

63rd Meeting of the Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland

Wednesday 11 September 2024

2.10pm – 4.30pm

Dunsilly Hotel, Antrim

P u b l i c M i n u t e s

R E C O R D O F A T T E N D A N C E

Name	Title & Organisation	Present	Apology
Ms Bernie McNally	Independent Chair Safeguarding Board for Northern Ireland	✓	
Dr Tom Cassidy	Director of Women & Children's Services, WHSCT		✓
Dr Naoimh White	GP representative of N.I. General Practice Committee	✓	
Ms Bronagh Muldoon	NSPCC Head of Services NI		✓
Ms Mary Aughey	Director of Woodlands JJC, YJA	✓	
D/Chief Superintendent Lindsay Fisher	Detective Chief Superintendent, Public Protection Branch, PSNI	✓	
Ms Paddy Kelly	Director, Children's Law Centre		✓
Ms Amanda Stewart	CEO, Probation Board NI		✓
Ms Gillian Montgomery	Director of Operations, Probation Board NI (deputising OBO Ms Amanda Stewart)	✓	
Ms Pauline Leeson	Chief Executive Children in Northern Ireland		✓
Ms Una Turbitt	Assistant Director of Pupil Wellbeing and Protection, EANI	✓	
Dr Ciara McKillop	Director of Hospital and Community Care and Social Services, SPPG		✓
Ms Catherine Cassidy	Deputy Director of Social Care, SPPG (deputising OBO Dr Ciara McKillop)	✓	
Ms Lyn Preece	Director of Children's Services & Executive Director of Social Work, SEHSCT		✓

Mr Jason Caldwell	Assistant Director of Safeguarding & Family Support, SEHSCT (deputising OBO Ms Lyn Preece)	✓	
Mr Colm McCafferty	Director of Children & Young People's Services SHSCT	✓	
Dr Joanne McClean	Director of Public Health, PHA		✓
Ms Heather Reid	Interim Director of Nursing, Midwifery and Allied Health Professions, PHA		✓
Ms Emily Roberts	Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children and Young People, PHA	✓	
Ms Lorna Ballard	Director NI, Action for Children		✓
Ms Maura Dargan	Director of Women, Children & Families Division/Executive Director of Social Work, NHSCT	✓	
Ms Michele Janes	Director of Barnardo's NI	✓	
Ms Kerrylee Weatherall	Interim Director of Children's Community Services, BHSCT	✓	
Mr Philip O'Hara	Interim Director and DLP, Down & Connor Safeguarding Office representing the SBNI Interfaith Committee	✓	
Ms Dawn Shaw	Chief Executive Officer, Children's Court Guardian Service Northern Ireland	✓	
Mr Richard Harvey	Acting Director of Environmental Services, Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council		✓
Ms Diane Hill	Chief Executive Officer, Include Youth	✓	
Mr Andrew Thomson	Independent Chair of the CMR Panel	✓	
Ms Mary Rafferty	Independent Safeguarding Panel Chair, Western and Northern areas	✓	
Mr Simon Rogers	Non-Executive (Lay) Member	✓	
Mr Gerard Guckian	Non-Executive (Lay) Member	✓	
In Attendance			
Ms Alex McCoy	Board Secretary SBNI		

Ms Teresa McAllister	Professional Officer SBNI
Ms Jacqui Montgomery Devlin	Professional Officer SBNI
Ms Deirdre Grant	Professional Officer SBNI
Ms Pamela Mooney	Social Care Commissioning Lead for Family Support, SPPG
Ms Shona Graham	Child Protection and Domestic and Sexual Violence Unit, DoH
Dr Michael Murray	Co-Director of Children's Services, BHSCT
Mr Gerry Largey	Social Services, Child & Family Care, BHSCT

Summary of Actions

Action No.	Action:	To be completed by:
1	SBNI to engage with SOLACE NI in relation to the potential addition of a council representative to the membership of the Child Exploitation (CE) Committee.	Professional Officer for CE
2	Amendments to the Terms of Reference for the CE Committee to be made as requested.	Professional Officer for CE
3	Correspondence to be sent to Ms Shona Graham regarding the requirement for additional information in respect of the Reform Board Workstreams (Terms of Reference and membership).	SBNI CST
4	The CMR Panel Process Review Steering Group to explore the development of a streamlined template in respect of CMR reports.	CMR Team
5	Amendments to the SBNI Annual Report 2023-2024 to be forwarded to Alex.McCoy@hscni.net by 20 September 2024.	All Members

Summary of Board Approval

The minutes from the Board Meeting on 12 June 2024 were approved as an accurate record of the meeting.
The Terms of Reference for the Child Exploitation Committee was approved, subject to requested amendments.
The Annual Report 2023-2024 was approved, subject to any requested amendments.
The SBNI Declaration of Assurance Mid-Year Statement was approved.
The Risk Register – Management of Risk and Issues Update Report was approved.

