



April 2018

Message from Chris Robson, LSCB Chair

Welcome to the April newsletter, I thought I might take this opportunity to update you on new developments in terms of safeguarding and explain how your LSCB is ensuring that the partnership is represented going forward. New legislation will bring change in the way safeguarding is organised over the next 18 months. The Local Authority, Police and Health will become the main statutory partners charged with delivering safeguarding. I have now spoken to all three of these agencies and I'm reassured that they understand the important work the partnership delivers for the children and young people of our boroughs. I think we need to see the change as an opportunity to improve our service and safeguarding delivery, positivity will be key to success. We have already decided that our Boards will join and our first meeting on April 18th will concentrate on our structure to see if we can improve how we are organised. I will make sure changes in how we operate are communicated through newsletters and our website. On a different note I delivered a small input to some LSCB training last week. I was reminded what a difficult job it is to stand up and try to hold your audience whilst feeling very nervous. A big thanks to all of those who do this job, you have my personal thanks and admiration.

Police full test code

Through local learning we know it is important for all practitioners to understand how the Police evaluates evidence. Sometimes, there is not enough evidence for Police to take an abuser to court, to issue a caution, or for that person to be convicted in court, however this does not mean that abuse did not take place.

Find out more here: <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners/useful-information-for-practitioners-176.php>

Remember **Mandatory reporting requirements about FGM** [Female Genital Mutilation]

We have uploaded a new short film about FGM for practitioners.

<http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners/domestic-violence-and-abuse-131/female-genital-mutilation-138.php>

"Signs of Safety" approach to child protection

Kingston and Richmond Local Safeguarding Children Board and its partners have adopted the "Signs of Safety" (SoS) approach to working with families where there are concerns about children's safety.

This approach aims to work with the strengths and resources that exist within families to build safety for children who have suffered, or are at risk of suffering, significant harm of physical, sexual and emotional as well as neglect.

The SoS approach considers information about the child and their family across a number of areas, for example:

- Why are we worried about this child?
- What are the dangers / risks?
- What are the complicating factors or grey areas?
- What is working well in terms of existing strengths?
- What is working well in terms of existing safety measures that are in place?
- How worried are we on a scale of 0 to 10?
- What outcomes (or goals) do we need to have to build safety for the child?
- What needs to happen to make the necessary changes to achieve this outcome?



A number of tools and resources have been developed including,

- Multi agency Conference report form;
- Guidance for schools

Professionals from partner agencies who need to submit a multi agency report for a scheduled child protection conference should do so using the secure AfC email addresses

child.protection@rbk.kingston.gov.uk.cjsm.net or CPreviewteam@richmond.gcsx.gov.uk

All other general enquiries regarding arrangements for child protection conferences should be made to: childprotectionconferences@achievingforchildren.org.uk

Read more on the LSCB website: <http://www.kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners.php>

Upcoming LSCB Training

The LSCB are offering training courses to all who work with children. Here is a list of training courses for happening in May;

- Parental Needs, Making Sense of Impact on Children (Level 3) – 10/05/2018
- Safeguarding Children: Children Protection Process Refresher (Level 3) (Kingston) – 12/05/2018
- Online Safety and Risky Behaviour – 16/05/2018
- Domestic Abuse Awareness – 24/05/2018
- Harmful Practices – forced Marriage and So Called Honour Based Violence Awareness

If you are interested in going on any of these courses and you work within education you can apply

here: <https://www.afccpdonline.co.uk/earlyyears/courses/bookings/default.asp?curpage=2>

Otherwise you can apply for any of these training courses here: <http://kingstonandrichmondlscb.org.uk/training.php>

SPASE training

What is it?

SPASE means Strategic Partner Safeguarding Exercise. This event is held at the MPS Hydra Facility, in order to develop relationships across key partnerships and joint learning around dealing with serious Safeguarding incidences. This is not a training exercise, but an opportunity for Senior Leaders from police and partner agencies to work through a number of scenarios, which could occur on your OCU. As part of this learning it will provide an opportunity for the participants to work alongside their partner counterparts, that they would be engaging with in true life situations, and they will be asked to make and review joint decisions around how to appropriately deal with such an incident. The scenarios have all been developed from "real life" situations. This is not about the right, or the wrong way, of responding, but around how you work together, as key stakeholders, with ownership of the risk. This is what makes it a unique event.

Who is it for?

From the police side, the OCU Senior Leadership, including the Borough Commander, who will sit on the Diamond Panel. This includes all the Superintendents and Temporary Superintendents across all portfolios. For this event to be truly worthwhile, it is necessary to also have key representation from the local authority too. It is therefore the responsibility of the OCU to invite: LA Director of Public Health, LA CCG Executive Director (Safeguarding), designated Safeguarding Doctor and Nurse, Directors of Nursing from NHS Trusts (when HQ is within BCU area), NHSE Director of Nursing for the area, NHSE Medical Director and NHS Improvement Director (Quality).

When will my date be?

Dates have been set at the beginning of the year and unfortunately there is little flexibility around these, due to booking of the Hydra Suite and the facilitators required to run the day. Your date has been circulated on the email below. (If sharing to partners, please delete this line and add your BCU's assigned date).

Will it happen again?

SPASE is completely new: it is new to the MPS and (as far as we know) to policing within the UK. Currently, it is due to run until the end of the year, although there will be a review of whether it will continue towards the end of 2018. We anticipate that it will continue, but we don't know how soon and whether it will be in the same format; this therefore may be the only opportunity for you to complete this, so we urge all BCUs to make the most of this opportunity.

Dates are

13 th June 2018	Richmond, Kingston, Wandsworth and Merton
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Please contact Nick.Green@met.pnn.police.uk if you want to book on.

Participation & the voice of the child

At Kingston and Richmond LSCB we want to promote the participation of children in the decisions that are made about them and the services that they are offered. All agencies have a duty to get user feedback from children and young people. By having a voice we mean that children and young people have the opportunity to participate in decisions and activities which shape and influence policies or services that can impact on their lives. This contributes to their sense of belonging, it helps communities become stronger, and increases the likelihood that services have the best chance of making an impact. Ensuring that voice activities are embedded in service evaluation means that voice is planned and structured rather than an 'add-on'. All agencies should be thinking about creative ways of engaging children and young people to get feedback, hear about their experiences and enable children and young people to be involved in decision making and the development of services.