

Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership Annual Report 2024-25

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Foreword

Welcome to the Annual Report for the Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership (HSCP) for April 2024 to March 2025. This report highlights our efforts to safeguard Haringey's children and young people. The HSCP serves as the collaborative framework for statutory partners and agencies to protect children. We coordinate services, address needs, conduct Local Safeguarding Practice Reviews, implement learnings, and scrutinise safeguarding processes to ensure effectiveness. As safeguarding partners, we are committed to working together effectively, embracing challenges, celebrating successes, and fostering continuous learning across the system to drive improvement.

Safeguarding children is a shared responsibility, with their welfare as the top priority. Every child deserves a safe, stable, and loving environment. By collaborating across organisations and agencies, we ensure that everyone recognises their role and fulfils their responsibilities to safeguard and support children effectively. Over the past year, the HSCP has remained responsive, providing necessary support and coordinating new multi-agency initiatives—an achievement given the economic challenges and growing needs. Throughout this period of time, we have worked diligently to implement the Working Together Guidance 2023 requirements and have also revised and published our Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) document in December 2024.

Looking ahead, the HSCP will continue to focus on embedding our robust safeguarding arrangements and supporting the partnership to deliver our 3 key strategic priorities.

The Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership Lead Safeguarding Partners



Scrutineer's Annual Reflections

I am delighted to introduce the Annual Report for 2024-25 of Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership. The three Statutory Safeguarding Partners (Integrated Care Board, Metropolitan Police Service and Haringey Children's Services) have continued to work extremely closely together to further develop and improve multi-agency safeguarding in Haringey.

One important aspect of the 2019 national arrangements was to give the three Statutory Safeguarding Partners joint and equal accountability for safeguarding children and young people in Haringey. This change was implemented rigorously and effectively and there is clear joint and equal accountability embraced and displayed by the three agencies. This joint and equal accountability has been maintained and further developed and is a crucial foundation of the partnership.

Over the last year, these strong partnerships have continued to respond effectively to a range of challenges which have emerged. The partnership has responded rapidly and worked effectively together to ensure the effective safeguarding of children and young people. This strong joint response has in turn further strengthened the partnership, laying strong foundations for future joint working.

The partnership has continued to develop its effective and impactful partnership with Haringey's Safeguarding Adults Board, and has agreed several areas for joint work, with good progress being made on Transitional Safeguarding and Think Family, where there is good scope for further improvements in services and outcomes.

Following the publication of Working Together 2023 in December 2023, during the period covered by this annual report, the 3 statutory partners, and HSCP, have set in motion detailed preparation for implementing Working Together 2023. This is, and will continue to be, a major focus for the partnership in 2024-25 and beyond.

As Independent Chair until the end of 2024, and Independent Scrutineer since January 2025, I continue to work closely with the three Statutory Partners in the decisions they make concerning Rapid Reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews, providing both independent challenge and scrutiny.

The HSCP and the safeguarding system across Haringey have performed well during this period and are in a strong position to continue to do so.

David Archibald
Independent Scrutineer

Introduction

The Haringey Safeguarding Partnership (HSCP) publishes an Annual Report in line with its statutory duties under Working Together to Safeguard Children 2023. Safeguarding partners must jointly report on their activities over 12 months, ensuring transparency and accessibility for families and professionals. The report should focus on multi-agency priorities, learning, impact, evidence, and improvement. This report assesses the effectiveness of multi-agency safeguarding arrangements, highlighting their impact on children, young people, and families. Evidence is drawn from sub-group activities, training evaluations, and the voices of children and families and staff. Learning is gathered from Local Safeguarding Practice Reviews, audits, local performance data, scrutiny, challenge and monitoring activities.

This Annual Report reaffirms the HSCP's commitment to continuous learning and development, alongside its strategic leadership vision (MASA document page 17):

The partnership will continue to provide the strategic leadership, vision and influence which ensures:

- That at every opportunity the lived experience of children and young people (CYP) continues to be integral to how we safeguard and protect.
- That we further develop positive outcomes through strengthening partnership workforce and community resilience; and
- Our relationship-based practice continues to develop, demonstrating sustained improvement.

The partnership has continued to support the vision by:

- Continued use of digital technology and building workforce development.
- Continuing to have in place a range of agreed policies and procedures that supports us to work together consistently as one strong partnership.

- Striving to further reduce bureaucracy and doing what is best for children; and
- Proactively and continually assessing the needs for safeguarding services in Haringey and ensuring that these needs are met within the resources we have available.

Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs)

Following the publication of Working Together 2023 Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) has transitioned to Chief Executives of the Local Authority and ICB, and the Assistant Commissioner for Front line Policing (London MPS). Each LSP has now appointed a Delegated Safeguarding Partner (DSP) to act on their behalf. DSPs are sufficiently senior to speak with authority, make decisions, and hold their sectors accountable.

The three statutory Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs) are:

- Andy Donald, Chief Executive, Haringey Local Authority
- Matt Twist, Assistant Commissioner for Frontline Policing, Metropolitan Police Service
- Frances O'Callaghan, Chief Executive, North Central London Integrated Care Board

The Executive Group (DSPs)

The HSCP Executive Group remains the high level, overarching local governance for the partnership that continues to have the primary focus on safeguarding systems, performance and resourcing. The membership of the Executive Group is the three statutory partner agencies under the new arrangements will be known as Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs) who will report to their Lead Safeguarding Partners (LSPs). In addition to those members, there will be an Independent

Scrutineer, but this role will not be part of the chairing arrangements or decision making.

The Executive Group continues to have:

- Strategic ownership of the safeguarding arrangements in Haringey, with a strong joint responsibility for the whole system.
- The responsibility for financial, strategic and reputational risk.
- The responsibility for ensuring cross-partnership collaboration and agency participation, convening and supporting participation in the HSCP Leadership group
- The responsibility for ensuring that independent scrutiny of the partnership's effectiveness is regular and has impact; and
- Oversight of progress against the HSCP agreed priorities.
- Regular updates by senior officers on the effectiveness of the partner's safeguarding arrangements for children and young people within their respective agency

Membership - The membership of the Executive Group in line with the requirements of Working Together 2023 will be the three Delegated Safeguarding Partners (DSPs):

- Detective Chief Superintendent North Area Borough Commander (Haringey and Enfield) Caroline Haines, North Area BCU, Metropolitan Police Service
- David Pennington Director of Safeguarding and Looked After Children for North Central London Integrated Care Board
- Ann Graham, Director of Children's Services, Haringey Local Authority

- David Archibald, Independent Scrutineer - attending in their role as a critical friend, to provide support and challenge, and not as a decision maker.

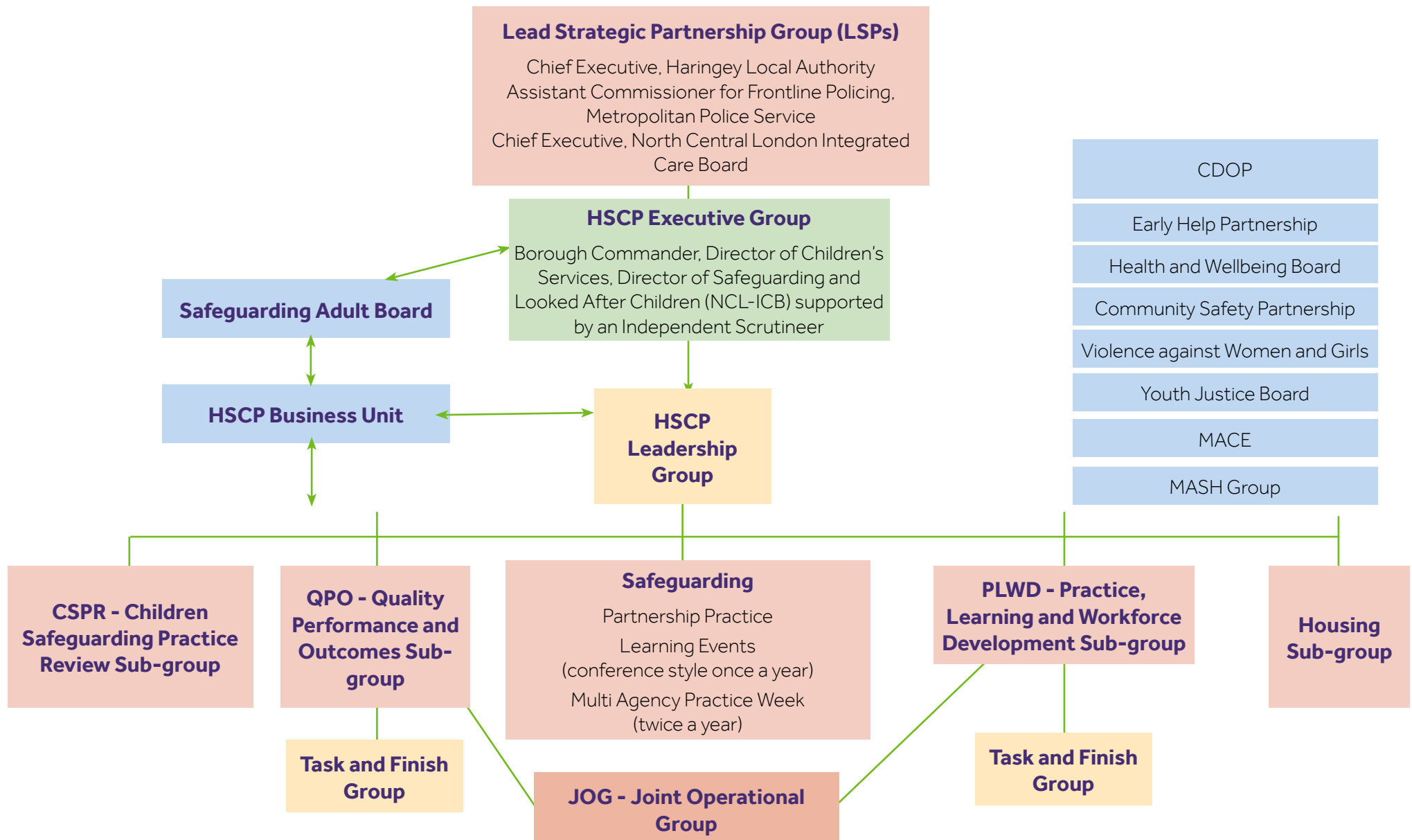
The Executive Group provides strong, unified leadership and is committed to reviewing and improving practices and building on existing strengths and innovation within the partnership.

This Annual Report serves as a testament to the unwavering commitment of all partners to safeguarding. The partners' focus remains on understanding the lived experiences of children and young people, ensuring they receive the best possible support and thrive in their communities.

The Leadership Group

The Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership's Leadership Group is chaired by the Director of Children's Services. This arrangement will be on a rotational basis and the following year this arena will be chaired by either the Police or Health. In addition, attendees are representatives from across the partnership including the Independent Scrutineer and acts as the partnership's 'engine room'. Senior officers from statutory partners and relevant agencies approve the policies, strategies, and guidance needed to support priorities and effective safeguarding. In 2024/25, the Leadership Group held six meetings on local and national safeguarding priorities, informed by data, audits, and performance, focusing on learning and outcomes. The Group reports to the HSCP Executive Group and drives work through five sub-groups and task-specific groups.

