



NEWHAM
SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN
PARTNERSHIP



NSCP Newsletter

May 2022

Edition

Welcome to the NSCP Newsletter

1. NSCP Executive Partners Update
2. Thank you, Goodbye and Congratulations within the Executive Partnership
3. Newham's Help and Support Pathways for Children and families
4. Early Help Strategy 2022 – 2025 Launched
5. Changes introduced to the London Safeguarding Children Procedures
6. Newham NSCP is a member of TASP. Free Webinars available to you
7. Launch of the new Newham Information & Intelligence Partnership (NIIP)
8. Being a Parent' courses running this summer
9. Newham Council launches Young People's Charter
10. Child Q Statement – Newham's Response
11. How to access 7 minute briefings – Learning from Rapid Reviews and Child Practice Reviews
12. Booking onto the NSCP Learning and Development programme



1. NSCP Executive Partnership Update

Dear Colleagues,

I do hope that some of you are able to take a break over the bank holiday and let's hope the sun shines for the various celebrations that are taking place. Sadly however we know that holiday periods can leave some of our more vulnerable children and young people more exposed to increased risk and it's important that we put as many safeguards in place as we can.

Please do share this newsletter widely it contains a great deal of useful information and we are keen to receive relevant articles from you to include. The Early Help strategy and the Help and support pathway items are particularly important and relevant to you all.

You will also read that the Exec is having some changes as Richard Tucker retires and Ben Levinson is stepping aside. I would like to thank them for their huge commitment, support and determination to move the partnership forward for the benefit of Newham's children, young people and their families. We will hopefully be able to introduce you to their successors in our next newsletter.

As an NSCP Exec we have been reviewing our progress as a partnership over the last twelve months and I am really pleased with some of the initial findings which indicate the improvement in relationships which have allowed greater levels of scrutiny and challenge and support to take place; communication mechanisms have improved despite Covid-19 and the work around all age exploitation has really demonstrated what the partnership can achieve. We are continuing with our priorities of all age exploitation (joint with the safeguarding adults board), being particularly mindful of child exploitation; communication and engagement; and practice improvement. We need to be mindful of the implications of the cost of living issues facing many of our families which could lead to an increase in neglect and domestic abuse. We also need an increased focus on child sexual abuse and children's mental health. We will maintain an overview of the transitions work that is taking place however as this is going to be overseen by a transitions board our role is going to be one of seeking assurance as to progress.

One area where there has been a great deal of activity relates to learning from reviews and I was delighted that we held our first face to face partnership event recently. We were very fortunate to be able to hear from our national panel regional link - Jahnine Davis as well as from a range of Newham colleagues who were able to give some fantastic examples as to how practice has changed in their organisations following on from rapid reviews and child safeguarding practice reviews. A copy of the slides can be accessed here;

[NSCP Learning & Assurance Event May 2022](#)

Thanks again to all of you for your commitment to this important area of work and I look forward to sharing our continued progress in the next newsletter

Best wishes

Julia Stephens-Row
Independent Chair Newham Safeguarding Children Partnership



2. Thank you, Goodbye and Congratulations within the Executive Partnership

Newham NSCP would like to wish Detective Chief Superintendent Richard Tucker all the very best in his upcoming retirement, his contribution to the safeguarding partnership has been invaluable. His passion for children and young people in Newham is evident in all the work undertaken and delivered.

In his 35 years plus in policing, Detective Chief Superintendent Tucker has served in a number of roles, most of which have been in east London. After climbing the mountain, you finally can enjoy the view. Congratulations on your retirement.

Here is a picture of him receiving the Queen's Police Medal for distinguished service.

Ben Levinson has been Newham's NSCP Executive lead for Primary Schools for 5 years, he is due to hand over the role to a colleague imminently. We would like to share our appreciation for all he has contributed over the years to the partnership and thank him for his continued commitment to children and young people in Newham.

You may remember last year we shared Ben's achievements when he received an OBE in the Queen's Birthday Honour. Here is a picture of him with his medal.





