

# Children and Young People Select Committee Agenda

Wednesday, 12 November 2014

**7.30 pm,**

Committee Room 3

Civic Suite

Lewisham Town Hall

London SE6 4RU

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This meeting is an open meeting and all items on the agenda may be audio recorded and/or filmed.

## Part 1

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# Children and Young People Select Committee Members

Members of the committee, listed below, are summoned to attend the meeting to be held on Wednesday, 12 November 2014.

Barry Quirk, Chief Executive  
Tuesday, 4 November 2014

Councillor John Paschoud (Chair)	
Councillor Brenda Dacres (Vice-Chair)	
Councillor Chris Barnham	
Councillor David Britton	
Councillor Liz Johnston-Franklin	
Councillor Hilary Moore	
Councillor Jacq Paschoud	
Councillor Joan Reid	
Councillor Luke Sorba	
Councillor Alan Till	
Sharon Archibald (Parent Governor Representative)	
Lisa Palin (Parent Governor Representative)	
Mark Saunders (Parent Governor Representative)	
Gail Exon (Church Representative)	Church of England Southwark Diocesan Board of Education
Monsignor N Rotheron (Church Representative)	Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark Commission for Schools and Colleges
Councillor Alan Hall (ex-Officio)	
Councillor Gareth Siddorn (ex-Officio)	

## MINUTES OF THE CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE

Thursday, 2 October 2014 at 6.30 pm

PRESENT: Councillors John Paschoud (Chair), Brenda Dacres (Vice-Chair), Chris Barnham, Liz Johnston-Franklin, Jacq Paschoud, Luke Sorba, Alan Till, Sharon Archibald (Parent Governor Representative) and Lisa Palin (Parent Governor Representative) and Alan Hall

APOLOGIES: Councillors David Britton, Joan Reid and Mark Saunders

ALSO PRESENT: Alan Docksey (Head of Resources & Performance, CYP), David French (Chair, CYP Voluntary Sector Forum for Lewisham) (CYP Voluntary Sector Forum for Lewisham), Andrew Hagger (Scrutiny Manager), Councillor Jim Mallory, Councillor Paul Maslin (Cabinet Member for Children and Young People), Councillor David Michael, Donal O'Sullivan (Consultant in Public Health Medicine) (Lewisham Council), Ian Smith (Director Children's Social Care) (Directorate for Children & Young People, LBL), Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime Reduction and Supporting People), Frankie Sulke (Executive Director for Children and Young People), Sue Tipler (Head of Standards and Achievement for CYP) and Warwick Tomsett (Head of Targeted Services and Joint Commissioning)

### 1. Minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2014

#### Resolved:

The minutes of the meeting held on 1 July 2014 were approved.

### 2. Declarations of interest

- 2.1 Councillor Alan Till declared a personal interest as Vice-Chair of Rockbourne Youth Centre's Supporter Group

### 3. Lewisham Schools results

- 3.1 Sue Tipler (Head of Standards and Achievement) introduced the report, highlighting the following information:
- Lewisham is near the top of the country in terms of primary school results.
  - Phonics results are being looked at closely to see whether Pupil Premium children are closing the gaps in achievement with non-Pupil Premium children.
  - At KS1 Lewisham is above the national average in every measure.
  - At KS2 the step change in achievement made in 2012 has been sustained, with more schools moving up, although gaps in achievement remain at the higher level.
  - At KS4 results dropped for the first time in a long time. The national figures are not out yet but the early indication is that London-wide results have dropped. Ofsted have indicated it will be difficult to directly compare the previous year's results with this year's.
  - Investigative work has been carried with schools around GCSE achievement, with indications that there are different results at different schools with little pattern. Some have achieved better in English, where the national trend is worsening or achieved worse in maths where the national trend is improving.

- 3.2 In response to questions from the Committee, Councillor Paul Maslin (Cabinet Member for Children & Young People), Frankie Sulke (Executive Director for Children & Young People) and Sue Tipler provided the following information:
- Officers are working with Sutton Trust, who have produced a toolkit to help schools improve the gaps in achievement between those on the Pupil Premium and those not. Headteachers are being pointed towards it.
  - There is a focus on the quality of teaching and learning as well as awareness raising so teachers know who is Pupil Premium in the classroom.
  - Pupil Premium children in Lewisham do better than the national average and above the London average for Pupil Premium. At Level 4 the gap is closed and at Level 5 the gap is closing.
  - Ofsted have indicated that they won't give an Outstanding grade to schools with big gaps in achievement between those on Pupil Premium and those not.
  - The achievement at Early Years level and in primary schools has been excellent, especially given the levels of deprivation that are present in the borough and Lewisham has some of the best primary schools in the country.
  - There have been concerns over the performance of some schools at GCSE level. A key indicator is whether schools have matched their GCSE performance with the performance of their cohort in the primary tests when they were 11.
  - Officers have taken teams into two schools and looked carefully at predictions for next year, assessing how robust they are.
  - One concern has been the number of pupils at levels 4 c, b and a not converting to higher grades, especially those at Level 4c. Officers are saying to primary schools that sending pupils at Level 5 will result in a conversion to higher GCSE grades.
  - Pupil Premium children in London have a better chance of going to university than some non-Pupil Premium children in other areas of the country.
  - Lewisham's ranking comparison with the rest of London at GCSE has been disappointing and is likely to be disappointing again this year when final results are published in January 2015. However there is a lot of good practice out there and improvements can be made.
  - Due to the independence and autonomous nature of schools there are limits on what the local authority can do. Lewisham has a close relationship with its schools.
  - The strategy that worked in primary schools, of getting in outstanding leaders as Executive Headteachers, hasn't worked as well in secondary schools.
  - There have been problems with recruiting teachers. This may be due to teachers being unable to get housing that is affordable in London.
  - The final results will be published in January, after that it will be possible to see the outcomes properly and then be clear about what the 10% improvement target in GCSE results outlined in the Mayor's priorities will look like. A plan can then be developed to achieve this improvement. This 10% improvement target is a floor, not a ceiling, and the aim is improve more than this, as well closing the gaps in achievement for Pupil Premium children.
  - There are some schools that officers are concerned about and officers are considering options and approaches to take, which could include a form of intervention.

- The mark schemes for examinations have not changed, but the questions in the exams were higher order questions and these can throw some of the less able children.
- Admission policies for schools are very clear. In those schools which are their own admissions authority, officers do scrutinise them to make sure they are legal. However, in those schools, governing bodies ultimately have the responsibility in passing admissions policies and ensuring they are in line with the National Admissions Code.

3.3 The Committee then discussed the following:

- The need for a strong focus on school results by the Committee
- How Lewisham can achieve the improvement in GCSE results set out in the 2014 election manifesto.
- That issues identified here about secondary school results will be looked at in more detail at the scheduled item at the February meeting.
- That comparative information showing gaps in achievement should be between Pupil Premium and non-Pupil Premium children.

**Resolved:**

The Committee congratulated all primary schools in Lewisham on their excellent results.

The Committee will consider secondary school results in more detail as part of the scheduled item in February.

**4. Lewisham Future Programme**

- 4.1 David Austin (Head of Corporate Resources) introduced the report, highlighting that it provides the context for the Lewisham Future Programme. There is a need to save £85m over the next 3 financial years. £40m of savings are presented in this report, with £30m required in 2015/16 and £10m in 2016/17. This will be achieved via the different work strands identified in the report.
- 4.2 Frankie Sulke (Executive Director for Children & Young People) highlighted that it has been difficult for officers to bring forward these proposals as they represent significant savings that cannot be achieved without having a negative impact. Officers have taken directions from Mayoral priorities and the work strands identified in the report to develop proposals. Some proposals will involve slicing budgets while others are more transformational. The Committee accepted that there will be negative consequences as a result of the savings being forced upon local authorities by central government and appreciated the efforts by officers to develop the proposals.
- 4.3 In response to questions from the Committee, Alan Docksey (Head of Resources and Performance) and Frankie Sulke informed the Committee that the budget for the school uniform grant was £40k per year but expenditure hadn't gone past £20k for the last few years. The grant funding was a leftover from previous times where the local authority provided funding and support for uniforms for children. This is the responsibility of the schools themselves and all schools support pupils and families around issues like uniform and PE kits. The suggestion to remove the grant was raised at the Schools Forum, where schools agreed to its removal.

## K2: YOS reorganisation, changes in interventions & reduction in contracts

4.4 Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney (Head of Crime & Supporting People) introduced the savings proposal, highlighting the following key points:

- The Youth Offending Service (YOS) is funded joint by Lewisham and by the Ministry of Justice. The proposal is to reduce £200k of Council funding.
- There is a statutory obligation to provide YOS and the proposals are based around the minimum standards of provision needed to fulfil our statutory duties.
- The proposals have 4 areas of savings:
  - Reduction in general overhead costs through moving to a paperless office and streamlining processes
  - Reduction in reparation projects, with officers looking at other options to deliver this either for free or at a reduced cost.
  - Reduction in externally funded programmes and contracts. There will be a renegotiation of the joint contract held with Bromley as well as a reduction in the summer arts programme.
  - Deletion of 1 vacant post within the team, which will result in an increased workload for the remaining team.

4.5 In response to questions from the Committee, Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney provided the following information:

- Officers are looking at expanding the work carried out with organisations that provide services for free, such as Food Banks and the Canal and River Trust. The aim will be to maintain as many options as possible as these programmes help the community and aid rehabilitation. If alternatives cannot be found YOS officers may have to deliver some of the programmes themselves. This will result in extra pressures on their time and less options for young offenders in their rehabilitation programmes.
- The Court sets the number of hours that offenders need to do as part of their sentence, but it doesn't decide what needs to be done with those hours. Officers work with young people to develop programmes that will be useful for the young people.
- The deleted post has been vacant since April 2014, so it has been accommodated within the team up until now with slightly increased workloads. There are currently fewer cases being dealt with, but the cases are more complex. There will not be a full consultation on this proposal, but staff will be given the opportunity to respond to proposed changes.
- 50% of funding for YOS comes from the Youth Justice Board and in the last 3 years they have cut funding year on year for YOS by 23%, 20% and 18%.
- Local authorities now pick up the costs of young people on remand in prison, with some funding coming from MOJ for a contribution towards prison remands but not for secure remands. There is huge variability in spend on this and there has been overspend in the past.
- Young offenders have to complete their court mandated hours of reparation and under these proposals they will be able to do so and it is important that the young person is able to complete their sentence. However there could be fewer options in how they do this.
- The YOS Manager is part of the Court User Group, and takes part in the SE London cluster meeting.

- The organisations used to deliver external projects are generally medium sized. Therefore the reduction in income from Lewisham will not be significant, however if others also reduce funding for YOS in similar ways then there could be a cumulative impact.
- The Appropriate Adult Service reduction will be around £10k. Robust monitoring of the service by the Council and by the Police is in place.

**Resolved:**

The Committee recommended that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should have the opportunity to scrutinise the K2 saving proposals

The Committee decided to refer the following to the Public Accounts Select Committee meeting to be held on 5 November:

- The Committee highlighted that reductions in spending from Lewisham, as well as potential reductions from other local authorities and purchasers of youth offending related services, could have a cumulative negative impact on service providers, meaning that services may no longer be viable in the future.

A6 and A8: Public Health programme review

- 4.6 Dr Donal O’Sullivan (Consultant in Public Health Medicine) introduced the report, highlighting the following key points:
- Responsibility for Public Health has only recently moved to the Local Authority. At this time Public Health also took on new responsibilities including Genito-Urinary Medicine funding and funding of stop smoking medication.
  - The Public Health budget is ring-fenced, therefore savings proposed will not be withdrawn from Public Health, but will be redirected to areas that will have more impact. These areas will include those that have been affected by cuts made elsewhere in the organisation.
  - The savings are for £1.5m under the A6 proposal and just under £1.8m under the A8 proposal.
  - The savings proposed will have an impact, but efforts will be made to protect certain areas that have the most impact in terms of Public Health. For example, sexual health clinics that are used more by young people, especially clinics used by those at high risk will be protected from closure or reduced funding.
  - Savings related to mental health should be mitigated by the work being carried out by the new Headstart project.
  - Reductions related to smoking control will have an impact, especially in schools and on young people’s awareness of the dangers of smoking.
  - Currently, Breastfeeding Cafes are run on licence, operating almost like a franchise. However if they are run in a slightly different way, without licence, this will result in a saving and is one of the savings proposed.
- 4.7 In response to questions from the Committee, Dr Donal O’Sullivan, Frankie Sulke and Warwick Tomsett (Head of Targeted Services and Joint Commissioning) provided the following information:
- There is a highly integrated approach to children’s health that includes public health and utilises Children’s Centres to improve outcomes for children like improved uptake of immunisation.

- Departmental efficiency savings would probably include redundancies and a restructure.
- Around 500 under 19s attend sexual health clinics per month and of these 5-7% are Looked After Children, who are encouraged to attend. At least 1 sexual health clinic will probably need to be closed, but those used by young people will be protected. Officers are very aware of the safeguarding issues surrounding children and young people's sexual health.
- The Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) has guaranteed funding for the supply of free Vitamin D, however the storage and distribution of Vitamins and the management of contracts are the responsibility of Public Health. Current arrangements for these arrangements would need to change with delivery via Children's Centres. It is difficult to run and the logistics have to be made to work, hence there are risks that would have to be minimised.
- There is a risk attached to untreated sexual health problems, especially in the long-term.
- Cuts to the child death overview function will include changes to the designated consultant for Child Death Review as well as the child death liaison nurse. The latter will mean that development work on improving bereavement support for parents will not be possible. Different GPs will deal with patients who have experienced child death in different ways and work does need to be done to improve this.
- The overall spend on Public Health will not be cut as the budget is ring-fenced, however judgements are being made on relative impact and budgets shifted to have the most impact.

**Resolved:**

The Committee raised concerns about the impacts of reductions in funding for Sexual Health and Maternal & Child Health (particularly Vitamin D supplements and child death bereavement) and recommended that the Healthier Communities Select Committee should take particular consideration of these as part of its scrutiny of the A6 and A8 savings proposals.

Q2: Reduction in Youth Service provision

4.8 Warwick Tomsett introduced the savings proposal, highlighting the following key points:

- There are £1.4m of savings proposed that will be taken in 2015/16.
- There are also two options proposed for the future of the youth service, with a decision required now to set the direction the youth service will take.
- Option 1 is the mutualisation of youth service, which could result in increased ownership and engagement of young people and stakeholders. It will also allow access to income generation, funding and sponsorship opportunities that are not available now. The proposal is that the mutual would be funded by the Council for 3 years before that is withdrawn, with the opportunity to gradually decrease the funding over the 3 years.
- Option 2 is to make the saving now and keep only the statutory duties (NEET tracking and signposting to youth activities).

4.9 David French (Chair of the Lewisham Children & Young People Voluntary Sector Forum) then spoke to the Committee, highlighting the following key points:

- The voluntary sector hopes that option 2 will not be pursued.
- There are benefits to mutualisation and it can release a lot of energy and innovation. However there are risks involved in pursuing mutualisation. Mutualisation involves entrepreneurship, which is not a traditional strength of local authorities. It may be more suitable to experiment with mutualisation of a section of the youth service to see how it works before pursuing full mutualisation. Moving to a mutual all at once could increase the risk.
- One of the strengths of Lewisham is in its diverse voluntary and community sector (VCS). However a mutual could attract all funding for youth services in the area and damage this diversity. It would be a major concern if Lewisham lost voluntary organisations because they are not getting funding.
- The new mutual would need to involve the VCS from the start as a partner.

4.10 Warwick Tomsett and Frankie Sulke then addressed the points raised, highlighting that:

- There is entrepreneurship already in the youth service and a new mutual would allow this to increase.
- 2 other local authorities have created mutuals for delivering youth services, although these are both fairly new ventures.
- So far the engagement of youth service staff has been good.
- A new mutual would want to work closely with VCS providers and engage the Lewisham Children & Young People Voluntary Sector Forum during the business planning stage.
- Phasing in the mutual would not be possible, as it would require a lot of resource to carry out the work on the mutual while maintaining current services. While there is risk attached in pursuing a mutualisation, officers believe it would be better to do it all at once rather than in stages.
- A mutual would open up avenues for increased income generation such as hiring out venues and for increased volunteering. Increased sponsorship could also be pursued as sponsors often do want to give local authorities money, although they will give it to schools and voluntary organisations.
- If the future direction of the youth service is not set now, then it is likely that savings will have to be taken in the future as financial pressures increase. These would only be able to come from a reduction in service.
- Lewisham's youth service budget still compares well to other local authorities.
- The Council will have to accept that it would not be directly involved in the new mutual, although there will need to be some accountability if the proposed funding of £1.2m is provided.
- The new mutual will not be required to keep the commissioning pot as it stands. However, the new organisation would still want to work in partnership with the voluntary sector to provide services and will need flexibility to commission as appropriate.

