

Title:	Summary Notes of the BHR Safeguarding Partnership Meeting
Date:	05 June 2020
Chair:	Adrian Loades, Corporate Director of People, LB Redbridge
Secretariat:	Lesley Perry, Manager, Redbridge SCP & SAB
Venue:	MS Teams

Name	Title	Agency
Attendees:		
Adrian Loades (AL) (Chair)	Corporate Director of People	LB Redbridge
Elaine Allegretti (EA) (from 11:30)	Director of People and Resilience	LB Barking & Dagenham
John Carroll (JC)	Detective Superintendent – Safeguarding	East Area BCU, MPS
Teresa DeVito (TDV)	Head of Safeguarding	LB Barking & Dagenham
Mark Gilbey-Cross (MGC)	Deputy Nurse Director(Acting)	BHR CCGs
Robert South (RS)	Director of Children’s Services	LB Havering
Lesley Perry (LP) (Notes)	Business Manager	Redbridge SCP & SAB
Martin Wallace (MW)	Partnerships & Learning Manager	LB Havering
Apologies:		
Elizabeth Winnett (EW)	Business Manager	Barking & Dagenham SCP

Summary of Discussion and Actions

- All statutory partners represented and meeting quorate.
- Final draft of the Terms of Reference agreed for publication on Local Safeguarding Children Partnerships (LSCPs) websites.
- Discussion of compliance with legislation (Children and Social Work Act 2017) and statutory guidance (Working Together 2018) for local multi-agency safeguarding children arrangements. Agreed ambition for Boroughs to work consistently where possible and desirable but in all instances to insure clarity of responsibilities, policies and procedures across all partners. Table of requirements to be completed, and published, providing detail of responsibilities for the BHR Safeguarding Partnership and where those are being devolved to LSCPs.
- Each partner provided an update on the impact and response by their agency to **COVID-19**:
- **LB Redbridge** highlighted that following initial fall in contacts and referrals into the MASH, this had begun to rise, along with re-referral rate. A higher percentage of referrals were going through to assessment. The identified needs were in line with what might be expected including domestic abuse, with additional pressures on families. Diversionary activities provided through small group work for vulnerable adolescents were being taken up. LAC and CP

numbers remain stable. Risk Register developed by the Redbridge Safeguarding Children Partnership (RSCP) and the Redbridge Adult Safeguarding Board (RSAB) which was being regularly monitored.

- **LB Havering** had experienced a similar situation in relation to the fall and then pick up in referrals, and a higher conversion rate of referrals to assessments. Re-referral rates to be reviewed. Re-launch of detached youth work planned and some targeted interventions. Significant number of schools had successfully welcomed back specific year groups and this was anticipated to increase to all next week which would likely increase the level of contacts and referrals further, along with re-opening of early years providers.
- **LB Barking and Dagenham** were experiencing an all-time low of children coming into care but the number of children on Child Protection plans was at a high not experienced before, with most requiring S47. Early intervention was being developed to provide for robust stepping down of cases as appropriate. MERLINS now flowing through and innovative work was taking place around domestic violence with a specialist tri-age in place, resulting in an increase in demand for the perpetrator programme. A new 12 week intensive programme had been commissioned. Youth crime of concern. Still low numbers of missing children. Increased demand for CAMHS had promoted a review of service available to schools. Contacts and referrals anticipated to increase in line with schools re-opening and return of community services e.g. Health Visiting.
- **MPS** reported overall crime had fallen at initial stages of lockdown, with the exception of domestic abuse which had increased, although the rate of the increase was now slowing down. Neighbourhood Officers seeking to engage with those at risk of street violence as restrictions ease off and information provided to raise awareness of vulnerabilities to criminal exploitation. Some local protests following incident in the US. The MPS continue to take a facilitative approach using the 'explain', 'engage', 'encourage' and 'enforce' model wherever possible. Improvements in the timeliness of responses to domestic abuse and work with victims had positive results in terms of criminal prosecutions.
- **CCG** – in response to anticipated demand on CAMHS, discussions had commenced between the CCG as commissioner and NELFT as the provider on how this can be addressed. North East London (NEL) Risk Log developed and actively monitored by designated safeguarding professionals, with main issue remaining being what is still unknown about impact of COVID-19. Work and training on prevention and control of infection in CQC registered care homes continues with a train the trainer model in developed to ensure sustainability. Conversations had started to take place around including schools in this model.

- **Agenda Forward Plan** to include presentation on responses to Domestic Abuse and sharing of good practice; Tier 4 CAMHS response to self-harm and eating disorders; continuing updating from partners on impact and response to COVID-19; consideration of work with the Violence Reduction Unit (VRU), particularly in relation to safeguarding children placed by other Local Authorities.
- **Any Other Business** – update from CCG received on the concluded criminal case against a former local GP; review of Partnership to be included in the Independent Scrutineers input into the Annual Report; criminal proceedings on recent murder in Redbridge to be kept under review; information relating to Prevent referral MPS pilot to be shared. Meetings to be scheduled six-weekly.