



Kingston and Richmond
Safeguarding Children Partnership

Annual Report

2019-2020

*Working Together to keep children's safety and
wellbeing at the heart of everything we do*

Ian Thomas CBE KRSCP Chair

Introduction



Ian Thomas KRSCP Chair

- 1 I have been delighted to chair the first six months of the Safeguarding Children Partnership to March 2020. Due to the COVID 19 pandemic and impact of the death of Mr George Floyd in the United States, this has evolved into an unprecedented time, and on behalf of the wider Partnership leaders I would like to send my heartfelt thanks to the local multi-agency workforce for their work, reflection and dedication, despite the personal cost, during this challenging time.
- 2 The three Strategic Partners, Ian Dodds, shared Director of Children’s Services Kingston and Richmond Councils, Detective Superintendent Owain Richards, South West Command Metropolitan Police, and Fergus Keegan Director of Quality for the Kingston and Richmond CCG (Clinical Commissioning Group) and I have seen local progress, despite our COVID 19 challenges this year, which we will outline.
- 3 Throughout our report you will find examples from some of our local Partners of their safeguarding work, their sharing of our Priorities, and the impact of their work on local children.
- 4 Across our two boroughs we are encouraging the use of Signs of Safety terminology in every agency and sector, which we will use for this report.
- 5 As we take stock, and look to the future, we are heartened by the strength of our working together to keep children's safety and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.
- 6 As my tenure as Partnership Chair ends, I am pleased to hand over to Detective Superintendent Owain Richards, as Chair, with our Priorities 2020-22 to take us forward, informed by our local young people and Partners:
 - **Mental Health lead Fergus Keegan, Director of Quality, CCG,**
 - **Contextual Safeguarding, lead Detective Superintendent Owain Richards and**
 - **Parental Vulnerabilities- Think Family, Early Help lead Ian Dodds, Director of Children’s Services.**

Ian Thomas CBE

15th September 2020

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Local Safeguarding Assessment

- 7 As KRSCP Chair, statutory guidance requires me to answer two questions of Kingston and Richmond in a transparent way, these are:
- How effective are our local arrangements?
 - What is the impact of our work on safeguarding outcomes for children?

How effective are our local arrangements?

- 8 Our local arrangements have largely worked effectively during the year. We see a generally stable workforce and performance across agencies in our area and encouragingly a rise in some agency referrals to Children's Social Care across both boroughs, notably from Police, GPs and Schools, meaning more children are able to receive the support they require and are safer. During the year it is with regret that we saw 3 Kingston child deaths and 10 Richmond child deaths, which is a fall in numbers.
- 9 Adherence to statutory guidance Working Together 2018 and partnership working are well established and until COVID 19 restrictions began, there have been successful joint supervision and visits by Health, Police and Children's Social Care staff and joint learning events.
- 10 Independent Inspections of our Partners have led to no surprises this year. Kingston's Children's Social Care Services (delivered by Achieving for Children) were inspected and found to have moved from good to outstanding in autumn 2019. In April 2019, Ofsted carried out a focussed visit to Richmond's front door services, routes into and out of early help services, and the quality and impact of assessments, plans and intervention in early help and with children in need. Referral routes were found to be effective, and multi-agency engagement and partners' contributions led to timely and proportionate responses to the risks identified at the time of referral. It was considered that early help and the contribution of children and family feedback could be strengthened. Kingston's children's social care support to vulnerable adolescents was part of an Ofsted focussed visit in March 2019, and again the service was found to be good. Improvements were recommended in the quality of audits of the work around vulnerability and risk, educational support for those not receiving support, and risk minimisation planning. An inspection of fostering services in Kingston and Richmond delivered by Achieving for Children's Independent Fostering Agency in September 2019 judged AfC services to be good in all areas.
- 11 In September 2019, the CQC published its Child Safeguarding and Looked After Children View (CLAS) inspection report for Richmond CCG during the summer, and identified 7 areas for improvement, including a review of funding for CAMHS. The report concludes that the CCG was working with partners to improve outcomes for children in Richmond and that appropriate challenge was given to address issues when they are identified. The CQC also found good support and guidance being given to frontline staff by the borough's safeguarding team of professionals. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary and Fire & Rescue's case audit of South West Command in February 2020 found that the police had

made substantial improvements in the quality of investigations since the previous inspection in 2018.

- 12 CLCH (Central London Community Healthcare) 0-19 services and sexual health services in Richmond were included in the CQC CLAS Review inspection. CLCH 0-19 services were inspected in February and March 2020 and included interviews with safeguarding practitioners. The CLCH CQC (Care Quality Commission) report was published in June 2020 and the trust received a Good rating for being effective, caring, responsive and well-led. In the domain safe, CLCH received a rating of Requires Improvement, which remains the same as the 2017 inspection. The safeguarding team will support the work to address CQC actions.
- 13 Kingston Hospital Foundation Trust had some actions from the CQC Inspection in Richmond around routine enquiry for domestic abuse, identification of children at risk of CSE, use of the electronic record for children's social care referrals, safeguarding supervision and support for midwives undertaking safeguarding assessments.
- 14 SWLStG (South West London St George's Mental Health Trust) was inspected by the CQC in autumn 2019 and found to be good, including in the area of safeguarding. Improvements were recommended for work with young people with eating disorders and for practitioners to have a stronger understanding of consent, the Mental Health Capacity Act and Gillick competence.
- 15 The Partnership set Top Five areas of Strength in its first meeting in November 2019. We follow these more below in paragraphs 23 and 84.
- 16 Our Strengths are borne out, however there is still further to go with our areas of Improvement, affected in part due to the COVID 19 pandemic. We see good numbers of delegates accessing our learning and development- this year 1722 at face to face training and 3044 using our online learning. We can perhaps attribute the improved identification of children's needs this year in part from the impact of multi-agency learning. The SPA (Single Point of Access) run by AfC, has been consistently praised in Kingston and Richmond as offering a strong service to all local agencies and families, as we can see from this example below.

"One point I would like to make is that we have a very large catchment area; our pupils are residents in more than five boroughs and counties.... Kingston & Richmond's SPA is by far the best. Helpful when it is just advice and if they triage it to referral stage, this is the most efficient."

Nikki Murphy, Assistant Headteacher, Holy Cross School, Kingston April 2020

- 17 I would like to recognise our mature learning culture as another positive. As agencies we have an open attitude to learning and findings from case reviews, audits and our safeguarding self-evaluation work through Section 11s. Very few matters are escalated to senior managers through our dispute resolution process by either members of the public or practitioners.
- 18 Another strength is the Designated Safeguarding Lead network in our schools, which has real strength in terms of engagement and effective understanding of safeguarding issues and effective responses. Finally, there was agreement across partners that Signs of Safety has already established itself across the partnership as a popular and widely adopted

practice framework - and as Strategic Leaders, we have endorsed Signs of Safety more formally as the common way of working with families that all partners should adopt across Richmond and Kingston, in ways that work for their agency.

- 19 This year there has been particular emphasis on support for vulnerable adolescents, who could be at risk of exploitation. This has stemmed from learning from some local reviews, outlined below, paragraphs 89, 94, 105 & 175. This has led for example this year to a rise in CAWNs (Child Abduction Warning Notices) being issued by Police in Richmond and four prosecutions linked to Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) there, increased young men being referred to the MARVE (Multi-Agency Risk and Vulnerability to Exploitation) Panel.
- 20 What is going well? We can see a growth in identification of need – MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) for domestic abuse in Richmond and Kingston, has seen a rise in families referred; more children have been identified as Privately Fostered in both boroughs this year. Schools in Richmond made 24% more referrals to the SPA (Single Point of Access) than last year; 13% more LADO referrals were made in Richmond, with a rise from sports organisations, Early Years' Settings and Schools. We have seen a rise in Child Protection planning for both boroughs with Kingston, now in line with its statistical neighbours.
- 21 We see a rise in Young Carers receiving support, which is often so much needed. 481 Richmond Young Carers and 784 Young Carers in Kingston are now keyed into local networks.
- 22 As a Partnership we have a broad dataset which is tracked and scrutinised via the Quality and Innovation Subgroup local performance for most significant Partners. Work is ongoing to develop our Police indicators across the Met in London. Obtaining meaningful data has been challenging across pan London; this has been escalated and work is going forward in this area. We can see an increase in local vulnerability in the months leading up to our COVID 19 lockdown and we know our safeguarding picture will be very different next year. We finished the financial year in a strong multi-agency position to respond to local need and particularly the impending pandemic.

Stubborn Issues in Kingston and Richmond

- 23 What needs to improve? At our first Strategic Leadership Group (SLG) in November 2019, Partners chose TopFive areas of vulnerability, which correlated to local stubborn issues identified in the last Annual Report, where improvement was needed. All wanted a renewed focus on engagement of GPs in the Child Protection Conference process. There has been considerable effort made through a Task and Finish Group by the AfC Quality Assurance and Reviewing Service, Named GP and CCG Designated Nurses, however at the end of this financial year, there is still further to go. There have been improvements in provision of reports for Initial Child Protection Conferences, a new report template has been devised for GPs and training has been rolled out in both boroughs. This continues to be a focus for the CCG and is monitored on a quarterly basis.
- 24 Timeliness of Initial Health Assessments (IHA) for Children Looked After were another area to develop. Administration and timely notifications were part of the need for improvement. This has been closely monitored by a Task and Finish Group during this year, chaired by Dr Sandy Kenyon, Designated Doctor. The CCG has been considering each delayed IHA as a serious incident and they have been audited by the CCG together with AfC.

- 25 Transitions between schools and children's and adults' services can be a difficult time for young people. We will be working on pathways, a learning event with the Safeguarding Adults' Boards when we can meet without distancing and promoting Think Family training for all practitioners. Several sessions of Think Family training took place before lockdown with 33 delegates attending. Adult Mental Health Services practitioners were prioritised for this training following the findings from the CLAS Review in Richmond.
- 26 In March 2019, the former Quality Assurance Subgroup audited the multi-agency 5 Early Help Assessment Tools, which were all prepared for accessing emotional or psychological support. They were of good quality and we will be following up with referrers and families regarding their outcomes. We held an Early Help workshop in April 2019 to look barriers partners were experiencing in engaging with the Early Help concept.
- 27 We want to strengthen our multi-agency use of Early Help. The Early Help Tool is being revised in collaboration with partners as part of our new Partnership Early Help Strategy, and then it will be re-launched in October 2020 with the expectation that all partners will then use this common tool where there is a need for additional support. We envisage a Partners' Strategic Board bringing all local agencies together to drive this forward for its first year.
- 28 We will be seeking additional assurance that the increasing numbers of children who are Electively Home Educated are safe, that any risks to them are being effectively identified and responded to. This is particularly pertinent due to the COVID 19 lockdown. We can see a rise in identified children in both boroughs, following national trends to 143 Kingston children in March 2020 and 138 Richmond children. See paragraph 60 below for further information.
- 29 We are some of the most affluent and safe boroughs in London, however a small number of children and their families face multiple disadvantages, which stem in part from their race. We can see that children from a BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) background are more likely to be involved with Child Protection Services, MARAC, (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference), to be Looked After, involved with Youth Resilience and/or Offending Services, or face fixed term school exclusions. However, from a strengths' viewpoint, BAME young people are not more likely to be NEET (Not in Education, Employment and Training). As a result, as Partners we have decided to include Diversity as the Golden Thread running through all our local work.
- 30 We have been seeking to understand the reasons why some children were becoming subject to a Protection Plan for a second time, and the Quality and Innovation Subgroup carried out a multi-agency audit in spring 2020 over both boroughs, looking at children subject to Child Protection Plans for more than one time for neglect. This has led to local learning, including the establishment of a multi-agency Panel to consider repeat and long term Child Protection Plans.
- 31 Some of our chief vulnerabilities have been around risky behaviour, mental health, and neglect. Richmond has seen a rise in young people accessing substance misuse support and attending A&E with concerns for self-harm and alcohol use. We have seen a rise to 29 Kingston first time entrants into the criminal justice system this year, against 5 last year. We have been scrutinising the risks of young people not in education and have noted a rise in fixed term exclusions for Children Looked After for both boroughs.
- 32 One of our key areas of focus is emotional wellbeing and mental health. Referrals to CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services) have risen in both boroughs over the year. In Kingston referrals to the SPA (Single Point of Access) were 20% for child mental health concerns this year, and it is the most common factor identified in the single assessment. The figure was 22% for Richmond. We can see a year on year rise for referrals to CAMHS for

both boroughs, 2,174 referrals for Kingston children and 2,294 for Richmond children this year. See paragraphs 79 onwards below for more information.

- 33 Our Emotional Health Review, which is nearing completion, seeks to understand how to support universal services we hope this will have a positive impact on local professionals by helping them to feel more confident in meeting emotional health needs to divert referrals away from CAMHS, and help those who need support, and create strong pathways for local children in distress.
- 34 In Richmond and Kingston, we can see a rise in convictions of young people for criminal offences, and from the small cohort, a 42% reoffending rate in Richmond. This year has also seen a rise in children living in temporary accommodation across the year in Kingston of approx. 5% against last year to 1,296 children. This figure has fallen in Richmond.
- 35 At March 2020, 50% of Kingston careleavers and 56% Richmond careleavers were engaged in Education, Employment or Training and 84% were living in suitable accommodation; 94% of Richmond young people were living in suitable accommodation. For both boroughs there has been a small rise of young people in drug treatment – just under 50-60% of exits planned from treatment, 7% of those in treatment were re-referrals. At the end of 2019-20, 11 children who are Privately Fostered were identified in Richmond; in Kingston this was 19 children- a significant growth in agencies referring concerns.

What is the impact of our work on safeguarding outcomes for children?

- 36 We can see impact and outcomes from a safer, well trained workforce to the wellbeing of babies to vulnerable teenagers across both boroughs. For example, more vulnerable children have been identified and received support in both boroughs - there has been a rise in referrals to Children's Social Care by West Middlesex University Hospital (WMUH) Midwives, and referrals to the Phoenix Project in AfC (dealing with issues of exploitation).
- 37 During the year, four child safeguarding practice reviews have been completed – St Paul's School, Richmond SCR (Serious Case Review), and three practice reviews regarding vulnerable adolescents, Polly (Richmond), Young Person Q (Richmond), and Young Person S (Kingston).
- 38 The School Serious Case Review has led to a renewed emphasis on our child sexual abuse pathway, which was refreshed in February 2020 by the Designated Doctors, and on the role of schools in safeguarding partnership work. And Education has been joined as a fourth Strategic Partner in our SLG (Strategic Leadership Group), represented ably by Sophie Cavanagh, Head of Kingston Academy and Sophie McGeoch, Head of Meadlands Primary School, in Richmond.
- 39 The latter learning reviews have led in part to our choice of Contextual Safeguarding as a theme for the whole Partnership for the next two years. At the time of writing, a themed emotional health review is ongoing for the joint Partnership.
- 40 At the time of writing a Domestic Homicide Review and Serious Case Review in relation to a Richmond F Family is nearing publication, having been sent to the Home Office. Please find further information below in paragraph 74.