4.11 In response to questions from the Committee around the 2 options, Frankie Sulke and Warwick Tomsett provided the following information:

- The idea of mutualisation has come from what other local authorities have done, as well as from the youth service itself. Support is available from the Cabinet Office in developing a business plan.
- The retained statutory provision for youth services will cost £0.3m. There is no duty on the local authority to provide direct youth services as Lewisham does at the moment.

- The recent restructure of the youth service has built in monitoring of direct provision and commissioned services to provide information on the impact services have on young people. This information is now starting to come in.
- Other local authorities take different approaches and there is no one model in delivering youth services, hence it is very hard to carry out direct comparisons between them. Most authorities across the country are reducing budgets and services for youth provision. In 2011/12 Lewisham were the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest funders of youth provision in London, while in 2013/14 after the recent restructure and budget reduction Lewisham was around the median of the group.
- The Lewisham Council website offers information about activities that are available for young people in the borough.
- There is an agreement with schools that they should offer lower rates for VCS organisations and schools do offer a lot of activities for young people outside school hours.
- The business planning for the creation of the mutual still needs to be developed in detail over the next year.

4.12 The Committee then discussed the following points:

- That the mutualisation of the service could be regarded by some as a privatisation of it.
- Models for the mutualisation of the service will need to be explored fully. The move to a mutual organisation cannot be made in a half-hearted manner if it is to succeed. There will need to be thorough scrutiny and transparency in the financial planning for any new mutual organisation.
- A mutual will need to engage with young people, as if it does not respond to their needs they will vote with their feet and not use services provided.
- The importance of voluntary and community sector involvement in any new mutual organisation and the need for strong representation of the voluntary and community sector in the governance structures of any new mutual organisation.

4.13 In response to questions from the Committee around the proposed youth service savings, Frankie Sulke and Warwick Tomsett provided the following information:

- The savings for Rockbourne and Ladywell will represent a reduction in staffing capacity. These centres were selected as they have the potential to find alternative organisations to use their centres and are therefore viable in the long term.
- 2 years ago there were a high number of users at Ladywell, however they were going for a single activity and interest in this activity has now dropped off.
- Some of the adventure playground sites in the borough have the potential to be used more, especially in the evenings. However any increase in opening hours of these facilities will decrease the savings available.
- It may be possible to pursue a similar arrangement as at Oakridge, but that would be on the condition that alternative provision is not paid for by the Council. The provider at Oakridge is currently paying a staggered increase in rent to the Council but generates income.
- Funding for managing the change associated with the savings and the mutual has been allocated and will provide the capacity needed to handle it.
- The Council has a statutory responsibility to monitor and track NEETs and to support vulnerable NEETs. Increased links to targeted family support will help support this.

4.14 The Committee then discussed the following:

- Concerns about the local impact of the savings proposals related to a reduction to youth worker capacity and removal of Council staff from the Ladywell and Rockbourne sites. Alternative provision for current users of the service should be identified and made available in the local areas affected by the savings proposal.
- Reductions in spending by the Council on youth related services across the organisation could have a cumulative negative impact on those providing services, meaning that services may no longer be viable in the future.

**Resolved:**

The Committee supported Option 1, with Councillor Luke Sorba voting against the proposal.

The Committee recommended that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should have the opportunity to scrutinise the Q2 saving proposals.

The Committee recommended that further details of any new mutual organisation should be brought to the Children and Young People Select.

The Committee decided to refer the following to the Public Accounts Select Committee meeting on 5 November:

- The Committee supported Option 1 presented in the savings proposal and agreed that officers should pursue an employee-led mutual to deliver youth services from April 2016.
- In addition, the Committee recommended that there is voluntary and community sector involvement and strong representation in the governance structures of any new mutual organisation.
- The Committee raised concerns about the local impact of the savings proposals related to a reduction to youth worker capacity and removal of Council staff from the Ladywell and Rockbourne sites. The Committee recommended that alternative provision for current users of the service should be identified and made available in the local areas affected by the savings proposal.
- The Committee highlighted that reductions in spending by the Council on youth related services across the organisation could have a cumulative negative impact on those providing services, meaning that services may no longer be viable in the future.

G1: Increasing income from services to schools, debt collection & investment strategy

4.15 Alan Docksey introduced the savings proposal, highlighting that the £200k saving was out of a budget of £200m for schools across the borough. The savings represent 0.1% of the budget of a secondary school and 0.5% of a budget for a

primary school. The proposal went to the Schools Forum in September, who were broadly supportive of it.

#### J1: Increasing income from Educational Psychologists and Learning Difficulties teams

- 4.16 Alan Docksey introduced the savings proposal, highlighting that the service could have been reduced to only provide the statutory minimum required, but that doing so would make it difficult to retain and recruit staff. Therefore the proposal is to increase the amount of traded work. Staff know their customer base and have already been successful in trading and will build on this.
- 4.17 The Committee acknowledged that the work Education Psychologist Team, especially in developing Education and Health Care Plans, is valued.

#### Q1: Improve triage for Children's Social Care services & re-design Children Centre & Early Intervention offer

- 4.18 Ian Smith (Director of Children's Social Care) introduced the savings proposal and highlighted the following key points:
- The savings will produce a saving £4.2m in 2015/16 and a total of £5.5m over 2015-18. However £3.2m of this will be used to fund a shortfall for the Looked After Children budget, meaning that the actual saving will be £973k.
  - A different approach to triage will be introduced that will identify the best person to provide the services needed. There does not necessarily need to be an assessment by a social worker, so by reducing social worker assessment it is possible to reduce the associated costs. Lewisham already has a multidisciplinary front-door so the structure is in place, what is required is to build capacity.
  - Children's Centre contracts will be changed as they are re-procured to reduce costs.
  - Children's Centres will also be more flexible and focused. Some Children's Centres are not performing as well as they could and this change could help them achieve this. Centres will still provide universal services and work closely with health providers.
  - An option for Children's Centres could be closer links to schools, as those centres run by schools seem to be doing better. Schools have their own staff so overheads can be reduced.
  - The best performing Children's Centres use small amounts of money well and work well with partners such as health visitors and the voluntary sector.
  - There is no plan to close any Children's Centres, but what operates out of them could change.
  - The Troubled Families Grant will be used to fund more early intervention work.
  - Efficiencies for Children's Social Care include reducing expensive placements at children's homes by using specialist foster carers instead, which is better for children and less expensive. The expanded use of supported lodgings is also being explored with the provider NRS, who Lewisham currently works for fostering care.
  - The long term aim is to reduce the number of children in Lewisham's care. This can be done by building up targeted family support so that cases do not progress to the point where the local authority has to step in and take children into care.

- There are risks attached to these savings as they are ambitious, however the risks are the financial impacts of not achieving the savings rather than risks to the welfare of the children involved. No proposals have been put forward that will risk the safeguarding of children.

4.19 In response to questions from the Committee around the proposed savings, Ian Smith and Warwick Tomsett provided the following information:

- While targets for the number of families helped by Children's Centres will be lower, other services such as school nurses and health visitors will be able to also identify and refer on families.
- Multidimensional Treatment Foster Care is being introduced for difficult children. This involves placing somebody into a family's home and is potentially more effective and cheaper than residential care. The evidence base has shown it can work and while it will be a challenge other local authorities have introduced it.
- A social work Team Manager will often not be sure of who should deal with a referral, often due to a lack of information provided with the referral, so will send a social worker to visit. However it does not have to be a social worker carrying this out, it could be a different professional such as a health, especially as 10% of cases that come in need a referral to social services. Other professionals are trained in safeguarding and can recognise these issues, if they have concerns they can still refer directly to social workers.
- Social workers should be dealing with the most vulnerable, this approach should allow them to do this more. This approach can also smooth out services so there are less silos as well as avoiding families having a social worker knocking on the door.
- The contracts for Children's' Centres would not simply be renewed, providers have to meet targets set and once contracts finish they would have to bid to run the services.
- Foster carers will receive all information that the local authorities have on their foster children. To not do so is illegal, in addition not passing on important information could lead to the placement breaking down, which is not good for the child.
- There will not be any redundancies in the social work team as these can be achieved through deleting vacancies. There will be some redundancies from the Family Support Team.