3. Newham's Help and Support Pathways for Children and families

Newham's Safeguarding Children Partnership agencies recently reviewed our guidance on Pathways to Help and Support Children and Families and the indicators of need to support decision-making about risk. This was completed in collaboration with multi-agency partners including over a 100 professionals from Children and Young People's Services (CYPS), Universal and specialist Health services, the Police, Schools, Settings and Children's Centres, through a number of focus groups and workshops.

This guidance is for everyone who works with children and young people and their families in Newham. It sets out the way the partnership want to continue to build relationships, work together, share information and put the child and their family at the heart of everything we do. By having the right conversations, we can navigate the right pathways to help and support children and families enabling them to solve their own problems, find solutions at an early stage and prevent problems from escalating.

The guidance sets out:

- The different Levels of Need experienced by children, young people and families in Newham.
- It offers clarity and support to partners working with them and at what level they should be leading on early support.
- It recognises the contribution partners make to children, young people and families across the Continuum of Need but is intended to provide clarity to practitioners of the levels of need below the threshold for safeguarding and specialist services.

The link to the full document can be found here [Newham-Pathways-to-help-and-support-guidance-2022-](#) and the link to the chart [Newhams-one-page-help-and-support-chart.pdf](#)



4. Early Help Strategy Launched

Our Vision

“Our vision is to empower, encourage and promote the resilience of children, young people and their families to seek their own solutions by helping them to access the right support from the right service at the right time.”

About this Strategy

Our Early Help Strategy sets out our ambitions for a community and culture in Newham, which embeds integrated ways of working and use of resources more effectively to bring about positive changes for children, young people and families.

There are a lot of great opportunities in Newham. We are proud to have retained children’s centres, reinvested into critical youth services and developed strong strategic partnerships with Police, Schools, Health Services, Voluntary Community & Faith Sector partners. Many children have the foundations to lead a positive life: a family that cares for them, a good education and a trusted community.

We recognise that needs change, and adverse outcomes do happen for some of our children, young people and families. It’s important we champion a culture in Newham where it’s okay to ask for help and that our help and support pathways for children & families empower this in our residents. We don’t want to have a referral culture that scares residents away. Where families need more intensive support, our services are committed to working with compassion, curiosity, confidence, communication, clarity and in coproduction and community with them and partners.

Link here for the full strategy [Early Help Strategy](#)



5. Changes introduced to the London Safeguarding Children Procedures

Please note that a number of changes were introduced to the London Safeguarding Children Procedures on or about the 31st March 2022. Details are set out below:

Changes to the Front Page

The most obvious change is to the name of the procedures - "London Safeguarding Children Procedures" now replaces "London Child Protection Procedures". Following the consultation meetings and survey undertaken in the autumn of 2021, changes have been made to the menu structure. There are now three main headings, Core Procedures, Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements and Practice Guidance:

- Core Procedures - the order remains the same but two additional chapters have been added (see below);
- Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements includes agency responsibilities and partnership arrangements - this is themed with some new content (see below);
- Practice Guidance - is now in alphabetical order with shorter titles in the index which hopefully makes it easier to locate what you are looking for.

Each chapter of the procedures now includes information about when it was last updated on the first page. And the text suggesting how best to search the procedures has been updated.

Despite the change of name, internet searches for the "London Child Protection Procedures" and for the "London Safeguarding Children Procedures" will continue to function until September 2023. Colleagues that use a link to access frequently visited sections of the procedures may need to update their links. There are further changes to the interface, search engine and colours used in the procedures planned for later in the year.

Core Procedures - updates

- **Information Sharing Guidance** - this is an entirely new chapter in the procedures. It sets out the legal bases for sharing information to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.
- **Referral and Assessment** - the Pre-Birth Section this chapter has been entirely rewritten in the light of the publication of the "Myth of Invisible Men" by the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel; it emphasises the importance of early identification and assessment and the need to ensure that information is obtained about fathers at every stage of anti-natal care.
- **Allegations Against Staff or Volunteers**
 - A new paragraph 2.8 encourages agencies to ensure that they have a code of conduct in place which clearly includes references to behaviours/relationships between people in a position of trust and those for whom they are responsible that are over the age of 18;
 - Paragraphs 2.12 and 2.13 underlines the need for "low level" concerns to be discussed with the LADO and for them to be recorded.
- **Risk Management of Known Offenders** - this Chapter has been moved into the Core Procedures.

