

SUMMER NEWSLETTER 2023

Foreword from the Independent Chair & Scrutineer



A warm welcome to this summer edition of the RSCP newsletter.

The last meeting of the Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP) took place on 12 July, the details of which are shared on page 2.

Since I last wrote, the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Panel has published their latest newsletter. If you are not already receiving it you can sign up [here](#). This edition includes a section “Working with male carers to reduce non-accidental injury to infants **under one year old**”.

The Foundation - What Works Centre for Children and Families - and the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel have published a joint briefing paper on working with male carers to reduce non-accidental injury to infants (NAI) under one year old. The paper explores current practice and evidence base relating to working with fathers to reduce NAI. It builds upon work that Foundations were commissioned to carry out by the Department

for Education, and on the Panel’s third national review **“The Myth of Invisible Men”**.

The aim of the briefing is to support safeguarding partners in reviewing their current policies on working with fathers and to make recommendations on how the evidence base and national guidelines can be further developed. The RSCP will review the findings and consider next steps. In the interim period it provides the opportunity to raise awareness of one of the triggers a **“crying baby”**. There are resources to support discussion on coping with crying for practitioners to have the discussion with both parents and care givers.

The last RSCP meeting received two key reports, the first on PREVENT, which is discussed more fully as a feature in this edition and the second was the Missing Children Report.

The Missing Children Report had correlations to the wider Missing Children in London - Police and Crime Committee Report, April 2023. The Redbridge response to missing children is being reviewed as part of the broader review into Complex Safeguarding. Going missing is a key risk factor for exploitation, it is always useful to remind ourselves of the resources available on the RSCP website to support recognition and response to children at risk of exploitation.

The meeting also had a Corporate Parenting update (The Corporate Parenting Panel makes sure that all services involving Looked After Children are providing the right services and are well supported).

One of the asks for the Partnership was to support **young people’s request for professionals to stop using the term Looked After Child (LAC) and move to Children Looked After (CLA)**. The RSCP endorsed the request and will use the new acronym going forward.

Please take time to read the newsletter in full and follow some of the links as part of your personal and professional development. I would also encourage you to spend time taking part in two significant consultations relating to multi-agency safeguarding led by the Department of Education (DfE) – see [page 6](#).

For those of you taking a break over the summer, I hope the sun shines for you!

Warm wishes

Eileen Mills

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Partnership Report

Feedback from the RSCP Meeting – 12 July 2023

Summary of items discussed at the last RSCP meeting

Transitional Safeguarding

An update on the progress of the multi-agency Transitional Safeguarding Panel was provided. The discussion provided challenge to partners to reinforce their commitment to the work by signing up to a **“Statement of Intent” to embrace the new ways of working which will need to develop to support this group of young people.**

Missing Children Report

The report highlighted that e significant changes to the response to children who go missing and will be included in the Contextual Safeguarding report due in October. Because of the link between missing and exploitation, this has suggested the need to work more closely with care homes.

Prevent Annual Report

The report covered the activity undertaken by the Channel Panel and the good work that takes place. Including winning a national award. The Prevent funded Future Leaders UK programme, a Redbridge Council initiative, won the Transforming Lives award at the recent 2023 Municipal Journal (MJ) Achievement Awards ceremony, on Friday 23 June. The Future Leaders programme aims to transform the lives of young people that may be at highest risk of social exclusion and radicalisation by providing them with a range of opportunities and putting them on a path of future success through education and employment opportunities. Students from all 19 Redbridge secondary schools are represented on the programme.

An independent report published in 2022 confirmed that 97% of the young people felt much more positive and ambitious about their future and felt they had a pathway they could work towards. This finding was confirmed by the parents and teachers of the young people. A video of the Future Leaders Programme can be found [here](#). The Home Office have recently published an updated version of the CONTEST Strategy, of which Prevent is part.

Trauma Informed Practice (TiP): Development across the multi-agency safeguarding system

In response to an action from the Local **CSPR Baby ‘A’** report was received which presented the findings of the status of TiP across the partnership. A lot of training and development is taking place across the system but not always joined up. It was agreed to develop a Redbridge Framework for Trauma informed practice.

Neglect: review of the multiagency neglect strategy and toolkit.

This work was undertaken in response to the Action Plan for the Local **CSPR Baby ‘A’** Report, which featured neglect. Several services provided input into the survey. The responses identified that practitioners are not always using the guidance and resources available. It was agreed to undertake some multiagency audit of cases where neglect is a feature before any action is taken in changing the strategy or neglect tool.