**Resolved:**

The Committee resolved to advise the Public Accounts Select Committee of the following:

**A6 and A8: Public Health programme review**

The Committee raised concerns about the impacts of reductions in funding for Sexual Health and Maternal & Child Health (particularly vitamin D supplements and child death bereavement) and recommended that the Healthier Communities Select Committee should take particular consideration of these as part of its scrutiny of the A6 and A8 savings proposals.

**K2: YOS reorganisation, changes in interventions & reduction in contracts**

The Committee highlighted that reductions in spending from Lewisham, as well as potential reductions from other local authorities and purchasers of youth offending related services, could have a cumulative negative impact on service providers, meaning that services may no longer be viable in the future.

The Committee also recommended that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should have the opportunity to scrutinise the K2 saving proposals

## **Q2: Reduction in Youth Service provision**

The Committee supported Option 1 presented in the savings proposal and agreed that officers should pursue an employee-led mutual to deliver youth services from April 2016.

In addition, the Committee recommended that there is voluntary and community sector involvement and strong representation in the governance structures of any new mutual organisation.

The Committee raised concerns about the local impact of the savings proposals related to a reduction to youth worker capacity and removal of Council staff from the Ladywell and Rockbourne sites. The Committee recommended that alternative provision for current users of the service should be identified and made available in the local areas affected by the savings proposal.

The Committee highlighted that reductions in spending by the Council on youth related services across the organisation could have a cumulative negative impact on those providing services, meaning that services may no longer be viable in the future.

The Committee also recommended that the Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee should have the opportunity to scrutinise the Q2 saving proposals.

## **5. Select Committee work programme**

5.1 The Committee discussed the scoping reports and the work programme.

### **Resolved:**

The Committee approved the terms of reference and timetable for the Young People's Mental Health Review.

The Committee approved the terms of reference and timetable for the Sharing Schools' Best Practice Review.

The Committee approved the work programme

## **6. Referrals to Mayor and Cabinet**

6.1 There were none.

The meeting ended at 11.20 pm

Chair:

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Date:

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# Agenda Item 2

<b>Committee</b>	Children and Young People Select Committee	<b>Item No.</b>	2
<b>Title</b>	Declarations of Interest		
<b>Wards</b>			
<b>Contributors</b>	Chief Executive		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	<b>Date</b>	12 November 2014

## Declaration of interests

Members are asked to declare any personal interest they have in any item on the agenda.

### 1 Personal interests

There are three types of personal interest referred to in the Council's Member Code of Conduct :-

- (1) Disclosable pecuniary interests
- (2) Other registerable interests
- (3) Non-registerable interests

### 2 Disclosable pecuniary interests are defined by regulation as:-

- (a) Employment, trade, profession or vocation of a relevant person\* for profit or gain
- (b) Sponsorship –payment or provision of any other financial benefit (other than by the Council) within the 12 months prior to giving notice for inclusion in the register in respect of expenses incurred by you in carrying out duties as a member or towards your election expenses (including payment or financial benefit from a Trade Union).
- (c) Undischarged contracts between a relevant person\* (or a firm in which they are a partner or a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest) and the Council for goods, services or works.
- (d) Beneficial interests in land in the borough.
- (e) Licence to occupy land in the borough for one month or more.
- (f) Corporate tenancies – any tenancy, where to the member's knowledge, the Council is landlord and the tenant is a firm in which the relevant person\* is a partner, a body corporate in which they are a director, or in the securities of which they have a beneficial interest.
- (g) Beneficial interest in securities of a body where:-
  - (a) that body to the member's knowledge has a place of business or land in the borough; and

- (b) either
- (i) the total nominal value of the securities exceeds £25,000 or 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that body; or
  - (ii) if the share capital of that body is of more than one class, the total nominal value of the shares of any one class in which the relevant person\* has a beneficial interest exceeds 1/100 of the total issued share capital of that class.

\*A relevant person is the member, their spouse or civil partner, or a person with whom they live as spouse or civil partner.

### (3) Other registerable interests

The Lewisham Member Code of Conduct requires members also to register the following interests:-

- (a) Membership or position of control or management in a body to which you were appointed or nominated by the Council
- (b) Any body exercising functions of a public nature or directed to charitable purposes, or whose principal purposes include the influence of public opinion or policy, including any political party
- (c) Any person from whom you have received a gift or hospitality with an estimated value of at least £25

### (4) Non registerable interests

Occasions may arise when a matter under consideration would or would be likely to affect the wellbeing of a member, their family, friend or close associate more than it would affect the wellbeing of those in the local area generally, but which is not required to be registered in the Register of Members' Interests (for example a matter concerning the closure of a school at which a Member's child attends).

### (5) Declaration and Impact of interest on member's participation

- (a) Where a member has any registerable interest in a matter and they are present at a meeting at which that matter is to be discussed, they must declare the nature of the interest at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered. The declaration will be recorded in the minutes of the meeting. If the matter is a disclosable pecuniary interest the member must take no part in consideration of the matter and withdraw from the room before it is considered. They must not seek improperly to influence the decision in any way. **Failure to declare such an interest which has not already been entered in the Register of Members' Interests, or participation where such an interest exists, is liable to prosecution and on conviction carries a fine of up to £5000**
- (b) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest they must still declare the nature of the interest to the

meeting at the earliest opportunity and in any event before the matter is considered, but they may stay in the room, participate in consideration of the matter and vote on it unless paragraph (c) below applies.

- (c) Where a member has a registerable interest which falls short of a disclosable pecuniary interest, the member must consider whether a reasonable member of the public in possession of the facts would think that their interest is so significant that it would be likely to impair the member's judgement of the public interest. If so, the member must withdraw and take no part in consideration of the matter nor seek to influence the outcome improperly.
- (d) If a non-registerable interest arises which affects the wellbeing of a member, their, family, friend or close associate more than it would affect those in the local area generally, then the provisions relating to the declarations of interest and withdrawal apply as if it were a registerable interest.
- (e) Decisions relating to declarations of interests are for the member's personal judgement, though in cases of doubt they may wish to seek the advice of the Monitoring Officer.

## **(6) Sensitive information**

There are special provisions relating to sensitive interests. These are interests the disclosure of which would be likely to expose the member to risk of violence or intimidation where the Monitoring Officer has agreed that such interest need not be registered. Members with such an interest are referred to the Code and advised to seek advice from the Monitoring Officer in advance.

## **(7) Exempt categories**

There are exemptions to these provisions allowing members to participate in decisions notwithstanding interests that would otherwise prevent them doing so. These include:-

- (a) Housing – holding a tenancy or lease with the Council unless the matter relates to your particular tenancy or lease; (subject to arrears exception)
- (b) School meals, school transport and travelling expenses; if you are a parent or guardian of a child in full time education, or a school governor unless the matter relates particularly to the school your child attends or of which you are a governor;
- (c) Statutory sick pay; if you are in receipt
- (d) Allowances, payment or indemnity for members
- (e) Ceremonial honours for members
- (f) Setting Council Tax or precept (subject to arrears exception)

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<b>CHILDREN &amp; YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE</b>		
<b>Report Title</b>	Annual report of the Lewisham Children’s Safeguarding Board	
<b>Key Decision</b>		Item No. 3
<b>Ward</b>	All	
<b>Contributors</b>	Ian Smith, Director, Children’s Social Care	
<b>Class</b>	Open	Date: 12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014

**1. Summary and Summary of the Report**

The Lewisham Children Safeguarding Board (LCSB) is required to publish an annual report every year to outline the work of the board in the previous years and identify areas where further work will be required in the forthcoming year.

**2. Recommendations**

The Select Committee is asked to note the contents of the report and also to identify issues that it would like to be further explored in the detailed report about safeguarding that is due to come before the committee on the 18<sup>th</sup> March 2015.

**3. Policy Context**

Working together March 2013 requires each LSCB to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. The report should be a rigorous assessment of the performance of local safeguarding services and to show how any areas of weakness will be addressed. Working together requires that the report is submitted to the Chief Executive and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

**4. Details**

Please see the attached report.

