



# HAVERING SAFEGUARDING PARTNERSHIP

Welcome to the Havering Safeguarding Partnership Annual Report April 2022-March 2023. This year we are presenting a joint report covering the activities of both the Havering Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) and the Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP).

This past year has been challenging for all agencies and the residents of Havering, as a result of post COVID-19 factors and the continuing increase to the cost of living. Both the statutory and the voluntary sector have faced significant pressures in Havering, with a rise in demand for services for adults and children and at the same time they have struggled to retain and recruit staff.

Havering has been presented with other unexpected challenges. An extraordinary response was provided to the Wennington fires in summer 2022 and during the year, Havering has resettled more than 350 refugees, including those from Afghanistan and Ukraine. The local authority working with other agencies, have responded well to both the fire and to support refugees.

In spite of these challenges, agencies have continued to work well together to keep adults and children safe. The Integrated Care Board (ICB) replaced the Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) in summer 2022.

During the year, the HSAB completed one SAR (Safeguarding Adults' Review) and published three other SARs undertaken in the preceding year. The HSCP completed a children's learning review regarding Child Sexual Abuse, one of our priorities. Further reviews are underway, as you will read in the report.

As a way of strengthening our Partnership response and governance for young adults and children, I am delighted that six Young Advisors from our local community were appointed in early 2023. Havering has now in place a Memorandum of Understanding between key strategic Partnerships and Boards in Havering including the Health & Well Being Board, and the Community Safety Partnership, which should help to provide a better understanding of the main risks to safeguarding and the coordinated response.

In July 2022, Education formally became our fourth Strategic Partner and independent schools are now represented in the Education Strategic Partnership. During the year, we have strengthened our multi - agency response to Transitional Safeguarding, following a Transitions' Summit in November 2022 and Tara Geere the new Director of Starting Well (Children's Services) is leading that work stream.

Our themes for scrutiny and improvement this year have ranged from Mental Capacity Act awareness to Neglect and Hoarding, Child Sexual Abuse to managed moves between schools, the risks of missed appointments to legal literacy, and gender identity to information sharing.

Safeguarding Week in November 2022 saw more than 90 people take part in our online, joint Board, Domestic Abuse Conference, and more people participated in sessions during the week. This coming year will see the return of a face-to-face conference.

We have seen 1,370 delegates attend our multi-agency safeguarding training, and a decrease in non-cancellations this year.

In order to improve responses to the application of the Mental Capacity Act (MCA), 38 individuals were trained as MCA Champions in spring 2023, supported by Joy Maguire, Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Adults NEL ICB and Samantha Henry, Multi-Agency Training Lead.

We adopted the Pan London Index of Need for Children in March 2023, and produced several 7 minute briefings, including PIPOT (People in Positions of Trust), HSAB and HSCP Escalation Policies, and Serious Youth Violence. We have strengthened our response to local serious incidents by beginning a standing Case Review Working Group chaired by Joy Maguire, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults, and Paul Archer, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Children, NEL ICB.

Throughout this report, you will see wonderful examples of our strong multi-agency safeguarding working. With our leaders, I wish to conclude this introduction by thanking all those who work and volunteer with our families in Havering: for helping to keep our children, young people and adults safe in such challenging days.



Brian Boxall HSAB and HSCP Chair

This report consists of four Sections, Havering Safeguarding Adults' Board (SAB) Annual Report followed by Safeguarding Learning and Development Annual Report, Havering Safeguarding Partnership details, and then the Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) Annual Report. Appendices then follow. Our Partnership structure is here: <https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/childrenpartnership/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2023/03/HSCP-Organogram-Feb-23-1.pdf>

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*To inform both Partnerships, at the end of 2022, we ran an online survey for the HSAB and HSCP to find out what people knew about safeguarding. We were heartened that 205 local practitioners responded and have followed up several areas to strengthen. This is the result:*

"95% knew their DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead);  
Everyone knew what to do if they were worried about an adult or child  
Most were aware of the role of the LADO (Local Authority Designated  
Officer);

Only 6 % did not know the 4 categories of Child Abuse;  
Just over 10% needed to understand more about whistle-blowing;  
And 25% needed more guidance on how to respond to a  
safeguarding adults' neglect concern"



## ABOUT HAVERING

During the financial year, the 2021 Census figures were produced for the borough of Havering. Throughout this report, we will refer to those figures as a means of understanding whether safeguarding information is reaching every part of our demographic or whether there are issues of disproportionality which we will need to address- does everyone have access to support and safeguarding?

Since 2011, the population in Havering has grown by 10% to 262,000 in May 2021, partly due to the affordable housing we have. The population of those aged over 65 years is 17.6%, which exceeds the London average of 11%.

In 2019, 0.7% of the population in Havering were living in the most deprived national centile and 2.7% were most deprived in terms of income. 7,203 children were living in families with an absolute low income. 10,778 households were then living in fuel poverty.

Havering has one of the fastest growing child populations in the country. We saw the second highest growth of all Local Authorities of those aged 0-4, the 12th highest growth nationally and the 2nd highest growth within London for children aged 5-9. At the time of the 2021 Census, 24.3%, or roughly one in four people living in Havering, was aged under 19.

Havering is more similar to England as a whole, than London, in terms of ethnic diversity: in 2021, 75% of the local population identified as White. However, there have been increases in diversity over recent years and this is predicted to continue: in 2011, 83% of the local population identified as White, and this is projected to decrease to 71% by 2030. The most common place of birth for residents after England (79.6%) was Romania at 2.1%.

Havering's current child population is more diverse than the all-age population data from the January 2021. The Schools' Census indicates 70% of Havering pupils are White British. As second languages, the most prevalent for children are Romanian, Polish, and Urdu.

Havering's General Fertility Rate (GFR, 2021) is higher (58.5 per 1,000) than London (52.9 per 1,000) and England (54.3 per 1,000). There are more people of ages likely to have children, particularly 25 to 39 years old, and an increase of 28% in the number of 5 to 9 year olds in the borough. The median age of 39 years.



## Safeguarding Adults' Board Annual Report 2022-23

### SAB Board

The SAB is chaired by Brian Boxall and meets quarterly. This year, the SAB has considered the needs of carers, including testimony from a parent of two adult children with physical and learning disabilities; the cost of living crisis; Healthwatch surveys, the 2022 MASH audit, and Ukrainian refugees and their resettlement in Havering. Details of all the SAB Members and their attendance at the HSAB Board this year can be found at Appendix 2.

### SAB Working Groups

#### Case Review Working Group

This standing joint HSAB and HSCP working group began in September 2022 and is chaired by the Designated Professionals Paul Archer and Joy Maguire, NEL ICB. The group meets quarterly in person and considers serious incidents and learning. The group is enthusiastically attended, and will consider oversight of Domestic Homicides from the autumn to ensure a good join up of local learning. The Group has overseen one SAR and several serious incidents for adults this year, plus considered pressure ulcers, professional curiosity, and the impact of adults with care and support needs not attending appointments.

#### Quality and Effectiveness Working Group

The SAB is driven by a multi-agency Quality and Effectiveness Working Group, which meets regularly throughout the year to scrutinise performance data and other sources of information to monitor the effectiveness of the local multi-agency system for safeguarding vulnerable adults.

This group is chaired by Sheila Jones (Havering Mental Health Social Care Lead, NELFT) and Helen Davie (Named Professional Safeguarding Adults, NELFT).

During the year, the group has scrutinised care homes, safeguarding adults' training, the safeguarding work of the Housing Department, the adults' multi-agency MASH audit from June 2022, and single agency audits. The dataset has been developed this year to scrutinise the outcomes of referrals and to consider means of disposal.

In Havering ASC, two practice weeks take place each year. These focus on observing practice across all aspects of case work as well as in areas previously identified for improvement for up to 75 randomly selected cases. Senior managers in ASC meet face to face with practitioners and have discussions with them about their work on a given case.

Safeguarding peer audits maintain a focus on testing recording standards and adherence to safeguarding protocols. Each team is required to complete six audits, giving a maximum of 30 audits. Teams do not audit their own cases and the process is carried out on a quarterly basis.

The SAM (Safeguarding Adults Managers) Forum continues. The purpose of the Forum is to promote awareness of good practice concerning safeguarding adults including the application of the Mental Capacity Act, the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards and the forthcoming Liberty Protection Safeguards.

Dip sample audits run alongside the existing supervision arrangements as a complementary process. They are a themed audit concentrating on recording standards. From 2023-24 each staff member with a supervisory responsibility is required to complete 4 audits in the year on 'assessments'. Feedback from the completed audits is shared within supervision to identify areas of good practice and areas for reflection.

Observations of practice also run alongside the existing supervision arrangement as a complementary process. They concentrate on practice standards. From 2023-24 each staff member with a supervisory responsibility is required to complete 4 observations in the year. Feedback from these is shared within supervision to identify areas of good practice and areas for reflection.

Reflective practice sessions have been embedded within teams on a monthly basis. They provide our staff with a safe space to: Explore practice with peers; Share good practice and learn from one another; Develop use of curiosity; critically analyse practice; Question unhelpful assumptions; Work through ethical issues or when you feel 'stuck'; contextualise the emotional impact of social work.

In BHRUT, a Making Safeguarding Personal audit is carried out twice per annum which is completed by reviewing the safeguarding referrals and checking that staff have recorded the safeguarding element. There is also an annual assessment of mental capacity assessment forms with regard to how staff complete them. BHRUT had a new audit this year on Learning Disability and autism, which looked at documentation and record keeping.

Every year there is a case recording audit which covers all NELFT services. Havering had 100% response to completing the audit. Each team has to complete a minimum of 10 case audits depending on the size of the service.

## **Learning and Improvement Executive**

The Learning and Improvement Executive meets six monthly, chaired by Brian Boxall, to scrutinise agency actions from SAR action plans.

## Transitional Safeguarding

The multi-agency Transitions Panel has been in operation since 2018, chaired in 2022-23 by Annette Kinsella, Head of Integrated Services, Adults' Social Care, and Tendai Dooley, former Head of Service, Care Resources, Children's Social Care. This Panel considers children who are approaching transitions to adulthood from a number of arenas (SEND, Exploitation, Youth Offending, Mental Health, and Leaving Care). During the year, the Multi-agency Transitions Panel met monthly and considered on average 5 young people at each meeting. We held a Transitions' Summit during our Safeguarding Week in November to consider the work of the Panel and its multi-agency support. We included relevant recommendations to review from the SAR regarding Q and Y, published in 2022.

Multi-agency attendance from some agencies has fallen during the year and we will be working together to strengthen this as we go forward, as well as referral criteria and screening of referrals.

## HSAB Strategic Plan 2021-24

In 2021 our SAB Strategic Plan was developed with the help of Healthwatch Havering, giving a user public perspective. This has helped to focus our work across Havering. We have six objectives outlined below.

Objective	What we did	Impact
<b>Empowerment</b>	<p>Developed the HSP training portal in October 2022</p> <p>153 multi-agency training sessions were delivered involving 1,370 people, including 13 local Councillors</p> <p>7 minute briefings published on SAB Escalation Policy, Serious Youth Violence, SAR Referral Process</p> <p>SAB hears from users, carers, staff &amp; volunteers in Havering</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• HSP monthly newsletter &amp; monthly training newsletter very well received.</li> <li>• Housing opens multi-agency Hub for refugees.</li> <li>• HSP Survey tests knowledge of 205 local safeguarding practitioners &amp; finds good levels of knowledge.</li> <li>• Healthwatch survey 2022 evidenced that residents were safeguarding aware.</li> <li>• 4,000 website visitors October 2022-March 2023.</li> <li>• 1,370 delegates in total attend training, evaluating impact.</li> <li>• ASC implements mandatory Domestic Abuse training &amp; identifies 40 Domestic Violence Champions.</li> <li>• April 2023 SAB attends Care Association Conference.</li> <li>• 23,000 people attend the MIND Christmas garden in December 2022.</li> <li>• Family are in involved &amp; Practitioners Event takes place for the Kasey SAR.</li> <li>• 6 Safeguarding Young Advisors selected in January 2023</li> <li>• SAB hears from a carer &amp; Carers' Forum in 2022 &amp; Young Carers in 2023.</li> <li>• Healthwatch surveys A&amp;E, Learning Disabled.</li> </ul>
<b>Prevention</b>	<p>Engage with voluntary sector groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A SAB representative attends Havering Volunteer Centre Forum (HVMF) &amp; Havering COMPACT.</li> <li>• The Chair of Compact is a SAB member.</li> <li>• Rise in referrals of Young Carers following SAB presentation this year.</li> <li>• Improvement of 10% in completion of annual Learning Disability Health Reviews in 2021-22.</li> </ul>

Ensure learning from SARs are disseminated widely

- Housing now assess risk during support plan assessments.
- A SAB representative also attends Carers' Hub, Voluntary Sector ICS Forums, Patient Advocacy, Social Prescribing, and Interfaith Forums.
- Information shared on financial advice & fire safety.
- GP Surgeries now have dedicated NHS email addresses. A SAR presentation was also given to approx. 40-50 GPs & participants were reminded of the need to review high risk patients.
- The Housing Vulnerable Persons' Policy is in the process of being approved. The Housing new Vulnerable Persons Panel meets monthly. Housing Officers arrange multi agency / professional meetings & TAF (Table around the Family) meetings to manage safeguarding cases. Housing also now employ a Mental Health Nurse & Hoarding Coordinator.
- To strengthen leadership within the NELFT Safeguarding Team, the post of Head of Safeguarding has been established.
- NELFT Safeguarding Assurance Group was established in February 2023 chaired by the Director Quality of Governance. Exceptions are reported to SAFE Group.
- Suicide Prevention Strategy is being refreshed by Public Health
  
- 7 minute briefings, publication of reports have continued on our website this year
- Workshops have taken place within SAR processes with practitioners
- Close working with Alcohol Change UK following local SARs re theme of alcohol use
- Learning & Improvement Executive Board revisits SAR action plans on a six monthly basis
- NEL ICB promoted how & when Annual Health Checks & Health Action Plans are done, which will contribute to the preventative side of safeguarding for those with a Learning Disability, as learning from local SARs.
- NELFT has established a Learning & Development Group to cascade learning to staff
- NELFT rolled out 3Cs Training across the Trust. Service leads can now run compliance reports on demand & produce local action plans. This forms part of Clinical Risk Assessment Policy
- NELFT has e- learning training now live on STEPS, called e- Suicide Let's Talk
- ASC placements are made in-borough if there are complex needs.
- NELFT communications made to teams clearly outlining the importance of continuous involvement during transfer of care & a handover with the receiving service/organisation at the end of the process.
- A letter was sent out to all GP Practices to request that



	<p>Distribute guidance on hoarding, self-neglect, fire safety &amp; PIPOT</p>	<p>new patient records are checked &amp; flagged on their electronic records where there are safeguarding concerns</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In Peabody Housing Association, all staff discuss with clients when moving out of Borough that they will refer them to an ongoing service or flag concerns with social services.</li> <li>• Guidance, 7 minute briefings &amp; website pages produced</li> <li>• Havering LFB begins a Hoarding Outreach Project in Feb 2023- seeing 160 residents for the first 6 months.</li> <li>• Havering Council appoints two Hoarding Officers, in ASC &amp; Housing.</li> <li>• PIPOT data collated to test impact spring 2023.</li> <li>• Plan to audit fire safety referrals in June 2023 &amp; produce training film.</li> <li>• NEL ICB delivered more training to Primary care staff on</li> </ul>
<p><b>Proportionality</b></p>	<p>Monitor and respond to any safeguarding issues related to or exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Ensure that local agencies are sufficiently prepared for the introduction of Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS).</p> <p>Address issue of over-representation of the Police as a source of safeguarding concerns raised with Adult Social Care (ASC), and the high proportion of these which result in no further action.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural competency training developed.</li> <li>• Pandemic considered in reviews of serious incidents</li> <li>• SAB assured that Partners are prepared for LPS delayed introduction.</li> <li>• NELFT has appointed a Suicide Prevention Strategy Manager from the serious incident team. NELFT has a Suicide Prevention Strategy 2021-2024, updated each year.</li> <li>• MASH audit June 2022.</li> <li>• ASC meets with Housing to look at quality of referrals autumn 2022.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Protection</b></p>	<p>Ensure sufficient legal literacy with the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) and robust assessment of mental capacity when abuse or neglect are known or suspected.</p> <p>Drive further</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 38 MCA Champions identified during the year; group developed, 135 trained in MCA during the year.</li> <li>• ASC audits MCA awareness &amp; notes an improvement in recording.</li> <li>• NELFT promoted learning from Essex SAR Lucy re MCA issues &amp; included this in its safeguarding summary.</li> <li>• SAB agreed to adopt ADASS Referral guidance.</li> <li>• Transitions Summit November 2022</li> </ul>

	<p>improvement across the local multi-agency partnership in relation to transitional safeguarding.</p> <p>Develop common understanding across the local multi-agency partnership of what constitutes the sort of issue should be raised as a safeguarding concern with ASC.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Specialist Mental Health worker appointed in the Leaving Care Team.</li> <li>• Probation develops a transition programme for young adults transitioning from youth justice services to adult criminal justice services</li> <li>• Ongoing work to provide multi-agency guidance, &amp; training on making an effective referral &amp; a Threshold guide</li> <li>• BHRUT IDVA training for staff provided weekly for 2 hours from Nov 22 to Jan 23</li> <li>• Domestic Abuse/MARAC referral forms &amp; advice are now available on the BHRUT Trust intranet.</li> <li>• The BHRUT Safeguarding Adults Team have completed DASH/MARAC training.</li> <li>• The proportion of DVPN's (relative to the number of offences) being applied for has increased &amp; is above the MPS average for EA BCU Met Police</li> </ul>
<p><b>Partnership</b></p>	<p>Promote closer and better coordinated multi-agency partnership working on complex cases, including safeguarding work &amp; strategic issues.</p> <p>Ensure that a robust multi-agency safeguarding adult's data-sharing agreement (DSA) is in place.</p> <p>Extend the reach of Havering's annual Safeguarding Week so it is accessible to everyone who provides services to adults in the borough, and voluntary sector colleagues</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding agreed between Strategic Partnerships.</li> <li>• Havering Safeguarding Strategic Group meets quarterly.</li> <li>• Havering Council works to rationalise operational &amp; strategic panels.</li> <li>• Housing set up a monthly complex needs Panel &amp; a 24hr supported housing service for 25 adults with complex needs.</li> <li>• Information sharing guidance published</li> <li>• Over 90 attend the online Safeguarding Week opening Conference on Domestic Abuse; Councillor Taylor represents the Voluntary Sector</li> </ul>
<p><b>Accountability</b></p>	<p>Perspectives of local safeguarding-experienced adults to become part of the</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q&amp;E pre-meet to consider data prior to the Q&amp;E Meetings - data includes MSP findings.</li> <li>• SAPAT – 8 agencies completed for Chair to analyse in partnership with Redbridge &amp; B&amp;D during spring 2023.</li> </ul>

	<p>data set with which local multi-agency partnership measures its performance holds itself to account</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Q&amp;E scrutinises performance data regularly and looks to enhance this at each meeting, e.g. re breaking down agency referral categories, ethnicity; and challenging agencies re data and performance.</li> <li>• A Carer &amp; Carers' Hub Manager attend SAB to talk about their experiences.</li> <li>• PIPOT cases become part of the dataset-46 multi-agency referrals this year.</li> <li>• Havering ASC considers its response to PIPOT.</li> <li>• NELFT amended its agendas to include Service User Reps &amp; Leadership Team meetings incorporate the question- “what would our service users think of our discussions today”.</li> <li>• NELFT has a patient safety work stream to review &amp; develop clinical practice. A patient safety service user representative is now in place to embed, strengthen &amp; work to deliver the voice of the patient.</li> </ul>
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## Role and core duties of the Havering Safeguarding Adults Board

The Care Act statutory guidance defines the role and core duties of a Safeguarding Adults Board. This is a highlighted overview of how the SAB and its constituent agencies have executed these duties together during 2022-23.

Role & Core Duties	Response
<p>Assure itself that local safeguarding arrangements and partners act to help &amp; protect adults in its area who meet the criteria for care &amp; support.</p> <p>The SAB are working with Public Health with a new Combatting Substance misuse strategy following learning from SARs.</p>	<p>One SAR was completed this year with learning around mental health concerns, substance use &amp; multi-agency working.</p> <p>One SAR ongoing regarding mental health and gender identity.</p> <p>MASH audit June 2022.</p> <p>SAPAT &amp; PIPOT collation Spring 2023.</p> <p>Q&amp;E Working Group scrutinises care home causes for concern; performance data; referrals to MASH; Healthwatch carry out Enter &amp; View Visits &amp; survey re care homes January 2023.</p> <p>Carers Hub &amp; a local Carer attend SAB autumn 2022.</p>
<p>Contribute to the prevention of abuse &amp; neglect</p>	<p>Local radio broadcast re Mental Health in October 2022 involving local Councillors &amp; MIND.</p> <p>Information provided regarding fire safety awareness and financial support.</p> <p>Training provided to 1,370 delegates.</p>
<p>The SAB will need intelligence on safeguarding in all providers of health &amp; social care in its locality (not just those with whom its members commission or contract).</p>	<p>Dataset covers Domestic Abuse, Safeguarding concerns &amp; enquiries, care providers, statutory services.</p> <p>Risk Register developed to track any concerns.</p>
<p>It is important that SAB partners feel able to challenge each other &amp; other organisations where it believes that their actions or inactions are increasing the risk of abuse or neglect. This will include commissioners, as well as providers of</p>	<p>Agencies were reminded of the SAB Escalation Policy in newsletters &amp; with a 7 minute briefing, but there were no escalations to the SAB this year.</p> <p>Havering Joint Commissioning Unit (JCU) has a SAB</p>

services.	<p>representative. The Unit has a QA team who work closely with the CQC and visits providers. The SAB is provided with regular updates on care homes.</p> <p>SAB attends QA Meeting re care homes &amp; provides update on PIPOT.</p>
SAB has effective links with other key partnerships in the locality & share relevant information & work plans.	<p>The SAB meets regularly with Tri Borough Colleagues In Barking &amp; Dagenham &amp; Redbridge. This collaborative working allows for more a more efficient work plan as all three boroughs share many of the same SAB members.</p> <p>The Safeguarding Strategic Group brings together key strategic groups in Havering to share priorities and plans including Council Leaders.</p> <p>SAB Chair meets regularly with local SAB Chairs, London &amp; National network plus key leaders in Havering</p>
An important source of advice & assistance	<p>Safeguarding Week Conference on theme of Domestic Abuse.</p> <p>HSP is contacted by email for signposting approximately 20 times per day</p>
The strategic plan must be developed with local community involvement, & the SAB must consult the local Healthwatch. The plan should be evidence based & make use of all available evidence & intelligence from partners to develop its plan;	<p>The SAB commissioned Healthwatch Havering to undertake a survey to engage with our residents. This has helped to inform the 2021-24 Strategic Plan.</p> <p>Healthwatch surveys GP engagement with Care Homes</p> <p>Healthwatch carries out surveys re deaf community &amp; Learning Disability this year</p>
Determine arrangements for peer review & self-audit	<p>The Safeguarding Adult Partnership Audit Tool -SAPAT was launched in collaboration with partners across the Tri Borough</p> <p>SAPAT collation - 8 responses this year LGA peer review planned for Spring 2024 PIPOT collation -8 responses this year</p> <p>Housing MASH audits undertaken autumn 2022</p>
Establish how it will hold partners to account & gain assurance of the effectiveness of its arrangements	<p>The quarterly Quality &amp; Effectiveness Group was established to gain assurance of local arrangements across the Partnership. It is developing a risk register</p>
Establish ways of analysing & interrogating data on safeguarding notifications that increase the SAB's understanding of prevalence of abuse & neglect locally that builds up a picture over time.	<p>The quarterly Quality &amp; Effectiveness Group continues to review the SAB dataset &amp; emerging trends.</p> <p>Dataset outcomes lead to single agency audits, eg Met Police, Housing, &amp; Havering Fire Brigade.</p> <p>Consideration of "other" category in dataset outcomes</p>
Identify types of circumstances giving grounds for concern & when they should be considered as a referral to the local authority as an enquiry	<p>Threshold and referral guidance drafted for Havering ASC Spring 2023</p>
Develop strategies to deal with the impact of issues of race, ethnicity, religion, gender & gender orientation, sexual orientation, age, disadvantage & disability on abuse and neglect	<p>Equality, Diversity &amp; Inclusion training developed.</p> <p>Sectors working on a joint common anti-discrimination statement in Havering</p> <p>Analysis is ongoing of concerns, safeguarding enquiries, &amp; MARAC referrals in terms of ethnicity, age, gender &amp; disability.</p>

Identify mechanisms for monitoring & reviewing the implementation & impact of policy & training;	4,000 Website visitors Training evaluations developed & scrutinised Q&E Working Group considers single agency audits
Evidence how SAB members have challenged one another & held other boards to account;	ASC completed work with Housing on referrals after Housing audits its own work. Establishment of standing Case Review Working Group. LeDeR action plan leads to scrutiny of GP annual health checks & 10% improvement in completion.
Evidence of community awareness of adult abuse & neglect & how to respond;	Healthwatch carried out a second survey in 2022 of local residents understanding of abuse which showed good awareness. Survey gathers 205 results re safeguarding awareness in Havering & subsequently HSP focusses on areas to improve- on awareness of whistle-blowing, referrals, LADO.

## What did the SAB not achieve?

Prevention the SAB has not yet developed its engagement with residents and will be working this year to ensure its website is more accessible to the public.

The SAB has not yet audited Section 42, which was a recommendations from the Q&Y SAR published in summer 2022 or developed its scrutiny of Hospital discharge processes.

MASH multi-agency audits in June 2022 proved helpful, but we have not yet begun MASH training and support for making referrals this year to lower the number of safeguarding concerns made to Adult Safeguarding, through stronger signposting and better multi-agency understanding. This is a priority for 2023-24.

## Local Voices and Experience

Local Voices inform the SAB regarding its priorities and matters of assurance- these are some themes we have considered this year, highlighted by carer and user feedback, which inform our Strategic Plan.

