



NEWHAM
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
PARTNERSHIP



NSCP Newsletter

May 2020

Edition

Welcome to the NSCP Newsletter

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2. Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Plan for 2020- 2022
3. Learning and Development Proposal
4. Help Newham
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1. NSCP Executive Partnership Update

I thought it might be useful to provide a quick update on what the NSCP Executive have been doing over the last few weeks and to encourage you to contact me or any of the Executive if you have strategic Safeguarding concerns that we need to be considering as a partnership.

We have started to have weekly telephone conferences as an Executive to share challenges and look to identify solutions. We have been working closely with our adult colleagues and agreed the priorities for the NSCP business plan April 2020 - March 2022, two of which are joint with the Newham Safeguarding Adults Board. Work is now underway to populate the action plans to deliver on the business plan. We have agreed a refreshed neglect strategy, a learning and development plan and are planning to roll out learning from reviews. More details of all of these later in the newsletter.

Following the latest government announcement, we are going to be seeing greater movement of people and some children being able to return to school in June. However, as we all know, Newham residents have been hit hard by the virus and clearly there are concerns about the implications of relaxing restrictions.

Most schools have remained open for vulnerable children and the children of key workers. The numbers of vulnerable children attending continue to be very low, only 10%, so if your staff do have the opportunity to encourage attendance at school we know that this will be a protective factor.

As I mentioned before, county lines, criminal exploitation and child sexual exploitation continue to be areas of activity and risk. Encouraging children and young people to share their concerns and respond quickly is vital if we are to safeguard them.

We are seeing an increase in domestic violence reports, although perhaps understandably not as many as might have been anticipated, as the opportunities to report are reduced.

However, the level of reporting of domestic abuse and other issues is only likely to increase once there is greater movement and more children return to schools.

The partnership is discussing how collectively we will be responding to this increase in referrals, we are also recognising that there will be children who have become vulnerable because of the impact of the pandemic.

As Safeguarding leaders, it is vital for us all to "*think innovatively and continually build and flex new muscles to tackle the challenging times ahead.*" This is a quote from a

Chief Executive, who was comparing the journey we are on as we navigate this new normal as being similar to the experience of white-water rafting.

This is going to be a long choppy river with many twists and turns so it is important to be measured and thoughtful in our responses.

Whatever metaphor we choose, the key thing is to continue to focus on safeguarding children and young people and supporting their families and carers. The focus also has to be on yourselves, family and colleagues.

Julia Stephens – Row: NSCP Independent Chair



2. Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership Business Plan for 2020- 2022

Following the success of the joint adults and children safeguarding priority planning event we are ready to share the children's priorities agreed across the safeguarding workforce and the two joint priorities across adults and children.

We are committed to ensuring that vulnerable children and families in Newham are provided with high quality support and protection and achieve the best possible outcomes. The business plan for 2020/2022 reflects the priorities agreed at the priority- setting event in February 2020 and is informed by data, rapid reviews, Serious Case Reviews and the views of children and young people.

Vision

Making the best place for children and young people.

All young people in Newham will:

- Grow up healthy, happy and safe
- Flourish in our schools
- Benefit from training and employment opportunities
- Play an active role in our community

Objectives

- To coordinate what is done by each agency to safeguard and promote the welfare of children
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each agency and by agencies working together

Underpinning principles

- Think Family
- That Newham become a trauma informed borough (led by Health and Wellbeing Board)
- A focus on reversing the impact of Adverse Childhood Experience (led by Health and Wellbeing Board)
- The NSCP aims to be a mature, high trust partnership in which conflicts are resolved through conversation. This means;
 - A culture of early identification and referral to partners agencies
 - Open and transparent dialogue between partner agencies
 - Respect
 - Handling disagreements through conversation which seek to arrive at a joint understanding
 - No weak link in the 'professional supply chain' to a child

Priorities

1. All age exploitation - joint with Newham Safeguarding Adults Board

To coordinate and drive forward multi-agency programs and interventions in Newham which combat exploitation in all its forms e.g financial abuse, modern slavery, sexual exploitation, criminal exploitation and radicalisation

Transitions - joint with Newham Safeguarding Adults Board - Moving from child to adulthood in a safe and positive way

Focusing on care leavers; children with learning disabilities and special educational needs; those experiencing difficulties with mental health; young parents.

3. Improve quality of assessments across the partnership

This will include voice of child and young person, professional curiosity, and use of Graded Care Profile 2 to assess neglect.