HSCP Structure



HSCP Business Plan for 2024 – 2027

Our Business Plan aims to ensure that the partnership oversees and advances improvements in its core business. The Business Plan and work programme was developed in partnership with all agencies and will continue to progress a range of improvements. The Business Plan is supported by an Action Plan which will be monitored by the Quality, Performance and Outcomes subgroup and ultimately the Executive Group.

Impact beyond our boundaries - While much of the Partnership's focus is support to our resident population, our impact reaches beyond that and will continue to do so in the coming years. The HSCP is committed to efficiency, integration and building and sharing good practice.

2024-27 Key priorities

Children impacted by mental ill health

Rationale: The Haringey JSNA report 2024 highlighted that in 2022/23, 2.4% (912 pupils) of school age pupils in Haringey had a social, emotional and mental health need. In Haringey in 2022/23, the rate of hospital admissions for self-harm in children and young people aged 10 to 24 years was 186 per 100,000 or 85 admissions. Local learning from reviews highlights the vulnerability of these children and young people, their increased risk of exploitation and the need for stronger, child-focused safeguarding approaches within complex family situations and partnership working.

Children impacted by neglect

Rationale: Neglect has been at the forefront of the work the Partnership has undertaken. Our mission is to: Tackle Neglect at the earliest opportunity, prevent neglect having a long-term impact and improve the lives of children and young people who are at risk of or have experienced neglect. Work is needed to continue to embed the newly reviewed HSCP Neglect Strategy, guidance, toolkit and checklist.

Children impacted by domestic abuse

Rationale: Children affected by domestic abuse can experience long and short terms physical and mental health challenges. The Children's Commissioner Vulnerability Profile projects that the % of children in households where an adult experienced domestic abuse in the last year is 8.55%. Haringey's rate of domestic violence with injury is slightly above the London average.

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
- joint working of the HSCP and Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB).



Local Background and Context

At the time of writing this report, these were the most up-to-date figures available that we have in our State of the Borough document. This data was refreshed in May 2025.

The partnership continues to address high levels of need and complexity relating to Haringey families due to several challenges:

- In 2023/24, 19.4% of children in Haringey lived in relative poverty, close to the London average but lower than similar areas. This is the 9th-highest rate in London
- Haringey has the highest alcohol sales per adult in London, with a significantly higher rate of alcohol-related hospital admissions. However, in order to address this issue, Insight Platform is now active in the borough of Haringey. Insight Platform takes a whole family approach to working with everyone in the family impacted by drugs or/and alcohol. They focus on strengthen resilience, family cohesion, reducing conflict to improve wellbeing at home and in the community.
- The most commonly cited reason for claiming Employment Support Allowance by working age adults in Haringey is mental health disorders, followed by musculoskeletal disease.
- The borough has the eleventh highest rate of domestic abuse with injury in London (2024)
- Haringey ranks 9th in London for households in temporary accommodation, an improvement from 5th the previous year (2024)

Despite these challenges, Haringey has many positives for children:

- Ofsted rated 98% of all Haringey Schools as 'good' or 'outstanding'
- Ofsted rated 98-99% of Early Years settings as 'good' or 'outstanding'
- 98% of PVIs and childminders are good or better
- At the end of Reception 73.5% of children achieve a good level of development and we are 8th in the country. (Further tracking of primary and secondary pupils will be undertaken by the HSCP Quality Performance and Outcomes Subgroup throughout 2025/26.)
- Our free school meals campaign successfully increased the number of children receiving free school meals and our auto enrolment project identified additional children who are eligible
- The borough is culturally diverse, with over 180 languages spoken.
- Over a quarter of the borough is green space – with 25 Green Flag Parks and 120 venues where cultural activities take place. It will be the London Borough of Culture in 2027
- Residents report good relations between different ethnic and religious communities and solid social ties

Outcomes for children and young people:

- The percentage of babies with a low birth weight in Haringey is similar to the London and England averages (2022).
- Obesity rates among Reception and Year 6 students are significant (2023/24). To support further work the direction of travel is outlined in Haringey's Healthy Weight Strategy.
- The proportion of students with social, emotional, and mental health needs is below the national average but slightly above the London average.
- Haringey achieved its best ever education results for young people, with all primary measures scoring above the national average. KS2 results met the London average for the first time (2023).
- GCSE attainment has improved but remains slightly below the London average, there are notable attainment gaps. Boys have lower attainment scores in general.

Haringey's child population:

- There are 54,422 children aged 0-17, representing 21% of the population, similar to other London areas
- Nearly half of Haringey's students speak a language other than English at home, with Turkish, Spanish, Polish, Bulgarian, and Somali being the most common.
- A key challenge remains inequality in outcomes, with poverty being a significant factor. Haringey is the 4th most deprived borough in London, with childhood deprivation concentrated in the northeast.



Children's Social Care Dataset 2024/25

We received 13,958 contacts compared to 13,826 contacts received in 2023/24. The highest proportion of contacts come from the police (24%), followed by health services (20%) and schools (15%).	3,312 referrals were received in the last 12 months compared to 3,323 referrals received in 2023/24. Of the referrals received, 18% were referrals. Compared to 17% last year.	3,540 assessments were completed in 2024/25 compared to 3,105 in 2023/24. 87% of assessments were completed within 45 working days; up on 2023/24 when 85% were completed within 45 working days.	There were 4,976 Children in Need who had received a service at any point within 2024/25 compared with 4,250 CiN in 2024/25. On 31/03/2025 1,979 children had an open of Children in Need episode.	At 31 March 2025 there were 325 Children Looked After. As at March 2025 the rate of CLA was 61 per 10,000 children in Haringey, down from 62 per 10,000 in 2023/24.
13,958 CONTACTS	3,312 REFERRALS	3,540 ASSESSMENTS	4,976 CHILDREN IN NEED	325 LOOKED AFTER CHILDREN
195 children were the subject of a Child Protection Plan at 31 March 2025. An 8% increase from the number of children at the end of 2024 (180). 229 children started and 214 ceased a CP plan in 2024/25.	1,124 Early Help cases were closed with a successful outcome in 2024/25. 70% of the families engaging with EH were closed with outcomes achieved or signposted to other agencies, compared to last year when this was 73%.	1,126 children were the subject of a Section 47 enquiry in 2024/25. This equates to a rate of 210 children with a S47 enquiry per 10,000 children in 2024/25, a decrease of 10% on the rate last year (233).	There were 225 Initial Child Protection Conferences in 2024/25, up on last year when 216 ICPCs were completed. 83% of these resulted in a child protection plan. ICPC rate has remained constant at 42 per 10,000 children.	1,606 assessments were identified to have either Domestic Violence, Mental Health or Substance misuse factors at the end of the assessment in 2024/25.
180 CP	1180 EARLY HELP	1,126 S47	177 ICPCS	1,606 TRIO OF VULNERABILITIES
At the end of March 2024, the number of people open to the Youth Offending Service with their Asset Plus Plans up to date was 65%, up from 74% at the end of 2023/24. The number of active young people on case load has increased from 38 to 66.	54% of 19-21 year old care leavers are in education, employment or training compared with 55% in 2023/24 (Haringey SNs 59% 2023/24). 90% are in suitable accommodation, up on last year (89%) and SNs (90% 2023/24).	In 2024 there were 553 Education, Health and Care Plans requested, which is down on 2023 (692) - an almost 20% decrease. 82.6% of EHCPs were finalised in 20 weeks, down on 2023 when 98% were finalised in 20 weeks.	Children in Care Attainment 8 achievements has fallen with Haringey CiC having an average attainment 8 score of 20.6. A decrease on the previous year when Haringey CiC had an average attainment 8 score of 22.5.	Of the children who ceased to be LAC in 2024/25, 7 (5%) were adopted and 13 (10%) were subject to a Special Guardianship Order. Haringey SNs achieved 5% adoptions and 9% SGOs previously.
65% YOS ASSET +	54% CARE LEAVERS EET	553 EHCPs	20.6 CLA ATTAINMENT 8	13 PERMANENCY ORDERS

What progress have we made against our priorities

This section includes work carried out on child safeguarding practice reviews and serious incidents, in which we:

- Continued to develop our focus on understanding the 'why'
- Developed clear recommendations that outline how we will impact practice by embedding the learning from our reviews and how this impact will be evaluated
- Included key demographic characteristics, such as age, gender, cultural heritage and ethnicity, and have considered the impact of these on the child's life and how these issues have helped to shape our practice.

For 2024-25, we continued to deliver on our three key 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 and harmful behaviours
- the impact on housing and education.
- the impact of the Think Family approach and joint working of the HSCP and Haringey Safeguarding Adult Board (HSAB)
- National drivers, such as lessons learned from safeguarding reviews
- Emerging issues or areas of concern identified by safeguarding partners and relevant agencies
- Findings from external inspections or peer reviews.

In addition, the HSCP MASA Focus and Strategy comprises four key elements:

- Measuring impact linked to practice
- A strong evidence base
- Workforce development
- Sustainability

Within these areas, there will also be consideration of:

- Transitional safeguarding with the Safeguarding Adults Board
- Neglect with the Early Help Service

HSCP Priority 1

Children impacted by mental health

Rationale and Evidence Base

All agencies have seen a marked increase in demand for support since the legacy of the Covid 19 pandemic. This is even more pronounced in the area of mental ill health which has impacted on children, particularly focused around anxiety, depression, and other mental health issues. Schools reported a rise in emotional and behavioural challenges, particularly among those with special educational needs and disabilities. Feedback from service users and partners underscores the urgent need for targeted preventative measures. Evidence from a specific piece of work looked at Rapid Reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews over the last 7 years indicated that a consistent theme which went across all of those reviews was that of mental ill health. This pertained to children experiencing complex mental health issues and parental mental ill health. In view of this, the HSCP continued to support this priority as one of our focus areas up to 2027.

Key Impact and Outcomes – A Snapshot

- **Improved access to Mental Health Services:** Introduction of a Single Point of Access (SPoA), the 'no wrong door' approach which became live on 1st April 2024. The SPOA has been set up to ensure equity of access to CAMHS services across the tri-borough of Barnet, Enfield and Haringey.
- **The delivery of mental health services to children and young people has improved,** with more Haringey children engaged with CAMHS. We have a better understanding of the impact on young people of mental health issues and how this service responds to children in crisis situations.
- **Improved training and awareness:** By facilitating continued professional

development through training and awareness sessions our practitioners now have a broader awareness of the impact of parental mental health issues of neglect, domestic abuse, and substance misuse on young people. This has resulted in children and families receiving the right support at the right time.

- **Inclusion of fathers:** Specific training has been facilitated to help us ensure that fathers who do not reside in the family home are included in assessment work and the decision-making process where appropriate.
- **Culture and Diversity:** Partners continue to engage in specific training to increase their awareness and knowledge around the impact that culture, heritage and / or diversity may affect individuals with mental ill health. The impact of this has been improved engagement with diverse communities, to reduce the barriers to mental health support services.
- **Embedded Learning:** Lessons from Safeguarding Practice Reviews have been integrated into local practice, improving responses to those children and young people with mental ill health.
- **Child assessments and outcome-based plans** demonstrate positive progress and practical partnership work addressing children's mental health, particularly during the transition process to adult mental health services. The impact of a robust transition process has reduced anxiety for the young person and helped to lay the foundations for positive outcomes.
- There have been **improved outcomes for school children** due to additional counselling and therapies being available. We know that The Anchor Approach has reduced suspensions and boosted staff confidence in emotionally supportive communication. External evaluations note that "kindness is evident,

disruption to learning in lessons is exceedingly rare... pupils who struggle to regulate their emotions or display challenging behaviours receive exceptional levels of care and support”.