During the year, a carer of two adult children with learning and physical disabilities attended our SAB and spoke about her family's experience during the pandemic; the Manager of the Carers' Hub spoke about the needs of carers in autumn 2022; and in the new financial year we will hear from the mother of Kasey, one of our SARs.

From November 2022 - March 2023, the CQC (Care Quality Commission) ran a survey with users of BHRUT emergency and urgent care services. 2,780 patients replied (not only from Havering). There were good outcomes and the help of staff, but some concerns from users regarding the experience overall and information about symptoms and support. These views are common across England, with patients having a worse experience than in the past.

Feedback from local Healthwatch, adults who use care and support services and carers, community groups, advocates, service providers and other partners give us good insight into the lived experience of service users and carers in Havering.

In autumn 2022, Healthwatch took part in a London wide survey to gain community views of the

London Ambulance Service. The first thing to note was that most participants were overwhelmingly supportive and appreciative of the service. The conduct and expertise of crew members were highly regarded, and response times were generally thought of as reasonable in all the circumstances of the NHS as it currently reacts to winter and other pressures.

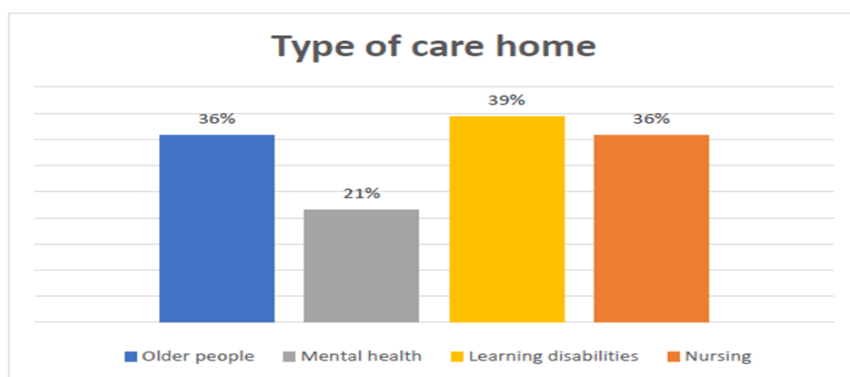
People who were blind, deaf or living with autism or learning disabilities did, however, say that they sometimes found it difficult to communicate with crew members.

Representatives of several care homes said that the Service was responsive to their calls, that crew members attended within reasonable timescales (bearing in mind that their patients were already in a care setting) and that crews were thorough in assessing the patients.

Most people had a good experience of paramedics and none reported a bad experience. All respondents told Healthwatch that they trusted the paramedics.

Again this year, we asked Healthwatch to carry out a survey to ascertain what people knew, and thought, of safeguarding. Healthwatch found the great majority of respondents had a good or better understanding of the general parameters of safeguarding and were able to identify the key forms that safeguarding needs may take. They were also aware of the key agencies and other possible avenues for reporting safeguarding concerns. But there was also uncertainty about who best to turn to in the event of discovering something untoward; there was reasonable awareness of what constitutes safeguarding but not how to report it. This reinforced the view that there may be a need to reach out to local voluntary sector organisations, and agencies that are not normally thought of as part of the usual safeguarding networks to ensure that they are apprised of the actions to take if they are approached by someone with a safeguarding issue.

Healthwatch carried out a survey in 2022 which tested out relationships between care homes and GPs. Healthwatch succeeded in have responses from 50% of Havering care homes.



Results showed that most care homes had good relationships with local GPs. All homes were able to make contact with the GP and nearly all care homes felt comfortable contacting their assigned GP outside rounds. Overall, 71% of respondents reported that they received all services provided but not all homes appeared aware of the range of services available to them, and a few did not appear to be offered any at all. Care homes reported problems accessing other health services, the list was headed by dentistry, nearly half of those contacted reporting that they had difficulties with that service:

***"Very responsive, almost immediate. GP was in contact in responsible timeframe and in covid - zoom call first then came into home if necessary. Surgery went over and beyond because GPs contacted family members etc. Face to face at home".***

***"Not very responsive. Repeat scripts are not forthcoming. Residents' reviews take a long time."***

***"Fairly good, better than some I've heard of".***

The main contact between the GP and residents is the "home round". Most – 64% - of respondents reported that rounds were at least weekly, in person; roughly equal numbers reported rounds were carried out either virtually (29%) or by telephone (32%). Family members and staff were able to take part.

***"Home rounds carried out every Monday. GPs always supportive. The manager is most impressed and feels they have had maximum support from surgery at all times and in all ways. Covid highlighted this support".***

***"Manager wants her residents to receive care from him and get a nice rapport but this is not happening. Video calls seem to be more acceptable to him".***

About half of homes reported that their GPs used care plans for their residents. All but one care home told us that they were supported with medication for their residents and it was regularly reviewed.

As a result of this survey, Healthwatch recommended that NHS North East London (NHS NEL) work with care home representative organisations, such as Havering Care, to ensure that both care home staff and the healthcare professionals worked as well as possible together.

Healthwatch also recommended that when the responsibility is devolved to NHS NEL, they consider some arrangements to ensure that dental practices and pharmacies are assigned to specific care homes.

The Probation User Voice survey supported the findings from inspected cases in 2022 of positive engagement, with 63 per cent (42 out of 66) of respondents being happy with the overall support they received from their probation practitioner. One respondent recognised the difficulty in accessing suitable Housing and said: *"they are trying their best to find me housing"* and *"they helped me get a bank account, accommodation and universal credit."*


Probation practitioners were accessible to people on probation, with 81% (55 out of 68) being able to contact their probation practitioners when needed. 66% (45 out of 68) of people on probation were offered appointment times that suited their personal circumstances.

## **Enter and View Visits**

Healthwatch carried out Enter and View Visits at A&E Queens Hospital, the Urgent Treatment Centre (UTC) and GP Triage run by PELC in September 2022. At the time an unreliable IT system was operating which was due shortly to be replaced; a paper based system was being used which

was time consuming. There was a good relationship between PELC and the Emergency Department (ED) and each knew when the other was very busy. 70% of patients were being seen within the 4 hour target time. Once registered, children had their own waiting area. There were plans to make the area more child friendly. Patients with a Learning Disability (LD) were prioritised and jumped the queue. There is a resource trolley for LD patients that contains patient information leaflets, checklists, passports and activities. The team were assured that reasonable adjustments were made for LD and autistic patients.

Healthwatch were able to gain the views of 10 patients during this visit, 4 of whom were from Havering. No-one had been waiting over four hours. 5 were satisfied with the experience and situation. Healthwatch recommended that the capacity of the Hospital service should be increased in line with the rise in population. This Enter and View visit is likely to be repeated to PELC this year.



*"The SAB are working hard to improve their status and role with partner organisations."*

April 2023

**healthwatch**  
Havering

## Safeguarding Young Advisors

We are interested in knowing what young people's needs and views are in Havering and how we can actually better support them through our agencies. To support us through this process, we recruited 6 Young Advisors - Sia, Jessica, Dominic, Shakila, Saffiah and Atiya in March 2023.

The Young Advisors play a part in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people in Havering, highlighting areas of strength and reporting areas for improvement to our Safeguarding Partners.

The Young Advisors have completed two surveys for their initial project on 21st and 28th June 2023 in Abbs Cross Academy, NCC Rainham and Ardleigh Green Colleges to obtain young people's views regarding the theme of violence against young women. The Young Advisors are in the process of completing a report and they will present this at our joint SAB/HSCP meeting in September to our partners. The Young Advisors will complete their second project around mental health in young people in the borough, and plan on presenting this to our Safeguarding Week Conference in November.

Thilini Perera, HSP Coordinator, supports the Young Advisors' project, after it was successfully initiated by David Waddington in July 2022.

## Implementing Strategies

### Safeguarding Adult Partnership Audit Tool - SAPAT

The SAPAT is a pan-London SAB Partnership assessment tool applied by each local SAB as they feel appropriate. It was agreed by the Havering, Barking & Dagenham and Redbridge SABs that we would work together in Spring 2023 to enable our multi-borough agencies to complete one assessment. The relevant Local Authority would then complete their own assessment with the aim to identify both local issues and Tri-borough issues that would inform future SAB priorities.



In Havering, we gathered SAPAT responses in Spring 2023 from 8 SAB Members - Probation, Voluntary Sector, Adults Social Care, East Area BCU Police, NELFT, BHRUT, NEL ICB and Healthwatch.

All agencies rated themselves mainly green and amber. All organisations had Adult Safeguarding, Complaints', Whistleblowing and Equality and Diversity policies in place, and ensured staff were DBS checked at an appropriate level. There was guidance available about Mental Capacity and PIPOT. All responses indicated that SAB information was circulated throughout the agency or sector. Not every voluntary sector agency referenced Making Safeguarding Personal or could give examples of how they had implemented local learning.

In common, agencies identified the most significant local SAB challenges as being greater local need with increased complexities of presentation; lack of specialist housing for those with complex needs; the long term impact of the COVID-19 pandemic; the impact of changes in legislation; inconsistencies in referral processes between boroughs; using data to inform planning; the cost of living crisis, with impact on adults, their carers, staff and volunteers; partnership working; recruitment and sickness of staff; and the impact of the proposed ULEZ expansion on staffing.

## Good Practice Examples

Probation highlighted in Havering the delivery of a Transition programme for young adults transitioning from youth justice services to adult criminal justice services, and they were developing a trauma informed approach to service delivery.

NELFT have developed the Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) strategy to demonstrate its commitment and support to meet the public sector equality duty, be more representative of the local population and eliminate discrimination in both, as an employer and as a provider of services.

In NEL ICB, there is currently work underway to look at how service users with learning disability are supported with regards to safeguarding adults' processes, the regularity of completing timely Annual Health Checks and Health Action Plans, which has been identified from SARs and LeDeRs to have an impact on the quality of services. A Covid-19 pandemic risk record was created by NHS NEL ICB Designate Professionals in Adult Safeguarding in May 2020, identifying dangers related to services for the CCG's Safeguarding Adults, Children, and Young People. Risks were identified and mitigation put in place to address the risks. The CCG risk register was transferred into the ICB Risk Register when the ICB was established (July 2022).

BHRUT has exemplified translating learning into practice from our local SARs- Q&Y: Children transitioning to adult services struggle with leaving behind established relationships and being responsible for seeking help. BHRUT identified "Think Family" as a key safeguarding adult strategy item. Ward Accreditation Frameworks (WAF) which assess individual ward knowledge incorporate this approach by asking questions around both Safeguarding Adults and Children. Rapid Read Transitional Safeguarding in Health information was produced in December 2022 and added to staff intranet.

Mr C: Importance of identifying self-neglect to be shared with adult social care. BHRUT completed a day dedicated to recognising the signs of self-neglect during safeguarding adult awareness week.

Simon: Considering the impact of alcohol dependency when assessing a person's capacity. MCA Training was updated via BEST in Dec 2023 to provide more in depth knowledge of executive functioning.

In ASC, as part of Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) the individual is asked what they want as the outcomes from the safeguarding process and the practitioner is then directly informed by these outcomes through the enquiry. The adult at risk is supported to achieve their individual outcomes whilst remaining safe. As a result the voice of the adult at risk is central to the enquiry and the agreed action plan. The safeguarding enquiry form is designed to capture this information. There

is a Safeguarding Oversight meeting on a monthly basis where the most challenging cases/risks can be discussed to provide high level support. The risks can then be outlined to the client and alternatives can be suggested to try to ensure the client understands and/or can mitigate future risks. There are also avenues to intervene when the risk is disproportionate such as Community MARAC or the DV MARAC. During the pandemic, a Hoarding Coordinator role and pathways to support clients for Housing and Adults were developed, including partnership working with the Fire Brigade to ensure that partners are jointly aware of all known Hoarders in the borough. ASC devised training for front line staff and providers around fire safety with the LFB.

There is a specialist Mental Health worker in the Leaving Care Team to support complex cases. Housing also have a specialist Mental Health worker and a Substance Misuse worker. Housing have also developed a specialist Housing offer to support the most complex cases and a complex placement panel that all partners are joined to.

## People in Positions of Trust - PIPOT

People in Positions of Trust (PIPOT) Guidance refers to people, whether employees, volunteers or students, paid or unpaid, who work with or care for adults with care and support needs. 6.6% of the population in Havering identified as being disabled in the recent census, and it is important they and their carers know how to get support, if allegations are made against those who are caring for them.

A SAB PIPOT Protocol and 7 minute briefing have been designed to provide guidance on how concerns should be reported and the process to be used to respond to these. The guidance has been shared with all SAB members and our voluntary sector.

In spring 2023, we collated PIPOT feedback from agencies to measure the impact of the development of our SAB PIPOT Guidance in 2021-22 and see how far it had been adopted and embedded. Eight SAB members responded: Probation, BHRUT, CGL (Change Grow Live), Peabody Housing Association, NELFT, Housing Maintenance, the Department of Work and Pensions, and Havering Volunteer Centre. Housing for their assurance has given us the safeguarding policy for children and vulnerable adults of their Maintenance Contractor, Mears. In total, 46 allegations were declared in Probation, NELFT and BHRUT. Currently, Havering Adults Social Care is considering how to provide PIPOT support within and outside the Council. Staff were aware of the processes in their own agency, and we will be working with the Care Association and ASC during the forthcoming year to raise awareness further. A PIPOT training session is planned during Safeguarding Week 2023 with voluntary sector agencies and care home providers.

"This year we, like everyone else, have experienced huge changes and challenges in health and social care. However, no matter what the enormity or the delicacy of the task, the willingness of our volunteer members to give their help and support has, as always, been amazing. That the community has a voice and that health and social care leaders can hear the community's voice is paramount to them. This is our tenth report: please enjoy it - it includes many of the pieces of work that we have undertaken on your behalf".

Anne-Marie Dean, Chair

**healthwatch**  
Havering

## Commentary on Safeguarding Performance during 2021-22

### Probation

London is now structured into 18 probation delivery units. Barking & Dagenham, Redbridge and Havering is one unit. In June 2021, the Community Rehabilitation Company was taken into the National Probation Service. This change-over resulted in a lack of safeguarding checks for some new cases. This is being monitored by the SAB. The Inspection of Probation Services has been reviewed by the SAB during the year. The Probation Service was found to have insufficient casework and to require improvement; but Partnership co-location arrangements were positive. Havering is a pilot borough for engaging people on probation. St Giles have been commissioned to provide engagement workers to work with probation staff and people on probation to identify ways of improving engagement and practice. Probation's golden threads including Gypsy Roma Travellers and ex-armed service personal, as distinct cohorts of people with bespoke needs.

Havering had re-offending rates of 19.7% in 2019-20, lower than 24.45% in Barking and Dagenham. Examples of collaborative working across partnerships included the use of the Regional Outcomes and Innovations Fund (ROIF) to commission mentoring services for 18–25-year-olds in Havering. While there were no prisons within Barking, Dagenham and Havering, the Probation Service inspection saw sufficient pre-release contact by Probation practitioners with prisoners in 12 out of 15 relevant cases, and effective use of video links to maintain contact.

### Housing

Unstable housing or homelessness, temporary accommodation and rent or mortgage pressures can create situations where vulnerable adults and children become more vulnerable to safeguarding concerns. Housing in Havering Council is very responsive to safeguarding training and awareness raising.

In Havering, 4% (19 in 1,000 residents) of households were owed a duty under the Homelessness Reduction Act in 2022-23 compared to 2.5% London average.

Housing demand has increased significantly as a result of pressures from the pandemic and the cost of living crisis. The SAB Quality and Effectiveness Working Group had feedback from Havering Housing Department after they audited ten MASH referrals with ASC. It was felt that 7 of the referrals were not appropriate and would have benefited from an initial telephone conversation with the MASH team and direct referrals to mental health services and other support agencies.

Average homeless approaches from 2020 have moved from less than 150 a month to over 300 per month for the last two years. The lifting of court evictions has led to increased strain on the supply of temporary accommodation, meaning there is increasing risk to the use of hotels for families and their children. 30 units of high complex needs accommodation have been introduced for people who were sleeping on the streets, released from prison or hospital and had mental health, drug and alcohol as well as other combined complex needs.

Family and friend exclusion remains the main cause of homelessness in Havering. Havering Council has seen a 40% increase over the last two years in the number of households who require emergency accommodation. They have also seen significant increase on Domestic Abuse approaches to the service which illustrates the pressure to place into emergency accommodation.

The number of Domestic Abuse cases in Havering continues to increase where households fleeing violence and abuse are likely to be placed in emergency hotels. This has increased from 77 in 2019-20 to 287 in 2022-23.

Havering has a Prevention of Homelessness and Rough Sleeper Strategy, and it made a bold ambition to end long-term rough sleeping by 2022, which has been achieved. There were 10 people rough sleeping in 2015 and 22 in 2017.

## Care Homes

Havering has the second highest number (56) of residential and nursing homes in North East London but, because many of those homes are quite large, it has by far the largest number of beds (around 1,400). Healthwatch is again able to continue its Enter and View Visits, working closely with the Council Quality Team.

Sadly, Havering was particularly hit by the COVID-19 pandemic, and we can see this in data emerging regarding excess winter deaths 2019-20, below, per 100,000. This is in line with Havering's older population, and those living in care homes.

	Havering	London	England
<b>Female</b>	12.8	17.9	17.3
<b>Male</b>	25	19.6	17.5

During the year, the Quality and Effectiveness Working Group scrutinised the quality assurance and incidents in local care homes; we will repeat this in October 2023, and John Timbs, Director of Havering Care Association and Care Providers' Voice, has now joined our SAB and Quality and Effectiveness Working Group to ensure closer working.

Last year we saw the following CQC inspection ratings for 59 care homes: 1 outstanding; 49 good; 8 required improvement; 1 inadequate with possibly another, following a recently undertaken inspection. This year at March 2023, the situation remained stable- there were 56 care homes, 1 was outstanding, 48 were good and 7 required improvement.

For the past three years we can see a growth of suspensions and placements with caution from the Havering Council Quality Team. We will be developing as a SAB, a means of quality assuring multiple investigations and PIPOTs for establishments. This year, under oversight from the Quality Team, there were ten suspensions, ten decisions made to place adults with caution, and two supported living providers left the market, as the Landlord gave notice. Concerns mainly related to older people, learning disability and domiciliary care providers.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
<b>Suspended</b>	4	2	7	10

Place with Caution	4	1	4	8
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Most Care Homes and supported living units were engaged with up to 5 safeguarding enquiries during the year. One establishment had more than 20 enquiries and two had between 16-20 enquiries. This is a slight improvement compared to last year.

More allegations of neglect within Care Homes are being received and inspections will take place where appropriate.

Care Homes sometimes feel that they are required to report everything which leads to over reporting. Recently, a lot of focus has been on Care Homes due to Covid, with not as much resource being given to homecare providers. The SAB Team presented at the Care Association Conference in April 2023, which included care homes and domestic care providers. Training around PIPOT is planned for care homes, including during Safeguarding Week November 2023, as some seem to struggle to manage the PIPOT process themselves.

*“The Cost of Living is increasing, the energy cost cap is coming off, and low income families are struggling. A Havering Cost of Living Forum has been set up, including a Website with help and support.*

*Data on vulnerable adults is collated, and we will direct support and advice to them”.*

**Havering Housing**

## Health

NELFT as a general health provider has logged its safeguarding risks for adults and children in the table below, and we can see the comparators with other boroughs as outlined. Havering has the highest number of high and significant risks. We will be considering this during our Quality and Effectiveness work.

Directorate	Number of Open Risks	Risk Impact Safeguarding	High Risk	Significant Risk	Moderate Risk	Low Risk
Barking & Dagenham Directorate	49	28	10 (15)	11 (21)	6 (11)	1 (2)
Essex and Kent Directorate	53	9	1 (11)	7 (31)	1 (11)	0 (2)
Redbridge Directorate	28	20	2 (5)	8 (10)	9 (11)	1(1)
Waltham Forest Directorate	34	9	2 (11)	7 (20)	0 (2)	0 (0)
Havering Directorate	52	30	15 (18)	15 (25)	0 (5)	0 (0)
Acute and Rehabilitation Directorate	92	10	0 (9)	10 (61)	0 (19)	0 (4)
NELFT Corporate	207	2	16 (1)	81 (0)	47 (1)	60 (0)

## GPs

The Quality and Effectiveness Working Group is developing its scrutiny of GP practices in Havering. There are lower numbers of GPs for BHR residents when compared to the North East London average and significantly lower when compared nationally. Of the GP practices which have been inspected by the CQC, all are good, except for one which requires improvement. For the HSCP, Section 11 (Child Act 2004) self-evaluations of a third of Havering GP practices were completed.

## Mental Health

In Havering, 83% of adults in contact with secondary mental health services lived independently (2020-21). Borough residents have a comparatively lower anxiety score 19.4 per 100,000 against 23.8. for London; but slightly higher unhappiness scores. The suicide and self-harm rate is lower for teenagers aged 10-14 years (93.5 against London 174.7) per 100,000 and 308.9, for those aged 15-19 years against 360.7 for London, but we have slightly higher hospital admissions for suicide and self-harm for those aged 20-24 years compared to London and national averages 178.2 per 100,000 compared to 159.8 in London in 2021-22. The overall suicide rate is 8.4 per 100,000.

In 2021-22, 1,735 DOLs (Deprivation of Liberty) applications were made in Havering, 895 in Redbridge and 820 in Barking and Dagenham. As these boroughs share the same ICB and Mental Health provider, NELFT, we will be scrutinising this data further to understand the differences, which may relate to an older population and the number of local care homes in Havering. Havering made more comparative DOLs applications in 2021-22, 810 per 100,000 applications making it an outlier in London and England (England average 601 per 100,000). 729 were completed in Havering, compared to 564 as an England average. 32% were granted and 52.7% were urgent, as approx. half of London boroughs. This is the fifth highest number of applications in London- Lewisham was the highest with 1,013 applications. Havering had a moderate backlog of applications in 2021-22.

In NELFT, new Approved Mental Health Professionals (AMHP) have been appointed, although Havering has the lowest number in the North East region. Redbridge and Barking & Dagenham all have approx 16 AMHPs, while Havering has 12. There was excellent communication and effective local agreements in place between the AMHP teams. Being able to obtain section 135 warrants online was identified as a beneficial consequence of the COVID-19 pandemic.

During the year, BHRUT identified an increased need to support Mental Health concerns in the acute hospital setting, which is a non-secure environment. This was due to a combination of cost of living crisis, rise in self-neglect, and substance misuse. From October-December 2022, there were 1,379 Mental Health presentations for adults and children to BHRUT alone. NELFT CQC inspections have noted the pressure on beds.

For several years we have been monitoring whether mental capacity is tested appropriately, as this is learning from our local reviews. In addition, we have strengthened our approach to the Mental Capacity Act (MCA) this year by developing 38 MCA Champions across agencies, from Children's Services, to Probation, to Housing to Police to the Fire Brigade.

## Suicide Prevention Strategy

Work has been ongoing across the Tri-borough, led by the Public Health teams, to refresh the suicide prevention strategy for adults and children, and training has been delivered. The suicide rate in Havering for females and males is higher than the London average, but lower than the England average for those aged over 10 years. Those aged 40-60, particularly males, are most at risk. NELFT has increased access to talking therapies. Numbers of those presenting to A&E with self-harm concerns have fluctuated this year.

	Havering	London	England
Female	5.0	3.8	5.2
Male	12.4	10.8	15.9

## Substance Use

Health outcomes are sometimes lower for adults in Havering, particularly for males, and work is ongoing to support substance use treatment and mental health conditions, in particular. In 2020-21, 632 people in Havering were admitted to hospital with alcohol related mental and behavioural disorders. In the same year, 722 people in Havering were admitted to hospital with alcohol specific conditions, of which 226 people had alcoholic liver disease. It is important we bear the local context in mind: Havering has a higher alcohol selling premises per square kilometre rate (4.8) as compared to the England average (1.3).

Based on the Crime Survey for England, there are 14,032 people aged 16-74 (7.6 % of the age group) using illicit drugs in Havering. 21% of users are of aged 16-24 (5,282 people). 14.3% of adults (28,833 people) in Havering regularly binge drink. This similar to the London and England averages.

This year in Havering, 994 adults took part in structured substance treatment, and 11 in residential rehabilitation. In 2020-21, there were 272 in alcohol treatment and 528 in drug treatment. 39 young people were in treatment. 8.4% of people successfully completed opiate treatment (out of 273 people), which is higher than the England average of 5%. 50.8% successfully completed non-opiate treatment against the England figure of 34%.

It has been encouraging that the substance use needs' assessment and new strategic framework developed this year, have taken into account local learning around dual diagnosis, which arose from a local SAR. This year there were more than 400 patients (75 under CAMHS) in mental health care who have co-existing substance misuse problems. In a year, CGL receives around 280 new referrals from NELFT, which in turn receives around 30 new referrals from CGL. Most cases in CGL are already on NELFT caseloads.

In 2020-21 14 adults with substance misuse treatment needs successfully engaged in community-based structured treatment following release from prison. In 2020, 6.3% (16 people) of opiate users, 35% (84) of non-opiate users and 40% (100) of alcohol users in treatment met this goal. The proportion of opiate and non-opiate drug users successfully completing treatment has not increased over the last 10 years.

