



Hounslow Safeguarding Children Partnership Meeting
Monday 31st January 2022
3pm – 5.00pm
Virtually, via MS Teams

| Attendees | | |
|----------------------|--|--|
| Name | Agency | Designation |
| Hannah Miller | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Independent Advisor |
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| Moira Murray | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Interim Service Manager |
| Steven Forbes | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Executive Director of Children's & Adults' Services |
| Janet Johnson | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Learning & Development Manager |
| Amanda Lowes | London Borough of Hounslow | Assistant Director: Homelessness, Independence and Preventative Services |
| Councillor Tom Bruce | Education and Children's Services | Councillor |
| Phil Hopkins | London Borough of Hounslow | Head of Adolescent Services |
| Kerry Jacks | Feltham YOI | Head of Safeguards |
| Sarah Green | Chelsea & Westminster Hospital | Consultant Midwife for Public Health and Safeguarding |
| Tony Bowen | HRCH | Named Nurse Safeguarding Children |
| Lorna Waite | CCG | Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children |
| Parminder Sahota | West London NHS Trust | Director of Safeguarding Children and Adults |
| Sharon Brookes | Police | Detective Superintendent |
| Clare McKenzie | London Borough of Hounslow | Children's Commissioning Manager, Public Health |
| Niamh Murrell | National Probation Service | Senior Probation Officer |
| Ian Berryman | Woodbridge Park Education Service | Headteacher (Nominated Special Schools Rep) |
| Sharon Allingham | Springwell School | Deputy Head (Nominated Primary School Rep) |
| Christopher Davidson | London Fire Brigade | Station Commander |
| Graeme Baker | West Thames College | Head of Quality & Standards |

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| Cleo Frederick-Grant | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Business Support & Development Officer |
| Jessica Jones | Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Partnership | Planning and Performance Officer |
| Apologies | | |
| Permjit Chadha | Community Safety | Head of Service |
| Martin Forshaw | London Borough of Hounslow | Interim Assistant Director – Children's Safeguarding & Specialist Services |
| Kamm Grewal | Springwell School | Headteacher (Nominated Primary School Rep) |
| Annita Cornish | London Borough of Hounslow | Interim Assistant Director Special Educational Needs and Disability |
| Vicki Taylor | London Borough of Hounslow | Interim Assistant Director Education & Skills |
| Elizna Visser | London Borough of Hounslow | Interim Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance |
| Siobhan Appleton | CCG | Interim Assistant Director for Safeguarding |
| Dr Nirmala Sellathurai | CCG | Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children |
| Anil Chatterjee | ARC & HYPE | Service Manager |
| Siobhan Appleton | CCG | Interim Assistant Director for Safeguarding |
| Not Attended | | |
| Karen McLean | Homestart | Voluntary Sector Representative |
| Emily Martin | Feltham YOI | Governor |
| Kumal Rajpaul | HRCH | Interim Director of Nursing & Non Medical Professionals |
| Adam Kerr | National Probation Service | Head of Service Delivery – Hounslow, Kingston and Richmond |
| Niamh Murrell | National Probation Service | Senior Probation Officer |
| Josephine Daly | Oak Heights School | Independent School Rep |
| Victoria Eadie | Tudor Park Education | CEO (Nominated Secondary School Rep) |
| Thomas Webster | West London NHS Trust | Named Nurse Safeguarding Children |
| Michael Michaelides | West Thames College | Executive Director Resources & Student Experience |
| Heidi Swidenbank | Bolder Academy | Headteacher (Nominated Secondary School Rep) |

1) Introductions & Apologies

New 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 with slight amendment request from Hannah Miller regarding the Neglect Audits. This was acknowledged and changed. The action log was updated.

Action Log

Hannah Miller took members through the action log.

Action 3 - Update re Covid-19 response and service delivery – CSC

To share Ofsted SEN overview report with the partnership once completed.

Steven Forbes advised once he's received the SEND review then the overview report can come back to the group. We are expecting a call for inspection but not for a few weeks

Action 2 - Minutes of the last meeting & matters arising

To liaise with Vicki Taylor regarding the issues raised by the schools.

Steven Forbes explained a meeting has taken place between himself, Elizna Visser, Moira Murray and Priscilla Kurewa. Actions have been established from those meetings. Follow up meeting will take place on the 7th Feb.

