



# **Slough Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report**

**An account of the effectiveness of Slough safeguarding  
partnership**

**for the period 2019-2020**

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

# About This Document

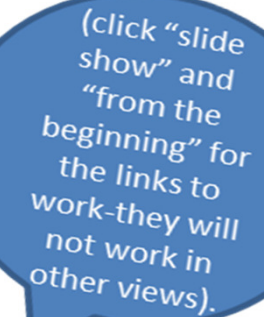
Read this online.

Follow the links provided to find more detail.

You can print out the document and the on line supplementary documents if you prefer.

If you need anything else,

[E-mail: betty.lynch@slough.gov.uk](mailto:betty.lynch@slough.gov.uk)



(click "slide show" and "from the beginning" for the links to work-they will not work in other views).

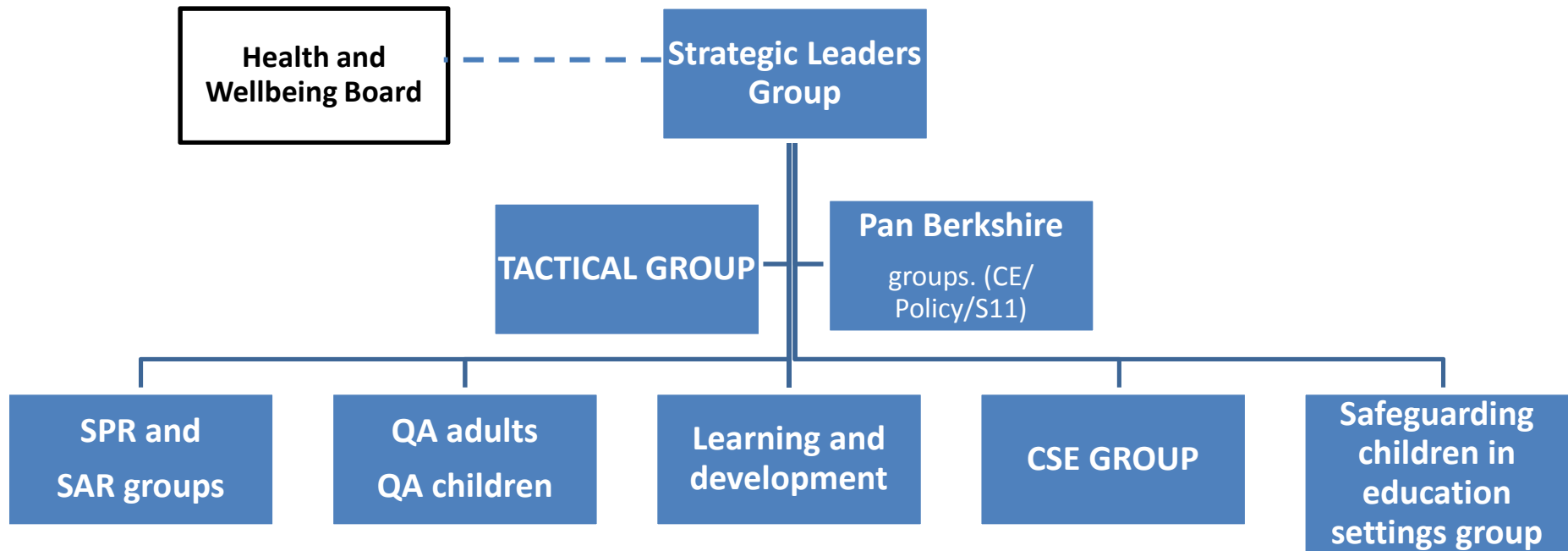
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## Forward by Independent Scrutineer David Peplow

- Slough Safeguarding Partnership is pleased to present their first Annual Report on safeguarding adults and children.
- It is significant that during this period there was a requirement to transition from the previous Local Safeguarding Children Board to the new safeguarding Partnership arrangements encompassing the Care Act 2014 requirements for a Safeguarding Adult Board. The transition in Childrens had to be completed by 29<sup>th</sup> September 2019, half way through the reporting year. ([Please click here to view the arrangements](#)).
- While strategic leadership has strengthened and changed, our duties to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults has remained and been consistently delivered.
- The annual report outlines progress made against the objectives set in the annual report 2018/19 and agreed priorities for 2019-20 and the difference partnership working has made to how children and young people and vulnerable adults are protected from harm, abuse, neglect and exploitation.
- Although this report only covers events up to the end of March 2020 I must acknowledge that the Covid-19 pandemic which began in the latter stages of this reporting period has been a major issue. The next annual report will have more detail.
- The Slough Safeguarding Partnership would like to extend its gratitude to all staff across the partnership who work relentlessly, adapting and implementing innovative solutions to identify gaps and best support children and families and vulnerable adults.

