



May 2019

Message from the LSCB Chair, Chris Robson

Welcome to the latest edition of our newsletter. I wanted to take this opportunity to update you on the new arrangements for safeguarding children that will 'go live' in September this year. A lot of work has gone into developing new ideas and building on the fantastic partnership that already exists in our boroughs. The three statutory partners, Police, Health and Local Authority are fully committed and will publish a document that details their plans at the end of June. I've had a sneak preview and it's well worth a read! They all recognise the opportunity to improve outcomes for our children and the important part all partners play in it.

The responsibility for creating a new logo for the partnership has been passed to our children and they have responded magnificently. Over 100 entries were received in a competition to design the logo, the winner will be unveiled next week, a massive thanks to everyone who took part. Exciting times and a wonderful opportunity to build on and improve existing safeguarding.

Operation Encompass

Sean Maguire, Head of Safeguarding in the SPA (Single Point of Access) is currently contacting state maintained schools about the roll-out of information-sharing between Police and schools about domestic abuse incidents. Look out for more information as this is likely to roll out in Richmond and Kingston in September.

Child Safety Week 3-9th June 2019

We are hoping all sectors and agencies will be supporting us in spreading key child safety messages this year. The theme, Family life today: where's the risk?, highlights the new dangers facing us from our modern lifestyles and offers simple solutions to keep children safe.

More information here: <https://www.capt.org.uk/csw-action-pack>

Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB)

Harmful Sexual Behaviour exhibited by children and young people, can indicate that those children displaying such behaviour as being abused or exploited themselves.

Harmful sexual behaviour (HSB) is developmentally inappropriate sexual behaviour which is displayed by children and young people and which may be harmful or abusive (derived from Hackett, 2014). It may also be referred to as sexually harmful behaviour or sexualised behaviour. It can be displayed towards younger children, peers, older children or adults, and is harmful to the children and young people who display it, as well as the people it is directed towards.

Technology assisted HSB

Technology assisted HSB (TA-HSB) is sexualised behaviour which children or young people engage in using the internet or technology such as mobile phones. As with 'offline' HSB, TA-HSB encompasses a range of behaviours including:

- Viewing pornography (including extreme pornography or viewing indecent images of children)
- Sexting (Hollis and Belton, 2017).

Around a third of child sexual abuse is by other children or young people.

- There is some cross-over between online and offline HSB and between child sexual exploitation and HSB.
- Harmful sexual behaviour is most commonly identified in adolescent boys, but girls and younger children can also exhibit HSB; with primary schools sometimes facing issues.
- A significant proportion of children with HSB also have a learning disability.
- The majority of children with HSB have themselves experienced trauma, including abuse or neglect.
- The majority of children and young people displaying HSB do not become sexual offenders as adults.
- Young people who display HSB often experience other emotional, behavioural and peer related difficulties.

Hackett et al's 2013 study into the experiences of 700 children and young people who had been referred to nine UK services for HSB over a nine year period. They found two-thirds were known to have experienced at least one form of abuse or trauma, including physical abuse, emotional abuse, sexual abuse, severe neglect, parental rejection, family breakdown and conflict, domestic violence or parental drug and alcohol abuse. Vizard et al (2007) found that 92% of their sample had experienced some form of abuse or had been exposed to neglect or domestic violence.

Find out more here: <https://learning.nspcc.org.uk/research-resources/2019/harmful-sexual-behaviour-framework/>

This guideline covers children and young people who display harmful sexual behaviour, including those on remand or serving community or custodial sentences. It aims to ensure these problems don't escalate and possibly lead to them being charged with a sexual offence. It also aims to ensure no-one is unnecessarily referred to specialist services.

<https://www.nice.org.uk/guidance/ng55>

Brook's traffic light system is used to describe healthy (green) sexual behaviours, potentially unhealthy (amber) sexual behaviours and unhealthy (red) sexual behaviours. It also suggests what kind of attention and response you should give to each type of behaviour and what kind of help might be necessary to ensure the child's safety (Brook, 2018).

School Research

<https://www.uos.ac.uk/sites/default/files/MCF-Peer-on-peer-Abuse-Research-Report-Final%202018.pdf>

What to do next:

If you are concerned about HSB please make a SPA referral or discuss the case with the SPA (Single Point of Access). One of the criteria for the MARVE (Multi-Agency Risk and Vulnerability to Exploitation Panel) are concerns for a child or young person around HSB.

Upcoming LSCB Training

The LSCB offers training courses to all working with children and families. Here is a list of available courses in June;

- Harmful Practices - Forced Marriage and So Called Honour Based Violence Awareness - 03/06/2019
- Child Sexual Abuse (Level 3) - 10/06/2019
- Domestic Abuse and Multi Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) Training - 19/06/2019
- Domestic Abuse Awareness - 23/06/2019
- Identifying and Talking About Suicide with Children and Young People - 13/06/2019
- Safeguarding Children: A Shared Responsibility Level 2 (Kingston) - 18/06/2019
- Safeguarding Children: A Shared Responsibility Level 2 (Richmond) - 05/06/2019
- Safeguarding Children: Child Protection Process Level 3 (Richmond) - 06/06/2019
- Safeguarding Children: Child Protection Process Refresher (Level 3) (Richmond) - 17/06/2019
- Workshop to Raise Awareness of PREVENT (WRAP) Training - 21/06/2019
- Young People and Emerging Drug Trends (including Xanax) - 10/06/2019

If you work within education and are interested in going on any of these courses and you can apply here: <https://www.afccpdonline.co.uk/earlyyears/courses/bookings/default.asp?curpage=2>

Otherwise you can apply for any here: <http://kingstonandrichmondslscb.org.uk/training.php>