Action 5 - Neglect Audit Outcome

To have a discussion to ensure schools were aware of the Quality of Care Assessment tool and the expectation.

Moira Murray advised that this has been completed and sent to all schools with a briefing note.

Action 5 - Neglect Audit Outcome

To draft a short paper on the outcome of the audit to Hounslow Education Partnership (HEP).

Moira Murray advised that this has been completed and sent to HEP.

Action 7 - Universal 0-5 Pathway and Offer Report

To bring an updated report on the Universal 0-5 Pathway and Offer in six months' time.

Item is on the Forward Agenda Plan

Action 8 - Early Help Hub Progress Report

To bring a paper to May's Board on the Early Help Hub.

Item is on the Forward Agenda Plan

5) Assurance of core statutory safeguarding of vulnerable children who have disengaged from education following the Christmas break

Hannah Miller explained the next agenda is due to the Department of Education writing to all safeguarding partnerships requesting we look at existing COVID plans to ensure they reflect that nature and level of risk and harm being faced by children, including the increasing absences from education.

Steven Forbes advised that this letter is for reassurance for Central government should it be reviewed in the future. We need to be looking at this to reassure ourselves we are carrying out our duties the best we can for the community. Also, to reassure ourselves that children were safe during the pandemic and coming out of it.

Hannah Miller agreed which is why the request for a report from key agency was sent out prior to the meeting. Those agencies that were able to submit their report on time give a brief outline, the challenges and next steps. Education and Children Social Care completed a very comprehensive joint report which Steven Forbes will present in the absence of colleagues Martin Forshaw and Vicki Taylor.

Steven Forbes found the report to reflect on the issue on Home Education since and during the pandemic. The Council saw a 350% increase in parents choosing to home school their children. There have been additional recourses needed to deal with this cast increase with minimal statutory requirements. If it continues then there will need to be another review on the resources to be able to sustain it. We also need to be looking at those that have chosen for their children to be home schooled asking the question who and why did they choose for their children not to go back to mainstream school. We as a Council are not legally empowered to ask these parents why they have chosen it but it should be something we are able to ask. In terms of how we are building relationships between school and Children's Services we know this can improve and introducing the link worker for each school should assist in this. There is work being carried out on the response to referrers over the next couple of months but the report is very detailed from both Vicki Taylor and Martin Forshaw.

Hannah Miller advised that there hasn't been a report from Annita Cornish in relation to Special Educational needs but would he, Steven Forbes, be assured that the report from Education and Children's Services would cover this service aswell?

Steven Forbes agreed that it would cover it whether the child is in mainstream school or in special education setting it would all fit together.

Hannah Miller asked Sharon Ellingham to discuss the report sent in. Sharon explained that her Head teacher who could attend the meeting today had submitted everything needed which she understands the group have a copy of it but welcomed any questions. Hannah Miller stated that schools are requesting a tighter relationship between them and Children's Services and this will come in the form of the link workers.

Hannah Miller asked Ian Berryman to discuss his report. The report echoed the others that a stronger relationship is needed between education and Children Social Care. The concern has been that a lot of the more vulnerable children in the community are being coerced into gang and criminal activity. We need to be looking at it from a contextual multiagency approach. It seems that since the pandemic this has deteriorated and needs to be addressed. He felt that early support and intervention external to his service was not as intensive or systematic as it should be. Steven Forbes added that there has been a wider discussion with the new borough commander in the police around the gangs developing in Hounslow. This is something we want the Community Safety Partnership to work on specifically, but we have an added interest in the work in terms of specific individual children and the impact it has on them. There was an initial meeting in December in relation to this concern now that Hounslow have a second recognised gang in the borough. While we do not want the Safeguarding Board to step into the domain of Community Safety there are challenges for the Local Authority with constraints available to us legally on how we can safeguard adolescents from the influence of gangs. As a Safeguarding partnership we need to work creatively locally within the current framework with these young people.

Hannah Miller advised there is a joint meeting on the 8th February with Community Safety where the issues could be picked up. Steven Forbes agreed.

