



Safeguarding Sub (Community & Children's Services) Committee

Date: MONDAY, 7 NOVEMBER 2022
Time: 3.30 PM (Deferred due to meeting on 10.10.22 being inquorate)
Venue: COMMITTEE ROOMS, 2ND FLOOR, WEST WING, GUILDHALL

Members:

Ruby Sayed (Chairman)
Helen Fentimen (Deputy Chairman)
Mary Durcan
Anne Corbett
Joanna Tufuo Abeyie
Benjamin Murphy
Ceri Wiklins

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Accessing the virtual public meeting

Members of the public can observe this virtual public meeting at the below link:

<https://youtu.be/guW2IG7WhaY>

A recording of the public meeting will be available via the above link following the end of the public meeting for up to one civic year. Please note: Online meeting recordings do not constitute the formal minutes of the meeting; minutes are written and are available on the City of London Corporation's website. Recordings may be edited, at the discretion of the proper officer, to remove any inappropriate material.

John Barradell
Town Clerk and Chief Executive

AGENDA

Part 1 - Public Agenda

1. **APOLOGIES**

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

3. **MINUTES**

To agree the minutes of the previous meeting.

For Decision
(Pages 7 - 14)

4. **CITY AND HACKNEY SAFEGUARDING ADULTS BOARD ANNUAL REPORT 2021/22**

Report of the Independent Chair, City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board.
This report has a large appendix, which will be circulated separately and added to the Sub Committee's Web Page.

For Information
(Pages 15 - 20)

5. **YOUTH OFFENDING SERVICE INSPECTION REPORT AND ACTION PLAN**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has large appendices, which will be circulated separately and added to the Sub Committee's Web Page.

For Information
(Pages 21 - 24)

6. **PAN LONDON CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information
(Pages 25 - 30)

7. **PARTICIPATION SERVICE - SUMMER ACTIVITIES**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information
(Pages 31 - 34)

8. **CORPORATE SAFEGUARDING POLICY**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 35 - 54)
9. **AN INTRODUCTION TO ADULT SAFEGUARDING**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 55 - 62)
10. **LIBERTY PROTECTION SAFEGUARDING**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 63 - 66)
11. **WORKING TOGETHER TO IMPROVE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
For Information
(Pages 67 - 74)
12. **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) - UPDATE REPORT**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has a large appendices, which will be circulated separately and added to the Sub Committee's Web Page.
For Information
(Pages 75 - 82)
13. **INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO), ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021-2022**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has a non-public appendix, which will be circulated in the separate 'Appendices Pack'
For Information
(Pages 83 - 86)
14. **ADULT SOCIAL CARE SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE REPORT Q1 2022/23**
Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has a non-public appendix, which will be circulated in the separate 'Appendices Pack'
For Information

(Pages 87 - 88)

15. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE PERFORMANCE - MONTH 4 2022/23 (JULY 2022)**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has a non-public appendix, which will be circulated in the separate 'Appendices Pack'.

For Information
(Pages 89 - 96)

16. **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SELF EVALUATION AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.
This report has a non-public appendix, which will be circulated in the separate 'Appendices Pack'.

For Information
(Pages 97 - 128)

17. **QUESTIONS OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**

18. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT**

19. **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC**

MOTION, that – under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item	Paragraph

For Decision

Part 2 - Non-Public Agenda

20. **NHS NORTH EAST LONDON (NEL) (CITY & HACKNEY) CARE EXPERIENCED CHILDREN ANNUAL REPORT 2021-2022**

Report of the Director of Community and Children's Services.

For Information

21. **INDEPENDENT REVIEWING OFFICER (IRO), ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2021-2022 - APPENDIX**
22. **ADULT SOCIAL CARE SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE REPORT Q1 2022/23 - APPENDIX**
23. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE PERFORMANCE - MONTH 4 2022/23 (JULY 2022) - APPENDIX**
24. **CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE SELF EVALUATION AND SERVICE DEVELOPMENT PLAN - APPENDIX**
25. **NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE**
26. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB-COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED**

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SAFEGUARDING SUB (COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES) COMMITTEE

Thursday, 12 May 2022

Minutes of the meeting held at 2.00 pm

Present

Members:

Ruby Sayed (Chairman)
Helen Fentimen (Deputy Chairman)
Anne Corbett
Mary Durcan
Ceri Wilkins

Officers:

Chris Pelham	- Assistant Director, People, Community and Children's Services
Julie Mayer	- Town Clerks
Sharon Cushnie	- Community and Children's Services
Pat Dixon	- Community and Children's Services
Rachel Talmage	- Community and Children's Services
Andrew Russell	- Community and Children's Services
Teresa Shortland	- Community and Children's Services
Ellie Ward	- Community and Children's Services
Barbara Hamilton	- Community and Children's Services
Glory Nyero	- Community and Children's Services
Robert Wood	- Community and Children's Services
Sharon Long	- Community and Children's Services
Greg Knight	- Community and Children's Services

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Joanna Abeyie and Alderman Gregory Jones.

2. **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS UNDER THE CODE OF CONDUCT IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THE AGENDA**

Anne Corbett declared a non-pecuniary interest by virtue of her employment with the London Borough of Islington, which provides a service to the City of London Corporation.

3. **MINUTES**

RESOLVED, that – the minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2022 be approved.

Matters arising – provision for young people.

1. The Community and Children's Services Committee would receive a report on recommissioning leisure services at their meeting on 20 July.

2. Officers had been working with Fusion Lifestyle and visited Mansell and Middlesex Streets, with a view to developing activities for gentle exercise and the provision of football. Two multi-use games areas had been identified on the estates, a coach was in place and Members would receive more detail in the next report.
 3. A meeting with the new Lead Member for Young People had been arranged for the following week.
 4. The outcome from the engagement with children and young people would be embedded in the sports development service, which is due to be recommissioned.
 5. Given that the City has a large number of resident children participating in the London Youth Games, Members asked if this could be captured in the report referred to at (1) above.
 6. Members also asked if the report could cover provisions for women and girls in the East of the City; particularly single sex swimming sessions.
4. **CITY AND HACKNEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN PARTNERSHIP (CHSCP) CHILD Q PRACTICE REVIEW**

The Sub Committee received a joint report of the Director of Community and Children's Services and the City of London Police in respect of a practice review following the strip-search, by Metropolitan Police Officers, of 'Child Q' in a Hackney School in 2020. The findings from the review were published in March 2022. The report on the agenda updated Members on the review process, setting out the initial response, plans to address the recommendations, activity to date and plans for future learning.

During the presentation of this report, the following points were noted:

1. It had taken 14 months and not 2 years to respond to the findings in the review.
2. The report had concluded that Child Q should never have been strip-searched and found an absence of a 'safeguarding-first' approach to the practice of many of the professionals involved that day.
3. The report also concluded that racism was *'likely to have been an influencing factor'* in the strip-search, and a high level of probability that practitioners were influenced by 'adultification' bias. The review made eight findings and 14 recommendations for practice.
4. The City of London Police and City of London Schools have undertaken a range of activities to understand and share learning with colleagues from the review.

5. In April 2022, the Independent Child Safeguarding Commissioner wrote to all partners of the CHSCP inviting them to map their safeguarding arrangements in respect of the findings and recommendations.

The Chair thanked officers in the City of London Police and the Department of Community and Children's Services for their work in responding to the review and the co-production of this report.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

5. THE PROVISION OF ALTERNATIVE ACCOMMODATION TO FAMILIES WHERE CHILDREN HAVE DIED

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services in respect of a protocol following the accidental deaths of two children in their homes in Hackney. Members noted that the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership (CHSCP) had asked for the relevant housing protocols be reviewed, to ensure that sufficient regard is given to a household's circumstances when a traumatic child death occurs, specifically the mental health impact on the family in remaining in the home where the death took place.

Members noted that the City Corporation's Housing Allocations Scheme already gives officers a wide discretion to assist families in traumatic circumstances; via the 'Management Transfer' route. However, the scheme has now been amended to explicitly state that families suffering a child bereavement will automatically be eligible for Management Transfer; the highest category of priority on the housing register.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

6. EDUCATION WELFARE SERVICES AND SCHOOL ATTENDANCE AND PERSISTENT ABSENCE

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, noting the challenges families may have experienced in transitioning back to school following the lockdowns during the COVID-19 pandemic. Members noted the Department's commitment to providing an excellent service to all families requiring support.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

7. VIRTUAL SCHOOL INTERIM UPDATE REPORT

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, which presented an overview of the activities and impact of the City of London Virtual School for the Academic Year September 2021 to March 2022.

Members noted that the work of the Virtual School expanded considerably in September, and now includes all children with a social worker. There was also an unplanned expansion; i.e. – the provision of education for 250 Afghan children who arrived in the City in September 2021. The Chair and Members

thanked the Director of Community and Children's Services, the Virtual Headteacher and his team for an outstanding achievement, noting that all children had been placed in schools, in a very short period of time, and despite a lack of infrastructure and resources.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

8. **THE EARLY YEARS' SERVICE - SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN UPDATE**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, which updated Members on the work of the Early Years' Service in the context of safeguarding children. Members noted that the Education and Early Years team work closely with the CHSCP, and all City of London Early Years settings, to ensure that children learn and develop in a safe and welcoming learning environment. A broader training programme is delivered annually and adapted to the needs of local practitioners.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

9. **SPECIAL EDUCATIONAL NEEDS AND DISABILITY (SEND) - UPDATE REPORT**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, which sought to update Members on the current work of the City of London Corporation's Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) Service and on plans to respond to the Government's Green Paper: '*SEND Review: Right Support, Right Place, Right Time*'. Members noted that the SEND self-evaluation form and action plan, which are in place to plan and track progress, will be amended in due course to reflect changes required. Officers will continue to monitor these through the SEND Programme Board, and report progress to the Safeguarding Sub-Committee.

As there were some technical difficulties in showing an accompanying film during the Sub Committee meeting, Members noted that it would be circulated after the meeting and available to the public on the 'local offer' page.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

10. **CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE PERFORMANCE - MONTH 11 2021/22 (FEBRUARY 2022)**

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, which updated Members on performance across the Children and Families Service. It demonstrated where performance meets statutory obligations and identified where action was taken for improvement in specific areas.

In response to a question about young people not in education or training (NEETS), the officers advised that some have mental health issues but they are well known to the team and reviewed regularly. Home environments are well-scrutinised, to ensure there are no barriers to gaining employment, training or

volunteering placements, but some might be prevented from doing so due to their immigration status.

Members noted that the majority of children in care and care leavers are young men and boys; mainly unaccompanied asylum seekers, but this demographic tends to change frequently. There was less transport to the UK during the lockdown, and therefore less unaccompanied asylum seeking children for a while, but this has since picked up.

Officers advised that, during Lockdown, more early help/very early help was offered, in order to prevent low level needs turning into to a risk.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

11. CHILDREN'S SOCIAL CARE AND EARLY HELP SERVICE DEVELOPMENT 2022-23

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, which set out the overarching programme of work for the Children's Social Care and Early Help Service. Members noted that the work which had a good impact in 2021-22; ie - the Family Therapy Clinic jointly run with Kings College London and Action Learning Sets for both staff and managers, would continue. The officer advised that this would be a 'live' document, regularly updated in response to family and staff feedback, national research and audit.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

12. PARTICIPATION SERVICE - CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, setting out this year's key priorities for the Participation Service; ie – moving from virtual meetings of the City of London Children in Care Council (CiCC) to face-to-face meetings. Members noted that, in May 2022, the young people would be reviewing progress made and updating priorities for 2022–2023. Members also noted the summer activities, which would include a film project, supported by a film company with experience in working with young people, and several trips, to ensure that all the young people have an opportunity to go on a summer outing.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

13. MULTI AGENCY CHILD EXPLOITATION (MACE) FORUM UPDATE

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children's Services, setting out the issues around child exploitation in the City of London. Members noted that the City of London Corporation holds a Multi-Agency Child Exploitation and Vulnerable Adolescent Forum on a bimonthly basis, and the report outlined the work of the Forum and the action plan for 2022-23.

Members also noted the covert work undertaken by plain clothes officers in visiting front line hotel staff; offering training if required. The Chair commended this approach, which had been in place for a number of years and proved highly effective.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

14. MODERN DAY SLAVERY

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services and noted that, due to the hidden nature of Modern Day Slavery (MDS), it is difficult to have an accurate measure of the prevalence of this exploitation, as there is no definitive source of data or suitable method available to accurately quantify the number of victims involved.

Members noted that the report identified the five main types of exploitation associated with MDS; looking at the national and London statistics on modern slavery in the UK. Furthermore, the City of London Corporation has an MDS group which consists of representatives from the Department of Community and Children’s Services, Police, Licensing, and external partners. The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board has identified MDS as a priority for 2022. The number of MDS cases in the City of London remain low but, given the hidden nature of this crime, it is likely that this does not reflect its true prevalence in the City of London, but officers are fully aware of where there are potential risks.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

15. CHILD PERFORMANCE LICENCES

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services which updated Members on the revised local policy and processes for performance licences for Children in the City of London. Members noted that National Child Employment Guidance, which oversees the administration of child work permits, the issue of performance licences, Body of Persons Approvals (BOPAs) and chaperone licences, is available to all local authorities through the National Network for Children in Employment and Entertainment (NNCEE). In October 2019, the Safeguarding Sub-Committee was advised that, due to the increased number of applications received, the Education and Early Years’ Service would be reviewing its suite of policies and processes.

Members noted that the City is now fully compliant, being one of the only local authorities in the country with its own suite of local policies and procedures.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

16. ADULT SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE REPORT, Q3 YTD 2021/22

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Services which advised Members of the level and nature of adult safeguarding concerns received by the City of London Corporation during quarter three (Q3) of 2021/22 as well as the year to date (YTD) figures for the Q3 2021/22 reporting period. Members noted that, during this period, the Adult Social Care

(ASC) team received 22 new safeguarding concerns, 18 of which were within the authority. Four of the Q3 concerns progressed to an enquiry stage, but two Q3 concerns concluded during this period, and the remaining two Q3 concerns are yet to conclude following a S42 enquiry.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

17. PAN LONDON - CHILDREN IN CARE COUNCIL (CICC)

The Sub Committee received a report of the Director of Community and Children’s Service which contained an update on the work of the Pan London CiCC and proposals for the future. Members noted that this programme ensures young people are at the core of regional planning and decision-making; focussing on developing cross-sector partnerships that collaborate to ensure care-experienced young people have access to jobs, financial support and emotional health and wellbeing services to support them in achieving their ambitions.

Members noted that three young people are currently based in Guildhall and it was suggested that they attend the next meeting to talk about the work they have been doing. The Chair welcomed this suggestion and advised that, although this programme is Pan-London, the City of London has been integral to its success.

RESOLVED, that – the report be noted.

18. QUESTIONS OF MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

19. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT

There were no items.

20. EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC

RESOLVED, that – under Section 100(A) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part I of the Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act.

Item
21 -22

Paragraph
1 & 2

21. CHILDREN AND FAMILIES SERVICE PERFORMANCE - MONTH 11 2021/22 (FEBRUARY 2022) - NON PUBLIC APPENDICES

The Sub Committee received an appendix in respect of agenda item 10.

22. ADULT SAFEGUARDING PERFORMANCE REPORT, Q3 YTD 2021/22 - NON PUBLIC APPENDIX

The Sub Committee received an appendix in respect of agenda item 16.

23. NON-PUBLIC QUESTIONS ON MATTERS RELATING TO THE WORK OF THE SUB-COMMITTEE

There were no questions.

24. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND WHICH THE SUB-COMMITTEE AGREE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED WHILST THE PUBLIC ARE EXCLUDED

There were no items.

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm

Chairman

**Contact Officer: Julie Mayer
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Agenda Item 4

Committees: Health and Wellbeing Board – For Information Community and Children’s Services Committee – For Information Safer City Partnership – For Information City of London Members Safeguarding Sub-Committee – For Information	Dated: 16/09/2022 22/09/2022
Subject: City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Annual Report 2021/22	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	None
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	Partner Contributions
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Dr Adi Cooper, Independent Chair, City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board	For Information
Report author: Raynor Griffiths, City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Manager	

Summary

The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board (the Board) is a statutory board required under s43 of the Care Act 2014. The Board has three statutory functions:

- a) Develop and publish a strategic plan outlining how the Board will meet its objectives.
- b) Publish an annual report detailing the safeguarding achievements for that financial year.
- c) Commission Safeguarding Adults Reviews for any cases which meet the criteria.

This report outlines the Board’s annual report for 2021/22. It focuses on the key achievements, data for 2020/21 and future priorities for the Board.

Recommendation

Members are asked to note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board is a multi-agency partnership represented by statutory and non-statutory stakeholders. The role of the Board is to assure itself that robust safeguarding procedures are in place across the City and Hackney to protect adults with care and support needs who are at risk of abuse and neglect. Where abuse and neglect does occur, the Board and its partners are committed to tackling this and promoting person-centred care for all adults experiencing abuse or neglect. The annual report sets out a summary of safeguarding adults' activity across the City of London and Hackney in 2021/22.