- 41 During the year, AfC has employed a Contextual Safeguarding Manager, meaning that there is a growing join up with Adults Social Care in both boroughs as we work together to address exploitation, and a shared understanding of hotspots and plans to disrupt exploitation taking place there. Three learning reviews were completed during the year, which highlight local risks of exploitation for young people, particularly those who are out of education, employment and training and who move back to London. We are working to improve our practice based on this local evidence.
- 42 Priorities **Workforce Development, Improving Practice, Communication and Engagement, and Governance and Accountability** were set for two years to 2020, and have borne fruit as I outline as this summary table unfolds below. Our KRSCP completed Business Plan can be found [here](#):

	Impact and outcomes
1 Workforce Development	
<p>Disseminating learning about safeguarding children & safe workforces</p> <p>Combating neglect</p>	<p>Rise in referrals to SPA by Schools, GPs, Police</p> <p>20 Neglect Champions come forward in all agencies & sectors; providing further training & quality assuring work in relation to working with neglect over time; Neglect bite-sized sessions take place from 2019 onwards;</p> <p>GP learning & Headteacher in both boroughs around Child Protection Conferences, Neglect, Think Family, Prevent.</p> <p>DSL forums thriving & used as a platform to disseminate learning. Extensive training provided to enhance understanding of online safety. School events supported by</p> <p>Rise in LADO Early Years, Sports & Education referrals in Richmond.</p> <p>Contextual Safeguarding Conference – 150+ attend Safe in Sport Mini Conference- 35 attend Safe in Faith Conference</p> <p>Safer Kingston & Richmond Community Safety Partnership FGM Conference took place with lead speakers, including from Police in February 2020.</p> <p>Child Sexual Abuse Pathway refreshed</p> <p>West Middlesex University Hospital Midwives make more referrals to CSC</p> <p>Outreach to the Korean religious community</p> <p>Regular esafety training to DSL & EY Forums.</p> <p>Bespoke safeguarding training for Police delivered to 90 frontline officers.</p> <p>Schools take part in Trailblazer Mental Health pilot, Papyrus Suicide Prevention & Mental Health First Aid training.</p>

<p>2 Improving Practice</p> <p>Good coordination of risky behaviour, emotional wellbeing & exploitation interventions</p>	<p>MARVE sees rise in referrals for boys, Harmful Sexual Behaviour & Child Criminal Exploitation</p> <p>Employment of an AfC Contextual Safeguarding Manager January 2020</p> <p>Involvement of Adults Social Care in Kingston & Richmond with MARVE</p> <p>Contextual Safeguarding Conference takes place in 2020 -155 attend</p> <p>FGM protocol is refreshed summer 2019; FGM learning Conference held Feb 2020 attended by 130</p> <p>Safe in Sport Conference October 2019- 35 clubs attend</p> <p>Safe in Faith Conference take place in November 2019 30 attend</p> <p>Harmful Behaviours working group chaired by Sian Thomas, Designated Nurse takes place across both boroughs, held by the CSPs.</p> <p>Spring 2020 Richmond BID considering Safe Haven project to protect young people & create safe places in local shops & businesses</p> <p>VCA Task and Finish Group begins Jan 2020 looking at preventing School Exclusions & NEET</p> <p>MARVE Panel refreshed & includes Youth Offending Cohort Jan 2020 means more vulnerable young people are safeguarded</p> <p>Sect 11s gained by Housing providers & Domestic Abuse agencies in Richmond Spring 2020; Opticians, Dentists, Pharmacists and most Schools in Kingston and Richmond;</p> <p>KRSCP multi-agency Threshold and Dispute Resolution documents refreshed Sept 2019</p> <p>July 2019 Domestic Abuse learning event in Kingston with SKP- learning disseminated</p> <p>Missing Children Deep Dive Learning Hub activities Nov 2019: audit of 10 children across Kingston & Richmond. Focus groups held with managers, practitioners, young people & voluntary sector; Report produced by Independent Scrutineer Jan 2020</p>
<p>3 Communication and Engagement</p> <p>Participation to ensure we are hearing and acting on children's voices in Kingston & Richmond</p>	<p>Half termly update newsletters to schools & Early Years settings; Termly neglect, Voluntary Sector & Faith Newsletters;</p> <p>Monthly KRSCP newsletters with distribution to 600 subscribers;</p> <p>Young People & Families influence the partnership on issues around mental health, knife crime, risky behaviour & substance use.</p>

<p>Key safeguarding messages are communicated across both boroughs</p>	<p>Letter sent to all tattoo & piercing shops Jan 2020 re spotting signs of youth exploitation & local training</p> <p>February 2020 participation report collating all the themes researched by various user groups & schools giving an oversight of what themes young people have been asked about & what themes are planned</p> <p>In June 2019 first Safeguarding training event for young people to attend. Young Person's Annual Report Feb 2019 & Dec 2019. Feb 2020 produced Easy Info report for young people with SEND.</p> <p>Nov 2019 Young people who engage with the YRS went to the Met Police YOT Development Day at New Scotland Yard</p> <p>Knife Crime Conference in Kingston spring 2019</p> <p>Police fully engaged with the YP learning exercises, excellent feedback & an enquiry from the Youth Justice Board about doing similar for their learning. Young people spoke about Risky behaviours in LSCB Spring meeting 2019 and young people spoke about knife crime in the Summer 2019 Board meeting.</p> <p>Schools' Coordinator engages young people in the transition of LSCB to a new Partnership arrangement. The Design a logo competition shared with Youth Council, Young Offenders, NEET, SEND, Colleges & all schools;</p> <p>Emotional health review involved local agencies including schools, health staff & young people autumn 2019</p>
<p>4 Governance and Accountability</p> <p>Development of a strong Safeguarding Partnership to replace the LSCB by maintaining our good local work & relationships</p>	<p>New partnership arrangements have been agreed following consultation with Partners;</p> <p>KRSCP Partnership Strategy was accepted by DfE in June 2019 & endorsed in Kingston CSC Inspection Nov 2019 12 Official CDOP arrangements are published;</p> <p>July 2019 Independent Scrutineer appointed;</p> <p>Regional CDOP meetings begin Sept 2019; website & Comms updated: eCDOP now in use across Partnership</p> <p>Education leads recruited to the SLG and publicised to all the schools All Board Members receive regular Partnership letters & monthly newsletters</p> <p>Following consultation, development of Partnership Vision and Priorities for 2020-22;</p> <p>New Strategic Leadership Group formed.</p>

Priorities 2020-22

43 In March, following a consultation with local Partners, the SLG (Strategic Leadership Group) set priorities for the next two years for the Partnership with a Golden Thread throughout them all of diversity and anti-discrimination. They will continue to 2022.

- **Contextual Safeguarding – Lead Det Super Owain Richards**
- **Mental Health – Lead Fergus Keegan**
- **Working with parents with vulnerabilities, Think Family, Early Help – Lead Ian Dodds**

44 This report is published on the KRSCP website here:

<https://kingstonandrichmondsafeguardingchildrenpartnership.org.uk/about-krscp/annual-report-42.php>

A copy of this report has been sent to the Child Safeguarding Practice Review Panel and the What Works Centre for Children's Social Care.



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Introduction



Ian Thomas KRSCP Chair

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- 49 As we take stock, and look to the future, we are heartened by the strength of our working together to keep children's safety and wellbeing at the heart of everything we do.
- 50 As my tenure as Partnership Chair ends, I am pleased to hand over to Detective Superintendent Owain Richards, as Chair, with our Priorities 2020-22 to take us forward, informed by our local young people and Partners. Diversity and anti-discrimination will be running through all our future work as a Golden Thread.
- **Mental Health lead Fergus Keegan, Director of Quality CCG,**
 - **Contextual Safeguarding, lead Detective Superintendent Owain Richards and**
 - **Parental Vulnerabilities- Think Family, Early Help lead Ian Dodds, Director of Children’s Services.**

Ian Thomas CBE

15th September 2020

Engagement with, and Participation of, Children and Young People

- 51 As a Partnership we have used partners' local agency feedback from children and families to inform our Priorities for our work 2020-22: Mental Health, Contextual Safeguarding and Parental Vulnerabilities. I am delighted that our new logo was designed by a local young person from a School in Richmond; the KRSCP competition attracted 100 entries across both Boroughs and culminated in the six finalists being invited to meet both Mayors in the Mayor's Parlour in Kingston.
- 52 In spring 2019, two separate groups were developed by Lucy MacArthur, Schools' Coordinator to discuss mental health and risky behaviours to feedback to the Board meeting. In partnership with the Youth Council, the KRSCP delivered a safeguarding training event in June 2019 for 47 young people. School surveys feed into our Learning Hubs. For example, Richmond Park Academy fed data into our missing learning workshop in autumn 2019, and The Mall School put some Neglect questions into its survey for our Neglect learning this spring.
- 53 3,326 young people from Kingston and Richmond started a Duke of Edinburgh Award in 2019-20, with 271 young people starting a Gold Award, an increase from the previous year. We achieved our highest ever number of young people achieving their Award with 1,759 fully completing the programme. In total, these young people contributed 47,892 hours of volunteering in the last 12 months to charities, schools and community groups, which represents a social value of £505,261.

Youth Voice mapping of research

- 54 Many Partners have active participation groups which have informed our strategic work. The following table gives examples of youth participation on a number of subjects during the year:

Topic	Detail	Date	Future plan Topics	Date	Organiser
Knife Crime	700 young people's views on knife crime with set of key recommendations shared with police & professionals	Nov 2019	Work in partnership in co-producing a knife crime awareness campaign involving 400 young people in June 2020	June 2020	Youth Council & Parliament
Knife Crime	Two boys from the YRS presented to LSCB Joint Board meeting June 2019 about knife crime & the fine line between victim / perpetrators	June 2019			LSCB/ Youth Resilience Service
Mental Health	Develop Youth Out Loud self-harm film 15 step review Kingston Hospital clinic E safety as part of Digital Youth Project	July 2019 2019	Sexual Health film 15 step review West Middlesex Hosp & Wolverton Clinic Kingston Transition between child & adult services SEND – accessing services	May 2020 2020 2020 2020-2021	Youth Out Loud (Health Watch)
Mental Health			Mental health school survey being planned	2020	The German School
Mental Health	Mental health & wellbeing of students with all of Years 8 and 10 carrying out a survey, Y8 for Anna Freud centre and UCL & Y10 with clinical psychologist at Royal Holloway.	2019			Orleans Park
Drugs/alcohol	Year 9 have had drugs & alcohol workshop delivered by Daniel Spargo Mabbs foundation &	Ongoing			Orleans Park School

	then will be having some smaller tutor group sessions with their materials. They have been asked to complete a survey before using these materials & a survey after to see any changed perceptions				
Local Development & Projects	Young people's views shared with Richmond & Kingston Council on various projects such as Twickenham Riverside Development & in New Malden the Cocks Crescent Regeneration	Oct / Nov 19			Youth Council
Cocks Crescent Development New Malden		Nov 2019			Kingston Young Carers
Annual survey about the Young Carers service		June 2019	Annual survey	June 2020	Kingston & Richmond Young Carers
Careers advice & mentoring service	Achieving ambitions project Mentoring programme				Richmond Young Carers
Consultation with Children in Care young people	Online questionnaire developed & disseminated to children in care young people 24 young people consulted CICC Action Plan themes & objectives informed by the views of children in care	2019			Children In Care Council
Children In Care Council Quarterly meeting with Managers	Children in Care Council facilitate quarterly meeting with AfC managers & elected officials to discuss policies & procedures. Young people get to regularly challenge & scrutinise managers; young people raise & address issues of direct concern to them such as	ongoing			Children In Care Council /AfC

	housing situation, pathway planning timeframes.				
NHS Accredited Health Champions training	7 members of the Children In Care Council successfully completed their accredited training to give young people the skills, knowledge & confidence to act as peer mentors, increasing awareness of healthy lifestyles	2019			Children In Care Council CCG
MY SAY	In-house online consultation tool for Children in Care developed in partnership with AfC & the Children in Care Council to engage with looked after children & young people at the time of their looked after review meeting.	ongoing			Children In Care Council /AfC
Risky Behaviour	13 young people in care and care leavers consulted on behaviours in relation to drugs, alcohol, smoking and sexual activity.				Children In Care Council
Risky Behaviour	LSCB's met with 29 young people to discuss risky behavior & their views & experiences. 7 of the participants had SEND & 22 were neuro typical. Results presented at Jan 2019 Board meeting	Jan 2019			LSCB Kingston College, Richmond College, Orleans Park Sixth Form & the Kingston Richmond SEND participation group.
Sexual Health Strategy for Kingston & Richmond	12 young people - care leavers & young people in care consulted on: Prevention; Awareness; Inequalities to support Improvements in quality & access to sexual health services;				Children In Care Council

Youth Services – their importance to young people	3 boys from Richmond YRS spoke to the MET Police YOT Team at their development day	Nov 2019			LSCB/ Youth Resilience Service AfC
Counselling service review of Kooth	12 CICC members - young people looked after & those leaving care views informing the Kooth on- line Counselling Service	2019			Children In Care Council
Transgender Policy	Trustwide user group where Transgender young people are consulting with SWLStG re the Trust's transgender policy				CAMHS SWLStG
Mental Health Review Consultation	User group feedback to CAMHS reviewer	Autumn 2019			CAMHS SWLStG KRSCP
Internet safety	Whole school survey on internet use/access and Esafety	recently	Year 8 wellbeing survey	2020	Grey Court School
Pupils attitude to Self & Safety (PASS) survey	Annual survey	Annually			
Relationships	Tender (safer relationships) charity) & some Year 9's are helping develop an App that supports LD young people with their relationships.	ongoing		2020	St Philips School
Transgender	Beginning to think about issues like toilets, changing rooms & pronouns used			2020	St Philips School
General safeguarding School survey	How safe do you feel in school? 2. Do you have trusted adults in school that you can talk to? 3. How worried are you about SATs? 4. Are we a mentally healthy school? 5. General behaviour (of others) 6. General safety awareness- where do they/ don't they feel safe (& how would they respond)	recent			Hampton Hill Junior School

Local Safeguarding Assessment

Demographic

- 55 In Kingston, this year there is a total population of 176,313 people, of which 22% are children aged 17 or under. In Richmond there are 199,419 total inhabitants and 45,493 children aged 18 or under. In Kingston, 39% of people are from a BAME (Black and Minority Ethnic) background, whilst 17% of people are from a BAME background in Richmond. In Richmond, 23% of children have a first language which is not English, this is 33% in Kingston. 12% of Kingston children were living in low income families in 2016 (HMRC). The population is generally safe and affluent but there are areas of deprivation in both boroughs. Housing costs are high and there are growing numbers of Kingston families with children living in temporary accommodation, mainly outside their boroughs of origin. Low numbers of children live in poverty 5% of children in Richmond were living in a low income family in 2018-19, and 14% of pupils were eligible to schools meals.
- 56 Earlier this year, the Children's Commissioner developed datasets of vulnerability for the whole country. We can see that:

Richmond

3.96% affected by parental alcohol use – 1,410 children
 5.74% affected by domestic abuse – 2,590 children
 12.14% affected by parental mental health concerns – 5,480 children
 0.89% of children have all 3 vulnerabilities – 400 children aged 0-17

Kingston

3.52% of children affected by parental alcohol difficulties – 1,360 children
 6.14% of children affected by domestic abuse – 2,370 children
 12.56% of children affected by parental mental health concerns – 4,850 children
 0.99% of children are affected by all 3 vulnerabilities – 380 children aged 0-17

As a Partnership we have disseminated this information and ask ourselves how well are we doing? Are these children on our radar? Have we considered early help to begin to provide support? Much of our scrutiny work has centred on these strands of parental vulnerabilities.