Graham Baker explained that his report was very positive, and attendance is a big focus, staying in touch with students and families while working with colleagues in social care has been a very important element. The only comment for social care was that welfare checks and home visits have the same prevalence that it had prior to the pandemic. Graham Baker also echoed his concerns about the vulnerable adolescents with gang activity and the need to look back at the work that was completed for children going into primary to secondary to college and have better mapping to start to combat some of these issues arising.

Anthony Bowen explained his report also raised the concern that Health are not routinely being informed when children are being home educated. Electronic records from their health database may not have information on the school children attend. Therefore, the sharing of information between agencies could be improved for Health professional making a holistic assessment of what is going on with the child and be able to raise concerns appropriately.

Lorna Waite agreed with Anthony Bowen sharing of information on these children will raise awareness in terms of those professionals coming into contact with these children. Lorna raised that there is a business case with HRCH that is looking at looked after children out of borough more than a 20-mile radius and where the responsibility sits to ensure that the children's needs are being met.

Hannah Miller asked Parminder Sahota if she had anything to add from her report as she didn't think she had received it. Parminder thought she had sent something through but nothing to add to the group from it.

Hannah asked Sarah Green to discuss her report. Sarah Green agreed that there was good communication especially through the liaison health visitor. The Midwifery service was still carrying our home visits during the pandemic. If there were any specific concerns during face-to-face consultations then we would invite them in to discuss it. The education for children admitted to hospital still carried on and making sure there were links with other education services. Sarah Green agreed that there is a big challenge for adolescents not just within the gang setting but in the Emergency Department and Sexual Health Clinics it is having the ability to link it altogether.

Sharon Brookes explained that her report stated that during the pandemic there was more capacity given to the police to be able to work with the Education Welfare Team. However, this has since changed given we are now out of lockdown and capacity has resumed to a normal state. Moving forward there needs to be broader networking between the Safer School Officers and the Missing Person Unit, Exploitation Unit, Gangs Unit given that most of the contact with agencies comes through our Safer School Officers. The Police challenge is that there isn't much communication between Education, Social Care and Health without our Safer Schools Officers and this can be improved with the broader units that deal with our highest risk of threat to and from young people. Hannah agreed with this and the topic feeds well into the Adolescent Monitoring Group on how to get information across to the right service or team.

Kerry Jacks explained the report is to ensure that processes are in place for when the courts do reopen and in preparation for possibly more boys coming to Feltham Youth Offending Institution.

Hannah Miller stated that all the assurance papers will be saved within the Partnership electronic files in case it is needed for further inspections.

6) MMPR Annual Report 20/21

Hannah Miller introduced the next agenda paper that was given to members prior to the meeting and asked Kerry Jacks if there was anything in particular she wanted to discuss with the group.

Kerry Jacks explained that the paper is also with the Feltham Subgroup and highlighted that there was a reduction of use of force by 386 incidents from the previous year which is a real positive. COVID did help given that the boys were in smaller groups and managed slightly differently. There is a robust process in terms of having to use restraints and the techniques used by staff is all overseen by Hounslow's designated officer. Kerry Jacks advised that Lorna Waite has started to attend these meetings as well from a Health perspective. Training was halted during lockdown but that will resume. Hannah Miller stated that there is a pilot approach mentioned in the report on new ways of dealing with restraints. It would be interesting for the outcome of the pilot to come back to the group. The new approach is being piloted on behalf of the Youth Estate.

Moira Murray stated that the meeting that Kerry Jacks had mentioned previously was really useful. It was attended by herself, as well as Lorna Waite and Grace as the LADO along with members of staff from Feltham. They looked at CCTV and body camera footage of 3 cases using restraint on young people and it was very useful to get an insight into Feltham itself and also to see the issues that staff face and the way in which they are handling situations. She said it is a very good development and it is going to work well to have these regular audits, discussions and viewings of footage of the restraint used on young people.

7) Update on the Complex Case Panel.

Hannah Miller asked Moira Murray for a short update on the Complex Case Panel as there was a delay in that starting.

Moira Murray reported this was progressing but there was not sufficient time to get it sorted for January as they want to get it right and want it to work. She said that the delay was due to a meeting Elizna Visser and Jessica Jones, Lead Planning Officer had with Oxfordshire colleagues who have had a Complex Case Panel running for approximately 10 years. That meeting triggered the need for a change to the terms of reference so that it goes through a process similar to that in Oxfordshire to ensure that the case is an appropriate one to bring forward to a Complex Case Panel.

Hannah Miller asked if a date for the first meeting had been set yet. Moira Murray relayed that it had.

Jessica Jones said that she had met with Martin Forshaw on 8 February 2022 prior to booking the next meeting as they don't want to cancel it again because they want to get CAS for LCS involved. They will be consulting with them on trying to get referrals onto LCS so that auditing and reporting will be easier for Social Workers but there was no date yet.

8) Safeguarding Children within WL NHS Trust Presentation.

Hannah Miller asked Parminder Sahota to share their screen for the presentation.

Parminder Sahota relayed that they were looking at what their team does in terms of safeguarding children and young people. They cover 3 boroughs and have a 'Speak CAMHS' helpline which came about during the pandemic and targeted people who were not already linked with CAMHS, e.g., schools if teachers were concerned about a child or young person they look after and need advice, and also for the young people themselves, parents, carers and anybody seeking advice regarding mental health so that instead of an internet search they can speak with an actual person.

Parminder Sahota informed Members that there are Mental Health Support Teams in Hounslow with 3 teams working in schools to they have a Mental Health Practitioner providing short-based treatment for young people. Most of the staff work remotely and are the link for the school they are attached to.

Parminder Sahota reflected that FCAHMS is Forensic CAMHS and is linked in with the Youth Offending Team who provide a triage service over more than 3 boroughs. Early Intervention for Psychosis is relatively new and supports young people from around the age of 14 lowering the age range from age 18+. The Youth Justice Liaison and Diversion Service is where people are reviewed not just for mental health but are assessed to see what other support they may need. In terms of safeguarding, this is something that is part of every single assessment undertaken so is embedded in what they do. They ask about the person's social system; who they live with, where they live, who they talk to, what is happening with them at school so if there are any concerns raised they are doing a lot of work with the person's social system with their consent to understand more about that person. They have developed some forms online so people are aware and if they are concerned they can make a referral. There is an escalation policy in place and the safeguarding children policy has been out for a long time but was recently updated to make it more accessible.

Hannah Miller asked if anybody had any questions.

Steven Forbes stated that he was a supporter of the Kooth approach but was interested as the experience elsewhere was that it began to suck in significant numbers of young people with no discernible evidence of them moving on and out of their offer. It would be interesting to see what data there is behind the contract with Kooth to demonstrate that young people are finding support there but are also finding their way out of it and aren't ending up as one of a long and growing list of youngsters. He disclosed that the contract value with Kooth was tripled over the space of a year and a half because they were not moving the young people out. They should be building some level of resilience and self-care and it should not be the 'go-to' place for young people. Another point is if the Mental Health Support Teams are quite a small service trying to spread itself across all schools in Hounslow, is there a collective need to look at how that deploys itself and to target a fairly small resource into places of most need. He said that he would be happy to engage in a conversation with Service Managers and Commissioning colleagues about how that can be targeted more usefully rather than trying to cover everybody and everything.

Moira Murray asked where the information is available from so that she would know where to direct colleagues. Hannah Miller relayed that people could access the links from the Partnership website.

9) Safeguarding Children within Acute Trust Presentation

Sarah Green reported that they were trying to take a 'Think Family' approach within the trust when safeguarding children as a lot of cases do crossover and they were trying not to think about one without the other. The focus on safeguarding is integral to all that they do and they try to make sure safeguarding is embedded at every level within their organisation and that the arrangements in place are robust and working effectively through audits, governance and the safeguarding report. The structure has an Executive Lead on Safeguarding at Board level, a Named Nurse at the Central and West Middlesex and West Middlesex sites, a Named Doctor at both sites and a Named Midwife, a Specialist Midwife for Safeguarding at both sites, Band 6 Support Midwives with 1 working across Mental Health and Safeguarding and a full-time Safeguarding Nurse who incorporates the CDOP across both sites. Professional and clinician leadership for safeguarding is provided across the Trust and they make sure there is an integrated and coordinated safeguarding service and ensure those are delivered within the safeguarding policies. Monthly meetings take place across both sites, they communicate very well as a team and work closely together on policies and reports and share learning. There is a good and close working relationship between designated professionals. Safeguarding supervision is

provided to staff as appropriate to their roles and some safeguarding surgeries have been set up. Training has recently been revamped and there is now Level 3 training incorporating a 'Think Family' approach and safeguarding children and safeguarding adults rolling program and evaluations so far have been very positive.

