

**Local
Safeguarding
Children Board
Annual Report
2012-2013**



Who are the Local Safeguarding Children Board?

The Local Safeguarding Children Board makes sure that all organisations work together to promote the safety of children and young people in Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster. The Board is made up of very senior people from housing, social care, schools, education, the police, health and a few others. We check that all these people are thinking about whether or not children and young people

- feel safe
- are happy
- are healthy
- have a home
- have an education
- have a support network

Usually the Local Safeguarding Children Board is called the **LSCB for short**

Introduction

The original annual report was written by Jean Daintith. Jean is the Independent Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster. Jean does not work for any of the 3 boroughs. She is completely separate. This is really important because it means she can look at the Board as an outsider and see what the different organizations are doing well and what they need to do better.

This version of the report has been written by Mickella Jenkins, especially for children and young people

| Key Words | What They Mean |
|--|---|
| <p>Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB)</p> <p>The Board</p> | <p>The Local Safeguarding Children Board is the group of people that makes sure that all agencies work together to promote the safety of children and young people. The agencies that the Board includes are housing, social care, schools, education, the police, health, probation and a few others. They check that people working for these agencies are thinking about whether or not children and young people:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - are happy - are healthy - have a home - have an education - have a support network - feel safe <p>The Local Safeguarding Children Board is sometimes called the LSCB or just the Board</p> |
| <p>Tri Borough</p> | <p>Tri Borough is the name given to Hammersmith and Fulham, Kensington and Chelsea and Westminster when talking about all of them together. This is because some of the services in each of the boroughs have now started to work together, so instead of three different things there is just one!</p> |
| <p>Safeguarding</p> | <p>Safeguarding is a bit of a fancy way of saying “keeping children and young people safe”. Safeguarding is also about making sure children and young people get the best opportunities in life and that they:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - feel safe - are happy - are healthy - have a home - have an education - have a support network |
| <p>Lay People</p> | <p>Lay People are individuals that present the views of the community and public from the areas you live.</p> |

| | |
|------------------------------------|--|
| Lead | A lead is the person who has the most responsibility for something. |
| Child Protection Plan | When a child is at risk of harm or has been harmed, professionals can make a child protection plan. The plan explains how that child will be protected from harm and tells everyone what they should be doing to make sure that child isn't harmed again. When a child has a child protection plan, there are meetings to look at how well the plan is working or if it needs to be changed. These meetings are called Child Protection Conferences. |
| Short Life Working Group/Sub Group | Small groups created to work on particular topics for a set period of time |
| Serious Case Review | <p>A real child protection case The Board look to see what they could have done differently.</p> <p>This can be very upsetting because a child has died or been seriously hurt.</p> <p>This is how the Board continues to learn and make sure all those who work with children continue to learn as well.</p> |
| Looked After | <p>This is when the local authority (e.g. Hammersmith and Fulham, the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea or Westminster) shares parental responsibility for a child or young person with their mum and dad. When a child or young person is looked after, they will live away from home with someone who is not their mum or dad.</p> <p>Sometimes children who are looked after are called LAC for short.</p> |

Summary

This is a shorter version of the whole report. It talks about all the main points in the report.

- 1) This is the first year that the LSCB has covered the 3 Council areas. Before this year each area had their own LSCB.

Before 2012



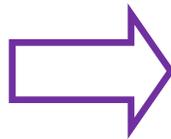
**Kensington
and
Chelsea
LSCB**



**Hammersmith
and
Fulham
LSCB**



**Westminster
LSCB**



Now



**LSCB for Kensington and
Chelsea, Hammersmith
and Fulham and
Westminster**

When we talk of all 3 boroughs working together, we sometimes call it Tri Borough (this is just a fancy way of saying 3 boroughs).

The LSCB now has new people that have joined. They are called LAY PEOPLE. Remember Lay People are individuals that present the views of the community and public from the areas you live.

The LSCB has also started to look at how they can include children and young people in deciding what the Board does.

The Board has lots of members so that all those who are responsible for making sure children are safe can do this together. The best part is all of those members make sure they attend! This means that all the people that are responsible for safeguarding can check that everyone is doing their bit, so that they can work as a big team to keep children and young people safe.



2) In the past, the LSCB used to have one Head Teacher that came to Board meetings on behalf of ALL the Head Teachers in the 3 boroughs

There are 150 schools in total in the 3 boroughs. That means only one Head Teacher representing 149 other Head Teachers!!!! 🤔

But that's all changed now, and there are plans to have more Head Teachers from both primary and secondary schools – phew!!! 😄

The LSCB have realised that they need to work more closely with schools. There is a new Safeguarding Education lead and it is now their job to help make this happen.

