

CARE SERVICES AND EDUCATION POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND SCRUTINY COMMITTEES

Minutes of the joint meeting held at 7.00 pm on 7 May 2013

Present:

Councillor Nicholas Bennett J.P. (Chairman)

Councillors Reg Adams, Kathy Bance MBE, Ruth Bennett, Lydia Buttinger, Roger Charsley, John Getgood, Brian Humphrys, William Huntington-Thresher, David Jefferys, Mrs Anne Manning, David McBride, Alexa Michael, Catherine Rideout and Charles Rideout

Dolores Bray-Ash JP, Brian James, Leslie Marks, Andrew Spears and Brenda Thompson

Also Present:

Councillor Robert Evans, Portfolio Holder for Care Services
Councillor Diane Smith, Executive Support Assistant to the Portfolio Holder for Care Services
Councillor Pauline Tunncliffe, Executive Support Assistant to the Portfolio Holder for Education
Councillor Stephen Carr

87 CONFIRMATION OF CHAIRMAN

Councillor Nicholas Bennett JP was confirmed as Chairman for the joint meeting of Care Services and Education PDS Committees.

88 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTIFICATION OF SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Judi Ellis, Councillor Stephen Wells, Portfolio Holder for Education, Brebner Anderson, Father Owen Higgs, Darren Jenkins, Janet Latinwo, Joan McConnell, Lynne Powrie and Alison Register.

Apologies for absence were also received from Councillor Neil Reddin and Angela Clayton-Turner. Councillor William Huntington-Thresher and Brenda Thompson attended as their respective substitutes.

89 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

**90 QUESTIONS TO THE CARE SERVICES CHAIRMAN OR
EDUCATION PDS CHAIRMAN FROM MEMBERS OF THE
PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ATTENDING THE MEETING**

No questions had been received.

**91 QUESTIONS TO THE CARE SERVICES PORTFOLIO HOLDER
OR EDUCATION PORTFOLIO HOLDER FROM MEMBERS OF
THE PUBLIC AND COUNCILLORS ATTENDING THE MEETING**

No questions had been received.

92 INFORMATION ITEMS

The Information Briefing comprised a number of reports:

- Bromley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) new structure from January 2013
- Terms of Reference
 - a) Bromley Safeguarding Children Board
 - b) Quality Assurance and Performance Monitoring Committee
 - c) Training Committee
- Membership List
 - a) Bromley Safeguarding Children Board
 - b) Quality Assurance and Performance Monitoring Committee
 - c) Training Committee
- BSCB Policies and Procedures
 - a) The Child's Journey in Bromley – A Partnership model for providing service to support children and families in Bromley including the safeguarding thresholds guidance (July 2011)
 - b) A Strategy for Safeguarding Disabled Children (June 2011)
 - c) Working with Neglectful Families – Guidance for Practitioners (October 2012)
 - d) A Strategy to Safeguarding Children and Young People at risk of experiencing Sexual Exploitation in Bromley (March 2012)
- BSCB Business Plan 2013/14
- BSCB Training Brochure 2013/14
- BSCB Annual Report 2011/12
- Recent Meeting Minutes
 - a) Board Minutes held on 12th February 2013
 - b) Board Minutes (previously called Executive) of meeting held on 20th November 2012
- BSCB Newsletters
 - a) Spring 2013 Edition
 - b) Spring 2012 Edition

RESOLVED that the Information Briefing be noted.

93 PURPOSE OF THE MEETING

Members agreed the purpose of the joint meeting of Care Services and Education PDS Committees as:

“To scrutinise the arrangements, organisational structures, and procedures and processes of the Council and partner organisations with regard to child safeguarding to ensure there is clear cooperation, no unnecessary duplication and effective management and supervision of frontline staff.”

94 INTRODUCTION TO THE STATUTORY GUIDANCE RELATING TO CHILD PROTECTION

The Executive Director of Education, Care and Health Services Department introduced the statutory guidance relating to child protection.

Following a series of high profile child protection cases reported in the media, the statutory guidance relating to Child Protection had been re-released in 2012. There were now fewer agencies involved in each case and responsibility for a child’s safety was more clearly defined with agencies taking a more joined-up and robust approach to child protection. The Director of Children’s Services had responsibility for child protection and was line managed by the Chief Executive.