Current Position

Key achievements

2. In line with its strategy, some of the key achievements for the Board in 2021/22 include:
 - a) The Board assessed how well learning from Safeguarding Adults Review has been embedded into practice, and put in place measures to ensure that agencies are disseminating learning to staff. One reflection event was held to review how well learning from the MS Safeguarding Adults Review. The Independent Reviewer provided positive feedback on the actions Board partners had taken to address the recommendations from the review.
 - b) The Board continued to commission multi-agency training across the partnership, this includes trauma-informed training and the delivery of a Safeguarding Adults Week which was attended by over 200 professionals.
 - c) The Board undertook one multi-agency case file audit, which assessed safeguarding practice in relation to self-neglect. In total, 10 cases were reviewed, and the learning from the audit is included in the Board's annual strategic plan for 2022/23.
 - d) The Board contributed to King's College London's Communities of Practice for research on homelessness and self-neglect.
 - e) The Board continued to deliver workstreams regarding Transitional Safeguarding (jointly for the Children's Safeguarding Partnership and Community Safety Partnership) and digital safety, as well as contributed to a number of wider joint partnership projects such as the development of the Intergenerational Domestic Abuse Protocol.

- f) City of London Corporation have permanently recruited a social worker based in the Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Service. This has led to an increase in Care Act assessments and preventative interventions for rough sleepers.
- g) North East London (NEL) Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) complied with delivering NHS Improvement's Safe and Wellbeing Reviews, which assess the wellbeing of individuals living in long-stay hospital settings. In total there were 20 reviews across NEL CCG and 20 across the provider collaborative. The key findings for City and Hackney related to action to support people's physical health. Some individuals experienced delayed discharges due to challenges locating an appropriate community placement. Also, in some cases, remote or virtual care plan reviews had impacted quality and oversight.
- h) City of London Police secured a mental health triage nurse for 2021/22. The nurse has facilitated a decrease in the need to invoke Section 136 of the Mental Health Act, which gives police emergency powers to take someone from a public place to a place of safety.
- i) Age UK supported clients to join video meetings which enabled the organisation to get better insight into their unspoken circumstances and make appropriate safeguarding referrals where relevant.

Areas for further development

3. The Board was unable to meet its goals in relation to the following, and will continue to work on these areas in 2022/23:
 - a) Engagement with residents. While the Board has undertaken outreach work to improve its engagement with residents, it has not been possible to re-establish the service user network it had prior to the Covid-19 lockdowns. The Board will continue to identify ways it can improve engagement with service users and residents in the City and Hackney.
 - b) In preparation for inspection by the Care Quality Commission (CQC), the Board intended to review audits of safeguarding activity within the City and Hackney's Adult Social Care teams. This did not go forward on the basis that the Board was awaiting the publication of a template for this from the CQC. This action has been rolled forward into the Board's annual strategic plan for 2022/23.
 - c) At the start of the financial year, the Board put on a number of learning sessions for voluntary sector agencies. Unfortunately, these were not well attended, and the Board had to cancel further sessions. To address this, the Board is working with its voluntary sector members to help engage with wider voluntary and community sector organisations.

Priorities for 2022/23

4. The Board has set itself the following strategic priorities for 2022/23:
 - a) Publish three Safeguarding Adults Reviews: one mandatory Safeguarding Adults Review under Section 44 of the Care Act; and two discretionary reviews.
 - b) Oversee the Advocacy Project in their delivery of a feedback service for people with lived experience of adult safeguarding.
 - c) Identify and respond to people who are 'on the edge of care' and may not meet the criteria for statutory safeguarding intervention, (Section 42 enquiries) and still have safeguarding needs. This includes supporting the London Borough of Hackney to consider safeguarding issues that arise in the context of Poverty Reduction work.
 - d) Work with the City and Hackney Children's Safeguarding Partnership and the Domestic Abuse Intervention Service to create the Think Family Protocol for the City of London and Hackney.

Key Data

5. The key information was identified from the City of London data set:
 - There were 60 safeguarding concerns raised, of which 33 led to a Section 42 enquiry. While there was an increase in concerns from 2020/21, there was a decrease in Section 42 enquiries.
 - The most common forms of abuse were: self-neglect; neglect and acts of omission; and domestic abuse.
 - In line with national trends, abuse was most likely to happen in the person's own home by someone known to them.
 - Of the 35 concluded cases, 18 people expressed their desired outcome. There were 17 people who had their desired outcomes fully achieved or partially achieved.

6. Corporate & Strategic Implications

- Strategic implications – None
- Financial implications – None
- Resource implications – None
- Legal implications – None
- Risk implications – None
- Equalities implications – None
- Climate implications – None
- Security implications – None

Conclusion

Adult Safeguarding is a critical area of work and should remain a priority for all organisations. For the Safeguarding Adults Board, it will continue to look into key areas of safeguarding concern and ensure that the safeguarding needs of all residents in the City of London and Hackney are met.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board (CHSAB) Annual Report 2021/22

Raynor Griffiths

City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board Manager

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Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee – For Information	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Youth Offending Service Inspection Report and Action Plan	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<i>Contribute to a flourishing society sections 1-4</i>
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	n/a
What is the source of Funding?	n/a
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	n/a
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: Kelly Duggan , Tower Hamlets YOS Rachel Talmage, Head of Children Social Care and Early Help	

Summary

The City of London commissions Tower Hamlets to operate our Youth Offending Service (YOS). It is a statutory requirement, given the local authority function of the City of London, to provide a service to any children who use offending behaviour who are resident within its boundaries. In April 2022, an inspection of the commissioned service was undertaken by Her Majesty’s Inspector of Probation (HMIP). This report introduces the inspection findings and the subsequent improvement plan by the YOS.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London commissions Tower Hamlets to operate our YOS. It is a statutory requirement to provide a service to any children who use offending behaviour who are resident in the City of London. The service is outsourced due to our small resident population and the consequent small size of Children’s Services.
2. The service has been commissioned since 2014.

Current Position

3. In April 2022, an inspection of the commissioned service was undertaken by HMIP. The report is appended (Appendix 1). The overall grading received was 'requires improvement' with five sections being graded 'inadequate'.
4. A swift and thorough response was made by the YOS Management Board who developed an improvement plan.
5. The Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Justice Improvement Plan has been informed by the outcome from the HMIP inspection that took place in April 2022. This improvement plan focuses on strengthening the Youth Justice Management Board and the Youth Justice Service (YJS) to ensure that there is a 'child first' approach to meet the needs of children and to protect the public.
6. The YOS submitted their improvement plan (see Appendix 2) to the Youth Justice Board and to HMIP on 14 August 2022.

Proposals

7. The inspection raised seven recommendations that need to be implemented to impact positively on the quality of the Tower Hamlets and the City of London YOS.

The Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Justice Management Board should:

Recommendation 1. Review its membership to ensure that the right people, at the right level of seniority, are included to engage actively in achieving better outcomes for YJS children.

Recommendation 2. Ensure that there are comprehensive quality assurance arrangements to understand performance and respond to the profile and needs of all children supervised by the YJS.

Recommendation 3. Make sure that all data and management information is accurate, reliable, and enables informed decision-making.

Recommendation 4. Review its out-of-court provision to ensure that the arrangements are effective and support diversion.

The Tower Hamlets and City of London Youth Justice Head of Service should:

Recommendation 5. Improve the quality of assessment, planning, and service delivery work to keep children safe and manage the risk of harm they present to others.

Recommendation 6. Ensure that robust contingency plans are in place for all children that address their safety and wellbeing, and risk of harm to others.

Recommendation 7. Make sure that safeguarding and public protection arrangements are comprehensive and understood by all staff.

8. These recommendations have been adopted in full. The consequent plan aims to address the areas highlighted via the HMIP inspection. It has been developed with the involvement of the Youth Justice Management Board and the YJS.

Key Data

9. No child resident in the City aged under 18 years has committed an offence in the last two years. One child committed an offence in the last five years. It is our view that our robust Early Help offer and outstanding social care service contribute to low levels of either offending or recidivism, in addition to our small volume of children.
10. Black children have been and are disproportionately impacted by Youth Justice, nationally and locally. Change is important so that black children have better outcomes and are not discriminated against. One key example is spotting poor legal advice regarding out-of-court disposals (OOC). Black children are more likely to be advised to say 'no comment'; this means that, instead of receiving a caution (an OOC), they would have to go to court and would likely receive a sentence – such as a referral order. The local and newly formed Out of Court Disposal Board will scrutinise the offer and take-up of OOCs, to bring about equity of diversion from the criminal justice system. A report on disproportionality will be provided to the YOS Management Board in December.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

11. Strategic implications – This report and appendices align with all four elements of the corporate strategy:
Contribute to a flourishing society:
 - People are safe and feel safe.
 - People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
 - People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
 - Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.
12. Financial implications – The City of London contributes our allocation from the YJB to Tower Hamlets.
13. Resource implications – This is a commissioned service, so minimal staff resources are used to manage the contract. In addition, the Head of Service sits on the Youth Offending Management Board.

14. Legal implications – none.

15. Risk implications – There is a risk that, if the service does not improve, then any resident child who offends in the City will not get a good enough service.

16. Equalities implications – Public Sector Equality Duty 2010 racial disproportionality is central to the improvement plan, as is age. Children who offend are deliberately referred to as children, to recognise their development and vulnerability. The Serious Case Review of Child Q shows that black children are often seen as older and less vulnerable than their white peers. This is called ‘adultification’ and staff are provided with relevant training to ensure that children are seen as children first.

17. Climate implications – none

18. Security implications – none

Conclusion

19. The main report introduces the inspection by HMIP and the subsequent improvement plan by the service designed to improve safety and wellbeing of children, the community and victims of crime. The appendices provide both reports.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** – An inspection of youth offending services in Tower Hamlets and City of London, HM Inspectorate of Probation, July 2022
- **Appendix 2** – Tower Hamlets & City of London Improvement Plan 2022–23

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Agenda Item 6

Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub- Committee	10/10/2022
Subject: Pan London Children in Care Council	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	£
What is the source of Funding?	
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Partnership for Young London	For Information
Report author: Sharon Long, Director, Partnership for Young London	

Summary

This report provides an update on the Pan London Children in Care Council which is sponsored by the City of London Corporation in conjunction with the Association of London Directors of Children's Services (ALDCS). The report covers progress on the Pan London Children in Care Council in terms of deliverables, outcomes and partnerships developed.

The programme is facilitated by Partnership for Young London as part of a contract via the City of London Corporation. The Pan London Children in Care Council aims to improve outcomes for young people who experience care across the region. It ensures that young people are at the core of regional planning and decision-making and focuses on developing cross-sector partnerships that collaborate to ensure that care-experienced young people have access to jobs, financial support, emotional health, and wellbeing services to support them to achieve their ambitions and thrive. This work is part of the Pan London Corporate Parenting Responsibilities and is supported by London Councils, ALDCS, Health, and local authorities.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Pan London Children in Care Council is funded by the ALDCS and sponsored by the City of London Corporation. Partnership for Young London facilitates the Pan London Children in Care Council, with the remit to:
 - recruit two young people who are care-experienced to run the Pan London Children in Care Council
 - support care-experienced young people to engage in policy and practice decisions across the region
 - bring together regional partnerships to enhance the regional offer for care-experienced young people
 - take a lead role with London Councils and ALDCS on the Pan London Offer for Care Leavers, including running working groups and supporting youth engagement
 - facilitate regional research with young people on issues they are keen to explore
 - run the Pan London Children in Care Council sessions on a bimonthly basis, and facilitate the Youth Advisory Board
 - run training and capacity-building programmes for young people and staff working in the sector.

2. In the last six months we have:
 - Hosted the Pan London Children in Care Council – with 66 representatives from across London reviewing what young people need in terms of support around the cost of living, assessing their needs for mentoring, and focusing on developing creative assets on the lived experience of care leavers – they can be viewed on the Partnership for Young London website [at this link](#)
 - Children in Care Council Advisory Board – hosted four meetings of the Children in Care Council, to review progress and develop new priorities informed and influenced by young people
 - Virtual School Headteachers – we have been working on a session with the London Network for Virtual Headteachers exploring young people's needs in education, careers advice and guidance, and post-16 options
 - Pan London Offer – we worked with London Councils and ALDCS to establish the governance arrangements for the Pan London Offer:
 - a. Secured Free Prescriptions across London
 - b. Secured 50% reductions on bus and trams
 - c. Reviewed the offer in place across the region to help shape it in conjunction with London Councils
 - d. Developed a video on the cost-of-living challenges faced by care leavers.
 - Networks – we facilitated six Participation Workers Network meetings and one session for the Network of Leaving Care Leads for London

- Mentoring Research – we reviewed the mentoring offer across London for care-experienced young people and presenting that to the Greater London Authority (GLA) and London Councils. A final report can be downloaded [here](#) on the Partnership for Young London website
- National Network for the Education of Care Leavers (NNECL) – we were part of a network meeting for NNECL on quality standards across London’s universities for care leavers, this will lead to a working group on getting the standard in place across more London universities
- Young Inspectors Training – we facilitated a training session with more than 12 local authority leads to learn how to facilitate a youth inspection
- Podcast – we developed a podcast with Mark Riddell, the national care leavers advisor for the Department for Education, which can be viewed online [at this link](#).

Current Position

3. The following work is currently underway:

- Pan London Offer – young people are co-chairing the Pan London Offer work streams. These groups cover: Housing, Health, Financial Offer, Transport, Education and Training, and Data. These will be cross-sector working groups that will report into ALDCS.
- Pan London Children in Care Council – we will be hosting the next meeting of this group in October half term with a focus on the cost of living and our planned event with Be Inspired
- Advisory Board – monthly meetings of the Youth Advisory Board to help shape the work of the Pan London Children in Care Council
- Participation Workers Network – there will be monthly meetings for all representatives from across London, sharing practice, undertaking training and research
- Employment and Care Leavers – we are working with West Ham Foundation and John Lewis Partnership and hosting a session at West Ham Stadium on the role of the private sector to get care-experienced young people into employment
- Leaving Care Networks Leads – with the GLA we will be supporting a regional events with key partners on the Pan London Offer in October 2022.

Options

4. The work in Current Position (paragraph 3) covers all the outcomes. They are all budgeted for in the existing contract. The agreed outcomes for this work are:

- a) Increased engagement across London of young people in care and care leavers in regional decision-making, including:
 - case studies on key events such as Mayoral Hustings, meetings at the GLA
 - timeline of the activities and the results

- feedback from regional partners
 - increased attendance at meetings by young people.
- b) Increased skills, and abilities to influence regional and national priorities for young people in care and care leavers, including:
- training feedback forms on achievements
 - blogs or podcasts from young people
 - feedback at Children in Care Council sessions.
- c) London-wide collaboration in identifying and working to address the needs of young people in care and care leavers, including:
- case studies on work completed
 - database and timeline on activities undertaken and the cross-section of partners engaged
 - reports and data from research and events
 - evidence of implementation of recommendations across London boroughs
 - youth-led research creating a higher profile of key issues being faced by young people in care and care leavers.
- d) Raising awareness and increasing the profile of key issues faced by young people in care and care leavers, including:
- data capture on engagement
 - quarterly update reports including feedback from meetings
 - case studies – that is, interviews with decision-makers.
- e) Children in Care Council engagement in City Children Services Provision and monitoring, including:
- feedback from participants
 - quarterly update report.

Proposals

5. N/A

Key Data

6. Outputs

- six regional Children in Care Council meetings with more than 120 young people
- six Youth Advisory Board meetings with up to 30 young people
- 11 meetings with participation workers from across all London boroughs

- outreach work to up to five London borough Children in Care Councils per year
- four training sessions for the Pan London Children in Care Council members with 80 young people
- two youth-led research projects facilitated with 50 young people – to be set (that is, Pan London Offer and transitions to independent living to be agreed with young people)
- three roundtable meetings with policy leads across London and nationally
- gathering data on the local offer across all London boroughs
- 20 email bulletins on policy and practice to participation workers, showcasing opportunities for young people.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. Strategic implications – None.
8. Financial implications – This project has restricted funding for two years.
9. Resource implications – This project is funded for two years.
10. Legal implications – None.
11. Risk implications – All programmes are supported by risk assessments across the organisation, and this is presented to trustees on a bi-monthly basis.
12. Equalities implications – This work aligns with the Public Sector Equality Duty, and we are clear that the work will be focused on supporting those who are protected by existing equality legislation – age, disability, gender reassignment, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation, marriage and civil partnership, and pregnancy and maternity.
13. Climate implications – All this work is aligned with the organisational environmental policies, and we work to ensure that we assess the climate impact across all of our respective work streams. Staff and young people use public transport to get to work, and we facilitate a range of our programmes online to reduce environmental impact.
14. Security implications – None.

Conclusion

15. This report contains an update on the work of the Pan London Children in Care Council and our proposals for the future. The work is closely aligned with

the City of London Children in Care Council, and we continue to work together to improve outcomes for young people.

Appendices

- None.

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Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	10/10/2022
Subject: Participation Service – Summer Activities	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	Outcome 1
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N/A
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: Pat Dixon, Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service	

Summary

This report outlines the summer activities that have been provided by the Participation Service over the summer holiday for looked-after children and care leavers. This is the first year since the start of the pandemic that summer holiday arrangements have been made for face-to-face contact for all the children and young people. As there were still concerns around COVID-19 infection rates at the beginning of 2022, it was thought advisable to provide various day trips over the summer holiday period, rather than one residential event. This was arranged because it would give more opportunities for all the young people to attend at least one of the events provided, and there would be less risk of events being cancelled.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. In the past, young people have gone away for residential activities, and this has always been well received. However, due to concerns about possible COVID-19 infection rates, there was a likelihood that the residential activities could be cancelled at the last minute. Therefore, consideration was given to spreading out the activities to ensure that all young people had a chance to attend at least one of the events arranged. The types of summer activities that

would be provided were discussed with the young people, and their views and preferences were sought in February 2022, at the City of London Children in Care Council (CiCC) meeting.