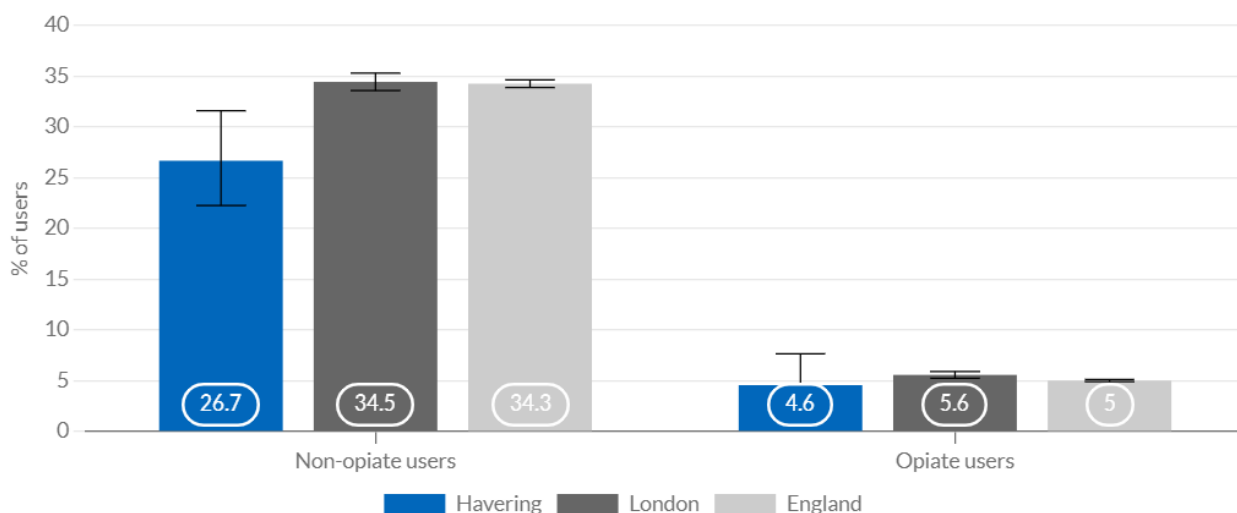
In 2020-21, 82% of known dependent drinkers did not get in contact with alcohol treatment services. This was similar to the national average and equivalent to 1,844 people. It is estimated that there are more than two thirds (67%) opiate and/or crack users aged 15-64 in Havering not in treatment.

Havering and Barking & Dagenham Probation Service has the highest number of ex-offenders continuing in treatment for substance use, following release from custody in London at 31% against a London average of 12%. CGL has increased its staff and outreach with NELFT, the Hospital, Magistrates' Court, and Police.

NELFT IAPT is delivering work in CGL group premises and CGL Havering has become a Hepatitis C micro elimination service. Drug and Alcohol awareness training has been delivered to over 20 local Police Officers by CGL, and a recovery shop for service users has been launched. Restrictions on alcohol by volume of off-sales in problem areas (Romford Town & Harold Hill) have been made this year. Advice and guidance on levels of intoxication has been given to licensees in advance of sporting events.

Alcohol-related mortality among males has been rising in the last three years. The latest data (2020) shows alcohol-related mortality in Havering (57/100,000) is higher than the London average (51/100,000). In the last 12 months (ending October 2022) 146 drug trafficking crimes were reported in Havering. The rate now stands at 0.6/1,000 population, lower than the London average (0.9/1,000).

### Successful completion of drug treatment (2021)



Training courses organised by HSP took place this year in the areas of adult substance misuse, children and young people substance misuse and vulnerable drinkers. 12 delegates attended in each area between October 2022 and February 2023. Behaviour change and motivational interviewing skills were also included. Delegates became aware of the signs of people taking drugs and how to help them. CGL offers a face to face workshops.

### Pressure Ulcers

Joy Maguire, Designated Nurse, Safeguarding Adults, NEL ICB has been running a Task and Finish Group regarding pressure ulcers across the ICB footprint. The goal is to develop guidance that covers risk assessment, prevention, and treatment in people who are at risk of or have a pressure ulcer. This is to reduce the number of pressure ulcers in people admitted to secondary or tertiary care, as well as those receiving NHS care in other settings such as primary and community care, as well as emergency departments.

We have begun to publish further information on pressure ulcers in our newsletter and on our website in response. We have discussed pressure ulcers at the CRWG Working Group in March 2023. In the new financial year we plan to provide safeguarding guidance on pressure ulcers, falls and medication.



## Domestic Abuse



*“Locally, the BCU has developed and invested in the development of a Continuous Improvement (CI) framework and dedicated CI team. This team tracks local learning and tests improvement through a rolling audit and assurance programme which is overseen by a monthly CI board chaired by the Head of Public Protection”. EA BCU*

Domestic Abuse (DA) remains a key issue for the borough following the pandemic lockdowns and we see considerable Police engagement. Havering MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) referrals have slightly fallen this financial year. We wish to work with agencies regarding DA awareness. It is positive that the Iris Project will be rolled out to support local GPs in responding to Domestic Abuse, which will be targeted on the more deprived parts of the borough.

A multi-agency workspace has been developed near Romford Railway Station for professionals to provide community safety support.

We plan multi-agency DA audits this autumn with the Community Safety Partnership for adults and children, and to sign the VAWG (Violence Against Women & Girls) pledge as Partners during the 16 days of action against Domestic Abuse in November 2023. This autumn we plan to consider including DHR decision making in the CRWG oversight.

On the whole, there are more community safeguarding enquiries from the more deprived wards in the borough. The highest number of Domestic Abuse safeguarding enquiries were from the Upminster and Heaton areas. This year, 74% were for women, which is a decrease from last year. This perhaps indicates that there is a growing awareness of male survivors. The proportion of people referred with disabilities, aged over 60 years, from a Black and Ethnic Minority Background or from the LGBTQ community has been relatively small. Only 14 of those survivors were aged over 65 years.

17% of people in Havering are aged over 65 years, however MARAC referrals for this age group is very low. The majority of cases coming regarding over 60's are due to inter-familial abuse. Often the alleged perpetrator is the victim's son/daughter and so the victim does not wish to engage with services because they do not want to criminalise their loved ones.

This year, Havering MARAC achieved a repeat referral of 26.83%, which is a 4.47% decrease in comparison to last year. A reduced referral rate is a positive outcome, as it indicates reduced victimisation for victims coming through the MARAC. It could also indicate that there is an increase in the number of victims receiving appropriate support and no longer suffering from DA. However, there are more high risk victims coming to the MARAC for the first time.

<b>HAVERING MARAC DATA 2020-23</b>			
	<b>2020-21 (Apr-Mar)</b>	<b>2021-22 (Apr-Mar)</b>	<b>2022-23 (Apr-Mar)</b>
<b>Referrals</b>	438	540	492
<b>Victims age 16-17</b>	5	8	
<b>Perpetrator age 16-17</b>	4	8	
<b>Victims over age 60</b>	38	36	
<b>Repeat referrals</b>	130	169	132
<b>Children impacted</b>	635	753	752

At a recent Tri-borough steering group, the MARAC partners in our BCUs all agreed on the following changes they have seen come through the MARAC this year: An increased number of strangulation victims – this could be due to the introduction of a new non-fatal strangulation offence highlighting more cases; An increased level of violence and injury being used by perpetrators of violence, including the use of weapons in some cases. This in turn is causing some serious injuries to victims and trauma to victims; more cases coming through where age gaps are large between the victim and perpetrator, often the perpetrator is the elder of the couple. 142 multi-agency delegates were trained this year through the Community Safety Partnership and HSP. In addition to this 32 school staff received both lots of training in one day, in a bid to increase the number of Domestic Abuse champions in schools. There have been an increased number of enquiries from champions in schools. The Community Safety team also met with Early Years providers in Quarter 4, with a hope to expand the network with champions in non-statutory education settings too.

In this financial year, the IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advisor) team received 461 cases. 304 cases were closed during the year with only 23 victims disengaging from the service, which is very positive.

Havering Women's Aid (HWA) is advocacy and support for standard and medium risk cases of Domestic Abuse. All staff are fully trained as IDVAs. HWA has delivered a total of 589 drop-ins and assessments. This has led to 518 cases, of which 332 accessed further advocacy and support. 405 people have attended group session, 184 women accessed counselling and 45 men have been supported through the MENDAS service.

Cranstoun are the providers delivering the Men and Masculinities training to perpetrators of Domestic Abuse in the borough. The programme has received 46 referrals in this financial year. Of the 27 perpetrators engaged in the programme, 14 reported substance misuse and 13 reported mental health issues. 24 victims/survivors were spoken to regarding feeling safe at the end of intervention and 23 survivors reported to feel safer after their partner completed the programme.

## Referrals to Adults' Social Care

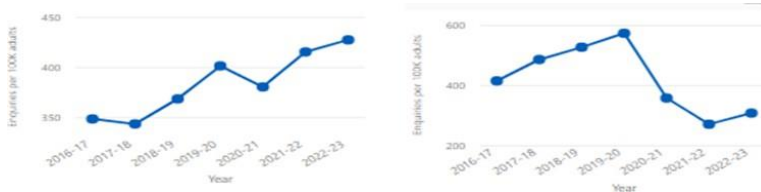
In 2022-23 in England we can see a rise in concerns of 9%, and 7% for safeguarding enquiries (Sect 42). The most common type of risk in Section 42 enquiries that concluded in the year was Neglect and Acts of Omission, which accounted for 32% of risks, and the most common location of the risk was the person's own home at 47%. In 91% of concluded Section 42 enquiries where a risk was

identified, the reported outcome was that the risk was reduced or removed.

How does Havering compare?

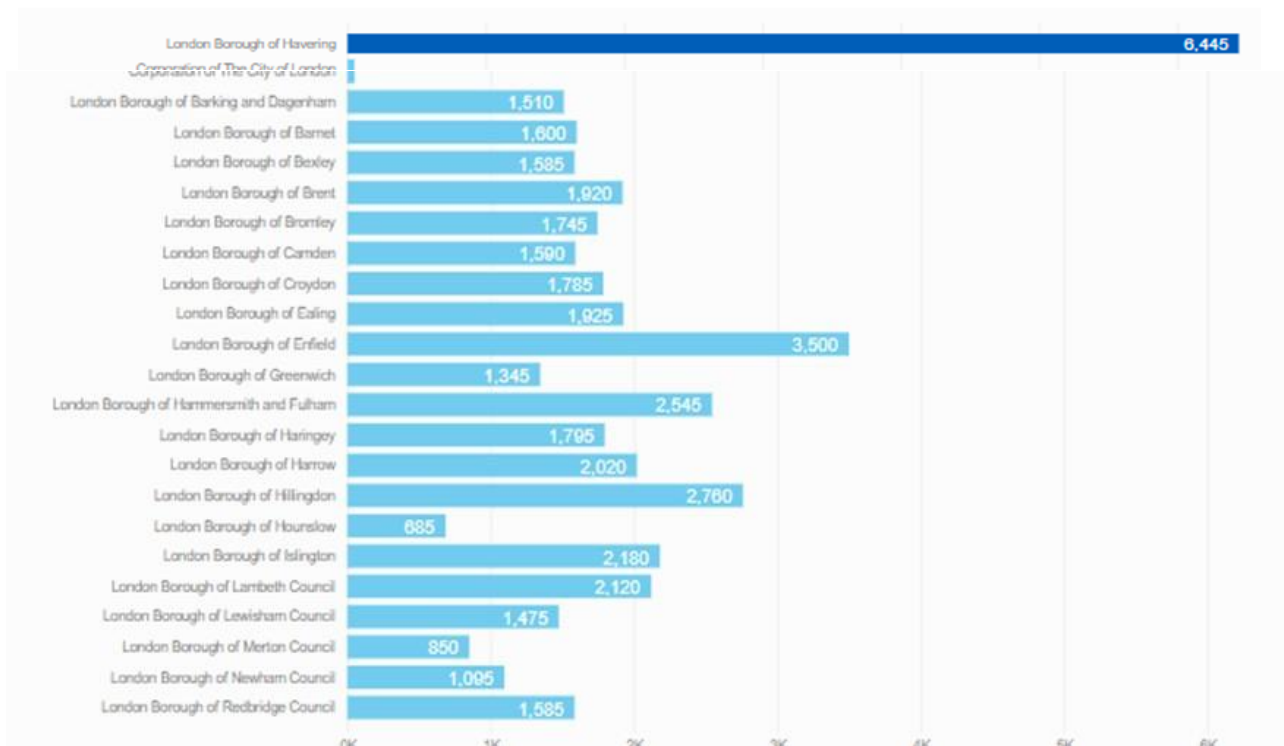


Following national data, the age of concerns was highest for those aged 85+.



Need, and demand remain high in Havering. Safeguarding concerns have continued to be high to this year with small numbers converting to safeguarding enquiries. This is a common national issue, but particularly acute in Havering as this picture below shows. This year, 9.6% of concerns have converted to enquiries against 8.7% last year (6,253 concerns). There has been a growth to 6,445 concerns received this year, converting into 624 safeguarding enquiries. The below table shows concerns on a London-wide basis for 2022-23. LB Bexley is Havering’s statistical neighbour. However, Sect 42 enquiries are in line with other boroughs in London. Havering is 304, per 100,000 adults against the England average of 387 per 100,000.

**Concerns 2022-23 across the London region. Havering is the outlier, at 3,167 concerns per 100,000 adults.**



In Havering in 2021-22, there were 1,800 Safeguarding concerns per 100,000 population; 1,400 in Redbridge and 1,800 in Barking & Dagenham. Following intervention, the table below shows how safe adults felt and how safe their carers felt. This compares with average figures for London of 62% of those aged 18-64 feeling safer and 64% of those aged 65+ and 31% for carers of those aged 18-64 and 32.4% for carers of those aged 65+.

### Feelings of safety after interventions

	User	User	Carer	Carer
	18-64 years	65+ years	18-64 years	65+ years
<b>Havering</b>	65%	60%	28.7%	31.4%
<b>B&amp;D</b>	68.7%	44.1%	20.5%	34.4%
<b>Redbridge</b>	60.4%	57.6%	21.8%	20.3%

Enquiries and concerns have risen in volume and complexity during the pandemic years, and follow national data in terms of rising conditions of neglect. Police Merlins consist approx 17% of concerns and approx 2% convert to enquiries. 16-33% of concerns convert to enquiries of referrals by Care Providers. Approximately, 39% of concerns were signposted to other avenues of support, 20% of which were Police Merlins.

## The ten categories of abuse as featured in safeguarding enquiries 2022-23 in Havering (not cumulative)

Abuse	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Physical	37	74	104	137
Sexual	4	9	15	21
Emotional	51	81	121	157
Financial	23	55	91	118
Neglect	70	177	266	344
Discriminatory	1	4	6	6
Institutional	2	4	6	9
Domestic Abuse	14	26	36	39
Sexual Exploitation	1	1	1	1
Modern Slavery	1	3	4	5
Self Neglect	20	46	62	93

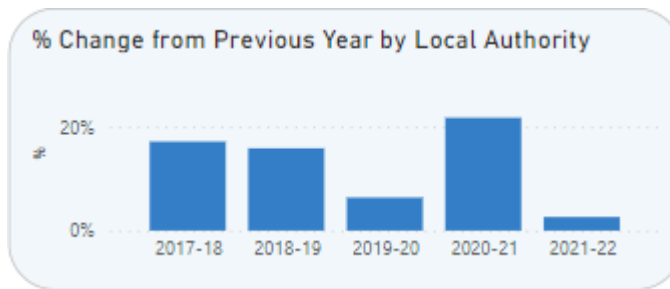
We can see a general rise in reporting as the year has gone on, quarter by quarter. We see little Modern Slavery or Domestic Abuse referred, despite the Police dealing with 60 Modern Slavery investigations in the borough this year, and the MARAC figures rising. We will be scrutinising the data as the year goes on and promoting more effective multi-disciplinary work in this area.

As we consider Quarter 4 data, which reflects the whole of the year, 81.9% of safeguarding enquiries related to adults from a White background, which is disproportionate to the local demographic of approx 70% of people being from that background. This is a drop from 86% in Quarter 4 the last financial year, which is a positive step. Referrals for those from a mixed, Asian or Black background are also out of proportion for the demographic, as outlined below.

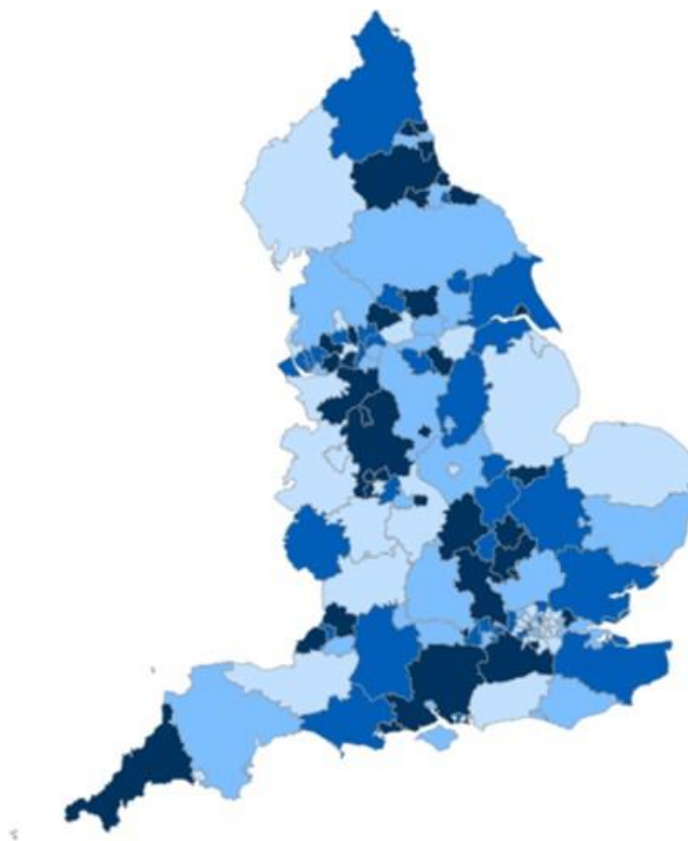
Safeguarding enquiries Q4	2022-23	2021-22	Havering Demographic 2021
White	81.9%	86.1%	75%
Mixed	0.2%	1.1%	3.7%
Black	3.3%	4%	8.2%
Asian	3.5%	2.4%	10.7%
Other ethnic groups	0	0.3%	
Not Known	10.2%	6.9%	

We have hypothesised that lower involvement with some ethnic groups might relate to how much they know about adult safeguarding and support, or that their needs are not identified by those working or volunteering with them. This year we will be working to ensure our whole community knows how to get support and advice, and key community groups feel enabled.

	April 2021- March 2022	April 2022-March 2023 Q4
Safeguarding concerns	6,253	6,445
Safeguarding enquiries	546 (8.7%)	624 (9.6%)



During the year April 2022 to March 2023 the number of safeguarding concerns reported to Havering Adult Social Care (ASC) increased. The following map highlights Havering's higher numbers of Safeguarding Concerns on an England comparative basis in 2021-22. The Quality and Effectiveness Working Group decided in April 2023 to support the development of multi-agency guidance to improve the quality of referrals for vulnerable adults.

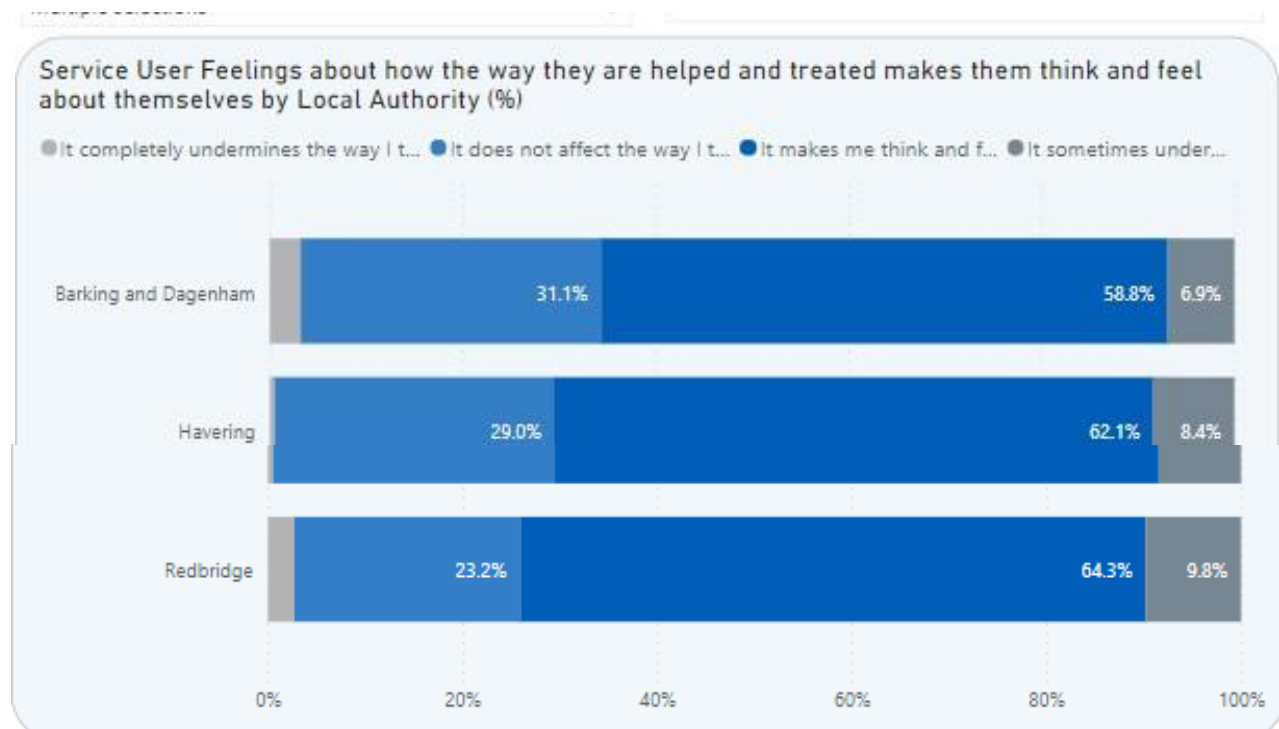


**Safeguarding concerns per 100,000 adults 2022-23 (NHS Digital). The higher numbers of concerns are in Black.**

Overall in England in 2021-22, 91% of concluded Section 42 enquiries where a risk was identified, the reported outcome was that the risk was reduced or removed. In 23% of safeguarding enquiries the risk was removed in Havering, and in 66% the risk was reduced during the year. This

is much the same figure as the last financial year. England shows that 25% of enquiries led to risk being removed in 2020-21, 12% risk remaining, and approx 63% risk reduced; so Havering has performed much along England lines as a comparator.

This table shows how service users felt after Local Authority engagement. Havering scored midway between the other Tri boroughs.



In Havering, we promote guidance and track performance in relation to Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP). Between 63-69% of safeguarding enquiries featured the adult or their representative being asked about their desired outcomes. Following completed enquiries, 90% of desired outcomes were fully or partially achieved. Only 45 of the 432 completed safeguarding enquiries did not have a determination of capacity. MSP was recorded on them all. 45 were not assessed so not known if they have capacity. 97.7% were supported by family or friends when they were deemed not to have capacity. There were 395 completed adult safeguarding enquiries in 2022-23. In all of them the MSP outcome was recorded. 87% of completed safeguarding enquires featured the adult or their representative being asked about their desired outcome. Following enquires, 95% of desired outcomes were either fully or partially achieved. 34 of the 395 completed safeguarding enquiries did not have a determination of capacity.

England figures show a similar trend about Mental Capacity, although there are fewer not knowns. During the year, there have been 24 people for whom safeguarding enquiries were made, where capacity was not known. There were no instances where this was not recorded. In 8 cases, the adult would not engage.

There are several hypotheses as to why there are so many safeguarding concerns raised in



Havering. Maybe there is a need for further multi agency and ASC resources, HSAB training, or guidance; maybe the population in Havering is particularly vulnerable. According to 2021-22 figures, Havering Adults' Social Care (ASC) spent £38 million per 100,000 adults compared to the London average of £43.7 million and the England average of £49.4 million. Of London boroughs, only Hounslow has a lower spend at £30 million. 2021-22 saw 5,100 new requests for support for over 65s and 1,300 for those aged 18-64. In 2021-22 data, for the population in Havering, the borough had a low number of ASC jobs by comparison with other boroughs. Statistical neighbour, LB Bexley, it should be noted, had lower.

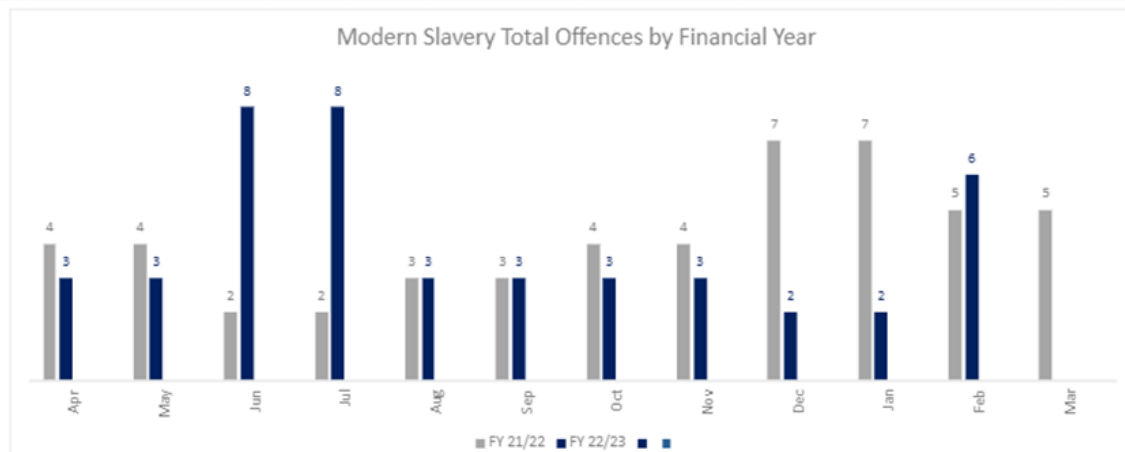
## Exploitation

Vulnerable adults are clearly more vulnerable to exploitation whether having their homes used for cuckooing, being trafficked and exploited, targeted through scams or dating websites.

## Modern Slavery

In Havering, Police saw a total of 110 Modern Slavery cases from April 2021-March 2023. Romford Town Centre is the eighth highest ward with offences in London. There has been a rise from 50 to 60 offences for this financial year 2022-23. In Havering, 30 victims were aged over 18 in 2021-22, and 36 victims in 2022-23. There were 89 viable investigations in 2022-23, a rise from 41 the year before, and for them the outcome is pending for 38, an increase from 4 in 2021-22. Investigations are often beset by evidential difficulties and so this improvement in outcome is encouraging.

Of the 50 victims in 2021-22, 18 were female, and 20 were children (8 female); this last year saw 60 victims, 19 of which were female, with 24 children (3 female).