The Local Authority continued to take a lead role in ensuring the five outcomes of ‘Every Child Matters’ were delivered.

RESOLVED that the introduction be noted.

95 OVERVIEW OF THE BROMLEY SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN'S BOARD

Report CSED 13001

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board (BSCB) outlined the operation and the statutory functions of the board.

The main objective of the Board was to co-ordinate the effective involvement of a wide range of agencies, including the Local Authority, the Police, Health and voluntary organisations around child protection. Four meetings of the Board were held each year, with six meetings of the Quality Assurance Group. There was a Training Sub Committee that worked to develop an extensive training programme for agencies around child protection issues, an Education Sub Committee and a Health Sub Committee.

The Board also had a quality assurance function and worked to monitor and analyse child protection and safeguarding indicators and performance measures across a wide range of agencies to evaluate whether effective child safeguarding practice arrangements were in place.

Since November 2012, the Board had strengthened its monitoring processes and took a more stringent approach to holding agencies to account. The Board could, if necessary, undertake serious case reviews. A serious case review had not yet been needed in Bromley, however a partnership review had been undertaken with a number of recommendations made, all of which had been adopted.

A recent Ofsted inspection had concluded that the Board was currently meeting its statutory obligations. A number of recommendations had been made around the level of challenge of the Board and increasing consultation with service users, and these recommendations were being acted upon.

RESOLVED that the overview be noted.

96 MULTI-AGENCY RESPONSIBILITIES AND ARRANGEMENTS

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care and Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance gave a presentation outlining the responsibilities and arrangements for Children's Social Care (appended at **Appendix A**).

The Assistant Director: Education and Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance gave a presentation outlining the responsibilities and arrangements in Education (appended at **Appendix A**).

Detective Inspector Dave Smith gave a presentation outlining the responsibilities and arrangements of the Bromley Police Service (appended at **Appendix B**).

Sonia Colwill, Director of Quality and Governance gave a presentation outlining the responsibilities and arrangements of the Bromley Clinical Commissioning Group (appended at **Appendix C**).

RESOLVED that the presentations around multi-agency responsibilities and arrangements be noted.

97 QUESTIONS TO THE PRESENTERS

Members and Co-opted Members asked the presenters a range of questions around multi-agency responsibilities and arrangements for child protection in Bromley.

What is the process when an allegation is made relating to the safeguarding of a child?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care advised Members that when an allegation was made, the Referral and Assessment Manager would contact the Police and have a strategy discussion regarding the allegation. Information would be gathered from a range of agencies including health and the child safeguarding contact at the child's school. If a decision was then made to proceed, a police officer and qualified social worker would make a home visit and speak in a frank way to the child's parents or carer regarding

the investigation, unless this would potentially place the child at risk. The police officer and qualified social worker would also see the child and, if appropriate, speak with them. A further strategic discussion would be had by managers and a decision made regarding the next steps to be taken. Children considered to be at immediate risk would be removed from the home, however this was a last resort and it was more common to negotiate with families around how to protect the child during the course of the investigation, for example, arranging for an alleged perpetrator to leave the home environment or to place the child with extended family members for a short time.

Detective Inspector Dave Smith confirmed the above procedure and noted that the Police could make an arrest on the evidence provided or to ensure the protection of the child where appropriate.

Sonia Colwill, Director of Quality and Governance noted that health services took part in any discussions as needed and provided appropriate support.

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board advised Members that the role of the Board was to ensure that the appropriate multi-agency policies and procedures were in place and that a programme of audits had been established challenge systems and ensure they were robust.

The Assistant Director: Education advised Members that allegations could affect schools through a referral regarding the safety of a child or allegation against a member of staff.

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance confirmed that any allegation would be passed to the designated teacher or the Head Teacher and that discussions would be held with the Lead Officer for Education and Safeguarding to decide if a multi agency strategy meeting was needed and how the protection of the child or any disciplinary process of a teacher would proceed

There has been an increase in the number of referrals of allegations against professionals from 58 in 2009 to 97 in 2011, and over 50 allegations have been substantiated in the past year. How are these addressed?

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance confirmed that immediate action was taken in all cases where allegations against professionals were substantiated. Compromise agreements were not used in cases of child protection.

