



2017/2018

Annual Report

Section 1 - Summary 2017/18

This section provides an update on key work streams, achievements and challenges regarding the work of the Board. The Board's high-level priorities are

- ensuring that a consistent and system wide approach to early intervention and prevention is developed and in place,
- ensuring that the Board has in place key engagement and consultation activity that enables young people to have a say in the Board's work,
- develop and inform a confident, committed and competent workforce operating consistently and effectively across partnerships to safeguard children and young people.
- Develop an intelligent approach to assessing and evaluating the work of the board and partners engaged in safeguarding children and young people
- Support the development of a life course Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub to ensure it realises its potential

In addition, in 2017 (in line with it's OFSTED Inspection Action Plan) the WSCB developed a thematic list of priority areas that would enable the Board to focus on specific cohorts of risk and vulnerability. These are:

- Core Children's Social Care Processes
- Domestic abuse and sexual violence
- Child Sexual Abuse and Missing
- Emotional Health and Wellbeing
- Child Death Overview Panel
- Transition between children's and adults services
- Neglect
- Information Sharing
- Community Awareness
- Suicide Prevention
- Modern Day Slavery / Trafficking
- Female Genital Mutilation
- Young People in the Criminal Justice System
- Substance Misuse
- Bullying
- Young Carers

Updates on these key areas are highlighted within the report that follows, some are reported on singularly where there is a body of work whereas others are threads that run through all priorities (e.g. information sharing) as they underpin the overall effectiveness of the partnership.

The report also highlights the major changes in legislation following the review of Working Together 2018 and Wigan's response to these changes, as well as an overview of the major work streams identified by an initial joint Board meeting cycle with Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board.

This year we wanted to highlight the support and commitment of our safeguarding partners around the Board table, and a supplementary report covering partnership contribution to the work of the Board and safeguarding within the Borough is provided on the WSCB web site next to this summary report.

WSAB / WSCB Joint Board Programme and Priorities

One of the key work areas the WSCB has identified is constructing a joint work programme with Wigan Safeguarding Adults Board (WSAB). The Safeguarding Team which supports both partnerships is now combined, and back office processes have already been brought together.

The WSAB and WSCB have come together initially in April 18 and identified some key joint areas of work as follows:

- Transition between children and adults services for vulnerable cohorts of young people
- Considering case review learning from both a children's and adults perspective (a further joint board meeting has recently considered two child serious case reviews in terms of combining an action plan around the risks and vulnerabilities displayed by the parents in the cases)
- Identifying where commissioning intentions and activity could be utilised regarding think family / life course outcomes,
- Working towards a single life course practice model for safeguarding building on the potential opportunity children's services commissioning of the Signs of Safety framework

These work programmes have provided an opportunity to drive the work of the children's board ever closer to the work of the adult board as this is a reflection that many of the priorities listed above affect individuals irrespective of their age so need to be seen as life-course, whole family issues. Over 2019 this approach will be both strategically and operationally strengthened, and the opportune embodiment of this will be the Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements that the Board has to publish before July 2019, an update on which follows.

Working Together 2018

National changes in legislation took place in 2018 under the review of existing Working Together 2015 arrangements. The new Working Together 2018 sets out key areas that differ from the 2015 guidance, the main areas being:

- assessing need and providing help – main changes focus on continued focus on incorporating early intervention as a key driver and enabler
- organisational responsibilities - in 2015 the Local Authority, specifically Education and Social Care, with Clinical Commissioning Groups were the two main statutory organisations, this

has now changed and is now a tripartite arrangement of Local Authority, Clinical Commissioning Groups and Police.

- the need to publish multi-agency safeguarding arrangements
- local and national child safeguarding practice reviews – a new national panel has been formed to consider which cases from local authorities would require a national child safeguarding practice review, and which can be undertaken at a local level (though thresholds around this have yet to be agreed nationally).
- child death reviews (please see specific section within report).

In summary, the new tripartite arrangement of the three statutory organisations named within the legislation must publish what their multi agency safeguarding arrangements are in response to the changes. This new partnership moves away from historic Child Safeguarding Boards, and instead asks local areas to provide a more partnership / preventative and whole family focused approach to preventing and intervening in safeguarding issues.

In Wigan, the partnership that makes up the WSCB is clear and in agreement that the core of the work is described within broader children services and place-based reform. This will incorporate and describe how this transformational work will focus on asset based, whole family interventions rooted in place-based integration, and that by default includes services wrapping around the family and young people within schools and health settings – in other words The Deal. The current WSCB and partner agencies are involved in all aspects of system change regarding this objective, some constituent work being driven by partners within the board that will assist in achieving these objectives include

- Children Services leading a partnership wide adoption of Signs of Safety, a strengths based / whole family and evidenced based practice model for not only child protection but also early help
- Children Services led programme to define and implement a multi-agency safeguarding team within the Borough.
- Joint Quality Assurance framework to ensure that Working Together 2018 prescription for independent scrutiny is in place
- Refreshing the overall thresholds of need document to incorporate new practice model requirements
- Developing a new model safeguarding policy for schools, colleges and early years setting that incorporate early help as part of a toolkit for intervening early
- Ensuring that an approach to neglect is embedded within new ways of working in line with the new borough wide Neglect Strategy
- Further developing an insight approach to identifying and addressing cohorts of risk (building on the work undertaken by the Board regarding children unknown to services, as well the work undertaken by Joint Intelligence Unit on school readiness)
- Building on the opportunities The Deal for Safeguarding presents the new partnership (see Appendix One) regarding engaging with and harnessing the support and participation of communities, families and young people

In addition to the key challenges above, the Safeguarding Children’s Board in Wigan has taken on some innovative, challenging work in 2018; the remainder of this report gives a short summary of some of the thematic areas of work implemented by Board and its partners.