The largest number of victims are from Albania and the United Kingdom. Most trafficked people from the United Kingdom were used for drug offences and County Lines, whereas more often Albanians were involved in construction. A small number of victims were sexually assaulted. The age range of victims has varied considerably, with the majority aged between 16 and 30, but 4 were aged over 60. There has been a rise in the last year of victims aged over 30. 29 NRM (National Referral Mechanism) referrals were made (20 for adults).

Nationality	2021-22	2022-23
Albanian	6	14
UK	13	9
Nigeria	2	0
Romania	0	2
Vietnam	1	1
Yemen	1	0
Russia	1	0
Poland	1	0
Afghanistan	0	1
China	0	1
Congo	1	0
Ghana	0	1
India	0	1
Kuwait	0	1

### Hate Crime

Between August 2020 and July 2022, there were 265 incidents of hate crime in the borough. This figure is lower in comparison to other London boroughs. As a Partnership we want to ensure learning around cultural competence, hate and mate crime for volunteers and staff, and ensure we better understand issues of disproportionality and can encourage key strategic bodies to address these.

## 2022– 23 Havering Hate Crime Police notifications (red for 2022- 2023)

CRIME	NUMBER
Disability hate crime	31 22
Anti-Semitic	3 1
Faith Hate Crime	37 11
Homophobic Crime	90 70
Islamophobic Crime	16 6
Racist and Religious Crime	784 421
Transphobic Crime	10 14

## Safeguarding Adults Reviews

The SAB completed one Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR), whose report was published in the new financial year 2023-24, Kasey below. Two referrals were made for a SAR during the year, which were declined, but still led to learning around mental capacity, and situations where a person declines support, which they need. There were issues around physical illness and mental health concerns. Currently we are waiting the end of an Inquest, before undertaking a SAR for a person, who died in a fire in early 2022. One Review is in progress which deals with suicide and issues around gender identity. This will be completed in September 2023.

### Kasey

Kasey's SAR (Safeguarding Adult's Review) was published in July 2023. We wish to thank the family for supporting us in this Review, and working with the Independent Author, Mick Haggart. Kasey took her own life in 2021, having struggled with mental health and substance use difficulties for much of her life. She was known to many local agencies in Havering, however the lead professional was not clearly identified, and agencies did not find it easy to engage with Kasey.

We have begun to take forward actions in relation to strengthening information sharing and coordination between the key operational panels, developed learning regarding Emotionally Unstable Personality Disorders and mental health support.

Executive Summary and further information here:

<https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/adultsboard/home/safeguarding-adults-reviews/published-sars/>

*"BHRUT is actively involved in Havering SARs. Safeguarding learning bulletins are produced by the Safeguarding Team and cascaded Trust-wide. The bulletins may relate to cases that the Safeguarding Team have been involved in, or SARs that have been published, some of which will have been discussed at the Safeguarding Operational Group Case Study meeting.*

*The Trust recognises emerging themes which in 2022 including the interface between:*

- *Mental Health and substance misuse*
- *Mental Health and Impulsivity*
- *Mental Health and Safeguarding Adults*
- *Self-neglect"*

## Key Safeguarding Partnership Achievements during 2022-23

SAB Members outline here on our website

<https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/adultsboard/annual-reports/> their safeguarding engagement and achievements for this year. Thank you all for providing this feedback and assurance.

## SAB Priorities for 2023-24

Looking forward as a Partnership, this coming year we wish to:

- Develop our engagement with residents and work to ensure the website is more accessible to the public;
- Audit Section 42, and develop scrutiny of Hospital discharge processes;
- Engage with Sports, Leisure, Arts, Domiciliary Care providers, Businesses, Voluntary Sector providers, Libraries; Faith and Community groups; Adult Education providers, utility providers, Universities and Adult Colleges;
- Develop a Task and Finish Group on gender identity with the HSCP and HWB; Support better quality referrals to the MASH, training and guidance for all agencies;
- Develop awareness of Legal Literacy and the implications of missed appointments for adults; Develop a multi-agency system of case reflection and support around complex cases and vulnerable adults;
- Publish a joint Partnership statement around anti-discriminatory practice; Promote understanding of our local culture and the use of community languages;
- Plan a Domestic Abuse audit with the Community Safety Partnership and HSCP to promote our VAWG (Violence Against Women and Girls) pledge.
- Publicise good practice guidance for those working with people at risk of pressure ulcers; Develop Fire Safety Awareness resources and track Home Fire Safety Visits in our dataset

## LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT 2022-23

### SUMMARY

- More evaluations have been completed this year, attendance has grown and the majority of feedback is good
- ***'Trainers were very knowledgeable and valued feedback with concerns professionals had. They were able to offer advice, support and solutions'***
- We promote use of the HSP Neglect Toolkit, Escalation Policies, Hoarding and Self-Neglect Protocol and website resources during our training

This year we provided 153 safeguarding courses in total- 67 with our new learning system from October 2022 to March 2023. Most of our courses are online but we hold some face to face. 24 courses were adult safeguarding, 69 were child safeguarding and 60 were both. 1,370 delegates attended our safeguarding courses during the year January 2022-March 2023. Most were from Adults' Social Care, Children's Social Care and Primary Schools, as can be seen in the table below. We wish to strengthen attendance by Health, Police and Justice Agencies and the Voluntary and Faith Sectors during this forthcoming year.

Delegates' Organisation	Registered accounts	Registered accounts
	End of December 2022	End of April 2023
Adults' Social Care	33	42
Care Providers – Care Homes	2	17
Care Providers – Commissioned	1	2
Care Providers – Foster Carer	1	1
Care Providers - Other	1	10
Children's Social Care	100	135
Education - Further Education	1	12
Education – Outside of Havering	2	3
Education - Pre-School/Early Years	11	24
Education - Primary School	67	105
Education - Secondary School	31	50
Health - BHRUT	7	16
Health - Havering ICB	3	13
Health – NELFT	15	27
Health – Other	5	11
Housing	25	39
LBH Directorates (Other)	20	26
Learning & Achievement	14	19
Other	26	37

Police	1	3
Probation	6	14
Voluntary / Charities	17	2
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>389</b>	<b>645</b>

Our training newsletter started in January 2023 and has been well received. The newsletter highlights our upcoming training, training expectations and signposts other agencies' training including London Safeguarding Children Partnership. We have noticed an increase in bookings when the newsletter is shared on the same day, and we have received more queries and requests to share our newsletter.

**These tables illustrate the impact of some of our courses, as evidenced in the evaluation forms received.**

Course	How will the course inform your future practice?
Dementia	I have downloaded my Dementia Friend badge and sent it to my service to make them aware and that they can speak to me if they need support on any cases/customers
Modern Slavery & Human Trafficking	<p>Working with vulnerable children who are vulnerable to being exploited and trafficked I can now look for signs and have further information in terms of services available</p> <p>It has developed my understanding of the signs and symptoms of modern slavery and trafficking. As well as this, I was unaware of the NRM process and that only first responders can make the referral. However, an NRM does not protect or safeguard and safeguarding is a big aspect of my job and therefore, I'm aware that the safeguarding takes priority and then the NRM due to this.</p> <p>I now know more about the signs to look out for of modern slavery and know what action to take when I do spot the signs e.g. National Referral Mechanism</p>
Cultural Competency	Overall deeper awareness of culture and how this impacts on an individual's values, presentation and day to day
	It's made me reflect on things such as generational trauma

<p><b>Inter-agency communication</b></p>	<p>Be more mindful on the part I play and encourage other colleagues to do their bit</p> <p>Knowledge on how to approach inter agency meeting requests and how to organise and prepare</p>
<p><b>Equality , Diversity &amp; Inclusion</b></p>	<p>Considering the language used in conversation. Being open to challenge what is not deemed acceptable</p> <p>Being mindful of cultural competency</p>
<p><b>Coercive &amp; Controlling Behaviours</b></p>	<p>The course enabled me to build on my awareness and knowledge of controlling and cohesive behaviour. The training enabled me to share learning with my colleagues, informally. I was also able to share learning gain, through formal supervision. In addition, the facilitators emailed, providing supplementary literature, such as, PowerPoints, of the controlling and cohesive behaviour course, which I was able to share with my immediate colleagues at Barnardo’s Making Connections.</p> <p>The course has enabled me to gain insight on the process and thresholds on how to complete MARAC referral forms, set out in The Domestic Abuse Act 2021.</p>
<p><b>Prevent (WRAP) training with Hate Crime</b></p>	<p>The course provided an excellent understanding of the topic as well as instances of how it affects people. It also provided other examples of how hate crime occurs in the actual world.</p>
<p><b>Safer Recruitment</b></p>	<p>Clarity with regards to informing the service if concerns regarding conduct of someone with a DBS. (As well as LADO)</p> <p>I am able to understand different DBS's requests for future candidates</p>

We are receiving more evaluations by reiterating that evaluations are required to receive certificates. The majority of our evaluations shows satisfaction with the training; any dissatisfied feedback and recommendations are investigated further and taken into consideration, i.e. duration of training, breakout rooms, trainers, etc. For our training delivered between January 2022 to October 2022, feedback showed 132 out of 135 delegates would recommend our training to colleagues.

Our next stage of evaluation looks at having the delegate’s manager’s feedback on the difference they can see the training has made on the delegate's practice.



Course	How will the course inform your future practice?
<b>Safeguarding Adults – Cultural Religious Beliefs</b>	<p>Made me aware of how different cultures and people with different beliefs may act around family and give reasons for actions.</p> <p>Made me aware of practices that are deemed illegal in the UK which may be deemed ok in other countries</p> <p>It gave me the tools to understand what good practice includes.</p> <p>Better understand and able to more effectively support service users</p>
<b>Exploitation of vulnerable adults: Intervention and Motivations</b>	<p>Understanding what adult exploitation looks like and how to intervene using the right strategies and approaches.</p> <p>Holding in mind possibilities of abuse so have awareness can spot</p>
<b>Substance Misuse- Adults</b>	<p>As a probation officer, it is helpful to see the signs of people on drugs and how to begin to help them.</p> <p>The course would help me to intervene in cases of substance and alcohol misuse using cycle of change (Stages of change model), CBT and use of Motivational Interviewing to support people abusing drugs and alcohol. And as well to make referrals to necessary authority.</p>

We have seen some improvement in attendance with 68% attending their courses in Quarter 4 2022-23, against 61% for the previous Quarter. In Quarter 4, there was a “no-show without cancellation” rate of 32%, which has reduced from 39% in the previous Quarter. We have seen a rise in accounts on our training system, which have nearly doubled in the last six months to 645 active delegates.

Course	How will the course inform your future practice?
<b>Neglect Toolkit Level 2/3</b>	<p>Using the toolkit in school when looking at a child to pull all concerns together and identify risks.</p> <p>Share toolkit with safeguarding team.</p>
<b>MASH and Early Intervention presentation and workshop</b>	<p>To understand cases that needs MASH referral or the one that needs to be stepped down to Early help.</p> <p>Knowing the procedure to follow and what to prepare before calling MASH.</p> <p>I am more aware of what MASH do and can advise accordingly within my role.</p>

<p><b>IN PERSON- Safeguarding Children L3</b></p>	<p>Great overview of the priorities for the borough in terms of neglect, DV and mental health.</p> <p>Having the opportunity to discuss and reflect on prevalent issues and responsibilities as DSL was extremely worthwhile. It was also useful to know Havering's current challenges and priorities.</p> <p>Very useful to find out about the workings of LADO as this is a service I am likely to use in the future.</p>
<p><b>Harmful Practices</b></p>	<p>Trainer was able to share updated information and was open with sharing her own story. I have a better understanding with the different subjects. thank you</p> <p>As social workers we work with people from various background where harmful practices like this are done, this will help me to intervene appropriately with situations</p>
<p><b>Safeguarding Children Level 1</b></p>	<p>I will have better knowledge of how to spot the signs of abuse and neglect, and know how to properly safeguard a child.</p> <p>Useful contact info and resources shared</p> <p>It is always helpful to be reminded of good practice when it comes to safeguarding.</p> <p>I learnt more about other types of abuse (outside of the 4 main categories).</p>

## **MCA (Mental Capacity Act) Champions**

As a result of local learning over the years, we have developed MCA (Mental Capacity Act) Champions across all agencies, including the Voluntary Sector this year. We have trained 135 people regarding the MCA this year, and had a group of 38 Champions meeting regularly to discuss practice and take learning back to their sector or agency. This work has been steered by Joy Maguire, Designated Nurse for Safeguarding Adults and Samantha Henry, Training Lead for the Partnership.

Evaluations from the MCA training included:

***"The briefing gave me a better understanding around the MCA, which I sometimes need to take into consideration in my role. If I am looking at supporting or taking action against a resident".***

***"The speakers were both very informative and interesting, and provided good advice on the mental capacity act and applying that do people with advanced decisions".***

***"The briefing gave me more understanding of making unwise decisions. I asked the question of making unwise decision because I am not clear of what to do in some circumstances***

## Communications

In August 2022, we published our first monthly Safeguarding Partnership newsletter. Our newsletters this year have included the following themes- Carers, Parental Vulnerabilities, Learning Disabilities and Autism, Oliver McGowan and his legacy training, Children's Social Care reforms, alcohol and substance use, fraud, pressure sores, safeguarding in sport, DBS, Children's Mental Health Week, Child Exploitation, Operation Makesafe, Financial support, Diversity, Fire Safety, and Modern Slavery, for example. The newsletter has a growing base with approximately 45% opens. In April 2022, we developed a twitter feed on our website, which now has 90 followers. We are now able to use Google analytics to track our engagement and impact. Since October 2022, there have been over 4,000 visitors. Its most popular pages, which are Training, and Policies and Procedures. Our Partnership email receives at least 20 enquiries a day.

As a Partnership, we have agreed with the NEL ICB, Police and Barking & Dagenham and Redbridge Partnerships to share key communications across the Tri-borough footprint with the NEL ICS and Police. We began this in June 2022 with Child Safety Week, where we promoted the local CDOP themes of safe swimming and safe sleeping. We plan one theme a term going forward, with mental health in autumn 2022, backed by a supportive local radio broadcast with MIND, to emphasize suicide prevention and mental health days. This was ably led by David Waddington, HSP Coordinator. In spring 2023, we promoted children's mental health.

*“NEL ICB ensures the voice of those who receive funding is reflected on assessments such as Continuing Health Care (CHC), Mental Health placements and placement reviews. We ensure that those in receipt of CHC funding who require advocacy support have access to it. The ICB also ensures that Mental Capacity Assessments are completed as required/best interest decisions are completed for individuals that lack mental capacity. The ICB has patients’ representatives at the Board level. Multi-lingual leaflets in different languages are produced on how to make a complaint”.*

## Havering Safeguarding Partnership Team

During the financial year, there have been changes to the Team. David Waddington, Coordinator returned to his substantive post after a year's secondment to the Team. Shakira Gordon sadly left as Learning and Development Officer in September 2022, and was replaced in November by Samantha Henry. Thilini Perera began work as HSP Coordinator in January 2023. Thilini, Samantha and Elisabeth work full-time. Maria and Lynn work part-time. Thank you to them for their hard work this year and for their work in preparing this report

## Finances

The Partnership's funding is shared jointly by the SAB and HSCP. The Team are hosted by Havering Council. We are also supported by gifts in kind; charring, room provision and training support, for example NEL ICB paid for the MCA Champions Project and chair the Case Review Working Group

### SAB & SCP Contributions April 2022 – March 2023

PARTNERS	2022-23
NELFT	£9,556.66
BHRUT	£9,556.66
NEL ICB	£50,000
MOPAC	£10,000
PROBATION	£1,879
HAVERING COUNCIL	£168,025
CARRY FORWARD	£48,886
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£297,883</b>

## Expenditure

Reviews	KASEY SAR £9657
Staffing	£216,000
Independent SAB Chair	£17,000
Independent Scrutineer	£12,000
Website Development	£11,131 (additional training feature this year)
Learning and Development	£24,724
TASP membership	£450
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£290,962</b>



## Safeguarding Children Annual Report

### HSCP Business Plan key achievements 2020-23

- Increase in Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) training opportunities and attendees leads to increase in identification;
- Quality Assurance of MASH referrals, CSA and Early Help interventions, which has led to training, and shared examples of good referrals;
- Development of training area on website and a blended training offer- increase in delegates and decrease in non-attendance;
- Creation of serious incident process and standing Case Review Working Group;
- Implementation of HSCP Executive in April 2022, including Education as a fourth partner;
- Promotion of key local preventive issues for Child Safety Week 2022- safe sleeping and water safety in consultation with CDOP;
- Formation of Strategic Memorandum of Understanding and Havering Safeguarding Strategic Group.

The HSCP Business Plan 2023-24 can be found here:

<https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/childrenpartnership/hscp-business-plan/>

***“Practitioners, with the support of their Associate Directors and Service Leads are proactive in approaching their respective Named Professionals for Safeguarding in their areas for bespoke advice in relation to complex cases of concern where Safeguarding is or may become a feature. The High Level Risk Reporting procedure is further reinforced by the NELFT safeguarding team when staff bring complex cases to the Advice Service and when in the practitioner's, or Safeguarding Advisor's professional judgement, the case may reach the threshold for high level risk reporting and escalation”. NELFT***

## ***Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership Meetings***

A new HSCP Executive Meeting was established in April 2022, chaired by Brian Boxall, and attended by the Independent Scrutineer. This was as the formal BHR Partnership structure ended. The HSCP Executive originally met monthly and now meets bi-monthly and engages only the Statutory Partners.

The HSCP Main Partnership meets quarterly. Attendance is outlined at Appendix 1 below, and is stable. This year the Partnership has considered the LADO Annual Report 2021-22, the CDOP Annual Report 2021-22, the IRO Annual Report 2021-22, Unregulated Placements, Probation Services' update following their inspection, information about Domestic Abuse in Havering, the reviews of Star and Arthur, completed by the National Panel, the cost of living crisis, Transitions, local learning around CSA (Child Sexual Abuse), Young Carers, Learning and Development, and the local Safeguarding Survey from 2022; at each meeting there is feedback from the Educational Strategic Partnership, Early Help Partnership Board, the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategic Group and the HSCP working groups, with data exception reports.

The Partnership receives regular reports from the following strategic and operational groups:

### **Adolescent Safeguarding Strategic Board**

The Adolescent Safeguarding Strategic Board (ASB) is chaired by the Director of Starting Well, although adult agencies also attend. This year the operational and strategic oversight of exploitation of young people was reviewed. In summer 2022, the HARM Panel (Havering Adolescent Risk Management) became operational, replacing the CSE Panel, Pre-MACE, Missing Panel and the CCE Panel. HARM is an operational Panel, which provides challenge, quality assurance and support to chairs and senior leads from each agency for children missing and being exploited it provides the focus for MACE. HARM uses a new data dashboard to identify the top children each month with escalating and emerging concerns. Then MACE meets monthly; it is a Strategic Police and Local Authority led multi-agency meeting to hold key partners to account with regards to safeguarding Havering children from exploitation.

There has been refresh of the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy for 2022-25, led by Justine Wilson-Darke, former Head of IASS, (Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding Support Service) YJS (Youth Justice Service) and Virtual School, Havering CSC. The IASS works both directly with, and through a network of trained and supported lead professionals, to identify and support young people aged 10 to 18 years old (up to 25 years where there are SEND), who require additional support to enable them to make informed choices and maintain positive pathways. This was informed by the Independent Scrutiny of the Education Strategic Partnership and functioning of the IASS.

The IASS has a focused piece of work at Harold Hill, Love the Hill, as it is an area with high youth violence concerns. Love the Hill is a MOPAC funded piece of work. The funding has been extended to March 2024. Surveys were carried out in February 2022 and a few key things emerged regarding the environment, for example dog fouling, littering, fly tipping, public substance misuse and not enough provision for children and young people.

As a result of scrutinising missing children data, the ASSB recommended a multi-agency audit of missing young people, which took place in July 2023. The HSCP Missing Protocol and Exploitation Protocol have been produced in Summer 2023.

A Junior Citizens' fortnight took place in June 2022, organised by the Community Safety and Enforcement Team with over 2,000 students from Year 6 with Police Officers, London Fire Brigade, Wize Up, in attendance and went very well. They learnt how to travel safely on public transport, about illegal substances to avoid and how to respond to emergency situations.

A discretionary SAR (Safeguarding Adults' Review) was completed by Professor Michael Preston-Shoot regarding two young people known to adults and children's services, who both sadly died; this is referred to as SAR Q&Y and was published in summer 2022. There were issues of mental health concerns and substance use. The review identified joint issues for the SAB and HSCP, with recommendations about developing a joint vision of Transitional Safeguarding.

The SAR was a thematic review of the effectiveness of how services work together with young people as they approach the transitions from children's to adult's services. The SAR included learning around executive capacity, legal literacy, self-neglect and hoarding, cultural and economic diversity, suicide prevention, the exploitation of vulnerable adults, interventions and motivations. A comprehensive training plan has been put in place as a result. The SAR asked for assurances around transitional safeguarding and the training of the workforce in trauma informed practice.

The review strongly advocated drawing on the resources of all agencies to support transitions. The SAB and HSCP led a Transitional Safeguarding summit during Safeguarding Week in November 2022.

A new Data Sharing agreement was finalised during the year across the local authority, health, police, education and the voluntary sector to improve the identification of adolescents in need of support earlier. They rolled out a new Havering Adolescent Risk Management (HARM) Panel under the MACE (Multi-Agency Child Exploitation Panel) to respond to the top children of concern, both emerging and open, to ensure joined-up support to act on escalation. A new Havering Risk and Vulnerability Tool (HaRVA) was introduced in the autumn 2022.

## Early Help Partnership Board

The Early Help Partnership Board (EHPB) has been in operation since January 2018 with the aim of providing strategic buy-in and oversight of the 0-25 Early Help offer across the Partnership. The strategy was refreshed in 2022. The EHPB has considered school readiness and support, community group engagement in providing parenting courses,

The 0-5 offer is now being shared consistently through the Midwifery and Health Visiting Service. For all new birth visits undertaken by the health visiting service the Children's Centres registration online link is also being shared consistently. In partnership with Havering MIND, the Early Help Service submitted a funding bid to increase the offer currently available in respect of perinatal mental health. This funding, will allow them to expand on the success of 'Butterflies' and implement Peer Support Groups within the community.

The majority of Early Years Practitioners are now trained in the 5 to Thrive model and further opportunities may be made available team pending funding allocations. SEND Groups delivered by Havering Youth Services (Young Revellers) are delivered 3-4 times a week and are well attended. The Youth Service regularly liaises with the CAD 0-19 team and also engages with the SEN schools within the borough in regards to promotion and service development.

Training has been delivered around Baby First Aid, Sleep Training and Working with Fathers, through the Butterflies Peri-Natal Support funding.

The Early Help Service has been nominated for 2 awards this year. Helen Harding, Head of Service, was a finalist in the 'Social Worker of the Year' awards and the team of Early Years Practitioners have been nominated at the 'CYP Now' awards for the work and dedication provided to families through the COVID-19 Pandemic.

The Early Help Family Practitioner service has seen the highest amount of referrals since 2018 with an increase of 109% in referrals for Q2 than compared to Q1 2022-23.

The Supporting Families programme was relaunched in October 2022. The new programme will aim to evidence the wide range of support that is offered to families through services and how this can lead to positive, sustainable change. This will be inclusive of support provided by multi-agency partners and will allow the service to further evidence the holistic support that is available to families within the borough.

Early Years Practitioners within the Early Help service are developing relationships with families of children subject to a CYPS or Early Help intervention. This is to ensure that vulnerable, or hard to reach families, are encouraged to engage in the Universal 0-5 offer and that our targeted families are supported through their intervention.



The Havering Emotional Support Team are now established in 13 Havering schools and will look to expand in the coming year. Referrals are steady at the current time and look to increase in the new academic term Health Practitioners are now carrying out a number of post-natal checks within the Childrens' Centres with an Early Years Practitioner linked in as a key contact for the 0- 5 offer.

A continued frustration which is not yet resolved has been access to birth data in order to offer support to families from infancy onwards and Hospital admissions for 0-5 years.

## Education Strategic Partnership

The membership of the Education Strategic Partnership (ESP) is drawn from senior leaders across all of Havering's schools, colleges, early year's providers and other education settings. The group usually meets termly and is chaired by the Local Authority's Assistant Director for Education Services, Trevor Cook, who represents Education now as the fourth statutory partner.

Throughout the COVID-19 pandemic, the group met more frequently to provide strategic direction to the local authority's response to support education and childcare settings. The group feeds back on experiences in educational settings in Havering. Independent Schools are now represented and the HSCP feeds back on pertinent safeguarding themes at each meeting.

This year the ESP has considered HSB (Harmful Sexual Behaviour) and CSA, (Child Sexual Abuse) emotional wellbeing and support from the Emma Freud Centre, staff recruitment and retention, recovery after the Pandemic, children missing education, the MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) audit 2022, and the implications of CSC restructure.

The ESP reports back to each Board meeting. A response and action plan to the Ofsted review into sexual abuse on schools and colleges 'Everyone's Invited' was approved by the ESP. Actions included:

- Havering School Improvement Service (HSIS) have ensured that all Education Providers, Governors, and staff across Education Services, are aware of any updates to safeguarding procedures and guidance;
- HSIS (Havering School Improvement Services) have updated safeguarding audits to reflect a focus on child sexual abuse and harassment (including peer on peer abuse);
- Havering Education Service training offer provides opportunities for collaborative training across the partnership;
- Continued review of threshold application through quality assurance activity

and practice guidance;

- Build on work undertaken by MASH and Early Help with school cluster groups and Designated Safeguarding Leads to identify any training needs and respond accordingly;
- Raised awareness of services provided by Barnardo's (Harmful Sexual Behaviour Support Service, TIGER Light and Child Sexual Abuse Hub) and monitor uptake and lessons learned.

## Case Review Working Group

This standing joint HSAB and HSCP working group began in September 2022 and is chaired by the Designated Professionals Paul Archer and Joy Maguire, NEL ICB. The group meets quarterly in person and considers serious incidents and learning. The group is enthusiastically attended, and will consider oversight of Domestic Homicides from the autumn to ensure a good join up of local learning.

