

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2018

Welcome to the Summer edition of the LSCB newsletter.

The Board met on 10 July, and on the next page you will find a brief summary of the issues discussed and some of the outcomes. The piece that I would like to describe in a little more detail is the very powerful presentation which the Board received on the recent multi-agency audit of work with young people exposed to multiple forms of exploitation. This included, for example, the exploitation which is often part of gang involvement, exploitation through involvement in 'county lines' activity, trafficking drugs around the country on behalf of adult criminal gangs, child sexual exploitation in all its forms, online abuse, and exploitation by extremist ideologies. The audit highlighted the interconnections between all these and other forms of exploitation – it is very often the same young people involved, but traditionally we have tended to respond to them in quite compartmentalised ways. There is, for example, a proliferation of both multi-agency and single agency panels and other processes seeking to respond to different aspects of these issues and we urgently need to streamline and integrate this architecture in a much more co-ordinated way. And the other thing that came strongly out of this and other discussions at the Board was the need to develop more effective, more creative ways of engaging with these young people who are often extremely difficult to engage and indeed will often not recognise that they are being exploited.

There is a strong link here with the report which Ofsted have just published summarising the findings of the recent multi-inspectorate inspections which focused on services' response to older children living with neglect. The report, '[Growing Up Neglected](#)', is well worth reading. It highlights first and

foremost that neglect, and its impact, is as damaging for older children and adolescents as it is for young children. It highlights also how easy it is to focus solely on a young person's behaviour, without recognising and engaging with the impact of that neglect, which may have gone on for years and be ongoing. It discusses some of the potential indicators of neglect, which may be very different with older young people to those with which professionals are familiar with younger children. Inspectors were particularly concerned about those cases where children's lack of willingness to engage with professionals was seen as a reason to end involvement. "In these cases, rationales were given such as children being 'resilient' or that they had 'chosen a lifestyle'. This was a significant concern because those children were left without the support and protection they needed."

The last couple of weeks have been a busy period for publishing at the Department for Education (DfE). The revised edition of [Working Together](#), both updating guidance on emerging issues and setting out the framework for implementing the changes to multi-agency safeguarding arrangements (including the abolition of LSCBs by September 2019) made by the [Children and Social Work Act 2017](#), finally emerged at the beginning of July. At the same time the Department published updated guidance on [information sharing for practitioners involved in safeguarding children](#), following the much publicised implementation of the [General Data Protection Regulations \(GDPR\)](#) and the [Data Protection Act 2018](#). Most importantly, the guidance stresses that:

The GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018 do not prevent, or limit, the

sharing of information for the purposes of keeping children and young people safe.



Finally, I'd like to highlight the fantastic contribution which Lesley Perry, LSCB Business Manager, and the LSCB Team, alongside colleagues from the Council, Safer London and Refuge, made recently to the Met Police Junior Citizenship Programme, which is briefly summarised on [page 6](#) of this Newsletter. They worked intensively for two weeks, in the middle of a heatwave, with 1700 Year 6 children, helping them to identify and speak for themselves about some of the challenging 'keep yourself safe' issues they could face in the transition from primary to secondary school. This is a great example of the LSCB promoting safeguarding where it really counts – in direct contact with children. There were too many people involved to be able to thank them individually here, but I do want to particularly express my appreciation for the tremendous contribution made by our LSCB Lay Members, Nahim Hanif and Shabana Shaukat. Huge thanks to everybody that played a part in this activity.

Have a great summer.

John

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Board Report

Feedback from the LSCB Meeting – 10 July 2018

Summary of items discussed by the Board

Among other items, the Board:

- Reviewed progress against the [2018/19 Business Plan](#). At this stage, all actions are rated as either 'green' or 'amber', with no 'reds'.
- Welcomed a report from the London Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC) (the private sector component of probation, working with low and medium risk offenders), outlining some of the recent improvements in their service.
- Discussed the completed multi-agency audit on work with children exposed to multiple forms of exploitation, covered in a little more detail in the Chair's introduction on [page 1](#).
- Discussed an update report on the impact of the police restructuring in 2017, into a Basic Command Unit (BCU) covering three Boroughs, on multi-agency safeguarding work. This was something the Board was extremely concerned about throughout 2017/18. The Board was very pleased therefore with the evidence contained in the report that working arrangements have now bedded down and stabilised very significantly, although there are inevitably still some issues to resolve. The report, from the Council's Head of the Child Protection Assessment and Early Intervention Services, concluded: "There is growing confidence that the new arrangements will continue to develop, that the relationships between managers at all levels will continue to evolve, and that child protection will continue to be maintained at the highest level."
- Received and discussed the annual reports for 2017/18 on work with young people at risk of child sexual exploitation and work with children and young people who go missing from home or care. All the work that has been done over the past few years with children who go missing does finally seem to be having an impact in reducing the number of missing episodes. For that reducing number of children who do go missing from home, the average length of the missing episode has increased. This almost certainly reflects the increasing prominence of exploitation through involvement in 'county lines' activity.
- Considered a report tracking agency actions taken in response to a multi-agency audit of work with neglect, completed in early 2017. Encouragingly, there was clear evidence of action taken to embed much of the learning from the audit into practice.
- Agreed a recommendation from the Interim Director of Public Health to move towards a 'tri-borough' Child Death Review Process, to replace the current single borough Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP).
- Discussed a report on the multi-agency LSCB Training Programme delivered in 2017/18 and an evaluation of its impact. 82 training events were delivered during the year compared to 56 the year before, with a 10% increase in the total number of partners attending. There was a significant increase in the number of school staff participating in LSCB training. While systematic evaluation of the impact of training on practice remains extremely challenging, the report was able to identify a range of evidence which assured the Board that practitioners were able to identify ways in which their practice and their reflection on practice had been enriched by the training experience.
- Welcomed a report on the LSCB's involvement in the Met Police Service (MPS) Junior Citizenship Programme – see [pages 1](#) and [6](#) of this newsletter
- Received an information report on the launch of the NELFT Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service (formerly CAMHS) at the beginning of June 2018.



LSCB Business Plan 2018 -2019

Priority 1

To improve services for young people experiencing mental ill-health

The new Emotional Wellbeing and Mental Health Service (EWMHS) was launched in June. Referrals to the service can be made by professionals, parents/carers or young people themselves. In addition to clinicians, the service will include STAR (Support Time and Resilience) Workers, who will offer outreach support to schools. STAR Workers have already visited all secondary schools in Redbridge and are now making their initial visits to primary schools. The new service will be monitored and evaluated over the next few months. Read more about it [here](#).

Priority 3

To raise awareness of and develop services responses to peer-on-peer abuse, harmful sexual behaviours and violence

The LSCB is developing a guide for professionals on responding to 'sexting'.

The Redbridge Youth Council has undertaken a great deal of work to develop resources to support young people experiencing sexual harassment, including a support guide and poster. These resources will be presented to schools in September.



Priority 5

Development of the new local safeguarding children structure and Child Death Review Process in response to the Children and Social Work Act 2017, Regulations and Working Together 2018

The revised Working Together was finally published by the Department for Education (DfE) in early July. This includes guidance on the requirements for new 'multi-agency safeguarding arrangements', led by the Council, the police, and the Clinical Commissioning Group, which must replace LSCBs by at the latest 28th September 2019.

The Board has agreed to move towards a single Child Death Review Process (CDOP) across Redbridge, Barking and Dagenham, and Havering. This, along with the adoption of an electronic information system – eCDOP, which is currently being implemented – should not only make the process more efficient but also provide wider scope for themed activities and sharing learning.

Priority 2

To strengthen the protection and support of children and young people exposed to any form of exploitation or at risk of going missing

A comprehensive multi-agency audit of children subject to a whole range of exploitation, including sexual exploitation, involvement in gangs and in county lines activity, has highlighted the multiple connections between all forms of exploitation, the need for better integration of both strategic and practice responses, and the challenge of developing more effective ways of engaging with the young people involved. Developing an effective approach to this will be an ongoing focus for the LSCB for the remainder of the year and beyond.

Priority 4

To develop engagement with children, young people and families to raise awareness of and inform development of safeguarding

Check out the separate report on [page 6](#) from the Redbridge MPS Junior Citizenship Programme.

Priority 6

To strengthen the protection and support of children and young people exposed to dangerous cultural practices

A multi-agency task and finish group is being established to develop an effective Female Genital Mutilation Strategy for Redbridge. It will begin work in September. If you are interested in contributing, or would like to know more, please contact LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk. One of the issues for consideration is how best to promote use of the [FGM National Centre's assessment tool](#).

We are also working to raise awareness of other harmful practices, such as breast flattening. More information is available on the [National Centres Knowledge Hub](#).



