



Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership

Executive Meeting NOTES 14th September 2022

Attending:

Lewis Basford (LB) - Detective Superintendent, Public Protection East Area, BCU, MPS

Jenny Pearce (JP) - Independent Scrutineer Havering Children's Safeguarding Partnership

Trevor Cook (TC) - Associate Director for Education, Learning & Achievement – London Borough of Havering

Korkor Ceasar (KC) - Associate Director for Safeguarding Children NEL CCG

Brian Boxall (BB) - Independent Chair / Scrutineer Havering Children's Safeguarding Partnership

David Waddington (DW) - Partnership Coordinator, HSCP (notes)

Apologies:

Robert South - Director of Children Service LB Havering

Elisabeth Major - Partnership Manager, HSCP

Agenda & Notes combined

HSCP mins Aug 2022

These were agreed without amendment by attendees.

Actions from the last meeting

1. CJ to begin discussion on a Tri-Borough sharing of information using existing structures if possible → *Update: CJ to advise progress*
2. LB to agree Independent Scrutiny report → *Update: LB confirmed agreement*



3. HSCP to prepare an action plan for sharing with the relevant leads → *Update: completed and plan will be shared with the finalised minutes of this meeting.*
4. Kate Dempsey (KD) to discuss with Tara Geere (Executive being sighted on restructure in CSC) → *Update: DW discussed with KD who advised that this is still in progress and not at a stage for sharing at this point. KD did meet with Tara Geere, Asst Director of CSC, LB Havering and she is alive to ramifications for the Independent Scrutineer recommendations.*
5. KC & CJ to come back with NEL ICS report sign off → *Update: EM to clarify to KC the nature of this report so feedback can be provided by KC*

Matters arising

HSCP Annual Report – ready in draft soon

Havering Safeguarding Young Advisors Update

DW advised that a final recruitment poster and application form for the advisor role has been completed, following input via a Focus Group held with members from Havering's Youth Council.

DW stated that the recruitment materials have been shared with the Havering Library Network and with Carol Rockey, Education to share with schools. DW stated that he is in discussion with colleagues who oversee the 'Say it Louder' Forum (14-18 care experienced young people) and the team at The Cocoon (18+ Care Leavers) to schedule recruitment sessions as means to promote the opportunity directly to young people. DW is also waiting to receive feedback from the programme leaders of Goodfellas and Go Girls at Myplace to deliver recruitment sessions.

TC and JC agreed the project is being approached comprehensively and stated it was important to try to attract engagement from those young people from 'hard to reach' groups to ensure their voices are heard on safeguarding issues.

Independent Scrutiny Themes

BB invited all attendees to discuss the three options for independent scrutiny. These being:

Theme 1 – Disproportionality; managed moves; adultification; help Academy Headteachers understand statutory processes re exclusions, managed moves, Elective Home Education

Theme 2 - Early Help; re-referrals and risk levels; and the learning loop from Rapid Reviews to training



Theme 3 – Transitional Safeguarding Panel quality assurance, recommendations arising from Q&Y SAR, and learning about the location of Harold Hill

TC shared that he would welcome work around disproportionality and exclusions under Theme 1 to be carried out. In addition TC cited interest in exploring the role of Early Help under Theme 2, and questioned whether resource would allow scrutiny of both Theme 1 and Theme 2.

KC expressed interest in the adultification process within Theme 1, as well as Theme 3. KC suggested to broaden the scrutiny to the topic of contextual safeguarding, to consider safeguarding and place in relation to Harold Hill as a location of concern, and combine this with the exploration of adultification, to become one piece of work.

LB agreed with KC, sharing that adultification is an emerging issue/trend that is being noted within the Police to manage, and this has a natural link with the area of transitional safeguarding.

JP suggested that it would be beneficial for Theme 1 to be undertaken, in order to continue the work that has been carried out by a previous piece of scrutiny, focussing on Academies and the area of managed moves.

