

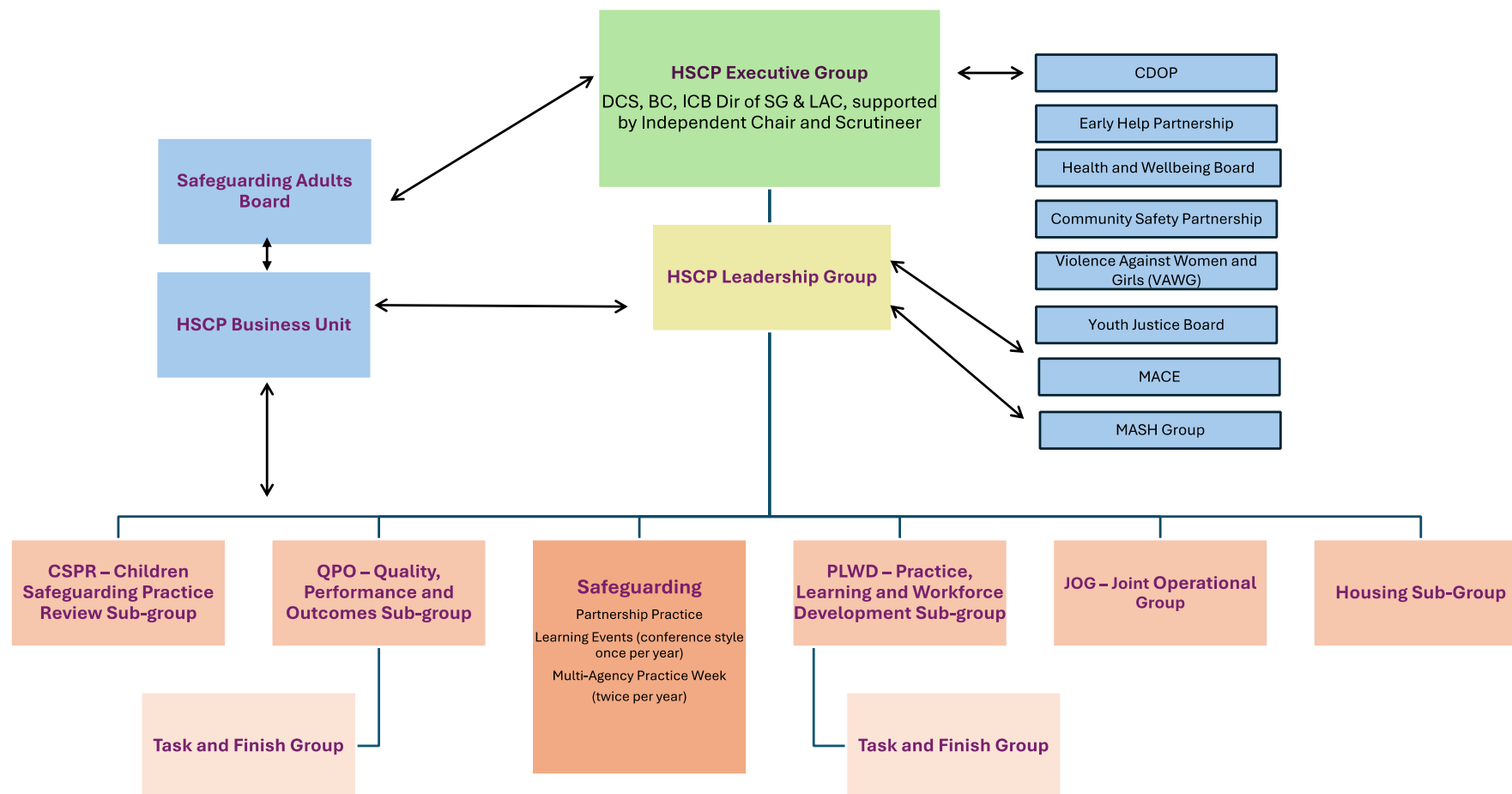
**Haringey Safeguarding Children
Partnership Annual Report
April 2023 - March 2024
Safeguarding is Everyone's Business**



Background

- The Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) is a group of people from different agencies who work together proactively to promote the welfare of children under the Children and Social Work Act 2017.
- The HSCP Annual Report 2023-2024 covers the period from 1st April 2023 to the 31st of March 2024, in line with the requirements of Working Together to Safeguard Children Statutory Guidance 2023.
- The HSCP is led by the three statutory safeguarding partners of the Local Authority, NCL Integrated Care Board (ICB) and Metropolitan Police Service (MPS)
- The three safeguarding partners have a shared and equal duty to ensure arrangements effectively safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- Safeguarding partners must jointly report on the activity they have undertaken in a 12-month period with the focus of the report being progress with the multi-agency priorities, learning, impact, evidence, and improvement as well as the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements.
- The HSCP must submit a copy of the annual report to the National Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel.
- This year the HSCP commissioned a one-page visual summary and child-friendly version to sit alongside the detailed report, in response to feedback improving accessibility.

