



## **WELCOME to the WSSCB Broadcast Bulletin**

### **1. Zero Tolerance to FGM in West Sussex**

The WSSCB are delivering a multi-agency event to tackle FGM in West Sussex. The event will include a national and local picture of FGM and expectations on agencies, tools and pathways for identifying and responding to FGM, and future work and how your agency can get involved.

The event will take place on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2016, 13:00-16:30, County Hall North, Parkside, Horsham, RH12 1XH. To book your place please return the attached booking form (one per delegate) to [LSCB@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:LSCB@westsussex.gov.uk). Places are limited so book early!

### **2. National Child Sexual Exploitation Awareness Day**

The 18<sup>th</sup> March 2016 is National CSE Awareness Day. The day aims to highlight the issues surrounding Child Sexual Exploitation; encouraging everyone to think, spot and speak out against abuse and adopt a zero tolerance to adults developing inappropriate relationships with children or children developing inappropriate relationships with other children.

'Say Something if you See Something! Adopt a zero tolerance against sexual abuse through exploitation. #CSEDay16'.

Join the NWG Network thunderclap [here](#).

### **3. Safer Sleep Week**

The 14<sup>th</sup>-20<sup>th</sup> March is Safer Sleep week. The week is aimed at making sure people are know the importance of safer sleep practices and are aware of how to reduce the risk of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS).

Last year, Louise Walters, a local mother from Littlehampton, shared her story. 'He was in my arms, in the bed. I'd fallen asleep that night and I woke up and he was dead in my arms. I'd been asleep 20 minutes, if that. My precious son Soul lived for just 70 days and 70 nights.' Louise's full story can be read [here](#).

Since campaigning, and highlighting Louise's story countywide, baby deaths have been reduced. You can continue to help us spread this important message by sharing the campaign posters and the downloadable materials found on the [campaigns page](#).

#### Safer sleeping advice

- Always place baby on their back
- Keep baby some free during pregnancy and after they are born
- Place baby in a separate cot or Moses basket in the same room as you for 6 months
- Breastfeed your baby if you can
- Use a firm, flat waterproof mattress in good condition
- Never sleep in a sofa or in an armchair with your baby
- Don't sleep in the same bed as your baby if you smoke, drink or take drugs or if your baby was premature or a low birth weight
- Avoid letting your baby get too hot
- Don't cover your baby's head while sleeping or use loose bedding

Visit the [Lullaby Trust website](#) for more information.

#### **4. Children and Families Referral Form**

The form that you use to tell the Children's Access Point about your concerns is changing. The improvements to the form will ensure that we receive all the information we need in order to respond to the concerns as quickly as possible. It also supports the transition to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH). We will keep you updated so watch this space!

## **5. Bruising in children who are not independently mobile**

The LSCB has worked with partner agencies in West Sussex to develop guidance for professional with a knowledge base and strategy for the assessment, management and referral of children who are not independent mobile, who present with bruising or otherwise unexplained marks.

The guidance can be found on the [LSCB website](#).

## **6. NSPCC Whistleblowing Helpline**

The NSPCC has launched a Whistleblowing Advice Line to provide support to employees wishing to raise concerns over how child protection issue are being handled in their own or other organisations.

You can talk to the Whistleblowing Advice Line anonymously on 0800 028 0285. Visit the [NSPCC website](#) for more information.

## **7. Serious Case Reviews – What to do if you think the WSSCB should be reviewing a case.**

When a child dies or is seriously harmed, including death by suspected suicide, and abuse or neglect is known or suspected to be a factor in the death, the WSSCB is required to conduct a Serious Case Review into the involvement of organisations and professionals in the lives of the child and the family.

The WSSCB has good processes for identifying cases that might meet the criteria for Serious Case Reviews, but we can always improve, and your involvement is important in making sure we don't miss something.

If you are aware of a case that you think might meet the criteria for a Serious Case Review talk to your line manager or Safeguarding lead, or raise it in supervision. Details of the case can then be passed to your agency representative on the WSSCB Case Review sub-group who will decide whether to refer it for discussion. Your managers should know the name of your sub-group rep, but if not they can contact [lscb@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:lscb@westsussex.gov.uk) to find out. Schools are represented by the Local Authority Education team.

Once the case has been referred to the sub-group the group will review what is known about the circumstances and decide whether a Serious Case Review or another type of review is required.

The purpose of a Serious Case Review is to establish whether there are lessons to be learned from the case about the way in which local professionals and organisations work together to safeguard children, identify what needs to be changed and, as a consequence, improve multi-agency working to better safeguard and promote the welfare of children. For the full Serious Case Review criteria go to [workingtogetheronline.co.uk](http://workingtogetheronline.co.uk).

**WSSCB are on Twitter! Follow us @WestSussexLSCB!**

**Please share this broadcast email within your agencies.**

West Sussex Safeguarding Children Board

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