Sarah Green relayed that audits, policies and internal management reviews are part of Local and National Practice Reviews for which they meet regularly for reflection and individual case discussions and there are monthly safeguarding meetings. As a team they try to attend the majority of Safeguarding Partnership meetings of which there are many as this is a big Trust, and they attend the sub-groups as much as possible as capacity allows. Support staff are available to assist with attending case conferences and writing reports for case conferences or court reports. They robust link up with the Public Health Service to ensure a triangulated approach. They attend meetings about strategy, rapid response and CDOP Panels, along with Partnership meetings and support with escalating cases. There are monthly psychiatric and social meetings regarding MARAK which are multi-agency and they work closely with Mental Health colleagues internally and externally and also Adult Safeguarding Teams, Learning Disability Teams, Domestic Abuse Teams and Substance Misuse colleagues to ensure a multi-agency approach. They have worked closely with police on some welfare checks and escalations. The Safeguarding Team are accessible to staff during office hours and out of hours there is a Consultant Paediatrician on call and also a Senior Midwife and they have a good system in place. They run a monthly Safeguarding Peer Group which is catered specifically for Consultant Paediatricians which allows them to have discussions more freely regarding cases they are concerned about.

Sarah Green disclosed that herself and Daisy had been doing training around the neglect tool externally and were incorporating it into their own training. They were also piloting a threshold document specifically for pregnant families in conjunction with some other London Trusts.

Hannah Miller thanked Sarah Green for her very positive report.

10) Integrated Care System Report

Lorna Waite conveyed that there was little to report at this stage and that the formation of the ICS was supposed to take place in April but is not expected to happen in July. A Chief Executive for North West London has been recruited and is in the process of establishing his team. Lorna Waite has been given assurance that there is still a really strong focus on safeguarding being borough based and she will bring Members more updates when they are available.

Action: Lorna Waite to update Members on Integrated Care System as information becomes available.

Hannah Miller thanked Lorna Waite and asked for the name of the appointee.

Lorna Waite informed Members it was Rob Herd.

Hannah Miller asked Steven Forbes if he had anything he thought would be helpful for the Board to hear regarding the ICS.

Steven Forbes relayed that ICS has been in existence and operational in North West London for approximately 2 years. The Hounslow ICS Partnership has a structure of ICS work streams that link to priorities including those for children with complex needs and disabilities and specialised needs which were put into the ICP structure about 5 months ago as a work stream, and whilst not focused on safeguarding as such these were the children's elements that sit in ICP relating to the ICS.

Hannah Miller asked if there might be some overlap as the priority has been placed around vulnerable children with disabilities.

Steven Forbes stated that by the end of summertime they would think again about whether or not to give some focus at this Partnership Board once there was some clarity of the ICS legal structure and the structure of safeguarding within the ICS.

Action: Integrated Care System update to be put on future agenda.

STANDING AGENDA ITEMS

12) AOB

Hannah Miller asked if anybody had anything they wished to be put on the future agenda plan.

Sarah Green wanted to give an update as at previous meetings concerns had been raised about the Abortion Service, their use of tele-medicine and giving tablets at home. This was brought in during the pandemic but there has been consultation about making it permanent and from a safeguarding perspective the concern was how well can people screen vulnerability with tele-medicine. She raised this with the designates and it has been highlighted as a wider issue and as a result they are in touch with all providers of Abortion Services nationally and with the Royal College of Obstetricians so she is ready to assure that it has been escalated and is being investigated at a much higher level. She will keep the Board updated.

Action: Sarah Green to update Board Members on progress of escalation of concerns about the Abortion Service.

Ian Berryman asked if the Local Authority was able to produce figures on school attendance at both primary and secondary level that compares attendance now with prior to the pandemic.

Steven Forbes relayed that figures on attendance were available and he would bring that back to the Board Members or circulate that information prior to the next meeting.

Action: Steven Forbes to produce figures on primary and secondary school attendance prior to and post pandemic.