HSCP structure



What we have done as a result of the arrangements

This year we:

- Used evidence to demonstrate the value and rationale behind our three priorities
- Continued to provide information on the impact of our activities and interventions on the well-being and safety of children and families

Continued to deliver on our three key priorities:

- Children living with mental health issues
- Prevention and early intervention
- Older children in need of help and protection, including contextual safeguarding and exploitation

We also considered:

- Transitional safeguarding with the Safeguarding Adults Board
- Neglect with the Early Help and Health & Wellbeing Boards
- Systems for managing the risk to children who go missing, including developing the Missing Prevention App.

Our Three Priorities & Key Achievements



Children living with mental health issues	<p>MASA Conference 2023: Addressing Children’s Mental Health Needs (112 delegates attended)</p> <p>Expanded Children’s Mental Health Provision</p> <p>Agreed NCL Discharge Policy and Hospital Social Work Post</p> <p>Strategic School-Based Projects: Supported Trailblazer project, Social Workers in Schools (SWIS project) & trauma informed approaches</p> <p>Key highlights of learning: Adolescents with complex mental health issues & effectiveness of trauma informed approaches</p>
Prevention and early intervention	<p>Launched Neglect Strategy and PANTS Campaign</p> <p>Further embedded “Think Family Approach” across the Partnership</p> <p>Strengthened representation from Education</p> <p>HSCP Multi- agency audit on Housing Poverty & audited the Guidance on Bruises/Injury in Non-Mobile Infants to ensure its working</p> <p>Key highlights of learning: Complexity and interconnected factors, whole family approach, importance of integrated multi- agency collaboration</p>
Older children in need of help and protection, including contextual safeguarding and exploitation	<p>Groundbreaking Stop and Search Projects- put a Safeguarding perspective on the police practice of Stop & Search and the impact in terms of disproportionality and racial disparity</p> <p>Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board and HSCP joint bi-annual meetings and collaborative initiatives: Launched Transitional Safeguarding Protocol</p> <p>HSCP Multi-agency audit on Children impacted by mental health, contextual safeguarding and serious violence</p> <p>Launched the Missing App to help find missing children.</p> <p>Expanded service provision to support at-risk youth</p> <p>Key highlights of learning: Cultural identity, parental mental health, understanding children’s experiences</p>

HSCP core activities

- Partnership held to account by the Independent Scrutineer
- Section 11 audit assessing the effectiveness of safeguarding efforts by key organisations in Haringey and scrutinising the audit findings
- Robust monitoring through our five sub-groups including the new Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPR) Sub-group and the Housing Sub-group
- Multi-agency performance framework
- Feedback from children, families and our workforce influenced service provision
- Commissioning and embedding learning from Learning from Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews and Serious Incidents
- Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) assurance
- Practice Week held twice a year 2023/24 themes: Domestic Abuse and Physical Abuse Injury in children
- Annual Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) Conference. 2023/24 theme: Addressing Children's Mental Health Needs
- Free Safeguarding Training (trained 781 multi-agency delegates), 33 courses delivered across many theme and 265 people trained in the Voluntary and Community Sector

HSCP core activities - Training

- The HSCP delivered Free Safeguarding Training (trained 781 multi-agency delegates), 33 courses delivered across many themes and 265 people were trained in the Voluntary and Community Sector. Training courses included:
 - Learning from Safeguarding Practice Reviews (SPRs)
 - Cultural Boundaries Training
 - Hate Crime Awareness Training
 - Improving Housing Standards in the Private Rented Sector
 - LADO Training and Workshop
 - Liquid Logic Portal Training Æ Prevent training
 - Safeguarding Level 3
 - Social Care Thresholds
- When is it Safeguarding?
- Youth at Risk: exploring the rise of incel ideology and extreme misogyny

Feedback from staff

- High standards of facilitation, with attendees reporting positive impacts on their practice
- Sessions provided a safe forum for discussion and learning, with interactive elements and well-chosen scenarios
- Attendees appreciated the smaller group settings and the range of participants

How effective these arrangements have been in practice

The MASA arrangements have resulted in improvements for children, families, staff, and the local community. A selection include:

- **Improved Outcomes for Children confirmed by the Ofsted Inspection 2023:** *“Leaders have supported front line staff to improve practice significantly... Multi-agency partnership work is effective in identifying children at risk of abuse or neglect and providing the right support at the right time... Services for children who need help and protection in Haringey are strong. Thresholds for intervention are understood across the partnership”* (Ofsted 2023)
- **Commitment to Safeguarding:** A strong commitment to safeguarding and a child-centred approach within a whole family focus is evident
- **Campaign and Initiative Support:** Some examples include promoting the Neglect and PANTS Campaign and the Think Family approach
- **Recognition and Branding:** The MASA brand is now widely recognised across the Partnership, indicating strong visibility and awareness
- **Positive Multi-Agency Engagement in Sub-Groups and Leadership & Executive Groups** evidencing shared ownership and responsibility
- **Shared Ownership of Learning:** There is a strong commitment across partners to learn from Reviews and implementing lessons learned
- **Influence:** The arrangements have influenced national issues of importance, showcasing the Partnership’s impact beyond the local community
- **Training Facilitation:** Partners offer in-kind support and lead training sessions. The Bridge Renewal Trust, our VCS partner, has also delivered training to the voluntary and faith communities, enhancing overall safeguarding capacity and awareness in Haringey.

