



Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board

Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board, Monday 18th September 2017 at 3.00pm – 5.00pm, Committee Room 1, Civic Centre

Present		
Name	Agency	Designation
Hannah Miller	Hounslow Safeguarding Children Board	Independent Chair
Mary Harpley	London Borough of Hounslow	Chief Executive
Councillor Tom Bruce	Education and Children's Services	Councillor
Michael Marks	London Borough of Hounslow	Director of Education
Lara Wood	London Borough of Hounslow	Head of Safeguarding & Quality Assurance
Martin Forshaw	London Borough of Hounslow	Head of Safeguarding Specialist Services
Chris Domenev	Youth Offending Service	Head Youth Offending Service, Children's Services
Jacqui McShannon	London Borough of Hounslow	Director of Safeguarding & Specialist Services, Children's Services
Jennifer Hopper	London Borough of Hounslow	Head of Troubled Families & Edge of Care, Children's Services
James Jolly	Hounslow, Richmond & Kingston Probation Service	Assistant Chief Officer
Dr Johan Redelinghuys	WLMHT	Director of Safeguarding
Monica King	WLMHT	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children
Kylee Brennan	iHear	Service Manager
Ray Whyms	Lampton School	Assistant Headteacher
Mandy Harper	CLCH	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children
Jane Bennie	HRCH	Named Nurse Safeguarding Children
Julie Hulls	CCG	Designated Nurse Safeguarding Children
DCI Helen Flanagan	Hounslow Police	Detective Chief Inspector
Permjit Chadha	Community Safety Partnership	Community Safety Manager
Sharon Pearce	FYOI	Head of Safeguarding
Sue Pascoe	CCG	Associate Director for Safeguarding, CCG

Dr Nirmala Sellathurai	CCG	Designated Doctor Safeguarding Children
Karen McLean	Voluntary Sector Representative	Homestart
Bhupinder Lakhanpaul	-	Lay Member
Jo Leader	Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Board	Acting Business Manager

Apologies		
Name	Agency	Designation
Graeme Baker	West Thames College	Executive Director Performance Development and Student Experience
Hannah Rogers	West Middlesex University Hospital	Consultant Midwife, Safeguarding Lead
Trish Stewart	CLCH	Head of Safeguarding
Debra Kane	Springwell Junior School	Headteacher
DCI Sebastian Florent	Child Abuse Investigation Team, Hounslow Police	Detective Chief Inspector
Alan Adams	London Borough of Hounslow	Executive Director Children's, Adults and Housing
Dr Imran Choudhury	London Borough of Hounslow	Director of Public Health

1) Introductions & Apologies

Board members introduced themselves to the meeting and acknowledged the apologies of members unable to attend.

2) Minutes of the last meeting/Matters arising

The minutes of the meeting were agreed and no matters arising were discussed. The action log was updated.

3) Updated Early Help Position Paper from Partners

Reports from the Local Authority, the Police, and Health services were circulated to members prior to the meeting.

The Chair noted that a baseline Early Help position had been provided by partners in January 2017 with an updated position presented to the meeting to understand how the work is progressing.

Police

DCI Flanagan presented the current Early Help position for Police in Hounslow, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The borough has recently gone live with Operation Encompass following a successful pilot. Data to measure the performance of the programme will be available in three months.

Police Officers are being encouraged across the Metropolitan Police to think more laterally when responding to an incident and assume early help as part of their day to day role. A key role is responding to early help concerns are school's officers. The Chair requested that this was expanded on within the report and an updated version shared with the Board.

Action: DCI Flanagan to update the report to include the work of the school's officers and share with Jo Leader.

The partnership needs to develop its performance data around early help to ensure that it can begin to monitor Hounslow's response across its early help services and develop the commitment that early help of families in need is everyone's responsibility. It is vital that professionals are signposting vulnerable families correctly and not automatically referring them to the Front Door of Children's Social Care.

Health Services

Julie Hulls presented the current Early Help position across Health services in Hounslow, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Lots of data is being collected by Public Health which can be utilised to develop performance data. Early help is supported primarily via community services such as Visions, the Family Nurse Partnership, Sexual Health Clinics and GP's. There are high volumes of people supported in NHS services and early help continues to be embedded across service improvements.

The Chair felt that further representation was needed from GP's, Urgent care Centres and Out of Hours services.