- The school **safeguarding audit** consistently monitors the availability and needs of mental health support across schools.
- Improved **identification and support for those who ‘self-harm’**
- Continued **staff training both single and multi-agency** has helped practitioners to identify the signs of mental ill health earlier. The impact of this has been that children / young people will receive the most appropriate intervention and support at the earliest opportunity.
- **First Step Plus** and a review of their provision to enhance their offer for children in care. This will support placement stability.
- **Anchor programme** continues to be embedded in schools as a trauma informed response to children.
- **Launch of the Transition Service** and training delivered around mental capacity assessments. This will support staff in providing a holistic picture of needs and support as children transition into appropriate adult services.
- **The provision of a CAMHS Officer in the Youth Justice Service** has enabled young people with varying degrees of mental ill health to receive a robust service at the earliest opportunity to support their additional mental health needs whilst enhancing the work that has been undertaken by the Youth Justice Service.

Key activities (How we influenced outcomes)

- Thrive: We regularly promote the mental health offer to practitioners through children's services. We work strategically through Start Well to ensure young people can access the support they need. The wider offer is also set out in our Thrive framework
- Strategic Initiatives and Expanding Children's Mental Health Provision: Partners have continued to expand mental health provision, including the Perinatal Mental Health Services in Family Hubs, NLFT collaborates on improved CAMHS pathways, crisis developments, and services across the borough and NCL,

ensuring that frontline practitioners are well-informed about available mental health services.

- Strategic links with the HSAB, SEND, and Transitional Safeguarding offering early support to older young people living with mental health issues
- Strategic School-Based Projects: Supported the effective CAMHS trailblazer project and Social Workers in Schools (SWIS project); rolled out the successful Anchor Approach in some Haringey schools, leading to reduced suspensions and increased staff confidence in emotional communication and additional counselling and therapies and on-site provision now standard in Haringey schools
- Diversity Focus: Enhanced collaboration with statutory agencies and community services for global majority populations, improving mental health service access and referral pathways for mental health services as a preventive measure rather than at a crisis point.
- Regular reporting on families where child mental ill health is a concern are discussed at a range of multi-agency partnership meetings.
- SDQs support early identification and emotional wellbeing for children in care and timely responses address their needs.
- Psychotherapist providing a bespoke service to children
- The Police have engaged in Specialised Training, Mental Health Awareness Training, Multi-Agency Collaboration, revised Mental Health Protocols and have implemented the Right Care, Right Person (RCRP) Model.
- A CAMHS officer is now based in the Youth Justice Service.
- The Met's Children's Strategy emphasises a “Child First” approach, recognises the unique vulnerabilities of children affected by mental ill health ensuring that their needs are prioritised in all interventions.
- There has been an increase in the number of investigations into children at risk of significant harm, including those affected by mental ill health. For example, the number of Section 47 enquiries (investigations to assess if a child is at risk of significant harm) increased by 22% year on year in Haringey.

Actions for Improvement on Priority 1 Children Impacted by Mental Ill Health

- Continued professional development in this specialist area will embed a skillset for identifying mental ill health in children which will further improve the delivery of mental health services including close collaboration with key partner

agencies such as CAMHS.

- The HSCP will need more data analysis and narrative around the uptake of CAMHS so that this can be tracked and monitored. This will allow us to identify emerging trends of concern.

HSCP Priority 2 Neglect and Early Intervention

Rationale and Evidence Base

Early identification of the signs that neglect may be occurring is crucial and will enable the right support to be put in place to prevent further ongoing neglect, which we know has a significant impact in a child's life and into their adulthood. Universal services who are involved with a child, young person and their families play a crucial role in this early identification, and it is important that other agencies come together to form a Team around the Family and address the causes of the neglect in these early stages.

Research consistently highlights the long-term benefits of investing in prevention and early intervention, showing that early intervention during childhood and adolescence can significantly reduce the likelihood of more severe issues later in life. This approach mitigates the impact of mental ill health, substance misuse, and criminality, leading to better outcomes in adulthood while strengthening families and communities. Data from Haringey indicates a growing number of children and families facing challenges that could be alleviated through early help, including high levels of poverty, domestic violence, and parental mental ill health issues—factors that can negatively affect children's well-being. Feedback from service users and

partners underscores the crucial role of prevention and early help in achieving more sustainable outcomes. Furthermore, investing in prevention and early help is often more cost-effective.

Neglect is the most common reason for taking child protection action. It can cause long standing harm to children's wellbeing and development. However, with good robust multi-agency working, assessment, planning and intervention, the most harmful effects of neglect can be reduced.

Key Impact and Outcomes - A Snapshot

- Earlier Support: Strengthened efforts to ensure children, young people, and families receive the right services at the right time, focusing on Universal services to prevent escalation of needs.
- Prevention: All partners work collaboratively to prevent the escalation of needs towards statutory services, with increased involvement of external partners taking the lead to co-ordinate services with a focus on the Think Family approach.

- Community Engagement: Through the promotion of HSCP neglect strategy there has been improved community engagement and a heightened awareness of identifying the signs of neglect.
- Training and Development: The HSCP multi-agency training on neglect is embedded across the partnership. The revised neglect guidance and toolkit continues to be promoted through 2025/26. This will enable us to raise awareness with new staff coming into the partnership and further reinforce the benefits of identifying neglect at the earliest opportunity.
- Impact: The impact of this work would be that through early identification of neglect appropriate support services are provided which will help children and young people to achieve positive outcomes.
- The Early Help Panel biannual data reports highlight positive results in agency participation and utilisation
- Health Commissioning collaborative efforts have led to the development of dashboards for sharing information between partners
- Engagement in safeguarding supervision across the partnership has increased, enhancing the review of emerging concerns for families. The result being a more robust managerial oversight of those families on the cusp of escalation.
- The HSCP performance framework captures a range of robust data analysis and narrative relating to neglect. Current trends indicate that the number of children subject to a child protection plan for neglect have increased for example Quarter 1 – Quarter 4 indicate the following: 62 82 87 103.
- The Met Police can evidence improved outcomes in safeguarding practices, such as increased identification of neglect cases and more effective interventions. Feedback from Stakeholders indicate positive feedback from children, families, and partner organisations and demonstrates that the Met's efforts are making a difference in the community.
- The Met Police safeguarding campaign Operation Makesafe aims to help identify and report signs of exploitation and neglect at the earliest opportunity.
- The increase in referrals to the MASH from housing colleagues (as evidenced from an audit undertaken on these referrals) were able to glean evidence that all referrals were acted upon as none were inappropriate.
- The learning for housing colleagues has been that they are more confident in using the neglect guidance, toolkit and checklist. This has enabled staff to identify early signs of neglect and make appropriate referrals at the earliest opportunity.
- Through audits and management oversights completed by the Youth Justice Service it was evident that MASH referrals were appropriate, and neglect is included in court reports to provide context of the lived experiences of the child.
- The GP forum is an arena where the learning from safeguarding reviews is shared. In Haringey, the safeguarding practice reviews, and rapid reviews held in 2024/25 all contained an element where neglect was a factor. Through additional training for GPs this has now enhanced their skills and knowledge and enabled them to identify early signs of neglect even when the presenting issue is not neglect.
- By recognising early signs of neglect children, young people and their families attending the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust can be supported to engage in the appropriate services in order to achieve better life outcomes.
- Chronologies are routinely completed by frontline staff at The Whittington to enable early identification of patterns of chronic neglect. These have directly supported successful case escalations, ensuring appropriate and timely intervention.

Key activities (How we influenced outcomes)

- The HSCP facilitated a themed practice week in September 2024 with a focus specifically on neglect and its impact attended by almost 200 professionals. Practice Week provides an opportunity for a multi-agency collaborative lens on practice and audit activities on an agreed theme. The theme is related to a current and valuable area of safeguarding which would benefit from further consideration. The purpose of the Practice Week is to highlight good practice and strengthen areas that require developing within front line practice around safeguarding, to examine the themes and patterns from audit findings, to disseminate key learning from case discussion across the partnership and to ensure that children are at the centre of service delivery through relationship-based practice.

- Continued embedding the Think Family approach, promoting resilience and optimising outcomes through a seamless service between children and adult services
- Development of 3 Family Hubs (Muswell Hill, Eric Allin and Rising Green) following a “no wrong door” approach. These Family Hubs continue to make a positive impact for the community and are seen as the heart of the community.
- Developed a concise Early Help Offer on a single page for easy reference
- Health Visitors remain vigilant, offering support, advice, and guidance to universal services, signposting to other services, or considering early help or statutory services
- Education Representation on all HSCP sub-groups.
- Schools continue to make referrals to Early Help. Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSLs) within schools ensure an understanding of the Early Help Offer, strengthening support.
- The Children Missing Education (CME) team continues to support those children who we are aware of are educated at home. In addition, they are mindful of the new legislation which is expected in the near future and will therefore implement appropriate changes to their work in practice as required. Partners closely supported the Children Missing Education Policy and Procedure and flyer.
- The voluntary sector remains central in providing training and support within the Haringey community. Currently they are working closely with the Quality Assurance, Improvement and Training Officer to complete a training needs analysis specific to the voluntary sector. This will ensure that voluntary sector workers have access to appropriate safeguarding training.
- Strategic links to the Early Help Strategic Partnership Board and The Health and Wellbeing Board will continue throughout 2025/26.
- The Met Police have safeguarding campaign known as Operation Makesafe: This initiative focuses on raising awareness among businesses and the public about child sexual exploitation, which often overlaps with neglect.
- The Probation Service continue to foster an open learning culture and ensure the Probation Service has competent and well-trained staff to identify early signs of neglect.
- A paediatric liaison RAG rating system continues to be used to identify neglect

cases in emergency department attendances at the Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust.

Actions for Improvement on Priority 2 Neglect and Early Intervention

- Children’s Social Care will continue to ensure that new staff are upskilled in the complex area of neglect.
- The housing department will need to continue to promote neglect as a child safeguarding concern. New staff into the department will need to engage in the appropriate training either single agency or through the multi-agency partnership. The housing department will need to continue to prioritise the training for those staff having direct contact into housing accommodation.
- The Youth Justice Service will undertake a themed audit on Neglect during 2025/26.
- The ICB will seek assurance regarding the use of the Neglect checklist in supervision, advice and consultation within the health economy.
- RFLFT have a “Was not brought/Left before treatment” policy that helps identify medical neglect. RFLFT intend to promote this throughout 2025/26.
- Work is needed to continue across the partnership to embed the newly revised HSCP Neglect Strategy, guidance, toolkit and checklist
- The Whittington will continue to embed the Neglect Tool checklist into all child and family assessments conducted by health practitioners to ensure early and consistent identification of neglect.
- NLFT will complete an audit on the use of the HSCP Neglect tool kit, by or before end of 2025 to assess how the toolkit is being used in practice. This will include case file and feedback from team managers. Based on the audit findings, additional training sessions and team-based workshops will be offered where gaps are identified.
- NLFT is committed to improve learning and are in the process of developing a series of video presentations. These sessions will offer a flexible learning option, enable staff to access key information on neglect at their convenience, and to enhance their understanding of its signs, impact, and appropriate responses.

