

**MINUTES OF SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY
18 May 2017 AT 10AM IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS CONFERENCE
ROOM**

Present:

Ms Judi Leon	Chair	Head of Governor's Office (HOGO)
Mr Matt Ansell	Member	Director of Safeguarding (DoS)
Dr Akeem Ali	Member	Assistant Director of Health (DoH)
Mr Nicky Stevens	Member	New Horizons (NS)
Mr Dave Honan	Member	St Helena Police (T/DI)
Ms Tracy Thomas	Member	Housing (TT)
Mr Angelo Berbotto	Member	Attorney General (AG)
Ms Stephanie Jones	Member	Team Manager, Children's (CF)
Mr Mike Rodden	Secretary	Child Services Safeguarding (SEC)

Apologies:

Ms Lolly Young/Mrs Shirley Wahler, Hon. Christine Scipio-O'Dean, Mrs Coral Yon

HOGO welcomed everyone to the meeting.

1. Budgets

DoS advised budget for this year £330k approved by LEDGCO. TCs' costs (approx. £900k) now in Corporate Finance budget which will make the Safeguarding budget easier to manage; clarification required for the justification of the amount deducted which may result in an increased allocation. **Action: DoS**

Budget includes salaries for 4 Social Care Officers in Children's Services, training expenses, some running costs for buildings, £15k each for New Horizons & Inventive and £12k for other grants. Agreed Board to discuss grants and "Fruity Friday" at June meeting. Secretary to circulate grants' criteria for last FY with papers for next meeting. **Action: SEC**

T/D confirmed b Budgeted OTCIS fees seem okay. Legal costs – AG to confirm budget holder and potential costs for issues related to final hearing and advise SEC. **Action: AG**

Members to consider opportunities for future funding including what TC and Local Posts. Agreed it might be useful for Barbara George to attend discussion. **Action: All & DoS**

2. Minutes

Minutes from the previous meeting of the board were confirmed. Members to let SEC have revised version of reports before AG sign off in advance of minutes being published on SHG website. **Action: All, HOGO, AG**

3. Matters Arising

Child car seats at Fire Station. DCI advised a slow, but steady demand for these. Members agreed DoH's proposal they are promoted to new mums at clinics. DCI & NS to discuss the issue around cost for these.

Action: T/DI/NS

Outstanding Confidentiality Agreements to be signed and sent to SEC. **Action: All**

Calendar of events & campaigns from Directorates to be sent to SEC. **Action: All**

Certification of Taxis. T/DI advised Chief of Police working on this.

Delay to construction of disability toilet in PAS ongoing issue. Agreed Board should escalate. TT to speak to Dir ENRD re timeframe; HOGO to action with Dir Education.

Action: TT & HOGO

T/DI advised there is no legal basis for a curfew. All down to good parenting. NS concerned about underage young people being sold alcohol in bars. Children's Services can get referrals about young people drinking alcohol. Members agreed AG & Police to send formal letter to licensees; Police to investigate alcohol being bought by adults for underage young people.

Action: AG & T/DI

No further issues with Geek Unique. T/DI to invite Proprietor to do level 3 Safeguarding Training. **Action: T/DI**

Discussion on governance policies on Safeguarding for organisations including church groups. AG to work on this and recommend to new Council.

Action: AG

4. Strategic Plan/Vision 2017/18

DoS introduced this paper suggesting the Board should move on from the Wass inquiry and focus this – what are our priorities as a Board. Continuity important as is the need to involve key people from the community.

Three working groups were agreed, led by Board members who would invite colleagues from relevant Directorates, NGO / community representatives to join them:

- Healthy Living DoS & CF
- Safety & Security NS & T/DI
- Access to Support for Families TT/DoH

The working groups would meet to agree 2 or 3 ideas below each action. A smart action plan was recommended with short, medium & long term goals.

DoS offered to send a template for all groups to use and speak to Kerisha about a strategy-wide comms plan. Draft reports to be sent to DoS by 18 June.

Action: DoS, CF, NS, T/DI, TT, DoH

5. Revised ToRs

HOGO requested any comments are sent to DoS in advance of the next meeting so these can be agreed.

Action: All

Following a question from AG, it was confirmed the Board could be flexible on whether the Elected Member was also the Children's Champion. This would be looked at when the next Council was appointed to see who would best fit.

AG raised the benefit of having language in the Confidentiality Letter should allegations be made against members. AG to provide wording.

Action: AG

In response to a suggestion from DoH, it was agreed to incorporate a mission statement at the start using language from the Strategic Plan. **Action: HOGO**

6. Updates from Directorates

It was agreed these updates should focus on issues on which the Board could add value.

Safeguarding Children's Services (CF)

Currently a vacancy for Social Care Officer. Social Care Officer doing really well. Studying & supported by qualified SW's.

Working well with Education (Inclusions), Lolly.

Referrals – 13 - 9 from Police. 2 from public, none from Education.

Supervision orders reducing.

Child protection process seem to be working.

Fostering – Intention to bring this to the Board in October.

Family Centre – Looking to bring a recommendation on this.

Education

Report received. A number of policies, such as bullying and child protection, have been discussed. Alternative education being used for a pupil to reintegrate back into the school system.

Health (DoH)

School nurse and Dietician have arrived and Paediatrician later in 2017.

490 children screened for dental issues.

Children under 2 followed up by Child welfare nurse.

Looking at Safeguarding Training.

One request for information from Safeguarding and it was agreed to deliver Health education at the Family Centre.

Police (T/DI)

One male charged with historic offences on Ascension Island.

Investigation on indecent images.

Historic child sexual abuse investigations underway. Constant reviewing, revisiting past practice.

Training be provided to uniformed staff and multi-agency training with Safeguarding.

Keen to work with Health re forensic medical evidence.

Housing (TT)

Updating Housing Register.

Overcrowding issue and difficult family situation. TT to discuss with CF re the latter.

Action: TT/CF

7. Sub Committees – updates and reports

Training – DoS will work with T/DI to reinvigorate this.

Action: DoS/T/DI

Quality Assurance – DoH agreed to lead this and will discuss with CC, previous Chair.

Action: DoH/CC

8. Other Business

- AG drafting legislation on employment of children for the new Council to take forward. An amendment re organisations and responsibilities for employing children. AG to circulate. **Action: AG**
- AG announced Christine Cooper, Crown Counsel Community Care arriving 29 May. There has been good work with children and now looking at vulnerable adults.
- T/DI advised Section 144 of Welfare Ordinance needs to reflect a broader definition – emotional needs. Would like it to be an arrestable offence (child cruelty). AG will investigate. **Action: AG**
- TD/I explained Police have a room with a video facility & medical examination room. Equipment needed. Agreed would explore with DoH and draw up bid for Board to consider. **Action: T/DO / DoH**

HOGO thanked those present for their support during the time she had been Chair. The meeting closed at 12.15hrs.

Next meeting to be held 29 June 2017.