

Bracknell Forest Local Safeguarding Children Board

Confidentiality Statement

Working Together to Safeguard Children, 2006, requires that Local Safeguarding Children Boards (LSCBs):

‘must be able to form a view of the quality of local activity, to challenge organisations as necessary, and to speak with an independent voice.’¹

‘aim to promote high standards of safeguarding work and to foster a culture of continuous improvement. It will also identify and act on identified weaknesses in services.’²

The majority of the LSCB’s business relates to non-identifiable information. However, the very nature of the LSCB’s role and responsibilities means that from time to time Board members will have access to confidential information. The nature and extent of that information will vary according to the situation; examples of confidential information that the LSCB has had exposure to include:

- Confidential information ***relating to a specific child/children/family***, etc shared with a multi-agency review group or Panel;
- Confidential information ***relating to a safeguarding issue or incident*** that is likely to attract media attention (LSCB Communications Protocol);
- Confidential information ***relating to concerns about the safeguarding performance of LSCB Partner Agency(ies)***.

Subsequently, Bracknell Forest LSCB has agreed:

- i. that, where possible, identifiable information is anonymised prior to presentation to the LSCB Board;
- ii. that if information cannot be anonymised prior to presentation to the LSCB (i.e. a concern about the safeguarding performance of a Partner Agency), it is taken to the LSCB Executive for consideration and that the parameters regarding confidentiality are clearly minuted;
- iii. that in the event of an Individual Management Review(s) or Serious Case Review report being brought to LSCB Board for approval, names of Partner Agencies will not be concealed but potentially identifiable information relating to individual members of the public or professionals/volunteers involved in the case will be anonymised. Serious Case Review Panel members involved in the review of the case will not be anonymised.

¹ *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, 2006, p. 83

² *Working Together to Safeguard Children*, 2006, p.90