- 57 In our boroughs, there are rising numbers of children with Special Educational Needs, particularly from an ADHD (Attention Deficit, Hyperactivity Disorder), and ASD (Autism Spectrum Disorder) background. We see disproportionate school exclusions for boys, children from a BAME background and those with some special needs. Richmond has an SEN figure slightly higher than the London average at 2.4% (2020 DfE). The latest Joint Strategic Needs' Assessment (JSNA) report (2017-18) tells us, for example, that over 1/5th of Richmond's 15 years-olds engage in 3 or more risky behaviours – the highest in London; hospital admissions for self-harm are now the third highest in London (up from 2016-17); and the mental wellbeing score for Richmond's 15 year-olds is the fourth worst of all London boroughs (What About YOUth Survey 2015).

Child's Journey

- 58 Education is a key protective factor throughout childhood and a key universal partner. What is going well? 76% of boys and 85% of girls had a good level of development in Richmond, and 69% of boys and 83% of girls in Kingston when they entered school; these are higher figures than the London average. Those receiving support are relatively low within national parameters. We know a proportion of those additional supports are for children with ASD (Autistic Spectrum Disorder) / ADHD (Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder) conditions.
- 59 Missing school can place a child or young person at significant risk at times of exploitation, social isolation or involvement in crime or risky behaviour. This has been amplified by learning from our local reviews about vulnerable adolescents. We also are aware that many of the children considered at the MARVE (Multi-Agency Risk and Vulnerability to Exploitation) Panel have Special Educational Needs and Disabilities. Therefore during the year a Task and Finish Group began in January 2020, chaired by Linda Sheehan, AfC to meet with some local schools to look at innovative work in order to reduce exclusions and the need for children to be out of school. We are auditing cases in autumn 2020 looking at the theme of "Journey to School Exclusion" in our learning hub work as part of the Quality and Innovation Subgroup, and working to raise awareness of School Governors, as part of the recommendations of the Timpson Report.

Elective Home Education

- 60 Elective Home Education (EHE) involves families choosing to educate their children at home either temporarily or permanently. In March 2020 there were 138 EHE children in Richmond (much the same as at the March 2019), a number that has grown from 60 in 2014-15. Families are offered an annual visit by the Local Authority; in Richmond 33 families agreed to this, 13 declined and there are no results for 16 families. In Kingston there were 143 EHE children at the same time, a growth again from 57 in 2014-15, again 9 have EHCPs. Previously these children have been older, but now children are home educated across the age range. In Kingston during the year, 32 families accepted a visit, 15 declined and we have no results for 13 families. This is a vulnerability identified during our summer post-COVID 19 planning meetings and we are working with School Nursing to ensure these children have some professional oversight. This year, one Kingston family chose to engage with School Nursing for support, and so there are 58 children altogether, who in theory have not been sighted this year outside their homes. This remains something we are worried about, as we identified in setting our TopFives last year.

School Exclusions

- 61 School exclusions can place children at risk and we have been tracking figures for some years, including children who have SEND or who are Looked After. Exclusion can affect boys and children from a BAME background more. We are worried that we have found relatively high numbers of children with EHCPs excluded from primary school in Richmond, which can create an unsettled journey into secondary school.
- 62 We plan Independent Scrutiny and an audit theme of the "Journey to School Exclusion" in the autumn 2020 during the new financial year to look more closely at these children's needs. To complement this work, a Task and Finish group has begun, connected to the VCA Subgroup to look innovative practice to prevent school exclusions in both primary and

secondary arenas, and a small Group is also planned with School Governors to strengthen their roles as critical friends in this matter, chaired by our Governor Member, Aisha Bicknell.

- 63 7.8% of Richmond Children Looked After had one or more fixed term exclusions in 2019-20 – there were none for either borough for the last several years. None of our children looked after from Kingston and Richmond have received permanent exclusions. For Richmond, this came to 29.5 days in total. Therefore, 9 Richmond Children Looked After had at least one fixed term exclusion. 5 were not on a school roll or missing education and 2 had less than 25 hours of education per week (statutory minimum). 5 children were not on a school roll or missing education and 2 had less than 25 hours of education per week (statutory minimum). 7, (9.6%) of Kingston Children Looked After had at least one Fixed term exclusion during the year. This led to 18.5 days of missed education. 2 students Looked After were not on a school roll and 5 had less than 25 hours of education per week. This needs to get better in our boroughs.
- 64 In Kingston, there were 270 fixed term and 8 permanent exclusions; the figures are respectively 384 fixed term and 9 permanent exclusions for Richmond. Please note that this data does not include independent schools, nor managed moves between schools; and that the spring term to March 2020 was impacted by the pandemic. The primary school exclusions, whilst few in number are significant. We can see lower numbers for all year groups compared to last year but vulnerabilities in Year 6.

Kingston School Exclusions 2017-20 by school year

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Year 7	64	34	15
Year 8	93	74	36
Year 9	115	144	72
Year 10	94	149	96
Year 11	54	64	59

Richmond School exclusions 2017-20 by school year

	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Year 7	113	63	40
Year 8	111	136	61
Year 9	184	134	101
Year 10	155	173	90
Year 11	126	100	101

Kingston School exclusions 2013-20

Year	Fixed term	Permanent
2013-14	440	22
2014-15	617	22
2016-17	701	16
2017-18	674	14
2018-19	588	17
2019-20	270	8

Richmond School exclusions 2013-20

Year	Fixed term	Permanent
2013-14	440	22
2014-15	617	22
2016-17	701	16
2017-18	674	14
2018-19	588	17
2019-20	384	9

Richmond Fixed Term Exclusions

Qtr 1 April-June'19	Qtr 2 July-Sept'19	Qtr 3 Oct-Dec'19	Qtr 4 Jan-Mar'20
Primary 9/ 5 with EHCP	Primary 5/1 with EHCP	Primary 22/ 7 with EHCP	Primary 9/ 5 with EHCP
Secondary 103/ 6 with EHCP	Secondary 62 /7 with EHCP	Secondary 164 / 21 with EHCP	Secondary 143/12 with EHCP

- 65 Children with an EHCP (Education, Health and Care Plan) are usually more vulnerable. There are low numbers of children with EHCPs who are excluded from Primary and Secondary Schools, but we consider it important to monitor their fixed term exclusions. There was a spike for Richmond primary exclusions in Quarter 3. Compared to 2019-20 in Kingston, we can see an improvement for Quarter 4 but a higher percentage of students who had an EHCP being excluded. We can see improvements overall in a general drop in fixed term exclusions over the last few years for Richmond and Kingston, which is very encouraging. AfC Youth Resilience is working with schools to support the transition to secondary school for primary school children deemed as more vulnerable. We want to see these improvements continuing for these vulnerable children.

Kingston Fixed Term Exclusions

Qtr 1 April-June'19	Qtr 2 July-Sept'19	Qtr 3 Oct-Dec'19	Qtr 4 Jan-Mar'20
Primary 22/ 3 with EHCP	Primary 11/5 with EHCP	Primary 39/6 with EHCP	Primary 16/ 4 with EHCP
Secondary 108/3 with EHCP	Secondary 42/2 with EHCP	Secondary 135/12 with EHCP	Secondary 83 / 7 with EHCP

Kingston Primary School exclusions 2017-20

Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
2017-18	11	2017-18	8	2017-18	3	2017-18	19
2018-19	19	2018-19	27	2018-19	34	2018-19	13
2019-20	7	2019-20	10	2019-20	13	2019-20	15

Richmond Primary School exclusions 2017-20

Year 3		Year 4		Year 5		Year 6	
2017-18	13	2017-18	19	2017-18	10	2017-18	13
2018-19	6	2018-19	4	2018-19	9	2018-19	3
2019-20	8	2019-20	3	2019-20	3	2019-20	12

- 66 The table below shows the ethnic breakdown figures 2016-20 for Secondary School excludees. Figures are mainly stable, which means things are generally going very well, although there are higher comparative exclusion figures, for those from a Black Other background in both boroughs, although these are small numbers and those figures have fallen this year.

Ethnicity of students excluded in Richmond and Kingston

Richmond	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2016-17	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2017-18	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2018-19	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2019-20
White British	4.8	4.4	4.5	2.9
Irish	7.1	2.9	2.6	1.3
Traveller Irish heritage	0	50	100	0
Any other white	3.3	4.2	2.6	1.5
White & Black Caribbean	13.5	12.6	11.9	6.4
White & Black African	9.8	8.7	9.0	3
White & Asian	3.1	3.3	3.7	1.5
Any other mixed	7.2	4.9	3.0	1.6
Indian	1.2	1.1	1.5	0.5
Pakistani	2.0	2.8	3.1	0.7
B/deshi	3.6	1.6	3.1	0
Any other Asian	5.2	4.0	5.7	2.2
Caribbean	14.1	9.6	12.5	10.4
African	10.3	9.3	5.5	4.5
Any other Black	10.5	7.8	2.7	4.5
Chinese	2.2	0	0	0
Any other	3.8	5.2	1.3	2.7
Information not known / refused	0.9	6.1	1.1	2.6

Kingston	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2016-17	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2017-18	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2018-19	Excludees as % of ethnic group 2018-19
White British	3.6	3.5	3.6	2.2
Irish	0	5.9	4.1	0
Traveller Irish heritage	0	0	25	0
Any other white	2.0	0.1	3.4	1.5

White & Black Caribbean	7.5	12.5	10.3	5.4
White & black African	5.9	11.5	13.7	4.3
White & Asian	2.3	1.2	1.3	1.2
Any other mixed	2.7	3.8	5.9	2.3
Indian	1.5	1.6	0.8	0
Pakistani	0.9	1.1	1.8	0.8
B/deshi	1.3	0	0.7	2.2
Any other Asian	0.7	2.5	3.1	1
Caribbean	5.4	6.3	4.2	7
African	5.9	4.3	5.4	3.3
Any other Black	13.1	21.7	10.9	9.8
Chinese	0	0	0	0
Any other	1.5	0	0	0
Information not known / refused	1.5	1.4	1.4	1.5

NEET

- 67 Our data ensures we look at the needs of children looked after and care leavers. One significant national and local issue is the percentage of young people Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET). For boroughs with small numbers of Children Looked After, this figure should be low. In Kingston at the end of Quarter 4 2019, 41% of Care Leavers aged 19-21 years were NEET compared to a local population of 1.9% for 16-19 year olds. This figure was 54% NEET against a local population of 2% in Richmond. Some of these young people will be those known to services for being missing from care, figures we know are higher for Richmond young people, and therefore at risk of being drawn into exploitation, depressed isolation and crime through their vulnerability. We see this in some of the themes of our local serious incidents and learning reviews
- 68 In Kingston, there are 3,080 16-17 year olds, who were NEET, known to the Local Authority, of which 56% were classed as White British. In Richmond, of a total cohort of 2,830 16-17 year olds, 61% (1,740) are classed as White British. Twenty four per cent (33) of the young people in this age group who received support last year for issues around NEET, were recorded as BAME: 21 (64%) of these young people were Kingston residents and 12 (36%) were Richmond residents, which broadly reflects the overall BAME populations between the 2 boroughs of 39.9% and 17.9% respectively. In April 2020, 47% (65) of the overall NEET cohort that had been worked with over the year, were in education or employment destinations (EET). Within the BAME group. 45% had gone into education or some form of training or employment. 45% (11) had gone into Further Education, 41% (10) had embarked on some form of training, including 4 on an AfC Traineeship 15% (5) and 2 had gone into apprenticeships. Nine of the group (27%) was still NEET, either due to illness or still seeking a destination.
- 69 We are pleased that support for older young people to access Education, Training and Employment is going well for students of a BAME background.

Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND)

- 70 In Kingston and Richmond, we now have established multi-agency SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities) Partnerships, which include representation from children, young people, parents and carers. The Boards direct improvement work through agreed transformation plans and by responding to evidence provided through a quarterly

dataset. A report published in January 2020 by the Local Government and Social Care Ombudsman, highlighting failings by Richmond Council and AfC in relation to historic support provided to three young people with SEND (Special Educational Needs and Disabilities).

- 71 We have also put in place new ways of working with the parents and carers of children and young people with SEND through Kingston's Parent Consortium and Richmond's Parent Panel. Through the groups, parents and carers were involved in a range of system improvement initiatives, including improvements to the Education, Health and Care Plan (EHCP) annual review process, resulting in over 95% of EHCPs being issued within 20 weeks, significantly higher than the national average of 61%, and implementing a new approach to collecting parent and carer feedback to inform our service delivery.
- 72 Parents and carers also contributed to the review of therapy provision in Kingston and Richmond carried out jointly by AfC and the CCG. Covering speech and language therapy, occupational therapy and physiotherapy, the review provided clarity on existing and emerging therapy needs and confirmed that therapies are a significant and valued element of the support package provided to children and young people with SEND. I am pleased about the improvements in this area.

Young Carers

- 73 As part of our focus on vulnerability, we take care to highlight the needs of young carers. At the end of Quarter 4, there were 769 Young Carers in Kingston, a rise from 668 last year (456 in LB Richmond at the end of Quarter 4). This means that more children are being recognised as supporting family members with health needs and so can gain more support themselves.

Domestic Abuse

- 74 Domestic Abuse is a key vulnerability for children and their families from both a physical and emotional risk perspective. Child Protection Planning is now stronger in identifying children aged under 5 as being at risk of physical abuse in their category. In 2019-20, we can see a growth in referrals in both boroughs' MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference), a monthly meeting which consider high-risk domestic abuse cases. This is particularly encouraging in Kingston in the identification of families, males and young people aged 16-17 years. This is going well as the outcome is a multi-agency plan to keep the family safer. BAME case referrals do not yet reflect the borough demographic of 39% BAME, however we know that in the months of COVID 19 lockdown, targeted safeguarding and domestic abuse communication in the key community languages of Korean and Tamil in Kingston led to a rise in referrals to Police and MARAC.