Service Highlight – Families Together Hub



The Local Authority's Children's Services commenced a new integrated service in May, bringing together a range of teams under the umbrella of a **Families Together**

Hub, delivering a comprehensive 'whole family' approach to children and families in Redbridge.

The 'Hub', which was officially launched via a multi-agency event on 8 May, offers a whole family approach beyond support for children, promoting strong resilience and independence for adults as well. The Hub works with families before the point where the threshold has been met for statutory child protection by improving the early identification of need and timely early responses from co-ordinated services.

Service users are very much at the heart of this new approach in Redbridge and in line with this commitment, a shared vision has been created across all partners to promote joined up service delivery across the partnership, and council to develop stronger families and a resilient community.

The Hub will support families experiencing debt, parental conflict, drug and alcohol issues, including a strong focus on worklessness. Our interventions will help avoid the escalation of problems that many face, will support families to resolve their own problems, avoiding the need for acute services.

There is a 'Think Couple' approach within its offer focused on improving the quality of inter-parental relationships. We will be delivering evidence-based interventions to resolve or minimise the effects of parental conflict.

Families may be referred to the Hub from the [Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub \(MASH\)](#) following initial consideration of a referral, from the social work assessment teams following a social work assessment which concludes that the family does not need social work intervention but could benefit from the FT offer, or from the multi-agency Early Intervention Panel (EIP). The Panel meets weekly and considers requests for early help provision including individual work with children and young people, support to families and parenting programs.

The Hub has created strong links with [Job Centre Plus](#) and [Work Redbridge \(WR\)](#). Work Redbridge is the Councils employment, skills and job brokerage service, working with residents to support them into employment, and working with employers to help fill their recruitment and skill needs.

Intervention is delivered and coordinated on a one-to-one basis by Family Support Workers or by the dedicated Parenting Team who deliver [evidence-based parenting programmes](#) (e.g. Triple P; Mellow Parenting).

Alternatively, support may be provided by partner organisations and universal services, through the use of the [Common Assessment Framework \(CAF\)](#). This is a [shared assessment](#) and planning process which professionals in any agency can use to facilitate the early identification of children and young people's additional needs.

Direct referrals can be made into the Hub via the referral form to the [Early Intervention Panel](#) which should be sent to:

EarlyIntervention@redbridge.gov.uk

The Hub, based at [Albert Road Children's Centre](#), can be contacted via 020 8708 2612.

LSCB Events Calendar

To keep fully informed about LSCB events, do follow us on



Training

Below are details of some of the wide range of **upcoming learning events** available via the **LSCB Training Programme 2018 – 2019**.

You can view the content of each event and sign up via our on-line **Nomination Form**. Courses taking place over the next few months include:

- [Understanding Loss, Grief and Bereavement and the Effect on Children and Families, 6 September](#)
- [Safeguarding Refugee and Vulnerable Migrant Children, 11 September](#)
- [LSCB Designated Safeguarding Leads, 13 September or 18 October](#)
- [WRAP, 19 September](#)
- [CAF Introduction, 20 September or 17 January 2019](#)
- [Safeguarding Level 2, 25 September or 1 November](#)
- [Child Trafficking Across Borders, 2 October](#)
- [Harmful Sexual Behaviours, 4 October](#)
- [Safeguarding Children with Disabilities, 10 October](#)
- [Managing Allegations Against Staff, 16 October](#)
- [Working with Race, Culture and Believe in the Context of Professional Curiosity, 17 October](#)
- [Safeguarding Children Who Go Missing, 30 October](#)

Your feedback on our Programme or any of the courses is welcome and should be sent to [**LSCB.Training@redbridge.gov.uk**](mailto:LSCB.Training@redbridge.gov.uk).



Learning from Audit: Multi-Agency Briefing on 8 November (PM)

Our current multi-agency audit is a first for us – instead of looking at a particular theme or safeguarding topic, we have identified cases where there have been particularly good outcomes or practice identified and are undertaking a Success Review. We shall be looking at what went well and how this can be shared across our services to inform practice. Want to know more? Do attend our free **Learning from Audit Briefing on 8 November** in the afternoon.

To reserve your free place, please e-mail your contact details, including agency and role to [**LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk**](mailto:LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk) or call 020 8708 5282.

