



Briefing for:	Joint Meeting of Corporate Parenting Advisory Committee and Children's Safeguarding Policy and Practice Committee
Title:	Briefing on Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
Lead Officer:	Sylvia Chew
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The multi-agency safeguarding hub (MASH) brings together a variety of agencies into an integrated co located multi-agency team, where they share information appropriately and securely on children, families and adults around the child or young person, in order to make timely and appropriate actions. The service is situated on the 5th Floor, 48 Station Road N22 and operates during office hours.

The MASH is staffed with professionals from a range of agencies including: children's social care, adult's social care, police, health and probation.

Where additional information is required to ensure that a child is safe MASH staff share information. Based on the information gathered MASH staff decide on what appropriate action needs to take place – whether it be a social work assessment, referral to early help services, or no further action.

Haringey's MASH has been in place since the 13th February 2012 and builds on the existing First Response Multi Agency Team (FRMAT) which has been operating since May 2010. FRMAT co-located Metropolitan Police, Health colleagues and Social Workers, together with support from education and housing. MASH enhances this service through the additional police intelligence, and the co-location of other agencies such as Adult Safeguarding, Probation and Mental Health.

The MASH seeks to:

- Identify risks to children at the earliest possible point
- Ensure better information sharing and therefore more effective interventions
- Deliver cashable efficiencies in the longer term
- Identify and reduce harm, crime and anti social behaviour



Haringey and Harrow are pathfinder London Boroughs in MASH development and are the first boroughs in London to be up and running. Several other Boroughs are at the preliminary stages of developing the MASH model and it is expected that the model will be rolled out across London and the country. It is intended that all MASH will have similar characteristics in order to enable greater cross boundary communication and intelligence sharing.

The service was visited by Tim Loughton MP on the 20th February 2012. Mr Loughton met with MASH staff and observed the MASH process. He reported to be impressed with the ability of the MASH gather vital information quickly and securely.

Mash Agencies:

MASH core agencies (co-located daily) are:

- First Response Screening Social Work Team (Haringey Council)
- Public Protection Desk (MET Police)
- YOS Police (MET Police)
- Community Safety Unit (MET Police)
- Health Administrator (including Adult and Children's Mental Health)
- Child Abuse Investigation Team (SCD5 Police)
- Education Welfare (Haringey Council)
- Community Housing (Haringey Council)
- Specialist Health Visitors (Whittington Health) with access to Adult and children's mental health data
- Child Abuse Investigation Team (referrals desk) (MET police)

MASH satellite agencies (co-located at least one day per week) are:

- Adult Safeguarding Team (Haringey Council)
- Adult Mental Health (Barnet Enfield & Haringey Mental Health Trust)
- Probation (London Probation Trust)

All satellite agencies are available for daily consultation in office hours.

In addition the following provide information to the MASH as and when required:

- First Response Duty Social Work Team (Haringey Council)
- CAF Team (Haringey Council)
- Community Engagement and Mental Health (MET Police)
- Named Nurse for Child Protection (Health)
- YOS Duty Team (Haringey Council)
- Named Nurse for General practitioners

Confidentiality



Haringey Council

MASH acts as an intelligence hub, in which each agency identifies what information they hold on a child/young person and the adults around them. Each agency then assesses whether it is appropriate for their information to be shared (in line with the 'Purpose Specific Information Sharing Arrangement') with partners in the hub as well as outside of the hub. Collectively an agreement will be made on the best course of action for that referral.

As stated in the 'Purpose Specific Information Sharing Arrangement' document 'any information that is shared into and within the MASH Hub will be decided on a case-by-case basis and must be relevant to the aims of this agreement'. The Third Principle sets out the types of information that will be shared and states that 'not all of the [above] information will be shared in every case; only relevant information will be shared on a case-by-case basis where an organisation has a 'need to know' about the information'. This document has been circulated to staff and published on Haringey Council's website.

Informing partner agencies and the public.

In addition to agency involvement in the setting up and implementing MASH partner agencies have been kept informed via service meetings, presentations and briefings. Information is also available for professionals and families on the Haringey website – <http://www.haringey.gov.uk/index/children-families/childrensocialcare/childprotection/mash.htm>

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