HSCP Priority 3

Children impacted by domestic abuse

Rationale and Evidence Base

Domestic abuse (DA) severely undermines a child's need for safety and security, impacting their behaviour, brain development, education, and overall wellbeing. It is a significant risk factor for all children, including adolescents, and is legally recognised as harmful. DA disrupts a child's development, affecting their environment, stability, attachment to caregivers, and physical, mental, and emotional health. The perpetrator's abusive behaviours can also hinder the non-abusing parent's ability to provide care, making the protection and empowerment of the non-abusing parent crucial for the child's safety.

Interventions to protect children from DA must be carefully managed to avoid escalating the abuse. Parents and professionals can help minimise the impact, especially for younger children who are more exposed and less able to process the abuse. The effects of DA vary based on the child's resilience, their specific circumstances, and the support they receive to recover. Recognising the perpetrator's coercive control and working in partnership with the non-abusing parent are essential for effective intervention.

Key Impact and Outcomes - A Snapshot

- Robust multi-agency training opportunities will provide a consistent multi-agency response to practice challenges where domestic abuse is evident.
- A multi-agency approach is imperative when trying to address the needs of children and young people who are suffering from domestic abuse, and our audits highlighted some important themes for the HSCP to consider going forward.
- We are seeing areas of strength across the Partnership in responding to

domestic abuse, such as good multi-agency working and information sharing, practitioners understanding of the emotional impact of domestic abuse on children and children's views being sought.

- The impact of Operation Encompass has been improved information sharing by the Police with school settings to alert staff of an incident of domestic abuse in a child's home. This then helps teaching staff be able to identify any additional support needs for a particular child.
- Increased capacity in the Police domestic abuse team will help to ensure a timely and effective response to domestic abuse incidents.
- The Met Police campaigns on domestic abuse aim to inform the public and encourage reporting of concerns.
- The Met Police have received positive feedback from children, families, and partner organisations which indicates that the Met's efforts are making a difference in addressing the impact of domestic abuse on children.
- Via MARAC there is a Coordinated Community Response (CCR): A model that unites services to keep survivors safe, hold abusers accountable, and prevent domestic abuse.
- Success of the Early Help service meant that less children and families require support from CSC.
- The housing directorate are currently working towards Domestic Abuse Housing Alliance Accreditation (DAHA) This accreditation is a very intensive and robust process that ensures standards of good practice are embedded within services. Being DAHA accredited means that survivors and their families are safer, perpetrators are held to account, and all those impacted by domestic

abuse receive a coherent response that positively affects them.

- The Whittington and Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust have highlighted an example where the impact of the Non-Fatal Strangulation pathway has had a positive outcome for one particular individual who has received stroke prevention measures.
- Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust have commissioned Barnardos to deliver a service in A&E to support parents which continues to be well received.

Key activities (How we influenced outcomes)

- The HSCP facilitated a themed practice week in March 2025 with a focus specifically on domestic abuse and its impact this was attended by 180 professionals from across the partnership. Practice Week provides an opportunity for a multi-agency collaborative lens on practice and audit activities on an agreed theme. The theme is related to a current and valuable area of safeguarding which would benefit from further consideration. The purpose of the Practice Week is to highlight good practice and strengthen areas that require developing within front line practice around safeguarding, to examine the themes and patterns from audit findings, to disseminate key learning from case discussion across the partnership and to ensure that children are at the centre of service delivery through relationship-based practice.
- During HSCP practice week 10 Children and Young People, where Domestic Abuse was the prevalent concern within our involvement, were chosen for each partner agency to provide an audit from their agency perspective using a mutually devised audit tool.
- Schools in Haringey have signed up to Operation Encompass, a process by which the Police inform the relevant school when there has been a domestic abuse incident in a child's home environment.
- Continued development of training opportunities for front line staff with further planned training to run through 2025/26 around coercive control and the use of the DASH risk assessment.
- The Met Police have increased their capacity in the domestic abuse team with 2 additional Detective Inspectors.

- The Met runs campaigns to raise awareness about domestic abuse and its impact on children.
- The caring dad's programme continues to support fathers to find alternative ways to manage personal relationships to divert them from situations that escalate into domestic abuse incidents.
- In December 2024 the council adopted a new Domestic Abuse and Violence Against Women and Girls Policy
- Youth Justice Service have conducted a learning review where domestic abuse was the theme. The learning from the review has been disseminated across the service.
- Work around non-fatal strangulation pathway is underway, ensuring that we have the intervention locally. The Whittington and Royal Free have been influential in developing this pathway and 123 survivors that have attended the clinic.
- Whittington Health implements routine enquiry for domestic abuse (DA) during all relevant client contact, particularly with women accessing maternity, health visiting, and other frontline services. This includes direct, sensitive questioning about safety at home and past or present experiences of abuse. Staff are trained to recognise the signs of abuse and respond in a trauma-informed manner.

Actions for Improvement on Priority 3 Children impacted by domestic abuse

- The DASH Toolkit to be utilised more across the partnership.
- Consideration about how chronic neglect and domestic abuse interlink and for this to be addressed holistically.
- DASH risk assessments are not being completed and shared. However since compiling this annual report the HSCP has commissioned a range of training for frontline staff across the partnership which has a focus on completing DASH risk assessments.
- Father's views to be inclusive in assessment.

- Professional curiosity regarding family dynamics, stepfathers need to be considered, parental mental health and learning needs, and the impact this has on the child/ren.
- Appropriate safeguards and methods in place of how professionals complete risk assessments on alleged perpetrators.
- Professionals to follow up at early stages with preventative services and include a Risk Assessments before case closure.
- Children with additional needs to have their views captured, in a way that is meaningful and understood.
- Language that Cares should be strengthened across the partnership.
- Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust needs to conclude a review of their Domestic Abuse Policy.
- Improve information sharing with multi-agency partners (e.g. between the midwifery service, police and children services) to enable timely safety planning and more coordinated support for families affected by DA.



Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership Sub-groups

Quality Performance and Outcome (QPO) Sub-group

The Quality, Performance, and Outcome (QPO) sub-group has a specific focus on partnership performance utilising the performance framework. In addition, the sub-group conducts audit exercises, including case audit consultations and discussions with practitioners, within the agreed audit cycle, maintaining strong links with the PLWD sub-group.

Partnership Quality Assurance Framework

The HSCP continues to refine the Partnership Quality Assurance Framework, which outlines our partnership practice standards, how we monitor our impact, and use information to enhance services. The performance framework has been updated to provide meaningful data aligned with HSCP's priorities.

Over the past year, partners have continued to strengthen evidence-based decision-making for Haringey's children, leveraging the HSCP Performance Framework to identify successes and areas requiring further attention. The framework has evolved into a critical tool for tracking trends, fostering meaningful discussions, and driving improvements across agencies. These discussions not only address underlying concerns but also lead to targeted solutions that enhance safeguarding practices. We are now utilising long-term trend analysis, downloading published data where available, to provide deeper insights into patterns of concern and progress. By incorporating historical performance trends, agencies can make proactive and informed decisions to refine their safeguarding strategies.

To further improve accessibility and engagement, we are developing a user-friendly, interactive Power BI dashboard that allows stakeholders to interrogate the data directly. This dynamic tool will offer greater transparency, enabling users to explore key metrics, filter information, and identify trends that drive safeguarding improvements.

Impact and key achievements:

- Strengthening Multi-Agency Learning: Professionals across organisations have expanded their safeguarding knowledge through targeted training informed by framework insights.
- Data-Driven Accountability: Up-to-date performance data now supports the Executive Group and wider partnership in identifying trends, assessing effectiveness, and prioritising improvements at an early stage.
- Audit-Informed Action Plans: Insights from thematic audits have been integrated into structured action plans to refine frontline practices.
- Ongoing Assurance and Learning: Progress against action items has been closely monitored, ensuring that key findings are shared and embedded within day-to-day operations.
- Enhanced Accessibility and Engagement: The introduction of a Power BI dashboard and structured presentations ensures that data is easily accessible and actionable.
- Multi-agency learning has enabled professionals across all organisations to enhance their safeguarding knowledge and skills. The HSCP training has incorporated insights gained from this sub-group which is the numbers of children / young people on child in need plans or child protection plans related

to neglect. Analysis of performance also indicated the need to further explore specific training around identifying child / young people impacted by mental ill health and domestic abuse.

- The Performance Framework has continued to provide members of the Executive Group and the broader partnership with up-to-date performance data, analysis, and narrative. This allows partnership performance to be thoroughly examined to identify specific trends and areas for improvement as early as possible and to recognise what we are doing well and why.
- Created a multi-agency policy register. All multi agency policies are up to date and monitored for review. All practitioners are able to access these policies on the [HSCP website](#) and are assured that they contain the most up to date information.

QPO Workshop December 2024

This QPO session commenced with a workshop to identify potential ways to evidence and measure impact of the work undertaken against the 3 HSCP priorities.

We will continue to strengthen our response by:

- Explore the development of a system by which partners could capture waiting times for interventions, what the intervention achieved and evaluate the distance travelled to measure impact.
- Continuing to build on the multi-agency data and analysis captured in the Performance Framework
- Implementing a Multi-agency Annual Audit and Quality Assurance Programme
- We have agreed our annual multi agency audit cycle and the themes which we will focus on including agreement on who will lead each individual audit.
- Agree a system of tracking the cohort of children looked after to explore outcomes.

- QPO will explore how best to capture the learning from the transition service to date and the experience of children moving into adult services.
- It is recognised that incorporating the voice of children will make the data more meaningful. The QPO will link in with existing forums within the partnership where feedback is already captured. The Mental Health Trust are developing a board for young people; the Local Authority have a youth council and also ASPIRE who attend corporate parenting meetings. Health colleagues (North London Foundation Trust) also facilitate a youth participation service. The QPO will consider how these different strands are brought together to evidence the systems engagement with Children and Young People and the impact.
- Additionally, to ensure key findings are widely understood and acted upon, we are introducing:
 - Tailored PowerPoint presentations summarising key highlights, sparking meaningful discussions across the partnership.
 - One-to-one meetings with data providers, fostering collaborative reviews of performance metrics and ensuring effective data interpretation to inform decision-making.
- Deepening the Integration of the Performance Framework into daily operations.
- Expanding One-to-One Data Discussions to refine metrics and foster multi-agency accountability.
- Enhancing Interactive Data Accessibility through Power BI dashboards and automated trends.

Practice, Learning and Workforce Development (PLWD)

The sub-group is responsible for planning, organising, and evaluating multi-agency safeguarding learning and development activities, as well as challenging and supporting the training delivered by individual agencies. It ensures that identified multi-agency safeguarding learning needs are addressed for the agency's workforces, incorporating relevant research, national best practices, and learnings from case reviews and safeguarding adult reviews. The group also maintains and develops the partnership training pool, manages partnership communications, and oversees the HSCP website's development. With the support of expert partners, the sub-group has developed and delivered a range of multi-agency training opportunities in 2024/25, informed by the partnership's learning needs and designed to upskill the frontline workforce, facilitated by partner representatives with local expertise.