Nationally, 2022-23 saw 456 notifications of serious incidents to the National Panel. Havering made 3 notifications for the 1,574 Children in Need population statistic. There were 90 notifications in London for a Child in Need population of 70,960, and a total population of 8,173,941 children. Havering's figure is slightly higher than the London average, and the National Panel found all the Reviews to be appropriately undertaken. This is a good indication of the multi-agency system's judgement regarding local serious incidents.

### Learning and Improvement

This section explains how the HSCP has learnt from serious incidents and applied the learning in order to improve services, and also through the delivery of training and workforce development across the local multi-agency partnership.

### Rapid Reviews

This year, HSCP completed 3 Rapid Reviews to consider the circumstances surrounding serious incidents involving local children, to identify learning and improvements required and to determine whether Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPRs) were required. A further serious incident was reviewed regarding Child Sexual Abuse. All reviews had themes of children who move across boroughs or counties.

In order to capitalise on the learning from these Rapid Reviews, a Learning and Improvement Tracker follows all the recommendations and is reviewed at the CRWG and at bi-annual action plan accountability meetings, chaired by the HSCP Chair.

During the year, we reviewed one tragic death relating to knife crime which led to

Independent Scrutiny regarding a location; an option agreed with the National Panel. The report was approved in June 2023.

In August 2022, the HSCP met with the London representatives for the National Panel to discuss the Rapid Review regarding the knife fatality. Following helpful advice, the Independent Scrutineer undertook a deep dive of a local area in Havering, from a Contextual Safeguarding viewpoint as a themed review considering other serious incidents in relation to local Serious Youth Violence.

As a result of our learning, we reviewed our local practice in relation to national learning, developed our Transitional Safeguarding further, including a new HARM panel, worked to review processes around education for children either living outside our borough but attending our schools, or attending schools out of borough; and promoted more work around Cultural Competency. See our Serious Youth Violence 7 minute briefing here, which we produced: <https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/childrenpartnership/7-minute-briefings/>

We reviewed a historic situation about Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) in June 2022, as a serious incident, which has led to our use of the CSA Centre resources, further work around multi-agency meetings and information sharing, and a relaunch of our Escalation Policy. This review was not sent to the National Panel, as it did not meet the criteria. In October 2022 we carried out a virtual learning event regarding recognising signs and symptoms of CSA and reviewing the Family K, which involved 25 practitioners, who were well engaged. Several local Havering agencies were also involved in a Rapid Review in July 2022 regarding historic CSA, led by our neighboring borough Barking and Dagenham. As a result, Barking and Dagenham LSCP will be carrying out a LSCPR, including some of our local agencies.

In the summer 2022 we reviewed a tragic accidental death for a family living temporarily in another borough as a Rapid Review. We identified learning around Elective Home Education (EHE) and information sharing across borough boundaries and we reminded local practitioners of EHE and information sharing in the summer too. The Quality and Effectiveness Working Group then reviewed EHE in Havering in April 2023. The National Panel ratified our decisions not to undertake LCSPRs as proportionate in the circumstances.

In January 2023, a further Rapid Review was undertaken regarding a young child who was seriously injured in his mother's care over Christmas. There were a number of national counties involved, as the family had moved areas. The impact of lockdown was clear in terms of agencies seeing the child. Following this review, we have reminded practitioners about sharing information, seeing the child, follow-ups when a child misses education or appointments, transient and Traveller families and the ending of Court Orders, which are emerging points of learning. We have prepared 7 minute briefings on "Was Not Brought" for both adults and children and our Level 3 safeguarding children training was updated as a result. The National Panel endorsed our decision to carry out a LSCPR regarding this child, which begins in summer 2023, with reviewer Kathy Webster.

## Children's Quality and Effectiveness Working Group

During 2022-23, this working group was chaired by Detective Superintendent Lewis Basford and Lynne Adams, Director of Quality, CSC.

A multi-agency MASH audit of six children took place in June 2022. The audit group felt that two of the six referrals made to MASH were appropriate. Two referrals could have been highlighted as information sharing alone. Most referrals were timely and the Partnership could be assured of this. Meeting members found the complexity of responding to referrals illuminating and realised how important the background information and purpose of the referral were. As a result, the MASH have prepared two exemplars of good early help and statutory referrals to aide local agencies.

We know anecdotally that the timeliness of MASH responses to referrals have been affected by the rise in demand. In our audit, we found there was more to do to ensure that the Working Together 2018 guidance of feedback to the referrer within 24 hours is taking place. The MASH multi-agency team will be auditing one case a week going forward.

There has been good engagement in providing training about MASH (MARF) referrals to all agencies. We can see the impact of this training for both children's and adults' Police Merlins going to the MASH, for example and an improvement in their focus. The MASH audit was repeated in June 2023 looking at 6 multi-agency referrals.

The MASH was restructured to meet demand in autumn 2022. The MASH team moved to Havering Town Hall in August and a portal and electronic pathway were introduced in October 2022. MASH contacts have grown by 46% and referrals by 20% since 2018-19. There has been some growth in MASH capacity from NELFT.

Police Stop and Search data has been considered by the HSCP Executive in April 2022. An audit was undertaken by Detective Superintendent Lewis Basford of all intimate Police stop and searches in Havering from 2019 to date, as a result of the learning from the Hackney CSRP regarding Child Q. No concerns were raised for the searches and all took place in custody with consent and an Appropriate Adult, as required.

As a means to prepare for the JTAI (Joint Targeted Area Inspection) we carried out a live online multi-agency audit in July 2022 of four adolescents around the theme of Exploitation. This helped us to refine our multi-agency audit form. We identified a need to strengthen our strategy meeting, escalation and information sharing processes. Three out of the four cases were escalated following the meeting and we will reinforce our themes of information sharing and ensuring strong strategy meetings as the autumn progressed.

Continuing our theme, the BHR Safeguarding Partnership audited two Havering cases of CSA, using the SCIE (Social Care Institute of Excellence) learning together model in September

2022. A teenage young woman and a girl aged 4 were considered from a multi-agency perspective in Havering. Findings showed that for both children professionals had worked hard. There was learning about information sharing, escalations, hearing the voice of the child and involving the required professionals in strategy meetings. One case was escalated.

In March 2023, in Havering, again as an audit theme across the BHR footprint, we carried out a multi-agency audit of Early Help from a Neglect perspective, looking at two children, male and female teenagers, using Appreciative Inquiry methodology. There was a Tri-borough moderation meeting in May 2023. There was evidence of very good practice for Havering regarding patience and persistence in working with families, use of the HSCP Neglect Toolkit and supportive supervision.

### **HEARING the Child's Voice – local examples**

Young people have also helped us respond to the tragic stabbings of their peers that we have faced in Havering. Local young people had a workshop and met with the Safer Neighbourhood Police, Insp Zed Asghar and the Police Engagement Officer in April 2022. They spoke of where they felt safe in Havering and gave recommendations about what could be done. Some did not feel safe in School, parks at night, alleyways, the Tube, everywhere at night, on their way home, crowded places, night time Romford, and Harold Hill. They said that they wanted to be listened to, to have mentoring in School, better lighting in public places, and help for children who are being bullied. Young people spoke about being desensitised regarding violent events, as they seemed to be a daily occurrence. They spoke about platforms where videos are shared regarding fights and aggressive behaviour. They shared experiences of being stopped and searched.

**Feel Safe:** Home x 5, School x2, Youth Clubs, around my family, Home with People, Youth Council meetings / other meetings, home with people.

**Not Safe:** School, Parks at night, Alley Ways, The tube (TFL), everywhere at night, On my way home, crowded places, Romford late , outside at night / Harold Hill area.

In January 2023, 20 young people from Havering, Barking and Dagenham and Redbridge



boroughs came together with Assistant Commissioner Rolfe, Superintendent Butterfield and Met officers from the Youth Engagement Team, Safer Neighbourhood and Safer Schools teams to

discuss violence against women and girls (VAWG)/ Stop and Search.

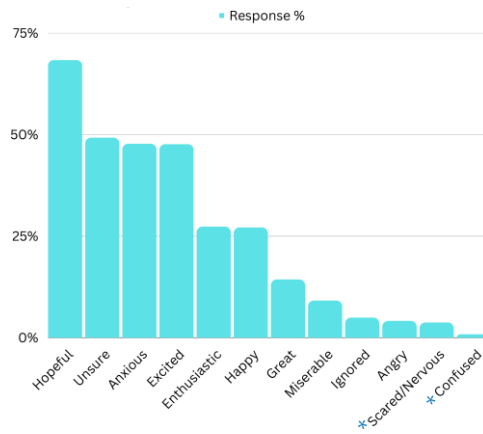
### **Parents of children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities)**

Parents of children with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) took part in a survey finishing in April 2023. 380 parents who lived in Havering with their families responded and a quarter of them had more than one child with additional needs. 56% of the children were at the primary stage of education, and in mainstream school; just under half of all the children had an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan). Many of the children had additional support at school, adapted learning materials and staff were better trained to meet their children's needs. 60% of parents felt that their child's school was welcoming however, approx 50% of parents felt that the Local Authority did not understand their child's needs.

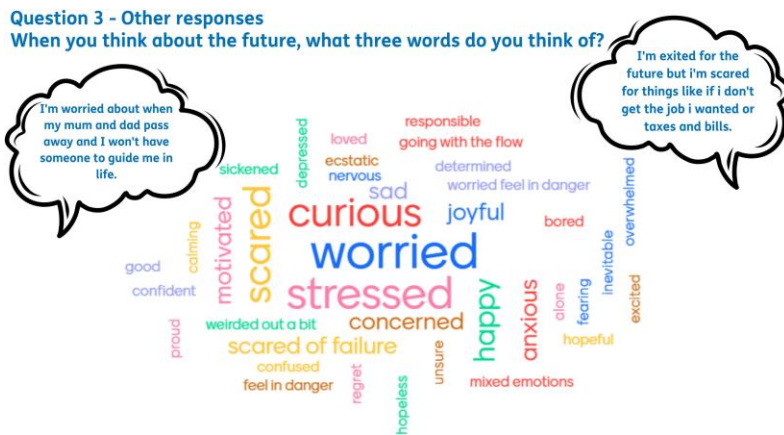


Havering CSC carried out a Shout Survey into schools in December 2022, for those in Year 6 and any higher years. Just over 1000 children replied, 70% of whom were aged between 10-12 years. 57% respondents were from two schools, Frances Bardsley Academy for Girls and the Royal Liberty School.

The survey asked young people how they felt about the future. Out of 1012 responses, 68% felt hopeful.



There was however a significant sense of worry about the future as can be seen in this world.



660 young people who responded, said that they had had hate directed at them. 63% said this hate was related to how they looked, followed by 25.8% relating to race and 18% for age. 837 young people responded to a question about worries about money.

<b>Future Student Debt</b>	<b>43.2%</b>
<b>Somewhere to live</b>	<b>41.5%</b>
<b>Jobs</b>	<b>41.5%</b>
<b>Food</b>	<b>29.5%</b>
<b>Clothes</b>	<b>23.8%</b>
<b>Location of further education</b>	<b>23.4%</b>

Young people were asked where they felt safe in Havering. 30% felt safe everywhere; 25% felt unsafe in local parks, 56% of young people felt unsafe on the streets, and 34% felt unsafe at bus stops and train stations. Young people were also asked what would make Havering better- 9% answered about crime and safety.

### Youth Council meeting with IOPC (Independent Office of Police Conduct) March 2023

When young people were asked if they felt safe in the UK (stand up = yes; sit down = no) there was an overwhelming response to ask if they could lie down or go under the chair; with young people saying they are not feeling safe anywhere. They also talked about the trauma of witnessing knife crime (by stander - not being involved) and how that has impacted on

their lives e.g. stopping them accessing the community, flashbacks etc.

### **Children in Care Council**

The CIC took over the Corporate Parenting Panel in March 2023.

## **Review of local Multi-Agency Safeguarding Activity**

### **Need, Risk and Demand**

The following data on safeguarding children activity demonstrates comparative local levels of need, risk and demand over time. Contacts to Children's Social Care are at the same level as last year at 12,120 and referrals have fallen slightly by 150. In the past financial year 2022-23, Domestic Abuse contacts to the Front Door have more than doubled to 2,300, and Children's Mental Health contacts grown by a third. Neglect contacts are more than four times higher, which could indicate the impact of the Neglect Strategy and Toolkit launched in May 2022. Child Sexual Abuse contacts have fallen and we continue to focus on this Partnership priority.

Some of these rises could be seen as a result of greater demands on families, but also could be attributed to some of the targeted work on safeguarding issues we have undertaken as a Partnership this year, leading to better identification of concerns. We can see more young children have been accommodated into care, which could be a picture of rising risk for young children, such as around Non Accidental Injury or it could relate to the rising population of young children in the borough. We discuss this multi-agency picture in each quarterly Quality and Effectiveness Working Group.

### **Disproportionality**

In terms of disproportionality, Havering mirrors national data, with those of a Black Caribbean and Black African background, those living in more deprived areas, and those with low incomes being more likely to receive safeguarding children support or to be suspended from school. The Youth Justice Board has been supporting a subgroup to consider Havering's response to these issues. The HSCP Independent Scrutineer addressed how these issues impact young people in a location, this year. Our 3 Rapid Reviews this year have featured two children from a Minority Ethnic background.

We know that in terms of poverty and inequality, some members of our community will be affected more than others and the cost of living crisis will place further pressures on our most vulnerable families. We sent out financial and Housing information as a response to the financial pressures people are facing and see this as one of the factors in the rising safeguarding activity we have experienced. We plan to publish a joint Equalities' Statement across the Partnership in Black History Month.

We have been working this year to ensure agencies work well together in identifying and



responding to need and risk. The Information Sharing Task and Finish Group ran until July 2022, chaired by Dr Liz Adamson, Designated Doctor NEL ICB. This multi-agency group successfully clarified information sharing across the Partnership, including with GPs, ensuring they have lists of children subject to Child Protection Plans. A consent to share information document was produced. Henceforth, we will be referring to the Pan London advice on information sharing. A Child Protection Leads meeting gathers bi-monthly to ensure smooth working across agencies at an operational level.

## **Family Help**

Family or Early Help is one of the ways to support parental vulnerabilities and mitigate their effect on children in the home. There are a number of strands of this preventive work.

The Supporting Families Programme worked with 313 nominations and met its target of "turning around" 223 families in the calendar year 2022. This year, the Programme had an overall target of evidencing significant, sustained outcomes for 223 families. At the close of the financial year they were able to successfully evidence positive outcomes for 312 families, an over-submission of 39.9%. During the 2023-2024 financial period they have a target of evidencing outcomes for 361 families and to date have already achieved 47% of this figure.

Over the past 4 years, Havering have been able to evidence 100% of the targets set out by the Department of Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (DLUHC), under the Supporting Families programme and they have now begun to exceed these targets through the work undertaken by the Practitioners and Social Workers within CSC. This growth may have been supported by an increase in referrals for support, following COVID-19 and the cost of living crisis but consideration should also be given to the work that is being undertaken by the Quality and Assurance team in respect of improving case recording, evidencing work with families and bespoke training offers for professionals, such as the 'Thinking About Assessments' training and targeted workshops for writing effective family plans.

Private Fostering is where a child is cared for by others, without a legal agreement, for over 28 days. This practice is not illegal but requires a statutory assessment to ensure that the child is safe and the placement is appropriate. These situations can be hard to identify as a multi-agency group. In 2022-23, Private Fostering was identified as a factor in 21 CSC assessments. In 2022-23, CSC began to request termly reports from local schools regarding Private Fostering early in 2023.

This year, the HSCP and HSAB publicised the referral process and support given to local Imago Young Carers and included this topic in our newsletter. The Children's Quality and Effectiveness Working Group then scrutinised their work at the end of 2022. The impact has been positive. The Project is now working with 250 Young Carers, and have seen an increase in referrals over the last 6 months by around 20%, compared to the same 6 months of last year.

Young Carers' referrals have increased from a wide range of agencies, including CAMHS, GPs,

Housing Providers, Drug & Alcohol Services, CSC, DWP and Youth Offending. They have been in more regular contact with Havering Adult Carers and they have both made referrals into Adults Carers' Services for some 17-18 year olds, and received referrals for siblings and under 18 Young Carers. Young Carers has also developed some good relationships with schools since the DSL Forum meetings in the spring 2023, and are looking to set up young carers' groups and run staff awareness sessions with 2 high schools in September 2023.

In CSC (Children's Social Care), the MASH (Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub) was reviewed and moved location in summer 2022, and now has an excellent new portal for online referrals.

Adolescent Safeguarding Services were reviewed in Spring 2023.

374 children attended group work through IASSS (Integrated Adolescents Safeguarding Support Service) during the financial year; this ranges from GoGirls, to the SAFE Youth Club to the LGBTQI+ Group. Detached outreach work was targeted to the more deprived areas, Romford, the north and south of the borough. The Turnaround programme offers diversionary and early intervention programme for 10 to 17 year olds in the Youth Justice Service (YJS). In the first year (December 2021 to March 2023) the YJS mobilised and offered the Turnaround programme to 10 children.

32 children became First Time Entrants (FTEs) to the Youth Justice Service this year. 75 young people were diverted from the Youth Justice System and offered alternative support. There were 28 Triages; and 47 Community Resolutions, of which the vast majority (45) were for Substance Misuse and referred to Wize Up. In terms of the success of Triage intervention CSC tracks each child for 12 months after their triage to see if they become a FTE; 96% of all children tracked did not become FTEs, which is very positive. The current trajectory remains stable over the year with 5 children reoffending in total; and 3 children in Custody.

### Young Justice Outcomes by population

	White	Black	Mixed	Asian	Other	N/K
<b>Population</b>	69%	11%	8%	9%	1%	1%
<b>First</b>	44%	22%	23%	6%	-	-
<b>Time Entrants</b>	44%	22%	9%	3%	-	-

### Contacts and Referrals to Children's Social Care

A contact is made to the front door MASH (Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub) if there are concerns for a child, and if it meets the criteria, it then becomes a referral. Contacts this year are much the same as last year, at around 12,120. This is a rise from 2020-21 of 10,326 contacts. Similar numbers of referrals have ensued. Chief concerns are around Domestic

Abuse, behavioural issues, Neglect, Mental Health and Physical Abuse. Contacts to the MASH remain consistent with around 200 - 250 referrals a week.

This year, MASH has identified an increase in child to parent/sibling violence. Contextual Safeguarding concerns are now being identified through referrals, following on from a training drive to partner agencies to understand and identify these concerns. They have also seen an increase in intra-familial sexual abuse.

**Top Ten Contacts 2021-23 (Red for 2022-23)**

<b>Domestic Abuse</b>	<b>2203 2320</b>	<b>Parent / Carer Mental Health</b>	<b>608 631</b>
<b>Behaviour Support</b>	<b>1707 1501</b>	<b>Early Help</b>	<b>604</b>
<b>Neglect</b>	<b>844 1239</b>	<b>Homelessness</b>	<b>287 418</b>
<b>Physical Abuse</b>	<b>772 849</b>	<b>Sexual Abuse</b>	<b>399 368</b>
<b>Child Mental Health</b>	<b>675 658</b>	<b>Socially unacceptable behaviour</b>	<b>299 392</b>

This financial year, the largest number of contacts was for Domestic Abuse (2,320). This figure continues to rise and influenced the topic of our Annual Conference in November 2022 to be Domestic Abuse. In 2018-19, the same percentage of contacts became referrals (450 per 10,000)-evidencing today that a steady conversion rate of referrals to contacts has continued, despite increased demand, which also suggests a good multi-agency understanding of the threshold to refer to the MASH.

Of 364 new presentations to treatment for substance misuse during 2019-20, 77 (21%) were parents or adults living with children. There are 399 adults in Havering with alcohol dependence living with children. Only 80 are in treatment indicating the majority (80%) are unattended to and therefore potentially a threat to child safety. This rate is higher than the national benchmark of unmet treatment need (75%).

**Substance Use**

The Council's Public Health Team refreshed its all-age substance use strategy with a successful multi-agency working group this Spring. We plan a Training Needs' Analysis, joint training and a launch together in the autumn. We know that during the year, Vaping has been reported in schools as a gateway drug and the Licensing Team has been publicising these risks and using mystery shoppers in local premises, including the Challenge 25 initiative.

Wize Up as part of CGL (Change, Grow Live) provides substance use interventions to young people in Havering. During the year, 113 young people have accessed Wize Up. A local challenge is to identify those families where the parents are using substances. CGL will be working with parents in treatment to ensure all children aged under 5 are registered with Children's Centres, and they will complete the introduction to the Children's Centre, where appropriate.

CSC Assessment rates have fallen in real terms in comparison to referrals - 31% of contacts became assessments in 2018-19 and we see nearly the same figure in 2022-23 at 26%. But 36% of referrals became Sect 47 investigations (child protection) in 2022-23, as last year, compared to 19% in 2018-19. 92% of referrals then led to an assessment this past financial year; this compares to 87% in 2018-19. 324 Child Protection Plans began compared to 284 last year.

### Referrals to CSC from 2015 to 2023.

2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
2,410	2,616	3,277	2,759	2,843	3,213	3,303	3,163

This year re-referrals have fluctuated been between 29 and 15%. In 2021-22, 22% of referrals were repeat referrals, which was a decrease from 2018-19. Havering's current repeat referral rate is 19% slightly lower than the London average, national or statistical neighbour figures.

We carried out a multi-agency audit of 6 MASH referrals in June 2022, which led to helpful learning around consent, and practitioners including the voice of the child in referrals. We can see a growth in child protection activity this year. With the review of the MASH, we anticipate closer multi-agency working relationships and improved feedback to referrers. All the actions following the audit were carried out, with MASH providing training and examples of good referrals. This audit was repeated in June 2023.

### Section 47 Enquiries

2014-15	2015-16	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23
936	1,320	818	534	703	710	1,174	1,063

Figures for Section 47 child protection enquiries have fluctuated over the years as evident above, but we see a significant rise for 2021-23. The rate of Section 47 enquiries (per 10,000 of the child population) is currently higher than it has been in Havering at any point since

2015-16 and a similar pattern can be seen in the rate of child protection plans, which, at 206 per 10,000, is the highest since 2016-17, and higher than statistical neighbours, London and national figures.

### Children subject to a child protection plans (individual children) 2015-2023

2015 - 16	2016 -17	2017 -18	2018 -19	2019 -20	2020 -21	2021 -22	2022 -23
302	295	215	207	155	200	247	270

78% of Child Protection Conferences took place within the statutory requirement of 15 working days. This has been a fairly consistent figure over several years and a stubborn issue for us to resolve. 76% of core group meetings are held within timescales, which is a fall from 100% last year. In the summer 2023, we began a Core Group Meeting survey, as an action from the Quality and Effectiveness Working Group.

### Child Protection Plan categories

In Havering at March 2023, there are 270 children subject to child protection plans. This is a rise from 247 at the same time last year and a steady rise from 155 in 2019-20. There were 117 plans for the category of Neglect, which is 43% of our child protection plans, a drop of 3% last year. This is above the London average where 40% of child protection plans are under the category of Neglect. Emotional abuse is a key signifier in situations of Domestic Abuse and we will be encouraging practitioners to consider using the category for under 5s of the risk of Physical Abuse in those situations as the year progresses. Whilst a small number of children of children have been subject to a plan for the risk of Sexual Abuse during the year, there was no one on 31st March 2023. We will continue to prioritise our work around Sexual Abuse.

**This table shows a snapshot of child protection plans as at 31st March 2023.**

Category	Number
Physical Abuse	4
Neglect	117
Emotional Abuse	120
Neglect & Emotional Abuse	5
Child Sexual Abuse	0

## Child Sexual Abuse

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) is one of our Partnership priorities. During the year, we have considered local CSA data regularly, which has helped to clarify our local understanding. Leaders in Police and CSC are scrutinising Police investigations to ensure referrals to CSC have taken place as required. We carried out a learning review re Family K in summer 2022; some of our local learning has highlighted multi-agency workers' struggles to name CSA and to act on signs and indicators, instead of anticipating verbal disclosures. Responses to CSA was added to our Risk Register in April 2022 as red, as there have been very few referrals into the CSA Hub or pediatrician involvement in Strategy Meetings to discuss individual children.

In Spring 2023, BHRUT reviewed its data around Sexual Health Services – Black and Ethnic Minority children had far fewer attendances at the Hospital sexual health clinic than White children. This could mean that there is less sexual contact in this demographic, or it could be that some groups of children do not know how to access sexual health services. The BHRUT Named Nurse has met with community health colleagues, and this has been raised with School Nurses, Who will be looking at how this information is shared with children.

Child Sexual Abuse	Contacts	Assessments	CP Plans
2022 - 2023	368	129	-
2021 - 2022	399	150	2
2020 - 2021	235	101	7

Police data shows us that in the 12 months up to December 2021, Havering had 79 child sexual offences, of which 64 were recent and 15 non-recent. This does not yet seem to have developed into active planning. We are triangulating this data with MASH contacts for CSA, CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) HSB (Harmful Sexual Behaviour) and peer on peer abuse, LADO investigations for sexual abuse, enquiries made to the NELFT helpline for staff and sexual health data.

Havering's multi-agency Child Protection Professional Implementation Group meets quarterly and is the forum for involved operational leads to continually review systems and processes relating to CSA. We plan to develop a CSA Strategy as a Partnership and set up a Task and Finish Group to take this forward. The aim is to:

Foster co-production with experts by experience (child and adult);

- Raise Awareness across the whole multi agency partnership;
- Provide targeted input for different stages of response and intervention.

CSA awareness training was delivered to multiagency partners including developing "Let's Talk About Sex" training to help professionals overcome fears of talking about sex and sexual abuse. A flow chart has been provided regarding medicals.