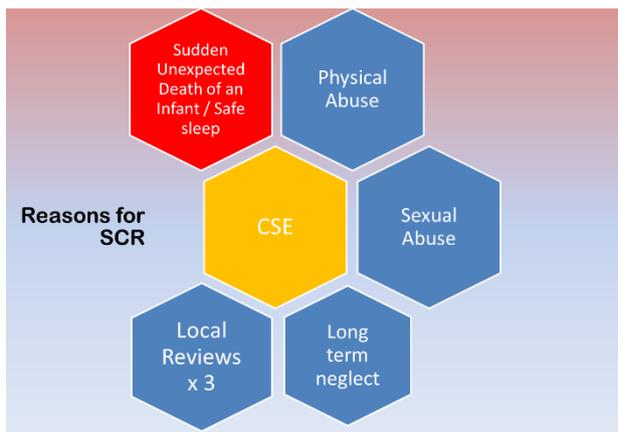
Summary and Analysis of Serious Case Reviews

A thematic analysis of key themes within children’s Serious Case Reviews was completed in November 2018 and in time to include in this annual report production, analysis covered all cases completed from September 2016. The thematic analysis will inform the development of the new MASA arrangements highlighted above and identified key areas for the partnership to consider.

The analysis covers 7 serious case reviews, demographically these included :

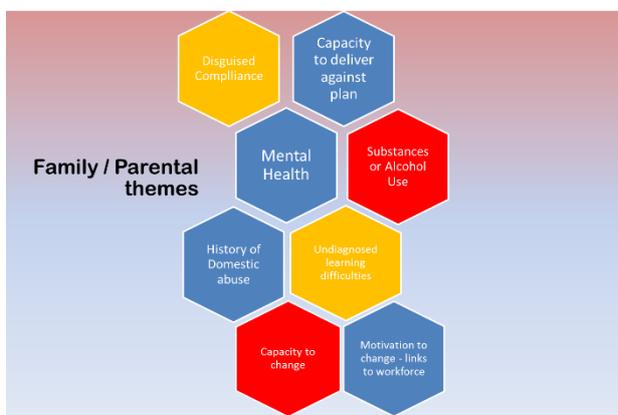
- Children between 7 weeks of age and 16 years at the time of the index incident that led to Serious Case Review (3 x under 1 year of age, 1 x 10 yrs, 1x 13 yrs, 1 x 15 yrs and 2 x 16 yrs)
- All had ethnicity recorded as White British.
- 5 of the 7 were the second or third born child in their family.

The cause for referral for Serious Case Review was as follows:



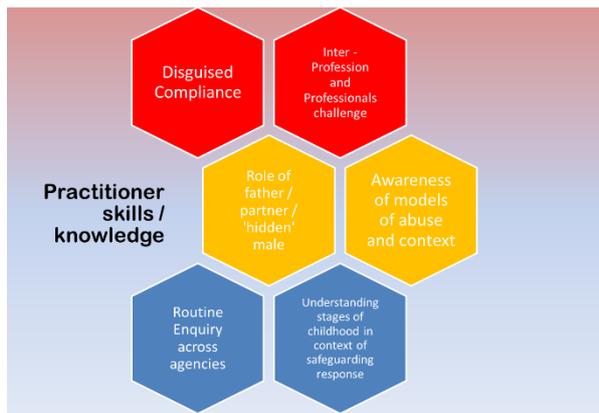
- 3 cases of Sudden Unexpected Death of a Child (infant).
- 2 cases where there was long term physical and sexual abuse
- 1 case where death was a result of multiple injuries sustained in a road collision in broader circumstances of sexual exploitation.
- 1 case where a young person was unknown to all services, including those he required access to, for several years whilst being electively home educated.

Key issues relating to recurring thematic areas across case reviews were extracted as follows:



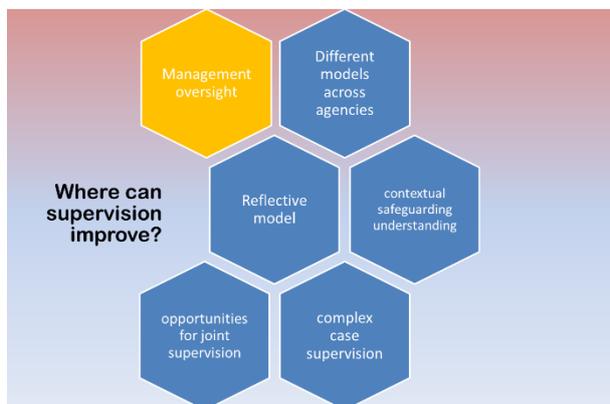
- Family / Parental themes included mental health (of both young person and parent / guardian), domestic abuse and substance misuse; analysis showed that these key areas interacted negatively across other themes, for example parents capacity to deliver and effect change against child protection plans outcomes and motivation / capacity to change.
- A key finding in at least half of the case reviews analysed was undiagnosed learning

difficulties of either the young person / parent or guardian / both.



- Practitioner skills / knowledge – key recurring issues included inter-profession and professional challenge and routine enquiry across agencies.
- Disguised compliance was prominent in at least four of the cases analysed.
- A key theme headed under “role of father / partner / “hidden male” covered various thematic areas such as male roles within child protection processes and how a practice model

could ensure participation right the way through the process.



- Supervision is a key theme running throughout the SCRs, highlighting the need to embed a more reflective model, especially on complex cases that require enhanced oversight and supervision
- Contextual safeguarding was an emerging theme highlighting the need to consider how extra familial risk is managed effectively



- Analysis highlighted key single agency system areas for improvement including the accessibility of child protection plans for young people and families, the degree to which plans were SMART and genuinely involved young people (lack of voice of the child was a key issue) and families and describe goals and outcomes that evidenced positive change
- Repetition of assessment as more complex cases were “stepped down” and then escalated when change apparently was not sustainable

was highlighted as a recurring theme and again the quality of plans in several SCRs from both a single and multi-agency perspective

The key findings from the analysis will inform partnership work across the next 12 months, many of the future work highlighted within the next section such as the roll out of signs of safety will address key issues around embedding a strength-based practice model and will be implemented across both child protection and early help models. The findings will also shape how the partnership describes it’s multi-agency safeguarding arrangements. In addition to the system v=change the analysis highlights, individual action plans have also been implemented, the partnership is committed to trialling new models of evidencing impact of these plans over the next 12 months.

Section 2 – Summary of work undertaken against thematic and strategic priorities

Core Children’s Social Care Processes:

The connection between the Safeguarding Children Board and the work of Children’s Social Care over 2018 has continued to provide the Board with effective, supportive assurance of the preventative and protective work being done. Board Members were, as in 2017, part of the audit team for Children’s Social Care Practice Week in 2018, and directly supported the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub Children’s Services pilot.