Preliminaries: Apologies, Quorum, Conflict of Interest, Complaints

The chair welcomed SBNI members to the meeting. Apologies were noted from Mr Tom Cassidy, Ms Bronagh Muldoon, Ms Paddy Kelly, Ms Amanda Stewart, Ms Pauline Leeson, Dr Ciara McKillop, Ms Lyn Preece, Dr Joanne McClean, Ms Heather Reid, Mr Richard Harvey and Ms Lorna Ballard. The chair noted that Ms Gillian Montgomery is deputising on behalf of Ms Amanda Stewart, Ms Catherine Cassidy is deputising on behalf of Dr Ciara McKillop and Mr Jason Caldwell is deputising on behalf of Ms Lyn Preece.

Conflict of Interest

The chair requested that members declare any Conflicts of Interest as and when they arise throughout the meeting.

Complaints

The chair advised that no complaints have been received.

Chair's Business

The chair did not raise any additional business.

1 63/24P Previous Minutes

- 1.1 Members agreed the minutes from the last Board meeting on 12 June 2024 as a factual and accurate representation of the meeting.

2 63/24P Matters Arising

- 2.1 Complete
- 2.2 Agenda Item 6
- 2.3 Complete
- 2.4 In progress

3 63/24P Child Exploitation Committee:

(Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P1A & BM63-099.24P1B)

- **Terms of Reference**

- 3.1 Ms Mooney advised that the Child Exploitation (CE) Committee has revised its Terms of Reference to include the wider remits of harms which comprise child exploitation, namely: sexual, criminal and right-wing extremism. It has also expanded its membership across partner agencies and within the professional disciplines of existing member agencies. The revised terms of reference are commended to the Board for approval.
- 3.2 Mr Rogers commented that there is no council representation highlighted on the membership section of the committee's Terms of Reference. He suggested that it may be beneficial to include this council representation, given its statutory function in promoting public safety. It was subsequently agreed that the SBNI should engage with SOLACE with regards to the potential appointment of a council representative.

ACTION 1 – SBNI to engage with SOLACE NI in relation to the potential addition of a council representative to the membership of the Child Exploitation (CE) Committee.

- 3.3 Mr Guckian commented on discrepancies in reporting arrangements in paragraph 6.3 and paragraph 8 of the Terms of Reference. It was agreed that this will be amended accordingly.

ACTION 2 – Amendments to the Terms of Reference for the CE Committee to be made as requested.

- 3.4 The Terms of Reference for the CE Committee was approved, subject to requested amendments.

- **SBNI Response to Civil Unrest**

- 3.5 The chair welcomed Ms Pamela Mooney to present on the SBNI response to recent civil unrest in Northern Ireland, particularly as a number of children and young people have been involved with same. The chair reported that the SBNI

have had a very useful multiagency meeting with the Northern Ireland Commissioner for Children and Young People (NICCY), which was attended by a number of member agencies. The chair reassured members that it was evident in this meeting that a substantial amount of work is being undertaken across all agencies in response to the civil unrest, and in the SBNI consideration of the criminal exploitation of these children and young people falls within the remit of the CE Committee.

- 3.6 Ms Mooney showcased a PowerPoint presentation in respect of the work of the CE Committee regarding the criminal exploitation of children and young people in Northern Ireland. By way of background, Ms Mooney advised that since 2023, the Department of Health (DoH) and the Department of Justice (DoJ) have led on a two-year action plan to examine the area of CE to consider how this could be prevented, as well as how agencies can work together effectively to ensure that young people are supported when exploitation occurs, and that those responsible for the exploitation are brought to justice. Within its remit, the CE Committee will provide the vehicle to support the delivery of the Child Protection Senior Officials Group (CPSOG) Child Criminal Exploitation (CCE) Action Plan. The committee is also keen that it builds on the work of the Executive Programme on Paramilitarism and Organised Crime (EPPOC). Ms Mooney further reported that the CE Committee has worked to develop a definition of CCE, which will, in turn, allow the Committee to consider the development of a framework to support agencies in their response to CCE.
- 3.7 The chair commented on the work of the CE Committee, noting that it does seem to mirror the direction taken by the previous Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) Committee. The chair highlighted that there were some areas of improvement in the set up of the CSE Committee, and sought reassurance that these have been considered in the establishment of the CE Committee, and that management of CCE will be fully incorporated into the current child protection system. Ms Mooney advised that the CE Committee is very aware that whilst CCE is recognised as a form of child abuse in its definition, there will be a number of different pathways for children and young people into services. She highlighted that not all referrals will be managed through Child Protection

teams, and referrals may be made into the wider multiagency system. It is accepted that these pathways do require to be fully mapped out and the committee is committed to undertaking this.

- 3.8 Mr McCafferty commented that in his view, it is critical that cases of CCE are dealt with appropriately, and are not automatically viewed as a child protection issue. He emphasised that the focus needs to be on prevention. The chair agreed and noted that it was emphasised in the meeting with NICCY that there is a need to avoid the criminalisation of children and young people.
- 3.9 Ms Dargan highlighted that more specialist support and services may be required in the management of CCE. Child protection pathways and processes are already in place, and it is important to ensure that CCE is considered in these existing pathways. However, the need for unique support and diversion needs to be accepted by all agencies.
- 3.10 Ms Aughey advised that there were initially 11 young people in custody as a result of the recent riots in Northern Ireland. All of these young people are now working with Youth Justice services in the community. Ms Aughey reported that there are extremely stringent bail conditions being placed on young people who have been involved in the rioting, in line with a message from the UK government that these crimes are to be dealt with seriously. Of note, Ms Aughey advised that when talking to young people involved in the rioting, it is clear that they are acutely aware of the issues they are protesting and many of them appear to hold extreme bias against the migrant community. This appears to be different from sectarian rioting where young people are often caught up in the situations of unrest and are largely unaware of the cause they are protesting. Youth Justice community workers undertaking anti-discriminatory work on a voluntary basis with these children and young people.
- 3.11 Ms Janes commented that she welcomes the repurposing of the CE Committee to include CCE. She agrees that the criminalisation of children should be avoided, but emphasised that race hate crime is a safeguarding issue and this needs to be acknowledged by professionals in the work they carry out with

children and young people. Ms Janes noted that she was very impressed by the response from all agencies to support and safeguard children and young people affected by the riots, but emphasised that this cannot just be a reactionary response and there is a need to plan how to prevent and deal effectively with the issue of race hate crime.

- 3.12 Ms Turbitt advised that the Education Authority (EA) have set up an emergency response in respect of the recent riots and the Anti Bullying Framework is being utilised for the management of any racist behaviour or discrimination that may occur in schools. Furthermore, some teachers and principals were fearful that their schools would be targeted and so the EA have ensured that all schools are secure. Ms Turbitt emphasised that adults who are orchestrating riots and exploiting children and young people require to be brought to justice. The chair agreed and noted that there is at least one adult who has been detained and will be dealt with through the court system.
- 3.13 D/Chief Superintendent Fisher accepted that a planned rather than reactionary response to the issue of racial discrimination is required. With regards to cases that are currently being managed through Youth Justice, D/Chief Superintendent Fisher advised that when bail conditions are imposed, consideration will be given to both the crime that was committed and protecting other victims. As well as this, consideration is also given to protecting the individual from potential harm, in this case, the child involved in rioting. She emphasised that the PSNI and all agencies do not want to criminalise children.
- 3.14 The chair highlighted that a measured response is required and it is hoped that the work that is being undertaken by the CE Committee will allow a much more strategic response to be explored. She was impressed by the collaborative relationships and partnership working which was demonstrated in the meeting with NICCY, as well as the representation from Government departments. There is no quick fix for this issue, but the chair commented that it is positive that the issue is now included in Programme for Government.

- 3.15 D/Chief Superintendent Fisher reported that research has been undertaken with children to explore where they feel most unsafe, and feedback has indicated that schools were ranked highly as an area of concern. This needs to be considered in the response of all agencies. Ms Turbitt accepted this, and further commented that the dispersal of asylum-seeking children and families is also an issue that requires consideration, as it leaves children without a secure base.
- 3.16 The chair thanked Ms Mooney for an informative presentation that generated robust discussion. She asked that a further update is provided as the CCE Action Plan progresses.

4 63/24P Update on the Implementation of Recommendations from the Review of Children's Social Care Services

- 4.1 The chair welcomed Ms Shona Graham to provide an update on the implementation of recommendations from the Review of Children's Social Care Services.
- 4.2 Ms Graham showcased a PowerPoint presentation in respect of the implementation of recommendations from the Review of Children's Social Care Services. Ms Graham noted that the implementation of these recommendations is being taken forward by the Programme Management Office (PMO) within the DoH, whose role is to support the structures around the reform of both children's and adult's Social Care services. By way of background, members were reminded that Professor Ray Jones led on the Review of Children's Social Care Services, and this review concluded in June 2023. Since then, a consultation was undertaken by the DoH during the period September – December 2023. This consultation was in relation to 51 of 53 recommendations made within the Review and it was noted that there has been a total of 134 responses received. Subsequently, there have been a total of 34 recommendations accepted, with a further 12 subject to the availability of funding. The remaining 8 recommendations require engagement with other departments and approval from the Executive.

- 4.3 The chair requested clarity as to whether any of the recommendations have been completed. Ms Graham advised that, whilst some recommendations relating to the consultation etc. have been closed, the majority are underway through the workstreams of the Reform Board. Mr McCafferty added that the recommendations are substantial and require the appointment of a team, as well as significant structural changes. In addition, many of the recommendations require investment and therefore it is likely that they will be ongoing for some time.
- 4.4 The chair requested clarity as to the suggested development of a Department for Children, separate to the DoH. Ms Dargan outlined this recommendation emanated as children are considered by a number of government departments, with the mental health of children and young people encompassed within adult mental health. Ms Graham confirmed that the recommendation is in relation to the appointment of a Minister for Children, as opposed to the development of a new government department. This recommendation is to be considered by the Executive. Ms Weatherall added that a Minister for Children would have an oversight of all government departments where children are considered, and would be able to lead on cross-cutting issues.
- 4.5 Ms Janes commented that there had been a growing concern about the absence of children in many policies. The recommendations made in the Review of Children's Social Care Services and the subsequent Reform Board ensure that children are central and that the Child Protection system functions effectively. She emphasised that a number of the recommendations are dependent on resourcing becoming available.
- 4.6 Ms Dargan commented that there is a challenge in the implementation of recommendations, in that there is no baseline and a lot of the work has never been undertaken before. There is a substantial amount of work to be carried out to map services and identify deficits to build a case for the improvement of service delivery. Mr McCafferty agreed and noted that, as well as challenges regarding resourcing and capacity, there is also an increase in the number of Looked After Children (LAC). He emphasised that there is an urgent need to

invest in preventative services. Mr McCafferty further commented that Trusts welcome a senior focus at departmental level on Children's Services.

4.7 The chair asked Ms Graham whether there had been any indication that significant investment in Children's Services was expected. Ms Graham advised that whilst this is not confirmed, Mr Peter Toogood has indicated that it would be beneficial for business cases to be prepared should this funding become available. Ms Dargan added that Trusts are working to build an evidence base and are hopeful that funding will become available to enable delivery of recommendations.

4.8 Ms Turbitt sought clarity as to where the Review of Children's Social Care Services sits on a multiagency basis, for example within the Educational Welfare Service. Ms Graham confirmed the Department of Education (DE) and EA are represented on the Reform Board and its workstreams. On discussion, it was agreed that the SBNI will write to Ms Graham requesting information on the Reform Board Workstreams, in terms of their respective chairs, Terms of Reference and membership.

ACTION 3 – Correspondence to be sent to Ms Shona Graham regarding the requirement for additional information in respect of the Reform Board Workstreams (Terms of Reference and membership).

4.9 Ms McNally thanked Ms Graham for presenting to the Board, and noted that it would be beneficial for an update to be provided at a future Board meeting as the delivery of recommendations progresses.

5 63/24P BHSCT Child Protection Data Analysis

5.1 The chair welcomed Dr Michael Murray and Mr Gerry Largey to present on the BHSCT Child Protection Data Analysis.

5.2 Dr Murray and Mr Largey showcased a PowerPoint presentation in respect of a data analysis exercise that was carried out by BHSCT in the area of child protection. Dr Murray noted that this data has already been presented to both

the Belfast Area Safeguarding Panel and the Child Protection Committee. Furthermore, Dr Murray highlighted that the data analysis undertaken is a developmental process, which is continually updated. Since it was first presented to the Belfast Area Safeguarding Panel and the Child Protection Committee, the BHSCT have been able to secure the services of an external company, who is assisting in the development of the data. Discussions have also taken place with the PSNI and the Northern Ireland Housing Executive (NIHE), who undertake a similar data analysis process. The aim is to layer the data available from all agencies, to identify areas within the BHSCT that are “hotspots” for child protection, and better enable early intervention and prevention activities in the specified community wards. Dr Murray pointed out that the information presented is taken from PARIS (Belfast Trust IT system), and he feels that, with the rollout of the new Encompass system, there is an opportunity to further develop and glean even more accurate data. Encompass is a much more sophisticated tool with more functionality in terms of reporting, and will be used by all Trusts across the region.

- 5.3 The chair commented on the substantial amount of multiagency work ongoing. In particular, she noted that the Healthy Living Centre undertake initiatives in healthy eating and healthy lifestyles and support for families, as well as a number of council-led initiatives. The chair enquired as to whether more focus is required in relation to these preventative strategies. Mr Largey advised that local conversations indicate that community stakeholders have positive relationships with families and are engaged with them generationally. The work undertaken by community stakeholders is beneficial in limiting the increase of child protection figures in the most at risk and socially deprived areas. Ms Weatherall added that qualitative research was also undertaken with the BHSCT Outcomes Group, which encompasses the Community and Voluntary sector. This research was undertaken post-pandemic and there was a noted increase in the population of LAC as well as an unprecedented increase in referrals received by the community and voluntary sector and Family Support Hubs. There was also an increase in families living in poverty. The BHSCT wanted to understand these trends more fully, and compare communities to

determine supports in individual communities which are effective in decreasing the number of children referred into the child protection system.

- 5.4 Mr Guckian enquired as to whether there was any data available to indicate how many families had more than one child who was cared for as a LAC. Mr Largey advised that around 30% of families had more than one child who was looked-after, and these children were often only 2-3 years apart.
- 5.5 Ms Turbitt commented on an excellent piece of work undertaken by BHSCT. She noted that it would be extremely beneficial if collation of this data could be rolled out regionally, although she is mindful that this will be challenging. In addition, it would be helpful if this exercise could be overlaid with data analysis undertaken by the EA, to give further insight into school attendance, expulsions, suspensions, school-age parents etc. This would enable further consideration as to how all agencies data can be used collectively to understand the areas that require additional support. Ms Turbitt reported that the transformed Educational Welfare Service will soon be implemented, which will focus on prevention and early intervention. She feels that this data would be extremely useful to understand how to best target those children who are not in school.
- 5.6 Dr Murray advised that the population in the BHSCT area is changing, with the ongoing dispersal programme of asylum-seeking families. These families are being moved to areas where there is a high transitory population and a high crime rate, and concerns have been raised with the Mears Group in relation to same. Dr Murray reported that the BHSCT has been working with the EA to identify schools that asylum-seeking children are enrolled in, to ensure that it is safe for them to get into schools and that there is an appropriate anti-bullying curriculum. From a policing perspective, it was noted that a data analysis has been undertaken and other parts of the UK have subsequently put forward an action plan to address some of the issues arising. This has been successful in terms of minimising crime rates and keeping communities safe.
- 5.7 D/Chief Superintendent Fisher advised that the PSNI has been working on their internal system 'Pulse' which breaks data down into ward areas and provides

a wealth of information that could be used to layer onto the data retrieved by BHSCT. From this data, the PSNI are able to determine how many victims, perpetrators, repeat perpetrators and crimes etc are occurring within a particular ward. D/Chief Superintendent Fisher cautioned that this data does not enable an understanding of specific families and addresses, and whether these may correlate with the children and families identified in BHSCT data mining. She highlighted that this sort of information would only be possible to understand via a manual search which would require resourcing. In addition, D/Chief Superintendent Fisher advised that data retrieved on Pulse is operational and has not gone through the rigorous checks to enable it to be released publicly.

5.8 Mr Largey pointed out that the data mining exercise undertaken by the BHSCT has been very impactful as it has relevance for individual communities. The chair agreed and noted that it can allow resources to be targeted based on community need.

5.9 The chair advised that she hopes that this type of data collection exercise can be regionalised and collected by all Trust areas going forward. It was agreed that the regionalisation of this data will be brought to the Child Protection Committee for consideration.

5.10 Ms Shaw congratulated Dr Murray and Mr Largey on a sophisticated data mining exercise. She advised that data from the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership may be useful to ascertain in order to further build on that which has been identified.

5.11 The chair thanked Dr Murray and Mr Largey for a fascinating presentation, and for taking the time to present it to the SBNI Board.

