



Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board

Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board Meeting,
 Monday 26th February 2018,
 3.00pm – 5.00pm,
 Committee Room 1, Civic Centre

Attendees		
Name	Agency	Designation
Hannah Miller	Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board	Independent Chair
Alan Adams	London Borough of Hounslow	Executive Director Children's, Adults and Housing
Amanda Lowes	LB Hounslow	Head of Housing Client Service
Chris Domenev	Youth Offending Service	Head Youth Offending Service, Children's Services
DCI Helen Flanagan	Hounslow Police	Detective Chief Inspector
Dr Johan Redelinghuys	WLMHT	Director of Safeguarding
Dr Nirmala Sellathurai	CCG	Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children
Gary Dixon	FYOI	Head of Safeguards
Jacqui McShannon	London Borough of Hounslow	Director of Safeguarding & Specialist Services, Children's Services
Janet Johnson	Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Board	Training & Development Manager
Jo Leader	Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Board	Acting Business Manager
Julie Hulls	CCG	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children
Mandy Harper	CLCH	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children
Mary Harpley	London Borough of Hounslow	Chief Executive
Michael Marks	London Borough of Hounslow	Director of Education
Permjit Chadha	Community Safety Partnership	Community Safety Manager
Ray Whyms	Lampton School	Assistant Headteacher
Samantha (for Graeme Baker)		
Tony Bowen	HRCH	Named Nurse Safeguarding children

Apologies		
Name	Agency	Designation
Bhupinder Lakhanpaul	-	Lay Member

Councillor Tom Bruce		Councillor, Lead Member
Greg Ashman	Borough Commander	London Fire Brigade
Karen McLean	Voluntary Sector Representative	Homestart
Kylee Brennan	iHear	Service Manager
Lara Wood	London Borough of Hounslow	Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance
Marcia Lennon	CAFCASS	-
Martin Forshaw	London Borough of Hounslow	Head of Safeguarding Specialist Services
Monica King	WLMHT	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children

1. Introductions & Apologies

Board members introduced themselves to the meeting. Apologies of members unable to attend were noted.

2. Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and no matters arising were discussed. The action log was updated.

3. Adults Mental Health Engaging with Child Protection

Angela Ferero summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Members commented on the need to establish an understanding of Children's and Adult's core areas of work and the links that can be bridged between them. There are key people in place committed to improving these working arrangements. Social Workers are undertaking training around children's issues and seminars are jointly taking place on issues of Domestic Violence, Mental Health and Substance Misuse. Members expressed the need to ensure all cases that are known, can be well communicated about across services.

Action: A joint paper between Adult Services, Children Services and WLMHT to be brought back to the next Board meeting.

4. Children Missing Education (CME) Annual Report 2016/17

Helen Kacouris and Sandra Weir summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

It was emphasised that Children Missing Education was a collective responsibility for the local authority to ensure children did not fall through the net.

There are 15 grounds listed in Appendix B (Grounds for deleting a pupil from the school admission register and Grounds for deleting a pupil of compulsory school age from the school admission register set out in the Education Regulations 2006 as amended, of the report, where school leavers need to be reported. Previously these were only 5 grounds. New starters in school need to be reported within 5 days of them starting. Independent

schools also fall under these criteria and are being urged to comply with the new legislation which is very robust and is assisting in monitoring missing children.

There has been an increase in the number of children arriving to the UK with SEN but who are lacking documentation which makes allocating suitable provisions more difficult but a form has been designed to glean maximum information and is due to be trialled soon. Children moving abroad can also be a challenge but the Border Agencies are assisting in this area although criteria for searches is very strict and any efforts being expended by the local authority, need to be evidenced before they release confidential information.

The Education Department carries out weekly returns and shares names of schools who do not advise of intake or leavers. The Education Department also has a policy of knocking on doors at-least once a year to review cases where parents have chosen elected home study for their children and this is an area that needs to be monitored closely as there have been cases where there have been fatal incidents at the hands of carers.

Compliance with the new regulations is required by OFSTED as it would affect schools' ratings and therefore, schools would need to ensure they are more robust in fulfilling their duty. It was suggested that the new legislation could be promoted at the Head teachers' meetings to raise awareness on compliance. The independent schools have also been written to individually, to ensure compliance.

The need for services to work closely was highlighted and that the Front Door service should be alerting the Education department of the referrals made to them. The Admissions service do notify of children who have gone abroad. The Board was reassured that Sandra Weir is a member of the Missing and Vulnerable Sub Group.

