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- **Safe Network** launched to support community & voluntary groups
- **FREE** basic training from **EduCare**
- In-depth training with local focus from **Swindon LSCB**
- **FREE** publications from Swindon LSCB for workers and families
- **Swindon LSCB 'Back to Basics' Conference** - Thursday 19 November 2009
- **Vetting & Barring** - do you know what is required?

New national organisation to help community groups keep children safe

Early this year, the government announced that it was setting up a safeguarding unit for the third sector.



In June, the **Safe Network**, jointly managed by the NSPCC and Children England, was launched. Their aim is to build common safeguarding standards for third sector organisations.

The **third sector**, which includes charities, community and voluntary groups and social enterprise organisations, is large and diverse. Organisations and groups provide a wide range of services and activities for children, young people and their families, guardians and carers.

Although there's lots of good practice (in terms of keeping children safe) within the sector which can be shared and built on, not all of the people and groups working with children do all they could do to keep them safe from harm.

The **Safe Network** will work closely with third sector organisations, providing them with information, resources as well as helping parents and young people to choose safe activities and to know what to do if they have any doubts.

The **Are They Safe?** pack replaces the **Community Toolkit**, which we launched in Swindon last year, one of a number of resources available free from the **Safe Network** website.

Find out more at www.safenetwork.org.uk

Free basic child protection training programmes

The **Safe Network**, working with **EduCare**, is offering third sector organisations free certificated online training!

If you have fewer than 5 paid employees, 1 free programme is available. If you have 5 or more paid employees, up to 25 programmes are available. And if you want to make sure that all your staff and volunteers have a good basic awareness of child protection, courses can cost as little as £5 to £10 per person depending on numbers.

You can choose from a quick refresher, **Staying Aware**; a more detailed introduction, **Child Protection Awareness**; **Keeping Children Safe**, which explains how to use existing guidelines to respond to concerns about a child and safeguard oneself at the same time; and **Preventing Bullying Behaviour**.

Full details are available on the **Safe Network** website (under Training & Awareness) or from keir.mcdonald@educare.co.uk.

Swindon LSCB brings together all the main organisations who work with children and families in Swindon, with the aim of ensuring that they work together effectively to keep children safe.

Swindon LSCB

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Swindon LSCB Training

If you are looking for more in-depth or specific child protection training, why not have a look at what is on offer from the LSCB?

We feel that a real benefit of our courses is that they bring participants together from a wide range of local organisations, providing them with an opportunity to network. They also reflect local policy and practice whilst firmly rooted in national legislation, guidance and research.

You can find out more on our website (there is a link at the top right of the front page) or by contacting

Christine Mister on **01793 463803**

Publications available from Swindon LSCB

The **Worker's Pocket Guide** gives key information on child protection.

It is a credit card sized leaflet designed to be kept in your wallet for quick reference, especially if you don't come across child protection issues very often.



Aimed at parents and carers of 0 - 11 year olds, the Swindon **Parenting Handbook** offers parenting information and tips. It also includes warning signs of particular difficulties.

You can find this on our website (click into the **Families** section and then **Parenting Handbook**).

You can order free copies of the **Parenting Handbook** and the **Pocket Worker's Guide** from **Christine Mister** by 'phone on **01793 463803** or by e-mail at: CMister@swindon.gov.uk

Advance Notice!

Swindon Local Safeguarding Children Board

Annual Conference

'Back to Basics'

Thursday 19 November 2009 (9.00 – 4.30)

The conference is free, but there are only 150 places so we need to ensure a good agency mix on the day!

For more details and to book please see our website (under Training, Annual Conference)

Are you Up to Speed on the New Vetting & Barring Scheme?



Independent Safeguarding Authority

If you work with children or employ people to do so on a paid or voluntary basis, you will need to be aware of the new requirements being phased in from October 2009.

You can find out all about the scheme on the **Independent Safeguarding Authority's** website:

www.isa.gov.uk

In particular, the **Resource Library** section includes very helpful fact sheets and newsletters.