Referrals to Richmond and Kingston MARACs 2015-20

Richmond	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Total cases discussed	228	249	251	230	246
Repeat cases	20%	28%	31%	29%	26%
Number of children	214	255	259	252	154
Police referrals	28%	38%	35%	33%	33%

IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocate) referrals	52%	37%	35%	26%	33%
BME cases	22%	27%	22%	25%	28%
Disability	14%	8.4%	12%	12%	9%
LGBT cases	3.5%	1.7%	2%	1%	1.2%
Males	6%	4%	4%	6%	6%
Victims aged 16-17	1.7%	2%	1.2%	2%	1%

Kingston	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Total cases discussed	187	164	188	200	219
Repeat cases	-	16%	21%	26%	23%
Number of children	67	168	200	250	223
Police referrals	32%	36%	37%	40%	37%
IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocate) referrals	23%	25%	-	22%	27%
BME cases	-	27%	24%	21%	24%
Disability	-	-	3.7%	7.5% (1 male)	9%
LGBT cases	0%	6%	14.4%	3%	2%
Males		9%	8.5%	3%	8%
Victims aged 16-17			1%	1 person	2%

Early Help and Prevention

Risky Behaviour

- 75 Kingston and Richmond Public Health teams carried out separate needs' surveys and some joint work in relation to risky behaviour this year. Reports were presented to the April 2018 Joint Board and there is an action plan. Risky behaviour particularly relates to smoking, mental health concerns, sexual activity and substance misuse. With AfC Substance Misuse Services and the Public Health Teams, we distributed a targeted newsletter last summer holidays to highlight safe substance use practice at festivals. This is an area we remain worried about.
- 76 The rolling number of individuals seen in treatment (National Drug Treatment Monitoring System submission) (statutory) shows a rise over the year in Kingston and Richmond.

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Kingston	10	16	39	44
Richmond	21	29	40	58

- 77 Richmond 15-year-olds identified as having smoked present the highest rate in England; 24.5% reported being drunk in the last four weeks, the worst result in London; 19% had tried cannabis, the highest percentage in London and the third highest in England – the London average was 11%; hospital admissions for self-harm were the third highest in London (up from 2016-17); the mental wellbeing score for Richmond's 15-year-olds was the fourth worst of all London boroughs. The risky behaviour work in Kingston and Richmond by Public Health has found that some traditional risk behaviours such as smoking appeared to be in

decline, issues relating to drug and alcohol use and sexual activity remained, and there was growing concern about the apparent increase in children and young people suffering from poor emotional health.

- 78 Additional groups identified included young people from affluent families and young people, who have more than one vulnerability e.g. LGBT young people with autism. The role of new technology and changing social and cultural norms amongst this age group have led to a rise in social media and smartphone use, shifts in drug type and mode of purchase, and changes to sexual behaviour following exposure to inappropriate imagery.

Mental Health

- 79 Emotional wellbeing and mental health are a priority for us as a Partnership 2020-22. CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services, SWLStG) has a 100% good performance rate for dealing with emergency cases, however like last year, due to the increase in demand, performance faltered in dealing with urgent cases and in offering initial assessments within the 8 weeks of initial referral. The CQC Inspection of Richmond CCG in June 2019 highlighted a need for CAMHS provision to be re-evaluated.

2019-20 Kingston and Richmond CAMHS data

	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Number of Kingston children attending A&E due to self-harming/attempted suicide/alcohol harm referred to CAMHS	31	76	DSH 43, MH 38, Alcohol 22	DSH 32, MH 31, Alcohol 28
Number of Richmond children attending A&E due to self-harming/attempted suicide/alcohol harm referred to CAMHS	32	13	12	24
Number of Kingston young people referred to CAMHS during this period	707	438	528	507
Number of Richmond young people referred to CAMHS during this period	701	453	566	574
Kingston young people referred to CAMHS as an emergency seen within 24 hours (number and percentage)	100%	100%	100%	100%
Richmond young people referred to CAMHS as an emergency seen within 24 hours (number and percentage)	100%	100%	92.9%	100%
Kingston young people referred to CAMHS for an urgent appointment seen within 5 working days (number and percentage)	88.9%	80%	85.7%	71.4%
Richmond young people referred to CAMHS for an urgent appointment seen within 5 working days (number and percentage)	88.9%	75%	100%	85.7%
ii) average time (days/weeks) within which the children and young people were seen by a CAMHS professional in Kingston	5.1 weeks	5.9 weeks	5 weeks	7.3 weeks
ii) average time (days/weeks) within which the children and young people were seen by a CAMHS professional in Richmond	85.5%	68.6%	77.8%	61.7%

(DSH-deliberate self-harm: MH – mental health)

- 80 In Kingston referrals to the SPA in Quarter 4 were 20% for mental health concerns and it is the most common factor identified in the assessment. The figure is 21% for Richmond for the same Quarter. However, at Quarter 1 this was 27.4%. We can see a spike compared to last year for Quarter 1 for both boroughs and a year on year rise for Richmond Tier 3 CAMHS referrals for this year.

CAMHS referrals 2019-20

	Quarter 1	Quarter 2	Quarter 3	Quarter 4
Kingston	707	438	528	507
Richmond	701	453	566	574

Total referrals to CAMHS per year 2016-20

	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Kingston Tier 3	447	549	436	
SPA	1,656	1,899	2,194	
Richmond Tier 3	428	557	541	
SPA	1,622	2,088	2,205	2,574

- 81 Suicide is a key issue of concern for us in our boroughs. Both borough's Public Health Teams have been working on community action plans in cases of adult and child suicide clusters, which were completed this year and presented to Partners; and we will be taking part in a SWL STP quarterly suicide surveillance group. We are working to coordinate the offer of training around mental health first aid and suicide awareness.

Children's Social Care

- 82 We can see rises in year on year work with children in Achieving for Children (AfC) for both boroughs, and this growth goes through the system from child in need to child protection to children looked after.

Richmond and Kingston open cases in Children's Social Care

Richmond	March 2017	March 2018	March 2019	March 2020
Open Cases	844	796	801	821
Child in Need & per 10,000	190	239	238 178	176
Child Protection actual & per 10,000	112 25	97 22	98 22	119 34
CLA actual & per 10,000	113 25	103 23	118 26	119

Kingston	March 2017	March 2018	March 2019	March 2020
Open Cases	777	766	909	971
Child in Need & per 10,000	207	208	243 238	222

Child Protection actual & per 10,000	142 38	138 36	129 34	44
CLA actual & per 10,000	114 30	130 34	129	124

Child Protection Planning

- 83 Between 90% and 100% of Initial Child Protection, and 100% of Review Conferences were held in timescale in both boroughs. As at March 2020, 165 Richmond children and 212 Kingston children were subject to Child Protection Plans, this was a growth for both boroughs but particularly for Kingston, which takes it higher than statistical neighbour averages of 44, per 100,000 children. Richmond remains consistently below the statistical average at 34 per 100,000 children. Feedback from participants has been developed this year and has good results from those who attended conferences, whether family members or professionals. This is good news.
- 84 Engagement of local GPs in Richmond, as in Kingston, has been problematic over some years. Our local audit work has also identified a need to involve GPs more in the MARVE process. The Child Protection Conference team, Named GP, and CCG colleagues have been working with GP leads to improve this situation. This has been identified as a key local risk and a TopFive area for improvement, and an audit has been taken of missed Conferences.

Poppy is 6 years old and she lived with her mum and dad. One day, dad used illegal drugs and seriously physically assaulted Poppy's mum, took Poppy away in the car and they were involved in a car crash. Poppy's mum came to the initial conference and shared what had been happening in the home. Mum said that she felt supported to talk, was listened to and was protected to be able to come in and out of the conference without seeing dad. Dad also got to say what he thought to the conference chair. Poppy and mum moved to a refuge outside of the area, are doing well making a fresh start and Poppy is not seeing or hearing her mum being physically hurt anymore. Mum sent a thank you card to the social worker: "Thank you for all the guidance and support you have given us since the day our new journey to a better life began... You have given us a voice, positivity and hope."

This table shows the category of abuse for child protection plans in Kingston

Category of Abuse	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20
<i>Emotional</i>	76	87	80	44	36	63
<i>Neglect</i>	67	38	51	53	63	67
<i>Physical</i>	5	11	17	36	20	81
<i>Sexual</i>	9	9	1	5	11	1

This table shows the category of abuse for child protection plans in Richmond

Category of Abuse	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017/18	2018-19	2019-20
<i>Emotional</i>	57	76	81	46	37	56
<i>Neglect</i>	42	33	21	29	26	48

<i>Physical</i>	13	11	7	17	28	51
<i>Sexual</i>	5	3	4	5	7	10

- 85 We note the rise in the number of plans for neglect this year in Richmond and believe this is a reflection of the work carried out by the Partnership in its strategic focus. Most plans have lasted 10 months on average, which is an increase for Kingston average lengths. Slightly more boys in Richmond. A higher proportion of plans are for teenagers in Kingston, whereas this is for children aged under 10 in Richmond. In Kingston more males than females – 120 males to 90 females.

Age distribution of Child Protection Planning in Richmond

Age	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Unborn	3	0	3	2
Under 1	7	13	11	10
1-4	28	25	34	38
5-9	39	24	30	43
10-15	35	32	19	66
16+	0	3	1	6

Age distribution of Child Protection Planning in Kingston

Age	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Unborn	1	2	6	2
Under 1	11	12	7	16
1-4	28	25	29	52
5-9	39	24	37	59
10-15	35	32	48	74
16+	0	3	3	9

- 86 We should generally see large numbers of plans for the most vulnerable children, who are arguably the youngest. In both boroughs we can see higher numbers of older children, who may be affected by exploitation, particularly in Kingston and certainly highlights our learning reviews around risky behaviour and vulnerability, however we do need to be sure that younger children are not being missed as they are most vulnerable; we are worried about this. 11% of plans were repeat plans in Kingston and 12% in Richmond – this is a healthy figure and an improvement from the 16% last year in Kingston. We can see plans lasting longer in Kingston than last year, but still a third only lasted 3 months, which could be an indicator of premature closure. There has been considerable auditing of planning and thresholds this year by the CP Conference Team in AfC, as well as around the quality of Plans themselves. Work has been ongoing before the pandemic began to undertake more virtual conferences and this was helpful during the C 19 crisis.
- 87 As with school exclusions, we can see some higher figures for children from BAME backgrounds becoming subject to child protection plans in both boroughs. The number of child protection plans for White British children does not reflect the White British population as a whole. Figures are much the same as last year but there has been a rise in numbers for children from any other White background. The number distribution may be due to higher levels of deprivation or affluence for difference ethnic groups.

Child Protection Planning by ethnicity in Richmond 2017-20

Ethnicity	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
White British	54	57	68
White Irish	0	0	0

Other White background	13	4	14
Traveller of Irish heritage	0	0	6
White & Black Caribbean	3	9	20
White & Black African	0	3	8
White & Asian	2	1	4
Any other mixed background	10	6	16
Indian	0	0	2
Bangladeshi	1	0	0
Pakistani	0	0	2
Any other Asian background	5	2	6
Black Caribbean	0	0	2
Black African	5	9	9
Any other Black background	0	2	3
Chinese	0	0	0
Other ethnic group	3	2	4
Information not yet obtained	1	2	1
Information not known	0	1	0

- 88 There were a small number of children with no ethnicity identified. This chimes with our audit work where we still wish to see better identification of diversity issues and consideration of their impact on safeguarding.

Child Protection Planning by ethnicity in Kingston 2017-20

Ethnicity	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
White British	76	58	83
White Irish	0	2	0
Traveller of Irish heritage	-	-	-
Other white background	6	3	12
White & Black Caribbean	9	10	21
White & Black African	6	4	8
White & Asian	0	4	2
Any other mixed background	10	9	20
Any other Asian background	12	13	42
Indian	2	0	2
Pakistani	1	4	0
Bangladeshi	1	0	3
Black Caribbean	1	0	2
Black African	0	1	1
Any Other Black background	4	0	1
Chinese	0	1	1
Other ethnic group	4	7	11
Information not yet obtained	0	8	3
Information not yet known	0	2	0

- 89 We completed a learning review regarding a young person called Polly in June 2019. Part of the learning identified a need to review our multi-agency Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) pathway plans, which was subsequently relaunched in February 2020. This has been led by the Designated Doctors who have identified gaps in provision in Kingston, which they are seeking to resolve. We can see there is an impact in identification of child sexual abuse cases which go to Child Protection Plan in Richmond during this year, but this is not yet mirrored in Kingston. We want to see this get better.

Children Looked After

- 90 At the end of March 2020, 119 children were looked after in Richmond and 124 in Kingston. 20% of Kingston children were placed more than 20 miles away from home; in Richmond, 27% placed more than 20 miles from home (A rise from last year of 10%), and for both boroughs children were usually in fairly stable placements. Most reviews and visits take place within timescales.
- 91 During the year, 15 new UASC (Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children) were accommodated in our boroughs. Only four were aged under 16 years. At the end of the year for Richmond, most children looked after were aged over 13 years – 83 young people in total. In Kingston 76 children were aged 13+. A number of our local learning reviews highlighted transition planned for older young people who were nearing the age of 18 and moving back to London to live in semi-independence. This has led to work with local GPs, and semi-independent housing providers by the CCG Designated Health Team. 9.8% of 16-18 year olds who were looked after were NEET (Not in Education, Employment or Training).
- 92 Performance is generally stable for Children Looked After however I am still worried about the Initial Health Assessments (IHA) for children newly looked after; this was a stubborn issue in the last Annual report. These averaged 35 % timeliness in Richmond during the year and 60% in Kingston. During the year, the CCG treated each delayed IHA as a serious incident and audited the case. There is an active multi-agency group considering this matter chaired by Dr Sandhya Kenyon, Designated Doctor for Children Looked After. Annual health assessments stand at 72% for Richmond Children Looked After; 51% had at least annual dental checks and 50% immunisations. 90% of Kingston children had an annual health assessment, and 63% a dental check.
- 93 For children looked after for both boroughs, compared to the local demographic, we can see fewer White children are looked after, and more from a BAME background. This has fluctuated slightly over the past five years. No IRO escalations to CAF/CASS were made during this year, which is good. 87% of Richmond careleavers were living in suitable accommodation, and 69% were engaged in Education, Employment or Training.

Kingston All children looked after at 31 March 2020	Number	%	March 2019 Number	%	SN 2019 Number	England
White	63	50	69	53	272	57,780
Mixed	18	14	21	16	53	7,560
Asian or Asian British	11	9	10	8	21	3,480
Black or Black British	20	16	16	12	47	5,930
Other ethnic groups	13	10	13	10	26	2,780
Not known	0	0	0	0	3	620

Kingston All Children Looked After at 31 March	2018 Number	%	2017 Number	%	2016 Number	%	2015 Number	%
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White	66	52	60	52	69	63	73	63
Mixed	19	15	12	10	12	11	16	14
Asian or Asian British	15	12	18	15	8	7	x	x
Black or Black British	19	15	17	16	17	15	16	16
Other ethnic groups	8	6	x	x	7	6	x	x
Not known	0	0	x	x	x	x	x	x

(SN- Statistical Neighbour)

Richmond All children looked after at 31 March 2020	Number	%	March 2019 Number	%	SN 2019 Number	England
White	72	61	59	51	364	57,780
Mixed	16	14	18	16	55	7,560
Asian or Asian British	12	10	17	15	21	3,480
Black or Black British	13	11	14	12	49	5,930
Other ethnic groups	5	4	7	6	24	2,780
Not known	0	0	0	0	8	620

Richmond All Children Looked After at 31 March	2018 Number	%	2017 Number	%	2016 Number	%	2015 Number	%
White	53	50	58	55	57	50	59	62
Mixed	22	21	19	18	25	22	20	21
Asian or Asian British	15	14	16	15	14	12	x	x
Black or Black British					16	14	7	7
Other ethnic groups								
Not known	0	0	0					

Domestic Abuse

- 94 Domestic Abuse is a key national safeguarding issue. Both boroughs run multi-agency Panels to look at victims at high risk of domestic abuse and violence, and together with both Community Safety Partnerships, KRSCP provides the online and face to face multi-agency training, which has been refreshed this year. In Richmond, MARAC (Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference) figures are largely stable; although in Kingston there has been a rise in cases. Partner attendance mostly good. We can see lower numbers of males and people with disability being referred as well as those aged 16-17.
- 95 Volume and rates of domestic abuse crimes are higher than the average for both Richmond and Kingston for the last rolling months, (nearly 2,000 offences in Richmond and 2,200 in Kingston) in the last 12 months, although the figures are comparatively small for London [MOPAC]. Recorded sexual offences are also higher in Richmond and particularly Kingston, although this could be contributed to increased confidence in reporting. In Kingston 22% of victims have been male with the most prevalence age for assault being 25-34 years. For Kingston the ethnicity of victims largely matched the local demographic. In Richmond, the victim profile was similar to Kingston, save that nearly 50% of victims were from a BAME background, which does not fit the borough profile.
- 96 Operation Encompass was rolled out to maintained schools in autumn 2019 and as at December 2019, 26 Kingston and 20 Richmond schools were involved, approximately half, [Police inform schools each day of domestic abuse call-outs, so that schools are prepared to support the children and young people involved]. This confidential and limited information makes a lot of difference to the children involved, as schools will understand any distress and can put in further support, without relying on the child to disclose. We hope this can be extended to more schools, independent schools and nurseries as time goes on, and to include missing children alerts.

Referrals to Richmond and Kingston MARACs 2015-20

Richmond	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Total cases discussed	228	249	251	230	246
Repeat cases	20%	28%	31%	29%	26%
Number of children	214	255	259	252	154
Police referrals	28%	38%	35%	33%	33%
IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocate) referrals	52%	37%	35%	26%	33%
BME cases	22%	27%	22%	25%	28%
Disability	14%	8.4%	12%	12%	9%
LGBT cases	3.5%	1.7%	2%	1%	1.2%
Males	6%	4%	4%	6%	6%
Victims aged 16-17	1.7%	2%	1.2%	2%	1%

Kingston	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20
Total cases discussed	187	164	188	200	219
Repeat cases	-	16%	21%	26%	23%
Number of children	67	168	200	250	223
Police referrals	32%	36%	37%	40%	37%

IDVA (Independent Domestic Violence Advocate) referrals	23%	25%	-	22%	27%
BME cases	-	27%	24%	21%	24%
Disability	-	-	3.7%	7.5% (1 male)	9%
LGBT cases	0%	6%	14.4%	3%	2%
Males		9%	8.5%	3%	8%
Victims aged 16-17			1%	1 person	2%

Youth Justice

- 97 The Quality and Innovation Subgroup has noted a rise of first time entrants to the Youth Justice System in both boroughs, and a rise in re-referrals. This follows a national trend of rises last year. The LLR Subgroup has scrutinised a number of knife injury incidents involving under 18s in both boroughs, which have not led to fatalities, and the National Panel carried out a themed report. In January 2020, we included the YOS cohort as part of Integrated Offender Management into our MARVE Panel meetings, which has ensured better information sharing and risk management. Over the summer, leading to their Inspection by HMIP (Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Probation) in September 2020, further progress was made with work on disproportionality, a youth work custody project, Project X, a knife crime audit and work with the Community Safety Partnerships in both boroughs.
- 98 Approximately 51% of the Youth Resilience Services children and young people are from a BAME background in Kingston and Richmond. Disproportionality is evident within the Youth Justice cohort for Kingston and has been agreed as a Strategic Priority for the next 3 years for the YOS Management Board and Partnership to address.
- 99 There are small numbers of young people and young people from a BAME background across the Youth Justice cohort, however the outcomes within this cohort are often poor and require a specific focus going forward. AfC's recent thematic audit into Knife Crime offences in 2019/20 further highlights concerns regarding disproportionality. In Kingston, 7/10 knife crime offences and in Richmond 5/8 knife crime offences involved young people from a BAME background.
- 100 Looking at the rolling MOPAC (Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime) data in August 2020, both Richmond and Kingston as boroughs are reporting slightly higher than average figures for knife crime injury. 120 offences for each borough in the rolling year. Their neighbouring boroughs have higher figures which could impact on our local young people. These figures for our boroughs are very low figures but local rises. There were 25 victims aged 0-24 in Kingston during the rolling year and 18 in Richmond.

RICHMOND 2015-20

	2015-16 OUTTURN	2016-17 OUTTURN	2017-18 OUTTURN	2018-19 OUTTURN	2019-20 OUTTURN
Total number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System	35	46	37	19	29
The rate of re-offending	0.47	0.44	0.31	0.35	0.38

Number of young people sentenced to custody as a % of overall disposals	0	0.6%	5.5%	0.9%	7.7%
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KINGSTON 2015-20

	2015-16 OUTTURN	2016-17 OUTTURN	2017-18 OUTTURN	2018-19 OUTTURN	2019-20 OUTTURN
Total number of First Time Entrants into the Youth Justice System	32	21	43	37	24
The rate of re-offending	0.46	0.4	0.46	0.4	0.24
Number of young people sentenced to custody as a % of overall disposals	3%	0.3%	7.14%	3%	6%

- 101 First Time Entrants (FTEs) per 100,000 for Kingston and Richmond are below the London and National average.

Radicalisation and Extremism

- 102 We are unable to outline referral figures for radicalisation and extremism, however this is an issue with which all agencies have to deal. We have worked with the SABs to streamline the Prevent training offer to all agencies. Richmond and Kingston have low numbers of hate crime offences; for this rolling year to August 2020, 263 in Kingston and 282 in Richmond. These are above average local figures, which follow the London trend.

Honour Based Practices

- 103 Learning about so-called "Honour-Based Practices" are part of our learning and development offering. In Richmond there have been 15 referrals in total during 2018-19 linked to faith or belief and 17 in Kingston. FGM (Female Genital Mutilation), Forced Marriage, and Breast Ironing which is on the rise in Britain, are all identified at times in our boroughs. There is London-wide work with Police at present regarding data for these offences. FGM is prevalent in some of the communities we see in our local boroughs and our policy has been refreshed this year. The CCG chairs a Subgroup across both boroughs to raise so-called Honour Based Violence awareness, and an FGM Conference supported by the Community Safety Partnerships took place in February 2020. University of London FGM prevalence figures from 2015 showed a rate of 2.9% Richmond and 3.9% in Kingston.

Privately Fostered Children

- 104 It is often hard for universal agencies to identify children and young people who are privately fostered locally. Referrals should be made when there are suspicions of private fostering for the local Authority to then investigate. Referrals should be made to CSC for a statutory assessment and support, if required. Like last year, there has been an increase in referrals - is a considerable improvement on previous years. In total referrals were made for 11 children in Kingston and 19 in Richmond, which illustrates the impact of broad awareness raising. We are working with GPs to consider a generic new patient form, which includes a question about Private Fostering.

Exploitation, Missing Children and Contextual Safeguarding

- 105 Volumes and rates of reporting crime are somewhat higher for both Kingston and Richmond this year, although there is the caveat that levels of crime are comparatively low on a London level. Our Independent Scrutineer considered our local response to missing children as part of our themed learning hub work; this led to a Contextual Safeguarding Conference and learning hub event in January 2020. During the year we wrote to all tattoo parlours and semi-independent housing providers for young people in Kingston and Richmond to highlight risks of exploitation and youth vulnerability. As part of the VCA Subgroup, we carried out a Harmful Sexual Behaviour (HSB) audit in Spring 2020, to identify learning around low referral levels to the SPA and MARVE. The audit identified learning in this anonymised Police case study [here](#):
- 106 During the year we have worked to promote HSB in our Schools' Forums. Criminal exploitation, modern day slavery and trafficking can often share the same "umbrella" in terms of Contextual Safeguarding. AfC recruited Andre Vlok as Contextual Safeguarding manager in January 2020 to develop our local approach. At the end of the single assessment following referral to the SPA, the following percentage issues of Contextual Safeguarding were identified, which can be broken down into the following themes:

	Trafficking	CSE	Gangs	Missing
Richmond	1%	5%	3%	5%
Kingston	1%	4%	4%	4%

- 107 There has been a slight growth in identification of issues related to gangs in Richmond, but small falls for CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) and missing. In Kingston, figures are much the same as last year, with a 1% rise in gangs concerns. During the financial year, 87 Kingston children went missing a total of 297 times (68 from home 132 times, and 23 from care 165 times). 119 Richmond children went missing a total of 586 times. (85 from home 213 times and 41 from care 373 times). 9 Kingston and 10 Richmond missing children were open to the MARVE at March 2020. Substance misuse and parental separation are common experiences for children most at risk of exploitation. Children going missing from home or care and those referred to MARVE have often experienced issues within their education career or setting. Over half of those referred to MARVE, up to May 2020, were known to the Youth Offending Service. Potential networks continue to emerge, and are being explored, between many of the young people who are at greatest risk of being exploited. A growing picture of locations of concern is emerging and continues to be explored.
- 108 In 2019-20, 43% of the Kingston children reported missing had been excluded from a Kingston or Richmond school at least once - 35% (8/23) missing from care and 47% (32/68) missing from home. Similarly, 43% of the Richmond children reported missing had been excluded from a Kingston or Richmond school at least once – 39% (16/41) missing from

care and 45% (38/85) missing from home. 17% of the Kingston cohort had EHCPs and 22% of the Richmond cohort.

- 109 The MARVE's remit broadened in January this year to include the Youth Offending cohort. This is progress. Since it was established in November 2018 to May 2020, 91 young people aged from 12-22 from Kingston and Richmond had been referred to the MARVE Panel due to sexual or criminal exploitation concerns, including possible county lines involvement. This is a significant increase on the 24 open at 31 March 2020. This impact may be due to an increased understanding among staff of Contextual Safeguarding issues. Significant mapping has taken place including with schools and semi-independent housing across our boroughs. In May 2020, the chairs of MARVE and the SPA Manager were able to disseminate learning to the multi-agency group about local trends. During this year, relationships with sexual health services have been strengthened for both boroughs and they now receive the lists. We are currently considering how we can strengthen this information sharing with GPs.
- 110 In Richmond, we have seen a rise in CAWNs (Child Abduction warning Notices) being made 8 against 2 last year. Richmond also saw 4 prosecutions linked to CSE this year.

Phoenix Project (AfC)

- 111 In 2018 to 2019 the project developed an 'Early Help' service to young people who are showing vulnerability or emerging themes towards CSE but are assessed as 'low risk' or 'not at risk' according to the Multi Agency Risk Vulnerability and Exploitation Panel (MARVE) criteria. This is delivered by:
- Providing access to a CSE Toolkit and resources to the workers supporting the young person.
 - Providing consultation for the workers supporting the young person.
 - Signposting to the CSE Awareness Groups run by the family support service.
- 112 In 2019 to 2020 this has been increasingly used, with 16 young people provided with consultation services and resources. 75 young people received services from the Phoenix Project in 2019-20. This is good as it means more need is being identified and met. There was a total of 29 new referrals (17 Richmond, 12 Kingston), including one to one referrals and consultation requests and 36 other young people attended group work sessions. In addition 10 young people were continued to work with from the previous year.

Age	One to one work	Consultations	Totals
10-12	1	2	3
13-15	6	10	16
16-17	6	3	9
18+	0	1	1
Total	13	16	29

- 113 Just over half of referrals are for White British young people with few young men being referred. Four half day (4 hrs) workshops were delivered in partnership with the Leaving Care Team and Wolverton Centre Outreach Nurse for male and female Unaccompanied Asylum Seeking Children aged 16 to 24. The workshop covered positive relationships and consent, sexual health, CSE and Grooming, and briefly covered Forced Marriage, Honour Based Violence, Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Trafficking. The workshop concluded with a visit to sexual health drop-in Clinic run by KU19 and held at guildhall, so that the participants

would be familiar with where they could access sexual health services. These were attended by 13 young men and two young women respectively, and will be delivered again.

114 A two-hour positive relationship workshop was delivered to young people attending the Children in Care Council. A one-hour positive relationship workshop was delivered to young people attending the Youth Offending Service Triage Programme.

115 This anonymised case study illustrates the impact of the Project on one local young woman.

Gemma was referred to the Phoenix Project when she was 12 and worked with us till just after her 14th Birthday. While this was a longer intervention than usual, it was decided that because of a number of complex factors it would be beneficial for her to continue to engage with the project.

Over the course of the project Gemma developed:

- An understanding of positive relationships, boundaries and consent.
- Tools for managing conflict and disagreements.
- An experience of a positive relationship with a trusted adult.
- An understanding of online safety
- An understanding of exploitation and grooming
- An understanding of cannabis and alcohol and the additional vulnerabilities they present.
- An awareness of where to go for help and support and a positive experience of reporting a crime against her to the police and having a supportive response.

Gemma tended to mistrust professionals and had difficulties in expressing her needs and wishes, therefore a significant part of the work was building trust with Gemma so that she knew that she was not 'in trouble' for her experiences, before supporting her to understand that she had choice in her behaviour.

Towards the end of her engagement Gemma was brave enough to disclose to the worker that she was again being targeted online and having unsolicited images of a sexual nature send to her, which were very upsetting for her. Whereas in the past Gemma would have kept quiet about this and 'dealt with it myself' the worker was able to support Gemma and her mum to report this to the police and the social worker, and continue to support her while these were investigated.

Services' Engagement and Impact

116 We can see some differences in activity between the boroughs despite their rates of crime and poverty being similar and there being more children in Richmond. There have been significant rises in child protection planning for both boroughs, which is good. We can see rises in referrals to CSC in Richmond by GPs, Schools (24% on last year for Richmond), and Police referrals have risen by 100 in Richmond, and individual family members, despite the impact of COVID 19 as the month of March 2020 ended. 11% of those children in Richmond had EHCPs. 97% of decisions were made within one day, which is the statutory timeframe. In Richmond we saw a drop in referrals by School Nursing (0) and health visiting. 14% of referrals were re-referrals, 5% in the last 3 months and 3% of children, who were previously subject to Child Protection Plans.