In addition to the above, the NSCP will seek assurance with regards to:

a) **Domestic Violence and Abuse** - We will seek assurance from Community Safety partners through the domestic violence and sexual abuse board that safeguarding issues are considered throughout the response to domestic violence and abuse

b) **Trigger trios of mental health, substance misuse and domestic abuse** - we will seek assurance from Health and Wellbeing Board

c) **Children and Young People feeling safe** - we will seek assurance from Youth Safety Board

d) **Children Missing Education** - we will seek assurance from work being undertaken by Local Authority - Education



3. Newham Learning and Development Suite: *Sustained Professional Resilience through Learning and Developing in partnership*

Introduction to Newham Safeguarding Suite – On line access – webinars eLearning

- Foundation setting to Newham – online and information
- Welcome from the Independent Chair and Executive Team
- Introduction to Safeguarding in Newham – incorporating - On-line DVD/quiz to evidence learning
- Introduction to Neglect – quiz/eLearning
- Early Help Threshold Guidance – On-line DVD/quiz
- Government WRAP

Level 1 Training for agencies

Single agency safeguarding training to be the responsibility of each agency.

London Safeguarding Board have provided a generic safeguarding powerpoint. Agencies in Newham are required to adapt and incorporate agency specific protocols as well as NSCP safeguarding protocols.

NSCP Safeguarding Workforce Development Lead will develop means to ensure training quality and consistency across the agencies.

1. Working Together in Newham

Learning and Developing Knowledge
(Priorities 1, 2 & 3)

Training

Level 2

Child Protection and Conference Group Meetings

Child Sexual Abuse

Criminal Exploitation

Disabled Children and Safeguarding

Protecting Children on Line – Digital world

Self-harm, suicide and children and young people

Think Child Think Family

Level 3

Extremism – Understanding the impact on Young People

2. Fundamental Partnership Practice

Learning Events

Why does it matter in Newham?

Linking RR/LR to Learning for practitioners
National and Local reviews have highlighted the need for effective partnership working in the following
(Priorities 1 & 3)

Virtual and interactive Briefings:
Contextualised and Complex Safeguarding

Voice of the Child – direct work

Trigger Trio – Domestic Abuse, Substance Misuse, Mental Health

Prevent

Neglect

3. Targeted learning Skills – learning through practice

Embedding the tools and systems to support frontline & senior workers in Newham
(Priority 3)

Frontline

- Child Neglect: GCP2 Assessing the Quality of Parental Care
- Child Neglect: Beyond the Training surgery
- Early Help Framework and Team around the Family
- Pre-Birth Protocol
- Safeguarding Strategy

Senior:

Managing Allegations against staff and volunteers – LADO

4. Collaborative Leadership Sub-Group

Developing future leaders across the partnership
(Effective leadership in delivering Priorities 1, 2 & 3)

Succession planning

Developing the skills of senior staff within the partnership to be productive members of the partnership

Leadership across the partnership - what does this look like in practice

Professional conversations
Outstanding partnership principles in practice

This includes a range of learning such as mentoring, shadowing.

Providing a comprehensive understanding of how the partnership functions and the roles within it.

5. NSCP Conferences

(Priorities 1, 2 & 3)

BI – annual Themed Conferences hosted by the NSCP.

The focus will be determined by the Partnership - themes that impact on Newham e.g. Complex Safeguarding – launching adolescent - Professional Curiosity – Modern Day Slavery
Professional curiosity Modern slavery

To ensure our training is accessible all training will be delivered on a virtual platform, this is currently under construction, the programme will be starting in June. All information will be available on the NSCP website <https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/learning-zone/> and promotional links will be shared via the safeguarding designated leads for dissemination.



3. COVID 19 - HELP US TO HELP NEWHAM, VOLUNTEER HERE!

If you are of good health, physically able to get out and about, a real team player and wish to support those who are isolated and vulnerable during this difficult time, join our team of volunteers who are supporting Newham Council and other partners on the #HELPNewham Campaign.

All you have to do is to register online, complete an online Induction and you are ready to go.

JOIN NEWHAM'S VOLUNTEERS

Giving up your time to help others is rewarding in more ways than one. Not only does it make a difference to your local area and the people who live there, but it also allows you to meet new people and learn some valuable new skills.

Volunteering is a great way of impressing potential employers. Helping at a local community organisation can fill gaps in your work experience, boost your CV and allow you to try different types of roles to help you get a reference.

Our flexible service provides both short and long term opportunities allowing you to give as little or as much time as you can spare. It is open to everyone over 16, working professionals, students, those with a disability, to refugees and asylum seekers. We will support you so you can be the very best you can be, while helping those around you. Make a difference today.