Current Position

2. The summer activities took place over a five-week period, starting at the end of July 2022 and finishing at the end of August 2022. On average, there were two activities taking place every week during the summer programme. These activities had been suggested by the young people at the beginning of the year. The overall feedback from the young people was extremely positive. They enjoyed having an opportunity to meet up with their peers, and really enjoyed the majority of the activities.

Week 1

25/07/22 – Go Karting at Canary Wharf: seven of the young people attended this event, which they all enjoyed, especially as they were competing to be the fastest around the track.

27/07/22 – A trip to ‘The Escape Room’ in Hackney: seven young people attended this activity. The aim of the activity was for them to work together to find clues so they could escape within an allotted time. They really enjoyed this activity and were quite competitive in trying to complete the task within the timeframe set.

Week 2

01/08/22 – Coach trip to Southend Beach: 11 young people attended, and there was additional support from the Children’s Social Care team on the day. The young people really enjoyed the day. They had fish and chips for lunch, which was a new experience for many of the young people. They went to the Adventure Island Theme Park, where they had an opportunity to go on a few rides. The weather was good and the feedback from the young people showed that they had really enjoyed the day.

05/08/22 – Trampolining: four young people attended this activity, but they did not appear to like this as much as they did the zip wire course, which was also taking place. They all had a go on the zip wire, which was high off the ground, but they helped each other across which was gratifying to see.

Week 3

09/08/22 – Trip to Madame Tussauds: six young people attended. They really enjoyed the experience and took the opportunity to take pictures of themselves with the famous waxworks. They especially enjoyed taking pictures of themselves with the Royal family.

10/08/22 – Paintballing: This activity was arranged for the young people in Croydon. Unfortunately, only three young people attended. This may have

been due to the early start and the distance that some of the young people needed to travel. Those young people who did attend enjoyed the day and said they would like to do it again.

Week 4

15/08/22 – Coach trip to Thorpe Park: nine young people attended, and there was support from the Children’s Social Care team, as one of the social workers also attended. The weather was warm, and the young people enjoyed the day, going on the rides, having ice cream and lunch at the park.

17/08/22 – Filming at Guildhall: Arrangements were made for a film company to come to the Guildhall to help the young people make a film about a topic of their choice. Four young people attended. They had an opportunity to be involved in all aspects of the filming process, which they really enjoyed.

Week 5

22/08/2022 – More filming at Guildhall: The Film Company came back for a second session with the young people. Four young people attended, and they were able to record some scenes. A further session has been arranged for October so the film can be completed. This will take place in the half term week.

Options

3. N/A

Proposals

4. N/A

Key Data

5. N/A

Corporate & Strategic Implications

6. Financial implications – N/A
7. Resource implications – N/A
8. Legal implications – N/A
9. Risk implications – N/A
10. Equalities implications – N/A
11. Climate implications – N/A

12. Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

13. The overall feedback on this year's summer activities has been positive. However, it is evident from the young people's feedback to the Town Clerk and Director of Community and Children's Service at the CiCC in May 2022 that they would prefer to go on a residential holiday. If this is going to progress, there needs to be capacity for all the young people to have an opportunity to attend. As in the past, there were only limited spaces available, due to the cost and staffing capacity required for a larger cohort of young people. This meant that some young people missed out, which did cause some contention. Therefore, going forward this will need to be taken into consideration when planning for a residential holiday.
14. This year's activities were recorded on camera. The photographs, captioned with the young people's views, will be collated into an e-scrapbook. This will be distributed to all the young people who attended as a record of their holiday and the friendships that they made while with the City of London, and to add to their life story as they journey into adulthood.

Appendices

- None.

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Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Corporate Safeguarding Policy	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3,4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For information
Report author: Scott Myers, Strategy Officer, Department of Community and Children's Services	

Summary

This report presents Sub-Committee Members with the latest version of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy following its annual review.

The Corporate Safeguarding Policy provides guidance for all City of London Corporation staff, Members and individuals, consultants and agencies contracted by the City Corporation who may come across concerns regarding the safeguarding and protection of children, young people and adults at risk within the context of their work.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report

Main Report

Background

1. It is a duty of the City Corporation to ensure that children and adults are safeguarded from harm. Safeguarding is everybody's business in every service and department within the City Corporation, and everyone has a responsibility to safeguard children and adults at risk – whatever the role of the individual, or the City Corporation service or department they work in.
2. The significance of safeguarding to the wider organisation is recognised by each department having its own Safeguarding Champion, who ensures sufficient

oversight of the City Corporation's safeguarding responsibilities, including those outside of the local authority area and those which apply to its charitable elements.

Current Position

3. The Corporate Safeguarding policy has been reviewed and updated as part of its annual review, to ensure compliance with the relevant legislation and guidance. No such change was required during this review and the policy remains up to date with the latest legislation and guidance.
4. The City Corporation are conducting a review into the named departmental Safeguarding Champions as listed in Appendix 2 of the policy and will be updated upon completion.
5. The policy has been reviewed by the Safeguarding and Quality Assurance Service Manager, who is leads on corporate safeguarding for the City of London Corporation.
6. The policy has also been reviewed by the Adult Social Care Service Manager, who leads on safeguarding for adults.

Strategic Implications

7. The review and update of the Corporate Safeguarding Policy is consistent with the aims and priorities of the City of London Corporation's Corporate Plan, to ensure that people are safe and feel safe.

Financial implications – None identified

Resource implications – None identified

Legal implications – None identified

Risk implications – None identified

Equalities implications – None identified

Climate implications – None identified

Security implications – None identified

Conclusion

8. This corporate policy provides safeguarding guidance for all City of London Corporation staff, members and individuals and organisations commissioned by City Corporation. It outlines how the City Corporation will ensure that children and adults are safeguarded from harm.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Corporate Safeguarding Policy 2022

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City of London Corporation

Safeguarding Policy

September 2022

Document status: Draft for approval

Prepared by: Scott Myers

Reviewers: Pat Dixon and Ian Tweedie

Owner: Chris Pelham

Approved by: Safeguarding Sub Committee

Implementation date: Ongoing

Review date: September 2022

Document end date: September 2023

Version: 6

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1 Purpose and Scope

- 1.1 This policy provides guidance for all City of London Corporation (City Corporation) staff, Members and individuals, consultants and agencies contracted by the City Corporation who may come across concerns regarding the safeguarding and protection of children, young people and adults at risk within the context of their work.
- 1.2 It supports the City Corporation in achieving Corporate Plan (2018-23) outcome 1: 'People are safe and feel safe'. It is relevant to the work contained in all corporate strategies that aim to impact children and vulnerable adults, from the apprenticeship strategy through to the volunteering strategy, and is key to ensuring that we are a responsible business.
- 1.3 The policy is relevant to all of the City Corporation's work it delivers, commissions and funds. In some cases, such as the schools and academies it sponsors outside the Square Mile, *statutory* safeguarding responsibilities will sit with the local authority in the area concerned but the City Corporation still holds some wider safeguarding responsibilities.

2. Wider context

2.1 This policy also sits in a wider context of safeguarding policies, procedures and guidance. This includes:

- the **London Safeguarding Children Board Procedures**
<https://www.londoncp.co.uk/>
- the **London Safeguarding Adults Board Policy and Procedure**
<http://londonadass.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019.04.23-Review-of-the-Multi-Agency-Adult-Safeguarding-policy-and-procedures-2019-final-1-1.pdf>
- COL guidance on **safer recruitment**
<https://corpoflondon.sharepoint.com/sites/Intranet/SitePages/HR-Topic-Recruitment.aspx#safeguarding>
- Range of information and guidance on **Safeguarding Children and Young People** from the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children’s Partnership
<http://www.chscb.org.uk/>
- Range of information and guidance on **Safeguarding Adults** from the City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board
<https://hackney.gov.uk/safeguarding-adults-board>
- Guidance for **Charitable Organisations**
<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/safeguarding-duties-for-charity-trustees>
- Guidance on **Safeguarding Adults for Housing Staff**
<https://www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/adults/practice/housing>
- Guidance on **Safeguarding in Public Places**
<https://saferlondon.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Safeguarding-in-Public-Spaces-Toolkit-March-2018.pdf>
- **Prevent – Counter Terrorism Strategy**
<https://www.cityoflondon.gov.uk/services/prevent-counter-terrorism-strategy>

3. Overview

- 3.1 It is a duty of the City Corporation to ensure that children and adults are safeguarded from harm.
- 3.2 Everyone has a responsibility to safeguard the welfare of children, young people and adults at risk, whatever the role of the individual, or the City Corporation service or department they work in.
- 3.3 Each department needs to be aware of how their staff interact with children and with adults at risk, providing appropriate training on safe working practices and on creating safe environments. Staff should be alert to any indications that a child or adult at risk may need to be safeguarded from harm and know who to contact if they have concerns.
- 3.4 Organisations the City Corporation contracts with will be required through the terms of their contract to have a similar policy in place for their staff as appropriate.
- 3.5 The significance of safeguarding to the wider organisation is recognised by its inclusion on the Corporate Risk Register and the development and adoption of this policy.
- 3.6 The City Corporation will work with the appropriate statutory bodies when an investigation into child abuse or a safeguarding adult's investigation is necessary.
- 3.7 For this policy to be effective it is essential that each City Corporation Department and related agencies and people working within them have an applied understanding of what safeguarding means, knows that safeguarding is everyone's responsibility, knows the signs and symptoms of potential harm, how to access safeguarding information, advice and guidance, and is committed to making an informed contribution to safeguard children, young people and adults at risk.

4. Safeguarding

- 4.1 Any allegations or concerns that children and adults may be suffering significant harm should be raised with the City Corporation's Children and Families service or Adult Social Care service. There is no such thing as information being given "in confidence" – there is a duty of care and legal responsibility to respond to safeguarding concerns or incidents.

Children and young people at risk

- 4.2 Safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is defined as:
 - protecting children from maltreatment
 - preventing impairment of children's health or development
 - ensuring that children are growing up in circumstances consistent with the provision of safe and effective care; and
 - taking action to enable all children to have the best outcomes

- 4.3 The definition of a child and/or young person for the purpose of this document is anyone under the age of 18 years or under 25 years in the case of a child with Special Educational Needs or Disability (SEND).
- 4.4 It should be noted that a child has reached 16 years of age, is living independently or is in further education, is a member of the armed forces, is in hospital or in custody in the secure estate for children and young people, does not change his or her status or entitlement to services or protection under the Children Act 1989.

Safeguarding adults at risk

- 4.5 Adult safeguarding is working with adults with care and support needs to keep them safe from abuse or neglect. It is an important part of what many public services do, and a key responsibility for the City Corporation.
- 4.6 Adult safeguarding is aimed at people with care and support needs who may be in vulnerable circumstances and at risk of abuse or neglect. In these cases, local services must work together to spot those at risk and take steps to protect them.
- 4.7 An adult at risk is a person who is or may be in need of social care services by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, and who is or may be unable to take care of him or herself, or unable to protect him or herself against significant harm or exploitation.
- 4.8 An adult at risk may therefore be a person who:
- is elderly and frail due to ill health, physical disability or cognitive impairment
 - has a learning disability
 - has a physical disability and/or a sensory impairment
 - has mental health needs including dementia or a personality disorder
 - has a long-term illness/condition
 - misuses substances or alcohol
 - is a carer, such as a family member/friend, who provides personal assistance and care to adults and is subject to abuse
 - is unable to demonstrate the capacity to make a decision and is in need of care and support.

(This list is not exhaustive)

5 Signs of abuse

- 5.1 Staff will be able to recognise abuse. The main forms of abuse are divided into the following categories:
- **physical abuse** – including hitting, slapping, pushing, kicking, misuse of medication, restraint, inappropriate sanctions
 - **domestic violence or abuse** - any incident or pattern of incidents of controlling, coercive, threatening behaviour, violence or abuse between those who are, or

have been, intimate partners or family members regardless of gender or sexuality.

- **sexual abuse** – including rape, sexual assault, sexual acts to which a person has not consented, could not consent or was pressurised into consenting
- **psychological abuse** – including emotional abuse, threats of harm or abandonment, deprivation of contact, humiliation, blaming, controlling, intimidation, coercion, harassment, verbal abuse, isolation, withdrawal from services or supportive networks
- **financial or material abuse** – including theft, fraud, exploitation, pressure in connection with wills, property or inheritance or financial transactions, or the misuse or misappropriation of property, possessions or benefits
 - **modern slavery** – encompasses human trafficking, forced labour and domestic servitude
 - **discriminatory abuse** – including forms of harassment, slurs or similar treatment because of race, gender and gender identity, age, disability, sexual orientation, or religion
- **organisational abuse, or institutional abuse** - Including neglect and poor care practice within an institution or specific care setting such as a hospital or care home, or in relation to care provided in one's own home. It can be through neglect or poor professional practice as a result of the structure, policies, processes and practices within an organisation.
- **neglect and acts of omission** – including ignoring medical or physical care needs, failure to provide access to appropriate health, social care or educational services, the withholding of the necessities of life such as medication, adequate nutrition, and heating
 - **Self-neglect** - this covers a wide range of behaviour, neglecting to care for one's personal hygiene, health or surroundings and includes behaviour such as hoarding

5.2 Children, young people and adults at risk can be influenced by those who would seek to radicalise them. The City Corporation has a legal duty to work to prevent people from being drawn into terrorism. This “prevent duty” is led by the Safer City Partnership but safeguarding children and adults from the risk of radicalisation extends to all staff. As such all staff should recognise the risk of radicalisation as a safeguarding issue and respond to signs of this as they would to other abuse.

6. Legal Framework

6.1 The City Corporation's local authority functions mean that it has an overarching responsibility for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of all children and young people in its area. The law requiring this is set out under the 1989 and 2004 Children Acts and complemented government guidance included in Working Together to Safeguard Children (July 2018).

6.2 For adults at risk the Care Act 2014 as well as the Mental Capacity Act 2005 sets out a clear legal framework for how local authorities and other parts of the health and care

system should protect adults at risk of abuse or neglect. It includes a duty for the City Corporation to make enquiries, or request others to make them, when we think an adult with care and support needs may be at risk of abuse or neglect and they need to find out what action may be needed. The City Corporation is committed to Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) by developing a safeguarding culture that focuses on the personalised outcomes desired by people with care and support needs who may have been abused.

7 What this means for our work

7.1 In their day to day work, officers employed by City of London Corporation will endeavour to safeguard children and young people and adults at risk by:

- reporting in a timely way any concerns or suspicions that a child or young person, or an adult at risk is being or is at risk of being abused.
- always giving a high priority to actions to protect a child or an adult from abuse
- reporting without delay concerns or allegations
- ascertaining the wishes and feelings of children and adults at risk, valuing them, listening to and respecting them
- sharing information about safeguarding and good practice with children, parents, adults at risk, carers, staff and volunteers
- sharing information about concerns with agencies who need to know, and involving parents and children or adults at risk and carers appropriately
- providing effective management for staff and volunteers through supervision, support and training
- providing senior management commitment and accountability to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and of adults at risk
- being clear about the authority's responsibilities for safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk
- involving adults at risk, carers, children and young people and families in planning and developing services
- ensuring services for children and adults at risk are safe and accessible
- attending staff training and continuing professional development
- following safe recruitment, vetting procedures and responding to allegations against staff
- providing effective inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk
- reviewing our policy and good practice annually.

7.2 The City Corporation will support safeguarding work by ensuring all staff, Members and individuals, consultants and agencies contracted by the City Corporation:

- understand their legal and moral responsibility to protect children, young people and adults at risk from harm, abuse and exploitation

- have at least a basic understanding of child protection and adult safeguarding as part of their training and induction if they work directly with children and young people or with adults at risk
- understand their duty to report concerns that arise about a child or young person or adult at risk, or a member of staff's conduct towards a child/young person or adult at risk.

7.3 The City Corporation will ensure that any procedures relating to the conduct of staff are implemented in a consistent and equitable manner.

7.4 Safeguarding is delivered and achieved through good interagency and multi-disciplinary working within the City Corporation and with other organisations. Standards of practice in work with children, young people, adults at risk and their families or carers are regularly reviewed in line with relevant national Guidance.

7.5 Working effectively with partners and other agencies means:

- supporting the City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership and the Safeguarding Adults Board to carry out their duties in partnership with other local organisations
- commissioned organisations, including the voluntary sector, providing services to children, young people, adults at risk, their families or carers and to schools demonstrating standards of safeguarding compliant with those of the City Corporation, regional and national standards.
- information is shared efficiently and effectively in respect of issues that may affect the safety and welfare of children, young people or adults at risk.
- concerns are shared early in order to prevent any problems escalating.
- ensuring that the City Corporation has a network of departmental safeguarding leads who can act as trained and accessible safeguarding advocates to support staff to make alerts.

7.6 Schools located within the City of London boundaries are invited to participate in the Safeguarding Education Forum with the Assistant Director People regarding safeguarding issues. Statutory safeguarding responsibilities for academies outside the Square Mile rest with the relevant local authorities.