Action: Julie Hulls to update the report with information about further services that offer early support to vulnerable families and share with Jo Leader.

Nirmala Sellathurai highlighted that improving links between GP's and Health Visitors would great a robust community response from health services.

Twenty-seven month checks are also a way of supporting families in need and being more flexible in the way that they are completed, for example on weekends or expanding the venues they are undertaken in could improve supporting families.

Local Authority

Michael Marks presented the Local Authorities current Early Help position, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

There is an ongoing challenge around understanding the performance data for the Early Help services in the Local Authority. A dedicated analyst has been recruited and will begin to develop the data and a scorecard.

The Chair asked whether the Strategic Management Oversight Group have a timescale of when they will begin to engage partners and progress the strategy. Michael Marks assured that this piece of work has not yet begun, it is vital to get the pace right and regular progress updates can be shared with the Board.

Councillor Bruce confirmed that the Children's Delivery Group will take the strategic lead on the development of the Early Help Strategy with a Governance reporting into the HSCB. The Chair reiterated that the reports from partners demonstrate that the partnership is moving forward in developing its individual response to early help and the next phase of work is to integrate services to increase the multi-agency response. The role of the Board will be to continue to seek assurances that progress is being made and challenge where required.

4) FYOI Isolation Audit

Jo Leader summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Sharon Pearce reported that FYOI welcomed the audit and are keen to utilise the findings to support the work already being done to address the use of isolation in the establishment. There continues to be a significant pressure of resources and staff. The Enhanced Support Unit is due to open in November 2017, which will be aimed at supporting more challenging young boys with complex needs who are often subject to repeated episodes of restricted regime due to behaviour and safety concerns

Sharon Pearce reported that the Children's Commissioner arrived at the establishment this week for an unannounced visit.

5) CAMHS Updated Safeguarding Report

Dr Johan Redelinghuys and Monica King gave a verbal update to the meeting.

The omission of waiting list times from the report shared at the Board meeting in September was directed by CAMHS Commissioners and the information should be requested directly from them and not CAMHS.

It was confirmed that the referral form for CAMHS does ask if the young person is subject to a Child Protection Plan and it is the responsibility of the refer to report if they are on a plan or subject to a care order, and there are not the resources available to get back to every refer to check. GP's are not always aware that a child has a Child Protection Plan when they are referring.

The decision-making process for prioritising when patients are seen is based on a clinical decision and not whether the young person is subject to a Child Protection Plan or a Looked After Child, although this may be considered in the decision making if appropriate.

The Chair said she could not understand why the information about the number of children waiting to be seen by CAMHS who are subject to a plan could not be shared and the information will be requested from the Commissioners.

Action: Jo Leader to request paper from Commissioners about waiting list times for children subject to Child Protection Plans and Looked After Children.

Safeguarding overall at CAMHS has never been raised as a concern and waiting list times for children subject to Child Protection Plans has not been flagged. That said, there is scope for the Board to consider the number of children referred to the service who do have Child Protection Plans. An issue about adult mental health attendance at Child Protection Case Conferences was raised in the JTAI which is being address through a piece of joint work with Children's Social Care.

6) Draft HSCB Annual Report 16/17 & Business Plan 18/21

The Chair noted the report and business plan which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The annual report will be amended further to include comparator Child Protection data benchmarked against other Local Authorities.

The Business Plan 2018-21 reflects the findings from the Challenge Event in February, Development Day in May, Section 11 self-assessment themes and both local and national priorities for safeguarding children.

Mary Harpley reported that the report reflected well what the Board had achieved in the last year and accepted the Hounslow Safeguarding Children's Board Annual Report 2016-17 and agreed the business plan. All Board members agreed the report and business plan.

The Chair said the final version of the report would be taken to the Health and Wellbeing Board, Children's Scrutiny Panel, Hounslow Adults' Safeguarding Board and Community Safety Partnership and she encouraged members to take the report through their own governance structures.

***Action:** Jo Leader to populate the business plan with timescales and action leads and share updated version with members for comments.*

7) JTAI Report and Action Plan

Jacqui McShannon summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The report reflects the work that has been achieved since the inspection and the plan for making further progress with outstanding recommendations. The report and action plan will be submitted to Ofsted on Wednesday 20th September 2017.

Mary Harpley asked if the partnership is confident that progress is being made and that the plan to address the outstanding recommendations is robust, including the concerns about poor engagement from CRC.