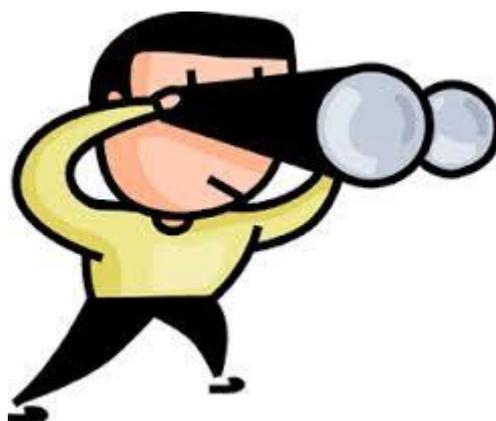
I WANT TO VOLUNTEER

Volunteering is a fantastic way to meet new people, learn new skills and gain valuable lifetime experiences.

If you would like to benefit from the wide range of opportunities we have to offer, please register by clicking on the 'Try Volunteering' option above. Once you have

completed your registration form, you can book to attend a Welcome Workshop. This is a 2-hour induction session, where we will give you all the information that you will need about becoming a Newham's Volunteer. Please note that you will need to complete the online registration form before taking part in a Welcome Workshop.

To book your place on a Welcome Workshop please email volunteers@activenewham.org.uk or call 020 3770 4444



4. NSCP Neglect Strategy: Look out ... it will be launched this month

Neglect remains **the most prevalent form of child maltreatment in the UK** (Action for Children 11 July 2016). Neglect cause great distress and harm to children and leads to poor health, educational and social outcomes in the short and long-term. In some case, neglect will be a causal or contributory factor in childhood deaths.

This strategy is intended as a practical guide for tackling child neglect and it identifies four strategic priority areas for improvement. The strategy recognises the four types of neglect identified by Howe. D (2005) as the basis for understanding what causes neglect in order to work with children and their families effectively.

- Emotional neglect
- Disorganised neglect
- Depressed or passive neglect
- Severe deprivation

A key part of the strategy is to ensure that the workforce continues to understand the significance of neglect for children and are equipped to work effectively with families

Scope of the Strategy

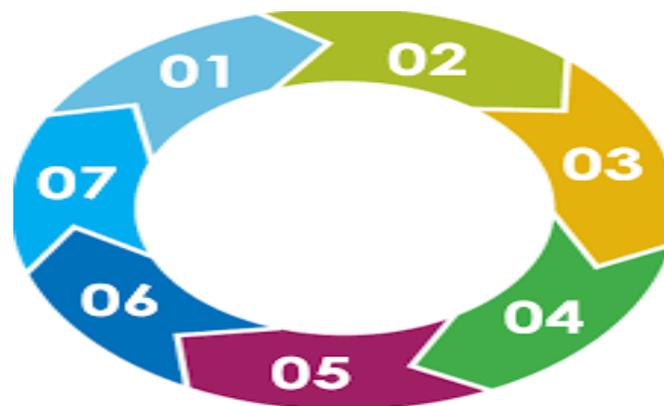
Universal and early intervention services have a critical role to play in identifying and addressing the safety needs of the child, alongside statutory safeguarding services. No single agency is able to address the complex elements of neglect alone and effective interventions depend on professionals working with children and families

across Newham in the statutory, private and voluntary areas to work closely together to identify and support families.

All agencies have a duty to view the safety and wellbeing of children as paramount and to share relevant information and collaborate and work together to keep children safe from harm. This has been consistent in the learning from Serious Case reviews in terms of shared information and relevant intervention where neglect is a feature.

This strategy should be read in conjunction with the Pathways to Help and Support, 2020.

We will let you know when it is live on the website



5. Rapid Reviews: Sharing the learning:

You may recall, in the March 2020 newsletter we shared with you the move from LSCB to NSCP and the changes of language from Serious Case Reviews to Safeguarding Child Practice Reviews and Rapid Reviews. We have completed eight rapid review to date. The learning from six of these cases will be available online by mid-June 2020.

We will be delivering in the format of seven minute briefings, these briefings are based on a technique borrowed from the FBI. It is based on research which suggests that seven minutes is an ideal time span to concentrate and learn. Learning for seven minutes is manageable in most services, and learning is more memorable as it is simple and not clouded by other issues and pressures.

More information will be shared when this is launched online via your designated safeguarding lead.

Follow this link for more information and contact details of all the Executive Members. There is also further information and links to support the fantastic work you do children, young people and families in Newham

<https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/>