Safeguarding Partnership Arrangements - new menu heading and updates

Safe Recruitment

- Changes to paragraphs 1.11 and 1.40 concerning the statutory disclosure guidance for DBVS checks
- Paragraphs 1.50 and 1.51 have been updated to include a recommendation that agencies retain copies of DBS certificates, ensure that their staff are registered with the DBS update service and provides the UK GDPR bases for the retention of DBS certificates.
- A new paragraph, 2.6 includes reference to the information that fostering and adoption services are required to keep about their staff in addition to that which would be kept for other social workers.

Learning and Improvement Framework

- This is an entirely new chapter in the procedures and combines / replaces “Principles for Learning and Development” and the “Safeguarding Training Competency Framework”.

Quality Assurance

- Section 5.3 (unallocated cases) has been deleted

Practice Guidance

- As set out above, the index has been revised to have shorter chapter titles in alphabetical order.
- The chapter dealing with “Children Living Away from Home” is now under revision.
- Other chapters will be revised in due course including that relating to missing children.

Here is the link to the full version <https://www.londonsafeguardingchildrenprocedures.co.uk/>



6. Newham NSCP is a member of TASP.

TASP has been established to be a National Voice for Safeguarding with the view to invite organisations whose interest is in improving and developing safeguarding systems and professional knowledge. Being a member of TASP allows for the partnership to have access to webinars.

Details of the next two events are below and you can always check to see the latest webinars by going to the webinar page. [webinar page](#)



Webinar 28: Thursday, June 23rd 4:00pm to 5:15pm

Special Event with the Archbishop's Council

Information sharing with National Church Institutions

The Church of England and the Church in Wales are responding to the findings of the Independent Inquiry into Child Sexual Abuse - [Anglican Church Report](#). This includes the requirement for both Churches to ensure that information-sharing protocols are in place at a local level between different church bodies and statutory partners.

To support this work, the Church of England's National Safeguarding Team are launching their key stakeholder engagement with TASP on 23 June at 4pm to 5:15pm. This is an additional event for TASP, outside of the core Webinar programme and TASP are supporting the Church of England in this work. This event will introduce IICSA's recommendation, the options available to achieve the same, added value of the work and how, with Local Partnerships, the recommendation can be fulfilled. [Register for Webinar 28 Here](#)

Webinar 29: Date TBC

Article 39 - Children's Rights in Institutional Settings

Carolyn Willow, Founder Director of Article 39, a charity fighting for the rights of children living in state and privately-run institutions and Martin Barrow, campaigning journalist and editor of Week in Care join us to discuss the issues and challenges in placing children in settings where they are not able to live with family members or foster carers and the inequalities in care standards. **Reservation links to be set up shortly**



7. Launch of the new Newham Information & Intelligence Partnership (NIIP)

We are very pleased to announce the launch of the new virtual 'Newham Information & Intelligence Partnership' (NIIP), which is a critical component of our improvement journey to further enhance our data sharing arrangements across the partnership and to identify and support children, young people and families much earlier on.

The NIIP is initially a 3 month pilot that brings together partners from Children's Social Care, Brighter Futures, Metropolitan Police, Community Safety, Youth Justice, Probation Service, Education and Mental Health to strengthen the identification and response to extra-familial harm and exploitation.

Located within the MASH it utilises the PAN London Multi Agency Information Sharing Agreement that is already in place and will feature in the Supporting Families Information Sharing Agreement too. The analysis of multi-agency information relating to extra-familial risk including organised crime, modern slavery and human trafficking strengthens initial screening, active intervention and the review of need, risk and vulnerability.

The NIIP builds and threads together knowledge, data, information and intelligence to enable a comprehensive understanding of community-based risk. Its capacity to provide a dynamic overview of the individuals, groups and contexts affected will grow over time assisting the prevention of, and protection from, exploitation, violence and other extra-familial harm.

Monthly progress updates during the pilot phase will be found in the newsletter and if you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact Michelle Edwards, Head of Youth Justice and Adolescent Safeguarding.



8. Being a Parent' courses running this summer

HeadStart offer a unique 'Being a Parent' course delivered by parents for parents who live, work or have children who attend school in Newham.