8 Responsibilities of individuals

8.1 The Director of Community and Children's Services is the designated person with overall responsibility for safeguarding of children, young people and adults.

8.2 All employees of City of London Corporation and elected Members are to:

- understand and apply this policy and procedure in their activities
- identify opportunities and undertake appropriate training to support them in their role
- act appropriately at all times and be able to challenge inappropriate behaviour in others

- be able to recognise harm
- know how to report any concerns in a timely and appropriate way.

8.3 In addition, Chief Officers, senior managers and Safeguarding Champions of the organisation should ensure they have sufficient oversight of the City Corporation's safeguarding responsibilities particular to their areas. They should ensure they:

- have a working knowledge of relevant legislation and guidance with respect to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk and how this applies to their department
- are responsible for communicating to all staff the importance of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults and that it is everybody's responsibility to do so
- hold managers within their department to account for the contribution of their services to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and adults at risk;
- have effective working relationships with other parts of the Corporation and with other agencies in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and adults at risk;
- report identified training needs of staff to managers with responsibility for staff training and offer opportunities to undertake appropriate safeguarding training
- that the policy and procedure is adhered to; and
- that all staff know how to access the whistle blowing procedures.
- Chief Officers will provide safeguarding assurance to the Director of Community and Children's Services every 6 months.

8.4 The responsibilities of the Safeguarding Champions are:

- to ensure that all staff in their department are aware of what they should do and who they should go to if they are concerned that a child/young person or adult at risk maybe subject to abuse or neglect
- ensure that any concerns about a child/young person or adult at risk are acted on clearly recorded, referred on where necessary and, followed up to ensure the issues are addressed
- to record any reported incidents in relation to a child/young person or adult at risk or breach of Safeguarding policies and procedures
- ensure staff in their areas know how to access the authority's local Safeguarding procedures
- ensure relevant staff access appropriate training if required
- ensure appropriate safeguarding procedures are in place within their specific setting that fit with this policy and the wider London Safeguarding Procedures
- act as an escalation point for Safeguarding issues or cases where the appropriate or perceived appropriate steps have not been taken and the risk remains
- ensure that staff have regard to safeguarding issues in their areas of work
- to be familiar with the contact details for safeguarding leads for adults and children in the City of London, or within the borough in which they operate.

9 Acting on concerns

9.1 If you are worried about:

- i. **a child or young person** who lives in the City of London call:

020 7332 3621 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm only)

Email: children.duty@cityoflondon.gov.uk

Or *outside office hours* (emergency only) call:

020 8356 2710

Email: emergency.duty@hackney.gov.uk

- ii. **an adult** who lives in the City of London call:

0207 332 1224 - Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm only

Email: adultsduty@cityoflondon.gov.uk.

020 8356 2300 - for all other times, including weekends and Bank Holidays

- iii. **an adult or a child or young person who lives outside of the City of London**

Staff working outside the Square Mile who have concerns need to liaise with the Local Authority safeguarding arrangements in that area. Unless there is immediate risk of harm which requires an immediate response (i.e calling 999 as indicated below), they should be liaising with the local Children and / or Adult Social Care Services. If they are unsure, they should liaise with their line manager, their Service area's Safeguarding Champion or they can seek advice from the Corporate Safeguarding Lead.

9.2 If you think a child, young person or adult is at risk of immediate harm call 999.

10 Responding to allegations made against professionals

10.1 Where an allegation is made in relation to a professional working with children or young people you must contact the Local Authorities Designated Officer (LADO) Pat Dixon. You can make a referral by emailing LADO@cityoflondon.gov.uk or phoning 07795 090649.

10.2 Where an allegation is made in relation to a professional working with adults at risk you must contact the lead professional for safeguarding adults – Ian Tweedie. You can make a referral by emailing ian.tweedie@cityoflondon.gov.uk or phoning 020 7332 3129.

10.3 Any suspected immediate risk to any child or children, or adult at risk should be responded to immediately and the case referred to the Children and Families Team or Adult Social Care team using the contact details given below.

11 Oversight and challenge

- 11.1 Support, coordination and challenge of the City Corporation's actions, services and responsibilities to safeguard are overseen by the independently chaired City and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership and City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board. Annual Children's Safeguarding Audits are undertaken where all local agencies and organisations who provide services to children and young people are asked to self-assess the extent to which they meet the safeguarding requirements and standards as set out in Section 11 of the Children Act 2004. Similarly the City Corporation also completes the London Safeguarding Adults Partnership Audit tool. Both of these have to demonstrate how the City Corporation discharges its safeguarding responsibilities across the whole organisation and agencies it works with.
- 11.2 Member oversight is provided by the City Corporation's Safeguarding Sub Committee.

Appendix 1: Safeguarding leads and key contacts

The Safeguarding Lead within City Corporation is the Assistant Director People.

Key contact numbers

Children's Social Care Services	0207 332 3621
Adult Social Care Services	0207 332 1224
Out of hours Children's Social Care	0208 356 2346; or 0208 356 2710
Out of hours Adult Social Care	020 8356 2300
Police Public Protection Unit	0207 601 2941 (or in an emergency 999)
NSPCC	0808 800 5000
Designated Officer (Allegations against a professional or someone working with children)	07795 090649

Appendix 2: Safeguarding Champions

Each department has its own Safeguarding Champion, who ensure sufficient oversight of the City Corporation's safeguarding responsibilities, including those outside of the local authority area and those which apply to its charitable elements:

Position	Department
<i>Under review</i>	Community and Children's Services
<i>Under review</i>	Town Clerk's
<i>Under review</i>	Comptrollers and City Solicitors
<i>Under review</i>	Chamberlains
<i>Under review</i>	City Bridge Trust
<i>Under review</i>	Culture, Heritage and Libraries
<i>Under review</i>	Open Spaces
<i>Under review</i>	Markets and Consumer Protection
<i>Under review</i>	City Surveyor's
<i>Under review</i>	Built Environment
<i>Under review</i>	Barbican Centre
<i>Under review</i>	City of London School for Girls
<i>Under review</i>	Guildhall School of Music & Drama
<i>Under review</i>	City of London School
<i>Under review</i>	City of London Freeman's School
<i>Under review</i>	City of London Police

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Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Introduction to Adult Safeguarding in the City of London	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Ian Tweedie, Head of Service, Adult Social Care	

Summary

This report outlines the legislative context for adult safeguarding, and sets out how the City of London fulfils its duties and responsibilities as a local authority to protect an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect. The statutory functions to make safeguarding enquires under the Care Act 2014 are conducted by qualified professionals within the Adult Social Care team. A multi-agency approach is adopted, which plays a central role in effective safeguarding. The City & Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board, led by an independent chair, provides oversight, strategic leadership and a forum for partnership working.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Care Act 2014 defines safeguarding as protecting an adult's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
2. As a local authority, the City of London has specific responsibilities for the safeguarding of any adult at risk within the local authority area, regardless of residence. An adult at risk is defined as any person who is aged 18 years or over and at risk of abuse or neglect because of their needs for care and/or support.
3. The Act identifies the following six principles of Safeguarding:
 - **Empowerment:** people being supported and encouraged to make their own decisions and informed consent.
 - **Prevention:** it is better to take action before harm occurs.
 - **Proportionality:** the least intrusive response appropriate to the risk presented.
 - **Protection:** support and representation for those in greatest need.

- **Partnership:** local solutions through services working with their communities. Communities have a part to play in preventing, detecting, and reporting neglect and abuse.
 - **Accountability** and transparency in safeguarding practice.
4. In addition, the Care Act introduced the Wellbeing principle which makes it clear that a local authority's duty is to ensure that the wellbeing of individuals must be at the centre of all it does.
 5. Making Safeguarding Personal (MSP) is a sector-led initiative about person-centred and outcome-focused practice. It is how professionals are assured by adults at risk that they have made a difference to people by taking action on what matters to people and is personal and meaningful to them.
 6. A list of key terminology is provided in Appendix 1.

Current Position

7. The Adult Social Care team follows the London Multi-Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures (a link to this is provided in the background papers section of the report). A multi-agency approach is vital to preventing and managing risk, and Adult Social Care works closely with internal and external partners.
8. There are approximately 60 safeguarding concerns raised each year. Each one is reviewed by a Safeguarding Adults Manager (SAM) who makes the decision on whether they meet the criteria for a Care Act Section 42 Safeguarding Enquiry. The SAM role is undertaken by the Deputy Team Manager or, in their absence, the Team Manager. The Head of Service is also a trained SAM.
9. All safeguarding enquiries are undertaken by a qualified Social Worker. There are four main grade Social Workers and one Senior Social Worker. Between them, they deal with 30 to 40 safeguarding enquiries per year.
10. For each enquiry there is an appointed SAM who oversees the enquiry, chairs multi-agency meetings, is responsible for decision-making, and provides guidance to the allocated Social Worker.
11. Homecare services have a central role to play in ensuring the safety of adults with care and support needs. Adult Social Care and Commissioning officers work closely with all providers to support and monitor their performance and ensure that service users' safety, needs and wishes, remain at their forefront of their own support.
12. Residential Care and Supported Living services are spot purchased outside of the City of London. Legislative Safeguarding responsibilities lie with the host local authority. Where City of London service users are affected, then Adult Social Care and Commissioning officers will work in partnership with the host local authority to engage with the enquiry, monitor the provision, and support the adult at risk as appropriate.

13. The Head of Adult Social Care chairs a Hoarding, Self-Neglect and Fire Risk Panel attended by Adult Social Care, Environmental Health, Housing, London Fire Brigade, along with representatives of other relevant agencies as appropriate. The panel provides a person-centred, timely and effective multi-agency response to situations where the person referred has been assessed at a high level of risk as a result of complex self-neglect, fire risk or other related high-risk issues.

Early Intervention and Prevention

14. Concerns that do not lead to formal enquiries may still have input from the Adult Social Care team via Social Work, Occupational Therapy, or from the Strengths-Based Practitioners, to reduce risk and improve wellbeing.

15. The aims of Occupational Therapy are to: maintain or increase levels of independence and the ability to carry out daily living tasks; and provide appropriate intervention that maintains the safety and wellbeing of a person, following illness or injury, or long-term physical conditions.

16. There are two qualified occupational therapists in the Adult Social Care team who, following assessment, provide equipment and/or adaptations, information, advice, and guidance to people, relevant to their circumstances, identified needs and desired outcomes, in order to promote and maximise their independence.

17. There are two Strengths-Based Practitioners in the team who work alongside the Occupational Therapy and Social Work personnel to provide early intervention. They carry out welfare checks on residents where potential safety issues have been identified, including after discharge from hospital. They can also support residents to regain independence and improve wellbeing by working with them to identify and progress short-term goals.

18. Providers commissioned by the City of London have an important role to play in prevention and early intervention. City Connections link people to health and wellbeing services in the Square Mile, including support to informal carers, while also providing the Care Navigator to support health engagement and hospital discharge functions.

The City & Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board

19. The City & Hackney Safeguarding Board is a multi-agency partnership that has a statutory function under the Care Act 2014. The board's main objective is to ensure that local safeguarding arrangements are in place and organisations safeguard adults at risk of abuse in City & Hackney. Dr Adi Cooper is the currently appointed Independent Chair of the Board.

20. Under the Care Act 2014, the board has three main duties:

- to publish a strategy, which tells people what our priorities are and how we will meet them

- to publish an annual report focusing on our achievements and how well we have implemented our strategy
- to conduct Safeguarding Adults Reviews where someone has died or suffered serious harm as a result of abuse or neglect.

21. The City of London is represented at the Board by the Assistant Director for People and the Head of Service for Adults. There is further officer engagement from Performance, Commissioning, Workforce Development and Adult Social Care

22. There is also a City of London specific subgroup of the board with engagement from relevant local partner agencies.

23. The Government has stated that safeguarding is everyone's business and produced information and guidance for people who may not have been trained to recognise the signs of abuse or neglect.

24. The Local Government Association has published additional resources and specific guidance for councillors.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

25. There are no strategic implications directly related to this report.

- Financial implications – N/A
- Resource implications – N/A
- Legal implications – N/A
- Risk implications – N/A
- Equalities implications – N/A
- Climate implications – N/A
- Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

26. Adult Social Care provides a lead role in a multi-agency approach to safeguarding adults at risk in the City of London. Safeguarding duties are delivered by appropriately trained and experienced professionals with oversight from the City & Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board. The adult and their wishes are kept at the centre of all safeguarding work.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Key Terminology

Background Papers

- [Safeguarding is Everybody's Business](#)
- [Must Know: How do you know your council is doing all it can to safeguard adults?](#)

- [Making Safeguarding Personal](#)
- [London Multi-Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures](#)

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Appendix 1

Introduction to Adult Safeguarding – Key Terminology

Adult at risk	A person aged 18 years or over who is in need of care and support (whether or not those needs are being met), who is experiencing, or at risk of, abuse or neglect, and because of those needs is unable to protect themselves against the abuse or neglect or the risk of it.
Adult safeguarding	Protecting a person's right to live in safety, free from abuse and neglect.
Adult safeguarding lead	The title given to the member of staff in an organisation who is given the lead for Safeguarding Adults.
Advocacy	Supporting a person to understand information, express their needs and wishes, secure their rights, represent their interests and obtain the care and support they need.
Best Interest	The Mental Capacity Act 2005 (MCA) states that if a person lacks mental capacity to make a particular decision, then whoever is making that decision or taking any action on that person's behalf must do so in the person's best interest. This is one of the principles of the MCA.
Commissioning	The cyclical activity, to assess the needs of local populations for care and support services, determining what element of this needs to be arranged by the respective organisations, then designing, delivering, monitoring and evaluating those services.
Concern	Describes when there is or might be an incident of abuse or neglect.
Enquiry	Establishes whether any action needs to be taken to stop or prevent abuse or neglect, and if so, what action and by whom the action is taken.
Enquiry Officer	The member of staff who undertakes and co-ordinates the actions under Section 42 (Care Act 2015) enquiries.
Enquiry Lead	The agency that leads the enquiry described above. Where the abuse/neglect takes place in another local authority area, the host local authority will undertake this role, e.g., if the adult at risk is in a care home.
Safeguarding Adult Manager (SAM)	The person who manages, makes decisions, provides guidance, and has oversight of safeguarding concerns that are raised to the local authority.

Adapted from the London Multi-Agency Adult Safeguarding Policy and Procedures.

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Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Liberty Protection Safeguards, Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1,2,3
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Ian Tweedie, Head of Service, Adult Social Care	

Summary

The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 has replaced the Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards (DoLS) with the Liberty Protection Safeguards. The safeguards are intended to ensure that people who lack the capacity to make decisions about their own care and treatment are not unlawfully deprived of their liberty. The amendment increases the scope of the safeguards to include people in community settings and is applicable to 16- and 17-year-olds as well as adults.

The Government postponed the implementation of the Liberty Protection Safeguards due to the COVID-19 pandemic and have yet to announce a new implementation date. A Liberty Protection Safeguarding Board has been set up to oversee the implementation for the City of London, and to engage with relevant external partners.

Recommendation

Members are asked to: Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Mental Capacity Act (2005) is designed to protect and empower people who may lack the mental capacity to make their own decisions about their care and treatment. It applies to people aged 16 years and over.
2. The DoLS were a 2007 amendment to the Mental Capacity Act, outlining a process aimed at ensuring that adults are not unlawfully deprived of their liberty.
3. The 2007 amendment applied only to adults aged 18 and over who are in residential homes, nursing homes or hospitals, and gave local authorities sole responsibility for authorising deprivations of liberty and ensuring that all relevant

assessments and safeguards are in place. It did not give a definition of what constitutes a deprivation of liberty.

4. A 2014 Supreme Court ruling provided case law which gave a much wider definition of a deprivation of liberty than local authorities had been working to. In her judgement, Lady Hale made the point that the quality of the care arrangements should not be confused with whether someone was being deprived of their liberty, stating 'a gilded cage is still a cage'.
5. The subsequent years saw an unprecedented year-on-year increase in requests for authorisations leading to many local authorities facing backlogs of cases and a substantial increase in costs. The City of London receive between 35 and 45 requests for authorisations each year, but have implemented processes and identified resources to meet the demand within timescales without a backlog of cases.
6. Concerns over the limitations of the amendments and pressure on the system nationally contributed to a Law Commission review of the DoLS which made recommendations to replace them with the retitled Liberty Protection Safeguards (LPS).
7. The Mental Capacity (Amendment) Act 2019 was drawn up from Law Commission recommendations, and was originally due to come into force on 1 October 2020. However, implementation was postponed due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Current Position

8. On 17 March 2022, the Government opened a 16-week public consultation on proposed changes to the Mental Capacity Act Code of Practice, including guidance on the new LPS. The Government is now considering the responses and the text of the Code will go back to Parliament for ratification. Following publication of the final Code of Practice, there will be a period of at least six months prior to implementation.
9. The LPS will bring in the following key changes:
 - It will apply to 16- and 17 year-olds as well as adults.
 - It will be applicable to community settings, such as people's own homes, in addition to residential homes and hospitals
 - A new role of Approved Mental Capacity Professional will be created, with local authorities responsible for their training, development, and procurement.
 - The 'commissioner or funder' of care will become the Responsible Body for authorising deprivations of liberty. This means that Hospital Trusts and

Clinical Commissioning Groups will become Responsible Bodies along with local authorities.