All members felt that the partnership is working well together to respond to the inspection recommendations and there is good local ownership of actions and identified work streams.

Councillor Bruce reiterated that is the overall responsibility of the Local Authority to monitor the action plans progress but support from the partnership must be maintained. The Chair assured that the Board would continue to monitor the progress and completion of the action plans.

8) MASH Performance Report

Martin Forshaw summarised the report, which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

The projected number of contact for the year is 34,000. The challenge of managing the level of contacts is becoming harder at the Front Door which reflects the need for coordinated Early Help offer.

There has been an increase in the number of contacts leading to a referral in the last month which has impacted the MASH however timeliness of checks overall is good.

The Chair asked what “not recorded” means in the outcome of referral in the dataset. Martin Forshaw confirmed that it related to cases where further information is required.

The Chair noted that the rate of referrals for “Early Help” were very low. Jennifer Hopper said that it was unclear why the rate was low as these would reflect referrals into her service, however changes have been made to the outcome of contacts and where contacts are signposted. Martin Forshaw suggested the reason for changing contact outcomes was that this was because of a spike in referrals to Children’s Social Care, contacts will now be signposted and recorded more appropriately which will hopefully lead to a drop-in contact rate.

Kylee Brennan raised that iHear are still not receiving requests for checks from the MASH. Jane Bennie said the MASH Health Visitor confirmed that they were requesting information from iHear. The Chair requested that the issue was addressed at the MASH Operational Group to resolve.

Standing Agenda Items

9) Feedback from the Strategic Boards

Youth Crime Management Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Violence Against Women & Girls (VAWG)

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Community Safety Partnership Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Health & Wellbeing Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

Hounslow Safeguarding Adults’ Board

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

SEND Inspection

No safeguarding updates were shared with the meeting.

10) Agency Reports to the Board

Looked After Children Annual Report 2016-17

Paul Andrews, IRO Team Manager summarised the report which was circulated to members prior to the meeting and welcomed comments and questions.

Over the last year there has been a decrease in young people Looked After in Hounslow, it is unclear what the increase has been attributed to however there has been an increase in the number of young people subject to Child Protection Plans.

There has been an increase in challenge from the IRO and an improvement in timeliness of Looked After reviews although improvements need to be made in holding midway reviews. Martin Forshaw confirmed that there has been an increase in challenge which has been evidenced in several cases.

The Chair acknowledged that the report demonstrates significant progress and the Board would look forward to seeing continued improvements next year. The Board accepted the report.

11) FYI

CSE Operating Protocol

The CSE Operating Protocol 2017 became live in July 2017. MASE is adopting the new protocol and amending procedures as required. The panel is moving to a more strategic function. The ongoing challenge for all partners will be how they can continue to tackle CSE.

12) Any Other Business

Neglect Strategy

The Neglect Strategy has now been fully rolled out and all agencies and managers are being asked to ensure that staff are aware of the strategy and using it operationally to address neglect. In addition, they are being asked to use the Quality of Care Assessment Tool when assessing potentially neglectful environments. Partners will be asked to submit papers to the November Board meeting providing assurances about how they are embedding the strategy, what tools they are using in assessing neglect and how they robustly they are responding to concerns of neglect.

Sub-Group Charing

Dr Johan Redelinghuys announced that he will be leaving his current role as Director of Safeguarding at WLMHT and therefore will be standing down from Charing the Cases Sub-Group once a replacement has been appointed. The Chair said suggestions for a replacement Chair will be discussed at the next Board meeting.

HSCB Dataset

The Chair reminded all members that Q1 and Q2 of the dataset needs to be populated and reiterated that it is the responsibility of the entire partnership to co-operate with sharing information when requested as the Board is unable to monitor performance without it.

Early Help Data

The Quality Assurance and Performance Sub-Group will scope what data is available at its meeting in November 2017 and share the suggested sub dataset with the Board in February 2018.

GP's Request for Payment for Child Protection Conference Reports

Jacqui McShannon reported that she had received a letter from a GP requesting payment to provide information for a Child Protection Conference. GP's should be cooperating with their requirements under Section 11 of the Children's Act 2004.

The Chair assured that she would raise the issue with the CCG to request support in challenging NHS England.

Part B Agenda – Confidential

13.) Serious Case Review – Confidential Item

This item was discussed as a Part B confidential agenda item and has been recorded separately.