The courses offered in 2024-25 include:

- Learning from Safeguarding Practice Reviews (SPRs)
- Cultural Boundaries Training
- Hate Crime Awareness Training
- An introduction to housing
- LADO Training and Workshop
- Prevent training
- Perinatal mental health awareness
- Safeguarding Level 3
- Using the Social Care guide to thresholds of need
- Bruising in non-mobile babies
- Youth at Risk: exploring the rise of incel ideology and extreme misogyny

- Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) Bite Size Session
- Identifying and Responding to Coercive Control
- Promoting the Working Together 2023 Guidance document across the partnership
- Promoted training opportunities across the partnership & developed a suite of '7-minute' briefings on specific topics particularly responding to key messages arising from local cases

Planning for 2025-26

- We have commissioned a range of domestic abuse training and awareness raising sessions to ensure our staff are upskilled and confident to identify coercive control, misogyny and adultification acknowledging that domestic abuse is one of our key priorities.
- We have commissioned focused training on child sexual abuse following the publication of the National Panel's review into intrafamilial child sexual abuse.
- We have increased our awareness raising sessions around neglect so that our practitioners have the skills and knowledge to identify signs of neglect at the earliest opportunity.
- We continue to facilitate training opportunities which focus on the impact of mental ill health. This training will provide our practitioners with additional skills and knowledge to identify indicators of mental ill health and its impact on individuals and families.

During 2024-25 the HSCP offered 40 training opportunities including bite sessions for all partnership staff as well as other members of our Haringey community who work with children, young people and their families. The existing Learning and Development Framework continues to be a 'live document' to consider the changing developmental needs of staff across the partnership which emerge from learning gleaned from reviews and themed audits undertaken. Any commissioned trainers will continue to provide the HSCP with details of the course content that they facilitate as part of the HSCP Quality Assurance process.

Impact

Practitioners have a greater awareness and understanding of safeguarding and have applied their developed skills and knowledge to inform an improved response to children at risk across the partnership. A further resource for the partnership is the HSCP website. This helps to ensure that practitioners from across the partnership have access to a range of policies, procedures and up to date safeguarding information.

- Increased attendance at multi-agency training which has resulted in upskilling the partnership workforce.
- We continue to measure the impact of training on frontline practice by 'interrogating' and analysing feedback from delegates on how they are transferring learning into practice and how this makes a difference to children and families.
- Targeted workshops in conjunction with The Haringey Children's Academy has brought together front-line practitioners which helps to bring a consistent approach to safeguarding.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (CSPR) Sub-group

The CSPR sub-group, established in September 2023 and chaired by the Director of Children's Safeguarding and Social Care, aims to provide a dedicated space for key professionals to collaborate on CSPRs in a multi-agency forum. It ensures timely completion of work and actions from CSPRs and Rapid Reviews, holding agencies accountable for meeting deadlines. The sub-group focuses on embedding and monitoring actions and learning across the partnership, fostering continuous learning, and encouraging cross-agency learning to better understand emerging trends and needs in safeguarding children and young people in Haringey.

Key Responsibilities of the CSPR Sub-Group

- Provide ongoing oversight and direction for Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Oversee local safeguarding reviews, including threshold meetings, rapid reviews, and individual agency reviews
- Analyse emerging trends from CSPRs and Learning Reviews, and embed them into priorities and training plans
- Receive and review the final action plan from completed CSPRs, ensuring all actions are fully completed before submission to the HSCP Executive Group
- Receive presentations in relation to Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SARs) and identify themes which impact on both adult and children.
- Receive and consider the Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) Annual Report.
- Remain accountable to the HSCP Executive.

Impact and Achievements

- Consider the impact of racial, ethnic, and cultural identity on the lived experiences of children and families, which will always be a focus of our work.
- As part of our commissioning process for Independent Reviewers we have ensured that all Terms of Reference now reflect the National Panel publication It is Silent Race, Racism and Racial Bias and Safeguarding Children recommendations.
- Further developed a CSPR tracker to capture key learning, themes. This enables us to monitor progress of all recommendations in existing SPRs. These themes help to drive the training needs analysis across the partnership.
- Collaborated with the PLWD Sub-Group to embed key learnings and identify shortfalls in practitioner training.
- Revised the existing HSCP Serious Incident Notification form.
- Revised the CSPR Guidance document in alignment with Working Together 2023.

- Implemented a threshold discussion template which provides the HSCP with an audit trail of activity following the receipt of the Serious Incident Notification Form.

Further development

The HSCP Business Manager and the Quality Assurance Improvement and Training Officer prepares an overarching position on the current CSPRs and has developed a paper which captures key themes which have been presented to the QPO and PLWD subgroups. The reason for this is:

- We are able to identify areas that require particular focus from the partnership such as the commonality of young people with complex mental health needs, neglect remains a consistent thread of concern, and domestic abuse is a significant feature.
- These themes will continue to drive the work of the partnership. The QPO subgroup through its performance framework will monitor partnership data and trends in relation to the above, whilst PLWD subgroup will continue to identify training required to enable our practitioners to identify signs of mental ill health, neglect and indicators of domestic abuse at the earliest possible opportunity.
- Clearly this is in line with our key strategic priorities and will remain so until 2027.

Housing Sub-group

The Housing Sub-Group, established in September 2023, operates jointly under the HSCP (Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership) and HSAB (Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board). The Director of Housing chairs the group. The HSCP acknowledges that the right to a home is a fundamental human right. A high-quality, secure home enables individuals to establish roots within their community, access local employment, and provide children with a safe environment to play and learn. Good housing is integral to physical and mental health, and well-designed homes foster pleasant, secure neighbourhoods where residents can thrive. However, it should also be acknowledged that the borough of Haringey is in a similar

position to many local authorities across the country where housing demand is outstripping supply. The Housing Sub-Group was created to achieve the following outcomes:

Purpose

- To safeguard and promote the welfare of vulnerable children and adults and to gain assurance that safeguarding arrangements are effective across the housing sector in Haringey, providing assurance to the HSCP and HSAB in relation to Housing and Safeguarding.
- Continue to develop robust safeguarding joint working between housing and all partner agencies to ensure that the service provided is effective and helps to achieve positive outcomes for the most vulnerable families in our community.
- To enable representatives from multi-agency settings to meet to fulfil responsibilities to safeguard adults and children and to give housing a strategic voice on the HSCP & HSAB.
- The sub-group members who represent safeguarding partners will bring housing-related safeguarding issues to this forum, ensuring a continuous flow of information is shared.
- To acknowledge the value of service user feedback and staff insights to inform policies, procedures and practice.
- Ensure that activities help to support the delivery of the HSCP's Business Plan.

Impact and Achievements

- Efforts to address housing needs for SEND families in out-of-borough temporary accommodations in coordination with SEND Power and the Housing Acquisition Team. Work continues on addressing housing interactions for young people at risk of grooming.
- Data sharing initiative with the London Fire Brigade to identify and prioritise overcrowded and vulnerable tenants for fire safety visits.
- A direct impact of the work of the subgroup has led to a review of families presenting with high needs in temporary accommodation. This ensured that

these families were appropriately supported and were a priority to re-house more quickly.

- Following the implementation of the damp and mould policy, we identified all those families whose health was impacted by the damp / mould conditions of their local authority property and either supported them to transfer to an alternative residence or provided additional support services. The status of these families affected was regularly reported to senior managers within Children's Social Care.
- Ensuring that bespoke safeguarding training is delivered to housing colleagues across their range of departments as well as increasing awareness of the role that housing plays in working with families in the borough via the 'introduction to housing' briefings.
- Through a partnership with the London Fire Brigade, the housing subgroup tasked members from housing to identify a list of vulnerable families in overcrowded households and to share this with the London Fire Brigade. This ensured that these families could receive the best available support and target resources to those most at risk.



Joint HSCP and Haringey Safeguarding Adult's Board

The Haringey Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB) and the Haringey Children's Partnership (HSCP) collaborate to ensure safeguarding is a continuous, coordinated effort across all life stages. While each board has distinct responsibilities, their joint commitment to protecting vulnerable residents and supporting families is reflected in biannual meetings. These sessions allow both boards to align strategies, address shared challenges, and ensure smooth transitions between services—particularly for young people moving from children's services to adult services and families needing multi-agency support. This joint approach strengthens safeguarding by promoting continuity of care, whole-family support, and shared learning from safeguarding reviews. It enables integrated responses to complex issues such as exploitation, housing insecurity, and mental ill health, while also improving resource efficiency through coordinated planning and service delivery.

Key Areas of Joint Work in 2024–25

The Transitions Programme: A Joint Initiative

A major focus of joint work this year was the development and implementation of a borough-wide Transitions Programme. This initiative was launched to address longstanding concerns about the experiences of young people moving from children's services to adult services, particularly those with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), mental ill health needs, or care experience. Many young people do not meet the strict eligibility criteria for adult services, even though they remain vulnerable. Transitional Safeguarding aims to bridge this gap by ensuring that support is not abruptly withdrawn at age 18, and that services work together to provide a smooth, coordinated journey into adulthood.

Key Developments:

- **Dedicated Team:** A new team was established, including social workers and a team manager, with plans to expand to include mental health professionals and key workers.
- **Two-Phase Delivery:**
 - **Phase 1:** Focused on young people aged 14–18, particularly those with EHC (Education, Health and Care) Plans.
 - **Phase 2:** Will expand to include older young people and those with complex needs who may not meet statutory thresholds.
- **Care Act Assessments:** The programme aims to complete assessments this year, ensuring that eligible young people receive the support they need under adult social care.
- **Co-Production:** Parents, carers, and young people are actively involved in shaping the programme through an operational delivery group.

Strategic Improvements:

- A Disability Register is being developed to identify children from age 5 with additional needs, enabling earlier planning.
- Transition planning is being embedded into Education, Health and Care (EHC) Plans from Year 9.
- A transitions page will be added to the SEND Local Offer website, alongside a short video to explain the process to families.

- Co-production with parents and carers is central to the programme, with parent representatives contributing to planning and delivery.

Looking Ahead: Priorities for 2025–26:

- Expanding the multidisciplinary team to include mental health and employability specialists.
- Increasing the number of Care Act assessments and support plans.
- Strengthening early identification of young people who may not meet statutory thresholds.
- Embedding safeguarding risk assessments into all transition planning.
- Publishing a clear, accessible transitions pathway for families and professionals.
- Continuing to co-produce services with young people and their families.

Think Family: A Whole-Family Approach to Safeguarding and Support

Think Family is a borough-wide approach that recognises the interconnected needs of children, adults, and families. It ensures that services do not work in isolation but instead consider the whole family when assessing needs, planning support, and delivering interventions. The Think Family Protocol will be refreshed during 2026/27 following the completion of the Social Care Reform requirements which incorporates the Family First Partnership.

Why Think Family Matters in Haringey

Haringey is a diverse borough with a wide range of social, economic, and health challenges. Many families face multiple and overlapping issues, such as:

- Poverty and housing insecurity

- Domestic abuse
- Mental health difficulties
- Substance misuse
- Learning disabilities or special educational needs

In such cases, a siloed approach where services only focus on one individual or issue can lead to missed opportunities for early intervention and increased risk of harm. Think Family helps to break down these silos and ensures that families receive joined-up, compassionate, and effective support.

