

### Message from Deborah Lightfoot, LSCB Chair

Welcome to the September edition of the LSCB newsletter, in this we set out importance of our common approach to the assessment of need across the safeguarding partnership in Kingston and Richmond and remind all partners of the process to be followed. This is a practice precursor to our LSCB conference to which you are all invited on the 1st October 2015. This will focus specifically on neglect. A significant body of research indicates that early identification of need and intervention is really important in preventing neglect.

### What is a Common Assessment Framework?

The Common Assessment Framework (CAF) is a process for gathering and recording information about a child when a practitioner has concerns. It is a shared assessment and planning framework which can be utilised by practitioners across children's services and local areas in the UK. At an early stage, the CAF helps identify the child's additional needs and promotes coordination of service provisions in order to meet them.

The LSCB is required not only to assure local safeguarding services, but promote and encourage early help and preventative support for children and young people. CAF intervention figures are relatively low for the financial years 2014/15 for both Kingston and Richmond; 368 CAFs completed in Richmond and 294 in Kingston. This is the trend for several years. These CAF figures are set against a population of 46,200 children in Richmond and 39,800 children in Kingston; 3194 children living in poverty in Richmond and 4,995 in Kingston. We know that some agencies are working with children and their families, but not recognising their work as CAF. The Quality Assurance Subgroups in both boroughs will be looking at estimated prevalence figures in September and considering how to promote this work.

The CAF plays a fundamental part in delivering frontline services that are integrated and focused around the needs of children and young people. Its aim is to support early intervention, improve joint working and communication between practitioners in order to deliver the most appropriate response.

The CAF is for children who have additional needs in one or more of three areas:

- Their growth and development;
- Additional educational requirements;
- Family and environmental issues and any specific needs of the parent/carer.

The CAF is a voluntary assessment, and so a child/ young person or parent/ carer must give their consent at the start of the process making sure that they have full knowledge of what will happen. On completion of the assessment the child and or parent/carer must give their consent again for the information to be stored and shared with other services.

**Why not think if the family you are working with requires a CAF. Or if you work with an adult, why not consider the adult's parenting and the impact of their vulnerability on their children.**

To find out how to begin a CAF please visit:

- **Richmond:**  
[www.richmond.gov.uk/caf](http://www.richmond.gov.uk/caf)
- **Kingston:**  
[http://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200268/coordinating\\_children\\_s\\_services/814/common\\_assessment\\_framework\\_forms\\_and\\_guidance](http://www.kingston.gov.uk/info/200268/coordinating_children_s_services/814/common_assessment_framework_forms_and_guidance)
- **Kingston and Richmond LSCB:**  
<http://kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk/practitioners/early-help-178.php>

### Early intervention foundation launches new early intervention academy for police leaders

The Early Intervention Foundation, working with the Home Office and the College of Policing, has launched the Early Intervention Academy for Police Leaders. It will consist of a series of expert-led masterclasses and learning sessions drawing on evidence and innovation in early intervention and reflecting on issues including using data to understand demand and vulnerabilities in local communities and new models of working with partners. Source: Early Intervention Foundation <http://www.eif.org.uk/press-release-early-intervention-foundation-launches-new-early-intervention-academy-for-police-leaders/>

## Kingston and Richmond LSCB Annual Conference 2015

This year's Annual Conference will focus on safeguarding children in Kingston and Richmond from neglect. Neglect is the constant failing to meet a child or young person's basic needs resulting in serious effects on their health and development. Neglect can also occur during pregnancy through maternal substance abuse, for example.

The conference aims to bring together practitioners from Kingston and Richmond LSCB partner agencies. The event will provide the opportunity to gain a more in depth understanding of findings from research on neglect as well as information on best practice and 'what works' in cases of neglect.

### Workshops:

1. **Dogs, Guns and Neglect: Family E Learning from a Case Study** – Elisabeth Major, LSCB Professional Advisor
2. **Managing Neglect: Local Challenges – Learning from case reviews** – Edi Carmi, Independent Safeguarding Consultant
3. **Launch of the Neglect Toolkit: How to use it** – Sian Thomas and Andrea Knock, Designated Nurses for Safeguarding children in Kingston and Richmond
4. **Substance Misuse and Neglect** – Lorraine Campbell, LSCB Professional Development Lead
5. **Domestic Violence and Neglect** – Prof Jane Lindsay, Head of School and Professor of Social Work Practice, Kingston University

### Market Stalls:

Various local organisations will host market stands during the lunch hour (12.30-13.30) as a chance for delegates to find out more information about their services. The organisations hosting the market stands are:

- Kingston and Richmond Private Fostering Services – Achieving for Children
- Young Carers Service in Kingston – Kingston Carers
- Kingston Domestic Violence Hub
- Richmond Borough Mind
- Home Start Richmond
- Kingston and Richmond Safeguarding Children Board

For more information on the conference please read the [LSCB Annual conference poster](#) which will inform you of the booking process for the conference. Please note that there are limited spaces for the conference and workshops so booking early is advisable.

## Safefrom campaign Video

The Safefrom campaign video on teenage relationship abuse is now ready for you to watch. It demonstrates the hard work that a group of young people in Kingston and Richmond undertook to raise awareness about teenage relationship abuse. To watch follow the link: [Safefrom campaign video – teenage relationship abuse](#)

## Richmond & Kingston Fire Brigade Services

Richmond and Kingston Fire Brigades are happy to offer support around home visits and fire safety, for vulnerable families and in situations where there is concern regarding hoarding. Please contact the Richmond Borough Commander, **Andy Cane** here: [andy.cane@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:andy.cane@london-fire.gov.uk) and the Kingston Borough Commander, **Sally Cartwright** here: [sally.cartwright@london-fire.gov.uk](mailto:sally.cartwright@london-fire.gov.uk)

## Kingston and Richmond LSCB Annual Reports 2014-2015

The Kingston and Richmond LSCB Annual Report have now both been published and you can read them by visiting [www.kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk](http://www.kingstonandrichmondscb.org.uk).

For the recent Kingston LSCB Ofsted inspection report please click [here](#)