



Hounslow Safeguarding Children Partnership

Business Plan 2019 – 21

The Hounslow Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) leads the safeguarding children agenda, challenges the work of partner organisations, and commits to an approach that learns lessons, strives for good practice for children, young people and their families in Hounslow.

Our Vision

All partners are committed to working together so that every child in Hounslow is safe, well and able to reach their full potential.

The HSCP Business Plan sets out the strategic commitment of the partnership in making its vision a reality and will form the basis of its work over the next two years.

Our Values

- A child centred approach: for services to be effective they should be based on a clear understanding of the needs and views of children.
- Safeguarding is everyone's responsibility: for services to be effective each member of Hounslow's community, its practitioners and organisations should play their part.

Our Principles (The six principles adopted from Adult Safeguarding Boards)

1. **Empowerment:** People being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and with informed consent.
2. **Prevention:** It is better to act before harm occurs.
3. **Proportionality:** The least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
4. **Protection:** Support and representation for those in greatest need.
5. **Partnership:** Local solutions through services, organisations and communities working together.
6. **Accountability:** Accountability and transparency in safeguarding practice.

Our Priorities

The priorities for 2019-21 were agreed by the partnership at its Development Day on 14th May 2019.

The priorities will remain flexible for the duration of the Business Plan, and the detail will be set out in specific work plans of the sub groups and task and finish groups.

The plan also aims to ensure that the partnership continues to oversee and drive improvements in its "Core Business". Additionally it will seek to ensure that we maintain an overview of safeguarding issues that affect a smaller number of children and young people such as FGM, CSE and radicalisation.

The themed priorities for the HSCP are:

P1 - Safeguarding Adolescents in the Home and Community

P2 - Neglect

P3 - Child Sexual Abuse

P4 – Improving a joint approach to safeguarding between Children and Adults Services.

P5 - Adolescent Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing

The actions and areas of focus will inform the partnership agenda and progress will be reported via the HSCP's annual reports.

Themed Priorities 2019 - 21

Priority 1 – Safeguarding Adolescents in the Home and Community			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
<p>A strategically led, intelligence based multi-agency system is in place that is responsive to the safeguarding needs of vulnerable adolescents, so that they can be diverted from the risks posed to them and achieve their potential.</p> <p>All of Hounslow’s multi-agency workforce recognise the early and emerging signs of future risks for young people and respond with preventative interventions.</p>	Cases Sub-Group	Commission external review exploring the whole system around vulnerable adolescents, including all multi-agency partners and appropriate strategic boards. Outcome of the review to inform how Hounslow can adjust and improve its response to vulnerable young people at an earlier stage.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Following conclusion of the review, set up partnership adolescents / contextual task and finish group to address recommendations, respond to emerging issues, develop a whole system approach to contextual safeguarding and extra familial risk model for Hounslow.	
	Independent Advisor	Contextual safeguarding report to be presented to senior leaders from all Local Authority departments. Dr Carlene Firman, to facilitate a further discussion the proper implementation of an appropriate contextual safeguarding model for Hounslow.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Support the transition of the Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) Panel to the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) Panel and provide ongoing oversight and governance of the new structure supporting the strategic response to children and young people suffering exploitation.	
	Partnership Members	Work closely with other strategic boards who have a cross cutting priority and responsibility in safeguarding adolescents by being actively engaged, involved and informed of their workstreams, aligning those where	

		possible to work as collaboratively and intelligently as possible.	
	Business Manager / Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Continue to work on a Pan London level, via the London Safeguarding Children Boards Safeguarding Adolescents task and finish group to help shape a consistent approach across London and use best practice examples locally in Hounslow.	

Priority 2 – Neglect			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
Hounslow has a clear strategically driven, multi-agency response to children experiencing neglect, with well embedded, effective multi-agency strategy and assessment framework leading to a reduction in children and young people experiencing long standing neglect ensure families are getting help earlier.	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Set up dedicated multi-agency task and finish group to lead on driving improvements in the response to neglect via a detailed implementation plan and challenge the response to neglect.	
	Neglect Task and Finish Group	Rewrite the 2017-19 Neglect Strategy, exploring best practice examples from other areas to assist in developing a simple and achievable multi-agency strategy for 2019-21.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	The partnership to undertake a third neglect themed multi-agency audit in 2021 at the end of the life span of the 2019-21 strategy to test its impact.	
	Neglect Task and Finish Group	All organisations to ensure that adequate numbers of their staff have attended the HSCP neglect multi-agency training and if they have not they are to ensure the training is prioritised within individual training plans for the next two years.	

Priority 3 – Child Sexual Abuse (CSA)			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress

Children suffering from sexual abuse will be identified and responded to effectively, receiving the right support from well trained and well-informed professionals.	Training Sub-Group	Significantly increase the training take up of the HSCP multi-agency CSA course. All organisations to ensure that adequate numbers of their staff have attended the training and if they have not they are to ensure the training is prioritised within individual training plans for the next two years.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Continue to seek opportunities to engage with schools and the community through awareness raising activities, ensuring the legacy of the NSPCC Pants Campaign is maintained.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Develop and publish a local CSA response position with an up to date CSA Prevention Plan which the multi-agency partnership is signed up to and committed to delivering.	

Priority 4 – Improving a joint approach to safeguarding between Children and Adults Services			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
<p>Professionals working with children are supported strategically to consider other family members who may need support.</p> <p>The interface between the children’s and adult’s workforce is stronger, collaborative and better integrated with mutual respect and understanding of each other’s remits.</p>		The HSCP and HSAB to consider in all of its work how the children’s and adults’ workforce can work more closely together, seeking opportunities to work collaboratively both strategically and operationally in safeguarding work to ensure that interventions are integrated in the best interest of the whole family unit.	

