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**Notes of the LAS Safeguarding Committee Meeting**

**On Tuesday 5 January - Angela Cross-Durrant**

I attended this meeting on behalf of Malcolm. The Committee is Chaired by Zoe Packman.

Action Plans Adult and Children Safeguarding Action plans were discussed. It was noted that areas of concern regarding Adults were: the remaining need to enable the safeguarding activity database to be up to date and accessible electronically; the need to develop a safeguarding supervision policy and its implementation; and the need to develop a system for monitoring and evaluating practice. Progress to be discussed at next meeting.

There were no child-specific actions - yet.

KPM had conducted an additional audit and of their recommendations, up-to-date training records, updated recruitment policy, overseas criminal records check documentation and updating existing DBS records all needed attention. It was reported that some progress was being made.

Clinical practice It was reported that there has been an increase of safeguarding/welfare referrals to social services, and that this was likely to be because of winter months. FGM referrals were mentioned but there have been none, so none needed to be reported to police.

Training and Education PREVENT - training using materials from Home Office and policy and procedures being devised based on them. Staff who missed this training are being or have been trained now. New staff get the full PREVENT Wrap training with annual required updating. E-learning used for non-frontline staff is being rolled out.

Meetings being held with police to work out reporting procedures to them.

LAS has had a small number of referrals but only very few are of concern and are passed to local authorities as safeguarding issues to deal with as not pertinent for police. Discussion surrounded whether something was not radicalisation but rather counter-terrorism (e.g. if someone suspected a bomb was being made). Discussions with police to clarify procedure, etc. Meeting discussed whether there ought to be a small ‘filtering’ group to assess reports as they come in, and much concern raised about this possibly slowing down processing a report to police. To be given more discussion time at next meeting.

*Hoarding* – LAS working with Fire Brigade (FB) as well as social services regarding referrals. Point made that permission of hoarder has to be gained, that deciding whether something is a large collection or hoarding, whether it is fire risk or risk to hoarder or anyone else can be very subjective. Discussions with FB to agree way forward.

*Training report* - CQC findings raised and it transpires that PTS and EOC staff need PREVENT and/or safeguarding training or refresher training. New staff are receiving safeguarding training. Bank staff, however, remain an area of concern. CQC also noted that Board Members do not fully understand some key issues regarding LAS and are not in a position to query, challenge or follow up properly where needed. Only 71% of the Board have had PREVENT training/awareness raising, which adds to the insufficient understanding of the Board.

HR Safeguarding Practice *DBS checks* discussed and committee felt LAS was compliant with requirements. Even so, there is a plan to set in motion a three-year programme of repeat checks prompted by changes of roles and positions in the organisation.

*Allegations against Staff* – the LAS published its policy and procedure in 2015 on the Management of Safeguarding allegations against staff, which has now been updated in line with the language included in the Care Act 2014. Regarding actual allegations against staff, the figures so far show just three cases of potential safeguarding issues but the figures need to be checked against the Director of Nursing’s records.

*Bank staff training* - There is not a system yet that is fit for purpose for training and recording Bank staff training because insufficient information is available. The Committee will request this information because currently the number of Bank Staff that have had mandatory training is not known.

Governance The full *Trust risk Register* was not circulated with the papers. After discussion it was decided that there should be a Risk added regarding PREVENT training.

*The DH letter regarding mental health* was deferred to next meeting as the person designated to report on it did not attend.

*The Safeguarding Adults at Risk Tool* was approved.

*The Safeguarding Children Self-Assessment Tool* was approved.

*The London Multi-Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy & Procedures* finalised document was approved though much concern expressed over the fact that it is a 144-page document which many/most staff will not be able to read and ‘internalise’. It was reported that nonetheless the document was an improvement on earlier drafts.

*NHS England Patient Safety Alert* – it was reported that the LAS has a policy on restraint and is fully compliant with the contents of the Alert.

*Service Development* – a confidential early draft proposal for increasing the safeguarding team was tabled. An updated draft is being finalised, to be discussed at next meeting.

There was no other business.

Next meeting: 11 February 2016

ACD

7.1.16