**David Peplow**  
**Independent scrutineer, Slough Safeguarding Partnership**



# Slough population: Key Facts from The Berkshire Observatory

<https://slough.berkshireobservatory.co.uk/deprivation/>

- Total Population of 149,539
- Children (0-19yrs) are 30.5% of the population that is 45,30
- Population predicted to grow to 161,900 by 2041
- It has a higher proportion of people aged 30-40 than the England average.
- It is ethnically diverse; 39.7% of the population is Asian or Asian British and 45.7% are White British.
- It has a highly transient population and high rates of refugees and asylum seekers.
- Slough is an attractive location for both European and global headquarters. Slough trading estate provides local employment opportunities.
- Slough is ranked 79th out of 152 upper-tier unitary authorities in England, where a ranking of 1 is the most deprived (based on the 2019 Indices of Multiple Deprivation average score).
- There are number of neighbourhoods in Slough that are among the most deprived in England.

# Safeguarding Children: Progress made since 18/19

In 2018/19 we learned that we needed to;	We did in 19/20	What needs to happen next.
Deliver high level training seminars on the neglect strategy and the tool and monitor impact.	Delivered neglect training to over 160 professionals from all relevant agencies which included the application of the tool and multi-agency communications. Evaluations were positive.	Review the strategy and tool. Include in multi-agency case audits.
In relation to exploitation of children we aimed to improve the use of intelligence and profiling. Carry out another self assessment when the JTAI themes are published.	One safeguarding partnership event reviewed the self assessment and created a holistic all age exploitation strategy.	Explore the need for a local multi-agency group to deliver the strategy.
Develop the idea of “one “ serious violence strategy.	Produced a serious violence strategy produced by the Safer slough partnership	

# CHILD PROTECTION PERFORMANCE

[\(FULL REPORT AVAILABLE ON THIS LINK\)](#)

An account of child protection performance is provided by the Children's Trust in the link above. As well as accounting for the performance of the Children's Trust, this data is analysed to help us to understand the multi-agency implications specifically around thresholds.

Some of the facts, analysis and conclusions are provided in the next three slides.



## Child Protection: Some Key Facts

- The Trust continues to ensure that the voices of children are heard, both on a daily basis through direct work and through our Reach Out (Slough's Children in Care Council) group.
- The required average duration for care proceedings is 26 weeks and Slough's average performance was 20.3 weeks, the best in Berkshire.
- Slough's looked after children have seen some amazing results in the last academic year. The GCSE results for June 2019 were better than national and statistical neighbours. Record numbers of our young people are accessing university.
- The Trust's children's home, Breakaway received an Ofsted rating of 'good'
- Work was undertaken to review and develop a new model of CP Conference based on promoting the welfare of and protection of children by working in partnership with families to achieve the best outcomes
- The Trust has increased the capacity of child protection chairs
- The Trust has carried out a programme of core and thematic audits
- Commissioned an independent person to come in and complete 50 audits at the Front Door looking at contact and referral and S47 and Strategy Discussions providing an overall assurance of the quality of contact and decision making and overall application of threshold for S47

## Child Protection: Data

The data provided in this report shows that child protection activity has been increasing over the last three years with more contacts, assessments and children becoming subject to CP Plans year on year.

The last 6 months of 2019/20 saw the most significant increases and this placed additional pressures on the Trust and on partners.

Performance in some key areas has improved, or remains in line with Statistical Neighbours, South East and England averages.

The Trust worked closely with the Safeguarding Partnership and has supported the development and delivery of the Neglect Strategy and Tool, and the revision of the Threshold Document.

It is positive to note that despite the increase in contacts and referrals the repeat referral rate was lower than the previous year, although the percentage of children on a child protection plan for a second or subsequent time had risen slightly, it is important to continue to focus on the process of stepping down and supporting families following intervention to ensure the changes and improvements made are sustainable.

## Child protection data analysis continued

- The change in the front door incorporating early help referrals has allowed a more consistent overview of the threshold and level of need that is being identified and more consistent application of threshold as a result (as evidenced in audit and through DfE revision of children's cases).
- In some areas of activity the increased volume of demand has impacted on the timeliness of work being completed including child and family assessments and timeliness of ICPC in 15 working days. The Trust continues to review this performance through a regular Performance Board and identify solutions to improve performance, which may include consideration of additional resources in some key areas.
- The Trust has in place a comprehensive improvement plan designed to address on going areas for improvement and development and progress is reported to the Trust Board and the Council through on-going contract monitoring activity.