Through the learning presented from the 7 Serious Case Reviews (SCR) that covered 2016-18 the Safeguarding Board has supported Children’s Social Care improvements. Specifically, over 2017-2018 the Board has been an interested partner in the development of a Signs of Safety based approach being implemented in 2019 and shaping this to address concerns highlighted in some SCR’s.

The Board completed a multi-agency Missing from Home Audit as part of the Action Plans from a Serious Case Review and in support of the Child Sexual Exploitation Strategy. This provided wide ranging learning that has been embedded in the new Missing from Home protocol.

The Board has started undertaking ‘deep dive’ audits, tracking specific practice areas and themes. This is allowing the Board to get a better qualitative, contextual understanding of some of the process points in all levels of children’s services through the window of specific cases. Over 2017 - 2018 the Board has done this in relation to the Child M Serious Case Review examining systemic responses to neglect, information given about Safe Sleep, information sharing in complex multi-agency safeguarding cases) ; Child F+G SCR looking into disclosures of abuse followed by retraction of allegations / discontinuance of investigations.

Key challenges, current and future work:

- The development of a Joint quality assurance model with Children’s Social Care, supported by the Board’s Learning and Improvement Team will ensure total collaboration. A partnership based on quality assurance of areas identified through case review work and strategic improvement will allow a shorter route to assure that learning is embedded in practice alongside identifying any areas in need of development earlier.
- The Board will fully support the implementation of a Signs of Safety practice standards model in Children’s Social Care in 2019 and align this with the Workforce Development / training strategy of the partnership.
- The Board will support the continuing review of effective multi-agency meetings within the Child in Need and Child Protection Processes over the coming year. Multi Agency attendance at, for example, Child Protection Conferences and Core Groups and the information being supplied to them is noted as an area for development on many audits. As the Board moves towards Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements in 2019 there will be an opportunity to refresh and galvanise the expectations across the partnership.

- Work will begin by the Board and its partners regarding a review and refresh of the Thresholds guidance for safeguarding children in the borough and this will reflect the underpinning Signs of Safety approach being adopted across the partnership.
- The Board recognises a challenge relating to workforce development across the partnership, especially as part of the Greater Manchester Police Integrated Safeguarding Review as this will have an impact first and foremost on some of the core protection processes around children. The Board is well sighted on the changes and will support and then provide quality assurance following these changes.
- This work will need to inform the development of the Children's Multi Agency Safeguarding Team (MAST) and planning for this will take place in 2018 and 2019 between GMP and Children's Social care regarding the development of this critical integrated safeguarding team; the implementation of this is also being recommended and supported from a Greater Manchester level.

Domestic Abuse and Sexual Violence

The Children's Board continues to be fully involved in the work of the Domestic Abuse Steering Group. Over 2017-2018 the partnership has embedded Encompass notifications for schools and into Early Years providers and this is improving information sharing and support for young people who are experiencing domestic abuse. Further work by the Education Settings Sub Group will consider other thematic areas for sharing information with schools regarding safeguarding issues (early conversations have included the possibility of CSE and missing information).

A refreshed DA strategy was developed by the DA Steering Group, on which the Board has provided governance and scrutiny. The Board continues to receive updates from the Domestic Abuse Steering Group where appropriate, and is committed to the adoption of a life course approach to both victims and perpetrators of domestic abuse.

Key activities over the last 12 months includes:

- The counselling offer to young people affected by domestic abuse was reviewed in 2018, and recommissioned with the service going live in September 2018.
- Board has committed funds to the young person focussed evaluation of domestic abuse services and experience of them through an independent organisation 'Safer Lives'. This will be reported into Board in early 2019.
- The board's workforce development infrastructure supported the successful roll out of Service Delivery Footprint briefings on Domestic Abuse in 2018 by the Partnerships and Safeguarding Team.
- Continuation of Operation Strive that provides a response to all low and medium risk reports of domestic abuse across the borough

With regard to sexual violence, the Board has anchored a review of the AIM (Assess, Intervene and Move On) processes for young people with sexually harmful behaviour with new pathways and thresholds to support referring agencies.

Key challenges, current and future work

- The Domestic Abuse Steering Group have highlighted some key areas for development including identifying opportunities for wider intervention and management with offenders
- Considering and responding to changes in legislation regarding the new Domestic Abuse Bill will be a large but critical area of work, early drafts of the highlight areas for action around impact on children, with some potential gaps around offender management and interventions.

Child Sexual Abuse, Child Sexual Exploitation and Missing:

Further to learning from the Child F + G Serious Case Review, the Board developed and led the roll out of briefings on the complex issues of disclosure and retraction in Child Sexual Abuse situations across the partnership. The delineation of Child Sexual Exploitation models of understanding, and of well embedded Child Sexual Abuse models is a theme from at least one of the Serious Case Reviews and the Board has ongoing work in this regard.

The Board refreshed Level 3 Safeguarding Board training in 2018, and within this has better embedded the learning from reviews into updated training materials relating to Child Sexual Abuse.

The Board has had oversight and sign off of the Missing from Home Protocol Review undertaken by Children's Social Care and continues to receive reports on the operational activity of the services commissioned from The Children's Society via the Child Sexual Exploitation sub group.

The WSCB Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) strategy from 2015 was reviewed and refreshed in 2018 with the current legal definitions of CSE added and a stronger preventative element brought into the strategy. A Project Phoenix Peer Review was undertaken in summer 2018, the outcomes from which reflected positively on the operational delivery of CSE support and interventions which has a multi-agency team at its core. Two of the Serious Case Reviews commenced by the Board in 2018 centre on Child Sexual Exploitation and have provided another layer of analysis of systems and service provision to young people who are sexually exploited.

Key challenges, current and future work

- The review of thresholds that the Board will undertake in 2019 will have a sharper focus on missing from home than in previous iterations of the threshold (which will also be refreshed in line with Sign Of Safety model roll out). The deep dive auditing that the Board undertook in this area highlighted that going missing is often just one symptomatic behaviour linked to a range of underlying vulnerabilities, and the new Thresholds need greater acuity to linking 'missing' to these other areas of vulnerability.