- 117 The rise in open cases to Kingston CSC continues from last year – this time a 7% rise, against a 7% rise for the last financial year too. 11% progressed to referrals in Kingston against 14% in Richmond. Again referral decisions were made in a timely manner. In Kingston there has been a rise by more than three times in referrals by GPs, which could indicate the impact of a Named GP being again available to lead. There has also been a rise in referrals by Primary Health Care and Housing, despite a drop in their contacts to CSC. For both boroughs there has been a growth in Police referrals which could indicate a more settled workforce and the impact of bespoke Police KRSCP safeguarding training during the year.
- 118 I consider that our focussed work around neglect has had a clear impact in a rise in referrals to CSC from Kingston GPs, a rise in Kingston of direct contacts from families to CSC; and a rise in referrals in Kingston for neglect to 15% of total referrals - from 10% in 2016-17, and child in need work. At the end of assessment, neglect has been identified in 15% of Kingston cases, from 10% in 2016-17. 49% of Child Protection Plans are for the category of neglect in Kingston, against national average of 47%. This is going well. Whilst we have not seen such evidence in Richmond, we have also seen a rise in referrals for neglect in Richmond to 17% of all referrals. Our datasets show generally good multi-agency performance, although with London-wide Metropolitan Police changes, there have been changes to data submitted.

- 119 We have had several years of sustained outreach to voluntary sector, community and faith groups by Tracey Welding, which has been working well. In November 2019, Tracey ran a second Safe in Faith Conference and 35 local faith groups attended. The following extract from the Synod Safeguarding Officer for the United Reformed Church (URC) Thames North and Southern Synods covering London, Greater London and the South East illustrates the impact.

The Past Case Review (2015-2017) indicated the need for the URC to undertake systemic changes. The URC Safeguarding Advisory Group reviewed all the PCR Learning Report's recommendations, consulted with synods and produced this comprehensive strategic safeguarding plan for the Church to take effect from 2020 to 2025. This strategy with its six clear objectives aims to effect cultural change and improvements in the safeguarding policies, practices and procedures of the United Reformed Church over the next five years. The main aim of the strategy is to ensure that anyone who engages with our congregations, synods, institutions, and offices across the three nations of England, Scotland and Wales is committed to protecting children and adults who are or might be experiencing abuse or neglect.

The six areas include:

1. Instilling a safeguarding ethos of care and service within all local congregations, synods and bodies of the URC.
 2. Ensuring initial and appropriate pastoral care and support to those who are impacted by safeguarding incidents and concerns
 3. Setting up secure and appropriate systems and processes of data and information handling and reporting
- Safeguarding
4. Ensuring the safeguarding policies and procedures are updated, reviewed and implemented in practice throughout the URC
 5. Providing appropriate and accessible safeguarding training for all those who are accountable for and working with children, young people and adults
 6. Encouraging and building constructive partnerships with statutory, non-statutory bodies, other denomination and faith-based communities

Alongside this, Tolworth URC have held some link meetings between the Safeguarding Board and Korean leadership groups. This partnership has also supported a family with a Child in Need plan and provided support to *Kids United* as well as providing Toddlers and children's groups.
Belinda Nielsen

- 120 Having secured grant funding during 2018-19 from the Careers and Enterprise Company to develop innovative new approaches to careers advice for young people with SEND, over the past 12 months AfC worked across 13 mainstream and special schools providing 'next steps' personal guidance interviews to students with SEND in Years 10 and 13 in Kingston and Richmond. They have held over 190 interviews with pupils with SEND.
- 121 In September 2019, an additional 71 SEND places were established in Kingston and Richmond, including the new special school, Capella House, and four new specialist resource provisions, at King Athelstan Primary, Richmond Park Academy, The Hollyfield and Tolworth Girls'. Work has continued on developing the designs for the two special schools - one in Richmond and one in Kingston - which are expected to open in the next three years, and the education providers for them have been selected following a rigorous process. In January 2020, Kingston Council ratified a decision to expand Burlington Junior from four to

five forms of entry in September 2025 and, in April 2020, the Department for Education announced that the Diocese of Southwark's application for a new 11-16 Church of England secondary school in Kingston had been approved, subject to full feasibility and the voluntary-aided statutory proposal process.

- 122 We held a SEND Inclusion Conference for both boroughs. In June 2019, 325 children and young people, families and stakeholders from 105 organisations from health, education and social care attended the SEND Futures Conference. Feedback was positive, as we demonstrate below:

"A thing that I am very pleased with is the policy of moving children as much as possible in-borough. My child was out of borough for five years, transport was difficult. Being part of the local community, if you can walk to school, if you can see your friends every day, if you can see your classmates, it's hugely beneficial and I've seen that over the last year and a half with my child and I think that's a commendable and a productive thing at the moment. "

Parent of a child at a special school in Richmond

- 123 AfC has implemented a new children's centre strategy which involves a more targeted approach for those most in need and greater use of outreach provision to ensure hard to reach families are able to access services. The strategy was developed following an extensive public consultation exercise which attracted over 740 responses, and which highlighted that 98% of users felt that children's centre services have had a positive impact on their wellbeing and that of their children.
- 124 AfC set up an Independent Fostering Agency in 2019 to provide a more local service to Children Looked After. During 2019-20, AfC had 136 fostering enquiries; they made 41 home visits to potential foster carers; AfC now has 17 foster carers currently being assessed, with 5 more awaiting allocation to a worker for assessment; and they have approved 7 new foster carers.
- 125 AfC's new residential children's home in Teddington was built during the year and was due to open in April 2020, but this was delayed for six months due to COVID 19. The registered manager for the home was appointed in 2019 and has been working with children to meet a pressing local need for local accommodation.
- 126 We are part of a national trailblazer in Kingston and Richmond through the South West London CCG to deliver a whole-school approach to mental health which aims to establish an emotional wellbeing programme in all schools including wellbeing support, training, and information to pupils, parents and staff. I am pleased this is going well and hopeful it can be extended to more schools. The principle is to intervene early using evidence based direct work to prevent issues escalating. As part of the trailblazer we have delivered sessions and workshops to 11 schools; held 12 sessions for 80 pupils; held 14 sessions for 315 parents; and held 5 whole school training sessions and six targeted training sessions for 118 staff.
- 127 AfC was successful in their bid to the Youth Endowment Fund, for funding to set up Transition Hubs, in partnership with St Mary's University in Twickenham and Barnet Council. The Transition Hubs support future students in care aged 11-14 years old, including unaccompanied asylum seeking children, to improve their long-term outcomes. They offer an evidence-informed and tailored programme of support to the student, their carer and the receiving school, prior to the student starting school. Each Transition Hub offers students: a

six-week personalised programme of support, as well as weekly and monthly visits based on four stages of transition; a Learning Mentor who provides relational stability across the four transition stages; and a detailed assessment to allow for more targeted and effective provision. The Transition Hubs also offer training to schools and foster carers around the interconnectedness of child, family, school and community factors in supporting better outcomes for children in care.

- 128 Signs of Safety practice leads who will deliver in-house training and provide ongoing support for colleagues. The positive impact of the model was referenced and praised in the inspections in Kingston. 100% of parents and carers stating they feel listened to following an AfC Signs of Safety intervention.

“We have felt well supported by all the social workers who have been in contact with us. Each one of them has helped in a different way, and often went out of their way. For example, our first social worker really pushed for mental help support for our child when we were almost at crisis point and couldn't access it ourselves - similarly the social worker pushed for respite which has made a massive difference to our family. Similarly, both the social workers that have supported us have taken the trouble to read up on our child's issues, show up to meetings and generally be supportive.”

Response from a parent to AfC's Signs of Safety evaluation survey

CLCH

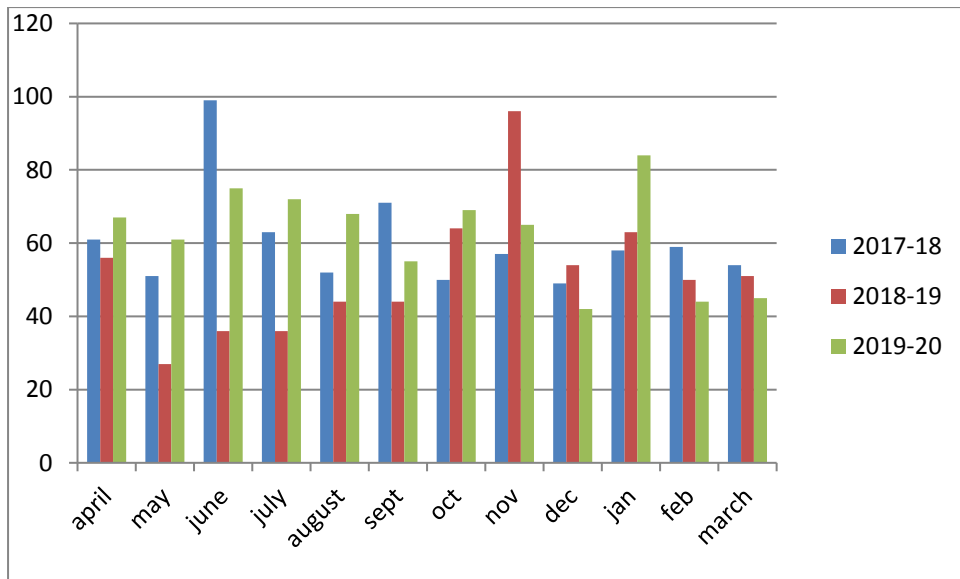
- 129 In October 2019, CLCH held the fourth annual safeguarding conference, which was attended by 250 delegates from within CLCH and also from external partner agencies. The keynote speaker was Dr Carlene Firmin, who presented her research into Contextual Safeguarding and the challenge of protecting children and young people from criminal exploitation and gangs. This was followed by presentations from national and local speakers covering a range of topics including: adverse childhood experience, homelessness, making safeguarding personal, trauma informed practice, rethinking the model of managing domestic abuse and learning disability. During the year, CLCH has carried out its own audits on routinely including fathers or significant males on file recordings. This saw an improved compliance as an impact of the local work, which is good. A CLCH wide Audit identified safeguarding embedded in terms of safeguarding supervision, Think Family, case conference attendance, voice of child evidenced in more than 75% of records audited and understanding of the CLCH safeguarding policy.

West Middlesex University Hospital

- 130 A Safeguarding Children Deep Dive Audit was undertaken over 2 days in May 2019 at the West Middlesex University Hospital (WМУH) site.
- 131 At both sites the CW Named Professionals for Safeguarding Children accompanied the Designated Nurses for the duration of the day, helping to access records and interview staff. The Trust and its staff were open and welcoming throughout the process. The Deep Dive Audit highlighted areas of good practice in safeguarding children and adults as well as some areas of improvement. A working plan has been developed following the recommendations which are being monitored and actioned.

WMUH referrals to CSC

132 Referrals to social care in Maternity are increasing - the referrals to social care for all the boroughs surrounding the Hospital, as can be seen in the graph below- this is good. Referrals have increased significantly on a quarterly basis which reflects the significant amount of work which has been undertaken in ensuring awareness raising, development of a multi-agency psychosocial meeting on the WMUH site, and safeguarding care plans. Safeguarding training is part of the mandatory training and consistently strives to improve robust multi agency working.



Early Years

134 We are supported by Elanor Hughes, Head of Early Years' Service, Lucy Chester, Early Years Inclusion and Improvement Advisor/Childminder Agency Officer, and Helen Swan, Early Years Inclusion and Improvement Advisor, AfC in particular for our Partnership work. Thank you. Below they highlight their work in support of our local Priorities this year.

135 **Neglect:**

- Safeguarding Forum on Neglect, Sept 19 - Lucy Chester worked with Lucy MacArthur and promoted a session around neglect for early years and childcare practitioners. Due to the local strong promotion, there was a high uptake at the forums.
- Sent out communications in relation to neglect, including training available via Early Years newsletters and dedicated emails to the whole Early Years workforce.

- Liaised with children's social care, where children known to a Social Worker were in childcare.
- Contacted settings to find out procedures in place to support vulnerable children during locked.
- Annual update of the Early Years Safeguarding Booklet to ensure all practitioners are aware of signs of abuse and neglect and to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities.
- Neglect training is part of the advisory team core safeguarding training which is updated at least every three years, including Why Neglect Matters - A Half Day Conference.
- The advisory team attended neglect toolkit training and members of the team completed online training on adverse childhood experiences.

136 Risky behaviour, mental health and emotional wellbeing and exploitation:

- Information sent out to all Early Years Workforce on 'Keeping children safe online' and promoting online safety training available
- Members of the team attend the annual KRSCP safeguarding Conferences including on 'Child Exploitation: Risks and Safeguarding Responsibilities'.
- Childcare Provider networks included sessions on staff wellbeing.

137 Participation to ensure we are hearing and acting on children's voices in Kingston and Richmond:

- All members of the team have attended Signs of Safety training and uses the Signs of Safety approach in working with the Early Years Sector to encourage settings to promote the voice of the child.
- Chat and Play - children being able to attend, the professionals can see how the child is responding in the group with excellent feedback from parents with 100% saying how satisfied they were with the workshops

138 Developing a strong safeguarding partnership to replace the LSCB, by maintaining our good local work and relationships:

- Working with KRSCP to promote safeguarding training at all Early Years forums, networks and meetings.
- On March 2020 Childcare Provider Network we explained the role of the KRSCP, strategic leadership partnership and how EY are a strategy safeguarding partner.
- Lucy Chester and Lucy MacArthur worked together on the Early Years safeguarding survey and compliance checklist, supporting change from LSCB to KRSCP.
- Lucy Chester, Helen Swan worked with KRSCP to update the SPA poster for early year's settings.
- Safeguarding is covered in all Early Years Newsletters including information about the change from LSCB to KRSCP.
- Lucy Chester and Lucy MacArthur set up a new Early Years Safeguarding Forum, meeting regularly and promoting the forum to the Early Years sector.
- Early Years hold an annual Safeguarding Day for all safeguarding partners including KRSCP, SPA and LADO. This promotes multi agency working and looks at current safeguarding themes.
- Lucy Chester delivers the KRSCP safeguarding level 2 training working and meeting with KRSCP training team.

- 139 This example from a Richmond School illustrates our strong Partnership working together and participation for good outcomes for children. This is good news and shows what is going well.

The pastoral team have been 'trained' again, as a reminder, in how to make best use of the Neglect Toolkit. All staff have been trained around suicide awareness. We have a suicide-safer policy and 3 staff trained as our Suicide Assist Team. We became the Lead School for the South West London Cluster Trailblazer and so we have piloted the use of an Emotional Wellbeing Practitioner in school.

The School has sent their half termly Safeguarding Briefings to parents (also on our website) updating them with advice and guidance around a range of safeguarding issues especially relating to mental health and wellbeing. This has been particularly beneficial during the lockdown and during this period versions were also sent out to students.