Progress in 2024–25

- Early Help Strategy Refresh (2024–2027)
 - The new strategy places Think Family at the heart of Early Help services.
 - Family Support and Youth Justice teams are working together to deliver whole-family plans.
 - A new “Early Help Journey” has been developed to map how families access and move through support.
- Workforce Development
 - Training on Think Family principles is now available to all social care teams.
 - Parenting programmes have been redesigned to reflect whole-family needs.
 - The Family Hubs programme has strengthened partnerships and improved access to support.
- Partnership Integration
 - Stronger links have been built between Children’s Services, Adult Social

Care, SEND, and Health.

- Substance misuse services have embedded Think Family into their practice.
- Health partners have aligned their work with the Supporting Families Programme.

Corporate Parenting and Care Leavers: A Shared Responsibility Across Haringey

Care leavers often face significant challenges as they transition into adulthood. As a corporate parent, the Council continues to act with the same care, commitment, and ambition as any good parent would. This means ensuring that care leavers have access to safe housing, meaningful opportunities, and trusted relationships. During the year, the Joint Board received an update on the development of Haringey's Corporate Parenting Strategy, which was co-produced with care-experienced young people. This group continues to play a vital role in shaping the Council's understanding of what good corporate parenting looks like. In Haringey, the Joint Board is committed to ensuring that care leavers are not only safeguarded but also empowered to lead fulfilling, independent lives. By working together across services, we can ensure that no young person is left behind.

Key Developments:

1. Whole-Council Engagement

- The strategy calls for every department and partner agency to understand and act on their corporate parenting responsibilities.
- This includes areas such as housing, leisure, digital access, and health.

2. The "Postcard Promise" Initiative

- Agencies are being invited to create a "Postcard Promise" that outlines their commitment to care leavers.
- This initiative encourages reflection on what corporate parenting means in practice and how each service can contribute.

3. Housing and Accommodation

- Concerns raised by care leavers about homelessness and unsuitable placements are being addressed through a dedicated Housing Subgroup.
- An action plan is being developed to improve housing pathways and ensure that care leavers are not placed in unsafe or unsupported accommodation.

4. Participation and Voice

- Care leavers are being supported to speak directly to services and decision-makers.
- Participation workers are helping to build bridges between young people and the Council, ensuring their voices shape policy and practice.

Next Steps for 2025–26

The Joint Board has identified the following priorities to strengthen corporate parenting in Haringey:

1. Launch the Postcard Promise across all agencies and monitor its impact.
2. Improve housing pathways for care leavers, with a focus on safety, stability, and choice.
3. Ensure access to leisure, digital tools, and community resources as part of a holistic support offer.
4. Embed corporate parenting training across the workforce, including in adult services and housing.
5. Continue to co-produce services with care-experienced young people and ensure their voices are central to decision-making.

Housing and Safeguarding - Why Housing Matters in Safeguarding

In Haringey, housing-related issues are increasingly recognised as central to safeguarding both adults and children. Poor housing conditions, homelessness, overcrowding, and insecure tenancies can all increase the risk of harm, exploitation, and neglect. For vulnerable residents such as care leavers, people with disabilities, survivors of domestic abuse, and families living in poverty, housing is often the tipping point between resilience and crisis. That's why the HSAB and the HSCP have made housing a key area of joint focus.

Progress in 2024–25

New Housing Policies to Support Safeguarding

- **Vulnerable Tenants Policy:** Designed to identify and support tenants at risk of harm, including those with safeguarding concerns.
- **Safeguarding Adults and Children's Policy:** Embeds safeguarding responsibilities across housing services and registered providers.
- **Housing Allocations Policy:** Approved for public consultation, with a focus on prioritising families with safeguarding needs.

Tackling Damp, Mould, and Unsafe Conditions

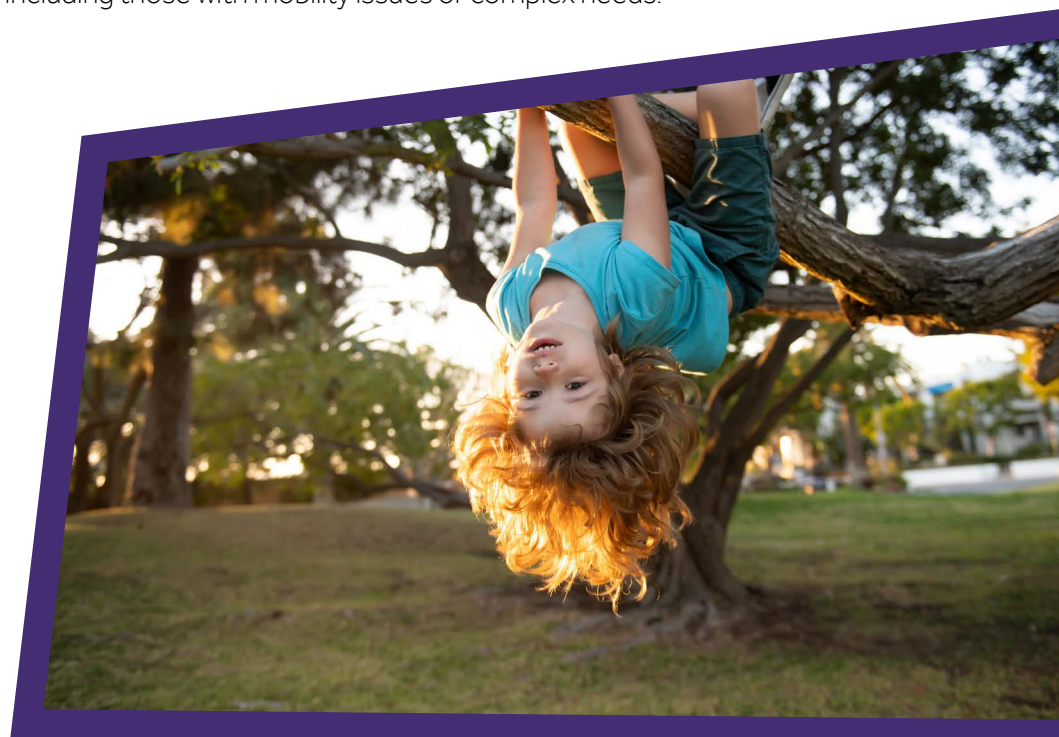
- Joint work is underway with registered housing providers to address damp and mould, particularly in homes where children or vulnerable adults are present.
- Cases involving SEND families are being prioritised, especially where poor housing is impacting health or education.

Responding to Exploitation and Criminal Risk

- Housing teams are working with the Multi-Agency Child Exploitation (MACE) panel to identify social housing tenants at risk of being groomed or exploited by gangs.
- This includes young people in temporary accommodation or those living independently without adequate support.

Fire Safety and Overcrowding

- Collaboration with the London Fire Brigade (LFB) has been strengthened to support overcrowded households.
- Fire safety checks are being targeted at homes with vulnerable residents, including those with mobility issues or complex needs.



Learning from Reviews: Rapid Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

The HSCP plays a vital role in commissioning and coordinating learning from reviews following serious incidents or child deaths, using mechanisms like Rapid Reviews, Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (LCSPP), and Child Death Reviews. Understanding the circumstances of serious injuries or deaths due to abuse or neglect helps improve future responses by assessing the impact of various organisations on the child's life and family. This process acknowledges necessary changes to practices and processes, incorporates learning from national reviews, and embeds this knowledge across the partnership. The HSCP is responsible for identifying and reviewing serious child safeguarding instances, commissioning, and overseeing the progress and outcomes of CSPPs, and establishing a local system of learning and reflection.

The HSCP is accountable for ensuring the implementation of learning from serious incidents. The impact of local and national reviews should be evidenced in the HSCP annual report and subjected to independent scrutiny.

Child Safeguarding Practice Review (CSPP) Subgroup

From 1st April 2024 to 31st March 2025, the HSCP received 5 serious incident notifications where a Virtual Threshold discussion with Statutory Partners took place. Of the 5 cases referred to the HSCP, 5 resulted in a Rapid Review, and of these, 1 progressed to a CSPP which is currently in progress, whilst 3 followed an alternative approach and 1 notification was received in February 2025 and is being progressed at the time of compiling this annual report to a CSPP.

Additionally, we are engaged in a further CSPP led by another Local Authority and will bring back learning relevant to Haringey. Additional CSPP reports were concluded during the reporting period and are awaiting publication, delayed due to on-going criminal proceedings. In addition, we have 1 historic case which has now concluded, and consideration is being made to whether this independent

reviewer's report should be published. The HSCP is engaged in communication with the National Panel about his particular case. Learning has been absorbed, and recommendations and action plans for these reviews are complete. The CSPP subgroup robustly monitors all current cases, and the executive group is appraised regularly regarding progress at all executive group meetings.

Rapid Reviews	CSPPs (Please note that 2 of the 3 CSPPs commenced end of 2023/24)
4 out of 5 Rapid Reviews were in respect of young people aged 13 to 17 with complex mental health needs and concerns relating to self-harm. Sadly 1 of these young people died as result of suicide.	2 out of 3 CSPPs were for young people aged 16 and 17
The most recent Rapid Review involved a young child who suffered physical injury and was impacted by parental mental ill health.	2 out of 3 were male
4 out of 5 were female.	1 out of 3 identified as Black or Black British-Caribbean 1 out of 3 identified as Dual Heritage 1 out of 3 identified as White European

Learning from Safeguarding Practice Reviews in 2024/25 (SPRs)

- In 2024/25 the SPR subgroup agreed to undertake a reflective look at the themes and learning from 2018 to 2025. We undertook an in-depth analysis of all SPRs, and Rapid Reviews completed within a longer timescale to gain a fuller understanding of the learning, challenges and themes.
- We have identified the following recurring primary features of the children's circumstances in the 21 Rapid Reviews and SPRs examined between 2018 and 2025:
 - 8 of the children impacted by mental health and this included either suicide or attempted suicide as well as self-harm and in one instance, body dysmorphia. Often this was accompanied by the child having experienced sexual abuse and / or child sexual exploitation.
 - 5 of the children experienced child sexual abuse
 - Parental mental health concerns also featured in 8 of the cases.
 - 7 of the children were impacted by a history of domestic abuse in the household with one occurrence of child perpetrated abuse towards their parent.
 - 4 of the children used substances and 3 of the cases related to parental substance misuse.
 - 3 children encountered serious youth violence coupled with gun crime, knife crime, multiple arrest history and stop and search.
 - 3 of the children had additional vulnerabilities such as learning disabilities.
 - Neglect featured in 7 of the children's experiences.
 - Schooling and accessing alternative provision were relevant for 4 of the children.
 - Housing instability was a concern for 4 of the children
 - 3 of the children were subject to child protection plans, 1 was a child in care and 2 were subject to child in need.
 - 7 of the children age 0 to 3 experienced non accidental injury.

- It is agreed that the SPR subgroup use this analysis to inform the wider HSCP subgroups of action required and ultimately for the Executive Group to be assured that the issues highlighted in this analysis are being addressed.

CSPR Learning Events

- Given the results of our analysis the HSCP plan an overarching learning event for practitioners in 2025/26 to promote the findings of this work. This event will help to further develop and improve our practice, knowledge and skills across the partnership with a focus on the impact of mental ill health.