There are a number of areas that the committee may wish to explore in further detail in the Safeguarding report due to come before the Committee in March 2015. For example, the high prominence of child sexual exploitation may be an area that members may want to consider in more detail. The Director of Children’s Social Care is providing a briefing for all members on Lewisham’s position following meetings with the Mayor and Lead Member on this issue.

**5. Financial implications**

None.

## **6. Legal implications**

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each Local Authority to establish a local safeguarding children's board for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on the board.

The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policies and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. The strategy, objectives and functions of the LSCB are described as follows:

- Coordinate what is done by each personal body whoever sits on the board for the purpose of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area.
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each personal body for those purposes.

The revised Working Together guidance 2013 places increased responsibilities on the LSCB to deliver a stronger leadership role around local safeguarding practice and directly influence multi-agency and single agency requirements as well as requiring the establishment of a single assessment approach and supporting framework. The revised regulatory framework also includes a judgement on the effectiveness of local safeguarding boards with a focus on assessing the impact of the board's activity on frontline practice and the positive difference made to children and local communities.

## **7. Crime and disorder implications**

There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## **8. Equalities implications**

There are no equalities implications arising from this report.

## **9. Environmental implications**

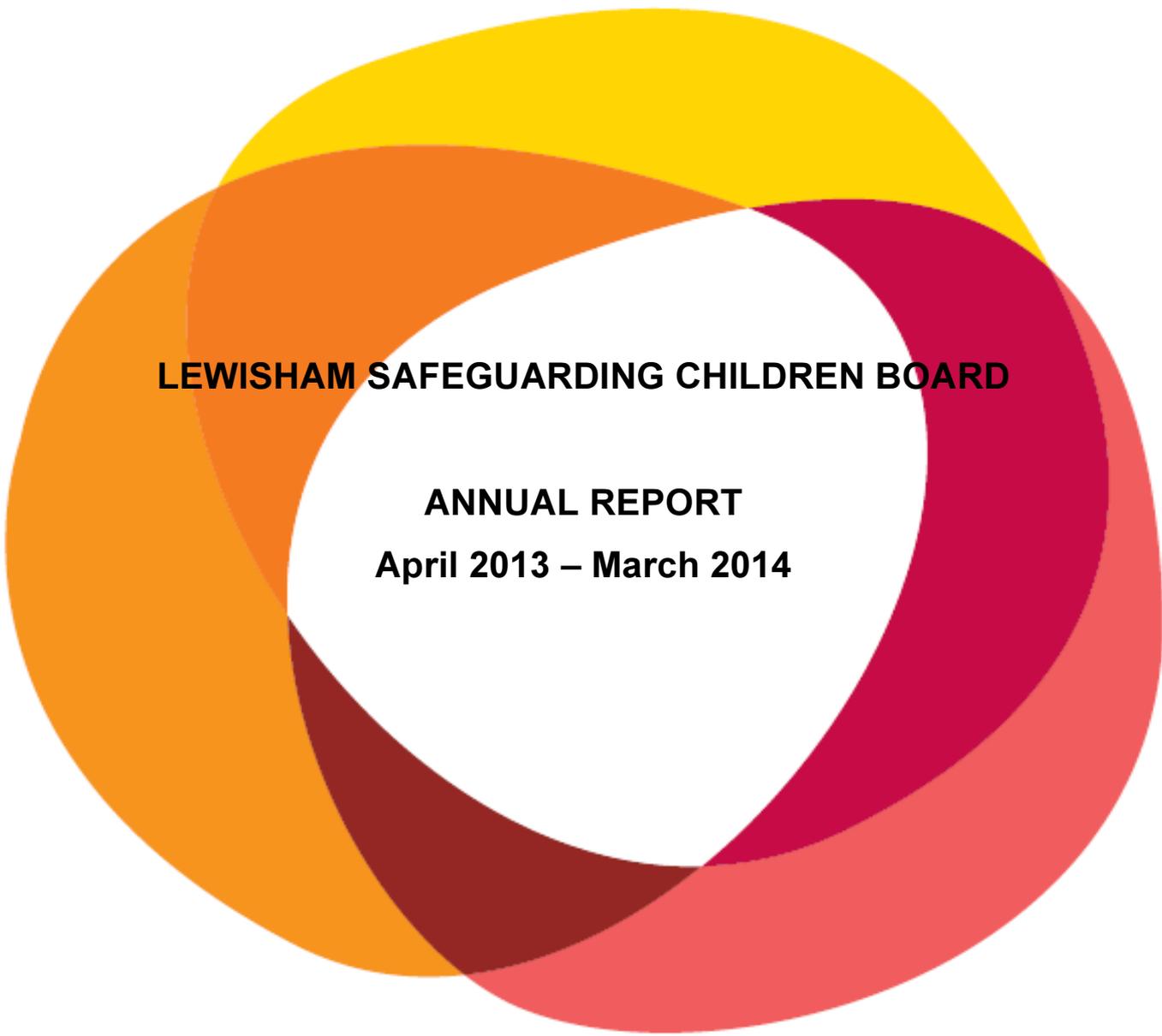
There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

## **10. Background documents and originator**

Safeguarding Services – report to CYP Select Committee 4<sup>th</sup> March 2014.

<http://councilmeetings.lewisham.gov.uk/documents/s27596/03SafeguardingServices04032014.pdf>

If there are any queries on this report please contact Ian Smith on 020 8314 8140.



**LEWISHAM SAFEGUARDING CHILDREN BOARD**

**ANNUAL REPORT**  
**April 2013 – March 2014**

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## Foreword from the Independent Chair of the Children Safeguarding Board

I am pleased to introduce the annual report for 2013-14 for Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board. During this year the LSCB has continued to strengthen its approach towards audit and performance management functions, and has shown the effectiveness of its challenge and assurance functions in a number of key areas where improvements have been secured. In addition the strength of the partnership in responding to challenges is visible in this report, with improvements in initial health checks for looked after children and the securing of comprehensive DBS checks for all relevant staff in schools, on an ongoing basis, being two of many examples.

Whilst 2013-14 has been a period of considerable change in Lewisham, in particular within Health, with the merger of Lewisham Hospital with Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Greenwich and the consolidation of the new CCG role, partners have nevertheless continued to contribute effectively to the LSCB, its subgroups, and the safeguarding agenda, whilst these changes have been underway.

It has also been a challenging year in terms of demand, with marked increases in referral rates for child protection (in line with other London- wide and national trends) and consequent resource pressures. Analysis by the LSCB has shown that the referrals received remain well targeted, and the impact of the early help offer remains strong so that these increases are genuine and represent real pressures.

Although Lewisham continues to offer a challenging environment in terms of safeguarding, the early help inspection in 2014 shows that there continues to be highly effective local practice, and the LSCB has been able to contribute detailed actions in a number of areas which will improve safeguarding, whilst holding the partnership to account for its performance. These include findings from audit, management reviews, and Serious Case Reviews, which have led to action plans carried out by the LSCB, to bring about further improvements in local practice.

I would like to thank those who have contributed for the openness and quality of their contributions to the LSCB and for the hard work which has enabled us to achieve this degree of focus. This is the first Annual Report prepared in line with the requirements of the revised Working Together Guidance, and whilst there remains some further development of our performance framework in order to fully meet the requirement to analyse local safeguarding practice in the round, the style and format of this report aspires to this approach and, I believe, largely achieves it too. It also very clearly outlines the priorities for next year both for the LSCB and in terms of holding the partnership to account.



Chris Doorly  
Independent Chair

## 1. Introduction

Working Together 2013 requires each LSCB to publish an annual report on the effectiveness of child safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the local area. This report aims to provide a rigorous assessment of the performance of local safeguarding services and to show how any areas of weakness will be addressed. It will be submitted to the Chief Executive and the Chair of the Health and Wellbeing Board.

## 2. Context of the LSCB

### 2.1. National

Section 13 of the Children Act 2004 requires each local authority to establish a Local Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) for their area and specifies the organisations and individuals (other than the local authority) that should be represented on the LSCB. Please go to [www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/section/13](http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/31/section/13) for more information.