## Safeguarding Adults: Progress made since 18/19

Identified in 18/19 report	Impact	Next steps
<p>Need to deliver, collate data and analyse and to carry out multi-agency audits</p>	<p>Learning and improvement framework agreed by SLG. Workshop by new Tactical group produced core data set.</p>	<p>Data collection to be embedded in Tactical groups work.</p>
<p>Roll out risk tool via multi-agency seminars. Carry out Slough specific safeguarding adults training needs analysis. Explore training that could target both children and adults.</p>	<p>Risk tool seminars delivered with positive evaluations. Training needs analysis completed by learning and development group. All age exploitation training agreed.</p>	<p>Deliver all age exploitation training.</p>
<p>Appoint permanent training and development manager. Training and development for the team.</p>	<p>Training manager appointed and leading on multi-agency safeguarding training.</p>	<p>Revise training needs analysis to ensure training delivers on agreed priority areas.</p>

## Safeguarding adults: data

[\(FULL REPORT AVAILABLE ON THIS LINK\)](#)

An account of safeguarding adult performance is provided by Slough Borough Council Adult Social Care services in the link above. As well as accounting for the performance of ASC this data is analysed to help us to understand the multi-agency implications specifically around referrals. Some of the facts, analysis and conclusions are highlighted in the next slides.

No of Concerns Received	1259
No of Safeguarding Enquiries	245
'Conversion rate'*	19%
<i>* The proportion of referrals proceeding to assessment and/or safeguarding procedures.</i>	

## **Safeguarding adults: Key facts/analysis**

The number of safeguarding contacts remained significantly high. An audit of referrals/concerns in 2019 identified that the Safeguarding referral pathway was being used for other types of referral or communication with ASC, for example requests for Care and Support Needs assessments under the Care Act. A new triage protocol was introduced and will be evaluated in 2020/21.

## **Managing risk**

The roll out of the Multi Agency Risk Tool (MART) gives partners a pathway for supporting adults that partners are concerned about when the person either does not meet the Care Act safeguarding criteria or who makes a decision (with mental capacity) to decline a safeguarding enquiry or does not allow Social Services to work with them through another route. Training and communications has begun and will be further promoted in 2020/21

# Safeguarding Adults

## Types of abuse

The most common type of abuse is Neglect and Omission at 32%. The second and third most common are Financial Abuse (16%) and Psychological and Emotional (13%). This is the first time that Psychological Abuse has featured in the top three types and this is thought to be because this type of abuse is often a feature of many types of abuse, for example modern slavery.

## Modern Slavery

Modern Slavery has risen from 1% to 3.5%. As a result of the joint work, awareness raising and training. A Multi Agency Modern Slavery Group is actively working to improve the identification of modern slavery and build a range of targeted responses support individuals in Slough who are victims of this particularly worrying form of abuse.

## Self neglect

Self Neglect has risen from 5% to 10% of the safeguarding situations that Adult Social Care support. This is complex and sensitive work which is being supported by a new Pan Berkshire policy on Self Neglect. In 2020/21 Slough is developing a pathway and resources to support staff to work with people who hoard

## Child Exploitation in Slough Highlights of Multi-Agency Performance:

Achievements	Impact	Next steps
Slough is the host for Pan Berks Child Exploitation group- Screening tool developed	Tool accompanies referrals providing information to inform robust decision making.	Evaluate screening tool.
Slough Holistic approach to exploitation agreed.	Improved practice in multi-agency response to safeguarding children from exploitation.	Revise alongside learning from SPR when complete. Set up a safeguarding children from exploitation group.
Delivery of training on exploitation and gangs.	Over 120 professionals received training in relation to CSE and other forms of exploitation and specialist gang training.	Clarify governance with particular reference to knife crime and the role of the community safety partnership.



# Policy Development-Children

Slough Partnerships gratefully acknowledge the leadership by Reading and Wokingham safeguarding partnerships in managing the Pan Berkshire policy and procedures sub-group.

- Key policies updated in 19/20 were as follows;
- Responding to Abuse and Neglect
- Referrals
- Child Protection Conferences
- Allegations Against Staff or Volunteers who work with Children
- Faith related Harmful Practice
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Child Sexual Abuse in the Family Environment
- Many other policies were subject to review and updates

## **Training for 2019-2020**

**(FULL REPORT AVAILABLE ON THIS LINK)**

A new Learning and Development forum was established which included staff working in the fields of adult and children safeguarding.