Impact and Next Steps:

- The HSCP continues to capture the voice of the child in the work across the partnership. As part of our SPR process the voice of the child and their family wherever possible is always included in the final independent review reports. The impact of listening to children and their families about their experiences when in receipt of support services will continue to inform us where changes to practice, policies and process are needed.
- It is recommended that the primary concerns of the local reviews should drive the training needs for the partnership. Training could focus on the following topics delivered via a combination of commissioned training, bespoke awareness raising either face-to-face or via Teams, lite bite sessions, consideration as to how we could introduce some train-the-trainer sessions and 7-minute briefings:
 - Through case file audits both multi-agency and single agency, a best practice approach to record keeping will be a focus. The impact of this will be further improved evidence-based information sharing and evidence of robust decision making.
 - By making further improvements to multi-agency record keeping this will positively impact effective multi-agency working
 - The impact of improved training and awareness raising around children affected by mental ill health will enable practitioners to identify signs / behaviours at the earliest opportunity and so will receive appropriate care and support in order to help them achieve improved outcomes.

- The promotion of the Neglect Practitioner Toolkit will assist frontline practitioners to identify neglect at the earliest opportunity and target appropriate services to avoid drift and escalation.
- By embedding the Child Sexual Abuse Practitioner Toolkit complimented by appropriate training, our staff will improve the skills to identify child sexual abuse at the earliest opportunity.
- Continued training for our partnership practitioners in relation to understanding and identifying the impact of Domestic Abuse on children, young people and families will help to ensure that those affected will receive services and interventions at the earliest opportunity.

- We have revised the HSCP Escalation Policy to reflect escalating matters of concern earlier in the process
- Following the analysis of our SPRs and Rapid Reviews it was noted that a number of the children in a cohort aged 11-17 experienced contextual harm, and adultification. Clearly, the impact of these issues has now been recognised nationally and so from a local perspective the HSCP will continue to upskill professionals through multi-agency training, lunch time learning sessions and a more formal training provision for staff in specific roles.
- In 2025/26, the HSCP will further explore training that focuses on Trauma-Informed Practice.

Sharing the Learning from Safeguarding Adult Reviews and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

Both the Haringey Adult Safeguarding Board and the Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership will continue to share learning from their respective safeguarding reviews. This will enable us to consider any recommendations relating to a change in process and / or practice and identify any gaps in safeguarding training.



How effective have our Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements (MASA) been in practice

The MASA arrangements have resulted in significant improvements for children, families, staff, and the local community. The following points, in addition to earlier evidence in the report, highlight the success and effectiveness of these arrangements:

→ Recognition and Branding:

- The MASA brand is now widely recognised across the Partnership, indicating a strong visibility and awareness across agency settings in Haringey.
- The HSCP website has been widely promoted across the partnership. This website contains a national and local guidance, multi-agency policies and procedures, links to accessing the HSCP training and a wide range of resources which contains information around safeguarding topics such as child sexual exploitation, domestic abuse, the neglect guidance and toolkit etc.

→ Meeting Participation:

- Attendance at Threshold meetings, Rapid Review Meetings and Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews reflect the high levels of engagement and collaboration. Additionally, there is strong attendance at Leadership and Executive Meetings held regularly throughout the year by senior members across the Partnership.

→ Rotational Leadership: Effective rotation of chairing responsibilities has been agreed by the three statutory partners at the HSCP Executive Group meeting. The three strategic partners are recognised as the delegated safeguarding partners (DSPs). We have the three lead safeguarding partners (LSPs) in place.

The DSPs and LSPs have met for their initial meeting to formally sign off our MASA document. The LSPs and DSPs have agreed to meet twice a year in 2025. All threshold meetings and Rapid Reviews ensure balanced leadership and diverse perspectives

→ Shared Ownership of Learning: There is a strong commitment across the partnership to learn from Reviews, with shared ownership in implementing lessons learned, leading to updated safeguarding policies and procedures based on findings from reviews and new legislative requirements.

→ Innovation, Expertise, and Challenge: Partners demonstrate innovation and bring expertise in their respective fields, contributing to quality conversations and respectfully challenging each other, promoting critical thinking and reflective practice. This dynamic fosters an environment where evidence-based practices are continuously evaluated and improved

→ Campaign and Initiative Support: The Partnership showed strong engagement in promoting the Neglect Strategy Campaign.

→ Commitment to Safeguarding: A strong commitment to safeguarding and a child-centred approach within a whole family focus is evident across the partnership

→ Revised Escalation Process: Our revised escalation process has been embedded across the partnership. Feedback indicates that we are embedding an effective process highlighting transparency and continuous improvement in safeguarding practices. Staff's more effective use of the escalation policy ensures prompt attention to concerns, fostering a culture of openness and accountability.

- Training Facilitation: Partners offer in-kind support and lead training sessions. To help us to continue to develop our learning culture across the partnership we are able to utilise the skills, knowledge and expertise of our own practitioners. Therefore, this allows us to enhance our overall training provision for our professionals across Haringey.
- MASA Conferences: The HSCP will host a MASA conference in the autumn of 2025 to help us reflect and evaluate how our Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements continue to embed the Haringey family. Through these arrangements we are able to focus on networking and shared safeguarding priorities, fostering continuous improvement and collaborative learning.
- Themed Audits: There continues to be a robust commitment to undertaking a range of single agency and multi-agency audits. The HSCP continues to facilitate two themed audits and two JOG audits annually. The findings from these audits result in actionable learning embedded across systems and agencies.
- Practice Weeks: We have continued our strong commitment as a partnership to facilitate two Practice Weeks per year. This enables professionals to gain a deeper understanding of individual roles and responsibilities, the opportunity to observe specific settings, network and further reinforce collaborative learning and practice improvement.

Impact

- Improved Outcomes for Children at risk is identified at the earliest opportunity
- Senior Leaders from all safeguarding partnership settings continue to support their frontline staff to develop a culture of learning and improving practice. The evidence of this can be found in our recent Section 11 audit.
- 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 robust and the threshold guide for intervention is understood across the partnership
- There is significant multi-agency involvement in the chairing roles of various HSCP subgroups (e.g., PLWD, QPO, MACE, SPR, Housing), the impact of this clearly evidences shared ownership and responsibility across the partnership.



Engagement and Collaboration

The focus on capturing children's voices ensures their views are heard and acted upon, which is central to our statutory role and leadership. We leverage our resources and expertise to develop a robust data and performance framework and deliver comprehensive multi-agency training. Our representation spans across all HSCP groups, including Executive, Leadership, and Sub-groups, with the HSCP Business Unit managing administrative functions and support. As a partner of the Multi-agency Safeguarding HUB (MASH), we exchange information to strengthen and clarify processes and responsibilities for child safeguarding. Our multi-agency collaboration is evident through our attendance at various meetings and our roles as Chair, Co-Chair, and Vice-Chair in multi-agency HSCP groups, sub-groups, and task & finish groups.

We oversee the implementation and tracking of learning, ensuring continuous development through regular training, campaigns, and new initiatives. We facilitate learning opportunities, including two Practice Weeks yearly, and participate in thematic audits and observations. Agency locality teams are involved in multi-agency audits, supporting borough-wide safeguarding. We share information and reflect on serious incidents to maximize learning and implement effective practices. Our proactive stance against gender-based violence and our commitment to sharing best practices across the partnership are integral to our involvement and delivery of multi-agency strategic plans. Through consistent information sharing, we enhance safeguarding knowledge and practices.

The HSCP recognises the 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 have demonstrated the value of working across and beyond local boundaries to address complex safeguarding concerns. The HSCP wishes to acknowledge the commitment and invaluable contribution from our partnership agencies which include the Health family, Children's Social Care, the Metropolitan Police Service, Youth Justice Services, Probation Service, the Voluntary Sector, the Local Authority including Education, Housing and Early Help.

Impact and learning from independent scrutiny arrangements

The Role of Our Independent Scrutineer

"Independent scrutiny should drive continuous improvement and provide assurance that arrangements are working effectively for children, families, and practitioners. It should also consider learning from local child safeguarding practice reviews, national reviews and thematic reports. The independent scrutineer or scrutiny group should be able to demonstrate knowledge, skills and expertise in the area being scrutinised and consequently add value to the work of local agencies." – Working Together 2023.

Up until December 2024, we retained the Independent Chair role, however in line with the new requirements under Working Together 2023, the HSCP published our MASA document and plans to implement the role of an Independent Scrutineer. The HSCP Independent Scrutineer is David Archibald who is responsible for leading objective and rigorous analysis of the local multi-agency arrangements for the Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership, ensuring the statutory duties of the HSCP are discharged alongside other relevant legislation. This will be undertaken through objective scrutiny, acting as a constructive critical friend, promoting reflection to drive improvements, and reporting how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership to fulfil their safeguarding children role.

During 2024/25, it has been agreed that our Independent Scrutineer will focus on the following areas during 2025/26:

- Scrutinise the implementation and effectiveness of our Multi Agency Safeguarding Arrangements across the Partnership whilst retaining a focus on our completed DfE Self-Assessment document
- Monitor and evaluate the implementation of recommendations from our Rapid Reviews and Safeguarding Practice Reviews
- Evaluate the quality and robustness of decision making with a particular focus on cases where child sexual abuse is an indicator

The Joint Operational Group (JOG) – Scrutiny and Assurance

The Joint Operational Group (JOG), chaired by the Principal Social Worker, conducts bi-annual audits and reviews of complex cases from a multi-agency perspective, fostering collaboration, information sharing, and a shared understanding of service quality. This process promotes best practices, strengthens professional relationships, and encourages multi-agency ownership, leading to positive changes in practice and benefits for children and young people. The group identifies themes, disseminates critical learnings, and establishes action plans for partners, with progress monitored by the QPO sub-group and cross-referenced with other quality assurance activities. The HSCP also considers multi-agency workshops to effectively embed this learning.

Case Themes for the Year of 2024-2025 - Mental Health, Substance Misuse and Exploitation (September 2024) and - Mental Health (March 2025)

Overall areas of good practice identified across the audits were:

- The importance of a safe space being available for the young person in school.
- Voice of the child was prominent throughout
- Relevant missing procedures were followed.
- Appropriate referrals made to Street Aunties and Sister System.
- Health services have evidence of good multi-agency work across their documentation.
- Police responded appropriate to the child as a victim of exploitation.

Overall areas for further development identified across the audits were:

- CS CIN process to be followed at an earlier stage by the social work team.
- Earlier identification and intervention when neglect became apparent in the early years at school.
- The need to better understand parental mental health/cognitive ability and the impact on the child/ren (Think Family Approach)

- Frontline Practitioners understanding of 'adultification'.
- The use of language that cares/matters
- Better transition planning when a young person is moving homes, so that they have adequate education and health services

Multi Agency Themed Audit: Domestic Abuse

Focus: The Domestic Abuse Themed Audit Frontline Questionnaire was completed to test out the staff knowledge of the range of services/ core offer, to Haringey Children and Adults who have experienced Domestic Abuse or perpetrated Domestic Abuse to see if these services are readily available. The survey was devised and sent out via the partnership to practitioners and 135 responses were received.

