



## March 2019

### Message from the LSCB Chair, Chris Robson

Hello Everyone,

I'm really pleased that James, Pauline, Owain and Fergus have used the opportunity to use our newsletter to update us on the transition into new safeguarding arrangements. I know that they would want to acknowledge the huge part so many people inside and outside of their agencies play in safeguarding our children. I hope that you will all continue to support this work going forward. Change brings its challenges but it also brings real opportunities for us to deliver better outcomes for our children and their families.

## Keynote message

Colleagues,

This is the first opportunity for us as the statutory safeguarding partners to communicate directly with the wider partnership in Richmond and Kingston and set out our proposals for new local safeguarding arrangements. We want to start by thanking you all for your contributions to the LSCB over the years which have made safeguarding partnership working a real strength in Richmond and Kingston, establishing foundations that we are determined to build upon. Set out below are some of the key changes that we are proposing and over which we are currently consulting with LSCB members, and if you have any views or comments then we would like to hear from you too - if you can email them to [janice.riley@achievingforchildren.org.uk](mailto:janice.riley@achievingforchildren.org.uk) within the next two weeks then we can consider your contribution before finalising the proposals in May.

First and foremost we are clear that: ***Nothing is more important than protecting children from abuse, neglect and exploitation. Children who need help and protection deserve high quality and effective support as soon as a need is identified.*** It is the job of our new arrangements to ensure that children are always protected effectively.

We do think that the revised guidance in Working Together gives us an opportunity to build upon what is already working well and to revise the existing LSCB arrangements so that we can be more effective, as we fulfil our responsibilities as leaders of the new arrangements. We think it important: that our proposals are focused effectively upon safeguarding; that all partners are fully engaged and understand their responsibilities; that we listen carefully to what children and families/carers are telling us; that our ways of working are the most efficient possible; and that we develop our learning culture to be rigorous in identifying weaknesses in our safeguarding system and focused upon driving continuous improvement.

Key points in the proposed new arrangements include:

- \* Forming a Strategic Leadership Group, led by the statutory partners and informed by the perspectives of schools, health and voluntary sector providers, children and families/carers;
- \* Retaining Chris Robson as our Independent Chair to support our transition to new arrangements, before moving to rotating the chair between us as the statutory leaders;
- \* Engaging all relevant agencies in each borough through a quarterly programme focused upon priority themes;
- \* Developing a Learning Hub approach which is more engaged with frontline staff in determining what works in delivering effective improvement;
- \* Reviewing our Sub-groups so that we only retain those which are going to deliver learning and improvement;
- \* Innovating with a new Independent Scrutineer role which will test the impact we are making upon our priorities for improvement;
- \* In parallel with these new arrangements, bringing in new Child Death Review arrangements (the responsibility of the CCG and the two Councils).

We look forward to hearing your views and to your contribution to effective safeguarding of children in Richmond and Kingston in the months and years ahead!

Best wishes,

James Thomas - Interim DCS Richmond

Pauline Maddison - Interim DCS Kingston

Owain Richards - Head of Safeguarding Police, SW BCU

Fergus Keegan - Director of Quality - Richmond & Kingston CCGs

## Radicalisation and Extremism

We want to ensure that across voluntary sector, community, faith groups and local agencies we have good knowledge of radicalisation and extremism in order to be aware. Please use this Home Office elearning as an introduction to

PREVENT: <https://www.elearning.prevent.homeoffice.gov.uk/edu/screen2.html>

## Walking out of Darkness

Emotional health and wellbeing is one of the priorities of our local partnership. Help us to work together to take away the stigma around self harm and suicide by walking ten miles with us in Out of Darkness on Saturday May 18th in Central London. We invite you, your family and friends join us at one of the four events in London, Norwich, Bristol and Birmingham by registering at [www.walkingoutofdarkness.com](http://www.walkingoutofdarkness.com)

Here is our LSCB flyer to disseminate:

## What is Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII)?

Previously known as Munchausen's Syndrome by Proxy, this condition became known as Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) in the early 2000s. Fabricated or Induced Illness is a condition whereby a child has suffered, or is likely to suffer, significant harm through the deliberate action of their parent and which is attributed by the parent to another cause. There are three main ways of the parent fabricating (making up or lying about) or inducing illness in a child:

- Fabrication of signs and symptoms, including fabrication of past medical history;
- Fabrication of signs and symptoms and falsification of hospital charts, records, letters and documents and specimens of bodily fluid;
- Induction of illness by a variety of means.

In working with cases of suspected fabricated or induced illness, the focus must be on the **child's physical and emotional health** and welfare in the long and short term, and the likelihood of the child suffering significant harm.

This month Community Care has published a short article on Fabricated or Induced Illness (FII) – when a parent or carer exaggerates or deliberately causes symptoms of illness in the child. The article describes FII and the signs that FII might be taking place. A podcast discussing the subject in more detail is available to download: <https://www.communitycare.co.uk/2019/02/25/fabricated-induced-illness-signs/>

**Further information:** [Learn on the go podcast: fabricated or induced illness](#)

Learning from a Serious Case Review in Cumbria regarding FII: <https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/eLibrary/Content/Internet/327/3823713560.pdf>

## NICE

NICE has recently produced an inter-active flowchart for health and social care practitioners responding to abuse and neglect, which is here. This goes with current statutory guidance. <https://pathways.nice.org.uk/pathways/child-abuse-and-neglect>

## Upcoming LSCB Training

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

- Workshop to Raise Awareness of PREVENT(WRAP) Training - 01/04/2019
- GDPR Update and Effective Recording - 02/04/2019
- LSCB Safeguarding Children: A Shared Responsibility Level 2 (Kingston) - 04/04/2019
- Safeguarding Children: Child Protection Process Level 3 (Richmond) - 05/04/2019
- LSCB Safeguarding Children: A Shared Responsibility Level 2 (Kingston) - 23/04/2019
- Safeguarding Children: Child Protection Process Refresher (Level 3) (Kingston) - 23/04/2019
- RCSP, LSCB, SKP: Domestic Abuse: Risk Assessment and MARAC (Level 3) - 29/04/2019

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://kingstonandrichmondlsqb.org.uk/training.php>