**“Ongoing work between Adults’ and Children’s Services has continued, to deal with the most complex Transitions cases to support young adults safely and appropriately with very complex needs. Havering SAT (Safeguarding Adults Team) has contributed to the refreshed Terms of Reference for the Domestic Violence Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference and attends the weekly meetings as a key partner”. Havering Adults’ Social Care”**

## **Mental Health**

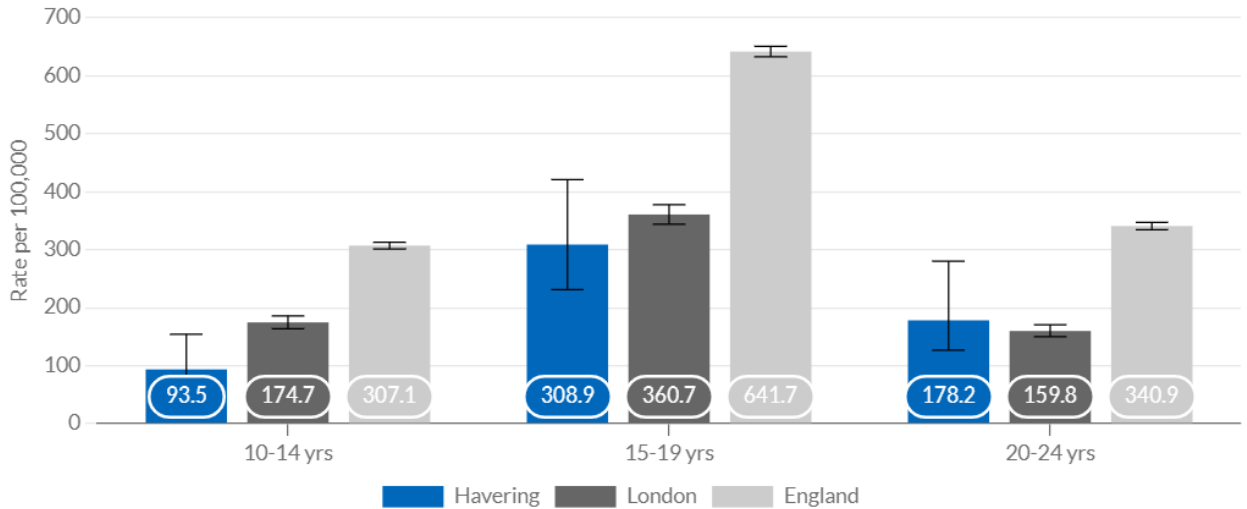
Mental Health is a Partnership priority for both the HSCP and SAB. CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) have continued to see significant demand. Over the year, practitioners held 13,342 appointments, 51% (6,863) were face to face. Was Not Broughts (not attending appointments) ranged between 16 and 23%. Only 2-3 referrals made were turned down each month. At the end of the year, March 2023, CAMHS had 2,232 active patients. During the year waiting times have varied from 88% to 61% being less than 18 weeks. There has been a steady rise in children having support, who are subject to EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plans) to it being approx 5% of patients. CAMHS’ surveys of friends and family showed an average response rate of finding the service good or very good ranging between 40-93%, with feedback poor in summer 2022, which may relate to service issues.

The Peace of Mind Service (POMS) is run by the Education Inclusion team to provide emotional support to children in school, sometimes as they wait for CAMHS appointments. Referrals have increased over the two years of operation from 200 in 2021-22 to 231 in 2022-23. There is no waiting list for CPOMS and 15 children are ready to begin support in the new academic year. MIND runs a service for those aged 17-25 years as a transition to adulthood, and they have not had as many referrals as for their other services. We will be ensuring better knowledge of their work going forward.

During the year, a new system for the frontdoor for CAMHS referrals was developed in NELFT. We can see a significant rise of referrals to CAMHS, particularly by GPs, Education and by self-referrals. NELFT has employed a Triage Nurse to support those waiting for appointments this year and has a 5-day follow up for those who attend A&E with mental health concerns. There is a Home Treatment Team for young people. 6 week groups have been developed for those who have concerns of anxiety, depression and low mood. There are two mental health school teams in the borough with 16 staff.

In 2021-22, Havering has had lower than average hospital admissions for self-harm for those aged 10-15 years, according to ONS data.

## Hospital admissions as a result of self-harm (2021/22)



## Domestic Abuse

There were 1,209 recorded incidents of Domestic Abuse (DA) in Havering in 2022-23; this represents a 7% increase on the same period last year (difference of 76 incidents). The volume incidents in Havering was on par with the London average in Q1, with London averaging at 1,205 reports per borough for the quarter. However, Havering saw a 7% increase compared to the same period as last year, and London as a whole saw a 1% reduction in incidents.

Police record their DA cases by wards with Gooshays in the north of the borough having the highest incidence. Our Tri Borough is the fourth highest for DA referrals in London Met Police, though Havering has the lowest DA referrals of the three boroughs.

The Cranstoun programme has received 46 referrals in this financial year with 33 referrals coming from CSC.

The Restart programme provides early intervention for perpetrators causing harm in families working with Children's Social Care and Early Help, to prevent continued abuse. 33 survivors were referred in 2022-23, 55% were parents living with children, of which there were 122. Where needed, access to accommodation may be provided for the perpetrator to increase family safety and space for action. The pilot takes a multi-agency approach, which includes delivering Safe & Together training for social work teams and working with Housing teams to innovate accommodation pathways. Feedback from the first round of case file audits in Havering was shared with practitioners and managers of audited cases. This has been very well received. Team Managers in Early Help and MASH have agreed to incorporate a guide on how to integrate Domestic Abuse informed language and improve Domestic Abuse Informed Documentation into their supervisions. Havering is the third highest referring borough.



## **MARAC**

Demand for the Havering DV MARAC (Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference) has increased as result of lockdowns and financial stress. At the start of COVID-19, MARAC meetings were increased from fortnightly to weekly. 12-14 cases are discussed per week with the cases being much more high risk with higher levels of violence. A daily MARAC model is now being planned in the MASH. The IDVAs (Independent Domestic Violence Advisors) are now co-located back at Romford Police station. The Community Safety Partnership is working closely with victim support and the DV lead to provide training to the police to raise awareness of how to refer to the DV MARAC. Referrals coming into the DV MARAC have risen by 46% which has had a knock on effect to all safeguarding partners. Safer Lives guidance states that at least 6 IDVAs are required to cope with the number of referrals being received.

Police recorded 4,622 Domestic Abuse offences in Havering for the calendar year- number 19 out of 32 borough highest in London (highest Croydon 8,184, lowest Richmond 1,870). Highest prevalence was in Gooshays Ward. 580 sexual offences recorded by Police in Havering (24th position in London- highest Westminster 1,587 and 360 offences in lowest Richmond). The ward Romford Town is the eighth highest in London with 107 offences recorded. There has been a 13% increase in DA in Havering against a 6% rise in London as a whole. We are undertaking a multi- agency audit of MARAC referrals for adults and children with the Community Safety Partnership in autumn 2023.

## **Serious Crime**

Havering is one of the safest boroughs in London, with 23,099 offences recorded in 2022-23, which equates to 88.6 offences per 1,000 population - this is a rise of 8.9% this year. Key issues are violence and vehicle offences, theft and drug offences.

In Quarter 1 2022-23, Havering Met Police received a 19% increase for notifiable offences against 9% for London as a whole, compared to the same quarter last year. Havering has seen the highest increase in reported offences within the Tri-borough of 19%; there has been an increase of 3% in Barking & Dagenham and a decrease of -1% in Redbridge compared to the same period in 2021-

22. There have been noticeable increases in Knife Crime and Knife Crime with Injury, Burglary and Sexual Offences. Reductions have been seen in Gun Crime, ASB (Anti-Social Behaviour) and Robbery.

The Council and partners work very closely with Schools around the topic of knife crime. The Schools Inclusions Team approved providers have five and ten day Programmes. Both the Programmes aim to give the students the ability to identify influences and factors which have contributed to the event and to give them the tools and support to influence change. Stay Safe workshops are delivered in primary schools to year 6 pupils, to inform them of the danger around knife crime and how to keep themselves safe. Street Doctors is a programme delivered

in secondary schools by medical students. This programme equips young people with practical skills to administer simple first aid in order to save lives when and where most needed. It also aims to change attitudes, increase young people’s confidence and aspirations, reducing the likelihood of violence. Inspired Future Knife Crime Workshop is a 4 hour intense workshop delivered to all year 9 students in all Havering schools.

Safe Havens are designated borough locations within communities or business districts where people can go to for help and assistance if they feel like this. The Innovation Hub (or Safe Haven as it is referred to by many partners) is now open. This is a converted archway by Romford train station, which is open for groups such as Street Pastors, Rail Pastors, Night Marshalls, British Transport Police, Neighbourhood Policing Team and others to use. Going forward, this location is set to be used by Youth Services, in order to run some detached work out of it, as well as drop in location for Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG). In the evenings it provides a central gathering location for night briefings to take place with all of the licensees in Romford.

There were 2,053 recorded incidents of violence with injury in Havering in 2022-23, up 3.5%. Police Sanction Detection rates were 5.2%. Knife crime was up 40% in Havering for the rolling financial year, with 259 offences. Sanction Detection rates were high at 65%. Sexual Offences were down 0.7% this year to 587, with a 40% Sanction detection rate.

Many incidents are centred on Romford Town Centre. Police support to the area has recently been doubled and it has been chosen as one of 12 Met-wide locations of concern, as part of new Police Operation Nightingale, meaning it will have further strategic support and oversight. Marshalls are also active in the area on Friday and Saturday nights.

	Q1 2019-20	Q1 2020-21	Q1 2021-22	Q1 2022-23
<b>Domestic Abuse Offences</b>	<b>653</b>	<b>621</b>	<b>671</b>	<b>777</b>
<b>Domestic Abuse Incidents</b>	<b>1046</b>	<b>1151</b>	<b>1133</b>	<b>1209</b>
<b>Gun Crime</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Violence with injury</b>	<b>286</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>308</b>	<b>329</b>
<b>Sexual Offences</b>	<b>125</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>152</b>	<b>182</b>
<b>Knife crime</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>64</b>

<b>Knife crime with injury</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>ASB</b>	<b>1356</b>	<b>4036</b>	<b>1804</b>	<b>1291</b>

The rise in Sexual Offences represents a 20% increase compared to Q1 2021-22 (difference of 30 incidents). London as a whole saw a 5% increase during this same period, but still has overall lower average figures for London boroughs. Across 2022-23, there has been a slight increase in rape offences (8%) and a more significant increase in other sexual offences (27%). London as a whole saw a 3% reduction in rape, and a 9% increase in other sexual offences, during this same period.

### **Child Abuse Investigations by Police**

Child Abuse Investigations are carried out by CAIT (Child Abuse Investigation Team) Officers. During the year, the Met Police BCU (Borough Command Unit) clarified the involvement of Police Officers in strategy meetings and timescales to request support, as demand has been high. During the year, 504 offences were recorded, of which 77 were sexual offences. Data for Strategy Discussions is in place from June 2022, and Police have been involved in 189. The Borough is investigating 442 non-recent offences, of which 68 are sexual offences. There were 168 male victims and 177 female victims. Of the child victims' ethnicity, 64 were unknown, 5 were from an Oriental background, 36 from an Asian background, 64 from an African Caribbean background, 11 were Dark European, and 168 were White European.

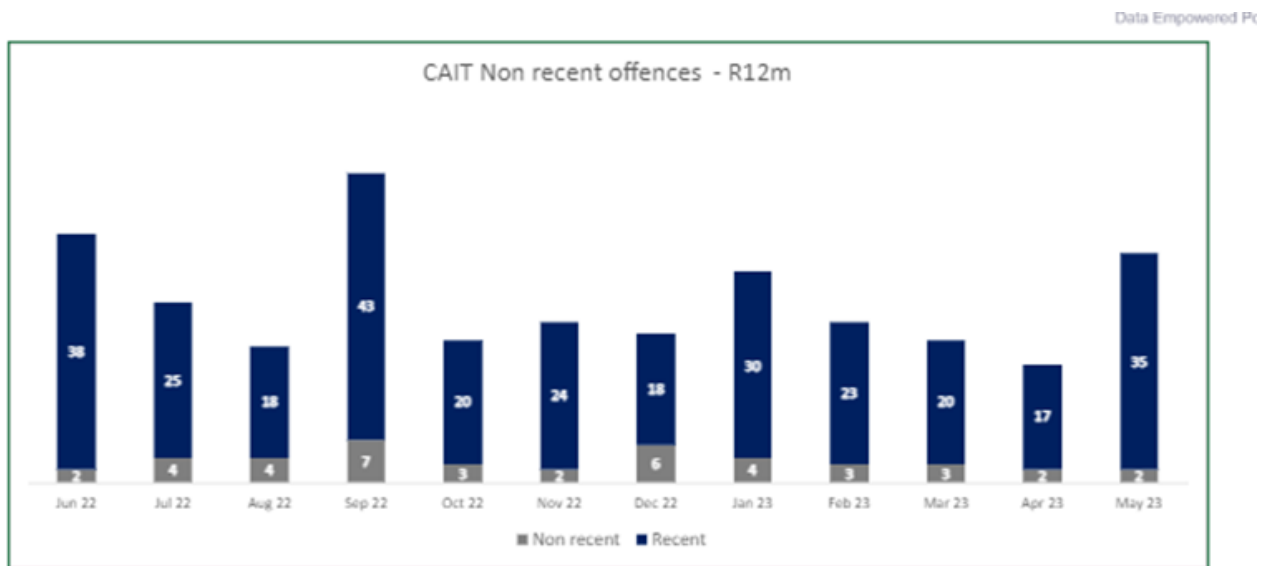
Most victims who were investigated, were aged between 6-11 years, which could relate to the support children are offered when they enter school and opportunities to disclose or be observed, rather than a direct snapshot of offences. This year we have looked at two serious incidents for children aged under 5, who were seemingly injured by physical abuse from their parent or in their parent's care- they were missing education at the time.

### **Havering CAIT victim profile**

<b>May 2023 Inclusive</b>	<b>0-5 years</b>	<b>6-11 years</b>	<b>12-17 years</b>	<b>18+</b>
<b>Unknown</b>	<b>9M</b>	<b>30 (20F 10M)</b>	<b>19 (13F 6M)</b>	<b>6 (5F 1M)</b>
<b>White European</b>	<b>38 (10F 28M)</b>	<b>50 (19F 31M)</b>	<b>66 (34F 32M)</b>	<b>14 (11F 3M)</b>
<b>Dark European</b>	<b>3M</b>	<b>1M</b>	<b>6 (4F 2M)</b>	<b>1M</b>

<b>Afro-Caribbean</b>	<b>13 (6F 7M)</b>	<b>25 (14F 11M)</b>	<b>22 (15F 7M)</b>	<b>1 F</b>
<b>Asian</b>	<b>6 (2F 4M)</b>	<b>13 (7F 6M)</b>	<b>15 (12F 3M)</b>	<b>2 (1F 1M)</b>
<b>Oriental</b>	<b>1 M</b>	<b>2 (1F 1M)</b>	<b>2 F</b>	
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>24</b>

The East Area BCU has recently had an uplift of Police Officers, as there was not enough to deal with an increased demand. This has produced improvement outcomes this final Quarter in 2022-23.



*\*Non recent - where the offence took play 1 year before the victim reported the crime.*

East Area BCU has a Sanction Detection rate of 8.6% for 794 crimes; it is no longer the lowest in London (a rise from 6.1%). The average is approx. 10%. East Area BCU had at May 2023, 136 live open cases for CAIT. Numbers had fallen this spring. East Area is one of the BCUs with high numbers of CAIT Offences' crimes open at 6-12 months and 3-4, 4-5 years investigation and 5 years plus. 195 sexual offences are currently being investigated by East Area BCU (105 recent).

### Outcomes for Havering CAIT investigations

	<b>Nov 2022 inclusive</b>	<b>May 2023 inclusive</b>
<b>Community Resolution</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>Charged summonsed</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>19</b>

Suspect id, vict support, evidential diffs	375	293
Suspect id, victim not support, evidential diffs	196	77
Transfer to external agency	228	86
Caution adult	32	9
Total	1052	513

As should be expected, the majority of suspects are the parents of the child victims, followed by teachers, who arguably have the largest contact with children in their professional careers.

### Suspect Profile

Designation	Count of Crime No
Parental responsibility	248
Teaching professional	13
Unknown	11
Sibling	9
Extended Family	9
Carer	5
Grandparent	2
Total:	297

During the year, 19 suspects were charged, 9 received cautions, in 293 cases there were evidential difficulties, and in 77 cases the victim did not support the prosecution. There was 1 community resolution.

***“LFB has been working on Hoarding within Havering and have set up a specific team. We have also worked with other partners to establish those***

*at high risk from fire and put detection in place through the use of hard of hearing alarms, Smoke Alarms, Education programmes and full Home Fire Safety Visits” Havering LFB*

**Hate Crime, Radicalisation and Extremism**

Between April 2022 and March 2023, there were 513 incidents of hate crime in the borough. This figure remains lower in comparison to other London boroughs. As a Partnership we want to ensure learning around cultural competence for volunteers and staff and ensure we better understand issues of disproportionality and encourage key strategic bodies to address these. We know that misogyny is a considerable issue for secondary schools’ students who are following influencers.

The Community Safety Partnership oversees the Channel Panel, which considers risks of extremism and radicalisation. Groups including Patriotic Alternative, Identity England and a resurgent National Front have been active. Schools have a proactive approach, workshops have been offered to local parents through some schools, and Havering Community Hub provides training for all local professionals.

**2021 – 23 Havering Hate Crime Police notifications. 2022-23 in red**

Crime	No
Disability hate crime	31 22
Anti-Semitic	3 1
Faith hate crime	37 11
Homophobic crime	90 70
Islamophobic crime	16 6
Racist & religious crime	784 421
Transphobic crime	10 14

**Female Genital Mutilation**

There are few children identified as at risk of FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) in Havering and the Education Strategic Partnership was reminded of risks in its July 2022 meeting. 24 children were identified at risk in the last financial year and 20 in the previous year 2020-

21. There have been no local prosecutions. Public Health is updating the local JSNA (Joint Strategic Needs Assessment) regarding Sexual Health. 47 maternities at risk were identified in 2009-11. We sent a letter to all schools regarding the risk of FGM in the summer term 2023.

## Children in Care

As at March 2023, there were 239 children in care in Havering, a small fall from 262 children in March 2022- 119 children became looked after this year, including 14 via Police Powers of Protection. The children in care figure is 44 children per 10,000 which is lower than national and London averages, and statistical neighbours. This leads us to believe that there are children still to be identified who are living in situations of significant harm. 32 children are placed more than 20 miles from home, the majority in Essex, and the majority with in-house foster carers. There were 36 children last year, so this figure has stayed stable; 45% are accommodated for reasons of abuse and neglect. 8.4% of children in care are Unaccompanied Asylum Seekers.

330 children are placed in the borough from other Local Authorities in the UK. During the year, Children's Social Care undertook a useful piece of assurance by contacting every area in the UK to determine those placed in Havering, as notifications were low. There has been persistent follow up from those areas, which have not initially responded.

One of our stubborn issues are the delays in Initial Health Assessments (IHAs) being undertaken for children coming into care by some months. This is not a unique problem to Havering. Locally, this is due to a delay in paperwork being submitted. This was added to the HSCP risk register as red in April 2022 and is closely monitored. There has been considerable work to clarify the administrative process, led by the Designated Nurse for Children Looked After, Susan Gill, together with Havering CSC and NELFT. At March 2023 timeliness was at 42%. The graph below shows how this has fluctuated this year.



Review Health Assessments for Children in Care take place every six months for those aged under 5 years and every year for those who are older. Their timeliness have also fluctuated during the year, at some points being at 100% and currently being at 40% for those aged under 5 and 69% for those children who are older.

Immunisation rates are at 68% (September 2022) for children in care. Currently, leaders are

working on recording issues in order to understand the present picture. However, Looked After Reviews and Personal Educational Plans are at 100% timeliness. Attendance for children in care at the end of school year was: Primary 95.9 % and Secondary 88.9%. CSC is working to develop an understanding of those children in care who use substances.

Children’s Services confirmed in the summer 2022, that it uses no unregulated placements for children aged under 16 years. All its placements are regulated by Ofsted, which provides an assurance of the quality of support provided to children. In June 2022, they had 3 x 16yr olds and 31 x 17yr olds in unregulated placements. In July 2023, this figure was 4 x 16 yr olds, and 18 x 17yr olds- all these placements are semi-independent living. Havering CSC are reviewing all these placements via HARP (Havering Access to Resources Panel) to ensure the children are not in placements that should be registered as a children’s homes and therefore are not closely regulated. There is a placement provider Forum. This forthcoming year, we will be working with Commissioners to ensure as part of the contracts for placements, Section 11 safeguarding evaluations are submitted annually. 55% of Care Leavers are in Employment, Education or Training, and 11.7% of those are in university.

### **Transitional Safeguarding**

The Transitions’ Panel has been running in Havering since 2018. This Panel considers children who are approaching transitions to adulthood from a number of arenas (SEND, Exploitation, Youth Offending, Mental Health, and Leaving Care). We held a Transitions’ Summit during our Safeguarding Week in November 2022, to consider the work of the Panel and its multi-agency support, and we plan quality assurance work. During the year, the Multi-agency Transitions Panel met 12 times and considered 56 young people. The Summit noted the increasing complexity of need. Annette Kinsella, Director of Ageing Well and Tara Geere, Director of Starting Well, are working to strengthen the Panel this year. We have relevant recommendations to review from the SAR (Safeguarding Adults Review) regarding Q and Y. These were local young men, with care and support needs who sadly died. Multi-agency attendance from some agencies has fallen during the year and we will be working together to strengthen this as we go forward.

<b>Month</b>	<b>No of Cases Heard</b>
<b>Apr-22</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>May-22</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Jun-22</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Jul-22</b>	<b>5</b>



<b>Aug-22</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Sep-22</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Oct-22</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Nov-22</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Dec-22</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Jan-23</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Feb-23</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Mar-23</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>56</b>

## **Local Inspections**

Youth Justice Services were inspected in Havering in summer 2022 and services were found to be good. The YJS staff team, together with partner agencies, were found to be delivering holistic interventions that meet a spectrum of needs, and are working hard to engage children in their interventions. Their focus on diversity and the work of the YJS specialist staff, in particular the CAMHS and speech and language and parenting support provision, was particularly impressive. Partnerships were an area of strength. Out of Court disposals required improvement.

PELC (Partnership of East London Cooperatives LTD) was added to the risk register in July 2023, following discussion at the Q&E, Adults Q&E and HSCP Executive earlier that month. PELC provides urgent care in two sites in Havering. A CQC Inspection in autumn 2022 found it inadequate in all aspects but care, and NEL ICB is providing oversight and safeguarding support. CQC are carrying out ongoing reviews.

BHRUT was last inspected in November 2022 and found to need improvement in general and for the category of safe. There was particular scrutiny on Emergency care and its relationship to urgent care.

The Metropolitan Police was placed under heightened scrutiny in June 2022 by the HMICFRS (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue Services). This was discussed at the July HSCP Executive Meeting. This step was taken in relation to a Met wide failing on recording crime and making errors on stop and searches, liaison with victims, a backlog in online investigations and performance in handling emergency calls. In Havering,

as part of the EA BCU, concerns arose in the Stephen Port investigation into the deaths of some young men in Barking and Dagenham. Learning and recommendations from the Independent Office for Police Conduct, Her Majesty's Coroner and the Met's LGBT+ Independent Advisory Group of community members have led to Police making a range of improvements. As a result, a new death investigation policy was launched in June 2022 and the BCU are recruiting a full time LGBTQ officer in liaison with our community. The HMIC is now carrying out an investigation into how the Met responds to and investigates death. If the IOPC reinvestigation make further recommendations for improvements, the Police plan to consider those very seriously, in addition to any misconduct matters that may arise.

*“Through contractual agreements, we ensure our providers obtain the views of adults and children, including those who have experienced the safeguarding process. We ensure structures and processes are in place by the services we commission to promote the effective reporting of abuse and neglect”.*

## **Havering Public Health**

### **Workforce**

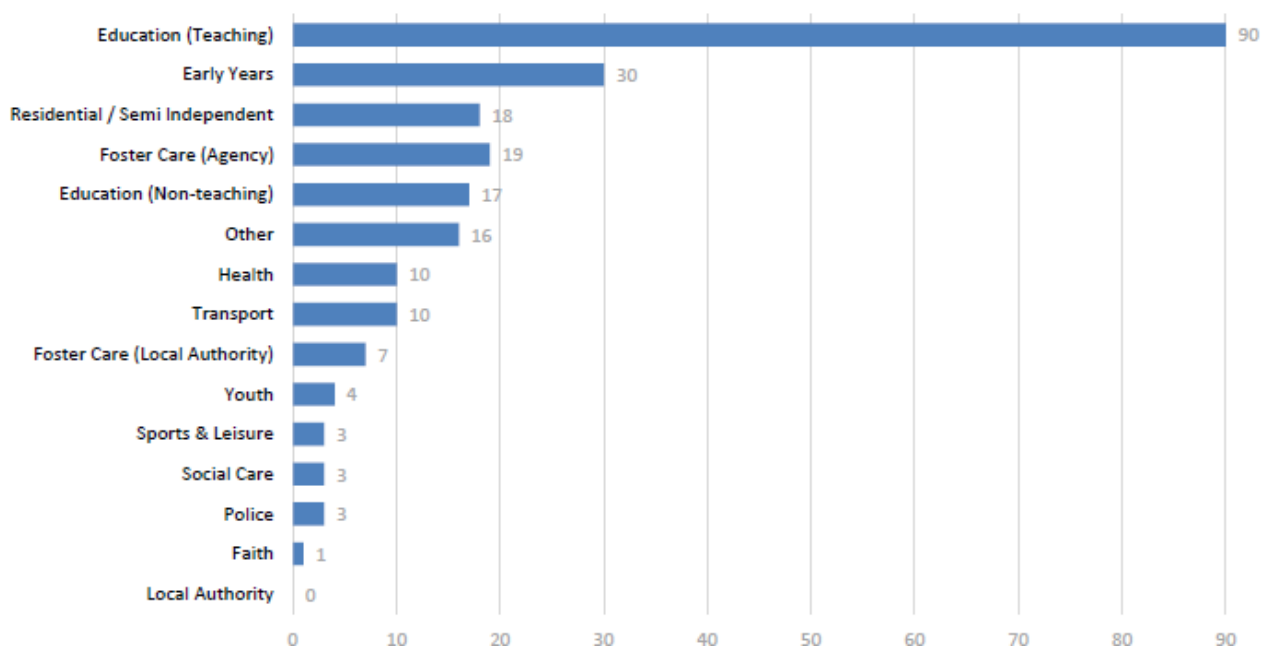
Safeguarding activity has increased across the workforce alongside in the demand for services. The Partnership monitors agency engagement: for example, police capacity to attend Child Protection Conferences has been affected more recently. This was an issue on the LSCB Risk Register in 2016, and was resolved in 2018 when the Police CAIT team moved to sit in the MASH; it is disappointing that this is again an issue. We are working to ensure Paediatricians are involved in strategy meetings about alleged CSA and information sharing to MASH referrals takes place within 24 hours.