How is the performance of front line workers in child protection, such as social workers, monitored?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that the service worked to recruit quality social workers who had the right qualifications and that there was a comprehensive programme of continuous

professional development. Supervision arrangements at the Council were also comprehensive with one supervisor overseeing six social workers. Supervising officers did not have any casework, but had an in depth knowledge of the cases of their social workers and met with them at least once a month (or once a week for less experienced social workers) to examine each case in a detailed manner, identifying potential issues and setting a range of tasks. Supervision meetings would identify where tasks had not been completed to time and would robustly address any issues, working with Human Resources to place staff on a plan for improving their performance where appropriate. If identified issues with staff performance were not resolved, staff members would then be taken through incapability/poor performance processes and may be dismissed.

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services noted that a range of data was collected and published for senior managers in Education, Care and Health Services to consider on a weekly basis. This provided an early warning system when performance data was 'off track' and supported early intervention.

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance also confirmed that part of her role was to oversee an audit programme of practice. All cases were audited on a monthly basis and in addition, regular observations of social workers' practice in the field and in child protection meetings were undertaken.

Detective Inspector Dave Smith advised Members that the Bromley Police had a daily management meeting where every report of crime in the preceding 24 hour period were examined, including allegations relating to child protection or crimes that might affect the safety of children. A weekly meeting was also convened to consider each outstanding matter in the Borough and ensure that supervisors were performing to the appropriate level.

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board confirmed that work was ongoing to strengthen the quality assurance function of the Board. Thematic audits assessed multi-agency performance across certain areas, such as children with child protection plans, and there was increased level of challenge to audits.

When commissioning services, what weight is given to safeguarding criteria and what measures are in place to ensure safeguarding is central to delivery?

Sonia Colwill, Director of Quality and Governance confirmed that when commissioning health services, part of any tender specification included a framework for safeguarding children, and all providers must undertake a checklist relating to this framework to be considered as service providers. Monthly monitoring meetings were undertaken with all service providers which included consideration of child safeguarding. Action was immediately taken where there was any cause of concern.

Do all agencies involved in child protection have quality assurance programmes and whistle-blowing policies?

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board advised members that as the Board considered the outcomes of multi-agency audits, it was able to assess the operation of quality assurance programmes. The Board also had a two year rolling programme which assessed every agency responsible for safeguarding in Bromley across a range of safeguarding measures, ensuring that the right processes were in place to support good safeguarding practice.

When vulnerable children come in the Borough from other local authorities, what processes are in place to ensure they are identified by the appropriate local agencies?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that the Bromley Safeguarding Board was signed up to the London-wide agreement around the tracking of children subject to child protection plans. Arrangements for the referral of a child assessed as being 'in need' to a new local authority was set out in safeguarding procedures and it was noted that these children were transferred in conference between the two local authorities.

Is awareness training undertaken around the impact of substance misuse on children?

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board assured Members that there was a comprehensive training programme around the effects of parental substance misuse on children. A range of strategies had been developed by agencies to tackle this issue.

Detective Inspector Dave Smith confirmed that there was an active information sharing arrangement between partners from health, children's social care and the police, and that relevant intelligence was acted upon by the police where appropriate.

What is the membership of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board and what role do 'Lay Members' take?

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board advised Members that a recent review undertaken in November 2012 had reduced the membership of the Board from 45 members to around 20, with the new membership reflecting key agencies in child protection. Lay members to the Board had been appointed approximately two years ago and had undertaken excellent work. The Lay Member role was now under review with the potential for Lay Members to be representatives of the voluntary sector in future where appropriate.

Are Looked After Children placed outside of the Borough the responsibility of Bromley? Is their school attendance monitored?

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance advised Members that Looked After Children placed outside the Borough remained the responsibility of the Local Authority. Independent Reviewing Officers worked to ensure that every aspect of a Looked After Child's life in their placement was taken into account, including safeguarding, and there was a framework to ensure regular visits were undertaken with each Looked After Child.

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that the weekly bulletin provided to senior managers in Education, Care and Health Services included a key indicator representing visiting arrangements for Looked After Children and those subject to a child protection plan, and performance issues relating to this were quickly identified at an individual case level.

The Assistant Director: Education noted that Helen Priest acted as the virtual Head Teacher for Looked After Children. Helen Priest undertook school visits for Looked After Children living both in and out of the Borough and monitored student attendance, challenging schools where levels of attendance were a matter for concern.