Learning:

Many practitioners understand the impact of domestic abuse on children and young people and feel confident discussing it with them and adult victims. However, confidence is lower when discussing domestic abuse with perpetrators. Therefore, it is crucial that practitioners are equipped with skills and knowledge to safely work with perpetrators, challenge harmful stereotypes, and hold perpetrators accountable. Training on separation from perpetrators and mitigating increased risk is also beneficial. Practitioners need to understand the processes and thresholds for referring to MARAC and MAPPA, and have working knowledge of support services, procedures, and referral pathways for children and young people affected by domestic abuse, as well as support for victims. This knowledge would enable practitioners to share relevant information confidently and help agencies manage risk and protect victims.

The HSCP acknowledge that the training of practitioners to confidently raise public awareness of domestic abuse continues to encourage open discussions, help victims recognise and acknowledge abuse, and aid both victims and perpetrators in accessing necessary support.

Forward planning 2025/26:

- We facilitated a practice week in March 2025 which focused on the impact of domestic abuse.

- In 2025/26 we are facilitating commissioned training focused on coercive control and the impact of domestic abuse on children, young people and families
- Bespoke training on completing the DASH Risk Assessment tool

Evidence of impact

- **Leadership:** Senior managers across the partnership demonstrate strong safeguarding understanding, embrace innovation, and focus on continuous improvement. The impact of this across the partnership has been evidenced by senior managers showing ambition and a commitment to excellence.
- **Training Offer:** A comprehensive Training Needs Analysis has been completed, with 2025/26 planning underway. The multi-agency training pool remains robust, with targeted sessions addressing specific needs. Partners actively shape and deliver these opportunities, which are highly valued, as evidenced by feedback
- **Haringey Collaborative:** Continues to promote Basic Safeguarding Awareness Training, enhancing the knowledge of Haringey's voluntary and community sector. The impact is that our colleagues within the voluntary sector have a greater awareness of identifying safeguarding concerns at the earliest opportunity.
- **Rapid Reviews:** The CSPR sub-group continues to enhance the effectiveness and timeliness of embedding recommendations from reviews into frontline practice. This will then link into the QPO subgroup who will measure the effectiveness of any changes to either practice or process.
- **Learning and Feedback:** Learning from Rapid Reviews and/or Safeguarding Practice Reviews are considered in the PLWD subgroup who will identify any training needs and seek to address any gaps / skills.

- **Forward Planning:** In 2025/26 the HSCP will facilitate monthly 'Lunch and Learn' sessions via MS Teams which will be open across the partnership and cover a specific safeguarding topic.
- **Performance Framework:** Further development of this document continues to identify trends both locally and enables us to measure ourselves against our statistical neighbours. The impact of this work enables the Leadership Group and Executive Group to be informed of progress against our key priorities and where appropriate to direct specific action is taken.
- **MASA Conference:** To take place in the autumn of 2025. This enables practitioners from across the partnership to come together and actively engage in shared learning, promote areas of strength and to talk openly and honestly areas where the partnership needs to develop.
- **Integrated Safeguarding:** Progress made in integrating responses to domestic abuse, physical abuse, neglect, children's mental health, and contextual safeguarding through multi-agency reviews, learning events, and early intervention. In 2025/26 the partnership will also have a strong focus on child sexual abuse in line with the National Panel publication entitled 'I wanted them all to notice'.



Feedback from children and families influencing service provision

Listening and Responding to the Voices of Children, Young People, and Families

All staff and partner agencies are responsible for listening to and responding to the voices of children, young people, and families. This makes our services more responsive, efficient, and engaging, ultimately leading to better outcomes. Staff are encouraged to attend the "Language that Cares" and "Voice of the Child" training.

Champions Model

Young People Champions, each representing a crucial aspect of our vision:

- **Transitional Safeguarding:** Ensuring smooth, safe transitions into new life phases
- **Accommodation and Life Skills:** Navigating housing and life skills, supporting independent living
- **Education, Training, and Employment:** Guiding young people toward education, training, and employment opportunities
- **Health and Emotional Well-being:** Supporting physical and emotional well-being, empowering young people to lead healthy, happy lives

Capturing the Voices and Lived Experiences of Young People

- **Children in Care Reviews:** Encouraging children and young people to chair their own reviews where appropriate
- **Voice of the Child:** Reinforced focus on capturing the voice of children, especially those with neurodiversity and children with disabilities
- **Multi Agency and Single Agency Audit Activity:** Evidence a clear focus on the voice of the child across the partnership

Youth Engagement Initiatives

- **Aspire Group:** A youth-led group for those aged 9-25 in care or leaving care, meeting monthly to engage with leadership and discuss emerging themes, now with approximately 70 plus participants
- **Child-Friendly Documents:** A range of agencies across the partnership have published specific documents in "easy read" format designed specifically for children and young people.
- **IT Adaptations:** Agencies continue to improve existing systems to facilitate better recording of the Voice of the Child, improving staff's ability to capture and use feedback effectively
- **Youth Council:** The implementation of a new Haringey Youth Council which held their first Youth Cabinet session with elected members.

- **Major Renovation Work** has been completed at Wood Green Custody Suite: This work has been carried out following discussions with young people and their voices were heard and were instrumental in the changes that have taken place to make the environment much less intimidating.

Education and Feedback Mechanisms

- **Feedback Systems:** Anonymous questionnaires and pupil voice initiatives gather feedback from children
- **Safeguarding Audits:** Now include pupil views as part of comprehensive assessments
- **VAWG Initiative:** Pupils have actively shaped the Violence Against Women and Girls (VAWG) Met Police promise initiative, ensuring relevant and impactful measures.
- **Youth Justice Service:** As part of the Youth Justice Inspection December 2024, it was highlighted that education work was commended as best national practice.



Strategic Planning and Impact

- **Strategic Integration:** Feedback from children and families is reviewed and integrated into strategic planning, ensuring policies are responsive to evolving needs.
- **Youth Justice Service:** Exit questionnaires show that a great number of young people felt involved in their plans. Additionally, to complement this work the Head of Youth Justice Service meets with young people on a quarterly basis to seek their views on the services they have received and whether any improvements could be made.
- **Early Help:** Feedback from families is collected via questionnaires and follow-up calls which continue to drive service improvements. Evaluation reports show evidence of the impact of our Early Help Strategy, Young people Early help, prevention and SEND at Risk Strategy and Safety Valve Programme
- **SEND Participation:** The SEND youth participation team, Elevated Youth, regularly updates the Haringey SEND executive, ensuring service developments reflect user perspectives.
- **Probation Service:** Annual Offender Surveys lead to improvements in sentence planning and increased service user involvement

Strengthening engagement with our education colleagues

In line with the requirements of Working Together 2023 the HSCP has continued to further strengthen the links with education given that a change in legislation in the future will mean that education will become the fourth key strategic partner. Schools, colleges, early years and childcare settings, and other educational providers (including alternative provision) play a crucial role in safeguarding children. Education is well-represented across the HSCP. We continue to foster a culture of continuous improvement and collaboration.

Key updates in the 2024/25 period

- An Education Consultant, a former headteacher, continued to be a member of a number HSCP subgroups and the Leadership Group to enhance and support school involvement in decision-making. This role was the conduit to liaise with and represent schools' views.
- The DSL Network continues to meet four times annually, with participation from nearly all schools, creating a strong collaborative platform
- Continue to utilise the bi-monthly Haringey Safeguarding newsletter, distributed to all DSLs and headteachers, providing valuable information and resources for safeguarding practices
- Local authorities have Local Authority Designated Officers (LADO) responsible for coordinating the response to concerns involving individuals working with children who may have caused harm. The LADO Service in Haringey has expanded to address increasing demand. At least half of the work that comes to the LADO service is from Education. The appointment of an Education LADO has made a positive impact.

Engagement and Collaboration at the Operational Level

- HSCP education representatives are present in all sub-groups and networks, including multi-agency auditing groups, practice weeks, and conferences
- Schools are supported to ensure their policies align with MASA arrangements and relevant legislation
- Staff and governor training is provided to meet local and national safeguarding requirements
- DSLs and designated teachers receive training from HSCP, fostering a shared understanding of levels of need and responses
- The HSCP Escalation Policy is in place for schools, with evidence of its effective use
- The Green Book has been reviewed in line with the requirements of Working Together 2023

Strategic Level Engagement

- Education providers have a voice at the strategic decision-making level, with education representatives on the HSCP leadership group providing updates to the HSCP Executive
- Feedback from children, young people, and families, captured through education representatives, is integrated into strategic planning

Forward Plan

- Enhance the representation of Education at the highest level of strategic decision-making, reflecting this in our structure and MASA

Funding Arrangements

Working Together 2023 mandates that funding from safeguarding partners should be equitable and agreed upon by the Partnership.

Partner Contributions and Budget Overview

In 2024/25, partner agencies continued to contribute to the HSCP budget, both financially and through 'in-kind' support. Efforts are ongoing to address equitable funding across the Partnership. Partners have found innovative ways to contribute, such as seconding a police staff member to the HSCP for 2.5 days per week, introducing a new role to focus on Quality Assurance Improvement and Training, chairing sub-groups, facilitating training and engaging in broader partnership work. The partners in Haringey acknowledge the financial challenges frontline services face, the increasing complexity of need, demand, and reduced central government funding.

The following Partners make contributions into the HSCP budget:

- Haringey Local Authority
- North London Foundation Trust (NLFT) (formally North London Mental Health Partnership)
- Metropolitan Police
- Royal Free London NHS Foundation Trust (formally North Middlesex University Hospital)
- Probation Service
- North Central London Integrated Care Board (NCL ICB)



Glossary

AD - Assistant Director

BC - Borough Commander

CAFCASS - The Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service

CAIT – Child Abuse Investigation Team

CAMHS - Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services

CCE - Child Criminal Exploitation

CDOP - Child Death Overview Panel

CDR - Child Death Review arrangements

CLA - Child Looked After

CRC - Community Rehabilitation Company

CSC - Children's Social Care

CSE - Child Sexual Exploitation

CSP - Community Safety Partnership

CYP - Children and Young People

DCI - Detective Chief Inspector

DCS - Director Children's Services

DSP – Delegated Safeguarding Partner

EDT - Emergency Duty Team

EFH - Extra Familial Harm

EH - Early Help

FGM - Female Genital Mutilation

HSCP - Haringey Safeguarding Children Partnership

ICB - Integrated Care Board

JTAI - Joint Targeted Area Inspection

LA - Local Authority

LCSPR - Local Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

LSCB - Local Safeguarding Children's Board

LSP - Lead Safeguarding Partner

MACE - Multi-Agency (meeting for) Criminal Exploitation

MASA - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Arrangements

MARAC - Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference

MASH - Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub

MOPAC - Mayors Office for Policing and Community

MPS - Metropolitan Police Service NCL

NPS - National Probation Service

NCL - North Central London (Haringey-Enfield-Barnet-Camden-Islington)

NHS - National Health Service

OFSTED - Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills

SAB - Safeguarding Adults Board

SCR - Serious Case Review

SEMH – Social, Emotional and Mental Health

SEND - Special Educational Needs and Disability

SYV – Serious Youth Violence

SSPM - Strategic Safeguarding Partnership Manager

VVE – Violence, Vulnerability and Exploitation

WT 2018-2023 - Working Together to Safeguard Children 2018-2023

YJS - Youth Justice Service