6 63/24P CMR Process Review Update (Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P2)

6.1 Mr Thomson advised that there was a total of 18 recommendations made in the CMR Process Review, 5 of which have now been completed. A Steering Group

has subsequently been established to take forward the remainder of the recommendations. This Steering Group has had its first meeting, with the second to be held on 03 October 2024.

6.2 The chair sought clarity regarding the proposed timescale for completion of recommendations. Mr Thomson advised that it is anticipated that all recommendations will be completed within this financial year.

6.3 Ms Dargan enquired as to whether there would be an opportunity to explore whether the format for reporting can be further streamlined to avoid duplication. Ms McAllister agreed that this can be undertaken outside of the CMR Process Review.

ACTION 4 – The CMR Panel Process Review Steering Group to explore the development of a streamlined template in respect of CMR reports.

7 63/24P Equality Update:

- **ECNI Annual Progress Report 2023-2024**

(Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P3A, BM63-09.24P3B, BM63-09.24P3C & BM63-09.24P3D)

7.1 The chair drew members attention to papers circulated to members in advance of the meeting. She highlighted that this is produced on an annual basis, and is commended to the Board for noting. The ECNI Annual Progress Report 2023-2024 will now be sent to the Equality Unit for their review and feedback.

8 63/24P SBNI Annual Report 2023-2024 (Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P4A & BM63-09.24P4B)

8.1 The chair drew members attention to the Annual Report 2023-2024 which was circulated to members in advance of the meeting. The chair advised that the SBNI has agreed with the DoH a timeline for completion of the Annual Report 2023 – 2024 in order for it to be laid before the Assembly in December 2024. Members were reminded that photographs, appendix and hyperlinks will be added to the report when it is sent to the publisher following its approval by

Board Members. It was agreed that all members will circulate their amendments to Ms McCoy, as necessary.

ACTION 5 – Amendments to the SBNI Annual Report 2023-2024 to be forwarded to Alex.McCoy@hscni.net by 20 September 2024.

8.2 Ms McNally expressed her thanks to the SBNI Central Support Team (CST) for their hard work to develop the Annual Report.

8.3 The Annual Report 2023-2024 was approved, subject to any requested amendments.

9 63/24P SBNI Declaration of Assurance Mid-Year Statement (Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P5)

9.1 Mr Guckian drew members attention to the SBNI Declaration of Assurance Mid-Year Statement that was circulated in advance of the meeting, noting that there were no divergences that were required to be addressed.

9.2 Mr Guckian welcomed any comments or queries in relation to the Mid-Year Assurance Statement, of which none were raised.

9.3 The SBNI Declaration of Assurance Mid-Year Statement was approved.

10 63/24P SBNI Finance Update Report (Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P6A & BM63-09.24P6B)

10.1 The chair assured members that the SBNI is on track to achieve a breakeven position at financial year end.

10.2 The chair reported that in April 2024 the SBNI received a total recurring budget allocation of £799,207. In addition, the DoH has committed £101,200 towards the costs of the SBNI coordination of the Online Safety Strategy and the Department of Justice through the Executive Programme on Paramilitarism and Organised Crime has provided £328,000 for the continuation of work on

embedding Trauma Informed Practice across the member agencies and £110,000, for delivery of the CPSOG Child Criminal Exploitation Action Plan.

10.3 There were no further comments on the SBNI Finance Update Report.

11 63/24P Risk Register: Management of Risk and Issues Update Report (Please refer to Board Paper BM63-09.24P7A, BM63-09.24P7B, BM63-09.24P7C & BM63-09.24P7D)

11.1 Mr Guckian reported that two risks have been added to the SBNI Risk Register, both in relation to recruitment. It was noted that there are ongoing discussions between the PHA and DoH to agree a recruitment pathway and enable recruitment of a new CMR Panel Chair, Safeguarding Panel Chair and to recruit into permanent recurrently funded positions. The chair assured members that the SBNI is working to resolve this issue as quickly as possible.

11.2 The Risk Register: Management of Risk and Issues Update Report was approved.

12 63/24P AOB

12.1 The chair advised that Ms Dawn Shaw is retiring from her role in the Children's Court Guardian Agency for Northern Ireland. The chair thanked Ms Shaw for her contribution to the SBNI Board and wished her well for her retirement.

12.2 The next SBNI Board meeting will be held on Wednesday 04 December 2024. This will be held virtually via MS Teams and details will be confirmed and circulated.

12.3 The chair closed the Public section of the meeting at 4.30pm and thanked members for their attendance.

Bernie McNally

Independent Chair SBNI