



Message from Deborah Lightfoot, LSCB Chair

Welcome to the April LSCB newsletter. This month I want to focus on the risks to children from some parental behaviours, in particular the increased risks from parental substance misuse, parental mental health and the impact on children from domestic abuse. It is really important that colleagues who provide services for adults as well as children are alert to the increased risk factors to children that may occur and I would be grateful if you could distribute this newsletter widely to colleagues in adult services as well as across children's services.

See the Adult, See the Child

See the Adult, See the Child is an important message for everyone who works with adults or children. Did you know?

- 24% of adults will be receiving treatment for mental health concerns and 30% of them will have children?
That is over 8,000 children in Kingston and more than 10,000 children in Richmond.
- 7% of parents are drinking at higher levels - that affects at least 3,000 children in each borough.
- 2-3% of children have parents who misuse substances - in total over 2,500 children in our local boroughs are affected.
- 25% of women will have domestic and sexual violence problems in their relationships from the age of 16 onwards – That is over 15,000 women in each of our boroughs.

Helen's story in BBC Radio 4's The Archers has highlighted the impact of domestic abuse on families. To read more about support organisations and their work please follow the links below:

<https://www.womensaid.org.uk/the-drama-of-domestic-abuse-womens-aid-the-archers/>

<http://www.refuge.org.uk/who-we-are/>

Our local LSCB learning and improvement framework highlights how important is it for everyone to remember that behaviour is communication for adults and children and how what someone is saying to you today needs to be seen in the context of what they are saying on other days to other people, their history, health and wellbeing, and their behaviour, which can often be opposite to what they say.

We published our multi agency guide to working together with families, "See the Adult, See the Child" to help everyone be alert to the issues that parents and carers may face that could have an impact on their parenting for example: disability, domestic abuse, mental health problems or substance use. You can find our guide here:

<http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/news-resources/policies-and-procedures-87/see-the-adult-see-the-child-protocol-171.php>

This is a joint protocol between adults' and children's services - health, education, justice, voluntary, community and faith sectors, which gives advice about how to respond if anyone has worries about a vulnerable adult or child at risk.

You will find learning collated by the NSPCC on themes from case reviews about domestic abuse, parental mental health concerns and separate briefings for different services such as police, health and education via the following link:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/child-protection-system/case-reviews/learning/>

Child Safety Week – 6-12 June 2016

Child Safety Week will run from 6-12 June 2016 and the theme this year is "[Turn off technology!](#)"

Child Safety Week is run by the Child Accident Prevention Trust to raise awareness of the risks of child accidents and how they can be prevented. They provide a range of resources to help practitioners run local activities and events and promote safety messages in a fun and engaging way.

A free resource pack for 2016 will be available via the following link towards the end of April:

<http://www.childsafetyweek.org.uk/action-pack/>

Technology can be distracting not only for parents supervising children but can be contributory to accidents affecting older children, such as road accidents in which they are distracted by the use of mobile phones and headphones. More information on this can be found via the following link:

<http://www.capt.org.uk/who-we-are/news/focus-road-and-cycle-safety>

If your organisation plans to undertake any activities as part of Child Safety Week, the LSCB would love to hear from you so we can share ideas and promote events and learning. For ideas from past events you can find a range of case studies here:

<http://www.capt.org.uk/what-we-do/case-studies>

The National FGM Centre

The National FGM Centre is a partnership between Barnardo's and the Local Government Associations. Established with government funding it aims to lead innovation in the delivery of services for girls and families affected by female genital mutilation (FGM). For further information visit:

<http://nationalfgmcentre.org.uk/>

LSCB Training

Kingston and Richmond LSCB training can be accessed by visiting <https://www.afccpdonline.co.uk/>

More information on training and resources can be found via the following page on our website:

<http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners/learning-and-development-126.php>

Support for the LSCB

Maha Gadher and Vivienne White have recently left the LSCB team.

The LSCB continues to be supported by Elisabeth Major, Katia Kerekesova and Sarah Bennett.

Generic contact details for the team can be found here:

<http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/contact-us.php>

