



Annual Report 2013 – 2014

Sally Halls
Independent Chair



LSCB objectives (Section 14, Children Act 2004)

(a) to coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area; and

(b) to ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes.

- Seeking assurance
- Reviewing data
- Quality assurance activity
- Monitoring and evaluating effectiveness of training



Context

- 68,100 children under 19
- 13% children in income deprived households
- 2,305 referrals to children's social care
- 251 children subject of child protection plans
- 271 looked after children
- 480 (approx) children in care placed in Shropshire from elsewhere
- 2 serious case reviews
- Rising demands across system



Priorities

1. Compromised parenting (including domestic abuse, parental substance misuse, and parental mental ill health)
 2. Missing children (including child sexual exploitation and trafficking)
 3. Communication (including voice of the child)
- + developing and strengthening LSCB



Conclusions

- Agencies prioritise the safety and welfare of children and work constructively together
- Children generally receiving good service, despite increasing demands, but further improvements needed
- Good developments in early help but not yet consistent nor evidence of impact
- Evidence of impact of SSCB priorities
- Good focus of safety and training of children's workforce



Challenges

- Austerity – avoiding unintended consequences
- Meeting increasing demands
- Improving consistency and reach of early help services
- Improving quality, consistency and accessibility of CAMHS across tiers
- Emotional wellbeing
- Capturing and reflecting children's voices
- Engaging adult services
- Evidencing impact



For the HWBB

- Leadership in co-ordinating multi-agency response to financial constraints
- Development of JSNA to provide evidence base for commissioning and planning (including for CSE)
- Promoting the significant role of adult services in safeguarding children
- Strengthening governance and 'read across' with LSCB



***All children and young people will be happy, healthy,
safe and reach their full potential, supported by their
families, friends and the wider community***