The LSCB has a range of roles and statutory functions including developing local safeguarding policies and procedures and scrutinising local arrangements. The statutory objectives and functions of the LSCB are described as follow:

- To coordinate what is done by each person or body represented on the Board for the purposes of safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children in the area, and
- To ensure the effectiveness of what is done by each such person or body for those purposes

The revised Working Together Guidance 2013 places increased responsibilities on the LSCB to deliver a stronger leadership role around local safeguarding practice and directly influence multi-agency and single-agency requirements as well as requiring the establishment of a single assessment approach and supporting framework. The revised regulatory framework also includes a judgement of the effectiveness of local safeguarding boards, with a focus on assessing the impact of the board's activities on frontline practice and the positive difference made to children and local communities.

### 2.2. Local

#### 2.2.1. Demand for services

Lewisham has approximately 70 000 children aged 0-19 living in the borough, making up 25.4% of the total population. This compares against the inner London average of 22.7% and the London average of 24.5%. Deprivation is increasing in Lewisham, which appears to be linked to the increase in child protection rates. The 2010 Index of Multiple Deprivation ranked Lewisham 31<sup>st</sup> out of 354 local authorities in England. It is estimated that 20 335 children (ages 0-18) live in poverty in Lewisham.

There are a large number of residents from black and minority ethnic (BME) backgrounds in Lewisham and over 170 different languages are spoken by pupils in Lewisham schools. Lewisham's BME school population continues to rise.

As of December 2013, Lewisham's specialist provision showed there were 501 Looked After Children (LAC), 310 Children on a Child Protection Plan (CP) and 1 773 Children in Need (CIN). Key issues such as the

prevalence of autism are highlighted through Lewisham's special needs data, which show 1 444 children with a statement of special educational needs.

Lewisham's strategic approach of early intervention ensures that all professionals across the partnership work to identify and meet children's needs as soon as possible in order to prevent escalation. Lewisham continues to use its Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Team Around the Child/Family as tools to improve outcomes for children and young people with the purpose that the necessary services will be in place for the earliest possible support, and to reduce the number of families and children being referred to Children's Social Care.

Lewisham has a risk based approach to safeguarding children which enables the Local Authority to ensure that appropriate support is provided to parents to ensure that children subject to a Child Protection Plan (CPP) are safe and sound in their own home.

Violence against Woman and Girls (VAWG) remains a priority for Lewisham, who has a long history of commitment to tackling domestic and sexual violence. The Safer Lewisham Partnership takes responsibility for this area of work, which is now supported by a unified and comprehensive approach to tackling violence against women and girls through a systemic VAWG Plan. A needs assessment was undertaken in the summer of 2013 to look at the prevalence of VAWG locally and to determine what the priorities should be. The partnership as well as residents and victims of VAWG were consulted as part of this process. Please see section 4.2.7 of this report for more information regarding the VAWG plan.

### **2.2.2. Service context**

- **Health**

Health services experienced considerable changes during 2013/14. Lewisham Hospital merger with Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Greenwich in October 2013. One of the implications of this was that safeguarding services also merged across the two hospitals. Some areas for improvement in safeguarding arrangements at Lewisham Hospital midwifery and health visiting service were identified and the LSCB continues to track the implementation of the action plan to ensure service improvement. A robust maternity safeguarding pathway was put in place by Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust.

Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG), which was established following the NHS reforms, assumed the responsibility of Lewisham Primary Care Trust in April 2013. Key legislations have been amended through the Health and Social Care Act 2012 in order that the NHS Commissioning Board and CCG have the same duties as those previously applying to the Strategic Health Authorities and Primary Care Trusts in relation to having regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and to be members of the Local Safeguarding Children Board.

There have been some changes to the South London and Maudsley NHS Trust (SLAM) safeguarding services during 2013/14. The Trust Named Doctor for Safeguarding Children retired in February 2014. The Assistant Director of Nursing Trust Named Nurse for Safeguarding Children left his role in December 2013 to take up his position as Deputy Service Director for CAMHS. In light of these changes, SLAM had to review their representation at LSCB Main and Executive Boards.

- **Probation Service**

The LSCB has been briefed regarding the significant changes regarding the London Probation Trust Reforming Rehabilitation. London Probation Trust will be dissolved on 31 May 2014 and the work will be transferred to two new organisations, the National Probation Service and Regional Community Rehabilitation Companies (CRCs). The CRCs will manage the majority of offenders under probation supervision until a contract for this work is awarded in October 2014. The LSCB will remain sighted on the Probation changes to ensure that all the necessary safeguarding links and processes are clearly defined within the new structure.

### **2.2.3. Increase in Children subject to Protection Plans**

There has been a significant increase in children becoming subject to Child Protection Plans during 2013/14, which has been a London and National trend. A report into this matter concluded that these plans were appropriate and there were a need to protect these children by making them subject to Child Protection Plans. The report further found that the Local Authority had maintained services of a high quality, despite increase in the quantity of work. Extra resources had been brought in through the creation of an extra social work team despite the financial difficulties in a time of austerity. The LSCB will be keeping it under review. Please see section 4.2.1 of this report for more information on this matter.

### **2.2.4. Inspections**

Lewisham's latest Safeguarding and Looked After Children inspection took place in February 2012 whereby the Local Authority was rewarded an 'Outstanding' grading by Ofsted for its safeguarding services. The inspectors commented that children and young people in Lewisham are very effectively safeguarded through a combination of initiatives lead by partner agencies and some directly influenced by young people. The inspection highlighted that partnerships between agencies are strong and mature with a robust focus on improving outcomes for children and young people in all aspects of their safeguarding and child protection work. Lewisham has been rated 'excellent' in the past three Children's Services inspections. No priority actions were identified within either of the two unannounced inspections preceding the safeguarding and looked after children inspection in February 2012. Inspectors' findings during the latter inspection was that a strong focus has been maintained to address the areas for development following the unannounced inspection in November 2010. Inspectors saw clear evidence of these areas having been fully addressed and embedded within practice.

The overall effectiveness of services for looked after children received a 'good' rating. The inspection revealed rigorous and routine performance management which is strengthened by a wide range of audit activity. During the inspection the quality of pathway plans were identified as a weakness (although outcomes for care leavers were in the main very good). The inspectors commented on the fact that placement stability is improving but the ability to monitor progress effectively is hindered by a lack of measurable actions and objectives in case work plans.

Ofsted conducted a thematic inspection of Lewisham's Early Intervention Service during February 2014. It was overall a very positive inspection with a lot of strengths identified, as well as a few areas for development. Some of the strengths included sound decision making, strong partnership working across agencies and commitment to early intervention, frontline staff feeling supported by managers, strong decision making by Children's Social Care, appropriate closure of cases, child focussed work with evidence of taking views of children into account.

A few areas of improvement were highlighted. These were mainly around being clearer regarding the outcomes achieved by early intervention. All action identified are being followed up within the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Board and under the scrutiny of the LSCB. The Local Authority welcomes this helpful feedback from inspectors which will support with improving early intervention work across the partnership.

### **2.3. The LSCB and its governance arrangements**

The LSCB has conducted a comprehensive governance review in 2012 whereby the structure of the board and its sub groups were established. The LSCB is a statutory board in its own right under regulations and guidance. It operates within the matrix of the local structure of partnerships and its own structure must be seen in this context (Appendix A). The main board coordinates the main work of the LSCB. The work programme and tasks of the LSCB main board are laid out in the Business Plan 2012-15, which has been developed through a consultative process and is designed to address the collective priorities of the partnership in terms of safeguarding. The LSCB Business Plan 2012-15 coincides with Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan 2012-15 and the LSCB task groups are responsible for driving this work. Please see section 4.6 of this report for information regarding the work and activities of the task groups during 2013/14.

The LSCB main board feeds into the Executive Board, whose main responsibilities are to direct and oversee the business of the LSCB and to ensure there is a focus on monitoring the strategic horizon and taking into account, understand and respond to the opportunities and threats posed by the national and local policy and resource changes.

Lewisham has benefitted from good partnership working and strong leadership in the children's services arena. There has been good feedback from inspections of Children's Social Care in relation to inter-agency case management.

The LSCB continues to have a close relationship with the Children and Young People Strategic Partnership Board. The LSCB Chair attends all meetings to provide updates on the work of the LSCB. Part of the Chair's role on the board is to hold members to account for ensuring that safeguarding is central to all its activities. Please see Appendix B for a breakdown of the LSCB's budget for 2013/14.