JP suggested having a discussion with Elisabeth Major to consider the area of adultification in more detail and feedback to the statutory partners, with the potential preparation of a terms of reference for Theme 1 that will propose a timeframe for a piece of targeted scrutiny. **(Action 6)**

BB highlighted that Robert South would need to be consulted on the scrutiny decision as well.

Adolescent Safeguarding Audit

BB summarised the key points arising from the Adolescent Safeguarding Audit which looked at specific collection of cases, and highlighted the recommendations from this audit, which centred on the issues of:

Multi-agency working; Transition; NEET; Referrals and Supervision

In terms of NEET, TC added that Havering has very few numbers of adolescents who are not engaged in education, training and/or employment and there is a targeted resource via Prospects who are commissioned to follow-up on those cases where there is no engagement and who work on re-engaging those adolescents back into education, training and/or employment. TC agreed to follow-up on the NEET related recommendation from this audit. **(Action 7)**

BB highlighted a need to continue to push forward with the issue of multi-agency working and acknowledged that this an ongoing piece of work to focus on improving the coordination in regards to the management of complex cases. BB noted the good working links between Police and CSC in respect of CSE, CCE and missing, as well as the good links by schools and CAMHS together with school nurses.



KC shared there is a national shortage of school nurses. TC added that there is shortage of therapists and this is being escalated as local special schools have highlighted they are struggling to meet the provisions listed in EHCPs.

DW to provide KC with JP's Independent Scrutiny Report **(Action 8)**

All attendees accepted the points that were concluded by the audit and its recommendations.

TH Rapid Review & National Panel

BB updated that he is taking the recommendation made following the TH Rapid Review and subsequent liaison with the National Panel, to the Havering Strategic Group Meeting on 15.09.22.

The recommendation in respect of the TH Rapid Review process is:

- to undertake an analysis of the Harold Hill location, including an examination of contextual safeguarding to identify why Harold Hill has featured in a number of fatal and non-fatal attacks, and to not carry out a Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review (LCSPR)

All attendees were in agreement with the above recommendation and for this to be communicated to the National Panel **(Action 9)**

JP suggested advising the National Panel that Independent Scrutiny is being carried out around school exclusions and looking at staff's awareness across the partnership of children's trajectories and the impact of CSA.

BB suggested for JP to discuss the recommendation with EM and for any additional points to be added to it, before its submission to the National Panel. **(Action 10)**

Cost of Living crisis

BB raised with the statutory partners his concern around the impact of the cost of living crisis, particularly the impact to schools, businesses, the local authority, charities and those on low-incomes and the vulnerable. BB emphasised the need to remind partners and use meetings to remind staff of the safeguarding issues that can and will likely arise due the crisis and the pressures/stress it will place on families.

TC advised has that Havering Council has put together a cross-directorate working group to develop a Cost of Living Strategy, which includes ways to help ensure household income is maximised (i.e. that households are aware of any support or benefits that can be accessed) and also that support is being targeted to the most vulnerable. TC added there is an initiative to look to auto-award free school means to those children/YP who are entitled to this scheme. TC advised of discussions around the idea of having 'Warm Banks' i.e. buildings that can afford to stay open and warm over the winter period for public access. There is also a parallel strategy being planned regarding offering support to local businesses regarding their heating and electricity bills.



Actions		
1	CJ to provide progress update on discussion regarding a Tri-Borough sharing of information process using existing structures if possible	CJ
3	HSCP to prepare an action plan for sharing with the relevant leads	EM
5	KC & CJ to come back with NEL ICS report sign off. EM to clarify to KC the nature of this report so feedback can be provided.	KC/CJ with EM
6	JP to further discuss the independent scrutiny options with EM, and EM/JP to provide feedback for statutory partners.	JP/EM
7	TC to follow up on the NEET recommendation within the Adolescent Safeguarding Audit Report	TC
8	DW to provide KC with the Independent Scrutiny Report.	DW
9 + 10	JP to discuss any additional points with EM to be added to the TH recommendation and EM to submit the TH recommendation to the National Panel.	EM/JP

Next meeting 19th October 2-3pm