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance also noted that the Local Authority was not responsible for Looked After Children placed in the Borough by other Local Authorities. Where pupils attending Bromley schools lived in other Boroughs, any concerns identified by agencies in Bromley would be referred to the borough in which they were resident.

Are there cases where Looked After Children are placed in the Borough by other local authorities and Bromley Council is not informed?

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board confirmed that local authorities were required to notify host Boroughs when Looked After Children were placed in their Borough. However, there were instances where other local authorities placed Looked After Children in the Borough, often for very short periods of time, without the Council being informed. Looked After Children could also be moved away from the Borough without the Local Authority being informed.

Detective Inspector Dave Smith advised Members that any report of a missing Looked After Child to the police would be reported to the Local Authority.

The Chairman expressed concern that this was the case and said that this matter should be raised at ministerial level.

Which agencies are included in the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board training programme, including health? How many schools' representatives are included in child protection training, including staff at primary level and early years providers?

The Executive Director of Education, Care and Health Services underlined that child safeguarding was the responsibility of everyone working with children in the Borough. In schools, the Head Teacher and Governing Body

had responsibility to ensure the right training was disseminated to all staff, and this was a key factor in any school Ofsted inspection. A number of agencies participated in the Board training programme, including schools and early years providers, and this could be supplemented by in-house and peer training where appropriate.

The Assistant Director: Education noted that child protection training was supported in schools through robust reporting systems to ensure any identified child protection issues were escalated effectively to the designated officer or Head Teacher.

Sonia Colwill, Director of Quality and Governance confirmed that a Health Forum comprising representatives of both public and private health organisations as well as the ambulance service met on a quarterly basis to consider a range of issues as well as training needs. The Named GP worked with GPs and other primary care providers, such as dentists, to ensure that appropriate training and awareness raising was undertaken around a range of areas including child safeguarding.

How often are the views of the Living in Care Council taken into account by the Bromley Children Safeguarding Board?

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board noted that children and young people aged 12 years or above who were subject to a child protection plan were entitled to attend the conference where their plan was developed. Members of the Board were currently considering how to best obtain feedback from these children and young people to ensure their views were taken into account when policies and processes that affected them were being developed or reviewed.

To what extent are the issues faced by young carers in relation to child protection being addressed?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care advised Members that there was a dedicated social worker for young carers who undertook assessments for those at risk or in need of support and help. Work was also undertaken in the community and by schools to identify young carers and to be aware of the issues they face.

What action is being taken to reduce incidence of bullying at school and e-bullying?

The Assistant Director: Education confirmed that schools worked extremely hard to reduce levels of bullying in schools and that School Councils often spearheaded this work.

How are incidents of child death reviewed?

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance advised Members that where there was an incident of child death, a child death overview panel,

which included representatives from a number of agencies including the child's school where appropriate, was convened. This panel considered each case in detail, identifying lessons to be learned and considering if any new policies or procedures needed to be put in place.

Do voluntary organisations work to promote child safeguarding?

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance noted that work was undertaken with the Voluntary Sector Forum to support safe care standards. The Bromley Safeguarding Children Board also encouraged voluntary sector organisations to review their own practice in relation to child safeguarding. Where allegations were received in relation to voluntary sector organisations, they were responded to robustly.

Is Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) adequately resourced to meet the need for children and young people with mental health needs?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services noted that a number of children and young people who did not have a child protection plan do not meet the threshold for treatment through CAMHS.

The process for multi-agency working is very effective for serious cases. Is joined-up working delivered in the same way for cases that may appear as 'low risk'?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that where an issue was reported to Children's Social Care that did not meet the threshold for further action, parents and carers were signposted to the most appropriate support services for early intervention, such as Children's Centres, Bromley Children Project or the Youth Service. Data was collected by these organisations around the success of their programmes and was reported to senior managers and the Department for Education. Individual outcomes were not collected for each user as it was for higher level services, however a sample of the users of the Bromley Children Project would be considered by the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board to assess the outcomes of this early intervention service.

A small proportion of children and young people in Bromley refuse to attend school or other educational provision or regularly truant. Will attendance still be monitored as more schools convert to academy status?

The Assistant Director: Education confirmed that academy schools were required to report pupil attendance to the Local Authority, but that this information would not be reported as regularly as by Local Authority maintained schools. Academies were responsible for ensuring good attendance by their pupils and this would form part of any Ofsted inspection. The Local Authority had a statutory right to track any child missing in education, which included monitoring visits by Education Welfare Officers to those educating their children at home. Children were issued with unique

pupil reference numbers which should assist in the tracking of pupils as they moved between schools.

