



### Message from Chris Robson, LSCB Chair

I am delighted to be your new LSCB Chair in Richmond and Kingston and to join at a time of strong partnerships as recognised recently by Ofsted. I am excited about how we can work together to include children and young people's views more strongly in our strategic work, promote eSafety in all aspects of our local work and ensure our volunteers and practitioners have all the tools they need to communicate well together.

### Local Learning

One of our roles as an LSCB is to identify local learning through our audit programme as part of our learning and development framework. In November 2017, we audited the cases of 20 children (10 children looked after in Kingston and 10 children subject to child in need plans and Supervision Orders in Richmond).

Our collated local learning can be found here:

[http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/media/upload/fck/file/Local%20LSCB%20%20learning%20Nov%20%202017%20\(1\).pdf](http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/media/upload/fck/file/Local%20LSCB%20%20learning%20Nov%20%202017%20(1).pdf)

Key themes are Communication; Practitioner skill base; Diversity; Hearing the child's voice; and Creating a Culture of Professional Challenge. Practitioners can use the LSCB PowerPoint in any training or on intranets. Some of our local work and case reviews have identified that we need more confidence in working with cases of [suspected] **child sexual abuse**. Nationally, the NSPCC has identified that 21-24% of children are sexually abused either through contact abuse or through images / online.

Our conference took place in January **Child Sexual Abuse -Seen, Heard, Helped**

Find out more here <http://www.kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/news-and-resources.php>

An article in the Guardian reported recently that the NSPCC made 4,677 referrals relating child sexual abuse to police and social services across the UK following calls to their helpline in the year 2016/17, an increase of 31% on the previous year. A further 3,912 contacts received advice about sexual abuse against young people from helpline staff. The NSPCC helpline provides help and support to parents, professionals and families wanting advice or to share their concerns about a child. The helpline can be contacted by emailing [help@nspcc.org.uk](mailto:help@nspcc.org.uk) or by telephoning 0808 800 5000.

The NSPCC has published a briefing to help professionals update their knowledge of the most recent research on harmful sexual behaviour (HSB). It highlights the key messages from articles published in academic journals, chapters in edited books and reports from specialist organisations, which were published in 2016 or 2017. This can be found on their website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/>

Our MASE (Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation Meeting) has now enlarged to look at referrals about SHB, as these can be an indicator of CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation).

The Department for Education (DfE) has published non-statutory advice for schools and colleges on how to prevent and respond to reports of sexual violence and harassment between children. This covers: what is meant by "sexual violence and harassment between children"; schools' and colleges' legal responsibilities; the importance of having a whole school or college approach; how to respond to reports of sexual violence and sexual harassment; safeguarding and supporting all children involved. The NSPCC has published a CASPAR briefing summarising the key points from the document.

One of the local theme's is working with **neglect**. Many of our local case reviews have been about cases of neglect and this is a theme from national serious case reviews. We want to encourage early help as a preventive resource for neglect, and the use of the EHA (Early Help Assessment) in those situations . Find out more here: <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners/what-is-child-abuse-and-neglect-113/neglect-128.php>

### LSCB Changes

Welcome to Daksha Mistry, new LSCB Learning & Development Manager.

The LSCB published two pieces of important local guidance this month:

Lone Worker guidance: <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/news-resources/policies-and-procedures-87.php>

Safer Recruitment Guidance. <http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/news-resources/policies-and-procedures-87/safer-recruitment-guidance-142.php>

## Safer Internet Day

The UK Safer Internet Centre has launched six education packs with age appropriate content to help teachers across the UK educate children and young people aged 3-18 about online safety issues.

The Children's Commissioner for England has published a report looking at the ways younger children use platforms, which the social media companies say are not designed for them, and the effect on their wellbeing. Findings from eight focus groups involving 32 children aged 8 to 12 years old include: the most popular social media were Snapchat, Instagram, Musical.ly and WhatsApp; social media was important for maintaining relationships, but this got more difficult to manage at secondary school, where friendships could break down online; children are conscious of keeping up appearances on social media, particularly when they start secondary school. Recommendations to government include: broadening digital literacy education in schools beyond safety messages, to develop children's critical awareness and resilience, focusing on the transition stage from primary to secondary school; and guidance to inform parents the ways in which children's social media use changes with age, particularly on entry to secondary school.

Brook and CEOP command of the National Crime Agency (NCA) have published a report looking at young people's use of technology in their romantic relationships. Findings from interviews, focus groups and a survey of over 2,000 young people aged between 14 and 25 include: 34% had sent a nude or sexual image to someone they were interested in, and 52% had received a nude or sexual image of someone else; 61% had felt uncomfortable with the way someone they know was treating someone else online.

The Gambling Commission has published a report exploring the gambling behaviours of young people in England, Scotland and Wales. Findings from a survey of 2,881 11-16 year olds found that 12% had spent their own money on a gambling activity in the week prior to taking part in the study; 3% of 11-16 year olds spent their own money on online gambling at least once a year; whilst 7% had used a parent's account to gamble online. The report looks at the emerging phenomenon of 'skins' betting - betting with in-game items when playing computer games or apps. Findings show that 11% of 11-16 year olds claim to have personally ever participated in 'skins' betting.

## UP-COMING MARAC Sessions

The MARAC is a multi agency risk assessment conference for domestic violence. There are briefing for professionals through which you can learn the following;

- Gain an understanding of the MARAC process and aims
- MARAC threshold
- Risk Assessment
- How to complete MARAC referral form
- Your role at MARAC
- Understand the importance of information sharing and referring to MARAC
- How to refer to MARAC
- The briefings are not formal training sessions and do not replace the need to attend the full day risk assessment / MARAC training course.

The briefings are intended to be informal sessions where I will be available to provide information, answer any questions and assist with any queries attendees might have.

To book a place please contact: Albina Hiorns – MARAC and Domestic Violence and Abuse Administrator

MARAC enquiries: [MARAC@richmond.gcsx.gov.uk](mailto:MARAC@richmond.gcsx.gov.uk)

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