Save the date! Ilford Community Day

For the third year running, the LSCB are going to be involved in the **Ilford Community Day**. This year it is taking place on **Thursday 30 August**, from 10:00 to 15:00, in the High Road. Do come down and visit our stand and also find out about the wide range of organisations, including voluntary and community groups, and what activities they run across the Borough. If your organisation would like your own stand, contact the organisers RedbridgeCVS via [**info@redbridgecvs.net**](mailto:info@redbridgecvs.net)



LSCB Multi-Agency CSE Seminar 27 September (AM)

A special event has been commissioned by the Redbridge LSCB for partner agencies working across Redbridge with children and young people to provide an opportunity to review our current response to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) and to hear from approaches undertaken from around the country. Invitations have been disseminated. If you are unclear as to who in your agency is attending, please contact [**LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk**](mailto:LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk)



Reminder! LSCB Escalation and Resolution Policy

Do you ever disagree with the way in which another professional from a different agency is managing a child's case?

Usually it can be sorted out via a simply conversation. However, occasionally situations arise where a professional disagreement occurs which requires a more formal resolution. That is where the LSCB Escalation and Resolution Policy comes in!

The aim of the Policy is to promote a culture of partnership working, whereby all agencies working with children, young people and their families feel confident, able and supported to address concerns in situations where there are differences in professional judgements around the response to the well-being and safety of children and young people. The **Policy**, which has four clear stages, illustrated in an easy to follow flowchart (page 6), is for use by all agencies. Don't wait until is an issue – familiarise yourself with it now!

Reducing child drowning – Public Health England (PHE) Briefing

As we enter the school holidays, and children and young people enjoy the summer weather, it is important to be mindful of the risk of drowning. PHE have produced a useful **briefing** that is worth sharing across agencies, particularly those providing activities.

Redbridge MPS Junior Citizenship Programme – June 2018

The LSCB were invited to take part in this year's **Redbridge Junior Citizenship Programme**, which ran from 18 – 29 June at Hargreaves Scout Camp, in Fairlop. The Programme is for Year 6 pupils in Redbridge schools and focuses on staying safe – particular at the important time of transition when children are preparing to go to their secondary school in September and are beginning to experience change – including more freedom, autonomy, new friendships and opportunities. This year's Programme a range of scenarios for the children to take part on issues such as street crime, peer-on-peer abuse, fire safety, and travelling on public transport.

The weather held out and we had great fun sharing important safeguarding messages with over 1700 children from 26 different schools! The LSCB scenario featured "Jo", "Sammi" and "Taylor" – ably played by a range of staff from across partner agencies and our fantastic Lay Members. Within our 10 minute drama, we managed to touch on issues such as relationships, bullying, peer-on-peer harassment, and e-safety. We asked the children to take three things to remember home with them: take responsibility for your mobile phone and don't share it around as it might get mis-used; choose your new friends wisely and don't be forced into doing things that you are not happy with; and if something goes wrong, like it did for "Jo" whose phone was used to share explicit images, seek help early so things can be addressed. All the children got a 'goody' bag of information and resources to take home to which the LSCB contributed information from Childline and wallet contact cards.

A report on the activities, including some of the feedback we received from children was shared at the July Board meeting. Special thanks to those that played "Jo", "Sammi" and "Taylor" for their sporting participation and to our willing Senior Administrator for recording the narration. Check out the report in the **local newspaper**. [#juniorcitizenshipweek](#)




Contact Information

Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)

LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8708 5282

Website: www.redbridgelscb.org.uk

 @RedbridgeLSCB

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LSCB Training

LSCB.Training@redbridge.gov.uk

Requests, enquiries and feedback can be made using the on-line [Contact Form](#).

Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO)

LADO@redbridge.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8708 5350

Mobile: 07584 127461

Child Protection Referrals

Tel: 020 8708 3885 (Office Hours)

Tel: 020 8708 5897 (Evenings and weekends)

CPAT.Referrals@redbridge.gov.uk

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Notifications

Nem-tr.CDOP@nhs.net

Tel: 020 8708 5961

Mobile: 07966599555

Redbridge



Local Safeguarding Children Board



Your views count!

We want your views on safeguarding issues that are important to YOU. Articles should be 200 – 300 words in length. We also welcome feedback, comments and suggestions for future content. Please contact Lesley Perry, LSCB Business Manager, via LSCB@redbridge.gov.uk or on 020 8708 5282 or 07814 883194. Our next edition – Autumn 2018 – will be published at the end of October 2018.