

**MINUTES OF SAFEGUARDING OF CHILDREN'S BOARD MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 2 NOVEMBER 2017 AT 10AM IN THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S CHAMBERS CONFERENCE ROOM.**

**Present:**

Mr Matt Ansell	Chair	Director of Safeguarding (DoS)
Mr Dave Honan	Member	St Helena Police (DS)
Ms Christine Cooper	Member	Crown Counsel (AGO)
Ms Stephanie Jones	Member	Team Manager, Children's (CF)
Ms Frankie Gonsalves	Guest	Asst. Team Manager, Children's (FG)
Hon Christine Scipio-O'Dean	Member	Children's Champion (CC)
Ms Helen Lawrence	Member	Assistant Director of Health (DoH)
Hon Tony Green	Member	Elected Member (EM)
Tracy Thomas	Member	Housing (TT)
Mr Mike Rodden	Secretary	Children's Services (SEC)

**1. Welcome:** DoS welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies: Coral Yon, Nicholas Stevens, Shirley Wahler, Louise McMorran, Dr Akeem Ali.

**2. Confirmation & Matters Arising from Minutes of Previous Meeting**

- Toilet at PAS. OT advised that original plans not followed & to look at this in 3 to 4 weeks. DoH to talk to OT & DoE to ascertain what the problem is. TT to get plan & correspondence from Glenys Fowler & talk to DoH (Helen).
- Email to be sent to DoE regarding an update on location for facilities regarding children with learning difficulties and children being excluded from school.

**Action: DoS**

- DoS to invite DFID rep to next meeting following email response from Board members.

**Action: DoS**

- Safety on road being address by AGO.
- Mock case review DoS to address later.
- Serious alcohol issue – EM advised that a lot of work was done on this around 2014 (Bishop's Commission). DoS to ask Carol George as information would be very helpful.

**Action:**

**DoS**

**3. Critical Updates from Directorates**

- Housing TT - A referral sent to Children's Services & has been actioned. A new referral email address is now in place. New housing assistant appointed & tenancy audit occurring.
- Police – DS advised of a meeting with Children's Services around youth offending etc.

- AGO – Legal working through children's issues. Employment of Children. Responsibility on parents at the moment.
- CF – Working with Education around issues such as smoking & awareness of drug issues in school.
- DoH – Issue of concern is the consent for inoculations where children are not getting the forms signed by the parents. AGO advised there are legal issues around this though it appears this has been resolved.
- DS advised Police are working in schools re drugs & alcohol. Plenty of anecdotal evidence around abuse of these areas. Discussion with Jilly Brooks happening and will bring to Board if no progress. There are no age limits to drug & alcohol issues. School nurse is involved. CC surprised at programme being in place.
- FG – Children's involved with Education PHSE programme & taking a lead from them. Excellent work & DoE to bring an update on this to the Board at the next meeting.

**Action: DoE**

- DS keen to have local staff involved as it helps continuity. Board to ask Fiona (Probation) if there is a gap.
- Children's Services – Azeus Care in place & working really well. Young person with disability an issue. Assessment has been done. Unable to meet his needs on the island and looking at ways to provide respite. Meeting with DoH on 13 Nov to further address this issue. Boundaries between Health & Safeguarding need clarification & next step is a proper medical assessment.

#### **4. Fostering Service Development**

Children's Services is looking to take this forward following the work carried out by Anne Bell. There is a meeting later this month. A number of policies have been developed and they are being put into one policy document. Regulations were approved in January.

Issues such as finance for foster carers, which include start-up costs, fixed discretionary payments and monthly payments are to be addressed. Training is to be tailored to be part of the assessment process. A foster carer's handbook is being developed.

A recruitment campaign will include presentation evening/s rather than just an advertisement in the paper.

DoS advised at the recent Safeguarding Conference (London) that Gibraltar now have foster carers rather than caring facilities.

Time scale to be planned so as to advise the Board by the next meeting.

Cllr Scipio-O'Dean to be involved in the publicity campaign. Feb/March should be the time.

Legislation is implemented and supportive of fostering process.

Need to be wary of leaving out short term residents (TC's) as they may have something to offer. Everyone will be individually assessed.

Frankie to complete update by around February 2018.

#### **5. Draft Joint Bruising Policy**

This related to pre-mobile & non mobile children with disabilities. Steph has met with Elaine Stafford, Lisa Rhodes & Jo Ansell. Draft paper presented.

AGO advised work may to be done on disproportionate issues. Some of the wording needs to be considered. Could be identified as a gap. Important to get the wording right and cut out ambiguity.

Steph to circulate newly agreed parameters.

**Action: CF**

## **6. JMC (Joint Ministerial Council – OT's) Update**

JMC is taking place in November 2017, Elected members are attending. MA circulated document for comments and feedback so this can be completed by 14<sup>th</sup> Nov and sent to Elected Members and the Governor.

## **7. Any Other Business**

- CCC Training Programme being led by Paul Bridgewater.
- Website CPB accredited.
- Consider Children's training.
- On line programmes.
- Board training – FCO keen to support Board with embedding what has happened to date. Kevin from UK would provide support & training. Also with working together effectively & how we work as a group & hold each other to account. No lengthy report as the intention is to have some outside support. FCO looking at 30 days late January early February 2018. Matt will circulate terms of reference.

**Action: DoS**

- Training for FGO's – Not planned, so there is a gap. Matt to investigate as Chairman of training sub-group. **Action: DoS**
- Mock up case – Kevin will help us with this. It would be helpful to set something up and perhaps take last case. DoS & CF to organise by December. **Action: DoS/CF**
- UK OTs Safeguarding Conference – DoS attended this recently in the UK and this will be on the Agenda for the next meeting. Some OT's have a Safeguarding Board while others don't.
- Helen Lawrence advised she is concerned about being out of the loop when it comes to Board matters and it would be helpful to have deputies on training & on circulation list. Agreed to include deputies on circulation list as follows; Health – Helen Lawrence, Education – Wendy Benjamin & Lolly Young, Police – Dave Lynch, Elected Member – Cyril Leo, Housing – Derek Henry. Confidentiality agreement would need to be signed.
- Cable Project: opportunity to discuss impact of improved internet with the lead when he visits the Island. Meeting arranged for 22<sup>nd</sup> Nov, agreed that Cllr Scipio-O'Dean, Steph Jones and Dave Honan would attend.

DoS thanked all those present. The meeting concluded at 12.05hours.

Next meeting to be held at 10am on 14 December 2017 in the AG Chambers, The Castle.