Through School Council we have sought student views on a range of pastoral issues. We encourage our Children Looked After to be involved with the Children in Care Council and two of our students are very much involved, one being the Chair. In recent years students co-designed the information on our website on Emotional Wellbeing.

The DSL attends all network forums and she has several Safeguarding Deputies who attend all meetings relating to students who are CIN or at CP level. We have a very good relationship with our Safer Schools' Police Officer. We have many individual achievements with children where the pastoral team have been able to intervene and support a child through emotional upset.

Voluntary Sector

- 140 Heather Mathew, Children and Young Peoples Voluntary Sector Strategic Lead Manager, Richmond Council for Voluntary Service, represents the Partnership in Richmond. The activity that the voluntary sector covers is broad and includes arts and heritage, social welfare, sports, support for children with disabilities and their families, the environment, and mental health. A third of the workforce delivering the activity and governance are volunteers and there is a wide variation in skill sets and experience. Each organisation is governed independently and there is a large variety in the level of engagement in, and understanding of safeguarding requirements. The role of Richmond CVS in relation to safeguarding is to inform and update the sector on their legal responsibilities, to connect them to training and good practice, and to represent their interests and challenges to the partnership. In 2019-20 they:

- Produced a monthly e-digest of resources , with a safeguarding specific section featuring training, research and legal updates from statutory agencies and sector specific experts such as The Ann Craft Trust and the NSPCC reaching 300+ subscribers;
- Delivered safeguarding training specific to the responsibilities of trustees, highlighting the Neglect Toolkit and PREVENT;
- Contributed to the AfC Early Help Review, and KRSCP Emotional Health Review, highlighting the value of the sector in prevention and early intervention work, and

raising the profile of relevant organisations to increase referrals and highlight sector expertise;

- Reviewed safeguarding policy and procedures for a wide range of local organisations, with a specific focus on the recruitment, training and supervision of volunteers;
- Worked with commissioners to ensure that safeguarding requirements when procuring services are robust, and that there is an expectation of mandatory training and ongoing workforce development once the provider is appointed, for example the CCG social prescribing contract;
- Supported the Partnership through membership of, and contribution to a range of sub committees including the Q and I Subgroup and the L&D Subgroup, and feeding into a range of partnerships across AfC and LBRUT such as the SEND Partnership, the Welfare Reform Stakeholders Group, and the VAWG.

141 Karen Penny, Children & Young People Project Officer, KVA (Kingston Voluntary Action) represents the Partnership in Kingston. She writes,

142 Kingston Voluntary Action offer infrastructure support to the voluntary and community sector in Kingston upon Thames. While we support all aspects of their work, particular help is given around policies and procedures, suggestions around best practice, support with fundraising; identification and completion of suitable funding streams and adherence to statutory requirements.

143 KVA runs a Children and Young People Network offers a quarterly meeting for groups working with children and young people, giving the opportunity for groups to meet, network and learn from each other, the KRSCP is represented at all meetings and the training opportunities and support from the partnership is discussed and areas where the sector would like more support are fed back. Updates are sent out regularly listing training opportunities, funding opportunities and items of interest from the NSPCC's CASPAR update for example, as well as local news and updates.

144 Organisations are actively encouraged to undertake training offered by KRSCP as well as that by KVA which has been given jointly with KRSCP (for example Trustee safeguarding training).

145 As the voluntary sector has a unique relationship with many vulnerable people, children and families, we are the first level of support for those struggling with parenting or various specific issues. The support given to organisations that are undertaking this front facing work is vital and it is imperative that needs are met to ensure good outcomes for children, families and to the volunteers and organisations working with them.

146 In 2019-2020 we:

- Hosted four CYP network meetings
- Sent out 12 network updates
- Delivered safer recruitment training
- Reviewed Safeguarding policies for two organisations and referred to appropriate sources for further information.
- Fed into the early help assessment
- Input into the KRSCP emotional health review panel and board, and the joint learning and development subgroup/workforce development subgroup
- Delivered two Trustee Training sessions
- Attended training and seminars including Contextual Safeguarding and Pan London discussions on Food Poverty.

- Voluntary sector representation at The Health & Wellbeing Board, COVID 19 Response group, Kingston Safer Together, Connected Kingston CYP group, Emotional health and wellbeing board, Time to Talk and others.
- Held regular meetings with the AfC deputy head of early help (until a staff change)
- Regular contact with KRSCP around content and structure of KVA CYP Network meetings to ensure up to date information and any new developments are disseminated.

Managing Allegations against Staff and Volunteers Working with Children

- 147 Both boroughs are supported by the LADO (Local Authority Designated Officers), who oversee investigations into allegations made against staff and volunteers, who work or volunteer with children; this could be relating to allegations or concern about conduct or a worker's personal life.
- 148 During the year, we have promoted the work of the LADO at the independent and maintained schools' DSLs' Forums, at the Safe in Faith Conference November 2019, and in February 2020 the Q & I Subgroup scrutinised the LADO annual report. During the year, AfC produced a leaflet giving advice to parents about Private Tutors. We have seen a rise in referrals of 13% (21 cases) in Richmond this year to 183 referrals and 171 referrals in Kingston. This rise is good and shows the impact of our LADO communication and training. Kingston's Ofsted inspection in 2019 had praise for the LADO Service. Impact can be seen below in this Partner comment.

"A well-established, assured and confident approach to allegations against professionals is thorough and proportionate to the initial information presented. The rationale for decisions made is well recorded, and a written response to the referrer gives a clear overview of advice. A good range of training and awareness-raising activity targets appropriate services in the local area. This includes theatre groups, faith groups and independent schools. A leaflet for private tutors has recently been developed, and one is planned for nannies. Both of these reflect the local demography."

From a Detective in the MET Police after an investigation involving the LADO in April 2020. "Can I just say it was such a pleasure working with you as the LADO on this case. This was a very good partnership and I appreciate the fact you are so efficient."

LADO referrals 2016-20 in Richmond (source of referral)

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019-20
Education	64	44	61	60
Health	9	9	8	9
Member of the Public	-	-	11	10
Early Years	39	32	20	31
Ofsted	4	6		9
Police	1	9	13	12
Social Care External	-	8	4	4
Children's Social Care	21	31	27	31
Other, including Sports	18	19	13	8
Other LA Services	6	8		2
Voluntary Sector/ Faith Groups	8	6	5	6
Probation	-	-	-	1
Total	179	168	158	183

LADO referrals 2016-20 in Kingston (source of referral)

	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20
Education	31	44	52	55
Health	2	12	8	13
Member of the Public	11	-	8	6
Early Years	15	17	16	16
Ofsted	0	5		5
Police	12	12	13	4
Social care external	13	40	8	5
Children's Social Care	42	43	37	43
Other, including sports	14	30	18	10
Transport	0	-		5
Voluntary Sector / Faith Groups	6	5	7	4
Total	146	171	167	171

- 149 For both boroughs, the majority of referrals of concern have related to education and early years settings, fostering and residential care. We held Safe in Sport Mini-Conference in October to provide further safeguarding support, which was kindly hosted kindly by the RFU (Rugby Football Union). 35 local clubs across Kingston and Richmond attended. In Richmond, just around 1% of referrals had an esafety or technical element, against 12.65% in Kingston.
- 150 From our data, we know that in most agencies, almost all DBS checks have been taken up – we are sometimes requested to look at school, religious organisation or a voluntary sector agencies' safeguarding policy. We have worked with Richmond Council and AfC in ensuring the contracts they use to commission services who work with children or adults include safeguarding requirements, (training, LADO, Section 11 safeguarding requirements, etc), and we hope to develop this relationship with Kingston Council in due course.

KRSCP Safeguarding Arrangements

- 151 The LSCB (Local Safeguarding Children Board) in Kingston and Richmond joined together in 2014 and was superseded by the KSRCP (Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership) on 1st October 2019, according to statutory requirements set out in Working Together 2018. Here is our new structure:

Structure – Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Partnership



- 152 The Board was chaired by Chris Robson until October 2019, when after a recruitment process, he was appointed as Independent Scrutineer on a two year tenure.
- 153 Following a consultation, the three safeguarding partners, Fergus Keegan, Det Super Owain Richards, James Thomas and Pauline Maddison, joint interim Directors of Children’s Services, set out how they will work together with local relevant agencies [here](#): which were ratified by the Department for Education. All former Board Members have been given the opportunity to join a Subgroup. A local Richmond child designed our new logo, following a competition organised by Lucy MacArthur.
- 154 The LSCB Board met in April, June and September 2019. The new main Executive, the SLG (Strategic Leadership Group) of the Partnership meets quarterly and has included education as part of the key leaders- with Headteachers from a Primary School in Richmond and a Secondary School in Kingston. The SLG had its first development day in early March 2020. It met in November 2019 and January 2020. It has been chaired this year by Ian Thomas, CBE, and Chief Executive of Kingston Council. Ian Dodds was appointed as the shared Director of Children’s Services for Richmond and Kingston Councils in January 2020.
- 155 The Partnership is supported by a small team of full and part-time staff. I have a Professional Adviser and number of subject leads, who serve the partnership. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank Matt Maher, Manager of Community and Partnerships in Richmond and Wandsworth Shared Services, who manages the team and the Local

Authority who host them. During the year, Elisabeth Major, Professional Adviser, has worked 4 days a week, Daksha Mistry, Learning and Development Manager has worked full-time, Tracey Welding, Board Manager has worked full time; Sarah Bennett, part-time CDOP and part-time KRSCP Coordinator took maternity leave, and returned in November 2019; Ellie Boorer has worked as our part time Coordinator and CDOP Coordinator until March 2020; Lucy MacArthur, Schools' Coordinator has worked 4 days a week with education settings (and participation projects in the first half of the year); Sian Davies worked part time as our Business Support until December 2019, and Jay Wylie-Board has worked full-time as our Administrator.

Lay Members

- 156 Our lay members provide us with invaluable professional support, advice and feedback on our local community. Noni Farrelly (Kingston faith group member) attends our Learning and Development Subgroup; Jenny Scarlett-Smith (Richmond community member) attended CDOP until the new regional arrangements were made in September 2019; Rashid Ali-Laher (Kingston faith group member) has supported us through his involvement with the Inter-faith Forums in both boroughs. Debbie Ramsay (Richmond community member) supports our education outreach. Aisha Bicknell is our School Governor Member and attends the Quality and Innovation Subgroup.

KRSCP Subgroups

Quality and Innovation (Q&I) Subgroup

- 157 The single borough Quality Assurance Subgroups joined together in October 2019 in line with the new safeguarding arrangements, to be jointly chaired by Dr Sandhya Kenyon, Designated Doctor for Children Looked After and Sian Thomas, Designated Nurse. They are now chaired by Sian Thomas and Louise Doherty, Designated Nurse for Kingston. The Subgroups are part of our learning and improvement framework. The group has worked hard on a new partner dataset; this is regularly scrutinised by the Subgroup. It meets 6 times a year.
- 158 This year the groups have considered the neglect strategy, the LADO annual report, the Child Protection Conference annual report, the work of the Probation Service, child protection medicals in Richmond, knife crime and acid attacks, eating disorders interventions in SWLStG, CAMHS transitions, school exclusions, local Section 11s, the Children's Commissioner's work on vulnerability, the community suicide action plans and our multi-agency audits.
- 159 We quality assured the 5 EHAs (Early Help Assessments) completed in Kingston and Richmond in the financial year in March 2019. They demonstrated good practice in themselves, interestingly focussed mainly on emotional and behavioural concerns, but highlighted the need to increase their local use. We continue to work with partners to increase multi-agency Early Help engagement.
- 160 Several multi-agency audits have taken place over the year. In summer 2019, there was a mental health audit involving 9 local children and 3 adults with mental health difficulties from both boroughs, this involved Probation and the Community Rehabilitation Company too. Outstanding work was taking place with some very complex cases, achieved through good

working together- best practice was seen when regular updates were shared between professionals, including to therapeutic services and care placements.

- 161 We learnt that we should consider a multi-agency approach at the earliest possible opportunity. Some agencies had chronologies which were very helpful and there was a recommendation for all agencies to use these. Learning Passport meetings in schools could discuss whether need had increased, and then could lead to actions.
- 162 All children had their Views, Wishes and feelings included. This had been achieved through observations from the Speech and Language Team) SALT in some cases. In some cases parental support was not clear or discussed between professionals and parents.
- 163 We learnt to consider Young Carers' Groups for siblings or in some cases for children, whose parents also have health concerns. In some cases we could see the vulnerability of adoptive placements as children grow older.
- 164 Our Independent Scrutineer, Chris Robson as the first learning hub theme, scrutinised Missing Children during autumn 2020, culminating in a learning hub event and Contextual Safeguarding Conference in January 2020. This was very successful, and involved participation from young people, a multi-agency audit of missing children and an action learning set, which included the voice of the child and parent. 10 young people (5 from each borough) who had often been missing were audited by partners in November 2019. Chris held a number of focus groups, including with young people and professionals.
- 165 The young people in our audit had a number of vulnerabilities in common which has helped to inform our work going forward- we could see how easily they could be groomed into extremism; they often faced domestic abuse in their families of origin and many did not have a male role model in the home. They were disproportionately boys, from a BAME background, who often had faced difficulties at school from their primary years.

Section 11 Duties

- 166 All local relevant agencies were informed of our safeguarding arrangements and their duties in summer 2019, when the new Partnership was formed. Section 11 requirements (Children Act 2004), including a safeguarding self-evaluation, has been part of our model and this is reported to our Q&I Subgroup.
- 167 During the year, the local Section 11 themes have been Housing, Domestic Abuse and assurance from our local dentists, pharmacists and opticians in Kingston and Richmond. This has particularly helped to embed our Neglect Strategy into all local agencies, and the development of 20 local Champions, with Tracey Welding Board Manager attending a variety of partner meetings, such as the Headteachers' Forum in January 2020, during the year to publicise the Neglect tools available.
- 168 Following learning from a local review, we have sought Section 11s from all nine semi-independent housing providers for young people in Kingston and Richmond, and those which are commissioned for our children outside our boroughs. So far we have only had two returns, which is disappointing and we will be following this up.
- 169 At the time of writing there are three local schools which have not submitted a Section 11 safeguarding self-evaluation, at all. At March 2020, this was nine, so there has been progress despite the limitations of the pandemic lockdown. During the forthcoming academic year, the DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) Forums will consider topics isolated as particularly relevant during the COVID 19 pandemic, mental health, domestic abuse and race and ethnicity. In Spring 2020, we began work with Early Years Settings to

encourage them to participate in this Section 11 self-evaluation duty. To date, 266 Early Years' settings from both our boroughs, have replied to our online short assurance survey; only one setting did not have a written safeguarding policy, which outlines how to respond to issues of concern for children, and how to report concerns to the LADO. For five settings, their policy did not have details regarding the use of cameras and phones, a national safeguarding issue. Seven settings asked for help with their safeguarding policy, which Lucy MacArthur will provide.

