



Message from Deborah Lightfoot, LSCB Chair

In this newsletter we set out the emergency interventions that agencies can use when a child is in immediate danger and steps that need to be taken to secure the safety of the child. We also give information about two important government documents, Keeping Children Safe in Education 2016 and the Wood review into the future of LSCBs.

I also want to draw your attention to our 'day in the life' feature a new short addition to our newsletter that I hope will further understanding amongst partners of the different roles that agencies play to safeguard children in Kingston and in Richmond.

Children in immediate danger

The LSCB has, as part of its local statutory safeguarding assessment, a need to establish our particular local risks. Knowledge of the use of emergency interventions will help us all understand local needs, and ensure that services are appropriately commissioned.

If at any time during the assessment or child protection process it becomes apparent that a child is in immediate danger, agencies can take steps to secure the safety of the child. The local authority can apply for an **Emergency Protection Order (EPO)** to remove a child from home. They can also apply for a **Child Assessment Order** which requires parents or carers to allow professionals access to the child in order to undertake an assessment, or an **Exclusion Order** which allows a perpetrator to be removed from the home.

The Police also have **powers of protection** to remove a child to a place of safety where they have reasonable grounds to suspect the child is at risk of significant harm or to stop a child being removed from a place of safety. The Police play a key role locally in working with other agencies to keep children and young people safe. Police powers of protection are sometimes used when missing children are found, for example, or when young children are discovered alone and unsupervised.

In the coming months, we will be considering how often police powers are being taken in Kingston and Richmond and for which children at risk. This will help us understand our local safeguarding picture. The LSCB wishes to encourage collaborative multi agency working and information sharing. We want to ensure all partners involved with a family take part in Section 47 strategy meetings and discussions.

The London Child Protection Procedures 2015 (3.2) outline that powers of protection should only be taken in exceptional circumstances where there is very little time and serious concerns for a child's wellbeing. When they are used, a Police Officer of at least Inspector rank should act as the Designated Officer. Where an agency with statutory powers, such as Police, Health or Children's Social Care (CSC) takes emergency action, a strategy meeting or discussion should take place within one working day to plan the next steps. In addition, a Section 47 child protection investigation should be undertaken to assess the family circumstances. Often legal advice will need to be taken by CSC. [Find out more here](#)

LSCB recruitment of coordinators

The Board is very happy to announce that 25 people applied for our local LSCB coordinator posts - we are delighted with such interest. We have shortlisted 9 people to interview and will let you know as soon as possible who will be working with us in Kingston and Richmond.

A Day in the Life of a Richmond Police Schools' Officer

Being a Schools Officer means I get to wear a variety of hats including social worker, counsellor and teacher. One minute I can be giving a presentation to a class of students on internet safety and the next be reassuring a parent after they discover their child is being bullied.

(Robin Claydon)



The Alan Wood Review of LSCBs May 2016

Alan Wood reported to the Government at the end of May 2016 with recommendations for LSCBs in England.

[You can find the report here.](#)

Wood wrote that few LSCBs have been judged to be working effectively. There is often a lack of clarity of expectation for LSCBs and their remits are very broad. They often place high demands for attendance at meetings on partners, but there is little challenge to be providing good safeguarding outcomes for children locally. Sometimes Boards are too bureaucratic and there is too much multi-agency acceptance of less than good performance. Wood wanted to improve learning from national serious events affecting children and recommended a national learning framework and a regional model to review child deaths.

Wood recommended a focus on protection with collaboration ensured by senior officers for Health, Police and Local Authorities. Local areas would have the freedom to determine what collaboration means for them and what outcomes they want to see to know children are being kept safe.

What does this mean for us in Richmond and Kingston?

As Boards we are beginning to think about the implications for us and we will be discussing the way ahead at our joint Board on 28th June. We plan to be working with Kingston University and our local partners to think what pilot models would work well locally. Kingston LSCB was inspected by Ofsted in 2015 and found to be good and to be working effectively.

[The Ofsted report can be found here.](#)

Keeping Children Safe in Education – New Government Guidance

[You can download the new KCSIE 2016 here](#)

Andrew Hall has produced a Video Presentation of key changes in an 8-minute video presentation along with a free PDF booklet and checklist [which you can find here](#)

In terms of training for DSLs (Designated Safeguarding Leads) for maintained and independent schools, LSCB advice remains the same locally for DSLs to refresh their Level 3 training every 2 years and in addition to take at least one LSCB Level 3 course per year regarding a key issue such as CSE (Child Sexual Exploitation) neglect or domestic abuse, for example.

Eradicating FGM – A briefing for Kingston and Richmond schools

4.15pm – 6pm, 29th June 2016

Orleans Park, Richmond Road, Twickenham, Middlesex TW1 3BB

The summer holidays are a time of great vulnerability for girls at risk of FGM, and schools play a vital role in protecting and supporting girls at risk of or affected by this abuse. This briefing is for every education professional who wishes to join the fight to eradicate FGM, and is open to all Kingston and Richmond education professionals, including support staff. We encourage schools to forward this invitation to all staff. Your safeguarding lead is on hand to support you to respond appropriately where you identify concerns, **but would you spot the warning signs that a girl was about to undergo this abuse?**

[Please book a place at www.afccpdonline.co.uk](http://www.afccpdonline.co.uk)

Richmond and Kingston Youth Councils' Mental Health Survey

Richmond and Kingston Youth Councils are conducting an anonymous survey to find out what young people think and know about mental health. The Youth Councils, Healthwatch and Public Health Richmond and Kingston will use the findings to try and ensure services around mental health better meet the needs of young people.

They aim to reach out to as many young people as possible.

Therefore, could you please help us circulate the [link to the survey](#).

If possible, could you also create a link in your website and mention the survey in your newsletter (if you produce one).

[The questionnaire deadline is midnight on Sunday 24 July.](#)