- Authorisations were previously up to 12 months, but can now exceed 12 months in certain defined circumstances.

10. The LPS do not include a definition of what constitutes a deprivation of liberty, therefore the Supreme Court 'acid test' remains the foremost legal guidance in this respect. The 'acid test' applies where a person lacks capacity to consent to their care arrangements and asks,

- Is the person free to leave?
- Is the person subject to complete or continuous supervision and control?

11. A project manager has been appointed to drive the implementation and to engage with wider partners including health agencies and other local authorities.

12. A City of London Liberty Protection Safeguards Board has been set up to oversee implementation of the legislation. The board has representation from Adult Social Care, Children's Social Care, Education and Early Years (including Special Educational Needs and Disabilities), and Commissioning. The LPS Board will report into the Transformation Programme Board which has been set up to oversee a wider programme of Adult Social Care reform.

13. The City and Hackney Safeguarding Adults Board have identified the LPS as a priority. The City of London are working with the board to support preparations across the safeguarding partnership.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. **Legal implications:** This is a legislative change crossing the services of Adult Social Care, Children and Families, Education and Early Years alongside commissioned providers. City of London will need to ensure that there is legislative compliance.

15. **Financial implications:** There is concern across the Adult Social Care sector that the implementation of LPS will lead to an increase in ongoing costs for local authorities due to the additional costs for 16- to 17-year-olds, independent hospitals, community authorisations, and the training, development, and procurement costs of Approved Mental Capacity Professionals.

16. **Risk implications:** An initial impact assessment for the City of London indicated that the City may not be subjected to the same level of increased costs as other local authorities are predicting. However, the detail in the Code of Practice, once published, will be key to informing a deeper understanding any financial implications. Risks will need to be viewed within the context of a wider body of Adult Social Care, including the Health and Care Act (2022) and the introduction of the Fair Cost of Care ('Care Cap').

17. Resource implications: N/A

18. Equalities implications: N/A

19. Climate implications: N/A

20. Security implications: N/A

Conclusion

21. As a local authority, the City of London has a responsibility to fulfil its legal requirements under the new legislation. The City of London will be working with partners to ensure that arrangements are in place to safeguard residents and service users. There is high confidence that the City of London is currently well placed to implement legislation within timescales, although the Government publication of the Code of Practice remains integral to implementation timescales.

Appendices

- None

Background Papers

- [Mental Capacity \(Amendment\) Act 2019](#)

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Committee:	Dated:
Community and Children’s Services Safeguarding Sub Committee	10/10/2022
Subject: Working Together to Improve School Attendance	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	- Contributing to a flourishing society - People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	Yes
What is the source of Funding?	The Dedicated Schools Grant
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	The Dedicated Schools Grant – High Needs Block
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theresa Shortland, Head of Service – Education and Early Years • Kirstie Hilton – Lead Advisor, Universal Education Services 	

Summary

- The Department for Education (DfE) published new guidance in May 2022 for maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities. *Working together to improve school attendance* comes into effect from September 2022 and becomes statutory from September 2023. The purpose of the guidance is to help maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities to work together to maintain high levels of attendance. Each plays an essential and different role, which will need to work collectively to improve attendance.
- The purpose of this report is to inform Members of the plans by the City of London’s Education and Early Years Service to respond to new guidance and meet the needs of our statutory school cohort and schools by working together to improve school attendance.
- It is recognised that local authorities will need time to transition to implement the new statutory guidance in the academic year 2022–2023, so the guidance

is non-statutory until September 2023. The guidance outlines the requirement for local authorities to develop a School Attendance Support Team.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The City of London has one maintained primary school and no maintained secondary schools. There are four independent schools and one independent college (David Game College). Most children attending these schools are non-City residents. Most of the City of London's primary-age children and all secondary-age children in the maintained sector are educated either in the independent sector or outside the City of London altogether.
2. The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure that their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances, such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.
3. It is essential for pupils to get the most out of their school experience, including their attainment, wellbeing, and wider life chances. The pupils with the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2 (Year 6) and key stage 4 (Year 11) have higher rates of attendance over the key stage compared to those with the lowest attainment. For the most vulnerable pupils, regular attendance is also an important protective factor and the best opportunity for needs to be identified and support provided.
4. Where barriers to attendance for a pupil or family are complex and signposting to services is not sufficient, the City of London, schools and other services will continue to work together to provide more intensive whole family support to address those barriers. A clear pathway on ensuring that a collaborative approach takes place will be agreed with schools. All multi-disciplinary support will be co-ordinated using existing Early Help structures. For children resident in the City of London, a referral will be made to the City of London Early Help team. For children attending schools in the City of London but residing in other areas, then the Education Welfare Officer (EWO) will be responsible for facilitating referrals to other local authorities.

Persistent Absenteeism

5. Persistent Absenteeism (PA) (when a child's attendance falls below 90%), has always been a challenge within schools. However, COVID-19 has exacerbated the situation, resulting in an increase in the number of children with growing absence concerns. In February 2022, a report submitted to this Committee highlighted that

there are some pupils who are experiencing social, emotional and mental health difficulties, which are resulting in emotional-based avoidance. This is especially apparent in the secondary schools, resulting in persistent absenteeism.

Current Position

Education Welfare

6. The Education and Early Years' Service has an embedded Education Welfare Service (EWS), which has been responding to the needs of our pupil cohort at risk of exclusion or low attendance for over 10 years. Over the years we have built up an excellent working relationship with all of our educational settings.
7. The EWS also works with City resident children and families when required, even if the children attend schools outside of the local area. These families must be known to the children's social care and Early Help team to access this support. Most City resident children attend school outside of the local area, which requires us to be more aware of any activity that may be of concern and have an impact on educational outcomes.
8. Over the last couple of years, in response to a growing need for more individual casework, the number of children that the EWS has worked with has increased significantly: between 2019 and 2022 the number increased by 150%. This figure includes direct case work with children resident in the City of London but attending school outside of the City, as well as non-resident children attending City of London Schools. The EWO remains pivotal in working with families to ensure that cross-borough working is achieved, and that any issues resulting in low attendance are addressed.

Increase in demand pre & post COVID-19 for EWO cases				
Year	2019	2020	2021	2022 Only half a year to date.
EWO cases	13	20	27	33

9. Following the publication of the new guidance in May 2022, the EWS began to review relevant policies and processes and respond to an increase in demand and the complexity of current cases.
10. The Education and Early Years' Service works closely with the City schools, the Children's Social Care and Early Help team and the Virtual School Head to ensure positive outcomes for children. On a strategic level this includes regular attendance at the Education Safeguarding Forum; on a more operational level, the EWS attends Child in Need and Child Protection meetings and attendance at Team Around the Family meetings for children with an Early Help Worker.
11. The induction for new staff working in People's Directorate includes a meeting with officers within the education team, so that staff understand the importance of school absence as a symptom of wider need, and the benefits of improving attendance to achieve effective outcomes for the whole family. The new guidance makes it clear that school attendance is everyone's business.

The Aldgate School

12. The Aldgate School is the one maintained primary school in the City, with 240 children on school roll. The school has historically been very proactive in addressing any persistent absence issues, and their latest PA level is below the national average at 9.9%. In May 2022, the Government produced its latest statistical release on persistent absence on a national level in the Autumn term 2021. It concluded that 23.5% of pupils were persistently absent during the autumn term 2021. Similar to other schools, there has been an increase in the number of children experiencing social, emotional and mental health difficulties, which are resulting in emotional-based avoidance.
13. The Aldgate School has revised their attendance policy to include a more robust system of addressing persistent absence in the form of penalty notices. Penalty notices have not been issued previously. However, in response to the growing concern about PA, the Education and Early Years' Service also revised its Code of Conduct Policy, which supports the school's decision to issue a penalty notices and fines a parent for:
- children whose attendance is poor
 - children who have been taken on an unauthorised term time holiday
 - where the pupil is present in a public place during the first five days in the cases of exclusion.

New Statutory Guidance

14. The DfE Guidance *Working together to improve school attendance* published in May 2022 is currently non-statutory guidance that has been produced to help schools, trusts, governing bodies, and local authorities maintain high levels of school attendance. This new guidance sits alongside other current statutory guidance on parental responsibility measures, children missing education, supporting pupils with medical conditions at school, suspensions and exclusions, alternative provision, and safeguarding.
15. It is recognised that local authorities will need time to transition to implement the new statutory guidance in the academic year 2022–2023, so the guidance is non-statutory until September 2023. The guidance outlines the requirement for local authorities to develop a School Attendance Support team. They will be expected to track local school attendance data and devise a strategic approach to school attendance that prioritises the pupils, pupil cohorts and schools. This offer should be available to all schools, free of charge (and free from any service level agreement) by no later than September 2023. These teams will hold termly conversations with schools, using their attendance data to identify pupils and cohorts at risk of poor attendance, and agree targeted actions and access to services for those pupils.
16. The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a

school. Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances, such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.

Within the context of this new guidance, The City of London will be expected to develop a strategic approach to school attendance, so that all relevant services recognise its importance. This includes how attendance improvement is everyone's business (including all frontline council services), especially access to education services, Early Help, statutory social care, and the Virtual School. The statutory guidance also refers to the expectation to provide access to Early Help support workers to work intensively with families to provide practical whole-family support where needed to tackle the causes of absenteeism and unblock the barriers to attendance. It also refers to the work of the Virtual Head.

Virtual School

17. The City of London Virtual Head teacher promotes the education of all children with a social worker as set out in the June 2021 guidance, *'Promoting the Education of Children with a Social Worker, Virtual School Head Role Extension'* (DfE. 2021). The purpose of the role is to oversee the education, training and employment opportunities provided to all children who have been assessed as needing or previously needing a social worker within the past 6 years due to safeguarding and/or welfare reasons. It includes all children aged 0 to 18 across all education settings subject to a CiN plan or a Child Protection plan. This cohort has been identified as a group of children who face significant barriers to education as a result of experiences of adversity, most commonly abuse and neglect.

Future Priorities

18. In light of the new statutory basis, the City will need to develop a sustainable approach to managing school attendance, and will need to expand the current support provided to schools. Over the next year, the Education and Early Years' Service will ensure that the measures are put in place to meet the statutory guidance required for September 2023, and continue to support schools and partners to work with pupils and parents to remove any barriers to attendance by building strong and trusting relationships and working together to put the right support in place.
19. The Aldgate School has anticipated possible attendance issues by ensuring that families receive more information about the importance of good attendance through their regular newsletter. Work has also been taking place with the families of preschool and nursery-aged children to encourage better time-keeping in preparation for the children starting in Reception.
20. The new DfE guidance promotes **three** key priorities, which include the following:
 - Tracking local attendance data
 - School attendance support team
 - Targeting support meetings.

21. To fully understand the local and national patterns and trends, benchmarking against neighbouring local authorities will take place. This will enable a greater understanding of how the City of London attendance figures compare regionally and nationally. Regular reports will be submitted to this Committee to ensure that Members are aware of progress.
22. The City of London currently has an Education team, which includes a Lead Advisor, Universal Education Services, Admissions and Attendance Manager and Education Welfare Officer, all of whom respond to the needs of pupils either residing or attending school in the City of London. The EWO will act as the point of contact for all schools.
23. The new guidance includes the requirement to establish a School Attendance Support team by September 2023. The work being carried out by the Education Team currently reflects much of the work the School Attendance Support team will need to do when the guidance becomes statutory from September 2023. Over the course of the year, we will review this and establish the School Attendance Support team by the end of the Spring Term 2023.
24. A new Head of the Virtual School for Children with a Social Worker took up post in the City of London in September 2022. They will be responsible for:
- regularly monitoring the attendance of children with a social worker in the City of London area, including those looked-after by the local authority
 - setting aspirational targets for attendance of pupils with a social worker living in the City of London, and put in place personal education plans for looked-after children
 - providing training for designated teachers about their role in promoting the attendance of children who have ever needed a social worker
 - securing regular attendance of looked-after children as their corporate parent and provide advice and guidance about the importance of attendance to those services supporting pupils who were previously looked after
 - working across children's social care services to make sure all social workers recognise the importance of good school attendance, and that attendance is built into every Child in Need or Child Protection Plan where attendance is a concern.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

25. **Strategic implications** – Corporate outcome: Contribute to a flourishing society by ensuring that people have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
26. **Resource implications** – There is an Education team that manages attendance and case management work. The Guidance says the offer of support to schools should be free of charges to them. It is likely that the funding for extending this role of the EWS will be via the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) although so has been a commissioned as a consultancy. The funding may be required for the Local risk budget. The EWS service is currently a commissioned service. This may need to be

reviewed so there is a sustainable service by recruiting a post within the COL Education & early Years Team structure.

27. **Financial implications** The resources required to meet the increase in demand for the EWS and to meet the new duties will be considered. It is yet unknown if the DfE will provide additional funding to local authorities to meet the new guidance by September 2023.
28. **Legal implications** – There is a statutory duty to ensure that all children attend school regularly and that the City of London ensures that all children have a school place.
29. **Risk implications** – There is a reputational risk if the City do not comply to the guidance. The plans to establish a School Attendance Support Team mitigate this risk and build on the current work of the Education Welfare Service.
30. **Equalities implications** – All children have the right to an education.
31. **Climate implications** – N/A
32. **Security implications** –

Conclusion

33. The DfE guidance *Working together to improve school attendance* published in May 2022 is currently non-statutory guidance that has been produced to help schools, trusts, governing bodies, and local authorities maintain high levels of schools attendance. The City of London has revised their policies to ensure that we are working to the new guidance.
34. The new guidance includes the requirement to establish a School Attendance Support team by September 2023. The work currently underway reflects much of the work the School Attendance Support team will need to do when the guidance becomes statutory in September 2023. We will review this and establish the School Attendance Support Team by the time the end of the Spring Term 2023.

Appendices

Background Papers

References to DfE documents:

a. *Working together to improve school attendance: Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities.*

Published: May 2022.

Applies from: September 2022

[Working together to improve school attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

This is guidance from the DfE. This guidance is non-statutory, and has been produced to help schools, trusts, governing bodies, and local authorities maintain high levels of school attendance. Following public consultation earlier this year, and subject to Parliament, the Secretary of State has committed to this guidance becoming statutory when parliamentary time allows (this will be no sooner than September 2023).

b. Summary table of responsibilities for school attendance: Guidance for maintained schools, academies, independent schools, and local authorities.

Published: May 2022

Applies from: September 2022

[Summary table of responsibilities for school attendance \(publishing.service.gov.uk\)](https://publishing.service.gov.uk)

This document summarises the attendance responsibilities for parents, schools, academy trusts and governing bodies, and local authorities that are outlined in *Working together to improve school attendance*.

c. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/virtual-school-head-role-extension-to-children-with-a-social-worker>

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Agenda Item 12

Committee:	Dated: 10/10/2022
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	
Subject: Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) – Update Report	Public
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<p>Contribute to a flourishing society</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. People are safe and feel safe 2. People enjoy good health and wellbeing. 3. People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential. <p>Support a thriving economy</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. We have access to the skills and talent we need.
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report authors: Theresa Shortland, Head of Service – Education and Early Years Sharon Cushnie, Lead SEND Advisor – Education and Early Years Sarah Moore, EHC Caseworker and SEND Transport Manager – Education and Early Years	

Summary

- The City of London’s Special Education Needs and Disability (SEND) Strategy 2020–24 sets out three key outcomes to be achieved by 2024. This report provides an update on the progress in implementing the second key outcome, which is to ensure that all children and young people with SEND are well-prepared for and have successful transitions to adulthood.

- The Department for Education (DfE) has published a number of changes to the legislation and guidance, including through consultations, that impact on the support that children and young people with SEND receive for their education. The two main consultations have been the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper – *SEND review: right support, right place, right time* (published March 2022) – and the Schools White Paper – *Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child* (published March 2022), now the Schools Bill (May 2022).
- In June 2022, consultations were also published on reviews of education, health and care (EHC) plans: proposed timescales, and on proposals for a revised OFSTED and Care Quality Commission (CQC) local area inspection framework.
- This report also informs Members of how we are responding to these consultations, and of the potential impact of these changes on City of London (COL) children and young people with SEND.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The COL's SEND Strategy 2020–24 presents the City's aspirations. The three key outcomes in the SEND Strategy are:
 - i. We have a robust and inclusive multi-agency approach to identifying, assessing and meeting the needs of children and young people with SEND.
 - ii. All children and young people with SEND are well-prepared for and have successful transitions to adulthood.
 - iii. Children and young people with SEND are integral and valued members of the City of London community.
2. A self-evaluation form (SEF) and action plan are in place to plan and track the progress of outcomes. These are monitored by the SEND Programme Board.
3. This report provides Members with an update on the progress towards the second priority area, following the completion in July 2022, of the year-run multi-agency SEND Transitions Task and Finish Group.

The SEND Transitions Task and Finish Group

4. In July 2021, a Task and Finish Group was set up by the Education and Early Years Service to focus on and make some improvements in key areas that will support how the COL prepares children and young people with SEND for adult life from the earliest years. The SEND Code of Practice (2015) details that preparation for adult life should include a focus on: further education, training, and employment; living

independently; being included within the local community; and being healthy. To ensure that the group was able to progress these four key areas, it was arranged as a multi-agency group which included the Education & Early Years Team, Children's Social Care and Early Help, Adult's Social Care, health, schools, colleges, housing, SEND Information, Advice and Support Service (SENDIASS), City Parent Carer Forum representatives, young people, and commissioning.

