

March 2016

What's New...

Visit the below link to view the Reading Young Carers version of the LSCB Annual Report

[https://
www.youtube.com/
watch?
v=DDPSnD42mes&fe
ature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DDPSnD42mes&feature=youtu.be)



New access to the Early Help Pathway

The planned changes to the Early Help Pathway are now in place. It will improve and continue to open up support options for children and young people in Reading.

Reading Borough Council has set up a new a web based contact form that anyone can use safely and securely. You will not need to have training or a log in to use the contact form and the form can be accessed via a number of web links, including;

- www.reading.gov.uk/ehcontactform
- www.readinglscb.org.uk/worried-about-child/

The form can be saved for completion at a later point , although you will need to set up an account to be able to use this function. You will be able to attach additional information and assessments to the contact form that will save you time in telling us about the child or family that you are concerned about.

Once you have finished the form you will be able to submit it and all the information will be transferred securely to Early Help services to process. Our suggestion is that you save and print a copy of the form for your records, including the unique reference number that the contact form produces for your information.

Your contact form will be reviewed in the weekly triage meetings that take place on a Monday or a Wednesday where we aim to ensure one of three responses:

1. Allocation of support from an Early Help Service in the triage meeting
2. Sign posting support to an Early Help Service in the community, and not at our triage meeting or advice to you on how to work with this family
3. Taking the case to MASH for a screening process for Child Protection. (Although we would expect that if there was a safeguarding issue a direct contact to MASH would be made by the organisation)

Importantly you will receive communication after the triage meeting to help you understand the outcome of the meeting.

www.readinglscb.org.uk

Reading Services Guide—Disabled Children and Young People's Register

Safeguarding is
Everybody's
Business

Reading LSCB, in conjunction with the West of Berkshire Safeguarding Adults Board, have produced a safeguarding film to raise awareness of safeguarding issues for children and adults and how to report a concern.

Go to www.readinglscb.org.uk to view the Reading Safeguarding Video - with subtitles. Different download options are available, click on the 'Clip Info/Download' button to select.

Thank you to Buckinghamshire LSCB for commissioning the film and Reading Football Club for their support.



In December 2015 the Children and Young People's Disabilities Register was launched in Reading and is available on the Reading Services Guide

www.reading.gov.uk/servicesguide

The register is a secure database that captures information about children and young people aged 0-19 years with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) living within Reading Borough Council area. Registering is voluntary and we would like to encourage as many of our young people and families to register as possible. The information that is provided to us will be used anonymously to show the use of and demand for services in Reading. This information will help us to plan, monitor and develop appropriate facilities and service provision for children, young people with special educational needs and disabilities and their families.

Registration is not a requirement to obtain any services in Reading and equally does not constitute automatic entitlement to any services.

One of the benefits of a young person or a parent /carer registering is that they have the option of choosing to receive a MAX Card. A MAX card is a national discount card available for looked after children and children with special educational needs or disabilities from 0-19 and enables families to visit hundreds of attractions across the UK at a free or discounted rate. More information about the MAX card is available on the Children and Young People's Disabilities Register or at: www.mymaxcard.co.uk

We have already had huge interest from families registering, and would like to continue this trend by encouraging practitioners working with families and young people to spread the word.

LSCB Improvement Plan and Priorities

The Business Improvement and Development Plan for 2016-18 is designed to support Reading Local Safeguarding Children Board in achieving its aims for the next two year period. It is intended for use across the partnership by front line staff, service and strategic managers, voluntary and community sector groups, parents and young people.

In January 2016 Reading LSCB Members agreed the following priorities for 2016-2018:

Priority 1: Children's Emotional Health and Wellbeing

Priority 2: Strengthening the Child's Journey and Voice

Priority 3: Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)

Priority 4: Neglect

Priority 5: Improving Cultural Confidence and Competence in our Workforce to Meet Children's Needs

CSE Updates



Child Sexual Exploitation Indicator Tool:

The Pan-Berkshire CSE Indicator Tool enables practitioners to consider CSE risk and should be used to inform both referrals to Children's Social Care and assessments.

The Tool can be located within the Berkshire Child Protection online procedures document http://berks.proceduresonline.com/chapters/p_ch_sex_exploit.html

CSE Risk Assessment Toolkit:

A Risk Assessment Toolkit has been developed as a resource to enable professionals to assess a child's level of risk of CSE in a quick, consistent and child friendly manner.

<http://www.readinglscb.org.uk/information-professionals/child-sexual-exploitation/>

Barnardos Specialist Service:

In March 2015 Barnardos offered to provide a local specialist CSE service in Reading as part of their national U-Turn project. 2 CSE Workers are based at Hamilton Road with the RBC Specialist Youth Service Team. The role of these workers is to offer one to one support to identified children up to their 19th birthday (providing referral is received before their 18th Birthday). These workers may also support with return home interviews for young people reporting missing and/or absent where there are specific CSE concerns. Referrals to the Barnardos staff can be made using the U-Turn referral form.

Email becky.tyler@reading.gov.uk for a copy of the referral form.

Champions:

Reading currently has 21 CSE champions with a further 2 virtual members of the group. The Champions have received higher level training and meet monthly to share information and discuss local issues. It is the role of the Champions to cascade CSE related information back in their teams. We recognise that many of the Champions are Reading borough Council staff and we are looking to recruit further Champions from Health, Police, Education and Voluntary Sector. If you wish to become a CSE Champion, or to find out who your CSE Champion is please email:

CSEchampions@reading.gov.uk

SEMRAC:

Sexual Exploitation and Missing Risk Assessment Conference (SEMRAC) is a multi-agency operational group who meet regularly to consider level of risk to victims, facilitate multi-agency discussion, sharing and mapping of information and intelligence and considers disruption activity. SEMRAC also have an oversight of intervention plans in place e.g. CP, CIN. SEMRAC is currently supported by a dedicated Business Support Officer semrac@reading.gov.uk or

sarah.walters@reading.gcsx.gov.uk

Training:

The Reading CSE Coordinator is currently leading on the development of a Berkshire West CSE Training Pathway to meet the needs of all professionals. Plans are underway to launch the full pathway in April 2016. To date we have imbedded information about CSE in to all universal safeguarding Children training courses. 416 professionals have received CSE training at Targeted or Specialist levels. In addition Thames Valley Police provided a number of Intelligence Sharing awareness workshops which were attended by 41 senior practitioners and managers with more sessions scheduled for 2016.

A15 and B15 Partnership Review Learning Events: 19th & 28th April 1206

Reading
LSCB

Business
Manager

Esther Blake

Tel: 0118 937
3269

Reading
LSCB

Coordinator

Donna Gray

Tel: 0118 937
4354

Times: 9.30am to 12 pm or 1.30pm to 4pm on both dates

Tutor: Barbara Firth Venue: The Avenue Centre

Course Aims: To disseminate the learning from recent Partnership Reviews for Reading cases identified as A15 and B15.

Course Outcomes: These 2½ hour dissemination events will be led by the Independent Author of both Partnership Reviews, Barbara Firth. The aims of the session are:

- To understand the background of each of these cases and why these situations occurred
- To explore the common themes between these cases and understand the impact on the young people concerned
- To explore how to incorporate learning into everyday practice

Target Group: All professionals working with children and their families

All applicants must complete an online application form. This will then be sent to the applicant's managers for approval. Link to training application form https://secureforms.reading.gov.uk/forms/ShowForm.asp?fm_fid=640



Structure Chart (February 2016)