Priority 5 – Adolescent Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress

Hounslow responds to young people suffering with mental health and emotional instability as effectively and as early as possible avoiding deterioration and crisis intervention and improving outcomes for vulnerable young people.		The partnership to have appropriate oversight and an opportunity to comment on the CAMHS transformation programme and progress of the Trailblazer Pilot programme to ensure it is prioritising and adequately addressing the mental health needs of vulnerable adolescents.	
		Continue to deliver the Mental Health First Aid Training through the HSCP multi-agency training programme, expanding the reach of the range of agencies that are accessing the training.	
		As voiced by young people in our community, explore further the possibility of developing a similar course to Mental Health First Aid for young people to access and deliver by working with the Youth Council and Leaving Care Council.	
		Commission a case audit of a small sample of cases of adolescents with mental health problems and anti-social behaviour to ascertain how case co-ordination is used across services to ensure a team approach to information sharing, assessments and case coordination at Levels 2 and 3.	
		Remain sighted on the work to improve transitions for vulnerable young people and where they do not meet the adults' safeguarding threshold explore what other support and interventions are available.	

Core Business

Effectiveness of our Safeguarding System			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress

There is a solid, strong and responsive multi-agency safeguarding system in place which fulfils its responsibilities to children and families needing support from early help services to children and young people needing to be looked after by the Local Authority.	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Commission external multi-agency audit to review all multi-agency safeguarding meetings including strategy meeting, child in need meetings, network meeting, child protection conferences and core groups. Recommendations of the audit to inform where improvements are required and action plan to be developed to address findings.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Explore how Police Protection is being used in Hounslow and challenge appropriately where it is found to be used inappropriately.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Using the Safeguarding Effectiveness Framework, regularly test the understanding and application of local thresholds, operation and effectiveness of the MASH and the quality of CFAN referrals to ensure best practice, limit burden on multi-agency partners and families, children and young people's needs are properly addressed.	
	Safeguarding Effectiveness Sub-Group	Through the Safeguarding Effectiveness Framework scrutinise and challenge performance; identify, disseminate and embed lessons and evaluate the impact on outcomes.	

Inspections			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
The partnership is assured that inspection outcomes for all partner agencies are acted upon and embedded to ensure practice and service delivery to vulnerable children and young people continues to improve.	Partnership	Where an inspection has been undertaken of a partner agency in relation to safeguarding, a summary report should be provided to members at the earliest available opportunity and action plan updates to be regularly reported to the partnership until completion.	
	Partnership	The partnership to respond efficiently to any outcomes of inspections that it is included in.	

HSCP Effectiveness			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
The HSCP leads the safeguarding children agenda, challenges the work of partner organisations, and commits to an approach that learns lessons, embeds good practice and is influenced by children, young people and their families.	Partnership, Sub-Group and task and Finish Group Members	The HSCP and partners successfully deliver against the Business Plan and associated work plans set for its sub groups and task and finish groups and will continue to commit to engaging in robust arrangements that coordinate and ensure the effectiveness of how children and young people are safeguarded.	
	Independent Advisor and Business Manager	Full review of Hounslow Multi-Agency Safeguarding Children arrangements to be undertaken in September 2020 and reported back to the Executive Group.	
	Partnership and Sub-Group Members	Raise the profile of the partnership, collaborate and raise awareness about safeguarding to individuals, organisations and communities, promoting the importance of effective and swift information sharing, promoting a culture that puts the protection of children before the protection of information.	

Voice of Children, Young People and Families			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
Children, young people and family's voices are heard and considered when developing safeguarding practice.	Partnership and Sub-Group Members	The partnership to seek opportunities to capture views of families and children and young people in its multi-agency audit process, case reviews, and case studies.	
	Partnership and Sub-Group Members	Seek opportunities to engage with children, young people and families within their community and receive feedback about what is important to them.	
	Business Manager	The partnership to reengage with the Youth Council and continue to engage with the Participation Service.	
	Partnership and Sub-Group Members	Partner agencies to share service user, family, children and young people's feedback with the partnership to shape the strategic direction of the HSCP.	

Voice of Practitioners on the Front Line			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
The view of front-line practitioners is heard and considered when developing safeguarding practice providing a clear line of sight from the front line to strategic delivery.	Partnership and Sub-Groups	Use the Safeguarding Effectiveness Framework to maximise opportunities through case reviews, audits, learning cycles and utilise already established practitioner and professional engagement forums across the partnership to feed into the strategic decision making of the HSCP	

Community Inclusion			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
The view of community is heard and considered when developing safeguarding practice for their community.	Partnership	Develop links with community leaders and established forums to discuss and consult on safeguarding issues that are important to them and use the feedback to assist in responding to the safeguarding priorities.	
	Business Manager	Advertise and recruit two lay members to join the partnership and represent the community of Hounslow.	

Relationship with Strategic Boards			
Outcome	Accountability	Strategic Objectives	Progress
There is effective partnership working between strategic Boards in Hounslow to ensure that safeguarding children is considered, prioritised and cross	All Strategic Chairs	Chairs of all strategic boards to meet twice a year to ensure effective governance, ownership and oversight of cross cutting themes to ensure a collaborative, joint and effective response.	

cutting priorities are jointly achieved.		Continue to be represented on and engage with all relevant strategic Boards, provide challenge and scrutiny in working together on common safeguarding issues.	
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