5. The group monitored the progress towards the areas of work within an agreed action plan, which included:
 - The development of a 'Steps to Adulthood' pathways guidance document for parents, carers, and young people with SEND to provide a range of accessible information on preparing young people with SEND for adult life. (See Appendix 1.)
 - Reviewed and updated EHC and SEND documentation and forms, in line with this work.
 - A Preparation for Adulthood Hub, which is live on the SEND local offer website, and which will continue to be developed.
 - Early Years SENCO Level 3 Training, documentation and guidance, reviewed and updated to include how to prepare children with SEND for adult life from the early years.
 - An audit tool developed by the Council for Disabled Children for local authorities was completed by Education, Health and Social Care and used as a form of quality assurance to judge their effectiveness.
 - A new youth service has been commissioned that will provide a range of social activities within the local area that are accessible for children and young people with SEND.
 - The COL's housing policy has been reviewed and now includes young people with SEND as a priority group for housing allocation. Guidance has been developed for parents' carers and young people with SEND on how to apply for housing, and the different options available.
 - The offer of independent travel training, through the EHC annual review process, for all young people with SEND from the earliest appropriate age.
 - A 'Ready, Set, Launch' transition model from children's to adult's health services has continued to be developed and a consistent approach is applied across the COL and Hackney and Tower Hamlets Integrated Care Board (ICB), to ensure that the model will apply similarly for all COL residents.
 - A sports programme at Golden Lane Leisure Centre has been commissioned. This provides children and young people with SEND with access to a range of sporting facilities and clubs and has been actively taken up and well received by many children and young people with SEND in the COL.

6. For children and young people with SEND, the Task and Finish Group has meant a refocus across the different service areas on ensuring that we are planning for adult life. While aspirations are discussed in the Early Years, formally including this in writing will further ensure the effectiveness of planning for children with SEND.
7. The work that has been undertaken by the Task and Finish Group will ensure good outcomes for young people as they become adults, and also prepare the COL for the proposed new inspection framework. The focus will not so much be on the processes in place and how the COL is meeting the statutory obligations, but more on the impact that our partnership arrangements are having on the lives of children and young people.

Future work in this area

8. We will continue to develop and monitor this key strategy outcome to ensure that children and young people with SEND are well prepared for, and have successful transitions, to adulthood. Future work includes a focus on the development of an offer that supports young people with SEND into employment. The initial plan is for the Adult Skills and Education Service to scope out an approach to this work by identifying the gaps in this area and creating a plan that supports young people to have effective pathways into securing paid employment.
9. There is work to be done with the Adult Education and Skills Service to develop the pathways and offer within the COL for further education, training, and employment opportunities for young people with SEND. For children and young people with SEND, it is essential that information, support, and guidance starts from age 14 and over, when they are in national curriculum Year 9. Adult Services must join in these conversations at the earliest opportunity to ensure that young people are on the correct and appropriate pathway into securing the most appropriate further education, training, or employment opportunities.

The SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper

10. The SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper – *SEND review: right support, right place, right time* was published in March 2022 for consultation. The Education and Early Years' Service arranged an event with key partners across education (including representatives from schools outside the local area which are attended by COL children and young people with EHC plans), health, social care (children's and adult's) representatives from the City Parent Carer Forum, SENDIASS), commissioning, policy, and the homeless services, with 30 people participating to draft the COL's response to the consultation. The COL's response represents the views of these partners.
11. In the main, partners welcomed the proposals and considered that these would go some way to realising the Government's visions of offering "children and young people the opportunity to thrive, with access to the right support, in the right place, and at the right time, so they can fulfil their potential and lead happy, healthy and productive adult lives".
12. The proposals were considered in the context of the COL, where the majority of children and young people are educated outside of the local area. Points raised included that, in considering national standards and SEND partnerships, it is

necessary to ensure that: there are effective mechanisms for data sharing; there are good communication systems between partners; information is accessible for all; and that the voices of families are heard. We must build on what is working well, and ensure training is available for all partners.

13. The SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper was also considered in the light of the Schools White Paper – *Opportunity for all: strong schools with great teachers for your child* (published March 2022), now the Schools Bill (May 2022), and the COL voiced its concerns regarding the tensions that exist between the targets in the Green Paper for inclusion of children and young people with SEND in mainstream schools, and the target set in the White Paper for 90% of primary school children to achieve the expected standard in Key Stage 2 reading, writing and maths by 2030. The COL's concern is that this is an unrealistic target which will lead to some mainstream schools not wanting to accept children with SEND.
14. The COL's response to the consultation on the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper is provided at Appendix 2.
15. The COL has also responded to a consultation on the annual review of EHC plans and proposed timescales. Views were being sought on the deadline for LAs in issuing proposals to amend an EHC plan following an annual review and the timescales for requesting information to inform the review. The COL did not have any objections to the proposals as, if these are implemented, they will bring further clarity to the annual review process.
16. The final consultation, which we would like to draw Members' attention to, is the consultation on the proposals for a revised OFSTED and CQC local area inspection framework.
17. The current framework looks at how effective local area partnerships are at identifying, assessing, and meeting the special educational needs of children and young people with SEND. The new framework will focus on the experiences and outcomes for children and young people and the impact on their lives. The voices of the children and young people will therefore be central to these inspections.
18. To strengthen accountability, the new framework will introduce an ongoing cycle of inspection outcomes. There are three potential inspection outcomes proposed in the document – *A new approach to area SEND inspections: consultation document* These are:
 1. *The local area partnership's SEND arrangements typically lead to positive experiences and outcomes for children and young people.*
 - *The next area SEND inspection will be within approximately 5 years.*
 - *Ofsted and the CQC ask that the local area partnership updates and publishes its strategic planning based on the recommendations set out in this report.*
 2. *The local area partnership's SEND arrangements lead to inconsistent experiences and outcomes for children and young people; the local area partners must work jointly to make improvements.*
 - *The next area SEND inspection will be within approximately 3 years.*

- *Ofsted and the CQC ask that the local area partnership updates and publishes its strategic planning based on the recommendations set out in this report.*
3. *There are widespread and/or systemic failings leading to significant concerns about the experiences and outcomes of children and young people with SEND, which the local area partnership must address urgently.*
- *A monitoring inspection will be carried out within approximately 18 months; the next full inspection will be within approximately 3 years.*
 - *Her Majesty's Chief Inspector requires the local area partnership to prepare and submit a priority action plan (area SEND) to address the identified areas for priority action.*
19. Other areas to note in the proposals are that inspection teams will now include inspectors from social care, so the inspection team will comprise inspectors from education, health and care.
20. In line with the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper, inspections will also focus on children in alternative provision – the majority of whom have SEND – by evaluating how LAs commission, use and oversee alternative provision.

Areas/proposals from the green paper and other consultations, which we will be progressing

21. We are preparing to develop some areas outlined in the consultations and considering the following:
- Further developing local SEND partnerships by having discussions with SEND Leads and Directors in neighbouring LAs regarding a local inclusion plan.
 - Discussion with neighbouring LAs opportunities for joint commissioning services and investigating low incidence joint commissioning.
 - Undertaking visits to educational settings, which host COL children and young people with EHC plans, to undertake a quality assurance of provision. The last visits were June/July 2021. The next visits are to be undertaken during this academic year, with a focus on gathering information on SEND support.
 - Building on previous and current work around the co-production working group with the City Parent Carer Forum, to ensure that the views of parents and children and young people continue to be at the heart of what we do. This will build on the existing meetings run by City Parent Carer Forum, Contact, SENDIASS and LA officers.
 - Reviewing the Local Offer in light of suggestions made in the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper.
 - Considering how we may have an 'expert by experience' representative on the SEND panel and across other board meetings.
 - Discussing with the City GP the notion of annual health checks from the point of diagnosis, not just at the age of 14.

- Discussing with the Special Educational Needs and Disability Co-ordinator (SENDCO) Forum the suggestion of improving the current SENDCO mandatory qualification.
- The roll out of the SEND Ranges (descriptors which provide a core framework for all professionals working with children and young people with SEND), will provide a good forum to discuss funding and the provision that is ordinarily available in schools.
- Ensuring regular visits to The Aldgate School, building on the SEND Review undertaken in the spring term 2022.
- There will be opportunities for Health colleagues with the development of the ICB's to address where the gaps are in provision and what is working well.
- Working with Commissioning around Alternative Provision for COL children and young people.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

22. **Strategic implications** – Corporate outcome: Contribute to a flourishing society by ensuring that children and young people with SEND and their families have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
23. **Resource implications** – The SEND functions are resourced through the Dedicated Schools Grant – High Needs Block.
24. **Financial implications** – The SEND functions are resourced through the Dedicated Schools Grant – High Needs Block.
25. **Legal implications** – The duties on local areas regarding provision for children and young people with SEND are contained in the Children and Families Act 2014. This legislation sits in the context of the Equality Act 2010. The Ofsted/CQC Inspection Framework sets out the legal basis and the principles of inspection.
26. **Risk implications** – If children's SEND issues are not identified early, assessed and supported, this will impact on their educational attainment, progress and wider lifetime chances.
27. **Equalities implications** – All children and young people, regardless of their special educational needs or disabilities, will be part of a community where they can learn, achieve and participate in activities with other children and young people, and will be prepared to have a fulfilled adult life.
28. **Climate implications** – N/A
29. **Security implications** – N/A

Conclusion

30. The SEND Service continues to implement the SEND Strategy to achieve the outcomes by 2024. Over the academic year 2022–23, this work will be informed by the Government’s vision for children and young people, as set out in the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper, the Schools Bill, and the proposed new SEND local area inspection framework. This should help us prepare for the SEND local area inspection under the new framework, which is due to be implemented in 2023.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Steps to Adulthood Guide
- Appendix 2 – The COL’s Response to the SEND and Alternative Provision Green Paper

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Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO), Annual Report for 2021–2022	COVER REPORT: PUBLIC APPENDIX: NON-PUBLIC
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2, 3, 4
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: Ria Lane, Independent Reviewing Officer, Safeguarding team	

Summary

This report gives Members an overview of the independent reviewing service in the City of London covered in the Independent Reviewing Officer (IRO) annual report for 2021–2022.

The report summarizes the statutory requirements of the IRO service and how the City of London has performed in this regard. There is an overview of the IRO role and their performance in ensuring that children’s key needs are met. Strengths of last year’s practice and areas of development for 2022–2023 are identified.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

1. The IRO service is set within the framework of the updated IRO Handbook, linked to the revised Care Planning Regulations and Guidance that were introduced in April 2011. The responsibility of the IRO has changed from the management of the review process to a wider overview of the case, including regular monitoring and follow-up between reviews. The IRO has a key role in relation to the improvement of care planning for children in care and for challenging milestone drift and delay. Specifically, the statutory duties of the IRO are to:

- monitor the performance by the local authority of their functions in relation to the child's case
 - participate in any review of the child's case
 - ensure that any ascertained wishes and feelings of the child concerning the case are given due consideration by the authority.
2. The IRO's primary task is to ensure that the care plan for the child fully reflects the child's current needs, and that the actions set out in the plan are consistent with the local authority's legal responsibilities towards the child. As corporate parents, each local authority should act as a responsible and conscientious parent for the children they look after.

Current Position

3. A permanent IRO has been in post since September 2017.

The achievements identified within the annual report for 2021–2022 are:

- Consistent participation of children in their review meetings
 - Increase in IRO visits
 - Active monitoring of children's care plans and needs between review periods. This helps to prevent actions stalling, meaning the looked-after children cohort continue to have their needs met and feel supported
 - Embedding the use of the independent skills checklist. This has been a key area of focus for the IRO service and is prioritised when reviewing their pathway plan. This helps to identify any gaps in young people's skills and helps them to be more prepared when they start to live independently
 - Review minutes, contacts and alerts recorded on children's files within the online record system workflow
 - The promotion of the Children's Right services, resulting in a significant rise and consistent use of advocacy and independent visiting service. This helps to increase the level of support for our looked-after children and gives them access to social opportunities
 - The continuation of review meetings between the IRO, Virtual School Head and Children Looked After Designated Nurse
 - Second IRO in post, focusing on needs of care leavers.
4. In addition to direct work with children and the local authority, the IRO takes part in the London IRO Practitioner Network and serves as a practitioner representative to the London IRO Managers' Group. Engagement in these pan-London groups facilitates the IRO's access to information and the experience of colleagues from larger authorities. It also ensures that the experience and needs of the City's children in care are represented in forums that have the potential to influence the direction of practice and statutory guidance about the services and support they receive.

5. The IRO service has been alert to safeguarding issues for children in care and aims to build safety and stability according to the needs of each child. The service will continue to monitor care plans closely to include actions that address the known risks of all forms of exploitation.

6. The IRO identifies the following areas of improvement and an action plan has been put in place to address them.

Objective	Actions
Implement the new care/pathway plan document and process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that the care/pathway plan process is implemented across the service • Support children’s team to increase the completion rate of initial care plans
Continue to develop the Looked-after Children (LAC) review process to make it inclusive for children and ensure that anti-racism policies are embedded within the service	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the systemic model and assess how this can be developed in the LAC review process • Ensure that all looked-after children are aware of their rights, and that service providers operate a consistent anti-racist policy.
Continue to monitor and flag health assessment timescales	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hold monthly meetings with Health managers to ensure that LAC health assessments are being completed within timescales.
Consideration for new ways to communicate with children in LAC reviews	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use of documents in teams • Sharing photos in LAC reviews of children’s achievements • Use of portable projector in face-to-face meetings to aid discussions.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. There are no strategic implications directly related to this report.
 - Financial implications – N/A
 - Resource implications – N/A
 - Legal implications – N/A
 - Risk implications – N/A
 - Equalities implications – N/A
 - Climate implications – N/A
 - Security implications – N/A

8. Conclusion

The IRO service has made significant contributions to quality assuring and improving services for children in care throughout 2021–2022. The monitoring and challenge functions of the role have been strengthened, and the IRO's knowledge of and relationship with the children in care is a positive feature of the service. The planned focus for 2021–2022 was implementing the new format of the care and pathway plans. The new format has been achieved and the key priority for 2022–2023 is to embed this change in the service.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – City of London Independent Reviewing Officer Annual Report 2021–2022

Ria Lane

Independent Reviewing Officer

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Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	10/10/2022
Subject: Adult Social Care Safeguarding Performance Report Q1 2022/23	Public Appendix 1 (Non-public)
Which outcomes in the City Corporation's Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2 and 3
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain's Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children's Services	For Information
Report author: Ellie Ward, Head of Strategy and Performance	

Summary

This report updates Members on safeguarding performance across the Adult Social Care Service.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Adult Social Care Service at the City of London Corporation provides a range of services, including safeguarding.
2. The service collects and monitors a range of performance information to ensure that statutory duties are being met, and that services are delivering the best possible outcomes for people.
3. Appendix 1 presents the safeguarding performance dashboard for Q1 2022/23. It provides a range of detailed information in different areas of safeguarding.

Current Position

4. Overall, performance across the service is good, meeting a range of statutory requirements and local targets.
5. It should be noted that, due to small numbers in cohorts in the City of London Corporation, there can sometimes be significant variance in out-turns. These are noted where this is an issue.
6. Appendix 1 includes a summary and some of the headlines from the Q1 data.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

7. Financial implications – N/A
8. Resource implications – N/A
9. Legal implications – N/A
10. Risk implications – N/A
11. Equalities implications – Monitoring intelligence on all of our social care processes and associated demographics allows us to assess and then investigate if there are any unintended impacts of any processes or practices.
12. Climate implications – N/A
13. Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

14. This report provides a summary of performance data from the Adult Social Care Service in relation to safeguarding for Q1 2022/23, comparing it to performance from the previous quarter or year, and other benchmarks where appropriate.
15. It demonstrates strong performance across this area of the service.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Adult Social Care safeguarding Performance Dashboard Q1 2022/23 (Non-Public)

Ellie Ward

Head of Strategy and Performance

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Committee:	Dated:
Safeguarding Sub-Committee	10/10/2022
Subject: Children and Families Service Performance – Month 4 2022/23 (July 2022)	Public Appendix 1 (Non-public) Appendix 2 (Public)
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	1, 2 and 3
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	No
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: Ellie Ward, Head of Strategy and Performance	

Summary

This report updates Members on service performance across the Children and Families Service. It demonstrates where performance meets our statutory obligations and targets and identifies where action was taken for improvement in specific areas.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Children and Families Service at the City of London Corporation provides a range of services including Early Help, child protection, and supporting care leavers.

2. The service collects and monitors a range of performance information to ensure that statutory duties are being met, and that services are delivering the best possible outcomes for children, young people and families.
3. Appendix 1 presents the performance dashboard from 1 April to 31 July (month 4 – July) 2022/23. It provides an overall summary of performance in each of the service areas and more detailed information in each area.
4. Appendix 2 provides a glossary of some of the terms used in the performance dashboard.

Current Position

5. Overall, performance across the service is good, meeting a range of statutory requirements and local targets, and comparing well with regional or national benchmarks.
6. It should be noted that, due to small numbers in children's services cohorts in the City of London Corporation, there can sometimes be significant variance in out-turns. These are noted where this is an issue.