- Embedding the issue of ‘missing’ into a whole family approach is crucial going forward into the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements and reflects the ambition to see Adults and Children’s Boards align ever closer.
- In an area of practice like Child Sexual Abuse – one in which there has been considerable training already delivered across the workforce - keeping the training offer relevant and accessible is both a challenge and a necessity. Using the Virtual College as a host platform for updated and dynamic learning content, as part of the Board’s Workforce Development Strategy, is central to the achievement of this.
- The challenge for continuous improvement in strategy and delivery to address Child Sexual Exploitation has been a priority of the SCB for over 5 years. In the last year or so, other forms of exploitation – especially child criminal exploitation – have come to national attention and at a local level the Board has to be agile to this challenge. Some of the Board’s Review work has highlighted specific cases where children (and in fact across the life course) have been criminally exploited with severe and lasting consequences. As the Board moves into 2019 there is merit in exploring how CSE can be strategically aligned with these other areas of exploitation. The Safeguarding Children Board and Safeguarding Adult Board are committed to this being a ‘life course’ approach to exploitation in all forms, and to align from a Children’s perspective with the Greater Manchester Combined Authority ‘Complex Safeguarding’ model.
- Developing an approach to contextual safeguarding will be a key area for development in 2019, and ensuring that a whole system approach rooted in place based integration with firm links to an expanded Exploitation Integrated Team (which in itself will require links to Organised and Serious Crime “Operation Challenger” work streams) will be critical

Emotional Health and Wellbeing and Suicide Prevention

The endemic connection between these two priority areas makes it cogent to deal with them both together. The strategic investment by the Board in relation to improving the emotional health of young people in the borough, and a commitment to stopping young people taking their own life have featured strongly in the work of the partnership over 2018.

The Board has had significant involvement in the improvement plan that was implemented by the NHS Mental Health provider Trust in 2017-18 following the raising of concerns by a whistle-blower. The Board team worked with the Clinical Commissioning Group and Local Authority to define the concerns develop the action plan with the provider and see through a series of unannounced visits the progression of that plan. The Board received assurances from the Senior Management of the Trust of the improvements made over 2017 – mid 2018, and continues to do so through the Learning and Improvement Sub Group and Executive Groups.

Both the Children's Board and Adult Board have supported the development of the new Wigan Borough Mental Health Strategy 2018-21. In relation to Children and Young People the increasing need for mental health services, which is a national level issue, necessitates creative approaches to both prevention and intervention. The Board, in partnership with the Children's Trust has sought to embed the issues as having a safeguarding perspective – unmet needs in relation to emotional and mental health leads to increased vulnerability and risk.

The Board has formed good links with local amateur and professional sports bodies to embed the learning from two cases where young people attached to sports took their own lives. This partnership has led to the Board presenting learning on sport – education setting links to national governing bodies in Rugby League, actively support a Community Investment Fund project in local amateur rugby league to train players around mental health first aid, and training Club Welfare Officers (safeguarding leads) across the local sports partnership around how they can positively share information sharing on mental health and respond to concerns.

The Board has undertaken brief reviews three cases where young people have ended their own lives. Each of these cases highlights areas of good practice and areas where improvements can be made. These have led to :

- The Board facilitating the local partnership of Papyrus (Charity that works to prevent young suicide) with the three 16-18's Education Settings in the Borough.
- Ongoing work between the Board, SEND team and a Consultant Paediatrician relating to how complex cases can be reviewed more effectively.
- Sharing of good practice and effective peer support modelled by a College in the period following the loss of a student in these circumstances.
- A review of how substance awareness work is delivered in schools and colleges.
- Locality Briefings rolled out to over 500 staff covering the learning from one of the cases, specifically in relation to information sharing between schools and sports groups that may be supporting a young person outside of school.

The board, as is detailed in the Adult Board version of this report, has started to facilitate Brief Learning Review Sessions for any situation of suspected suicide and does the same in every child case.

Key challenges, current and future work

- Emotional and mental health is an area where transition between child and adult services is challenging; the service provision commissioning landscape alters, information sharing is not yet totally fluid and the capacity for young people to disengage or slip into crisis in early adulthood is apparent. A key challenge for both boards over 2019 and beyond is how this transitional process can be strengthened in line with a place based approach.
- The Board has a strong supportive interest in how the preventative work / low level intervention support work in the new Thrive commissioned model embeds and reduces need for education settings to refer young people into CAMHS. The Board is sighted on these updates and committed to supporting North West Boroughs NHSFT in this work.

- Through the workforce development strategy, the Board will continue to seek to embed the knowledge around Adverse Childhood Experiences and the impact of childhood trauma on the developing brain. Through a life course approach like this the Board will help all partners understand where they operate within a lifetime of services offered to the individual and what their contribution may be.
- The Board will continue its governance role, through into the new Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements over all aspects of mental health service delivery.

Child Death Overview Panel:

The loss of any child is tragic, but when a child dies there is a necessity for the Coroner to identify who, where, when and how the child died but from a safeguarding Board perspective there is a commitment to reviewing every child death after the coronial process to identify where the safeguarding partnership may be able to improve. This is done through many mechanisms:

- The board is a statutory partner in the tri-partite, independently chaired Child Death Overview Panel which also includes Bolton and Salford. Over 2017-2018 the panel has reviewed 21 deaths of children from the borough, with over 50% being children under 1 year of age. The Board representatives (from the Board team and the Clinical Commissioning Group) are part of the process of identifying modifiable factors ; that is to say factors that whilst not causative of the child's death were things that the panel feel were factors that were present and could have contributed to adverse outcomes.
- In the last year in Wigan there has been considerable connection between learning coming from the CDOP process and work undertaken through the Suicide Prevention Priority, and that of the Safe Sleep Subgroup of the Board. Sadly, three of the cases that have led to Serious Case Reviews from 2016-2018 have illustrated some of the challenges for the implementation of safe sleep advice by parents, and the need for approaches to supporting parents to be agile and responsive to their specific needs and vulnerabilities. This has led to the Board re-energising the Safe Sleep Sub Group in 2018 in partnership with Local Authority Public Health Colleagues, and the development of a work plan that aligns with the learning from reviews.
- The Board has also started working with the local Member of Parliament for Wigan to respond to the learning in the Child M Serious Case Review regarding children sleeping in car seats in an attempt to hopefully achieve national consistency for the advice given to parents – this work will be ongoing into 2019.
- Through the CDOP work, cases that have been reviewed and conversations with bereaved families the Board had noted the lack of coordination around bereavement support and the problems that this can produce. As a result, the Board has committed to leading the development of a Wigan Bereavement Charter in 2018-19 and has created a focus group to drive this forward.