When are parents expected to report their child or Looked After Child as 'missing'?

Detective Inspector Dave Smith confirmed that the definition of 'missing' used by the Metropolitan Police was after a person had been missing 24 hours, however the police acted immediately on any reports received. Details regarding missing children were shared with a range of agencies and any risks for the child, such as exposure to substance misuse, were identified through a pre-assessment checklist undertaken by the Assessment Team.

What is the role of elected Members in individual cases of child safeguarding, outside of their committee scrutiny role?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services confirmed that Members did have a role in referring issues of child safeguarding to Children's Social Care, but underlined that agencies were not able to share confidential information with councillors following referral of any issue.

Whose responsibility is risk management?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services confirmed that the post of Director of Children's Services had responsibility to manage risk and was the named accountable officer. A risk register was held by the Department and reviewed by senior managers on a regular basis to ensure risk was managed. The Lead Member had a role in being aware of risk and holding the Director of Children's Services to account for managing risk.

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board advised Members that the Board also worked to oversee the risk register.

How is risk managed for areas of child protection that might have a base in certain communities or cultures, such as forced marriage or female genital mutilation?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services underlined that child protection was not culturally sensitive. Such issues were managed at a multi-agency level including health, schools, the police and children's social care. Schools and the Youth Service worked to raise awareness around issues such as forced marriage and there were accessible routes for information and support for young people at risk. The Ethnic Communities Programme Manager worked with harder-to-reach communities within the Borough and helped raise awareness around key issues.

The Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance confirmed that schools were also supported to identify vulnerable pupils at key times, such as before the summer break, and refer them to suitable agencies.

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board also noted that the Board would shortly be considering a report around the range of services available to the traveller community to ensure that services were accessible for their particular needs.

At what stage is intervention undertaken on behalf of children following incidence of domestic violence?

Detective Inspector Dave Smith confirmed that in following up any report of domestic violence, police officers would complete a checklist which would be shared with Children's Social Care.

Helen Davies, the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board noted that as soon as there was evidence of domestic violence, any impact on children would be assessed.

Are there processes to protect children from the actions of other children, such as bullying, gang involvement or sexual exploitation?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services confirmed that all aspects of child safeguarding were considered, including where children put other children at risk.

Will any future reduction in funding for Children's Social Care or Education impact the provision of early intervention services in schools?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services advised Members that schools could choose to fund the services appropriate to their needs. The Pupil Premium was provided to schools to tackle issues faced by more vulnerable young people and could include the targeted delivery of early intervention services.

Academy schools can have a higher level of fixed-term or permanent exclusions. Is the Local Authority in a position to find alternate places for these pupils?

The Assistant Director: Education confirmed that work was being undertaken by schools and the Local Authority to reduce the level of fixed term and permanent exclusion in the Borough. New models were currently being considered which could include respite and outreach work to help maintain pupils in a mainstream setting.

How can we measure the success of early intervention work in child protection?

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services advised Members that success in early intervention was largely measured through trends in level of users and services accessed over time. Currently Bromley had a high number of children resident in the Borough but the number of

children with child protection plans had consistently reduced which indicated that early intervention services and other processes were having a positive impact.

How is the Tackling Troubled Families Programme supporting child protection?

The Assistant Director: Safeguarding and Social Care confirmed that the Tackling Troubled Families Programme was managed within the Children's Social Care Service and was hosted by the Bromley Children Project. The primary aim of the project was to get children back into school, reduce youth crime and anti-social behaviour, put adults on a path back to work and reduce the high costs placed on public services. 140 families across the Borough had now been identified to participate in Year One of the project, and the Local Authority was confident that it would meet the criteria to draw down funding for Year Two

The Chairman thanked the presenters for their excellent presentations and for providing such a comprehensive outline of current multi-agency responsibilities and arrangements for child protection in Bromley for Members and Co-opted Members of the Care Services and Education PDS Committees.

RESOLVED that Members' comments and questions be noted.