Local Learning Review (LLR) Subgroup

- 170 Working Together 2018 outlines that the local partnership must consider any local serious incidents in Kingston and Richmond, and undertake any relevant safeguarding practice reviews, as required, in negotiation with the National Review Panel. The Local Learning Review Subgroup is chaired by Trish Stewart, Associate Director of Safeguarding and Mandy Harper, Named Nurse, (CLCH). It meets approx. every 8 weeks. This subgroup oversees any action plans arising from local learning. During the year it oversaw the publication of a Serious Case Review regarding St Paul's School in January 2020 and two learning reviews regarding Young Person Q (Richmond) and Polly (Richmond). The group has scrutinised a lower level of serious incidents this year, only 3 compared to 12 being referred in 2017.
- 171 The group has overseen the refresh of the CSA (Child Sexual Abuse) pathway for both boroughs, led by the Designated Doctors Vanessa Impey and Suzanne Luck. It has also overseen leading to the practice case reviews Baby U (Kingston) and Family T (Richmond) which began this summer. We have been able to disseminated emerging learning already about mental health, Section 47 enquiries, child sexual abuse and safeguarding disabled children.
- 172 There has been learning about independent health organisations and safeguarding, which has resulted in Andrea Knock, former Kingston Designated Nurse, Kingston CCG and Ellie Boorer initiating a private health group in October 2019 as a result. The Private Health group meets termly and is now coordinated by the CCG Designated Professionals and Sarah Bennett, KRSCP Coordinator. This group disseminates learning and provides a safe place for professional discussion for a range of professionals from private GPs, health teams in independent schools, to private hospitals.

Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews

- 173 In January 2020 a Serious Case Review regarding non-historic sexual abuse at St Paul's School was published. The reviewers were Edi Carmi (Panel Chair) and Jane Wonnacott (Lead Reviewer). The report analyses the partnership working around non-recent historic sexual abuse at St Paul's School. A number of recommendations were made. There were some national recommendations made too, which are mainly being overseen by the Department of Education for all the involved government departments. The KRSCP Chair has met with the Department for Education and Fergus Keegan, CCG has met with the Royal College of GPs to discuss recommendations. The School has completed its recommendations. There has been some delay due to the COVID 19 pandemic.
- 174 We have had liaison with the School, Department for Education for all the Government Departments involved and Royal College of GPs in relation to the recommendations, which are not yet all completed. The School has completed most of its recommendations before

the Pandemic began. Learning was disseminated to the Partnership and through the Designated Safeguarding Lead School Forums, to all Headteachers and Headteacher Forums. We are continuing to think of the response we can make as a Partnership to recommendations about the use of alcohol in social events in schools.

- 175 A learning review was completed regarding a young care leaver from Richmond, who died in December 2018, Young Person Q – this is being extended as a Domestic Homicide Review and has not been published. A further review was completed regarding Young Person S from Kingston, who faced exploitation. Most of the actions from this review have been completed. At the time of writing, work is ongoing to complete an Emotional Health Review across both boroughs looking at the multi-agency experience of local services, and involving user feedback from young people and professionals. This themed review arises from some sad situations over the last few years, where local children have taken their own lives.
- 176 We identified some incidents of local youth violence and suggested that the National Panel might wish to consider a themed national review. This review took place in May 2019 and involved two families and practitioners from Kingston. The resultant recommendations of the Ofsted report regarding Criminal Exploitation, featured in a challenge conversation between key leaders in summer 2020.
- 177 There has been a disproportionate number of local reviews where the family or child were not White British over the last years. This could have meant that differences in local systems to ask for help hindered matters or expectations of local support, differed to what would have been offered. We are continuing to consider this as a Strategic Leadership Group.

Vulnerable Child and Adolescent (VCA) Subgroup

- 178 This joint subgroup was chaired by Alison Twynam (DCS) and DCI Clair Kelland this year. The group has a wide membership and has met three times this year; one meeting being postponed due to the pandemic. The Chairs have written to members during the year to remind them about their attendance. This year the group has looked at County Lines and trafficking, the local work of Rescue and Respond, the Missing Children independent scrutiny, Contextual Safeguarding, Harmful Sexual Behaviour, substance misuse, our local learning reviews and modern slavery. A Task and Finish group has begun chaired by Linda Sheehan, AfC, to identify good local work to ensure young people are not excluded from school and have training, employment or educational opportunities post 16. They have met once in January 2020. This Task and Finish group is supported by Sarah Bennett.

Learning and Development (L&D) Subgroup

- 179 This Subgroup is chaired by Suzanne Parrott, Headteacher of the Virtual School, supported by Daksha Mistry, L&D Manager. During the year, this Subgroup met three times, as one meeting in March 2020 was postponed due to the pandemic. The group considers our local face to face and online safeguarding learning offer. A number of local colleagues have been trained to deliver training with us, and some organisations offer their rooms free of charge, such as Kingston Hospital and Surbiton High School. Daksha and Peter Cowley, the AfC eSafety Lead are currently working on a Partnership online safety strategy. E-safety is a key issue of concern for local young people, and I am pleased that this is being more integrated

into our learning. From September 2018, there has been an esafety presentation at every DSL and Early Years termly Forum by Peter. During the year, we were able to provide bespoke training to 90 Police, Officers, Kingston Mosque, Pools in the park, Richmond, Kingston Music Centre and schools for their inset days, As the financial year ended, another chapter began with our learning taking place as webinars online due to the pandemic. We reviewed our offer and began to offer targeted safeguarding training support for volunteers by means of elearning and short films. Our Learning and Development Annual Report 2019-20 can be found here [XXX](#) Impact can be seen for example in some of these quotes from delegates in their evaluations following training:

Complaints, Concerns and Escalations

- 180 During the year, there has been one Subject Access Request given to the KRSCP to help support resolution, in relation to an escalation between a School and SWLStG. Following a concern about safety on the Thames, raised by a Richmond member of the public, Sarah Bennett has worked with the Port of London Authority around water safety incidents and safeguarding. As a result, signage at the waterfront has been updated. Work has been ongoing with a national sports organisation during the year, after an escalation from

Richmond Council. At the time, of writing, with the limitations of lockdown, it would seem that the issue is now resolved.

Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)

- 181 There is a statutory duty that all child deaths, expected and unexpected are independently reviewed and any learning identified and fed back into the system to improve outcomes for children and families. In September 2019, the CDOP (Child Death Overview Panel) moved from being an LSCB responsibility to a CCG and Local Authority led regional Partnership across Kingston, Richmond, Merton, Croydon, Wandsworth and Sutton. It is chaired by the Director of Public Health in Croydon. For the whole region, there were 83 child deaths (notifications) and 83 child death reviews. During the 2019-20 reporting year, Inquests and Serious Incident Investigations delayed conclusion of reviews due to the time required to conduct these independent processes. In addition, the transition between child death reviews under the former local borough systems and the consolidation of the panels to a regional panel caused some delay in concluding reviews, with all boroughs working to review as many cases as possible before the 1st November 2019. Across South West London, the average time taken for cases to reach review was 270 days. Our local CDR Coordinator Sarah Bennett is now working from Kingston Hospital to support the review of deaths and a Family Liaison Nurse was recruited and began work with families in July 2020.
- 182 18% of the deaths reviewed by across SWL during 2019-20 were found to have modifiable factors, defined as those by through which local or nationally achievable interventions could be modified to reduce the risk of future child deaths. Proportionately (excluding those ethnicities not recorded), 46% of the child deaths reviewed in South West London during 2019-20 were of Black, Asian and Mixed Minority ethnic categories. 74% of child deaths were classified as expected. Eighty 82% of these deaths had no modifiable factors identified. 24% of child deaths were unexpected in South West London, and 18% percent had modifiable factors identified. Forty-one unexpected child deaths had Rapid Response/Joint Agency Response meetings held across South West London.

As at 1st April 2020, there were 70 open cases in the region.

	Notifications	Reviews	Open Cases
Kingston	3	7	11
Richmond	10	10	20

- 183 Kingston and Richmond have completed 3 Child Death Review Meetings since October 2019. Currently the LLR (Local Learning Review) Subgroup and Designated Nurse Richmond CCG are working with “feeder Hospitals” to the Partnership in other boroughs, to coordinate the local child death processes. Neonatal / Perinatal child deaths are the largest category of child death in the region and for our boroughs. The Public Health Team carried out an analysis of infant deaths in Kingston during the year to assure our systems. They identified no systemic issues. The high infant mortality rate is linked to two years where the number of infant deaths was above average, in 2016 and 2017. All infant deaths are reviewed by the Child Death Overview Panel. 2016 had a relatively high number of infant deaths associated with prematurity. 2017 had a relatively high number of postnatal deaths (deaths after 28 days and before 1 year). There was no obvious change in the proportion of

deaths considered potentially preventable. The data is not conclusive of a trend of an increasing infant mortality rate in Kingston above what could be considered statistical variation on a background where we are no longer seeing an annual fall in Infant mortality nationally. No clear driver of any potential change was apparent within local CDOP data.

- 184 For unexpected child deaths, multi-agency Rapid Response meetings or now JARs (Joint Agency Response meetings) are held- two took place in Richmond and one in Kingston during the year.
- 185 During the forthcoming year, the CDOP plans to identify trends in child deaths in the South West London area, to conduct themed reviews involving specialists on specific issues, such as reducing risk in vulnerable children that result in deaths due to self-harm, accident, or misadventure.
- 186 The full CDOP Annual Report for the region can be found on our website.

Communication

- 187 The Partnership relies on good communication at all levels, particularly through periods of change. The SLG quarterly meeting minutes are available redacted on our KRSCP website, and the Chair sends out a Partner letter after each meeting. We have an active Twitter account with 875 followers, and produce monthly KRSCP newsletters with a distribution to 600 local partners; Tracey Welding publishes a termly Neglect newsletter and Voluntary Sector and Faith Safeguarding newsletters with a distribution to over 200 individuals, and Lucy MacArthur sends a half termly DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead) newsletter to all local schools and Early Years' settings.

Priorities 2020-22

- 188 In March, following a consultation with local Partners, the SLG set priorities for the next two years for the Partnership with a golden thread throughout them all of diversity and anti-discrimination. They will continue to 2022.
 - **Contextual Safeguarding – Lead Detective Superintendent Owain Richards**
 - **Mental Health – Lead Fergus Keegan**
 - **Working with parents with vulnerabilities, Think Family, Early Help – Lead Ian Dodds**
- 189 This report was presented to the Strategic Leadership Group and agreed on 30th November 2020.

Our Business Plan 2020-22 can be found here:

<http://kingstonandrichmondlsqb.org.uk/about-kingston-lsqb/annual-report-48.php>

Appendix 1: Independent Scrutineer Chris Robson

- 190 As set out in Working Together 2018, the role of independent scrutiny is to provide assurance in judging the effectiveness of multi-agency arrangements to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children in a local area, including arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases.
- 191 Whilst the decision on how best to implement a robust system of independent scrutiny is to be made locally, safeguarding partners should ensure that the scrutiny is objective, acts as a constructive critical friend and promotes reflection to drive continuous improvement.
- 192 The Independent Scrutineer should consider how effectively the arrangements are working for children and families as well as for practitioners, and how well the safeguarding partners are providing strong leadership and agree with the safeguarding partners how this will be reported.
- 193 “I am delighted to have been given the role of Independent Scrutineer for the newly formed Safeguarding Partnership. My role and the wider function of scrutiny is vital if we are to succeed in our aims to safeguard our children and young people. My first and perhaps most important observation is that I have witnessed individuals from across the whole Partnership working with outstanding professionalism and dedication during these unprecedented times. The way they have adapted, innovated and consistently put the welfare of children at the top of their agenda has meant that I can assure the Strategic Leaders that they have the correct group of people working with them to improve outcomes for our children and families in Kingston and Richmond.
- 194 “Since taking the role, I have completed 3 specific pieces of scrutiny and reported back to the SLG (Missing Children January 2020, Partnership Response to Covid 19 July 2020, Serious Incidents August 2020). I have reported on partnership response to Missing Children, COVID and arrangements to identify and review serious child safeguarding cases. I was able to assure leaders that arrangements were positive in each area whilst making recommendations that could improve practice further. In each case the reports were received in a positive manner. This willingness to engage with scrutiny at all levels is of paramount importance. It is vital that we see scrutiny as a tool that will improve our service delivery. I hope that my work and that of others will continue to be welcomed and seen as vital to success.
- 195 “A statutory function of the Scrutineer role is to scrutinise this report. Having read the report I find it detailed, informative and candid. It strikes a good balance between pointing out the Partnership’s successes whilst acknowledging areas that require development. I believe the three priority areas have been selected through evidential data and consultation with young people are appropriate and deal with some of the most challenging safeguarding issues for our children. I am pleased to see that each has a strategic lead, this affords accountability and senior support to those trying to deliver in these key areas. Engagement with young people continues to develop and I will continue to scrutinise progress in this area over the next twelve months. Whilst these three areas are quite rightly prioritised, it is important that this is not at the cost of other persistent, stubborn areas of concern for us. I am confident that this will not be the case but I shall remain aware to the possibility.
- 196 “Kingston and Richmond have managed the transition from LSCB to Safeguarding Partnership extremely well. New structures support delivery for the Partnership and engagement is generally good. I am confident that the new system will afford the partnership appropriate opportunities to safeguard our children. I will continue to challenge

and support through my scrutiny to ensure the Partnership have an independent view on its effectiveness”.

Chris Robson

6th October 2020

Appendix 2: KRSCP Team

- 197 Elisabeth Major Professional Adviser
 Daksha Mistry Learning & Development Manager
 Tracey Welding Board Manager
 Ellie Boorer Richmond Coordinator to March 2020
 Sarah Bennett CDOP Coordinator / Richmond Coordinator
 Lucy MacArthur Schools' Coordinator (term time)
 Amber Kahn CDOP Coordinator to Aug 2019
 Jay Wylie-Board Business Support
 Sian Davies Business Support to Dec 2019

Appendix 3: KRSCP Finances 2019-20

- 198 Partners provide financial and support in kind. The Metropolitan Police figure is an agreed figure for London.

KRSCP Income 2019-20

Agency	2019-20
AfC for Kingston and Richmond	48,500
Richmond Council	140,000
Kingston Council	100,000
Kingston CCG	52,400
Richmond CCG	32,000
Metropolitan Police	10,000

London Fire Brigade	500
Probation	2,000
Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)	2,000
Cafcass	1,100
Training income	38,000
Total	426,100

KRSCP expenditure 2019-20.

Item	Actual
Staffing (inclusive of NI, pensions etc) KRSCP Team plus LSCB Chair / Independent Scrutineer & CDOP Chair	325,446.09
Agency staffing	36,638.87
Training	53,867.00
Venue hire	3,485.50
Printing	1,000.83
Child Safeguarding Practice Reviews (St Paul's School, Richmond DHR Young Person Q, Young Person S, Emotional Health Review)	67,202.80
Legal fees (SLLP)	3,872.58
Miscellaneous (website, hardware, clerking meetings, staff training, etc)	10,928.83
Total	502,282.50