- The Board continues to support the Sudden Unexpected Death of a Child (SUDC) process through attending every 48 hour Information Sharing Meeting and identifying any immediate safeguarding actions required from that case.
- The Board has trained the Local Authority Emergency Response Teams in an overview of the Sudden Unexpected Death of a Child (SUDC) process so that there is a workforce awareness of these processes if a situation arose where there is significant loss of life – this is a unique piece of good practice.

Key challenges, current and future Work:

- Under the changes relating to Working Together 2018, there will be some changes to how CDOP's operate at a national and local level. This is not yet fully defined, but one of the early precursors for new arrangements is that CDOP's should review circa 60 cases per year, which for the Bolton Salford Wigan CDOP is accurate so there should be no need for a significant restructuring of how the work is done. There are changes coming relating to the development of 'themed' CDOP meetings, for e.g. A CDOP meeting bi yearly solely focussing on neonatal deaths attributed to prematurity, one for cases where congenital cardiac problems have caused death and so on. Over early 2019 this will become clearer, but Wigan is well positioned as a key partner.

Transition between Children's and Adult's Services:

Over 2017-2018 the Children's Board and Adults Board started to align and there are certain strategic areas of safeguarding and themes that apply across life course rather than being purely in the context of an under 18, or Over 18 strategic model. For example, adult substance misuse often has its origins in childhood experiences or unresolved adversity, and this is similarly applicable regarding mental health, suicide prevention, exploitation and more.

The Board has supported the transitional work being undertaken by the Local Authority in relation to 'known' cohorts i.e. those who are moving from children's services to adults services seamlessly on reaching their 18th Birthday without there being a time gap, e.g. those who are Looked After, those with Education Health Care Plans etc.

Innovatively the Children's and Adults Boards have come together twice for 'joint boards' where issues and learning that transcends both boards have been discussed and worked on. In Serious Case Reviews, as in Safeguarding Adult Reviews, the review rarely describes a situation where only a single child (or adult) was affected or had needs – the unpacking of cases in that joint board environment has been incredibly valuable to provide a look into what is (often in the case of parents) lifelong safeguarding issues.

Key challenges, current and future work

- The main issue in this area is the breadth of the challenge – effective transition between child and adult services covers not just the 'known at the point of turning 18' cohort but also those who have perhaps been known extensively to children's services to, for example, 17

years but are not connected to a service at that crucial 18th birthday point. This can create discontinuity of information flow and a blind-spot for adult services when the person comes into their services at, for example, 19 years. This is applicable across social care, health and other systems too and can lead to a lack of contextual understanding of a person's needs. The Board has started to have some dialogue in late 2018 with adult supported housing providers about at least documentary access to child records, but ideally the systems should allow a handover process that manages the individual seeing both services together wherever possible to achieve good quality transference of information and of professional / client relationships.

- Over 2019 the Board will continue to be a stakeholder in the strategy, will continue to afford the support of the Learning and Improvement team to this and continue to hold joint board meetings to keep the issue live and progressing.

Neglect

Over 2017 -2018 the reviewed and refreshed Neglect strategy was completed by a partnership of Local Authority, Safeguarding Board Team and Clinical Commissioning Group colleagues. As part of this there is a training package which will be rolled out in 2019 to embed the new strategy into the workforce. The new strategy is very much based on early identification of neglect coupled with a place based, strengths orientated approach to intervention and support.

Neglect is often cited either as a single factor, or coexistent with other categories of abuse in Child in Need or Child Protection Plans, and there needs to be a consistent measure and method of scaling of neglect across the multi-agency workforce. The implementation of a Signs of Safety based approach will help this, as will a review of the use of standardised tools like the Graded Care Profile in 2019.

There has been a large piece of work done by the Safeguarding Board in relation to one of the Board's Serious Case Reviews where a child's Elective Home Education status was facilitative of him experiencing parental neglect through both isolation, and through preventing him having access to services that he may reasonably have required. This is another case that gives opportunity for learning both across Children's and Adult's systems - in 2019 the Board will continue to drive this plan and seek to influence positive changes in Elective Home Education work.

Key challenges, current and future work

- As outlined above, the challenge of embedding a multi-agency Signs of Safety based approach across the Safeguarding Partnership in 2019 will be sizeable but the Board will support the implementation plan.

Community Awareness and Participation

The board launched the joint children's and adults Deal for Safeguarding at its fifth annual conference in March 18. The safeguarding deal (see appendix one) is part of the wider Wigan Deal. It represents a set of principles / commitments / behaviours all partner agencies and their staff need to exemplify in terms of safeguarding people, as well form the basis for a set of new relationships with communities (of interest, geographic etc.), and overall sets out a partnership between the public sector and communities / families / individuals.

In addition, the board has also been working on other key programmes of work including Eyes and Ears. This programme of work involves asking a wider set of agencies through a short training input of case studies and scenarios, that if they're concerned for any individual they see whilst working in the community, to simply inform the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). Background checks are undertaken to establish if the individual is currently known or open to services and professionals informed of the concern. If not, the MASH will arrange a suitable safe and well visit or appropriate referral to an agency such as Children's Social Care. Since going live in February 18, MASH have received over 100 Eyes and Ears referrals, and early evidence suggests that they are increasing our ability to intervene earlier as well as establish key lines of information into currently managed cases. This was originally rolled out as part of Deal for Your Street and Places Directorate staff, the board will continue to roll out across the community and voluntary sector and ultimately within communities.

The board has also recently launched its joint children and adults Together Against Abuse Campaign (see Appendix Two). Rooted in the deal for safeguarding principles, the campaign has been designed to incorporate all thematic areas of safeguarding and has been adopted by all key partners across the board and wider partnership landscape. Key activities have included utilising the Deal Bus to engage with young people in communities around safeguarding issues, partner work with key organisations such as Domestic Abuse campaign with Wigan Warriors and Leigh Centurions, as well as branding the Eyes and Ears campaign. It is envisaged that the campaign will become a useful brand to incorporate all board related public facing campaigns in order to establish a brand that professionals, communities and individuals can recognise, understand and value.