**98 SCRUTINY OF THE ASSURANCE ASSESSMENT OF THE
JOINT POSITION OF DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES
AND DIRECTOR OF ADULT SERVICES**

Report CSED 13002

The Executive Director of Education, Care and Health Services Department outlined the arrangements to fulfil the statutory roles of the Director of Children's Services and Lead Member for Children's Services in Bromley relating to the safeguarding of children. These arrangements were required to be subject to local testing when either the Director of Children's Services or the Lead Member for Children's Services undertook more than one role, as was the case in Bromley.

The Independent Bromley Safeguarding Children Board had oversight of Bromley's safeguarding procedures on behalf of partner agencies. The Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board also had a duty to observe the work of the local system and, should it have failings, report these to the Director of Children's Services and the Chief Executive.

The Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services explained that his role was one of coordination and that he was the accountable officer for child protection.

The Department for Education guidelines gave very direct guidance on the how child protection services should be delivered, however the Local Authority had proposed a number of additional safeguards to provide assurance that the statutory responsibilities of the Director of Children's Services were not compromised through the dual role of the Executive Director: Education, Care and Health Services. These comprised:

- That the Chief Executive in consultation with the Leader and Portfolio Holder continue to monitor the effectiveness of the current arrangements against the Council's requirements and the need for assurance set out in government guidance;
- In the event of a change of Director, the portfolio of responsibilities be reviewed; and,
- The Assistant Director for Children's Social Care, the Head of Safeguarding and Quality Assurance and the Independent Chair of the Bromley Safeguarding Children Board attend meetings of the Board and Education, Care and Health Services Departmental Management Team meeting on a quarterly basis to report on critical issues; thresholds, caseloads (numbers and type) and workforce (including stability, use of agency, sickness/stress absence and incidents of violence and complaints).

RESOLVED that:

- 1) Members of the Care Services and Education PDS Committees agree that the arrangements to discharge the statutory role of Director of Children's Services are safe and that the assurance test be repeated and reported annually; and,**
- 2) That this agreement should be communicated to the Chief Executive of London Borough of Bromley in his role as Head of the service.**

99 SUGGESTIONS FOR AREAS OF SCRUTINY FOR CARE SERVICES AND EDUCATION PDS COMMITTEES FOR 2013/14


Members considered future areas for scrutiny relating to child protection by the Care Services and Education PDS Committees for 2013/14.

RESOLVED that areas of scrutiny relating to child protection be considered by Care Services and Education PDS Committees for 2013/14 as appropriate.

The Meeting ended at 10.00 pm

Chairman



Minute Annex



Children's Social Care and Safeguarding

Overview of Safeguarding Arrangements



Kay Weiss
Assistant Director, Children's Social Care & Safeguarding

Children's Act 1989



Every Local Authority has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of children who are in need if:

- He is unlikely to achieve or maintain a reasonable standard of health and development
- His health or development is likely to be significantly impaired
- He is disabled



Level of Need 2012 - 13

- 10,069 Contacts
- 2,148 Referrals
- 2,052 Initial Assessments
- 1176 Core Assessments
- 502 Child Protection Investigations
- 180 Child Protection Plans
- 90 Children Subject to Care Proceedings
- 285 Children in Care of the Council
- 1850 Open Cases



Capacity and Management Oversight

- Sufficient Qualified Social Work Posts
- Manageable Caseloads
- All CP and LAC are allocated
- Robust supervision arrangements
- Training – Confident, Competent Staff (Munro)
- Performance Information - Data - Children's Digest
- Quality Assurance Framework - Case Audits


External Inspections by Ofsted


Date	Service	Grading
2009	Adoption	Good
2010	Safeguarding and Looked After Children	Adequate
2011	Fostering	Good
2011	Unannounced Referral & Assessment	No Priority Actions
2012	Child Protection	Adequate

Annual Children's Social Care



Improvement Plan – Specific,
Measurable, Time Limited







Safeguarding in Bromley Schools

Dr. Tessa Moore
Assistant Director,
Education




- Complexities and Diversity of the Sector
- Legal Requirement to Safeguarding:-
 - Working Together 2013
 - Section 11 of the Children Act 2004
 - Section 175 of the Education Act 2002



Key Areas that Ensure Safeguarding


- Policies and Procedures
- Role of Governors
- Listening to Pupils – School Councils
- Training
- Early Identification of Need / CAF
- Safer Recruitment
- School Attendance and Exclusions



Minute Annex


Child Safeguarding

The Roles of the Metropolitan Police.




