

# Safeguarding Vulnerable People Partnership

## August 2019



July's partnership meeting was joined by new Assistant Chief Constables Mark Cooper and Maggie Blyth and was a chance to review feedback from the recent **Ofsted** inspection.

Wiltshire Council's Executive Director (and Director of Children Services), Terence Herbert, updated partners on the feedback received from the inspection in June. The Council achieved a 'Good' rating in all categories making it the strongest performing local authority in the South West of England. The report found that children receive a swift and effective response to their needs and reflected well on issues including local multi-agency safeguarding, the response to county lines and work to tackle sexual exploitation. Ofsted were also impressed with our new, forward thinking partnership arrangements.

The partnership then discussed and agreed a forward plan for the next 12 months which focuses on four key areas - **quality and case review, engagement, working across agendas and transitional safeguarding**. Those themes underpinned discussion at the July meeting:

**Quality and Case Reviews** – a review in relation to Child K has now been published. [SCR Child K Report – July 2019](#): death of a one year old in the context of concerns about abuse and neglect. Areas of concern included responding to bruising and injuries in under 1s; invisible fathers; multi-agency processes; parent-child bonding and vulnerabilities that may impact on this. Learning from the review will help us improve our system further.

**Engaging with families** – the group heard initial feedback from a workshop organised from women who had completed the [PAUSE programme](#). The programme and staff received positive reviews for the remarkable impact it had on the lives of the women who were supported. The group also provided some advice about how we can do more to prevent women ending up needing this kind of intensive programme.

**Safeguarding across agendas** – Wiltshire's Director of Public Health talked to the group about government's plans to support victims of domestic abuse. Locally, work to tackle domestic abuse at a partnership level is well advanced and we are now one of the first areas to carry out a non-statutory multi-agency case review that examines how professionals should work with a controlling and coercive perpetrator.

**Transitional safeguarding (adolescents to young adults)** – [This briefing by Dez Holmes and Emma Smale was discussed](#), along with work being done locally to address the transition of children to adulthood and how we safeguard vulnerable adolescents entering adulthood.