Key challenges, current and future work

- Continue to develop our engagement work with young people through the Safeguarding Teams Engagement Team that focus on getting the key safety messages to young people in communities
- Establish a Community Safety and Safeguarding Young People's Champion

Modern Day Slavery / Trafficking:

The Board is in the process of establishing a strategic partnership with the Greater Manchester Complex Safeguarding project and a strand of this work is around Modern Slavery / Trafficking. Whilst low levels within the Borough context, the need to increase awareness of the issue is paramount to ensure that where front line practitioners and other "eyes and ears" in the community see the signs, they are confident to report the issue within a safeguarding context.

As there has been increasing awareness of models of criminal exploitation affecting children and young people over the course of 2017-2018 the Board has sought to respond and is considering implementation of a general strategic approach around exploitation as a whole (e.g., criminal, sexual, financial) across the life course and therefore involving both boards.

Key challenges, current and future work

- To ensure that the issue is incorporated within a wider response to exploitation and within key transformational programmes of work such as a children's focused multi-agency safeguarding team.

Young people in the Criminal Justice System:

The Children's Board is a key stakeholder in the work of the Youth Offending Management Board and vice versa, as criminality in young people invariably denotes unmet needs for that young person in other areas of their life – some of which are considered elsewhere in this paper as board priorities e.g. mental health. The Board supports and gets oversight of all cases that have gone through the national Critical Public Protection Incident Reporting mechanism from Targeted Services, and gathers learning. This has helped the Board understand, unfortunately often later in a child's adolescence when offending behaviour manifests, how early childhood adversity influenced this with a view to improving the early intervention offer.

The Board also receives regular updates on the safeguarding of young people from Wigan who are serving custodial sentences via the Principal Manager for Targeted Services and responds to any concerns where support is needed.

Substance Misuse:

Following a Serious Case Review commissioned by the Board, it became apparent that there was a piece of work required to join up the information flow from adult substance misuse services into children's safeguarding arena. This has led to the Board supporting Addaction as a new combined service provider (clinical and case management) with some quality assurance mechanisms to evidence that the issues seen in Child R's case are addressed.

Young Carers:

The Board took responsibility for anchoring a new Young Carer strategy early in 2018, recognising the national level information that shows that insufficient identification and support of young carers can lead to significant and enduring vulnerabilities. Bringing together a partnership group from across agencies to develop a strategic document that compliments the Greater Manchester Combined Authority Carers strategy has been a great success and the operational delivery around this strategy is now kicking in.

Schools and colleges are being supported by the Board team to progress through the Carers Trust / Children's Society Young Carers in School award framework to evidence their commitment to the

issue. The Board has also brought the partnership between local charitable sector carer organisations closer to schools, and directly supported these organisations through involving them in partnership events.

The Board has started to look into information sharing processes around young carers so that we can start to minimise the number of times that a young person has to re-present their 'story' to access services and to look at opportunities already within systems for better earlier identification of caring responsibilities.

The Board has led on consultation work with young people who are carers to help us understand co-design the strategy, and with the support of the Local Authority Joint Intelligence Unit has started to scope the potential numbers of young people who are unidentified young carers.

Key Challenges, current and future work:

- Again this is around keeping the Young Carers Strategy aligned with the broader GMCA-led work, and seeing opportunities for WSCB's position on young carers influencing that picture. Alongside that, at a local level, the Young Carers strategy needs to continue to integrate with the broader adult carer support strategy and be part of the discussions about transition.

Section 2 – Training and Development

Safeguarding training offered by the Board is continually reviewed and updated as a result of learning from reviews and case audits. Since 2015, the WSCB training programme has been made available via the WSCB website rather than published. This is to ensure it is easily accessible to a wider audience and is regularly updated with regards to course availability and venue.

Ofsted framework (Ofsted, 2013) requires that ‘opportunities for learning are effective and properly engage all partners’ and that the LSCB has ensured that ‘sufficient, high quality training is available and evaluates its effectiveness and impact on improving frontline practice and the experiences of children, young people, families and carers. All LSCB members support access to the training opportunities in their agencies.’

The challenge for WSCB has been to discharge their multi-agency training and staff development role during a period of organisational instability ensuring that training provides value for money as budgets come under increasing pressure across the public sector and meeting the aspirations of *Working Together 2013* and the Ofsted framework.

Over 2017-18 WSCB continued to have a blended learning approach in partnership with Virtual College. Basic awareness courses have been via e learning and face to face sessions. WSCB have had responsibility for multi-agency and community sector training with level one training the responsibility of single agencies.

This report covers Virtual College, e-learning, face to face courses and training data and analysis.

Face to face Courses:

Data from Virtual College 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018 showed that 2663 places were booked for face to face training however 251 places were cancelled. There are some inconsistencies due to some double bookings; however this will be corrected when the new system is introduced in 2019.

There were 60 more bookings for training 2017/18, however this number may be less due to some double bookings showing in the data from Virtual College. This is an increase of 2% from the year before. This increase can be accounted for by the introduction of the face to face Tier training that has been introduced, which makes up 350 of the overall bookings. There is still a lack of a Level 3 safeguarding course, however when this is introduced again in 2019 it is predicated that the overall number of bookings will increase by 500 places, as this is the number the course regularly use to draw when available. Health partners are still currently delivering their own training in accordance with the Inter-Collegiate Safeguarding Guidance, which has relived the demand on the board for the Level 3 course. However this now means the course is limited to specific agencies in regards to who can attend.

A partnership with the Council licensing authority commenced in February 2017 has continued and to date over 1600 taxi drivers have been trained in disability awareness and child sexual exploitation.

The tables below outline training activity. Table one shows data for 2017-18.

In 2017/18 33 individual courses were planned, some with multiple dates. Currently only 14 individual courses have been agreed which represents a 40% drop in planned courses

As a result of the work WSCB continues to do to engage community organisations ; the Board over 2017-18 received an increase in requests for training from the community sector, for example sports and other organisations directly engaging with young people.