Priority 1

Transitional Safeguarding

The joint project with the [Redbridge Safeguarding Adults Board \(RSAB\)](#) continues with a piece of work focusing on the transitional arrangements for those children who may continue to need support past their 18th birthday due to ongoing risk of exploitation. Check out the information on [Transitional Safeguarding](#) on the RSCP website, including the recently published [Brief Guide](#).



Priority 2

Contextual Safeguarding

Developing a joined-up approach and response for those children who are exploited. A report, with recommendations, on a review of the current response from agencies to Contextual Safeguarding is due to be presented to the RSCP in October.

Priority 4

Children & Young People's Mental Health

Supporting a response to the growth in children and young people's mental health concerns, including raising awareness of different support and resources available.



Priority 3

Responding to National Safeguarding Reviews and Reports

Supporting the response and developments arising from the publication of reports including the [Independent Review of Children's Social Care](#), the [Child Safeguarding Practice Review \(CSPR\) Panel Report – Child Protection in England: National Review into the murders of Arthur Labinjo-Hughes and Star Hobson](#) and any future reports or directives impacting multi-agency safeguarding in 2022 – 2023.



Priority 5

Child Friendly Redbridge



Supporting the progress to achieve [UNICEF 'Child Friendly Redbridge'](#) status, and the specific priorities of the Redbridge Youth Council relating to safeguarding including normalisation of sexual harassment in schools; signposting to provision of support for children impacted by domestic violence or homelessness; raising awareness of the effects of substance misuse on young people. UNICEF are facilitating a number of different courses based on Children's Rights. For more information, check out the flyer on the [RSCP website](#) which includes full booking information.

Focus on ... Prevent

Introduction

Prevent is a UK government program designed to counter the radicalisation and recruitment of individuals by extremist groups. It aims to identify and intervene at an early stage with individuals who may be susceptible to being drawn into extremist ideologies.

Prevent sits within the Home Office [CONTEST Strategy](#), which has four key areas of focus: Pursue, Protect, Prepare, and Prevent. Prevent specifically emphasises the prevention of radicalisation through various initiatives, such as education, training, and collaboration with local communities and organisations. It seeks to address the root causes of extremism and promote tolerance and understanding. For more information on CONTEST, check out the [CONTEST 2023 Factsheet](#).



Meet two new members of the **Prevent Team ...**

Prevent Education Officer

I'm Sarah. In my role as Prevent Education Officer (PEO) I support schools, colleges, and other education establishments in the Borough to safeguard children

and young people against being radicalised. This is achieved through multi-agency work and is driven by relationships, providing support and advice for schools on best practise, policy, and training. Training is delivered free of charge to any education setting upon request, this enables all staff to be informed and kept up to date about their legal safeguarding responsibility in the Prevent space, as well as providing both national and local context with the opportunity for bespoke training where required.

If you are a Redbridge school/college/education establishment need any support, advice, or training, please contact sarah.knarr@redbridge.gov.uk

Prevent Engagement Officer

I'm Nikhil. As the Prevent Engagement Officer within the **Community Safety Team**, it's my job to make sure that local communities within Redbridge have a close link and relationship with the Council. My goal is to understand the needs these communities have and the challenges they face. From this understanding, we are able to promote dialogue, raise awareness around the risks of radicalisation and extremism, and that this can manifest itself in any walk of life.

We want to build strong relationships with community

groups, faith institutions and local organisations to foster resilience within the community and work together to achieve cohesion.

In collaboration with my colleagues, I am able to provide free training and education on the signs of radicalisation, extremism, online safety, and the Prevent Strategy. Following on from this they will ultimately be aware of how to follow correct referral pathways to get the help they need.

I work with colleagues from across London, maintaining a collaborative working model where we strengthen our overall approach and safeguard our communities.

If you are a local community/faith group/organisation and would like to discuss free Prevent training, please contact– Nikhil.Sadheura@redbridge.gov.uk

You can also access Prevent training through the [Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership \(RSCP\) Multi-Agency Training Programme](#), the new version of which will be published by the end of August 2023.

Enquiries

For more information, general support, and enquiries please contact: prevent@redbridge.gov.uk

RSCP Training Programme 2023 - 2024

The Team would like to thank all our participants, trainers and local practitioners who have helped make this year's safeguarding children training programme so well received.



