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**32nd Meeting of the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland**

**Wednesday 21st March 2018 from 2:00pm-5:00pm**

**The Chestnut Suite, Lagan Valley Island Centre**

**BT27 4RL**

**PUBLIC MINUTES**

**RECORD OF ATTENDANCE**

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| **Name** | **Title & Organisation** | **Present** | **Apology** |
| Bernie McNally | Chair Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland | 🗸 |  |
| Neil Anderson | National Head of Service for Northern Ireland NSPCC | 🗸 |  |
| Kieran Downey | Director of Safeguarding Children-WHSCT | 🗸 |  |
| Dr Martin Cunningham | GP representative | 🗸 |  |
| Anne Donaghy | Chief Executive Mid and East Antrim Council |  | 🗸 |
| Liam Hannaway | Chief Executive Newry, Mourne and Down District Council |  | 🗸 |
| Dr Adrian Mairs  | Acting Director of Public Health | 🗸 |  |
| Mary Hinds  | Director of Nursing and AHP’s  | 🗸 |  |
| D/Chief Superintendent Paula Hillman  | PSNI | 🗸 |  |
| Declan McGeown | YJA  | 🗸 |  |
| Paddy Kelly | Director Children’s Law Centre |  | 🗸 |
| Cheryl Lamont | PBNI  | 🗸 |  |
| Pauline Leeson | Chief Executive Children in N. Ireland |  | 🗸 |
| Pamela Woods | EANI |  | 🗸 |
| Cecil Worthington | HSCB | 🗸 |  |
| Paul Morgan | Director of Children & Young People’s Services SHSCT |  | 🗸 |
| Dawn Shaw | National Director NI Action for Children |  | 🗸 |
| Michael Hoy  | Assistant Director of Children’s Services SEHSCT | 🗸 |  |
| Marie Roulston | Director of Children’s Services NHSCT | 🗸 |  |
| Lynda Wilson  | Director Barnardo’s NI | 🗸 |  |
| John Growcott | Acting Director of Children’s Social Care BHSCT | 🗸 |  |
| Una Turbitt  | PHA | 🗸 |  |
| Paddy Mooney | Director Include Youth | 🗸 |  |
| Barbara McDermott  | Director Down & Connor Safeguarding |  | 🗸 |
| Peter Reynolds  | Chief Executive -NIGALA |  | 🗸 |
| Andrew Thomson | Chair of the CMR Panel | 🗸 |  |
| Yvonne Adair | Independent Safeguarding Panel Chair Southern and South Eastern Areas  | 🗸 |  |
| Brian Hanna | Independent Safeguarding Panel Chair Belfast, Northern and Western Areas | 🗸 |  |
| Simon Rogers  | Non-Executive (Lay) member  | 🗸 |  |
| Gerard Guckian  | Non-Executive (Lay) member | 🗸 |  |
| **In Attendance** |
| Lisa McEneaney | Minute Taker  |

**Summary of Actions**

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| **Action No.** | **Action:** | **To be completed by:** |
| 1 | Ms Mahon’s presentation on the Signs of Safety Approach to be sent to members | Ms McEneaney |
| 2 | Signs of Safety implementation plan to be shared with SBNI members | Ms McEneaney |
| 3 | Invitation to the launch of Signs of Safety to be circulated to SBNI members  | Ms McEneaney |
| 4 | Strategic Plan to be tabled as an agenda item at the SBNI Strategic Planning day on 9th May | Chair |
| 5 | The Chair to write to the political parties regarding the Strategic Plan if they were not originally included in the consultation list. | Chair  |
| 6 | Additional risks to be added to the EITP Scoping Paper  | Ms McKenzie |
| 7 | The Chair to write to SBNI members to inform them of the outcome following the EITP Programme Board  | Chair |
| 8 | The Chair to have a discussion with the Committee Chairs regarding presentations at the SBNI Development Day | Chair |
| 9 | SBNI members to advise the SBNI office if they wish for items to be included in the Annual Report  | SBNI Members |
| 10 | Annual Report to be presented to the SBNI meeting on 20th June  | Chair  |
| 11 | Clarity to be obtained in relation to the membership for the Domestic Violence Sub-Group  | Chair  |
| 12 | The Chair to write to Childrens Commissioner to clarify SBNIs approach to Physical Punishment and positive parenting | Chair |

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| The SBNI approved the EITP Working Better Together Professional Development Scoping Paper |
| The SBNI were content to approve the Terms of Reference once clarity is obtained in relation to the membership of the group |
| The SBNI approved the Neglect strategy |

**Summary of Board approval**

**Preliminaries: Apologies, Quorum, Conflict of Interest, Complaints**

The Chair welcomed SBNI members to the meeting.

The Chair recorded apologies from Ms Donaghy, Mr Reynolds, Ms Leeson, Ms Shaw, Ms McDermott and Mr Hannaway. She added that Ms Woods was attending the meeting on behalf of Dr Mangan (EANI) and Mr Hoey on behalf of Mr Whittle (SEHSCT).