### **2.4. Chairing and Membership**

The Lewisham LSCB has been chaired by Chris Doorly since 2011. The Chair is funded for 20 days per financial year to fulfil her role. This includes chairing both Executive Board and LSCB main board, as well as representing the Board on the Children and Young People's Partnership Board and at external events. Chris also chairs the Adults Safeguarding Board in Lewisham.

The composition of the board is in line with statutory partners listed in Working Together 2013. The LSCB has succeeded in continuing partnerships across the various agencies and agreeing governance arrangements. The LSCB welcomed three lay members to the board in 2013/14. They are local residents who have good links with the community. The lay members attend the main board as well as some of the task groups. Please see Appendix C for a full list of LSCB members.

### **3. Report of the LSCB's work**

#### **3.1. Outcome of key priorities from last year (2012/13)**

The LSCB has undertaken the following work during 2013/14 in respect of each priority:

##### **3.1.1. Reduce child abuse and neglect**

- Local Management Reviews identified neglect as an area to focus on in 2013/14 and a neglect audit was conducted to improve practice in this area. The audit included cases where neglect was a feature, but did not reach the threshold for Children's Social Care involvement and was managed via a Team Around the Child (TAC) approach. The audit indicated that early intervention can be a robust mechanism for children's services to manage complex cases where neglect is a feature, but does not meet the threshold for Children's Social Care involvement. However, the audit also indicated that some professionals need ongoing support to increase their confidence to appropriately manage cases where neglect is apparent. The audit made a number of recommendations which will be implemented and tracked by the Neglect task group until complete. Please see section 4.6.2 of this report for more information on the outcome of this audit.
- The rate for child protection cases was fairly stable during 2012/13. However, in 2013/14, there has been a significant increase in child protection cases which led to work being undertaken to understand the reasons for the increase and to evaluate the ongoing effectiveness and capacity. A report was presented to the LSCB. The report indicated that these children were all in need of protection and that appropriate action was taken to ensure these children's safety. Please see section 4.2.1 of this report for more information.
- The LSCB has ongoing oversight of the thresholds for early intervention services, by which means children receive support to prevent harm. The LSCB monitors the uptake and approach to the CAF on an ongoing basis. Please see section 7.2 for CAF data for 2013/14. The need to both review thresholds and analyse the effectiveness of the Early Help offer was identified during 2013/14 as a task for the LSCB.
- Lessons from management reviews and national serious case reviews have been shared with the partnership by means of briefing sessions as part of the LSCB's training programme.

##### **3.1.2. Reduce Bullying of children at school**

- Bullying will always be a priority for the LSCB and it will always want to ensure itself that bullying is dealt with effectively.
- The LSCB revised and updated the bullying strategy and established a Bullying task group to consider the consultation on the strategy, analyse the findings and put in motion any appropriate actions. The LSCB Business Plan 2012-15 has been updated to reflect this work strand.
- Bullying data is reported to the LSCB on a quarterly basis. This will be reviewed once the bullying strategy has been implemented to measure the impact this has had on children being bullied in Lewisham.

##### **3.1.3. Reduce harm to children and young people caught up in domestic violence**

This area remains a priority for the LSCB due to the known harm caused to children exposed to domestic violence. Statistics in Lewisham are high and it therefore remains a priority area.

- As a result, the LSCB facilitated training courses on domestic violence as well as a Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC) briefing session during 2013/14. Feedback on this training has been

extremely positive and courses will be commissioned again as part of the next training programme.

- Lewisham Safer Partnership board completed two Domestic Homicide Reviews by 2013/14. These made some recommendations for action by the LSCB, which had been converted into SMART action plans. The LSCB will review these action plans to ensure completion.
- Lewisham's Crime Reduction service has developed a Violence against Woman and Girls plan (VAWG) which has been presented to the LSCB and implemented across the partnership. The LSCB will monitor the safeguarding aspects of this plan.
- The LSCB Executive challenged the lack of availability of police Merlin reports in respect of domestic violence issues to health partners such as health visitors. As a result of this challenge, reports will now be shared to ensure professionals are aware and offer appropriate support when working with these families so children can be protected from coming to harm as a result of domestic violence.

#### **3.1.4. Develop a coherent multi agency strategy to reduce the incident of sexual exploitation**

During 2012/13, Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE) has been identified as an ongoing priority for the LSCB.

- LSCB Sexual Exploitation training has been delivered to services across the partnership, including Youth Workers, Independent Reviewing Officers, Safeguarding leads for schools, Sexual Health nurses and school nurses. The training specifically focussed on helping professionals to identify and respond to CSE appropriately.
- Lewisham was part of a pilot for implementing the Police Sexual Exploitation Protocol. Multi Agency Sexual Exploitation (MASE) meetings takes place monthly and are designed to look at data and develop a local profile of CSE to support the work of the board. Please see section 4.6.1 for more information regarding the LSCB's approach to sexual exploitation.

#### **3.1.5. To work with other partnerships to reduce incidents of youth gun and gang violence**

- The Community Safety Partnership leads on this area of work. There is innovative and effective practice in Lewisham which includes the Youth MARAC. The LSCB contributes to this area of work through its training courses, which aim to equip professionals with signposting to appropriate services for young people at risk of involvement in this area.
- The LSCB has included this area of work as part of its performance framework, which will be monitored on an ongoing basis to ensure services are making a positive contribution to keeping children safe from gun and gang violence.

#### **3.1.6. Reduce road traffic accidents involving children and young people**

- Having identified this as a priority in 2012/13, Lewisham council continued to deliver a number of initiatives via the Road Safety and Sustainable Transport team to reduce the number of fatal and serious accidents with a clear reduction over the past decade.
- Lewisham's next Local Implementation Plan (LIP) comes into effect in 2014 and LIP money is continuing to help fund the road safety programme of safety measures in Lewisham. Please see section 4.4.6 of this report for more information.

#### **3.1.7. Provide secure and consistent support for looked after children, particularly placement stability**

Placement stability remains a priority for the LSCB, which is driven by data that shows performance to be lower

than Lewisham's Statistical Neighbours. This data is monitored by the LSCB on an ongoing basis. A report was presented to the LSCB in December 2013 which informed the Board of the reasons for placement breakdown and assurance was given that the Local Authority puts a lot of work and consideration into ensuring children are placed according to their needs and that every effort is made to avoid a placement from breaking down. Please see section 4.2.5 of this report for more information on this.

### **3.1.8. Support families at risk of being in crisis**

Generally in Lewisham the Early Help offer and Early Intervention approaches are seeing to work well, using the Common Assessment Framework (CAF), Team Around the Child (TAC) and Early Intervention services. However, the LSCB decided in 2013/14 that the threshold would benefit from review and outcomes from the Early Help offer should be more strongly evaluated by the LSCB. This has been identified as an action within the 2014-15 business plan of the LSCB. Please see section 3.2.4 of this report for more information regarding the outcome of the Early Help inspection during February 2014. The work of the Early Intervention and Access Service during 2013/14 is further explained in sections 6 and 8.1 of this report.

### **3.1.9. Ensure that children and young people feel safe**

The LSCB monitors information in this area. Agencies have demonstrated through their section 11 audits how they will improve practice in relation to ensuring the child's voice is heard. Examples of outcomes in this area include improved child friendly complaints procedures and greater involvement of children and young people.

The Communications and Publications task group of the LSCB will establish links with the Lewisham Youth Council and other youth forums and driving forward the work towards ensuring children's voices are heard and at the forefront of the LSCB's work. This will form part of the LSCB's priorities for 2014/15.

## **3.2. Analysis of key reports and findings/activities by the LSCB**

### **3.2.1. Report on increase in children subject to Child Protection Plans (CPP)**

The number of children subject to child protection plans in Lewisham have seen a steady rise during 2013/14. In March 2012, the number of children subject to a child protection plan was 198, increasing to 235 children by March 2013, a 19% increase over the period of a year. In October 2013, this figure had risen to 327 children, which is a further increase of 37% over a period of six months.

The report explored whether there were evidence to suggest

- Children are remaining on child protection plans for longer than they should be
- The rising number of children subject to child protection plans can be linked to changes in Children's Social Care (CSC) thresholds
- Whether there are national trends or demographic changes that might explain the increase in child protection plans in Lewisham

None of these three factors were found to have occurred and it was concluded that numbers have risen appropriately due to actual demand.