The LADO (Local Authority Designated Officer) oversees investigations into concerns raised about those who work or volunteer with children. There were 231 LADO referrals this year, 48 of which were for children with disabilities, this is against 196 referrals last year, 41 of children with disabilities. This is an 18% increase on last year and the largest number of referrals recorded in Havering. There were 483 LADO consultations.

We seem to have reached an expected level of LADO referrals after a drop during the pandemic years. In 2018-19, there were 246, of which 13 concerned children with disabilities. There were 157 LADO referrals in 2019-20, 151 in 2020-21. The LADO wishes to engage more with faith groups, sports and leisure and independent schools in Havering. With DfE funding, an Out of Schools Settings worker has been employed to work with the LADO, which has had an effective impact in promoting safer recruitment and safeguarding in community, faith and voluntary sector groups in Havering. Most LADO concerns relate to allegations of physical abuse.

The LADO Service has provided training to leisure centres and investigations were effective; the service also acts as the Responsible Authority for licensing applications. As a result of our safeguarding survey, there was a need to refresh workers' knowledge of the LADO and this is now a part of our Level 3 safeguarding children training and we have seen a rise in attendance at our LADO training: therefore this may account for the rise in referrals this year. We have more work to do to ensure concerns regarding Police conduct are referred to the LADO as required – three referrals were made this year, against 90 for those working in Education.

LADO referrals broken down by agency (financial year to date)



To complement the work of statutory agencies, we plan this year to develop working relationships with local businesses, who have a strong part to play in safeguarding our community. We plan to work with the two local Business Improvement Districts (BIDs) in Havering.

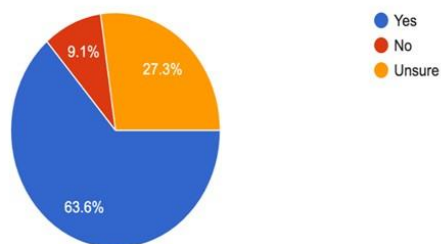
## Section 11

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 offers a statutory assurance tool to Partnerships to develop a picture of the safeguarding landscape in individual agencies and organisations. In Havering, we are working to develop this tool in an efficient way, recognising that many of our Partners work across the Tri-borough footprint. This year, the Named GP and Named Nurse have had responses from 33% of local GPs across the Tri-borough footprint as a means of evaluating practice (33 practices).

All GP practices which responded had safeguarding leads and had good knowledge of the ICB

safeguarding leads. There is a BHR Primary Care Safeguarding Handbook, which 66% of practices found helpful. 12% had taken part in Partnership multi-agency audits. All had records of vulnerable children and families, but not all met at the recommended 8 weekly intervals to review those families' needs- 24% of practices never met and 36% met sporadically. 36% of practices were unsure about linking records for family members. All practices had a safeguarding children and chaperone policy in place but some were working on other policies. Most staff had DBS checks as required and a safeguarding induction. An action has linked the LADO with the plans for GP training across the region, as awareness required support, and to support Level 3 safeguarding training. 21% of practices did not know how to contact the LADO and 3% were unsure about consent issues in providing information. We will be keen to develop responses further from more GP practices in Havering and see them further engaged with the ICB GP Forum, as 15% did not attend.

Are you aware of the role of the LADO (local authority designated officer)  
33 responses



Havering Education Services (HES) has a long-established process of gaining Section 175 assurance (Education Act 2002) from Schools. Schools are advised to undertake an internal audit annually and involve HES in this once every three years. During the 2021-22 academic year, 27 schools commissioned HES to undertake this assurance work with them. Strengths outlined included the development of entire school safeguarding cultures, using strong systems to report concerns, and safer recruitment systems. The following are common areas of development: reinstating a safety-focused pupil voice through school surveys, including consideration of sexual harassment and HSB in single-sex groups; updating training to include all school staff; and raising awareness of reporting and recording low level concerns regarding staff members.

School Type	Total	LA Maintained	Academy
Primary	20	16	4
Secondary	7	0	7
Special	0	0	

<b>PRU</b>	<b>0</b>		
<b>Independent</b>	<b>0</b>		

This year, the Partnership Team has met all independent schools, including academies offering Alternative Provision, and met with them as a group later in the autumn to talk about the unique issues they face, such as working with affluent families. They are part of the DSL network and receive the Local Authority communications. They have agreed to Katrina Carroll, Headteacher of Oakfields to represent them at the Education Strategic Partnership (ESP).

## **Criminal Exploitation**

There are a number of indicators of criminal exploitation, such as children going missing, substance use, school exclusions, sexual exploitation, trafficking, and Serious Youth Violence (SYV). During the year, 44 young people have accessed Lifeline, a local charity which offers support around exploitation and Serious Youth Violence. Youth Unity, another voluntary sector organisation, runs outreach in Romford Town Centre. There have been 2,885 attendances by young people aged 10-17 from Havering to A&E - some people attending more than once. 830 Havering young people aged 10-17 were attended by London Ambulance against 816 last year. 22 attendances were violence related; 16 for mental health concerns and 33 for intentional overdose. During the forthcoming year, we are compiling and refreshing HSCP Missing and Exploitation Protocols.

## **Modern Slavery**

For both adults and children, Havering saw Police deal with 60 Modern Slavery offences in 2022-23, compared to 50 for the year before. This is a low figure for London and compared to our neighbouring boroughs. 24 victims were aged under 18 this year (3 were female), compared to 20 the year before (8 were female). We could perhaps attribute this modest rise to more training and awareness raising, including during Safeguarding Week, and an increased Police presence in Romford Town Centre, where cases are the eighth highest in London by ward. A significant number of suspects were female. The highest numbers of victims were from Albania and then from the United Kingdom. There was one child each from Albania, Romania and Kuwait in the last year. Of children, 9 were from the UK in 2021-22 and 7 in 2022-23. The majority of victims were involved in County Lines and drugs. 29 NRM (National Referral Mechanism) referrals were made, of which 9 were for children.

### **Modern Slavery by London wards 2022-23**

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2023</b>
<b>Croydon Town Centre</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Colindale</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>27</b>

<b>Brunel</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>Grove</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>Woodside</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Leyton</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Ponders End</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>Romford Town</b>	<b>11 (10 over 18)</b>	<b>20 (17 over 18)</b>

## Missing Children

Despite seeing an increase of children being reported as missing in 2022-23 from the previous year, it is of note that during 2020-2022, our missing episodes and count of children were unusually low.

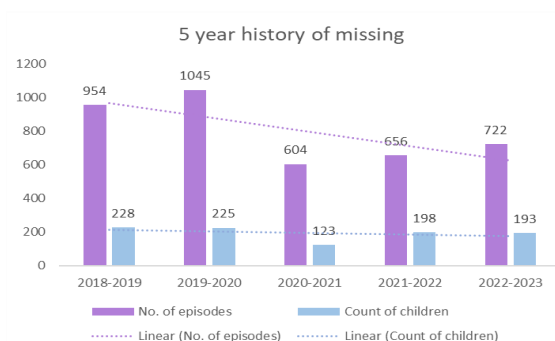
We've seen growth in missing children in comparison to the previous year which was affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. However, we are now on average in line with the 5-year average.

We know that the Covid lockdown measures had a significant impact on missing episodes. 2022- 23 is an improvement on pre-Covid episodes -31% vs 2019-20 and -24% vs 2018-19. The 5-year average for episodes is 796 which is higher than 2022-23 and count of children average is 193 which is in line with 2022-23. 194 Havering children went missing during the financial year 2022- 2023 (+15% vs the previous year). In total there were 723 episodes (+10% vs the previous year).

Our children went missing for on average 58 hours (-5% vs the previous year). Children go missing on average 3.7 times each which is a decrease of -5% from the previous year.

The top 11 children in Havering for missing episodes account for 34% of the episodes and account for 6% of the children missing cohort. In the latter part of 2023 we saw 2 sets of siblings (5 children) regularly missing, they alone accounted for 14% of the yearly missing episodes and just 3% of the child count. All of these children feature in the top 11 missing persons (Mispers).

We noted in the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategic Board, a 240% increase in young people aged 11-13 going missing, and so our plan was to quality assure 6 multi-agency missing young people's interventions in July 2023. A Missing Protocol is planned to be launched in the autumn. Black Children who go missing are overrepresented in comparison to the school census and has not changed in the past 5 years. To note Black children are also overrepresented in all of children services with the exception of Group Work. A recommendation is to be more curious around the take up of the offer Havering delivers to support the Black and Global Majority community.



Of the 2022-23 missing children 54% were female and accounted for 58% of the episodes. 45% of the top 11 missing by episodes were female. Females went missing for shorter periods of time at an average of 45 hours vs males at 77 hours.

From a dip sample of 20 children (10 female and 10 male) we found that females were reported missing after 9 hours on average and males after 12 hours. The gender rates this year are more or less in line with the average of the last 5 years. On average, Female are at 56% of the episodes and Males 44% .

The top 6, all of whom were Children in Care, appear to have a common theme regarding their relationships with their primary carers; due to the absence of this or the year for previous carer / parent, which could be acting as a push factor. A push factor to see family or to seek belonging with peers. We need to remain curious as to how many are seeking their own identity which also contributes to increases in missing episodes. Out of the top 6 children aged 11-13 years old, albeit one, have either been adopted or are subject to a Special Guardianship order. Which may attribute to them seeking their identities. A recommendation is to explore how we can better support the children and families.

Out of the top 6 children of this age group 4 out of the 6 children had Child Exploitation episodes with Police/CYPS opened in regards to Child Sexual Exploitation or Child Criminal Exploitation.

Of the 723 episodes 65% (473) were offered Return Home Interviews (RHI's) and of those 73% (345) were accepted. 61% of the episodes for the top 11 frequent mispers evidenced they

were offered RHI's, 62% of those were accepted.

### Return Home Interviews 2022-23

Month	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March
% offered	70%	59%	73%	65%	69%	60%	59%	91%	75%	87%	51%	22%
Offered by RHI worker	16%	5%	4%	3%	3%	11%	24%	71%	73%	42%	57%	29%

### Obesity Strategy

Obesity can be a feature of child neglect. Public Health held two healthy weight summits in autumn 2022 and spring 2023. Some of the drive from this local work came from our local learning around obesity. Please find a 7 minute briefing here regarding Child G:

<https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/childrenpartnership/wp-content/uploads/sites/2/2022/01/Havering-SCP-7-minute-briefing-Child-G-Rapid-Review.pdf>

In Havering, more than 1 in 5 children aged 4-5 years are overweight or obese. Havering is in line with London and England averages



This doubles to 2 in 5 by the time children 10-11 years of age. Havering is above London and England averages for this age group.



By adulthood, approximately 68% of Havering residents are overweight or obese Havering is significantly above London and England averages.





## Maternity

Maternity plays an important role in safeguarding and prevention. Late presentations to maternity increased during the pandemic but have now returned to original levels. There is on average 10 disclosures of Domestic Abuse to the maternity team per quarter, again steady figures year on year. We can see peaks in Quarters 2 and 4 2020-21, which coincided with lockdowns. BHRUT has a 96% target of completing new birth home visits within 14 days of the birth, this was at 92% for Quarter 1 2022-23 and 95% at Quarter 2.

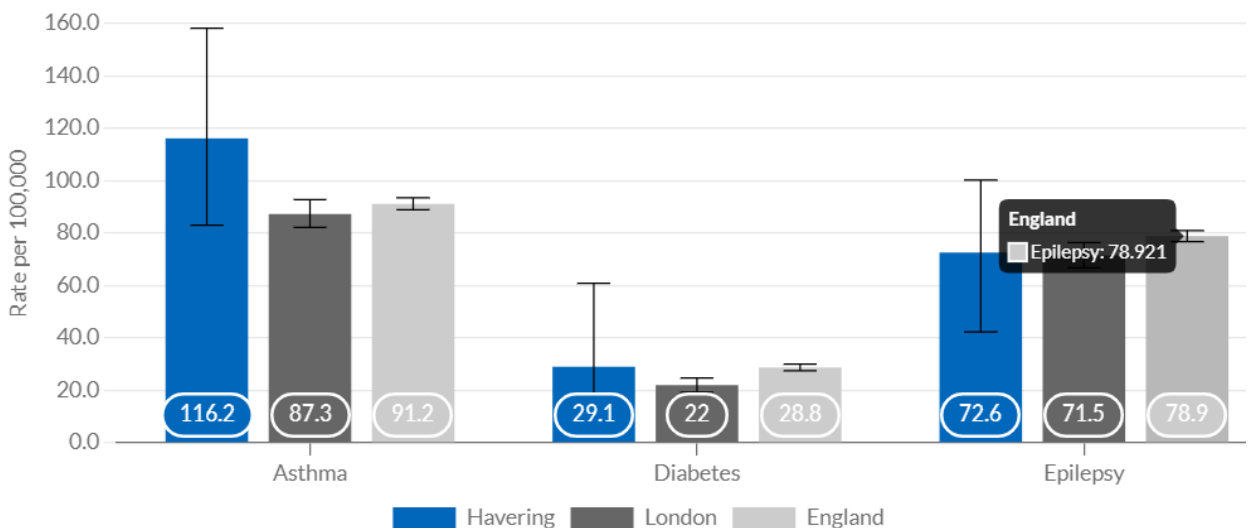
The great majority of pregnancies result in the live birth of a healthy baby. However, a small number end in stillbirth or neonatal death. In 2017, Barking and Dagenham and Havering had a higher rate of stillbirths, but have a lower rate of neonatal deaths. BHR ICB (as part of NEL ICB) is on the agreed trajectory for a 50% reduction in stillbirth, neonatal and maternal deaths and brain injury by 2025. Our CDOP has highlighted the theme of Safe Sleeping as a key preventive matter for local deaths and we have publicised this in Child Safety Week, June 2022 and in Safer Sleep Week March 2023.

Resources around a baby's first 1001 days were developed during the year by Early Help Services within the Council, together with a new portal, a new webpage and a comprehensive multi-agency offer. This has been promoted across the Partnership.

## Hospital Admissions

Hospital admissions for Havering children is slightly higher than the London average, notably for asthma, diabetes and epilepsy. This is not a new trend. There is ongoing work at BHRUT to ensure that electronic and paper files correspond. We noted good practice in a recent Serious Incident Review in March 2023, which tested this process when the child was admitted to Hospital with injuries.

Hospital admissions for children aged 0 to 9 for Havering (2020/21)



## Sexual Health

Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) is a Partnership theme and allied to this is sexual health. Indicators of concern around sexual health for our population, could point to Child Sexual Exploitation.

Havering has a historically high teenage pregnancy rate, which in 2020-21 has dropped to 2.2% per 1,000 for under 16 conceptions. Havering was in the top three boroughs for teenage pregnancy rates for London; this has now dropped to eighth position. This leads us as a Partnership to work to understand sexual health and safety better and we have been promoting access to contraception and sexual health services for the growing young population through schools, and community groups. Children's Centres can already offer contraceptive support. We know that sexual health can be indicators of child sexual abuse and sexual exploitation and so we are working to support agencies in providing support. Interestingly, however despite the relatively high teenage conception rate, Havering has low figures for Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) both in a comparative London and England sense. This would suggest either that local young people are practising safe sex or are not being tested.

1998-2020	Havering	London	England
Under 16 conception rate per 1,000	2.6%	1.4%	2%
Under 18 conception rate per 1,000	15.5%	9.8%	13%
Under 18 conception rate leading to termination	64.8%	63.2%	53%
Under 25 repeat terminations	30.8%	32.3%	29.2%

Public Health is currently carrying out a refreshed Sexual Health needs assessment and considering access to Sexual Health Services for Havering, as currently there are reduced specialist services in-borough.

There has been an overall reduction in new diagnoses of STIs (Sexually Transmitted Infections) (excluding chlamydia) for residents of Havering over the past 10 years. Rates in Havering have remained consistently lower than both London and England averages, lower than Barking and Dagenham, and similar to rates in Redbridge. Between 2019 and 2020, there was a 27% drop in STIs diagnosed for Havering residents. This could also have been affected by lockdowns.

Compared to all London boroughs, in 2021, Havering had one of the lowest rates of all new

STI diagnosis at 455 per 100,000, higher only than Bexley (421 per 100,000) and Sutton (393 per 100,000). However, it remained below the rate in England at 551 per 100,000. Benchmarked against England, Havering has a higher (better) rate of testing for STIs, although the borough appears to be lower down the scale when compared with other London boroughs. Rates of testing for STIs (excluding chlamydia under 25 years) in Havering have increased from 2,500 per 100,000 in 2012 to 3,667 per 100,000 in 2021. These rates are similar to testing rates across England, but remain significantly lower than testing rates in London. Redbridge has a similar testing rate to Havering, but Barking and Dagenham has a higher rate. During Covid-19, some sexual health services were moved from a clinic in Havering, so that there was reduced local provision. This is currently being reviewed by the Public Health Team.

During Covid-19, there was an 18% reduction between 2019 and 2020 in the rate of STI testing (excluding chlamydia in under 25 year individuals) partly as a consequence of reduced access to services, and which could have been worse had the sexual health e-service not been up and running.

In terms of inequalities, in 2020, 43.5% of diagnoses of new STIs in Havering residents were in young people aged 15 to 24 years old. This compares to 45.7% in England. Although men were more likely overall in Havering to be diagnosed with a new STI in 2020 (51.6% of men compared to 48.4% women) the age of diagnosis differed between genders. Women were more likely to have an STI between 15-19 years and 20-24 years, whilst men were more likely to have a new STI diagnosis at 25 years+. This is significant in terms of our Transitional Safeguarding interventions. Although there were lower testing rates in 2020, the trend is the same in 2021-22. Young women, aged 16-19 and 20-24 years were more likely to get diagnoses for chlamydia and herpes, than men of the same age.

There appears to be a considerable over-representation of people identifying as gay and bisexual being diagnosed with an STI. When we look at service user data, 8.9% of service users identified themselves as bisexual or homosexual, plus a further 1.43% undisclosed or blank.

Compared to 1.95% in the 2021 Census. So, although they are a known higher risk group, it appears they are accessing local services. However, as a group at higher known risk of STIs, there is nevertheless good uptake of HIV testing amongst this group.

Since its initiation in early 2018, the numbers of test kits ordered by Havering residents has tripled. The largest jump in test kits being ordered via the internet was between 2019-20 and 2020-21, coinciding with the national Covid-19 lockdowns. The increase in test kits being ordered via the e-service appeared to be concurrent with the reduction in testing activity conducted at clinics. This is positive in many ways, but could indicate that vulnerable individuals who are sexually exploited are not being seen in person and identified for further support, as they have no means of electronic access.

Within Havering, in 2021 there was a similar number of abortions amongst women aged 25-

29 and 30-34 years: 24% of total abortions. However the rate of abortions per 1,000 women was lowest in those under 18 years (9.5 per 1,000) and highest amongst 20 to 24 year olds (38.7 per 1,000). This may be reflective of unplanned or unintended pregnancies amongst these younger age groups, particularly in those aged 20 to 24 years, who are not ready to start a family.

Over the past 20 years, the teenage pregnancy rates for females under 18 year and under 16 years have decreased in Havering, following the trend shown across London and England. However, Havering has a higher rate of under 18s conception than England, and when compared to other local authorities in London, Havering has a higher rate of teenage conception. Havering ranks second out of the 33 local authorities for under 16 years conception/1,000.

## **Education**

The work of the Education Strategic Partnership (ESP) was scrutinised by Prof Jenny Pearce this year, noting a number of strengths and identifying areas of work for the future. And Prof Pearce carried out a scrutiny piece and Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) regarding a local area, completed in June 2023. This will go towards the needs' assessment into Serious Youth Violence undertaken by the Community Safety Partnership and our work in relation to Contextual Safeguarding.

Schools are undertaking Beyond Referrals self- evaluations through our focus on Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB). Schools have the benefit of local Police Schools' Officers and we are working to ensure that they have details of missing children. Several schools not taken the free knife crime aware workshop provided by the Council and 7 secondary schools do not yet have a full relationship with their Schools' Officer. This is a particular issue for one Trust working across the Tri-borough. We will be working to ensure optimum engagement in this new financial year, with promotion of the role of the Officers in our newsletters.

There is a well establish forum for Early Years settings run by Celia Freeth, Education Services, Havering Council. This forum is important, as we have significant early learning from our ongoing CSPR regarding a child who was attending a local nursery. The July 2023 Quality and Effectiveness working group will be overseeing the quality assurance of Private, Voluntary and Independent (PVI) Safeguarding Audits. Each year, Early Years' settings complete the safeguarding audit tool to demonstrate that they are meeting key statutory duties and following safeguarding best practice guidance.

PVI settings are advised to undertake an annual audit of their safeguarding policies and process, returning this to the Early Years Quality Assurance team for review. PVI settings will then receive a safeguarding report which details recommendations. In Havering there are currently a total of 121 PVI settings consisting of 58 Full Day Care settings and 63 Sessional Day Care settings.

The table below shows a break down by PVI type, including the number of settings that have completed the safeguarding and management audit. We will be working to ensure that every setting completes the audit each year going forward, triangulating with Ofsted inspections and any serious incidents.

PVI setting type	Total	Completed Audit September 2021- August 2022	Completed Audit September 2022-present (ongoing)
Full Day Care	58	23	7
Seasonal	63	41	6
<b>Total 6</b>	<b>121</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>13</b>

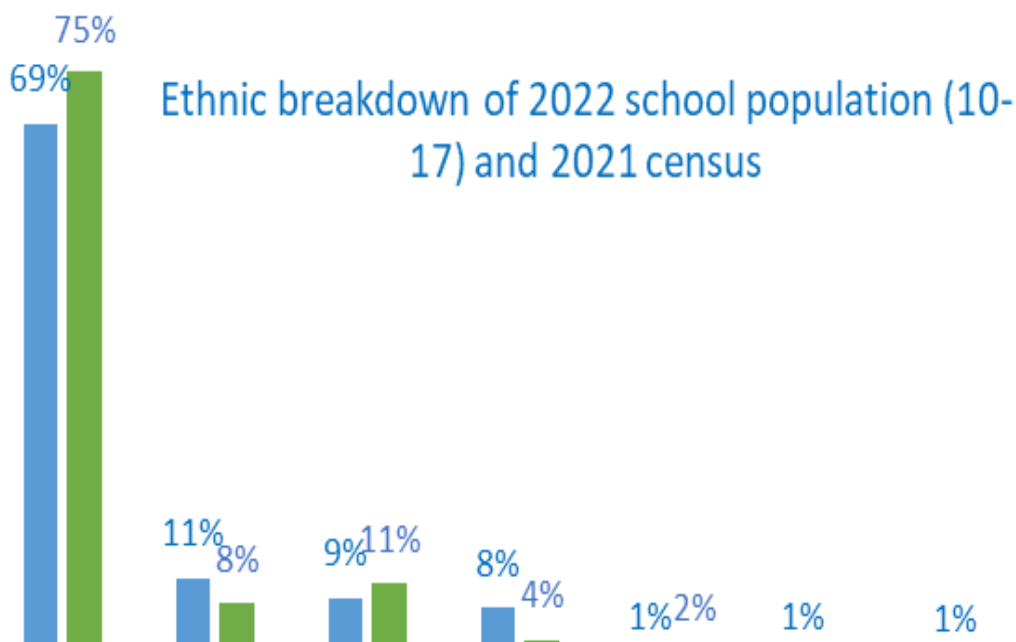
### Overview of strengths

- Practitioners understand their roles and responsibilities to keep children safe;
- Practitioners demonstrate a secure knowledge of the local process when identifying and reporting concerns to the Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) and Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO);
- Practitioners frequently refresh their safeguarding knowledge through training.

### Overview of areas for development

- Consistently implement effective systems for supervision, including undertaking on a more regular basis;
- Keeping a comprehensive record of identity checks and vetting processes relating to staff recruitment;
- Develop systems to check knowledge and understanding individuals have gained from online training.

In Havering, 8,283 children are eligible for Free School Meals; and the Council provided a school holiday meal service this year for these local children. 41% of children who were receiving free School Meals, were achieving a good level of development at the end of reception, compared to the 49% England wide average. Nearly 10% of children who attend schools in Havering live outside the borough. More Black and Mixed heritage children attend our local schools than our demographic. On the whole, children who live in the northern parts of the borough are more likely to be attending a Havering school. Havering has 114 young people recorded aged 15-17 years as NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training), which in 2021 was 2.7% NEET- a very positive figure



Over 1,000 pupils from Havering attend a number of schools in neighbouring boroughs and counties and they likewise send over 1,000 children to school in Havering. During the spring, a Task and Finish group led by Janet James, Admissions, Attendance and Inclusions Manager, looked at ensuring good information sharing regarding children attending out of borough schools or coming into our schools and the information sharing around the Fair Access Panel, following learning from a local serious incident. The Assistant Director of Education, Trevor Cook, has reminded our neighbours to share information about school attendance and any difficulties.

The take-up of funded early education places by eligible 2 year-old children in 2018 was 56% in 2017. Now the take-up of 3-4 year old places across the three boroughs is more evenly spread at 93% in Havering. About 1 in 10 children and young people have SEND; reported rates in LBBB (14.1%) LBH (9.9%) and LBR (11.6%) are lower than the England average (14.9%).

There is a strong DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Network which meets regularly online and met again in person after lockdown for the first time at CEME in July 2022.

