



January 2019
Issue 3

NEGLECT Newsletter

The SBNI Neglect Sub Group have remained committed to the agreed work plan and have produced this newsletter to provide an update on the progress.

STRATEGY: The SBNI Neglect Strategy for Northern Ireland was formally launched in September 2018

The purpose of the Neglect Strategy is to:

- Secure collective commitment for addressing neglect across all SBNI Member Agencies.
- Demonstrate effective leadership in driving any required systems and process changes forward.
- Improve awareness and understanding of neglect across all SBNI member agencies. This includes a common understanding of neglect, the impact of neglect and the thresholds for intervention.
- Improve the recognition, assessment, use of assessment tools and responses to children, young people and families experiencing neglect.
- Agree common outcomes, measures and metrics on the effectiveness of single agency and multi-agency service provision.
- Ensure that the views of children/young people, parents/carers and staff inform practice and interventions.
- Improve awareness, understanding and action on neglect for organisations that work with children and young people, families and others.

Neglect is the most prevalent form of abuse in the family

Neglect is the failure to provide a child's basic needs

Neglect is one of the Adverse Childhood Experiences that can have long term effects on a child

73% of children in the UK know another child suffering from Neglect

PROTECTING AND SAFEGUARDING
CHILDREN FROM NEGLECT



SBNI SAFEGUARDING PANEL CONFERENCES

Over the last couple of years some of the SBNI Safeguarding Panels have hosted conferences to address the issue of **NEGLECT**. Each of these have proved to be extremely successful, with a large number of delegates attending from a range of statutory, voluntary and community organisations.



The Conferences focused on the challenges of identifying and working with neglect, the consideration of the child's and parent's experience and on using the lived experience of the carers to establish capacity to not only change but maintain change.



“81% of children are on the Child Protection Register due to Physical Abuse or Neglect or both”

The most recent conference was held by the Northern Safeguarding Panel in September which provided the platform to formally launch the Neglect Strategy. The event was opened

Ms Veronica Callaghan, Director of the NHSCT and Ms Bernie McNally, Independent Chair of the SBNI.

The main speakers were:

- ◆ Professor Jan Horwath who presented on 'Working with neglectful families to achieve positive outcomes.
- ◆ Dr. Jenny Molloy who presented on 'The reality of being invisible: a childhood neglected'.
- ◆ Ms Lynne Peyton presented the learning from a recent Case Management Review.
- ◆ A parent gave a very powerful and emotional reflection from a parent's perspective.

A number of workshops took place on the following:

- ◆ Neglect and the Legal Perspective
- ◆ Mouth Matters - management of dental neglect in childhood: the role of dentists and doctors
- ◆ Multidisciplinary assessment of neglect- The role of Graded Care Profile and community paediatricians
- ◆ The Power of Positive Educators: a service user, social work and teacher perspective



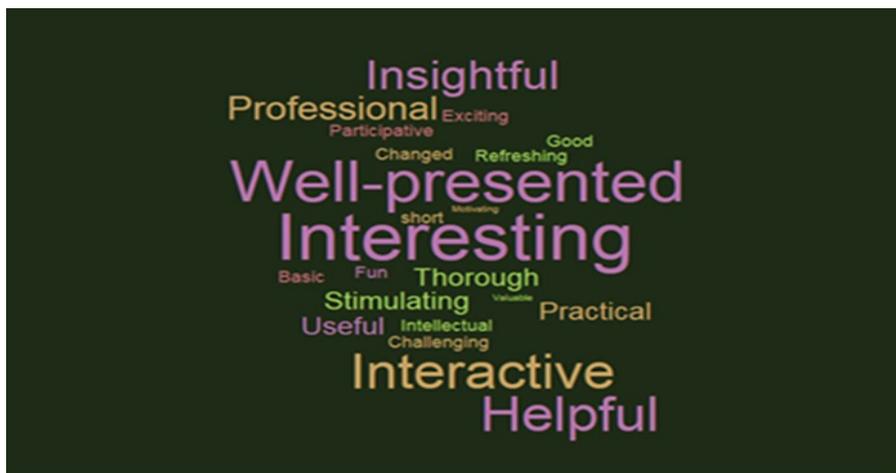
WESTERN AREA SAFEGUARDING PANEL (WASP) FOLLOW UP NEGLECT WORKSHOP

After the successful Western Area Neglect Conference , a second phase of work took place to meet the SBNI Neglect Strategy objectives. A multi-agency awareness raising workshop was developed by the WASP Neglect Task & Finish group. The key aim of the workshop was to ensure “all community stakeholders have an awareness of neglect and resources available”.



The workshop was delivered by WASP multi-agency facilitators in five sites across the Western Trust including Derry/Londonderry, Limavady, Strabane, Omagh and Enniskillen. during April-June 2018 The workshop was based on previous neglect campaigns delivered in England by LSCBs and local partners .The target audience for the workshop was those who supported families but for whom safeguarding was not their key role, thus promotion of the workshop which took place February/March 2018 targeted groups linked to Family Hubs in Northern Ireland and community based family support networks as well as police, education and other statutory partners.

Over 160 multi-agency attendees came to the sessions and feedback has been excellent in terms of the content and delivery of the workshops. Agencies represented included community based family support teams, housing support staff, police, education, food banks to name but a few. Plans are now in place to offer three more workshops in the Western Trust area between January – March 2019 targeting key community stakeholders including emergency services.



NEXT STEPS

The SBNI Neglect Sub—Group will continue to work on delivering the agreed action plan.

Key areas will include

- Reaching and rolling out agreed Multi– Agency Risk Assessment Tool and associated training and support package
- Providing support to the local Safeguarding Panels to improve awareness and understanding of neglect across all SBNI member agencies. This includes a common understanding of neglect, the impact of neglect and the thresholds for intervention
- Continue to share any learning from case management reviews in respect of Neglect
- Review the agreed outcomes, measures and metrics on the effectiveness of single agency and multi-agency service provision.
- Ensure that the views of children/young people, parents/carers and staff continue to inform practice and interventions.