Child Abuse Investigation Command (CAIC-SC&O5)

- **Child Abuse Investigation Teams**
There are 17 Child Abuse Investigation Teams covering 32 London boroughs.
- **Paedophile Unit**
Specialises in combating the activities of those who manufacture & distribute indecent images of children. They also tackle child abuse on the Internet
- **Hi Tech Crime Unit**
Provide a coordinated response to the growing number of child abuse Internet investigations and related forensic examinations
- **Paladin Team**
Safeguard children at all London ports. The team investigate children coming to notice for significant harm issues, particularly child trafficking.




Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT – SC&O5)

- **Intra-familial abuse** (as opposed to Strangers)
- **Professionals abuse** (work in child focussed environment)
- **Other Carers** (Carer with some responsibility e.g. Scouts)
- **Historical allegations** (rape, sexual assaults etc. when a child)
- **Parental abductions**
- **Unexpected Deaths in Child under 2**
- **Child Sexual Exploitation** (New team)




Bromley Borough Police

- **First Responders** (Response team uniform officers, Safer Neighbourhood and school teams)
- **Criminal Investigation Department (CID)**
- **Jigsaw Unit** (Management of sex offenders living on the Borough)
- **Missing Persons Unit (MPU)**
- **Public Protection Desk (PPD)**
- **Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH)**




Jigsaw

- **Multi Agency Public Protection Arrangements**
- **Statutory authorities** (Police, Probation and Prisons)
- **Duty to Co-operate agencies** (housing, social care etc)
- **Team of 5 expert officers managing offenders at differing levels of risk**



Missing Person Unit

- **Manage and overview all reports of missing children and adults living on the Borough.**
- **April 1st 2012 – 31st March 2013 the unit dealt with 643 cases aged 0 -17 years.**
- **Continual reviews and case management with Children's Social Care.**

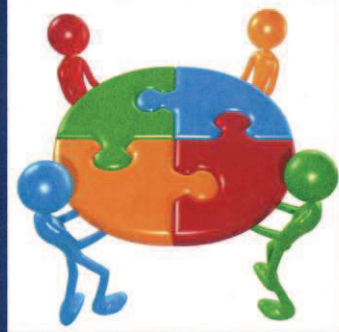


Public Protection Desk

- Police officers and staff researchers
- Conduit between police and Social Services for all children coming to the attention of police.
- Review and manage risk of all relevant cases and refer accordingly. (e.g. CAIT, CSC)
- Due to co-locate at the Civic Centre from July 2013 as MASH.

METROPOLITAN
POLICE TOTAL POLICING

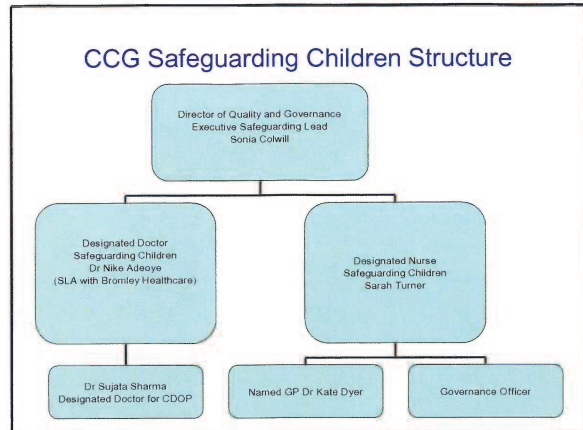
MASH - The Full Picture by Working Together



Minute Annex

**NHS Bromley Clinical
Commissioning Group
Safeguarding Children
Arrangements**

Sonia Colwill
Director of Quality and
Governance



NHS Assurance Groups

- Bromley CCG Commissioning safeguarding assurance group
- Individual provider quality assurance meetings (includes safeguarding)
- Quarterly assurance meetings with NHS England (London region)
- Quality Surveillance Groups

CCG Commissioning

- All providers assessed and information brought together into a RAG rated dashboard includes;
 - Training
 - Supervision
 - Safer recruitment training
 - Key Vacancies
 - Allegations
 - Serious Incidents involving children
 - Active SCRs

Role of NHS England

- Previously known as NHS Commissioning Board
- Provides oversight of CCG's commissioning responsibilities
- Provides support to CCG's in meeting their safeguarding responsibilities
- Has direct safeguarding responsibilities currently met through CCG arrangements

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