



Summary

Suffolk Neglect Conference | 17th January 2019

On 17th January 2019, Suffolk Safeguarding Children Board facilitated a conference on neglect at University of Suffolk, Ipswich.

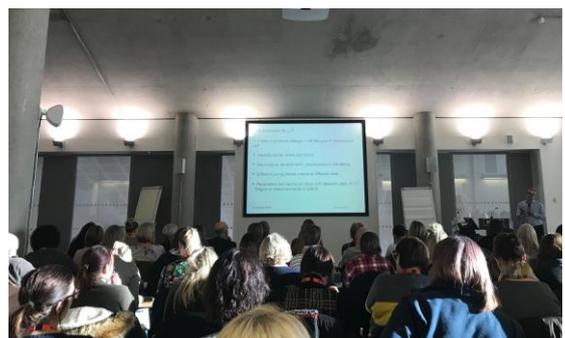
180 delegates attended, representing partners from Social Care Services, Early Help, Education, Health, Public Health, Police, Housing and the local Voluntary and Community sector.

The aim of the day was to launch the Suffolk Neglect Strategy and Action Plan and to explore key areas such as the use of the Graded Care Profile 2 (GCP2) tool, adolescent neglect and understanding how poverty is impacting on children and families.



Key Note Speakers

- **Professor Julie Taylor** – University of Birmingham and Birmingham's Women's and Children's Hospital Trust, spoke about taking a fresh look at neglect and frameworks for prevention and addressing neglect.
- **Phil Raws** – Senior Researcher, The Children's Society, looked at adolescent neglect and the National Research Report on adolescent neglect.
- **Josephine Tucker** – Head of Policy and Research, Child Poverty Action Group, gave a presentation on understanding poverty today.
- **Vijay Patel** – Business Manager, Luton LSCB, explored how the national research on adolescent neglect is helping to develop practice in care planning and engagement with adolescents and families experiencing neglect in Luton.
- **Dr Susannah Bowyer** – Assistant Director in Research in Practice, looked at working with neglect in the context of austerity and deprivation.



There was also a question and answer panel which gave delegates the opportunity to ask the speakers any questions they had about the presentations or other areas relating to neglect.

Slides

All of the presentations from the day are available on our website: [Presentations](#)



Neglect Strategy and Action Plan

After lunch, participants had the opportunity to explore the revised Neglect Strategy and Action Plan and discussed how the five key priorities might be met with actions from across services and agencies. Everyone found this a useful exercise, although feedback was that more time was needed to look at all the priorities in detail.

Delegate Feedback

Feedback was very positive when delegates were asked what they found useful from the day:

This was a very good conference with varied & knowledgeable speakers. I have lots of information to take back to my team. I feel I have been able to contribute to the thinking behind the strategy.

Although I was familiar with some of the content, the breadth of speakers was very interesting and to hear both the research and use of GCP2 alongside the concerns for the rise in poverty was a thought provoking day. In addition, it was a space to think about neglect and share thoughts with others in a reflective way which is quite rare.

In particular I found Vijay's presentation on Luton's response really interesting. This presentation was really motivating in considering how we can all adopt similar approaches in the way we work to support children, young people and their families. This presentation made a clear link between "what we know" and "how we put this into practice".

Speakers were very knowledgeable. Really interesting to think about how neglect can be missed in adolescents & I found the statistics in relation to poverty very shocking.

The variety of viewpoints & explanations. How we individually need to make changes to change & build a better, bigger picture for all young people.

All speakers gave some useful information to feedback to my team. Discussing the strategy in groups was useful to discuss training and barriers for other agencies and non-consensual parents.

Next Steps

Following this conference, the LSCB will be looking to create a small multi-agency working group to further develop the Neglect Strategy Action Plan. We will also be looking at researching innovative practice on neglect from other LSCBs.

There is currently a Graded Care Profile Steering Group, led by Suffolk County Council Workforce Development Team, and they will be looking at how the Graded Care Profile 2 tool can be used more extensively with families.

If you would like to be involved in any of this work please contact:
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