

**MESSAGES BULLETIN**

**FROM THE DARLINGTON SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD**

ISSUE 2 – JULY 2016

Welcome to the second bulletin from the Darlington Safeguarding Children Board. The Board is made up of leaders from a range of organisations such as police, public health, Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), providers of health care, social care, housing, voluntary services and the Probation Service all of whom have an interest in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children. On a bi-monthly basis the board meet to ensure safeguarding practice is well coordinated and meeting the safeguarding needs of children in Darlington.

The Board met on **20 July 2016** and the headlines from the meeting are:



**Lay Member Resignation**

Briony Richardson had been a Lay Member of the Board since January 2015. The Board wishes to thank Briony for her contribution and support and wish her well for the future.



The Child Death Review Process for  
County Durham and Darlington  
Annual Report  
2015/16



**Child Death Overview Annual Report for 2015/2016**

The Child Death Overview Panel Chair presented the annual report which includes the learning from all the child deaths notified in the year. All deaths are reviewed to determine if there are modifiable factors to prevent other children dying in the future. The annual report is accessible from

[www.darlington safeguarding boards.co.uk](http://www.darlington safeguarding boards.co.uk).

**PERFORMANCE**



**Quality Assurance and Performance**

The Board is required to develop, manage and apply arrangements for ensuring the partnership has the necessary arrangements in place to monitor and assess joint working arrangements to protect children in Darlington. This is an ongoing priority for the Board to ensure it has data from all its statutory partners that will provide board with oversight of the child's journey through services from Early Help, Child Protection and Looked After Children.



### School section 11/ section 175 audit

The Board received the findings from the schools section 11/s.175 audit. The audit is an assurance check on how schools safeguard and promote the welfare of their children in education. 76% of schools across primary, secondary and further education establishments completed the audit. The findings on the whole have provided assurance. There were a minority of schools that acknowledged that their policies, procedures and training is to be updated, all these school identified they have arrangements in place to ensure these are prioritised. In addition, support is being offered by the Education Safeguarding Officer within Darlington Borough Council. There is a further audit ongoing with Nursery Education Providers such as Childminders, Nurseries and Play Groups.



March 2018

### Review of Local Safeguarding Boards by Alan Wood

Department of Education have published a review into how local safeguarding boards can be more effective. This may have implications locally for Darlington and the Independent Chair is liaising closely with Darlington Borough Council and statutory partners to understand what implications this report will have. The [full report](#) is accessible from the DfE website including [government's response](#).

<p>Independent Chair of the Safeguarding Children Board is:</p> <p><i>Richard Burrows</i></p>	<p>The Safeguarding Children Board is supported by a joint business unit which also supports the Darlington Safeguarding Adults Partnership Board.</p> <p>For further information you can contact a member of the team on: 01325 406452.</p>
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