(A lead is the person who has the most responsibility for something. In this case the Safeguarding Education lead is responsible for promoting the safety of children and young people in schools and colleges)



3) There have been changes in the way the police work and some new leaders have been appointed. The LSCB hopes this means we will be able to work closer with the Borough Commands – a Borough Commander is a Chief Officer. They're very high up on the police ranking ladder and very important.

Police Constable → Sergeant → Inspector → Chief Inspector → Superintendent → Chief Superintendent → Commander

The Board is already working well with the Child Abuse Investigation Team. This is the Police team that makes sure children are not being hurt on purpose and who investigate when children are hurt

4) Each of the housing departments in the 3 boroughs has been working with the Board to look at how the changes to benefits are affecting children and their families. The housing departments and the Board especially want to help children on a child protection plan, or children who have other needs.



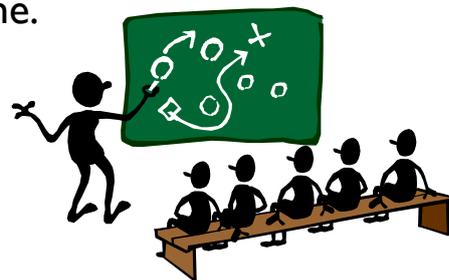
In 2012/2013 a specialist homelessness worker was recruited to work with families who have been affected by benefit changes – this worker is specially trained to support families in this situation.

“Benefits” is money from the government. This money is to support people. Not everyone gets benefits. People have to fill in a form to see if they meet the criteria.



5) The Board meetings now include workshops to give all the professionals a chance to work together. The workshops cover relevant topics so they change all the time.

Remember earlier when we mentioned the LSCB working as a big team, well it's activities like this that help them to get better at that.



6) The Board is still really focused on its work from the last 3 years. It's helping them decide what they do this year. There have even been small groups created to work on particular topics. These are called Short Life Working Groups or Sub Groups.

There have also been partnerships in the boroughs to really look at what's going on locally.



7) The Board now has a better way to check how well its workers are doing their jobs. This helps the Board to know where improvements can be made. Everyone working with the Board needs to look at how the information they collect can be useful to the Board.

8) Reports of children being harmed in other parts of the country help the Board think about how children and young people living in the 3 boroughs might be at risk of similar harm. The Board will ask its short life groups to look at this in more detail this year.

*Remember the short life working groups or sub groups are small groups that work on a particular topic for a set period of time.



9) The Board are using real child protection cases to learn from and improve how they work. There are sometimes very serious and upsetting cases where a child has died or been hurt and the Board look back at these to see what could have been done differently. These are called serious case reviews and this is how the Board continues to learn.



(learning doesn't end when you leave school – adults learn new things all the time too)

10) There is a set of guidance that the Board has to follow. This is called Working Together. A new version has been brought out this year. This guidance helps all the professionals from all the different areas work better as a team and makes clear what each professional should be doing to safeguard children and young people in their particular area of work. If you type this link into your internet address bar will find the young person's version of the guidance.

<https://www.rights4me.org/~media/Library%20Documents/Guides/GUIDE%20Young%20Persons%20Guide%20to%20Working%20together%20to%20safeguard%20children.pdf>

(Sorry it's so long!)

11) The Board is supported by a very small and dedicated team and the help the team need to do their job may need to be looked at this year.

This means that there will be a decision to give the team more or less help to do their job. Sometimes the team need money or experts to do things like design a flyer to give information to children and their families.

The Board doesn't have its own logo or website yet.



Instead it uses each of the 3 borough websites to share information. The Board would like this to change in the next year because they feel that having three different sites instead of one doesn't show how much they work as a team and isn't great for people trying to find out about the LSCB

Good news is we're working on it!



12)The LSCB has decided that the following topics are a priority for work in 2013/14:

- ❖ Making sure children, young people and families get good help early before children are hurt
- ❖ Making sure those children and young people most at risk are protected by all those adults who work with them and that those adults work well together
- ❖ Helping children and young people who go missing from home and care
- ❖ Helping children and young people who might hurt themselves
- ❖ Keeping children from different backgrounds safe

Jean has said she is confident that the strong leaders in each of the agencies and their commitments to the LSCB will strengthen it further in its second year of working.

Jean will continue as the Independent Chair.

If you are worried about your safety or the safety of someone else, you should contact your social worker first. If you don't have a social worker, you can contact

Social Services Line: 0207 361 3013

(Kensington and Chelsea)

Front Door Service: 020 8753 6600

(Hammersmith and Fulham)

Children's Services Team: 0207 641 4000

(Westminster)