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**Welcome to the**

**WSSCP Monthly Email Bulletin**

**March 2021**



With full schedules and lots of meetings to attend, it can often be difficult to find the time to complete training. Here are some effective ways of sharing key messages from training that you or members of your team attend –

* Unless the training is mandatory for each person to attend, why not nominate one person from your team to attend training. If you cannot release multiple colleagues, they can then return and share the key messages from the training with the rest of the team, as well as where to find further information on the topic.
* Create an allocated time for sharing key messages from training. For example, have a standard item on the Team meeting agenda which allows for those who have attended training to feed back to colleagues.
* Create an electronic folder on your internal system where training slides are stored so that team members can access these as a reference. It is important however, to share slides with colleagues where appropriate and maybe use this as a way to bridge the gap whilst you are waiting to attend formal training on the same subject.



There is a new resource available on the WSSCP website to support the conversations that practitioners have with children. These cards have been created with the Day in My Life questions in mind and will hold their interest by making it into a fun activity. This activity can be used to support language and allow the practitioner to find out more about the child’s lived experience. A special thanks to the creator of this resource, Leah Williams, who is a WSCC Family Support Keyworker in Early Help. Click on the link below to view the resources as well as the WSSCP Day in My Life tools and templates.

[**https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/neglect**](https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/neglect)

There are 3 new short sessions available to book onto which cover several topics and will provide a brief overview and opportunity to ask questions. Click on the links below to read the full details and to book a place:

[**Safeguarding Hot Topics - Non Accidental Injuries**](https://www.westsussexcpd.co.uk/courses/bookings/c_detail.asp?cid=23625&iscancelled=0&curpage=&keyword=Hot%20Topics&ds=1&unconfirmed=&cs=&subid=&keystages=&locationid=&sdate=29/March/2021&searchcode=&asearch=&tutid=&estid=&sday=&smonth=&syear=&targetid=&cal=&calday=&calmonth=&calyear=&caldate=&submonth=&subyear=&list=&palist=&frompage=&a=&b=&c=&d=&s_leaid=&keyarea=&etid=&mtid=&isModule=99&pid=#sthash.pvJNocqQ.dpbs)

[**Safeguarding Hot Topics - Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)**](https://www.westsussexcpd.co.uk/courses/bookings/c_detail.asp?cid=23627&iscancelled=0&curpage=&keyword=Safeguarding%20Hot%20Topic&ds=1&unconfirmed=&cs=&subid=&keystages=&locationid=&sdate=29/March/2021&searchcode=&asearch=&tutid=&estid=&sday=&smonth=&syear=&targetid=&cal=&calday=&calmonth=&calyear=&caldate=&submonth=&subyear=&list=&palist=&frompage=&a=&b=&c=&d=&s_leaid=&keyarea=&etid=&mtid=&isModule=99&pid=#sthash.WOmwrKfH.dpbs)

[**Safeguarding Hot Topics - Fabricated / Induced Illness**](https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/professionals/training/training-calendar)



Please see below a message from Sophie Carter (WSCC Principal Manager for Safeguarding Quality and Practice in

Children’s Services / People Services) -

I am really pleased to be sharing with you the Multi Agency Reporting Form which can be found by clicking on the link below; <https://www.westsussexscp.org.uk/professionals/working-together/cp-conferences>.

This will now be used by all partner agencies to share their information for child protection conferences. This document has been developed in partnership with other agencies and Child Protection Advisors and signed off for use by the WSSCP Quality Assurance sub group. It is a document used within other Local Authorities and so is a tried and tested tool, that has really improved the impact and accessibility of reports for children and families. From the 5th April, with the exception of the police (due to the very sensitive nature of some of the information they hold) it is expected that all multi agency contributions to Conference will be provided on this form.

We are confident that the use of this document, provided to professionals and families ahead of Conference will provided the following benefits: -

* Families will have the opportunity to read all information that will be shared about them ahead of Conference, ensuring information shared is accurate and allowing families the opportunity to consider and process information about them before the meeting, enabling them the opportunity to contribute optimally
* Conference reports will be focused on key, relevant information, ensuring agencies arrive at conference appropriately prepared
* Conferences will be significantly shorter as almost all information sharing will occur ahead of conference and so the focus of the Conference will be formulating an outcome focused plan (whether the plan concludes as Child In Need (CIN) or Child Protection (CP)).
* Plans formulated in Conference will be of higher quality, ensuring that support to children and families will be focused on improving outcomes and will improve timeliness of interventions for children. This should mean that the duration of children on child protections should reduce and outcomes for children should improve.

The Pan Sussex Safeguarding procedures are clear about the responsibility for all professionals to contribute to the Conference process via the completion of a report for the Conference, optimally alongside attendance. This report must be provided to Child Protection chairs **a minimum of 72 hours ahead of Review Child Protection Conferences and 48 hours ahead of Initial Child Protection Conferences** and **must be shared at least 48 hours ahead of the conference with the family** that it relates to, by the agency that wrote the report. All professional reports provided to conference will be shared with the other agencies invited to the Conference **a minimum of 24 hours ahead of the conference** by the Child Protection Unit. It is expected that those reports will have been read ahead of conference attendance. The chair will summarise the key information contained within the reports at the beginning of the conference and seek professional contributions should any agency feel that important information has been missed or that misinformation has been provided.

We will be rolling out training for the partnership that will include guidance on the completion of this document and the formulation of outcome focused plans, that I hope many of you will be able to attend. However, in the interim,  I am very happy to attend team meetings or any other forums to support with embedding this document and for people to contact me directly if there are any questions or queries using my email address below:

[Sophie.Carter@westsussex.gov.uk](mailto:Sophie.Carter@westsussex.gov.uk)

  
The Local Safeguarding Partnerships have become aware that some Sussex professionals and parents are asking about the use of weighted blankets for babies and young children. Although there is no research regarding safety in this age group, there is serious concern about  the risk of suffocation and the risk of babies and young children overheating when using one which increases the risk of Sudden Unexplained Death in Infants and Children (SUDI/C). National guidance has been reviewed, and the Designated Doctors for Child Death in Sussex strongly recommend that weighted blankets should never be used in children under the age of **2 years**.  Guidance from the Lullaby Trust is anticipated and will be shared when published. Professionals should continue to follow safer sleeping advice from the Lullaby Trust, and read the Royal College of Occupational Therapists 2019 guidance.

To read more from the Lullaby Trust click on the links below

* + - * + <https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/>
        + <https://www.rcot.co.uk/files/briefing-safe-use-weighted-blankets-children-and-adults-2019>

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Do you have any information from your organisation that you would like to share in any future editions of this Email Bulletin? If so please email details directly.

Kind Regards,

Lucy

Diagram

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