Cross-cutting themes from scrutiny: reviews, scrutineer activity and audits

- **Complexity:** Domestic abuse, child and parental mental health issues, substance misuse, and contextual safeguarding often intersect. Addressing these interconnected factors requires integrated and comprehensive approaches
- **Importance of Multi-Agency Collaboration:** Effective safeguarding depends on collaboration beyond core statutory partners, including housing, the voluntary sector, and other relevant agencies. Successful outcomes demonstrate the value of working across and beyond local boundaries
- **Adolescents with Complex Mental Health Needs:** There is a notable prevalence of mental health issues among teenagers
- **Understanding Children's Lives:** Emphasising the need to fully understand children's lived experiences and those of their families
- **Leadership and Commitment:** Strong leadership and governance are evident, with established processes and high standards in safeguarding training. Effective leadership supports critical thinking and constructive professional challenge
- **Effective Information Sharing:** The success of information-sharing arrangements like the MASH highlights the importance of effective
- **Holistic View of Children:** Agencies are increasingly able to understand and address the broader context of children's lives, including complex factors like domestic abuse and mental health issues, beyond immediate concerns
- **Cultural Considerations:** There is an increasing understanding of the need to consider racial, ethnic, and cultural identities and how they impact
- **Whole Family Approach:** The understanding and application of a whole family approach to risk assessment has improved. Expanding the involvement of absent parents and extended family members will further enhance support
- **Parental Mental Health:** Increased attention to the impact of parental mental health on parenting capacity will further strengthen support

Feedback from children and families

- All staff and partner agencies are responsible for listening to and responding to the voices of children, young people, and families. Staff are encouraged to attend the “Language that Cares” and “Voice of the Child” training.
- The section 11 audit show significant progress in integrating young people’s voices into practice, with innovations like a child-friendly complaints process positively influencing services

Children and Young People’s Contributions – What They Said

- Thanks for helping me with my family and helping with trust.”
- “I now think about what will happen in the future, caring about my education and thinking about my family.”
- “I cannot wait until the next session”
- “I wanted easier access to leisure activities in the borough” (Response: All children in care and young care leavers in Haringey now have free swimming lessons and gym memberships)
- “Staff teach us to be kind” (The Anchor Approach and gender empowerment programme in Haringey schools)

Funding

- Working Together 2023 mandates that funding from safeguarding partners should be equitable and agreed upon by the Partnership.
- The annual report must include a breakdown of costs for delivering the arrangements, detailing individual partners' financial contributions, any changes to funding, and an assessment of the impact and value for money.
- Partner agencies continued to contribute to the HSCP budget, both financially and through 'in-kind' support.
- The LA contributed **£184,177 (69%)**
- All other agencies combined contributed **£34,106 (13%)**
- Government grants were **£47,300 (18%)**
- The total HSCP cost was **£265,543 for 2023/24**
- 'In-kind' contribution included secondment of a police staff for 2.5 days a week and partners facilitate HSCP training, Chair Sub-groups and engage in wider partnership work
- Working toward equalising the budget as part of the longer-term plan

Impact and learning from independent scrutiny

Learning and Some Recommendations for the HSCP

1. Continue embedding the Neglect Guidance, Toolkit, Checklist, and promote the Neglect Strategy across the partnership
2. Improve links between agencies working with children, young people, and GPs, especially when cases are closed, ensuring GPs have up-to-date information
3. Promote HSCP training across various agencies
4. Implement local changes to practice and processes following the publication of Working Together 2023
5. Explore the possibility of replicating National Probation Service (NPS) work with neighbouring boroughs to improve information sharing with MASH
6. Develop closer links with the voluntary sector and faith groups across the borough
7. Ensure active Housing representation and engagement in HSCP subgroups and safeguarding workgroups

Going forward

Plans are in place to expand the scrutineer function in line with WT 2023.

HSCP Business Plan for 2024 – 2027

HSCP Three Priorities:

- Children impacted by mental ill health
- Children affected by neglect
- Children affected by domestic abuse

Within each of the above priority areas there are golden threads:

- The voice of the child
- Harmful behaviours
- The impact on housing and education.
- The impact of the Think Family approach and
- Joint working of the HSCP and Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB).