and challenges to progressing Core Groups.

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Safeguarding Partnership Training Cont.

Future Plans

We plan to continue running virtual bite sized seminars in the next financial year. These will be advertised on our website as soon as they are agreed.



Continuing Professional Development Options

One of our most popular courses in the past has been our **Level 3 “Working Together to Safeguard Children”**. At a recent Safeguarding Learning and Development Forum, it was agreed that we would move to delivering this course via a modular approach where practitioners can choose which aspects of the course they need to learn about or refresh. You will therefore see in next year’s offer a number of 2 hour seminars covering all aspects of the “Working Together to Safeguard Children” course. All our courses are at a level 3 and provide 2 hours of Continuing Professional Development. Practitioners will be able to choose how many hours of CPD they wish to book.

It is really important that practitioners take responsibility for their own development; tracking and documenting skills that you develop is key. It is important that you record, review and reflect on what you learn and so simply attending a seminar is not the end of the learning process. It is really important that you reflect on the learning and record your reflection. It is always a good idea to reflect on your learning with your line manager, mentor or a trusted colleague. Each agency will have organisational guidance on your CPD but if you need any advice, please do contact Janine Edwards at Janine.Edwards@Slough.gov.uk The Safeguarding Partnership Website has some useful resources to use for your CPD. They can be accessed on the training page of the website [here](#) and also on the [link](#) for useful resources.



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Lockdown!

No excuse for abuse

Help IS available

Domestic Abuse National Helpline

0808 2000 247

In Slough (Hestia)

01753477352

Child abuse & neglect National helpline

0800 1111

In Slough (Slough Childrens Services Trust)

01753 875362

Adult and Elder abuse National helpline

08088088141

**In Slough (Slough Borough Council Adult
social care services)**

01753 475111

**If you think there has
been a crime but it is not an emergency
call the Police on 101**

In emergencies dial 999



Slough Safeguarding Partnership