We provide parents/ carers a confidential, non-judgmental space, creating supportive relationships and learning strategies and techniques during difficult times

This Summer Term, we will be running 4 'Being a Parent' courses:

2x ASD Being a Parent Courses

2x General Being a Parent Courses

For more details on the courses and the dates. Flyers are available

To register for one of our Summer Term 'Being a Parent' Courses, please click on the following link: <https://forms.office.com/r/FH28CH3BuH>

Please do include in your communications and widely circulate with professionals and those families you feel would benefit from our course.



9. Newham Council Launches Young People's Charter

The Charter has been co-created by young people since last September, when it was first discussed at a meeting of Next Gen Newham, an initiative which allows children and young people to shape the future of the borough.

Both the Plan and the Charter are core to the borough's commitment to be the best place for Newham's children and young people.

Newham Mayor Rokhsana Fiaz said: "Nothing is more important than our young people and that's why we have invested more than £36 million in services for young people since 2018, increasing the budget by 33 percent. The number of youth workers has also increased from three to 43.

The 11 equally important principles of the Young People's Charter come under the headings of: Change, Creativity, Relationships, Community, Health, Diversity, Keeping Us Safe, Independence, Quality, Environment, and Privacy.

The Charter plans to encourage people and organisations to be accountable and fulfil their commitment to the borough's young people and to champion and advocate for children and young people in Newham.

It also aims to reinforce the message that this is "Everybody's business", demonstrate the Council's commitment to listening to and amplifying the voices of Newham's young people and supporting and engaging them in a way with which they resonate.

The Children and Young People's Plan will focus on five key outcomes for Newham's children and young people to:

- Be cared for, safe and protected from harm,
- Be happy and enjoy improved health and wellbeing,
- Be proud of and protect the environment they grow up in,
- Access, participate and receive a great education, and
- Thrive and achieve their full potential.

Full PDF Link [Newham Young People's Charter \(PDF\)](#)

10. Child Q – Newham's Response

Please find below the link to the Local Safeguarding Child practice review relating to Child Q which was recently published by City of London and Hackney Safeguarding Children Partnership

<https://chscp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Child-Q-PUBLISHED-14-March-22.pdf>

We would ask that you read and circulate this report and consider any learning for your own organisation.

As a partnership we are committed to promoting good practice and escalating concerns as necessary. We share a commitment to identifying and addressing racism, discrimination and unconscious bias and we continue to promote our relevant partnership principles; particularly; open and transparent dialogue, respect and a culture of early identification and referral.

We have a shared commitment to understanding and promoting the learning from this case and any relevant learning from local reviews.

What is important is that we learn from this and have a continually critical eye on our practice. At the same time, we recognise the high levels of safeguarding practice in our schools currently.

Within Newham we have been working closely with Police and Education colleagues to encourage school leaders and governors to immediately review their safeguarding policies, protocols and procedures particularly relating to the supervision of pupils throughout the school day in and around the school buildings, and the supervision of the manual handling of pupils. Education colleagues have also reviewed their own LBN Safeguarding Policy and will be sharing updates soon. We know that the Metropolitan Police accepts that this incident should never have happened and have taken action to ensure officers and staff have a refreshed understanding of the policy for conducting a 'further search' and advice around dealing with schools, ensuring that children are treated as children.

A presentation about Child Q was given to the Designated Schools Safeguarding leads and head teachers bringing the details of the findings and recommendations to their attention and a shorter presentation was also given to the NSCP Friday Safeguarding forum.

A recent report from the Commission on Young Lives recommended the need for a more inclusive education system which proactively tackles racism and made reference to the 'adultification' of black children meaning that they are unfairly punished in schools.

We look forward to continuing to develop our safeguarding practice and learn from cases such as this

On behalf of the NSCP Executive



On the 19th May 2022 London Local Safeguarding Children's Partnership shared the below statement addressing the findings from the Child Q review.

Dear members of London Local Safeguarding Children's Partnerships

Further to my letter to you on 4th April, I am writing to provide an update on the discussions we held on 4th May at a dedicated meeting of the London Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive to discuss our collective response to the Local Child Safeguarding Practice Review of the strip search of Child Q the Child Q case in Hackney. Key safeguarding partners from the MPS, DfE, NHSE, MOPAC and ALDCS attended the meeting. We heard directly from Jim Gamble, the Hackney Independent Safeguarding Commissioner and Jacquie Burke from the Strategic Leadership Team for the Hackney SCP. We then heard from key regional safeguarding partners about their response to the review's recommendations, particularly around disproportionality.