Table One Courses and trainers agreed

Course	Courses planned	Courses delivered	Places available	Attended
Building Resilience in Young People	2	2	32	32
Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)	7	7	134	84
Children's Advocacy	3	1	54	11
Domestic Abuse in Wigan 2 days	0	0	0	0
Fabricated Induced Illness	0	0	0	0
Graded Care only	2	1	36	11
Local Authority Designated Offer (LADO)	3	2	43	15
MAPPA	2	0	36	0
Private Fostering	1	0	15	0
Safeguarding Awareness and the Early Help process	3	3	60	48
Safeguarding Children from sexual abuse	0	0	0	0
Safeguarding and Working with adolescents	3	1	52	14
Safe Sleep Training	9	7	135	84
Safeguarding – Achieving Excellence in Practice	5	90	90	78
Safeguarding Adults – Tier Training	14	14	350	350
Supporting Parents who use substances	3	3	56	16
WRAP	10	9	180	99

Table 2 Course trainers and courses not agreed

Course	Courses planned	Courses delivered	Places available	Attended
Drug and Alcohol Identification and Brief Intervention tool Joann Hitchen	4	3	56	12

Commissioned / Additional Courses 2016/17

	Impact Report	Courses planned	Courses delivered	Cancelled	Places available	Attended
Locality Briefings May	Yes	6	6	None	632	626
Locality Briefings Nov	Yes	6	6	None	590	397

Course Cancellations

A total of 13 courses were cancelled. A number of courses had to change dates however this had little impact on attendance and the courses still went ahead.

12 were due to lack of participants and 1 was due to a lack of trainer available.

Although this number is significantly lower than last year (39), less sessions were booking for each training course overall.

Schools

Training for schools continued to be provided through a Service Level Agreement and individual spot purchase over 2017/18. The programmes assist education settings in meeting their OFSTED inspection criteria, the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2015 and of Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016. Level one, whole school training was provided to 76 schools (2280 staff, volunteers and governors).

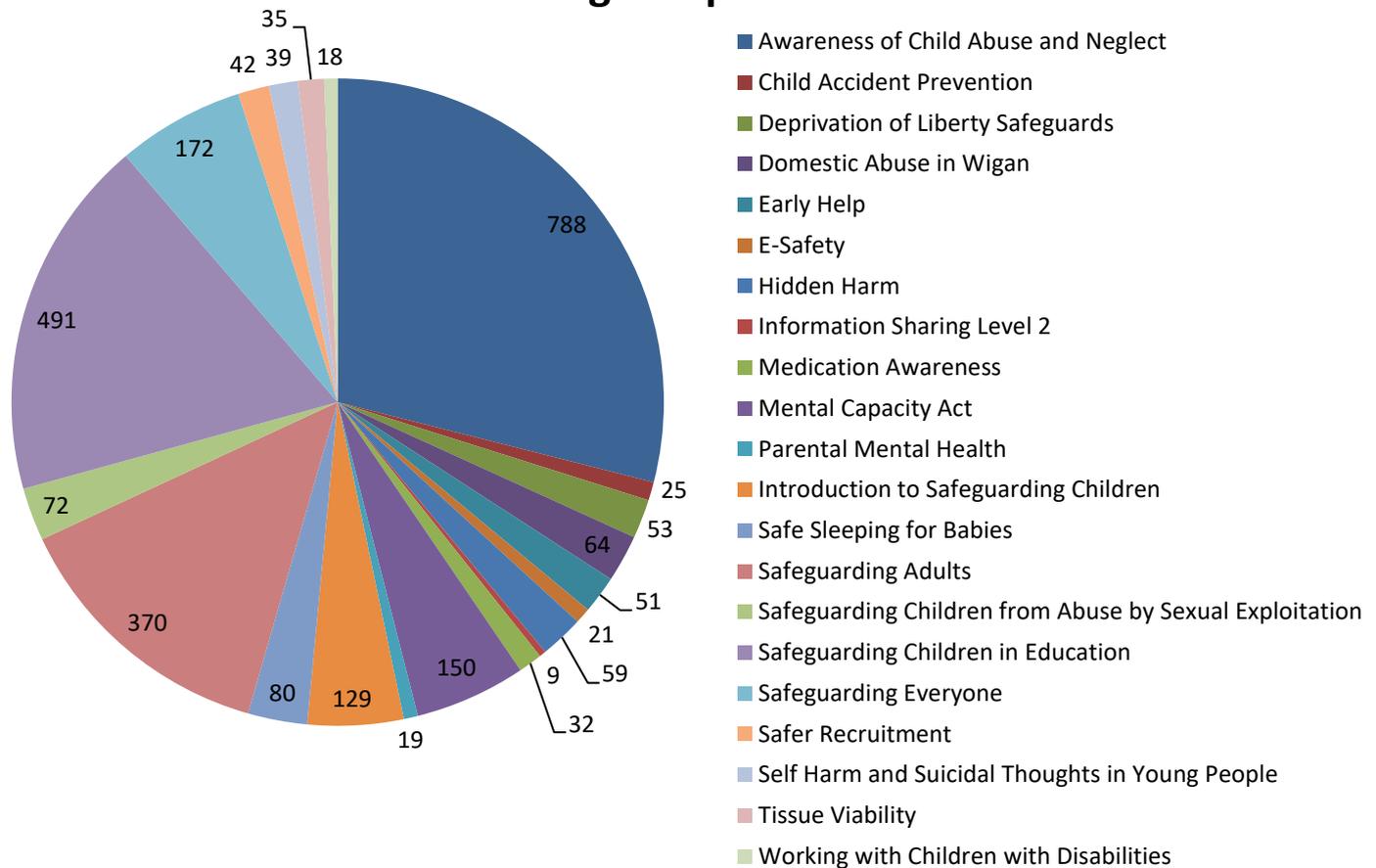
E- Learning

WSCB/WSAB have 5000 licenses to use per year across a suite of 12 modules chosen from a list of 54 modules.(see course list) Modules are selected on the basis of the learning needs of partners and staff development. In addition, modules are able to be requested at a cost of an additional £12.50plus VAT per license. However as the courses in demand have been included in the module suite, this bares minimum cost.

3,525 licences were allocated between 1st April 2017 to 31st March 2018, which was a 7% increase from the previous year. The completion rate now stands at 77.2% which is a 10.3% drop.

WSCB also have 5000 licenses per year at no cost for the Safeguarding in Education module. Schools

E - Learning completions



can now be directed to register for this module.

