

Where were we?

- Building skills of IRO's in the development of practice utilising the Signs of Safety approach in Child Protection Conferences. Utilising the specialist training days through EIP2 for tailored input.
- The measures in place to reduce the number of repeat Child Protection plans has had a positive impact.
- Ongoing development of more outcome focused Child Protection Plans which are individualised, have clear actions and timescales.
- A SIU Team Manger as lead in the provision of consultancy, advice and practice in the area of children using sexual harmful behaviour (HSB). Undertaking multi-agency meetings.
- Continued use of agency IRO due to difficulties in recruiting permanent staff. This has impacted on case loads.



What have we done?

- Continued learning opportunities through EIP2 alongside practice sessions as part of Team Meetings to enable the development of Signs of Safety within Conferences. The focus has been on improving Danger Statements and Safety Goals and focused plans with clear outcomes and timescales.
- Continued to have a more robust approach to checks around the activity of Core Groups and the implementation of the plan and the outcomes achieved. This work has been focused on avoidance of premature ending of plans and the impact that this has on repeat Child Protection Plans
- Continued development and implementation of the Quality Assurance Alerts to provide a valuable and visible



What else do we need to do?

- Continued development of quality assurance of Danger Statements, Safety Goals and Scaling Questions being brought to Conference and the impact on the development of a SMART Plan. Consistency of Conferences will be monitored and developed through observations by Team Managers and Service Manager.
- Further analysis to be undertaken on cases that exceed being subject to a child protection plan for 18 months. This is to be supported by the implementation of a new process whereby IRO will undertake monthly tracking on cases where a child or young person is subject to a child protection plan over 12 months. A quarterly report is to be complete by the Safeguarding and Improvement Team Manager – Safeguarding lead.
- IRO's to consistently complete the repeat plan analysis to support identifying themes and areas of support need. A quarterly report to be completed by the Safeguarding and Improvement Team Manager – Safeguarding Lead
- Continue to refine and enhance QA Alert process ensuring consistent and full use by IROs; capture the difference this is making/outcomes for children and young people; continue to collate themes that inform service improvement and development



What difference have we made?

- Continued implementation of Signs of Safety within Child Protection Conferences has enabled inclusive meetings and plans that are created 'with' the family rather than 'to' the family.
- This has shown some improvements in the structure of family focused, outcome based plans that are SMART.
- The development of Signs of Safety within the IRO child protection service has continued to improve in consistency and a depth of understanding of the model. This is shown in the use of appropriate challenge and investigative questions to highlight the core worries and strengths.
- There has been maintained position on repeat child protection plans and IRO's are completing a case analysis for all cases that are a repeat plan to enable themes and deficits to be identified.
- There has been a significant reduction in the use of multiple categories, ensuring that the area of concern is clear for families which supports the ethos of Signs of Safety and positive engagement.