Headlines

7. Demand continues to be high and currently increasing. During the first quarter (Q1) of 2022/23 there were 196 contacts compared to 160 at the end of Q3 and 135 in Q4 of 2021/22. In July there were 56 contacts, in keeping with the trend. Overall there have been 252 contacts during this financial year (2022/23) compared to 551 overall for the full year 2021/22. This suggests that, overall, the rate of contacts could be higher for this year than last.
8. The number of Children in Need has also continued to increase from 18 at the end of the financial year 2021/22 to 22 at the end of Q1 in 2022/23.
9. The number of children looked after (CLA) by the City of London Corporation decreased over the quarters in 2021/22 (from 19 at the end of Q1 to 12 at the end of the financial year). Since then, numbers have been fairly constant and, at the end of July 2022, there were 13 CLA. Of these, 77% were Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Children (UASC).
10. The Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH) recorded four contacts in July 2022, with 7% of the 56 contacts received at the front door. For the year to date, nine of the 252 contacts (4%) had passed through the MASH.
11. There were 30 Early Help referrals in Q1 of 2022/23. In July there were seven referrals. June saw a particularly high rate of 24.2. Year to date there have been 37 Early Help referrals compared to 40 in 2021/22. Many of the referrals reflect the support provided to families as part of the Afghan Resettlement Programme.

12. At the end of Q4 2021/22 and Q1 2022/23, 100% of assessments in the period were authorised within 45 days. Year to date, all assessments (15) were authorised in 45 days (100%).

13. There were 55 care leavers at the end of July. This has been fairly constant since Q3 2021/22 but is an increase on the end of last year where, at the end of March 2021, there were 42 care leavers.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

14. Financial implications – N/A

15. Resource implications – N/A

16. Legal implications – N/A

17. Risk implications – N/A

18. Equalities implications – Monitoring intelligence on all of our social care processes and associated demographics allows us to assess and then investigate if there are any unintended impacts of any processes or practices.

19. Climate implications – N/A

20. Security implications – N/A

Conclusion

21. This report provides a summary of performance data from the Children and Families Service from 1 April to 31 July 2022, comparing it to performance from the previous month, quarter or year, and other benchmarks where appropriate.

22. It demonstrates strong performance across the service, with some specific areas where some action was taken for improvement. These areas are all now back on a positive trajectory.

Appendices

- Appendix 1 – Children and Families Service Performance Dashboard July YTD 2022/23 (Non-Public)
- Appendix 2 – Glossary for Performance Dashboard (Public)

Ellie Ward

Head of Strategy and Performance

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Glossary

Children Social Care

CITY OF LONDON CORPORATION
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

C&FA	Child and Family Assessment – single assessment undertaken by Children Social Care
CAF	Common Assessment Framework (part of Early Help)
CAFCASS	Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service
CAMHS	Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service
CHSCP	City and Hackney Children's Safeguarding Partnership
CIC	Child/ren in Care
CICC	Children in Care Council
CIN	Child In Need
CL	Care Leaver
CLA	Children Looked After
CPP	Child Protection Plan
CPS	Crown Prosecution Service
CSC	Children's Social Care
CSE	Child Sexual Exploitation
CYP	Child and/or Young Person (up to 18 th birthday)
CYPP	Children and Young People's Plan
DSL	Designated Safeguarding Lead
DV	Domestic Violence
EDT	Emergency Duty Team (out of hours duty provided by Hackney)
EET	Education, Employment and Training
EH	Early Help
FE	Further Education

HMO	House of Multiple Occupancy
ICPC	Initial Child Protection Conference
IFA	Independent Fostering Agency
IHA	Initial Health Assessment
IRO	Independent Reviewing Officer
LA Services	Local Authority Services
LAC	Looked after child / ren
LADO	Local Authority Designated Officer
LASC	London Asylum Seekers Consortium
MACP	Multi-Agency Child Protection
MARAC	Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference
MARF	Multi Agency Referral Form
MASH	Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub
NEET	Not in Education, Employment or Training
NFA	No Further Action
QSW	Qualified Social Worker
RCPC	Review Child Protection Conference
RHI	Return Home Interview
S47	Section 47 Enquiry, part of Child Protection investigation (the outcome may be that the subject is escalated to an ICPC)
SCR	Serious Case Review
SEND	Special Educational Needs and Disability
TAC	Team Around the Child meeting (Early Help measure)

TAF Team Around the Family (Early Help measure)

UASC Unaccompanied Asylum-Seeking Child (up to 18th birthday)

Committee: Safeguarding Sub-Committee – For Information	Dated: 10/10/2022
Subject: Self Assessment and Service Development Plan	Public Cover Report Non-public appendix 1
Which outcomes in the City Corporation’s Corporate Plan does this proposal aim to impact directly?	<i>Contribute to a flourishing society sections 1-4</i>
Does this proposal require extra revenue and/or capital spending?	N
If so, how much?	N/A
What is the source of Funding?	N/A
Has this Funding Source been agreed with the Chamberlain’s Department?	N/A
Report of: Andrew Carter, Director of Community and Children’s Services	For Information
Report author: Rachel Talmage, Head of Service	

Summary

This report introduces the self-evaluation for the City of London Corporation’s Children and Families Service for 2022. It also includes the Service Development Plan (SDP) that sets out practice developments to improve the daily lives of children in need of help, support, and protection.

Recommendation

Members are asked to:

- Note the report.

Main Report

Background

1. The Service Development Plan (SDP) sets out practice improvements and is the key means of driving improvement across social care practice. It contains actions that will be taken forward to deliver improvements that have been identified from a range of sources – including external audits, thematic audits, case reviews, research, and user feedback. It sets in place a dynamic, ongoing approach to continuous improvement, which is overseen, scrutinised, and challenged by the Safeguarding Sub-Committee and the Achieving Excellence Board. It is reviewed quarterly to reflect changing needs and emerging priorities for improvement. Areas for improvement last year and for this year going forward are considered in the self-evaluation form (SEF) and are from the SDP – see Appendices.
2. Areas for improvement that were identified in the Ofsted inspection report in 2020 are included in the SDP so that we do not lose sight of these, even if they have

been achieved. This ensures oversight of sustained improvement. The SDP has an ongoing focus on enhancing our understanding of the lived experience of our children and young people and measuring the impacts that our work has.

3. The SEF covers the period September 2021 to August 2022 and builds on previous self-assessments, the most recent being in September 2022. The SDP runs in line with the financial year April 2022 to March 2023, which aligns with our monthly and quarterly data production. The SDP is a 'live' document and is updated at least quarterly following audit/surveys/national panel reviews, the social care review and other sources that compel innovation or action.
4. The SEF and SDP sit within the wider context of the pandemic recovery, Afghan Resettlement Programme and several Ukrainian resettlement schemes during the period.
5. The City of London Corporation is only satisfied with delivering excellent services for children and families, building on our existing outstanding service as noted in the Ofsted Inspection of March 2020.

Current Position

6. Guests at Afghan Resettlement Programme hotels have been helped throughout this last year with accommodation, practical and emotional support, cultural orientation, parenting help and consistent kind Early Help support via twice weekly drop-ins. Staffing was increased with an Afghan Project Lead social worker, additional administrative capacity, and an additional social worker. The project has helped families leave the hotel, either to move to their new permanent accommodation, or to their next accommodation provided by the home office. Support was offered to help understand new areas, transfer of schools and health services, as well as basic tasks such as buying bags/suitcases. This project is coming to an end as guests relocate. The project lead has capacity to further strengthen our Children in Need work. The SDP sets out the programme of work designed to boost clarity and impact.
7. The Homes for Ukraine Resettlement Scheme is underway, and the service responds to safeguarding enquiries and follow-up work where needed, in line with our thresholds of need.
8. The recent Action for Children Survey had a high number of respondents and found exceptional service satisfaction with our Early Help, looked-after child and care leaver population. The survey had mixed feedback on our Children in Need work to reduce harm at home. This is not unexpected given the nature of some of the involvement. The negative feedback has been heard by the service, and an immediate response was instigated to strengthen the family offer.

Proposals

9. The SDP sets out the plans for this financial year, and some outcomes that have been reached – such as the successful move of Afghan guests to permanent

homes, health outcomes being met and good timely transfer of information to their incoming local authorities.

10. The SEF, and the SDP (in more detail) set out current improvement work and future development work. One staff member from each of Early Help and Social Care is learning British Sign Language this term, in response to a parental request. The household support fund is being used in both service areas to mitigate the cost-of-living crisis. Work on the cost-of-living progresses, with a staff away day focusing on the topic, a review of care leaver finances, and ideas being obtained from a conference in October. A strategic group across the Department of Community and Children's Services is now in place given the scale of the crisis. The impact of these initiatives will be to help reduce anxiety, mental and physical ill health and reduce the potential dependency on statutory provision where possible.

Key Data

11. Children's Service level data is available to the Committee. The data shows the increase in both Early Help and Children in Need numbers over the last two quarters, which corresponds with the Afghan and Ukrainian resettlements. As the guests have moved, these numbers have reduced and the caseload is not markedly different to previous years. Unaccompanied asylum-seeking children (UASC) remain our highest proportion of work, although there has been a small increase number of resident children in care, due to the risk of significant harm, which has been part of care proceedings.
12. Caseloads remain within the London average.

Corporate & Strategic Implications

13. Strategic implications – This report and appendices align with all four elements of the corporate strategy:

Contribute to a flourishing society:

- People are safe and feel safe.
- People enjoy good health and wellbeing.
- People have equal opportunities to enrich their lives and reach their full potential.
- Communities are cohesive and have the facilities they need.

All children in care are now provided with an advocate, unless they opt out. This works well with our Children in Care Council, and it is hoped this will strengthen their confidence and experience.

14. Financial implications – Care leaver finances are being reviewed in the light of the cost-of-living crisis. This will likely have financial implications that are not covered by the Home Office grant after age 18. Providing additional financial support in the short term is likely to avoid incurring additional cost long term. The additional spend for the Afghan project has been offset by specific Home Office funding.

15. Resource implications – Staffing is at the right level, increased for the Afghan project, and this will decrease. One Early Help social worker has finished their work as the project winds down. The Target Operating Model has meant the successful establishment of the deputy team manager, and three extra social work posts, and permanent post-holders have been in place since April 2022.
16. Legal implications – None.
17. Risk implications – There is a risk that, if the service drops in quality, children will not be safe and cared for. The service consistently expects excellence for every child and has a range of mechanisms, including the Achieving Excellence Board, to identify any areas for improvement quickly to ensure speedy remedy.
18. Equalities implications – The Public Sector Equality Duty under the Equality Act 2010 applies to the service. The Social GRACES (gender, race, age, class, culture, employment status, education, sexual orientation, spirituality, among others) are a core part of our systemic social work practice. Equality and equity are at the heart of supervision, work with families and with each other. The SDP explores equality across each of the service areas, with a responsive service to our Afghan guests, and seeking to further develop, for example, mental health work for our Sudanese care leavers.
19. Climate implications – None.
20. Security implications – None.

Conclusion

21. The SEF sets out where we are as a service and our ambitions for every child known to or potentially new to our service. The service is strong, and seeks to continuously learn and improve. The service away day on 23 September 2022 brings together staff to review our cost-of-living context and the direction of travel. The SDP details how we plan to deliver improvements to our children.

Appendices

- **Appendix 1** – Self Evaluation Form August 2022 (non-public)
- **Appendix 2** – Service Development Plan 2022–2023 updated September 2022 (public)

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Appendix 2: Service Development Plan 2022-23

Children's Social Care & Early Help

Author: Rachel Talmage

Date: April 2022

Date of review: 14 September 2022

The Self Evaluation has been updated August 2022 and is appended to this update.

Why?	Who?	Does what?	By when?	How will we know it has been done?
<u>Early Help & Short Breaks</u>				
Need identified by parents, recommending the programme to other parents.	EH Lead	Runs Strengthening Families Strengthening Communities Programme x 2. Once in each of the two key areas in the City	Third programme starts October 2022.	Accreditation by Race Equality Foundation achieved. Programme attendance sheets completed. Evaluation Report provided to Early Help Sub Committee.
Covid impact on mental health, and family relationships being a common area of need in Early Help.	EH lead	Refers and supports children & families to use the Systemic Family Therapy Service	end Sept 2022	At least 2 EH referrals made per quarter. Clinic data shows EH families attending at least 90% of their sessions. One case summary that shows impact of clinic.

Identified via Afghan Project Partners	Afghan Project Lead	Creates and runs parenting in the UK groups	April - July 2022	The weekly timeable listings. Programme Plan created. Attendance logs.
Request from Paiwand (Afghan charity) and Afghan Resettlement Organisational group.	Afghan Project Lead	Runs early help clinics for all families in the two hotels at least weekly	April - July 2022	Clinic logs evidencing family support undertaken. Performance data: number of children/families making enquiries - bi annually
Families have been disappointed with the payment cards not working, need to fix.	EH Lead	Reviews Short Break Pre Payment Card effectiveness	end Sept 2022	Minutes of Short Breaks Meeting evidence review
Respite Innovation Bid unsuccessful to explore services in square mile: therefore need to review our offer with children and parents to see what is possible.	EH Lead	Review short break offer together with children and families	end March 2023	Short Break Offer is co produced with children and carers. Short Break offer goes to the SEND board. Short break offer is refreshed and on our website
Children have been in the hotel for 7 months, need to gather their views separately to adults.	Afghan Project Lead	Listen to children in the Bridging Hotels as to their experience.	end April 2022	Session notes received. Views listened to and responded to.

Afghan project work has extended, with new Early Help Offer, review needed to see if effective and anything to amend.	Afghan Project Lead	Reviews first four months of enhanced early help offer to the families in the Bridging hotel.	end Sept 2022	2 page review to Early Help Subcommittee & CSMT. To include data on the drop in and casework.
Early Help Lead has moved to Manage Social Care Team. Early Help lead vacancy.	Head of Service	Recruits and inducts new Early Help Lead to take forward the above work	end June 2022	Early Help Lead in post
Ofsted recommendations from judgment in February 2020	CSC & EH Management Team	Reviews EH step downs at weekly management meeting.	Weekly.	Management Meeting notes evidence overview. Data shows step down is timely. Data shows speed of first visit from transfer into/out of Early Help.
Cost of living crisis	EH lead	Ensures families can access the household support fund	end Sept 2022	The financial record held by Tenancy Support evidences spend on families open to Early Help.
Cost of living crisis	EH lead	Participates in a service wide workshop on the cost of living crisis, to generate ideas to benefit families.	23-Sep-22	Ideas sheet generated and presented in Early Help update to Early Help Subgroup.
	EH student	Attends cost of living and poverty conference to gain ideas and learning.	13-Oct-22	EH student will feedback on learning at team meeting In October.
Children's Social Care				
<u>Children in Need & those in need of protection</u>				
Identified at City Exec	Head of Service	Adds reporting line to police for indecent images generated by school children at the safeguarding education forum.	01-Nov-22	Minutes of the Safeguarding Education forum evidence this.

Cost of living crisis	Head of Service	Facilitates service development session around poverty and cost of	23-Sep-22	Ideas sheet generated, and casework evidences ideas in practice
To strengthen our work on neglect	Head of Service	Is part of the NSPCC GCP2 (neglect tool) implementation with LB Hackney. Ensures Neglect Lead SW becomes a train the trainer for GCP2 implementation.	01-Dec-22	Graded care profile 2 (NSPCC) is used in casework where neglect may be a feature.
Referral data shows that children need better parenting.	Team Manager	As above: parenting programme. Ensure at least 2 families are referred per programme cycle	First by July 2022. Second by December 2022	Casenotes evidence liaison between parenting group & social worker. Evaluation Report provided to Achieving Evidence Board with quantitative and qualitative evidence.
Data shows an increase in strategy meetings. Review of thresholds needed.	Head of Service	Commissions external professional to review threshold on every contact over last three months. To run 2 Action Learning Sets for Managers on thresholds.	01-May-22	Report to be provided to Head of Service
Threshold document due for review. Following research on infant harm for under 1s during covid, need to update document on Sudden Death of Infant (SUDI). Need to include any particular case examples from the above review of thresholds.	Head of Service	External professional to gain feedback from managers on areas to update, and to review the Threshold document with partners.	end July 2022	Threshold Document published on the internet

Review of MASH, given London wide review of MASH	HOS	Learns about pan london changes as they evolve, reviews our MASH processes. Use external consultant for capacity.	May-22	Two page paper to CSMT (Children's Senior Management Team), including a summary of London wide changes. MASH data is equivalent to our London neighbours. Audit of MASH evidences
Develop CIN/CP work to be outstanding in terms of impact and outcomes.	Managers	Actively include CIN/CP families in Family Therapy Clinic	Dec-22	Midway report evidences takeup
Ofsted recommendation 2020: The recording of management decision making at all stages of a child s journey. Retained to keep	Assistant Director & Service Manager	Build management capacity. Draft review in place, need to take forward.	complete	Revised structure chart published. Staff in place.
	Head of Service	Extend Deputy Team Manager Pilot, to retain capacity whilst CV-19 has put service review on hold.	complete	DTM postholder is in place throughout CV-19 and to end of service review
	CSC & EH Management Team	Has recording as a standing item on management meeting agenda. Team to remind each other on recording reasons as well as decisions on case files.	complete	Management meeting notes show discussion.
	CSC & EH Management Team	121s with each level of managers includes a section on recording, with spot checking.	complete	121s evidence spot checking and discussion.
	Head of Service	Facilitates action Learning Sets on supervision and recording.	April-June	Session notes available. Managers to share supervisions they are proud of monthly to build practice.