Workforce Development and Training subgroup

The Workforce Development and Training sub group has met regularly throughout the year, combining with WSAB during the year. The terms of reference have been revised and a standardised presentation with agreed slides to be used across all courses has been agreed. The training strategy and plan is being developed. All training packages are to be ratified by the training sub group.

Section 3 – Core safeguarding data

Number of initial child protection conference per 10,000 population Report Year: 2017/18

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
CP Conferences	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	49.80	60.20	78.50	83.90	72.30	62.10
Stat Neighbour	70.11	77.81	79.65	80.10	77.78	87.50
North West	63.30	62.70	72.60	79.40	83.50	78.70
England	52.60	56.70	61.60	62.60	65.30	67.00

Percentage of initial child protection conferences held within 15 working days of start of section 47 enquiry Report Year: 2017/18

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Within 15 Days	*	*	*	*	*	*
Conference Requests	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	34.10	92.20	92.70	88.90	84.10	91.50
Stat Neighbour	69.30	67.52	82.48	80.92	80.44	81.01
North West	79.40	70.90	74.10	74.40	74.60	77.90
England	70.00	69.30	74.70	76.70	77.20	76.90

Number of children currently subject to a child protection plan per 10,000 population Report Year: 2017/18

Low	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Children Subject To Plan	180	213	320	272	260	200
Wigan	26.60	31.40	47.20	40.20	38.30	29.40
Stat Neighbour	51.97	57.17	55.83	58.91	58.16	59.49
North West	41.30	50.60	49.90	55.20	54.00	53.70
England	37.80	42.00	42.90	43.10	43.30	45.30

Percentage of children who became subject to a child protection plan for a 2nd or subsequent time Report Year: 2017/18

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Subsequent Period on a Plan	*	*	*	*	*	*
Children Subject To Plan	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	18.80	10.80	20.90	22.80	18.60	21.40
Stat Neighbour	15.41	14.23	16.08	16.94	15.05	18.47
North West	14.90	15.60	17.80	18.20	18.40	20.70
England	14.90	15.80	16.60	17.90	18.70	20.20

Percentage of children who became subject to a child protection plan within 2 years of a previous child protection plan Report Year: 2017/18

Low	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Within 2 Years						
Children Subject To Plan						
Wigan						

**Rate of Children subject to a child protection plan which ceased during the year (per 10,000)
Report Year: 2017/18**

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Ceased within Three Months	*	*	*	*	*	*
CP Plans	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	62.20	51.20	56.20	81.30	68.20	65.70
Stat Neighbour	61.88	63.88	68.80	68.57	69.37	75.70
North West	54.50	54.00	64.90	63.80	73.40	69.50
England	45.60	47.30	52.10	53.70	55.50	55.60

Number of child protection plans reviewed within required timescales Report Year: 2017/18

High	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Within Timescales	*	*	*	*	*	*
Reviews	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	*	134.00	198.00	147.00	130.00	123.00
Stat Neighbour	180.90	184.10	178.40	174.60	180.20	182.00
North West	4090.00	5000.00	4970.00	5350.00	5450.00	5240.00
England	29600.00	31280.00	32520.00	32360.00	32210.00	33980.00

Number of children looked after per 10,000 population Report Year: 2017/18

Low	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Number of LAC	*	*	*	*	*	*
Wigan	75.00	73.00	74.00	71.00	66.00	70.00
Stat Neighbour	80.90	81.80	81.60	83.30	90.00	98.20
North West	79.00	81.00	82.00	82.00	86.00	91.00
England	60.00	60.00	60.00	60.00	62.00	64.00

* data unavailable

Section 4 – Finance

	2014 / 2015	2015 / 2016	2016 / 2017	2017/18
	Actual	Actual	Actual	Actual
Expenditure				
Salaries and Expenses	208,422	147,749	188,149	192,900
Professional Fees	25,266	32,785	22,487	47,030
Equipment and Supplies	20,990	12,174	3,747	3,446
Conferences and Meetings	9,641	21,574	26,183	12,037
Marketing and Publicity	2000	9,115	1,485	15,000
External Training			7,974	12,000
Total Expenditure	266,319	223,397	250,025	282,413
Contribution				
Wigan Council	96,956	75,206	59,206	75,206
Training Income	114,310	92,470	117,596	90,000
Wigan Borough Clinical Commissioning Group	54,000	54,000	54,000	54,000
Bridgewater Community Healthcare Trust	5,994	5,994	5,994	5,994
5BP NHS Foundation Trust	5,994	5,994	5,994	5,994
WWL NHS Foundation Trust	5,994	5,994	5,994	5,994
Greater Manchester Police	14,400	14,400	14,500	14,500
National Probation Service	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Cheshire and Greater Manchester Community Rehabilitation Company	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Wigan and Leigh Homes	3,600	3,600	3,600	3,600
CAFCASS	540	540	540	540
Total Income	305,388	261,798	271,024	259,428
Transfer to Reserves	39,069	38,401	21,000	199,214
Total Income in Reserve	140,123	178,524	199,124	176,229

Safeguarding as part of The Deal



Our part

We will provide you and your community with safeguarding information

We will work with partners to build safer communities

We will make contacting us about safeguarding as easy as possible

We will listen to what you say and respond to your concerns

We will provide safeguarding help when it is needed

Your part

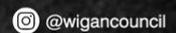
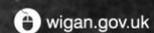
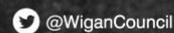
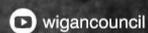
Respect the people in your community who may be at risk and help make it a better place to live

Be responsible and keep yourself and your family safe

Talk to us when you are worried or concerned about someone's safety, don't wait!

Be open and honest; believe in us

Trust us to get it right and challenge us when we don't



Appendix Two

Lots of activities have taken place during the Together Against Abuse campaign.

Here are just a few of the highlights...



4 GMFS Fire Appliances branded with Campaign graphics



500 campaign car stickers & leaflets distributed to local taxi companies



514 direct engagements campaign bus outreaches (includes school outreaches)



Students from Hawley Hall High at the young people's engagement event



1 new IDVA poster created by WWL featuring campaign details



Campaign featured on Wigan Warriors Foundation & White Ribbon 'Respect'



Campaign gains a number of influential supporters including the mayor of Wigan & councillors



Campaign is featured in Wigan Council Internal Communications & as the council PC/Laptop screensaver