All courses were planned to be co-facilitated by members of the forum or nominated staff from their agencies.

Due to this support, the Partnership continued to provide training free of charge to people working in the public and voluntary sectors.

The forum carried out a training needs analysis to inform the curriculum for 2020-21.

Due to the impact of COVID-19 on the ability to attend training, a further analysis was carried out during 2020 and an amended training offer was established.

## Training key data highlights

- 688 people have received training from a large spread of organisations including Slough Children's Services Trust; Slough Borough Council; Primary and Secondary Schools; Childrens centres; Wexham Park Hospital; Berkshire Health Foundation trust; Solutions 4 Health, Thames Valley Police; GP's from the CCG, Probations Services and the Voluntary Sector.
- 36 separate courses were provided during the year covering Children's Exploitation; Modern Slavery and Adult exploitation; Level 3 safeguarding for multiagency staff; Gangs awareness; Difficult conversations and Neglect and the Adult Risk tool and Framework.
- Excellent 94% satisfaction identified over all the courses with individual courses ranging from 91% to 97%
- Excellent average self reported competence variance increases of just under 3 scale points.
- 816 people booked on to training this year however there was a 16% (128 staff) non attendance

# How do we know we are making a difference? (Quality assurance)

**Safeguarding partners gather evidence from the following sources;**

- Practitioners in both adults and children's services, through learning events and via their Partnership representatives,
- Feedback from young people, adult services users and their families.
- Leaders and managers identifying operational challenge.
- Multi-agency case audit.
- Performance data
- Case reviews.
- National policy and research evidence.

# Safeguarding Practice review group

## Summary account of activities 2019/20

Achievements	Next steps	Impact
Carried out 9 rapid reviews (Working Together 2018)	Analyse the rapid reviews to identify recurring themes	Emerging theme around knife crime but further analysis planned.
Instigated two Safeguarding Practice reviews. One with a theme of Neglect and one in relation to a fatal stabbing.	Both SPR's will be published when criminal proceedings complete.	New contextual safeguarding arrangements to be developed in 2020 Neglect strategy and threshold review in SLG strategic plan.
Development programme agreed	A development training day for members was planned for July 2020	

# Safeguarding Adults Review Group (SARP)

## Summary account of activities 2019/20

Achievements	Impact	Next Steps.
Discussed 7 cases, leading to two formal Safeguarding Adult Reviews.(SAR)	Learning about Multi-agency risk, resulting in delivery of the Multi-agency Risk Tool (MART) and training as well as publicity about pressure sore prevention. Campaign to reach unknown carers and new helpline for them to contact and get help.	Sustain MART through training and communications. Communications group will repeat communications on prevention of pressure sores on a quarterly basis, and sustain awareness raising for unknown carers.
Tracker for all reviews created to monitor delivery and impact.	Readily available tool to monitor cases at each meeting.	Carry out a retrospective analysis of all recommendations of all SAR's carried out in the last 5 years to ensure all actions delivered.
		Agree a development day for members.

# Partners' listed below have provided individual accounts to the Safeguarding Partnership

[\(ALL REPORTS AVAILABLE ON THIS LINK\)](#)

- Slough Borough Council
- Slough Children's Services Trust
- Berkshire Clinical Commissioning group
- Berkshire Health Care Foundation Trust
- Berkshire Fire and Rescue Service
- Slough Council voluntary services
- South Central Ambulance Service
- Solution 4 Health
- Frimley Health NHS Foundation Trust
- Thames Valley Police
- Thames Valley Community Rehabilitation Company

# Slough Strategic Safeguarding Leaders Group

- Made up of accountable leads for safeguarding children, safeguarding adults and community safety.
- The Statutory agencies are Slough Borough Council, Thames Valley Police, Clinical Commissioning Group and Slough Children's Services Trust.
- Priority setting and leading on multi-agency safeguarding and community safety.
- Steering the sub-structure, redesigning to deliver effectively to Slough Residents.
- Creating "one" approach to multi-agency delivery.
- Providing overall leadership and clear governance



# Slough Strategic Safeguarding Leaders Group

## AGREED PRIORITIES 2020/21

Improved practice, communication and quality assurance around:

- Child abuse and neglect
- Adult abuse and neglect
- Exploitation
- Violence
- Domestic abuse

A strategic plan is in development in this reporting period.



**Thank you for reading, please find further information below:**

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