

Quarterly Newsletter Issue 1, November 2021

In this newsletter:

- **What is the Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership?**
- **Partnership priorities for the year ahead**
- **Partnership training information**
- **Practice Focus: select practice briefings and reports to support your safeguarding practice.**

Focus on Adults

- Making Safeguarding Personal
- National Analysis of Safeguarding Adults Reviews

Focus on Children

- Safeguarding Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities
- Contextual Safeguarding

- **Partnership News:** Independent Scrutiny, Annual Report, New Escalation Protocol, Stronger Families Hub

If you have any suggestions of what could be included in future newsletters contact the Safeguarding Partnership Team on safeguardingpartnership@hillingdon.gov.uk

What is the Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership?

The Safeguarding Partnership Vision

For every child and young person to be and feel safe, enjoy good physical, emotional and mental health, have pride in their unique identities, feel that they belong and have opportunities to thrive.

For adults, irrespective of age, race, gender, culture, religion, disability or sexual orientation to be able to live with their rights protected, in safety, free from abuse and the fear of abuse.

**Hillingdon Safeguarding
Partnership**

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**Safeguarding Children
Partnership**

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Safeguarding Adults Board

The partnership includes **key statutory partners**, who share joint and equal responsibility for all safeguarding in Hillingdon. They work together to continually improve the safety and wellbeing of children and adults in Hillingdon.

- The Metropolitan Police Service
- The NHS (North West London Clinical Commissioning groups and other key NHS providers)
- London Borough of Hillingdon.

The **Executive Leadership Group** (ELG) provides leadership, oversight and challenge to the work of the Partnership. It is made up of:

- Chief Executive of the Local Authority
- Chief Nurse of NWL Clinical Commissioning Group
- Borough Commander, Metropolitan Police.

The **Safeguarding Adult Board** is currently chaired by Jennifer Roye, Director of Nursing at the North West London CCG (NHS)

The **Safeguarding Children Partnership Board** is chaired by Alex Coman, Director of Safeguarding Partnership and Quality Assurance (LBH)

Find out more at [Safeguarding Children Partnership website](#) and [Safeguarding Adult Board website](#).

Safeguarding Partnership Priorities 2021-2022

Each Year the Boards set priorities for the year ahead. For 2021-2022 the priorities have been agreed and are guiding work across the Partnership.

Safeguarding Children Partnership Priorities

- Child sexual abuse
- Neglect
- Contextual Safeguarding
- Early Help Services

Shared Priorities

- Joint Strategic Safeguarding and Trafficking.
- Domestic Abuse
- Practice Development Forum

Safeguarding Adults Board Priorities

- Mental Health and Safeguarding
- Self Neglect
- Making Safeguarding Personal
- Financial abuse and exploitation

Subgroups for each priority include members with relevant expertise and influence to bring about continual improvement across the partnership.

Safeguarding Partnership Training Offer

The Partnership commissions safeguarding specific training in line with Partnership priorities. This training is free to staff in the organisations who jointly fund the Safeguarding Partnership: NHS, Police, and Local Authority. It is open to other organisations, at a fee.

You can book onto this training via the following links:

[Hillingdon Learning Zone: Adult Social Care - Safeguarding & SAB \(learningpool.com\)](#)

[Hillingdon Learning Zone: Children's Social Care - Hillingdon Safeguarding Children Partnership \(learningpool.com\)](#)

Practice Focus

The Safeguarding Partnership sources and produces practice guidance, briefings and audit reports to support and enhance your safeguarding practice with children and adults.



Focus on safeguarding adults

Making Safeguarding Personal

Making Safeguarding Personal is about supporting and promoting relationship and strengths-based approaches to enable people to keep themselves safe and safeguarded, and to achieve resolution and recovery in their lives.

The Local Government Association and ADASS have produced an **MSP myth busting briefing** because there are often misconceptions about what MSP means and how to put it into practice. There is also an **MSP Toolkit from the LGA** with case examples to prompt reflection and ideas.

Use of **advocacy services** can make safeguarding experiences better for adults at risk. Pohwer are commissioned to provide statutory advocacy in Hillingdon. Read more about different types of advocacy, and when you **must** refer someone, on the **Pohwer website**.

Here's an updated **7 Minute Briefing on Making Safeguarding Personal**.

National Analysis of Safeguarding Adult Reviews

When an adult dies as a result of abuse, neglect or self neglect, or suffers serious abuse, Safeguarding Adult Boards must commission Safeguarding Adult Reviews. The Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership has prepared a **summary report of the findings of the first ever National Analysis of SARs** to help raise the local profile of SARs and to help embed the learning into day to day practice. Have a read!

Local Government Association have also produced a **practitioner briefing** to support learning from the National Analysis.

Practice Focus

Focus on safeguarding children

Safeguarding Children with Complex Needs and Disabilities

Practice Guidance for all partner agencies and disciplines coming into contact with children has been developed by the **Complex Needs and Disability Subgroup** of Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership to raise awareness of best practice principles and the additional safeguarding risks affecting children with complex needs and disabilities.

It is critically important to **speak to and listen to the voice of children** and there is a need for creative and proactive efforts to find the best ways to communicate with disabled children.

Find **other resources** [here](#) to support best practice in this area.

Contextual Safeguarding

There is a growing need to respond to the harm that young people experience due to **child criminal exploitation, child sexual exploitation** and **serious youth violence**. This is a national issue, but is one that particularly affects London and other large cities. Safeguarding children from these risks is called Contextual Safeguarding. Watch [this video](#) to find out more.

Resources and best practice information is produced by the **Contextual Safeguarding Network**.

The **Pan-London Child Exploitation Operating Protocol 2021** sets out the London operating protocol for safeguarding and protecting the welfare of children from exploitation. This document is designed to complement and not replace the **London Child Protection Procedures (www.londoncp.co.uk)** and other statutory guidance.



Partnership News

Independent Scrutiny

In 2021 Hillingdon Safeguarding Partnership asked Alan Caton OBE to quality check the way the partnership works. [Read the full outcome letter with suggested areas for consideration here.](#) Read the Executive Leadership Group response [here](#).

Alan Caton OBE concluded: *"I have found a strong partnership that is open to scrutiny and challenge and one that strives to continually learn and improve practice. I have not come across any areas of poor practice or weaknesses in the safeguarding arrangements. The areas I have outlined for the partnership to further consider, are there to help the partnership on its journey to improve collaboration and coordination."*

Annual Report

The Partnership produces an Annual Report every year. Read this year's report [here](#).

New Safeguarding Partnership Escalation Protocol

Safeguarding children and adults is complex. It requires collaborative working across a range of professions and disciplines. At times there can be disagreement about the best course of action to take. To support quick resolution of professional differences of opinion there is a new [Safeguarding Partnership Escalation Protocol: Resolving Professional Differences](#)

Stronger Families Hub

The single point of contact for **all safeguarding children referrals** is now online through the **Stronger Families Hub at <https://Portal-EHM.hillingdon.gov.uk>** where you will be able to fill out the Early Help Assessment. For more information about the Hub click [here](#). **Ring urgent concerns through to 01895 556 006.**

The Partnership has adopted the [Pan-London Threshold document](#). It provides guidance on when to refer concerns to children's social care.

If you are ever in doubt about whether to refer a concern about a child, speak to your designated safeguarding lead, or if they are not available, contact **Hillingdon Stronger Families Hub on: 01895 556006** for advice and support.