5. Safeguarding Arrangements in the 0-25 Team and Special Educational Needs

Annita Cornish summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Staff are being trained on HSCB safeguarding training and this is also incorporated in inductions for new starters. Staff have also been made aware of reporting and escalation policies and safeguarding is also to be a standing agenda item for manager and staff meetings.

The Joint OFSTED and CQC SEND area inspection is being prepared for and schedules, focus groups and internal reviews are in place. The outcomes will be reported at the next Board meeting.

An internal SEND review was carried out in readiness for the SEND local area inspection and challenges such as the co-production of Health and Education have been identified.

The Board were pleased with the paper presented. Questions were raised around safeguarding the educational needs of this age group and how care is co-ordinated around complex family needs in terms of which single agency takes the lead whilst also ensuring that the family is not overwhelmed by too many services.

Action: Annita Cornish to provide an updated report to the September Board Meeting addressing challenges of key issues and how they have been dealt with whilst providing an integrated service.

6. FYOI Control & Restraint Audit Assurances & Inspection Feedback

Gary Dixon summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The results of the audit evidenced that Minimising and Managing Physical Restraint (MMPR) techniques are being used effectively for the management of challenging behaviour and the force used was proportionate and appropriate. Out of 22 reviewed cases, pain inducing techniques were only applied in 2 incidents, where there was a risk of serious physical harm.

FYOI acknowledged the need to continue development of systems and practices. Regular meetings, review of CCTV footage, refresher training courses are now a focus for the organisation. 90.3% of staff are up to date with their MMPR training. The use of body worn camera has increased and timely completion of documentation has been instructed for consistency. Good record keeping and completing incident statements in a timely manner is an area of concern and a dip sample will take place in Summer 2018 for added assurances around this area.

FYOI is working alongside other key agencies such as Education and Psychology whilst implementing a new behaviour management strategy and overall has witnessed a reduction in violence.

The Board commended the improvements that FYOI had put in place and saw this as an encouraging move forward. It was felt that the new Youth Custody Service as well as the support from the HSCB has had an input towards this improvement. The Board was keen to see how the ongoing progress at FYOI could be monitored and suggested awaiting the recommendations from the HMIP inspection which will be monitored via the FYOI Sub Group and dataset.

Action: To report on the HMIP inspection at the June Board Meeting

7. NSPCC PANTS Campaign Evaluation

Janet Johnson summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The campaign was launched as a response to the HSCB conference in 2016 regarding Child Sexual Abuse and how this could be prevented. 180 professionals were asked for their views and the response received strongly suggested the need to talk to parents and families. A prevention plan was developed by HSCB and the PANTS Campaign was a part of the prevention work

The campaign reached 500 professionals through training and about 7000 children through professionals and parents. It also reached 5500 people through local media. The voluntary sector also promoted this through their newsletters. The campaign received a national profile and much local media coverage. To ensure continuity of this work, there will be a week of activities in September 2018.

The awareness around the campaign was raised through poster displays, newsletters to professionals, stalls in Redlees park, presentations in 25 schools and approximately 1500 face to face discussions with parents. The feedback on the campaign was positive and parents felt they were more aware, confident and empowered. It was felt that the campaign had achieved it's aims in enhancing skills and increasing knowledge to protect children. The NSPCC has since seen an increase in statistics and this could be attributed to the raised awareness.

It was suggested that more schools should be engaged with to raise the child sexual abuse awareness.

8. HSCB Training Strategy & HSCB Training Brochure – Janet Johnson

Janet Johnson presented the Training Strategy & HSCB Training Brochure to members. The members endorsed the HSCB Training Strategy 2018/2020 and the Training Brochure 2018/19.

The Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) course has a national profile and is supported by the Mayor of London. It is a 2-day course for which agencies are requested to release their staff. It is anticipated that the 12 accredited instructors in MHFA will train up to 180 staff across all agencies in Hounslow. The 12 instructors need to repeat this programme twice in a year to remain accredited. Staff who had attended the course confirmed that it had provided confidence to professionals who felt they now had the capacity to deal with suicidal issues. Members confirmed that schools had released staff for a one day version of the course and it was also requested if schools in prison services (FYOI) could also be given this training.

The Chair urged all members to release staff for the course as Mental Health is also a main priority in the Business Plan.

9. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) & Missing Children Annual Report 2016/17 – Gemma Ross / Jacqui McShannon

Gemma Ross and Jacqui McShannon summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The CSE Sub Group successfully completed all 105 recommendations from PIP in December 2015 and the CSE Sub Group was incorporated back into the Missing and Vulnerable sub-group where the CSE Strategy was revised in October 2016 to highlight 4 key areas of prevention, disruption, protection & support and prosecution.

The Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) Panel is led by the police and as well as reviewing its current cohort, has developed an intelligence aspect to the meeting to identify themes and hotspots

CSE raising awareness week events have assisted to raise the profile of CSE and were held twice in November 2016 and March 2017. The Police's 'Operation Make Safe' was similarly successful. Other means such as CSE leaflets for young people and parents, the NSPCC PANTS Campaign, E-Safety Statements, Training courses and briefings throughout the year and the implementation of the CSE Champions Program have helped in successfully raising the awareness of CSE, whilst audits too have helped in practice development.

Missing from Care and Missing from Home Workflows have been developed as step by step guidance of what to do when a child is missing and all documents relating to missing processes have been embedded into the case management system, LCS. It is intended to carry out 'Return home interviews' to assess effectiveness of intervention. A further report will be presented to Board in September 2018.

Members acknowledged that CSE is a national issue which Hounslow has made good progress in at both strategic and operational levels and that the partnership is responding in ways that other boroughs have not yet done. Reference was made to the serious case review from Newcastle and questions were raised on whether Hounslow is doing enough. Emerging themes showed links to criminal adolescence, trafficking, modern slavery and drugs and collaborative work streams are being identified with the Community Safety Partnership Board to address this jointly.

10. Private Fostering Annual Report 2016/17

Amy Keane summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Private fostering occurs when a child under the age of 16 (under 18 if disabled.) is cared for by someone who is not their parent or a 'close relative'. It is a private arrangement made between a parent and a carer, for 28 days or more.

In Hounslow and nationally, referrals are very low. Currently, Hounslow has 6 cases and a workflow to consistently deal with these cases is being developed. Promotional work has been done on private fostering and leaflets have been distributed to professionals in Health, GPs, Housing, Education and other groups for guidance. Awareness was also raised by working closely with the Communications Team to arrange a press release

There is a need for a private fostering champion role and all agencies need to identify someone within their team to take on this role and responsibility. Six champions have been agreed with iHear, CLCH - School Nurses, Community Safety, GP's, Probation and WLMHT.

There are procedural issues around referral processes and timescales that need to be developed and will be reported on at future meetings

11. Child Protection Annual Report 2016/17

Paul Andrews summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The IRO's role is to scrutinize repeat Child Protection plans particularly for those returning within 2 years. IRO's perform a dual role of reviewing both Child Protection Case Conferences (CPCCs) and Looked After Children Reviews (LARs). They have also contributed to embedding Hounslow's neglect strategy and Quality of Care (QoC) assessment tool into practice.

The review of activities in 2016 – 2017 showed that most CP cases were of neglect, followed closely by emotional abuse.

Members felt that partner agency participation was not a true reflection of the attendance and would need to be revised for CPCC.

The priorities and activities from 2017 – 2018 have been to ensure appropriate CPP procedures and application of thresholds, ensure that interventions and planning are effective around extended family networks, joint approach between social workers and IROs and representation of the child's voice, improving oversight and scrutiny of children who are the subjects of CP Plans as well as repeat CP Plans, targeted audits on cases outside timescales and ensuring professional attendance.

Standing Agenda Items

12. JTAI Action Plan Progress Report

Elaine Peers summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions

The JTAI action plan was agreed by the Board and submitted to Ofsted in September 2017. Agencies met on 15th February 2018 to consider the progress against the agreed actions.

OFSTED have requested an updated action plan which identifies the actions the CRC will undertake in areas for development.

The Board is in contact with the CRC's South West Contracts & Partnership Manager to address this. Whilst the managers are engaging, the issue remains partnership working and LCRC give no implications of this.

The MASH audit was carried out in December 2017 and has now been completed. The report is due to go the MASH Board for approval and will be brought to HSCB board in April 2018.

Funding has been approved for Work on Domestic Violence for a period of 12 months.

13. Feedback from Strategic Boards

Youth Crime Management Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG)

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Community Safety Partnership

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Health and Wellbeing Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Hounslow Safeguarding Adults' Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

SEND Inspection

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

14. FYI

Community Safety Strategy 2017/20 - Permjit Chadha

This has been provided to members for their information.

CCG Annual Report 2016/17 – Julie Hulls

This has been provided to members for their information.

Members can email Permjit or Julie on their respective reports if required.

15. Any Other Business

James Jolly informed that NPS had received it's HMIP inspection and the action emerging was to improve the quality of information.

Action: James Jolly to provide a report on the HMIP inspection outcomes to the Board meeting in June 2018.

Part B Agenda – Confidential

No Part B agenda items were discussed.