Head of Service	Offers further management training to DTM.	01/06/2020	Place is booked on course.
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Audit from October shows views of extended family/absent parents are not consistently in family assessments. Also there is a piece of work across the CHSCP (City and Hackney Safeguarding Partnership) entitled 'invisible men' to boost inclusion.	MANAGERS	QUESTIONS BEING ASKED IN 121. WORKERS TO THINK ABOUT THE WHOLE FAMILY IN EXTENDED SYSTEM. HOS part of 'invisible men' workstream with CHSCP, raising inclusion ideas for men across Partnership	01-Jun-22	Supervision notes evidence this. Audit findings show it. 'Invisible Men' workstream plan, once complete, shared with staff. 2 x Action Learning Sets on including men held.
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Case Review Summary of findings 30 May 2022 (Audit on children in need and child protection report) The areas needing attention:	HoS & Management team	Social workers shared that they felt supported by their managers, however this was not evident on files where supervision records had not been uploaded for some time. As in the previous reviews the application of systemic thinking and practice is variable in supervision notes.	30/09/022	DTM to have systemic supervision training in Summer 2022, for supporting with thinking and evidencing thinking. Weekly tracking of DTM supervision notes until uploads are consistently timely.
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	<p>Visits continue to take place at appropriate and at expected intervals. Visit write ups would be strengthened by including the plan for direct work. Including the purpose of visits, direct work, and the outcomes/impact of intervention in supervision recordings would evidence application of systemic practice which has been clear and evident when speaking to social workers as part of this review.</p>	01/12/2022	<p>The visit template to be updated with 'purpose of visit' heading at the start of the write up to make clear.</p>
	<p>Plans would be strengthened by ensuring that outcomes are specific to the child and not a service, by being specific about who is responsible for delivering actions in the plan and particularly where a parent is required to complete an action, so they are clear about the local authority's expectations.</p>	01/12/2022	<p>CIN tracker to look in detail at quality of plans for a three month period.</p> <p>Afghan Project lead to support CIN plan formation and CIN review meeting so parents clear on actions and outcomes.</p>
Management Team	<p>Notable improvement in this review in discussion betwas the thinking through exit strategies and great insight into how families could become reliant or dependent on services provided. These discussions are unfortunately not evidenced consistently in supervision records.</p>	01/12/2022	<p>Dip sampling of supervision records. Reminders at Management Hub meetings.</p>

MASH Health Annual data report 21-22 shows health did not consistently receive strategy meeting minutes.	Mangement Team & Team Support Officer	Shares minutes with attendees within 24 hours of strategy meeting taking place & casenote on file to evidence.	30/04/2023	Dip sampling & the MASH Health annual data report will evidence 100% compliance
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Children in Care and Care Leavers

National Review of residential settings for children with complex needs	Management team & CWD lead.	Contributes to the Quality Assurance	mid Nov 2022	Report will go in to safeguarding children's partnership.
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cost of living crisis	HoS	Runs workshop on cost of living crisis & promotes MyBNK to help budgeting. Reviews finances for care leavers. Uses household support fund where allowed to add more income.	01/10/2022	Allowances sheet refreshed and circulated. HSF usage shows care leavers have extra funds.
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Increase in number of care leavers becoming parents	Hos	Creates Job Description and Person Specification for new Expert Practitioner role to support care leavers who are NEET, care leavers who are parents and to run support for these categories of vulnerable care leavers.	30/09/2022	Person in post
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Young People said in March 2022 at their CV and Interview workshop that they would like more opportunities to practice and more help to get the job they want.	HoS	Works with participation service to run CV/interview sessions regularly throughout the year. Invites Prospects to run at least 4 sessions per year, and to offer 121 sessions.	01/08/2022	Sessions will have run. Young people will say that they have had support via the CiCC and in their pathway plans. 1 case study on how a young person has used their CV/interview practice to get a job or work experience.
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Our data shows young people not wanting to have any vaccine, not just covid. Important as vaccine histories are unknown and there is a risk of for example measles/polio etc which are unavoidable.	Lead SW for UASC	Arranges workshop for looked after children and care leavers in Summer 2022 (rearranged from Spring) with LAC nurse.	Aug-22	Attendance list and session notes. At least 20% of attendees have vaccines.
Increase in mental ill health in care leavers observed, with two under section of MHA in hospital since January 2022, a big change.	HoS	Reviews two young people's cases. Encourages use of early wellbeing support amongst staff. Identifies more culturally matched mental health support via community sector - for Sudanese young people.	01-Dec-22	Paper to CSMT. Sudanese specific mental health support identified and offered.
Mental health of local children and families is supported.	Head of Service	Extend CoL trainee systemic family therapy clinic programme to 2022-23. Joint project with Kings College London.	01-May-22	Contract in Place Care leavers and children in care are shown to have attended the clinic in their quarterly data. One qualitative example of impact of the clinic for a child in care/care leaver presented to CSMT.
Young people tell us they are frustrated there is not more choice of location to live in. There are limited numbers of permanent	HoS	Participates in the Innovation Incubator which will have a focus on homes for children and looking across the market to improve.	01-Dec-22	Departmental Leadership Team has a report on risks/resources. HoS attends Innovation Incubator sessions throughout 22-23 to look at
2022/23 Self Assessment to be completed	HoS	To write SEF	31/08/2022	SEF in place

Findings from Annual Survey
October 2022

Note: this section is newly added, as the survey findings came out at end August 2022.

Early Help

Feedback from Survey	EH worker	Learns British Sign Language	end March 2023	Early help worker completes level one British sign language.
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CIN/CP

Parent requested staff use BSL (note interpreters used)	CWD lead social worker	Learns introductory level british sign language	Mar-23	Completion of programme
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A parent asked for better chairing of CIN meetings and for chair to ask for feedback.	Afghan project lead	Creates a one page guide to chairing a meeting	23/09/2022	Page has been created.
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	Afghan project lead	Supports each social worker to prepare for and run CIN meetings over a three week period.	mid october 2022	One page report by lead/one minute guide. Each social worker has support in preparing for and chairing the meetings. Feedback from families.
Parents said (amongst good things) they felt judged, crushed, not listened to, slow, were unable to sleep after a visit, that there is no reflective practice, and would be better off without the social worker.	Whole service	Reflects on parental feedback, uses 121 reflective supervision. Head of Service facilitates session on CIN work.	Sep-22	Afghan project lead seeks family feedback after CIN meetings for three week period. Social workers and managers reflect on each of their pieces of CIN work. Increased usage of Mind of My Own.
	social workers	Direct work should be shared with parents so they have a clear idea of what discussions are taking place with their children and what you are actually doing, parents become anxious when they don't know what is happening behind closed doors especially when speaking to children alone.	Sep-22	Feedback to Project lead by families.
	social workers	Think about how you would feel if a SW visited your home and how you would like to be received by them	Sep-22	Feedback to Project lead by families.

Think about the Social Graces when visiting families – power dynamics Sep-22 Supervision notes record reflective discussions.

Pre Plan visits so that you know why you are there as does the family Sep-22 Each visit write up begins 'purpose of visit' as a heading.

Care Leavers

Housing. Good quality. Permanent housing. SM & Housing workshop with housing and tenancy support Nov-21 Video and session on tenancy support has taken place

Pledge awareness SWs Staff session. Participation officer. Dec-21 Pledge session undertaken. CiCC session.

Knowledge of advocacy/complaints SWs At PPM/LAC Review/Visits Nov-21 LAC review minutes record reminder of advocacy/complaints

Loneliness

SWs

Independent visitors. Perhaps link with Strengthening Families, Strengthening Communities? Waging Peace.

Mar-22

Independent visitor numbers higher at next quarterly review and sustained each quarter. Waging Peace have our YP to work with.

SM

Review opportunity with new Family Action service, a support line every evening till midnight

Oct-21

A decision will have been made to use or not use the support, if it will be of use to our young people and if it is possible in budget, or if funding can be found. An update to CSMT in October, with minutes to evidence if this is the right service for COL Waging Peace work with our boys. And see above re legal support.

Immigration support

SWs

Waging Peace to help with applications for Sudanese children

Mar-22

Child Q serious case review shows systemic racism causing harm to children. Black children need seeing as children, with safeguarding considered first.

Head of Service

Treats racism as a health and safety issue for black staff.
 Runs Support Sessions for staff.
 Culture where staff discuss racism on a daily basis.
 White staff use the reading group and film club to 'look in the mirror' as well as out of the window on our own racism.
 Ensures staff attend adultification training by CHSCP.
 Runs a MACE session on Child Q with CHSCP.
 Raises profile of drug support for children, and support for children whose parents use substances.

01-Aug-22

MACE session minutes evidence work.
 Team and Senior Management Meeting minutes evidence health and safety approach.
 Attendance records show 80% staff have attended adultification training in 2022.


To include children and families in co producing all our strategies. To include children and parents in all our board meetings.

Head of Service

Reviews co production work across Early Help, Child in Need and Child Protection, and across our board work to identify gaps and provide a plan.

Aug-22

Children and parents voices will be directly heard at the Achieving Excellence Board, in the Early Help Strategy and Short Breaks strategy and a plan will go to Children's Senior Management Team.

What will be the experience of children?	RAG rated	Comments on progress
Children experience their parents responding kindly, more consistently and clearly.		Third programme starts soon. Early Help Student and Early Help lead trained to run the programme at start of september, to have back up in running the programme. One case closed to EH after referral to therapy clinic and successful work there.

Children have supervision in the street and are supported with homework, with school and leisure time.

Children are taken to medical appointments by parents who have support to do so, little children have the opportunity to go to nursery, older children are taken to leisure activities.

Children with disabilities take part in leisure activities regularly.

Children with disabilities have access to good quality leisure opportunities that their adults can take them to.

Children can share their wishes and feelings and have a sense of control over what happens in the hotel.

2 parenting sessions have been run so far as part of a wider weekly offer. Regular programme will be in place after Ramadan.

Clinics up and running. Staff sickness has meant three sessions have been cancelled.

We have reverted to using bank accounts. The direct payments officer is visiting all families using short breaks with the early help worker to support with payments.

Short break offer is being worked on. New short breaks strategy going to childrens senior management meeting at end September. Updated anti fraud measures in place. Early Help lead is applying for a bid for funding from DFE to improve our offer.

nearly 50 children and young people joined in a views session 7 April. Views taken forward to Afghan Project Group.

Children receive the support they need in the hotel, with friends, with leisure, with school and with health.

Children experience secure, timely well paced early help support. They have a trusted adult.

Children don't need to re-tell their experiences, likes and dislikes because of thorough transfer, and they don't have to wait to see their new Early Help or Social Worker. To reduce anxiety.

They will be warm and fed.

They will be warm and fed.

They will be warm and fed.

If children report receiving an indecent image to school, they will have confident teachers working with the police without delay.

update at the early help subgroup on 22 Ssept 2022. Families well supported and with moving on as the hotel closed.

Early Help lead has been in post for three months.

complete - (kept in to retain oversight)

Vouchers have been shared in a joint early help event with City Advice early september. Further funds are being distributed by 23 Sept to CIN families.

Afternoon workshop in place Friday 23 September 2022

EH worker booked on conference with Social Care also.

Added to next forum on 4 October

Children are warm and fed

Children will experience better care at home, or will be moved to a place of safety in good time. They will not experience the corrosive impact of neglectful parenting.

Children experience their parents responding kindly, more consistently and clearly.

Children's privacy and information is respected and proportionately shared.

Children will be able to look back on their records and understand why decisions were made - the decisions will refer to the threshold document.

Planned in away day afternoon. Shared BASW ideas on poverty.

HoS part of the GCP2 implementation group with the Safeguarding Partnership & Hackney. Neglect Lead's name put forward for train the trainer programme.

Our third parenting programme is about to begin. Referrals received.

2 x Action Learning Set on thresholds for managers held. Report on threshold and work on threshold complete. Tested by external consultant.

Threshold document completed, including work on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), as CoL and Hackney have worked together on reducing SUDI over last quarter, following an increase in Hackney's SUDI cases. This needs publishing - as there are formatting glitches.

Children receive timely support at the right level. Children have professionals who communicate clearly and are safer because of trusted adults working together.

Families at home who are struggling get help in their home (online) together. Children are supported in their own safety by their families.

Excellence in Practice

Children and families experience an exceptional service, with access to speak with managers.

as above

Children and families experience consistent and timely decision making.

Children and families experience consistent and timely decision making, if staff are on leave or absent.

as above

Review project complete.
Report on thresholds complete.
Action learning sets with managers x2 done. Action learning set with social workers undertaken.

in place. CP/CIN families taking up therapy. Clinic contract extended 22-23. Midway data report requested for contract monitoring.

Jan 2022: TOM complete. DTM position is now permanent and postholder in the role permanently.
complete

timeliness has improved but needs extensive work to keep on top of recording.

as above. Note managers now have their own Action Learning Set on the front door and recording.

1 Action learning set on recording in April.

1 coaching session for DTM on recording.

as above



DTM is submitting final supervision essay in Sept. Course attended and engaged with over summer.

Children know that all their family are seen, and all considered as part of safety planning, whether they be risks/resources. Children are understood in their context.



This is in place. Kept on 2022/23 as the 'invisible men' work with the safeguarding partnership continues. Note: we are now offering online triple P parenting programme work to fathers (and mothers), to fit around work schedules.

Children will receive an attuned service, with learning from their stories and experience reflected and acted upon.



Weekly monitoring has supported management practice. However when the tracking ceased for a few weeks, notes were delayed (by a shorter period) in uploading. Weekly tracking to be reinstated September 2022.

children understand what the social worker is visiting for.

Visit template updated. Will need to audit and test ourselves on impact.

Children receive clear support that makes their daily life better.

Afghan project lead is midway through her CIN improvement work. September CIN tracker to delve into quality of plans, as the visits/plans are uptodate.

Children will experience social work input for the right amount of time.

Children will have the right level of support at the right time.

Reminders sent to team support and social workers. Will review.

Children with complex needs are safe and well cared for in residential settings.

IRO leading on this work. VSH will visit our one child with SW for the PEP. SW using reg 44 reports well. Child receiving excellent care.

They will have money for food and heating.

Care leavers will have skills to be able to parent safely.

JE and PS submitted to job evaluation in HR.

Children will feel more prepared to get a job.
Young people will have a job.

March 22 - 1 x job and CV session held. Connection with prospects & Connecting Communities service following summer holiday programme - leading to employment.

Children will have correct information on vaccines. Children will be vaccinated and safe from preventable harm.



Session completed. Review session will be held, LAC now have a named nurse, who visits 8 weekly to the Guildhall for drop in sessions and info around immunisation.

Children will be able to access support that they will understand and connect with. Children won't need to go into hospital for mental health reasons.



Mental health support is being offered. Needs work. The Sudanese charity we are linked with does not offer mental health support - beyond good health promotion via groups.

Page 123
Children and parents are able to emotionally manage day to day life better, with therapy being offered in their homes.
Excellence in Practice.



Children will have somewhere they want to live and are clear about what happens next.

We are now signed up to an accommodation portal which gives more choice. Incubator ends March 2023

Full accountable review of overall service to children and their families.
Excellence in Practice



Deaf children and deaf parents will be able to communicate directly with the early help service for straightforward conversations.



Early Help worker is enrolled on 1/2 day per week programme. Note BSL translators and written communication is used alongside.

Deaf children and deaf parents will be able to communicate directly with the social care service for straightforward conversations.

If children are in the meeting, they will experience confident adults. Children's views are gathered well in and for the meeting. Parents will respond to recommendations in the CIN meeting and their children's experience at home will improve.



Social worker is on the programme 1/2 day a week.

Afghan project lead has capacity to support CIN development before contract ends mid November.

as above

children will feel that adults are working together to keep them looked after

children will have confidence in the adults working together. Children will not be torn between adults.

Social workers and managers heard this feedback in team meeting on 7 September, amongst the very glowing feedback. Ideas sought from workers. Session by head of service on 23 September and support by project lead for a three week period.



young people have realistic expectations on housing
Excellence in Practice



Jan 2022: video's shared, tenancy support sessions held. Latest ones in August 2021, feedback given on housing queries. Jan 2022, have been asking YP to search for their own flats to get an understanding of money.

children confident in our promises

Young people know how to complain and argue if they disagree

advocate argued for 1 YP against NTS in December 2021

Young people have at least one trusted adult

Excellence in Practice

Have increased capacity for Independent Visitors. Waging Peace procurement checks underway, and they are working with YP now. Retained on plan to extend and secure offer.

Young people have someone to call if lonely/worried

Not the right service.

culturally appropriate immigration support.

Excellence in Practice

as above

Children will receive safeguarding first support. Children will not experience harm from teachers or police or harm from the absence of action by adults.



MACE work undertaken.
Staff support sessions happened.
Recognition that to talk about racism is painful, and to not talk about racism is painful. To provide support and love and care to black staff and children and families.

Children will be included, and have no service for them without them.



At the moment we use videos of children and national research, we can improve.

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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