**Conflict of Interest**

The Chair asked members to declare any conflicts of interest as and when they arise throughout the meeting.

**Complaints**

No complaints were noted.

**1.32/18P Previous Minutes & Matters Arising**

1.1 The Chair invited comments on the factual accuracy of the public minutes from the SBNI meeting on the 21st February. The minutes were subsequently approved as an accurate record of the meeting.

**2. 32/18P Signs of Safety**

2.1 Ms Mahon presented on the Signs of Safety approach. *(See board paper BM32-03.18P7)*

**Action 1:**

Ms Mahon’s presentation on the Signs of Safety Approach to be sent to members

**Action by: Ms McEneaney**

2.2 Ms Wilson asked about student social work training in relation to ensuring social work graduates understanding of Signs of Safety. Ms Mahon said that she had a meeting with NISCC and the degree in social work is going to be reviewed next year (2019). She said that the review will analyse what is currently being taught and to identify the skill base.

2.2 Mr Guckian said that Signs of Safety had worked and there is opportunity for all member agencies to work together if this is rolled out systematically. He said that the SBNI is the forum for taking this forward.

2.3 Mr Guckian suggested that references to the judiciary and justice system would need to be made. Ms Mahon said that this has already been included.

2.4 Mr Downey said that as a group of Directors of HSC Trusts they have championed Signs of Safety for some time. He said that there is a bid for transformation funding which will hopefully be agreed very soon. He said that there is an implementation plan which will be shared with the SBNI.

2.5 Mr Downey reflected on the connection with ACEs. He said that Signs of Safety provides the overarching framework.

**Action 2:**

Signs of Safety implementation plan to be shared with SBNI members.

**Action by: Ms McEneaney**

2.6 Ms Mahon said that the launch of Signs of Safety will be held in the Stormont Hotel on 27th June.

**Action 3:**

Invitation to the launch of Signs of Safety to be circulated to SBNI members

**Action by: Ms McEneaney**

**Chai**

**3 32/18P Matters arising**

3.1 The Chair stated that at the last meeting of the SBNI (21st February) it was agreed that a CSE evaluation would be carried out. She said that the SBNI have commissioned Ms Leonard to work with the DoH and SBNI members to develop the methodology for the CSE evaluation. This will involve working in particular with the PSNI and Social Services.

3.2 The Chair said that the CSE audit had been circulated with the papers but has been sent out again for information.

3.3 The Chair stated that the other matters arising are on the agenda.

**4 32/18P Strategic Plan (BM31-03.18P1)**

4.1 The Chair informed members that the consultation stage of the Strategic Plan process is now complete. She said that the SBNI office is working through the responses at present. The Chair indicated that a number of issues have arisen that the SBNI Board need to make decisions on, for example issues in relation to priorities. She added that these will be added to the agenda for the SBNI Development Day on the 9th May.

**Action 4:**

Strategic Plan to be tabled as an agenda item at the SBNI Strategic Planning Day on 9th May.

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

4.2 Mr Rogers asked whether the Strategic Plan had been shared with the political parties given that there were no responses received from the political parties.

**Action 5:**

The Chair to write to the political parties regarding the Strategic Plan if they were not originally included in the consultation list.

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

4.3 Ms Adair asked if a reminder had been sent to the organisations who did not respond to the consultation. The Chair said that a reminder was sent to the organisations.

**5 32/18P EITP Working Better Together Professional Development Scoping Paper**

5.1 The Chair stated that the SBNI were asked by the DoH to consider taking forward the EITP Professional Development Workstream 4. She said that an initial proposal paper was presented to the December meeting of the SBNI for approval to proceed.

5.2 The Chair said that a proposal paper was then completed and presented to the EITP Programme Board on 26th January. The Chair said that the SBNI office had commissioned Mr O’Neill, who was a former Director of Finance for the NHSCT. The EITP Programme Board were content that a large amount of work had gone into the proposal; however they indicated that they wanted assurance that the SBNI membership were committed to this and wanted to take this forward. The Programme Board also requested more detail in relation to the finance.

5.3 The Chair advised that following the meeting of the EITP Programme Board on 26th January the SBNI office commissioned Mr O’Neill and Ms Leonard to prepare this paper. The EITP Scoping paper once approved today will be presented to the EITP Programme Board on 26th March for approval.

5.4 Mr McGeown declared a conflict of interest in relation to this as he is a member of the EITP Programme Board. He said that he felt it was a good proposal; however he also commented that it was expensive and that he feels the costs have been increased in order to spend the total budget. Mr McGeown also clarified that his comments at the EITP programme board related to lack of detail in the SBNI proposal on governance and finance management

5.5 The Chair clarified that the money does not come into the SBNI office, but like all SBNI finance is managed through the PHA. She said that the SBNI adhere to the Standing Financial Instructions (SFIs) and procurement processes of the PHA.