Until recently, Havering had very few children excluded from school, which is very positive as education is a protective factor. This has risen considerably this year from 5 in the 2020-21 school year; 3 in the 2021-22 school year and 9 since September 2022. Alongside this fixed-term suspensions have also increased significantly from pre-pandemic numbers with 1,413 suspensions in Terms 1-3 2021-22 compared to 220 in Terms 1-3 2018-19; and in Term 2 of this academic year 567 suspensions. (Suspensions continue to increase, in part as a result of the pandemic, and we have had 143 suspensions in primary, 886 in secondary and 8 in special schools so far this academic year. Permanent exclusions have also increased this year, with 2 in primary and 10 in secondary schools this academic year.)

On average nearly twice as many boys receive suspensions than girls making up 61% of all

suspensions, with the top 3 reasons for suspension being: Persistent Disruptive Behaviour, Physical Assault of a Pupil and verbal abuse/threatening behaviour toward an adult. In terms 1 & 2 of the academic year 2022-23, the top 5 schools issuing suspensions were: Bower Park Academy, Drapers Academy, Abbs Cross Academy and Arts College, Marshalls Park Academy and Emerson Park Academy. Children whose ethnicity is recorded as White or Mixed are more likely to be suspended than their counterparts.

There is a new duty regarding children missing education being implemented in September 2023. This has been communicated widely in Havering. Overall school attendance is 89% but this drops off after statutory school age at 16. Overall absence in Havering in 2021-22 remains lower than the national average with primary absence at 6% (6.3% national) and secondary absence at 7.7% (9% national). Absence has improved in 2022-23 to 5.6% in primary and 6.3% in secondary. 42 referrals were made to Alternative Provision during the year.

### **Elective Home Education**

305 children in Havering have been Home Educated this year. Through our newsletter we have reminded Partners not to assume that children are attending school. Elective Home Education creates a significant vulnerability. Havering has a very strong follow-up package and 10 cases were audited by the Inclusions Teams for the Quality and Effectiveness Working Group in April 2023. The team has a strong ragging system and carry out regular visits, if there are concerns for children, including in the summer holidays. Children are seen more than once a year if there are concerns for them. There is good liaison if there are Special Educational Needs.

There were several good examples of Officers enabling a child to return to School. The audit identified the development of a positive Safeguarding culture across the entire service including awareness and prioritisation by staff; Concerns recording utilised an online systems which supported chronology, record keeping and reporting of trends and patterns; Safer Recruitment systems and procedures. The Team identified several areas for development, which the Working Group will review in 2023-24: building a safety focussed pupil voice e.g. reinstating pupil surveys and focus groups including asking about use of sexualised language, sexual harassment and HSB in single sex groups; updating training to include all adults e.g. catering staff and for specific staff e.g. positive handling; raising awareness and understanding of reporting 'Low Level' concerns about staff e.g. breaches of School Code of Conduct or Acceptable Use Agreement. The Team Manager is the Education representative on the HSCP CRWG, which strengthens local safeguarding learning back into education and the Inclusions Team.

### **Child Deaths.**

In the 2022-23 fiscal year, CDOP was notified of the deaths of 15 children resident in Havering. This is comparable with previous years. (This does not form clear statistical

significance, as the CDOP would expect year on year fluctuation due to the low numbers reported). Our links with the local Tri-borough CDOP (Child Death Overview Panel) are strong and the CDOP Annual Report 2021-22 was presented to the HSCP in February 2023, as last year. The CDOP Manager is a member of our new Case Review Working Group.

<b>Havering</b>	<b>Deaths</b>
<b>2020-21</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>2021-22</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>2022-23</b>	<b>15</b>

Across 2022-2023, the highest number of new child death notifications was received for the age range 0-27 days which represented 5 of the overall notifications. The second largest category was 28-364 days age group which accounted for 4. Together, deaths where the child was aged under 1 year, represented 9 of 15 child deaths notified in 2022 2023. This is similar to previous years and the national picture.

In 2022-2023 there have been no deaths as the result of knife crime in Havering. This compares to the previous year when 3 Havering children died as the result of knife crime. Across the three boroughs, themes are collated and our key themes are fire safety, following a sad death in Barking and Dagenham and safe sleeping awareness in relation to Sudden Unexpected Death in Infancy (SUDI). In 2022-2023 there were 3 SUDI deaths across the three boroughs, one of which was in Havering.

CDOP partners across (NEL) are seeking to raise awareness of SUDI, following a spike in SUDI deaths. In December 2022 a slide deck aimed for professional use was produced by the NEL Child Death Review Team. This was widely shared via the BYCP newsletter, Safeguarding Partnerships, and acute and primary care colleagues. There were 11 SUDI deaths across NEL in 2022-23. Strikingly the common thread across all 11 cases are significant safeguarding and vulnerability concerns surrounding the families. This highlights the need for a multiagency response to ensure that SUDI Prevention messages reach the most vulnerable families.

The table below highlights the vulnerabilities noted (some families had multiple vulnerabilities). Sadly, unsafe sleeping was a noted in 6 of the 11. The babies are from a range of ethnicities, with only two of the children being White British. A slide deck aimed for professional use was produced by the NEL Child Death Review Team, which was widely shared.



In the North Yorkshire area, a Prevent and Protect model has been adopted. It is planned to be implemented in NEL this year, and a Task and Finish Group has been formed.

<b>Previous DA</b>	<b>Parental Substances</b>	<b>Previous CSC engagement</b>	<b>Overcrowding in home</b>
8	3	8	2
<b>Smoking in home</b>	<b>Mental Health issues</b>	<b>Offending</b>	<b>Late booking / poor engagement</b>
2	8	2	3

## Learning Disabilities

The Learning Disabilities Mortality Review Programme (LeDeR) reviews deaths of those with a learning disability and / or autism aged over 4 years of age. In 2022-23, 14 notifications for adults and children from Havering were made to LeDeR. Since the start of the programme in 2015, 67 notifications of deaths have been received for Havering. NEL has completed all reviews this year within six months of notification. This report and ICB action plan has been presented to the Case Review Working Group, by Joy Maguire, Designated Professional for Safeguarding Adults. Oliver McGowan training has been highlighted throughout the HSCP and SAB to raise awareness of working with those with autism and learning disabilities. Annual Health checks have improved by 10% for the last financial year compared to 2021-22, with 89% of eligible checks being completed (1,073 out of 1,201 people). There were instances of good practice, including GPs going above and beyond in their care and understanding. A significant proportion of people who died had long term health conditions.

The 2022-23 annual report setting out the findings of the LeDeR Programme, and recommendations are as follows:

- Improving the quality of annual health checks for those aged 14-17;
- Understanding of Mental Capacity;
- Increased awareness of STOMP/STAMP (stopping the over medication of people with a learning disability);
- Greater provision of reasonable adjustments;
- Support for weight management;
- Greater support in accessing support with health screening;

- Improvement in recording of DNACPR;
- Improvement in hospital discharge planning.

## **Independent Scrutiny**

During this reporting year, we have had one Independent Scrutineer, Prof Jenny Pearce OBE, who writes:

### **Introduction:**

My work as the Independent Scrutineer for Havering Local Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) has continued to focus on the drive for safety, welfare and wellbeing of Havering children and young people. I am grateful to the HSCP Chair and the Partnership and Learning Manager for their invaluable support to the scrutiny process.

Working Together 2018 (WT18, currently being updated to WT23) notes that scrutiny needs to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area,

- be objective,
- act as a constructive critical friend and promote reflection,
- consider how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners.

### **Scrutiny Methods**

My approach to scrutiny is provide rigorous reviews as a 'critical friend', identifying what is working well to safeguard children and young people living in Havering as well as identifying areas that present challenges and need future development. I regularly review Partnership activities against requirements from WT18 and the Checklist for Independent Scrutiny <https://www.beds.ac.uk/media/bzul2oep/independent-scrutiny-checklist-final.pdf>

I include a range of methods for undertaking independent scrutiny, ranging from attending HSCP meetings; scrutinising minutes of meetings; checking staff attendance and engagement with ongoing safeguarding children work; reviewing integrated multi-agency learning from local and national policy and practice documents and from the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel; and ensuring that developing LSCP priorities and strategies draw on local qualitative and quantitative data. I review the process for HSCP undertaking Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR) and check that the management of serious incidents and lessons learnt from them comply with WT 18 requirements. I also undertake 'deep dives' into areas of work identified by myself and the HSCP as needing

further, more in-depth scrutiny.

I presented in November 2022, at the annual 'Havering Safeguarding Children Week', providing an update on the reasons for, and outcomes from, independent scrutiny.

### **Specific Areas of Scrutiny 2022 to 2023**

In last year's HSCP annual report (2021 to 2022) I noted that future scrutiny would focus on

- the effectiveness of HSCP leadership through the HSCP Executive including annual reporting processes,
- the working and impact of the Case Review Working Group, including the content, process and impact of Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice reviews on the HSCP as a whole,
- the development of strategic engagement of children and young people with HSCP activity,
- the implementation of the action plan arising from the review of the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy and Education Strategic Partnership.

I address below the findings from continued work during 2022 to 23 on these areas:

#### ***HSCP Executive leadership***

The move from a tri-partnership safeguarding children with Redbridge and Barking and Dagenham to the newly created Havering Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) has provided welcome forces on Havering multi-agency activity. I have continued to attend HSCP leadership team meetings. They are held regularly, include the strategic leads or their delegates, who are committed to reviewing and planning changes necessary to safeguard children in Havering. Despite some staff changes brought about by the introduction of the ICB, from changes in police leads and latterly in the Director of Starting Well, the leadership team have maintained strategic oversight of Partnership working, have reviewed and incorporated findings from local and national reviews and have been instrumental in implementing findings from scrutiny. For example

#### ***Work of Case Review Working Group***

It was recognised that learning from local and national reviews needed to be further embedded into HSCP practice. I have attended some meetings of the Case Review Working Group and have reviewed minutes of meetings. This is a multi-agency meeting where senior practitioners share learning from local and national reviews and have extracted themes that need to be cascaded further across the HSCP. There is evidence of this happening through the dissemination of 7 minute briefings, through targeted training events, scrutiny activity and specific meeting agenda items.

#### ***Strategic engagement with children and young people***

The scrutiny of 2021 to 2022 also noted the need for improved engagement with children and young people in Havering LSCP activity. The leadership team have supported the newly

appointed 'Safeguarding Partnership Coordinator' to work on recruitment and support of Young Safeguarding Advisors. This work has successfully recruited 6 Young Advisors and had contact with 30 young people. The work is developing and strongly enhances the engagement with young people. It provides opportunities for young people to have a voice in strategic thinking developing safeguarding services and providing the HSCP with the opportunity to hear directly from young people about issues important to them.

### ***Implementation of action plans***

Deep dive scrutiny into the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy (ASS), its Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding service (IASS) and its Education Strategic Partnership (ESP); and scrutiny of Serious Youth Violence noted specific concern about two areas:

The 2021 to 22 scrutiny of ASS and the IASS noted that there is a disproportionately higher number of black African Caribbean children experiencing Serious Youth Violence and school exclusions and that this needs to be addressed in planning early help services for children affected. This was picked up in my scrutiny of Serious Youth Violence in a local area. As noted above, work continues to address questions of disproportionality and will continue to be a focus in my subsequent scrutiny of HSCP activity.

### **Scrutiny of the HSCP Annual Report 2022 to 23 and related content of the reporting of serious incidents to the Child Safeguarding National Review Panel**

"As Independent Scrutineer to the HSCP I have read and reviewed the content of this annual report. The HSCP has developed its own action plan and areas of priority that are appropriately informed by both qualitative and quantitative data. I note the comprehensive data provided about children and young people living in Havering and note how this reflects the continual focus of learning from multi-agency data sources that has been a strength of HSCP. The annual report and my own deep dives of scrutiny into specific areas of work demonstrate that the Insight team in Havering Policy, Strategy and Transformation maintain a strong data base linking across to other agencies' data for comparison, reflection and learning.

I note the developments in linking with children and young people through the Safeguarding Young Advisors and encourage this to expand during 2024.

The outline of the work of the Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding Service (IASS) and the Education strategic partnership (ESP) is accurate in this annual report and reflects ongoing work activities. While there have been some staff changes in leadership of the IASS, transitions have been smooth and the strategic plan of ensuring that Contextual Safeguarding approaches are maintained across Havering youth service, policing and health provision is working to be embedded in practice. The work of this service is appropriately linked to the ESP with strong representation from School Designated Safeguarding Leads. While there is concern in Havering, as there is nationally, about the small numbers of detached and centre based youth workers and about the scope for outreach, preventative work with children with mental health problems post the COVID -19 pandemic, these are recognised, and strategic

developments continue to try to improve early intervention with young people affected. My Independent Scrutiny continues to work on these factors, as identified in scrutiny plans for 2023 to 2024. The working of the Early Help Partnership Board is progressing well and is further integrating Early Help services with the MASH.

The report notes the process for undertaking Rapid Reviews and commissioning CSPRs. I have scrutinised both the process and the outcomes from reviews and feel confident that both are compliant with WT18. As is the case for all LSCPs, the challenge comes in embedding learning into multi-agency practice, the HSCP training provision, and the work of Case Reviews.

### **Scrutiny of Serious Youth Violence in a specific location**

In response to four incidents of Serious Youth Violence, it was agreed that I would scrutinise the provisions for young people in a specific Havering location. This report will not be published but has been sent to the National Child Safeguarding Review Panel as a response to those incidents. The report was accepted by the Statutory Partners and the Havering Safeguarding Strategic Group in May 2023, and actions will be overseen by the Community Safety Partnership and will form part of the Serious Youth Violence (SYV) Needs Assessment. The report found a need for stronger strategic coordination of activity in the area, and increased preventive support for young people. It specifically noted the need for improved multi-agency strategic oversight of the different activities taking place in the location to prevent SYV. It also identified the need for further work on mental health provisions for children impacted by SYV and on the need for improved access to sexual health services for children and young people in Havering.

### **Future scrutiny 2023 to 2024**

An issue emerging from both deep dive scrutiny activities: Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy (ASS), its Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding service (IASS) and its Education Strategic Partnership (ESP); and scrutiny of Serious Youth Violence noted specific concern about two areas

- the high levels of mental health problems experienced by young people
- worries that Havering young people were not accessing Sexual Health Services

While the increase in child mental health problems is of national concern, we wanted to explore whether Havering was doing all it could to support preventative work to advance mental wellbeing amongst children. Concerns about access to Sexual Health Services focused on questions about the location and accessibility of those services for young people in Havering.

Scrutiny during 2023 is focusing on these two issues, following an agreed Terms of Reference with completion date by close of 2023.

I look forward to continuing with this work, continuing my overall scrutiny of HSCP alongside the targeted deep dives”.

### **Summary of Prof Pearce’s Scrutiny of the Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy and Education Strategic Partnership (ESP) and the Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding Service**

The work placed particular focus on School exclusions, managed moves and the use of alternative school provision. The work followed an agreed action plan which included scrutiny of six foci, including leadership and ownership; engagement with relevant agencies, engagement with children and young people quality assurance and information sharing; learning from national and local reviews and training and workforce development.

Prof Pearce found that the ESP, ASS and related IASS each have strong leadership actively engaging with key safeguarding partners and relevant agencies. There were clear lines of accountability into and from the leadership roles and post holders. Within these bodies of work, the leadership of work on school inclusion, including the individual School based activities, Fair Access Panel, Alternative Provision (specifically KORU) and data control and management was effective and consistent. The report was accepted by the Statutory Partners. An action plan with the 17 recommendations has been developed and shared with leads. The report can be found here:

<https://safeguardinghaverling.org.uk/childrenpartnership/independent-chair-independent-scrutineer/>

### **Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy and Education Strategic Partnership August 2022**

HSCP requested Independent Scrutiny of its Adolescent Safeguarding Strategy (ASS), its Integrated Adolescent Safeguarding service (IASS) and its Education Strategic Partnership (ESP). The work followed an agreed action plan which included scrutiny on leadership and ownership; school exclusions, managed moves and alternative provision; questions of disproportionality and engagement with children and young people as safeguarding advocates or scrutineers. The report was completed in August 2022 and can be found here:

<https://safeguardinghaverling.org.uk/childrenpartnership/independent-chair-independent-scrutineer/>

A methodology was agreed that included data analysis; interviews and focus groups with practitioners; review with children and young people where appropriate; and analysis of relevant minutes of meetings and documentation.

Essential findings included positive outcomes noting that:

- the ESP, ASS and related IASS each have strong leadership actively engaging with

key safeguarding partners and relevant agencies,

- targeted work is in place to address serious youth violence with the Youth Offending Service and Targeted Youth Service being closely linked to support children affected by youth violence,
- there is strategic planning in place for identifying schools that have higher fixed term exclusion rates and managed moves. These schools receive targeted work on school inclusion activities.
- The Virtual School heads work closely with other strategic leads,
- the Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) network is effective and proactive, with a range of activities in and outside schools working to advance school inclusion,
- the Fair Access Panel is well developed and provides an excellent overview of actions for children experiencing problems in school. There is good cross referencing with the Community Safety Partnership with a focus on information sharing on individual cases.

The work noted that ongoing challenges include:

- Ensuring that school academies are consulting current policies and procedures when wanting to initiate the managed move of a child from one school to another;
- Ensuring that academics are making full use of the early help provisions available to Havering schools;
- Trying to address at a local level the impact of the national shortage of preventative services for children experiencing problems with mental health and drug and alcohol use;
- Recognition that there is a disproportionately higher number of black African Caribbean children experiencing serious youth violence and school exclusions and that this needs to be addressed in planning early help services for children affected;
- The need for continued support for detached youth workers and the locations they work in. This should be informed by, and share knowledge with, housing providers and local private sector businesses;
- The need for investment in data analyst time to help identify and track new and emerging patterns.

Seventeen recommendations emerged from the scrutiny. These have been collated into an action plan which is currently being implemented. Scrutiny is continuing and will be incorporated into scrutiny tasks for 2023 to 2024.

Arising from the findings of the location report, the next area of scrutiny will be sexual and

## CONCLUSION

HSCP is planning to make these our priorities this year:

Development of a Task and Finish group re gender identity;

Development of a CSA Strategy with Child Sexual Exploitation as a separate priority;

Stronger engagement and representation from the Voluntary Sector regarding safeguarding families.

## CONTACT DETAILS

<https://safeguardinghavering.org.uk/>

This report was signed off at the HSAB and HSCP Joint Meeting on 13th September 2023 and published on the HSP website. A copy has been sent to the National Child Safeguarding Review Panel, Police Commissioner and What Works Centre.

## Appendix 1

### Attendance at virtual HSCP Meetings 2022-23.

Agency	Membership	2022-23 SCP attendance
<b>Children's Social Care</b>	<p><b>Robert South, Director of Children Services.</b></p> <p><b>Kate Dempsey, Principal Social Worker Adults &amp; Children</b></p> <p><b>Helen Harding Head of Service Mash, Early Intervention &amp; Edge of Care.</b></p> <p><b>Justine Wilson – Darke, Head of IASS &amp; YJS &amp; Virtual School.</b></p> <p><b>Tara Geere Assistant Director of Children Services</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22</b> (attended) Robert South, Helen Harding, Justine Wilson – Darke, Tara Geere, Steve Andrews</p> <p><b>08.09.22</b> (attended) Robert South, Helen Harding, Justine Wilson – Darke, Steve Andrews,</p> <p><b>24.11.22</b> (attended) Robert South, Kate Dempsey, Helen Harding, Justine Wilson – Darke, Tara Geere.</p> <p><b>08.02.23</b> (attended) , Kate Dempsey, Helen Harding, Tara Geere, Justine Wilson-Darke</p>



		None attendance 12.05.22 , 08.09.22, 24.11.22 & 08.02.23
<b>Legal Services</b>	<b>Stephen Doye</b>	Non representative
<b>The CCG became NEL ICB July 2022</b>	<p><b>Korkor Caesar Ass. Director for Safeguarding Children</b></p> <p><b>Paul Archer Designated Nurse, Safeguarding</b></p> <p><b>Dr Elizabeth Adamson Consultant Paediatrician Designated Dr for Children</b></p> <p><b>Dr Richard Burack Named GP Lead Children Services Safeguarding.</b></p> <p><b>Susan Gill Designate Nurse LAC (started attending Nov 22)</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22</b> (attended) Dr Richard Burack , Paul Archer, Elizabeth Adamson</p> <p><b>08.09.22</b> (attended) Dr Richard Burack, Elizabeth Adamson, Paul Archer.</p> <p><b>24.11.22</b> (attended) Paul Archer, Korkor Caesar, Elizabeth Adamson, Susan Gill</p> <p><b>08.02.23</b> (attended) Susan Gill</p>
<b>NELFT</b>	<p><b>Irvine Muronzi Integrated Care Director Havering (Replaced Carol White)</b></p> <p><b>Pippa Ward Ass Director , Children Services NELFT</b></p> <p><b>Justine Yearwood Children's Safeguarding Nurse Advisor</b></p> <p><b>Helen Chesterton Children's Safeguarding Nurse Advisor</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22</b> (attended) Justine Yearwood, Irvine Muronzi</p> <p><b>08.09.22</b> (attended) Pippa Ward , Helen Chesterton (SD)</p> <p><b>24.11.22</b> (attended) Pippa Ward, Helen Chesterton (SD)</p>
<b>BHRUT</b>		<p><b>12.05.22</b> (attended) Daniela Capasso, Adam Seomore</p> <p><b>08.09.22</b> no attendance from BHRUT</p> <p><b>24.11.22</b> no attendance from BHRUT</p> <p><b>8.02.23</b> no attendance from BHRUT</p>
<b>Police</b>	<b>DS Lewis Basford EA BCU</b>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Lewis Basford</p> <p><b>08.09.22 – no attendance from Police</b></p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Lewis Basford</p> <p><b>08.02.23 - no attendance from Police</b></p>

<p><b>Probation</b></p>	<p><b>Steve Calder Head of Service Probation</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Steve Calder</p> <p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> – sent deputy</p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Steve Calder</p> <p><b>08.02.23 no attendance from Probation.</b></p>
<p><b>Housing</b></p>	<p><b>Patrick Odling-Smee Director Housing</b></p> <p><b>Darren Alexander Asst. Director Housing Demand</b></p> <p><b>Samantha Babb Housing Solutions Specialist Manager (Specialist)</b></p> <p><b>Housing Needs &amp; Strategy Management (removed from Membership 22)</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Darren Alexander,</p> <p>Patrick Odling-Smee.</p> <p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> Patrick Odling– Smee,</p> <p>Samantha Babb</p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Samantha Babb</p> <p><b>08.02.23 (attended)</b> Patrick Odling-Smee</p>
<p><b>Public Health</b></p>	<p><b>Dr Mark Ansell Director for Public Health</b></p> <p><b>Dr Louise Dibsdall Acting Consultant for Public Health</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Dr Mark Ansell , Louise Dibsdall</p> <p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> Dr Louise Dibsdall</p> <p><b>24.11.22 no attendance from Public Health</b></p> <p><b>08.02.23 (attended)</b> Dr Louise Dibsdall</p>
<p><b>Children’s Policy &amp; Performance, Havering Council</b></p>	<p><b>Lucy Goodfellow Policy &amp; Performance Business Manager</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Lucy Goodfellow</p> <p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> Lucy Goodfellow</p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Lucy Goodfellow</p> <p><b>08.02.23 no attendance from Children’s Commissioning</b></p>
<p><b>Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)</b></p>	<p><b>Jakir Hussain DWP</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 no attendance from DWP</b></p>

		<p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> Jakir Hussain</p> <p><b>24.11.22 no attendance from DWP</b></p> <p><b>08.02.23 no attendance from DWP</b></p>
<b>Community Safety Partnership (CSP)</b>	<b>Diane Egan Community Safety and Intelligence Manager</b>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Diane Egan</p> <p><b>08.09.22 sent deputy</b></p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Diane Egan</p> <p><b>08.02.23 no attendance from Community Safety.</b></p>
<b>Education Services to include Preschool / Secondary and Primary schools</b>	<p><b>Trevor Cook Ass. Director for Education Services</b></p> <p><b>Carol Rockey, Safeguarding Advisor schools</b></p> <p><b>Claire Lakin , Playdays Preschool</b></p> <p><b>Emilie Darabasz, Frances Bardsley Secondary school.</b></p> <p><b>Nicole Jethwa, Abbs Cross Secondary School</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 (attended)</b> Trevor Cook , Claire Lakin, Carol Rockey, Emilie Darabasz</p> <p><b>08.09.22 (attended)</b> Trevor Cook Claire Lakin sent deputy, Carol Rockey, Emilie Darabasz</p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended)</b> Trevor Cook , Claire Lakin, Carol Rockey, Emilie Darabasz</p> <p><b>08.02.23 (attended)</b> Trevor Cook Claire Lakin, Carol Rockery, Emilie Darabasz, Nicole Jethwa</p>
<b>CAFCASS</b>	<b>Louise Jones</b>	<p><b>12.05.22 - sent Deputy</b></p> <p><b>08.09.22 no attendance from CAFCASS</b></p> <p><b>24.11.22 no attendance from CAFCASS</b></p>
<b>Children's Lead Member</b>	<p><b>Cllr Robert Benham (in post until June 22)</b></p> <p><b>Cllr Oscar Ford</b></p>	<p><b>12.05.22 no attendance from Lead Member</b></p> <p><b>08.09.22 no attendance from Lead Member</b></p> <p><b>24.11.22 (attended) Cllr Oscar Ford</b></p> <p><b>08.02.23 no attendance from Lead Member.</b></p>
<b>Voluntary Sector</b>	<b>No Voluntary Sector sits on the Children's Partnership Board</b>	

## Appendix 2

Attendance at HSAB Meetings 2022-23. This table outlines members' virtual attendance at the SAB's six meetings.

Agency	% SAB 2022-23 attendance
Adult Social Care	100%
NEL ICB	100%
NELFT	100%
BHRUT	67%
Police	33%
Probation	50%
LFB	33%
Housing	100%
Joint Commissioning Unit (JCU) Havering Council	0%
Public Health	100%
Voluntary Sector	0%
Department for Work and Pensions (DWP)	83%
Community Safety Partnership (CSP)	100%
Havering Care Homes	33%
Healthwatch Havering	100%
Havering College	Not currently represented
Peabody Housing Association	50%
Lead Member	33%