The partners of the Executive all recognised the appalling ordeal that Child Q and her family have experienced and their bravery, both in taking a stand against the strip search and in highlighting the racism that likely informed the decision to carry it out. Partners were all clear that this awful case could have happened across a range of settings anywhere in London, and therefore it is not just an issue for the police or schools to tackle. This case gives us the opportunity to reflect on safeguarding arrangements to ensure that this type of incident cannot happen again in London. It was agreed that the Executive would write to LSCPs to prompt you all to look at the review recommendations, if you haven't already, and engage with the potential implications for your area. In particular, LSCPs will need to consider how they engage with the broadest set of education leaders in safeguarding, including head teachers and governors who they may not have previously worked with.

The Executive is well placed to follow through with the Police and MOPAC on the Review recommendations for the MPS. The Executive will also consider how to embed broader

learning from this meeting, which really helped to deepen our understanding of the incident, across London and will also consider how to bring together partners to discuss what has changed as a result of this work, in due course. We will keep you updated with this work.

Yours sincerely,

Sean Harriss – Chair, London Safeguarding Children Partnership Executive and Children's Lead, Chief Executives of London Committee [CELC]



11. How to access 7 minute briefings – Learning from Rapid Reviews and Child Practice Reviews

NSCP have introduced 'seven minute briefings' to allow Designated Safeguarding Leads (DSL) to deliver briefings to staff on the key learning identified from our Learning Reviews – they can also be used to support reflective discussion with practitioners.

Research suggests that seven minutes is an ideal time span to concentrate and learning is more memorable as it is simple and not clouded by other issues and pressures. Their brief duration should also mean that they hold people's attention, as well as giving managers something to share with their staff.

The expectation is that DSL's will present briefings to their staff, on a regular basis – seven minutes is manageable in most services so why not discuss one in your next team meeting?

There is a password protected area containing learning related to Newham specific cases. As the DSL you will have been provided with the password to access the confidential arena within. If you have not received the password please contact your NSCP safeguarding representative who will arrange for you to gain access.

To document your learning you can access this tool, which can evidence and track the learning within your agency. This area should be used to share good practice and learning within Newham.

Here is the link to the open access area where you will find a helpful introduction to how to use 7 minute briefings and non confidential briefings. <https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/7-minute-briefings-intro/>

To request access to the confidential area and share contact us on LSCB@newham.gov.uk

This comes with responsibilities;

- That you disseminate the information within your establishment – Supervision, Team meetings, training
- Complete action plan to document and evidence change and outcomes
- Share your action plan with the NSCP

12. Booking onto the NSCP Learning and Development programme

The Multi-agency training aims to enable staff to work effectively both within their agency and across organisational boundaries. To help develop better outcomes for children and young people by ensuring we understand how other agencies in the borough are enabling us to work more effectively in partnership. With this in mind, a maximum of 4 staff from the same voluntary and private agencies will be permitted to attend a training session.

Registration: Participants should register online for their course of choice at <https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/events/>. Following registration, you should receive automatic confirmation to the registered email address of your request to attend the training, with the date and time. Please note that the registration for workshops will close five working days before the session. At this point, NSCP will send confirmation to attend to your email. If you have any additional queries or did not receive confirmation, please email LSCB.administrator@newham.gov.uk.

Additional Learning Requirements: Should you have any requirements which would make your learning and participation in a course better, please use the section on the application form to inform us of this. We will make every effort to meet these needs, and if this is not possible, we will contact you to discuss. Non-Attendance and Cancellation Charges (implemented 1st May 2019) Due to a high number of non-attendance, we are now implementing a charge to delegates/agencies/services who book a place and

The full list of training is available via this link <https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/training-brochure/>

If you or your service would like to contribute to the next newsletter please get in touch via LSCB.Administrator@newham.gov.uk

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 for children, young people and families in Newham <https://www.newhamscp.org.uk/>