5.7 Mr Rogers stated that there are a number of additional risks for example recruitment, buy-in slippage and procurement. He said that there are some additional risks which should be added into the report.

**Action 6:**

Additional risks to be added to the EITP Scoping Paper

**Action by: Ms McKenzie**

**Chai**

5.8 Dr Cunningham said that GPs need training in safeguarding. He said that it is difficult to train GPs given working patterns. Dr Cunningham said that GP training needs to be factored into the planning.

5.9 Ms McKenzie stated that conversations have taken place with the HSCB in relation to how engagement with GPs can be included within other training initiatives.

5.10 The Chair advised that Mr O’Neill will attend the EITP Programme Board meeting with her on Monday 26th March. She advised she will write out to SBNI members after the meeting to inform them of the outcome.

5.11 The SBNI approved the EITP “Working Better Together Professional Development Framework” Scoping Paper.

**Action 7:**

The Chair to write to SBNI members to inform them of the outcome following the EITP Programme Board

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

**6 32/18P Neglect Strategy**

6.1 The Chair advised that the Neglect Strategy had previously been tabled at the SBNI before going out for consultation. The consultation responses have now been examined and incorporated into the strategy.

6.2 The Chair said that Ms Shaw as chair of the Committee was unable to attend the meeting today.

6.3 Ms Roulston advised that the Neglect Strategy links with the ACEs work. She said that there has been a link with Ms Maxwell (HSCB) in relation to the data.

6.4 Ms Roulston said that there are plans for a Neglect conference

6.5 Mr Rogers asked if there was a cost associated with this Strategy. The Chair advised that there was no cost associated to the SBNI Board.

6.6 The SBNI approved the Neglect Strategy.

**7 32/18P Draft Development Day Agenda (BM32-03.18P3)**

7.1 The Chair presented the Draft Development Day Agenda. She said that the agenda comprises all the work of the SBNI.

7.2 The Chair said that she would have discussions with the committee chairs in relation to presentations at the SBNI Development Day on 9th May.

**Action 8:**

The Chair to have a discussion with the committee chairs regarding presentations at the SBNI Development Day.

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

**8 32/18P Finance (BM32-03.18P5)**

8.1 The Chair presented the finance report to the SBNI Board. She said that there is an overall underspend between goods & services and salaries of £92,280.

**9 32/18P Annual Report**

9.1 The Chair advised that the SBNI office staff have been collating pictures and information for the Annual Report. She said that if members feel they would like anything included, they should inform Ms McEneaney.

**Action: 9**

SBNI members to advise the SBNI office if they wish for items to be included in the Annual Report

**Action by: SBNI**

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**Chai**

9.2 The Chair said that the Annual Report will be presented to the SBNI meeting on 20th June.

**Action: 10**

Annual Report to be presented to the SBNI meeting on 20th June

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

**10 32/18P Terms of Reference for the Domestic Violence Sub-Group**

10.1 The Chair presented the Terms of Reference for the Domestic Violence Sub-Group to the SBNI. The Board were content to approve the Terms of Reference once clarity is obtained in relation to the membership of the group.

**Action: 11**

Clarity to be obtained in relation to the membership for the Domestic Violence Sub-Group **Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

**11 32/18P Implications of Equal Protection/Physical Punishment**

11.1 Following the Children’s Commissioner’s presentation at the SBNI on 21st February, the Children’s Commissioner had asked the Chair to discuss this matter with the DOH. The Chair had the opportunity to discuss this issue with Mr Holland (Deputy Permanent Secretary) Mr Holland had advised that this was a policy matter and that it is for the Minister to decide what the policy is in Northern Ireland.

11.2 The Chair discussed the issues raised at the last meeting and the role of positive parenting. The Chair said that as a membership body, the SBNI do have a role in to encourage different ways of disciplining children rather than physical chastisement.

11.3 The Chair said that she will write to the Children’s Commissioner in relation to this. She said that she did speak to Ms McKenzie about adding something to the Strategic Plan in relation to positive parenting.

11.4 The Chair clarified that she will write to the Children’s Commissioner with the SBNI’s thoughts on this matter, which are that the SBNI will do what they can to get the message out, to promote positive parenting, the stop campaign and others.

11.5 The Chair advised that there will be something included in the Strategic Plan in relation to an overarching approach to this.

11.6 The SBNI were content with this approach.

**Action: 12**

The Chair to write to Children’s Commissioner to clarify the SBNI’s approach to physical punishment and positive parenting.

**Action by: Chair**

**Chai**

11.7 Ms Wilson advised that Ms Montgomery-Devlin is leaving Barnardo’s at the end of March. She wished her all the very best and advised that she will be sincerely missed.

11.8 The Chair asked Ms Wilson to wish Ms Montgomery-Devlin all the very best from SBNI.

11.9 The Chair confirmed the date of the next meeting which is the Development Day, due to be held on 9th May, Lagan Valley Island Centre Lisburn.

**Signed by:  Date:** 20.06.18