The year saw an increase in the number of training courses provided by the RSCP and we welcomed exciting new partners delivering courses, such as Cultural Barriers to Mental Health, Supporting the Recovery of Children affected by Child Sexual Abuse and Disrupting Child Exploitation. Courses and briefings key to supporting principles and values underpinning good safeguarding practice were also added, like Trauma Informed Safeguarding, Professional Curiosity in Practice and Children Rights and Safeguarding.

Our new Training Programme for 2023 - 2024 will be published at

the end of August and will see more new topics. These include:

- Sexualisation, development and safeguarding children and young people;
- Understanding Coercive Control; and
- Fabricated and Induced Illness.

We've learned a great deal over the last couple of years from our trainees, evaluation, and current research on ways to make online learning effective. We know it's difficult to find time for practitioners to set aside time for Continual Professional Development and whilst we will be increasing the number of free, shorter online briefings, we have also increased the number of courses that we are prioritising for classroom learning and the benefits this brings to local networking and multi-agency communication and understanding.

There's lots of information for your learning and development on our [website](#). Please sign up to our [Contact List](#) to be the first to see the new programme.

Redbridge Safeguarding Adult Board (RSAB) – Multi-Agency Introduction to Safeguarding Adults Briefings 2023

The Safeguarding Adults Board has again arranged regular [Introduction to Safeguarding](#)

[Adults Briefings](#), each of which is held on MS Teams and lasts an hour.

Attendance is free and open to any one working with children, families, or adults at risk in Redbridge. They provide a brief and basic overview of the topic and guidance on making a referral.

To make a booking, just e-mail your contact details and chosen date to:

RSAB@redbridge.gov.uk.

Remaining briefing dates are:

- 18 October; and
- 06 December

at 10:00 on MS Teams.

Suicide and Mental Health Workshops

Mind NEL Safe Connections Suicide Prevention Hub are offering free one hour workshops as follows:

Suicide Prevention

08 August, 13:00 – 14:00 or 05 September, 13:00 – 14:00

Self-Care and Boundaries

09 August, 12:00 – 13:00

Self-Harm

07 September, 13:00 – 14:00

E-mail safeconnections@mindthnr.org.uk for more information and to book.

Private Fostering

Do you know anybody who is looking after somebody else's child?

- Is the child under 16 (or 18 if they have a disability)?
- Is the child living with someone who is NOT their parent, step parent, sibling, aunt, uncle or grandparent? This also includes host families to overseas students
- Is it due to be for more than 28 days?
- This is called "private fostering" and we must be LEGALLY notified to ensure the child is safe.

Please contact Redbridge Children's Services:
020 8708 3885
CPAT.Referrals@redbridge.gov.uk
or visit www.redbridge.gov.uk/private-fostering for more information

Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023

Updated statutory guidance was issued by the Department for Education for schools and colleges which comes into force on 1 September 2023.

Consultations

There are two important consultations currently underway that will be of interest to safeguarding partners and professionals.

The first is on the Department for Education (DfE) proposed changes to the statutory guidance Working Together to Safeguard Children. Full information can be found on the consultation website and submissions should be made by 6 September 2023.

The second is on the redrafting of the Government non-statutory guidance on information sharing for professionals working in safeguarding. Again, this is open until 6 September.

Serious Youth Violence Project

In conjunction with the Local Authority, Lifeline Projects have been hosting a series of training sessions and workshops as part of their Serious Youth Violence Project in Barkingside.

Street Doctors have delivered knife wound specific first aid training to local residents and young people to be sure they know what to do if they encounter an incident.

Understanding Trauma Training was delivered by Lifeline's Lead Youth Worker, Alexa Nelson, which explores the effects and causes of trauma, and invites local residents, schools, and professionals to work together as part of an interactive session.



Lifeline's Youth Team and Community Capacity Building Team are delivering separate outreach sessions throughout the week for young people and the community, respectively. Future training dates are scheduled for after the summer period.

Lifeline are seeking volunteers to work with them on various different parts of the project. All volunteers require a DBS check, and training, which will be provided. For more information, please contact kerryannkitts@lifelineprojects.co.uk



Contact Information

Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP)

RedbridgeSCP@redbridge.gov.uk

Tel: 020 8708 5282 or 020 8708 3289

Website: www.redbridgescp.org.uk

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RSCP Training

RedbridgeSCP.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 (Emergencies - Evenings and weekends)

CPAT.Referrals@redbridge.gov.uk

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

Tel: 020 3182 3515

E-mail bhr.cdop@nhs.net



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, RSCP Manager, via RedbridgeSCP@redbridge.gov.uk or on 020 8708 5282 or 07775399017. Our next edition will be published in October 2023.