The report concluded that the number of children subject to CP plans has continued to rise apparently in line with national trends and there was no evidence from the investigations undertaken, to suggest that there has been a decline in the quality of the work or to suggest that children are not being protected because of the volume of work. Action has been taken within Children's Social Care (CSC) to increase the number of social workers and address increased workloads. CSC has continued to undertake quarterly audits of children who have been made subject to CP plans to ensure appropriate thresholds are maintained and these are evidencing that responses are appropriate.

The LSCB will continue to monitor the increase in the number of children subject to CP Plans and the quality of service to these children.

### **3.2.2. Report on attendance at Child Protection Conferences**

The LSCB requested a report to look into agencies attendance at child protection conferences as there has been a decrease in this performance indicator reported to the LSCB.

There is a local arrangement in place for agencies to provide written reports or to send deputies if they are unable to attend the conference. A number of key agencies were identified which needed to improve their attendance or reporting. These agencies have been made aware of this concern and future attendance will be tracked by the Quality Assurance Team. The LSCB will monitor this data on a quarterly basis and ensure that improvements are sustained.

### **3.2.3. Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust safeguarding arrangements (LHT)**

In June 2013 three cases were made know to the LSCB in relation to weaknesses in Lewisham Healthcare Trust (LHT) in respect of safeguarding. The primary areas of concern were midwifery and health visiting. LHT undertook a review of processes within midwifery and health visiting services and an action plan was agreed and implemented. This action plan has been monitored and reviewed by the LSCB and evidence of implementation has been provided. The LSCB was therefore satisfied that the issues has been appropriately addressed to ensure LHT fulfil in its safeguarding duties towards children.

### **3.2.4. Healthcare needs of Looked After Children (LAC)**

Lewisham is responsible for approximately 500 LAC with over 40% of them residing within the borough. Lewisham Public Health conducted a needs assessment for Looked After Children (LAC) and informed the LSCB of the findings in September 2013. The LSCB Executive was especially concerned at the arte of completion of Initial health Assessments for Looked After Children. Urgent management action was taken on this matter which resulted in significant improvements.

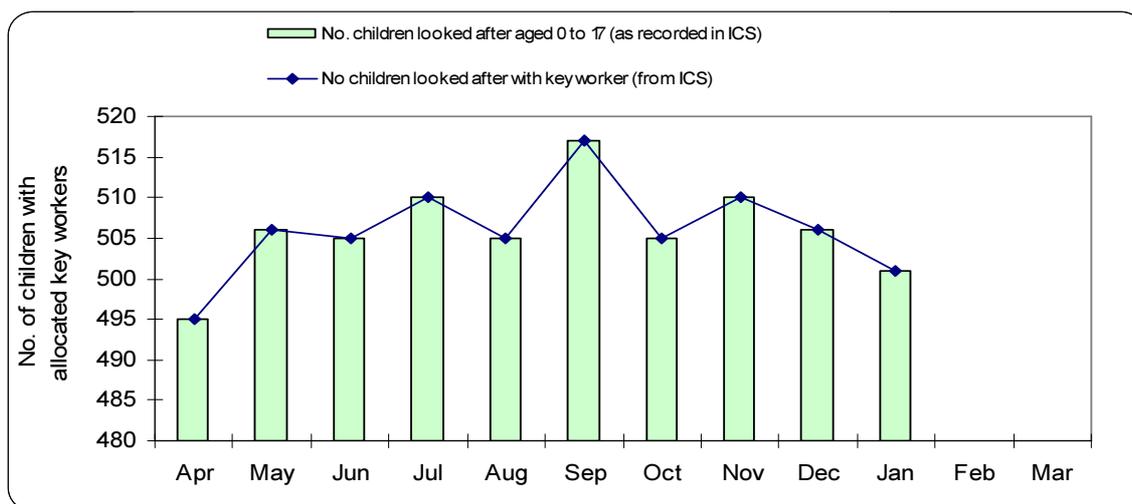
This comprehensive report concluded, on the basis of the evidence presented, that Lewisham's looked after children cohort face a range of obstacles placed in their way by often tumultuous early years in precarious home environments. Despite this, and responding to these problems, Lewisham's services are performing in a largely robust manner. Moreover, with careful oversight, these services are continuing to improve. From this review a n action plan was developed which is being tracked by the LSCB.

### **3.2.5. Looked After Children Report (LAC)**

Following the presentation of the annual LAC report to the LSCB in September 2013 (please see section 4.4.7 of this report), a further report was requested in relation to placement stability, LAC missing from their

placement and LAC who has substance misuse problems or for whom there is a concern they may develop such a problem. The health and wellbeing of LAC remains a priority for the LSCB., which wanted to review this area in more depth. This further report was presented in March 2014. The purpose of this second report was to examine in more detail the three areas of :substance misuse of LAC, the distance of placements from home and the placement stability of LAC. The LSCB's findings in these 3 areas are summarised below.

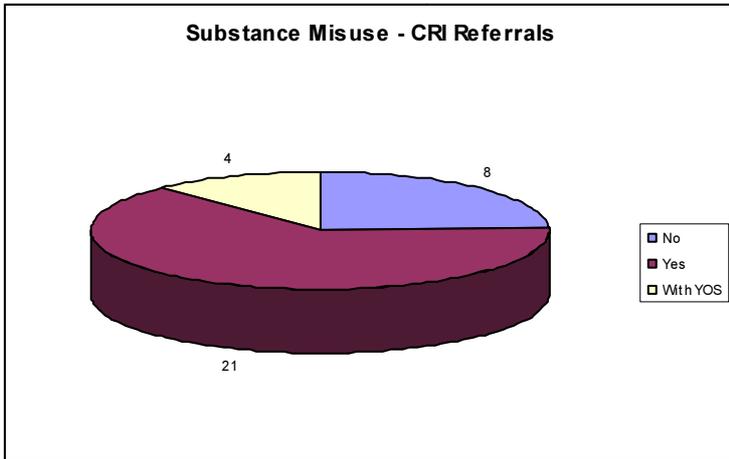
The graph below illustrates the total number of children looked after from April 2013, which was 495, the overall figure rose during the year hitting a peak of 517 in September 2013. Since then (with the exception of October 2013) the number has been decreasing and on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2014 there were 501 Children looked after by the borough.



- **Substance Misuse**

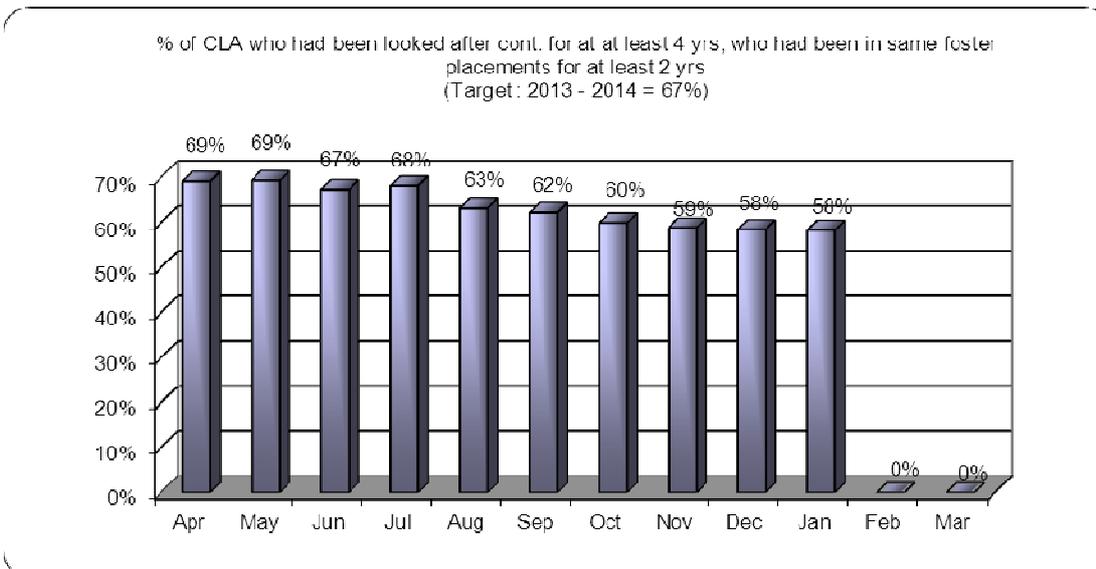
The number of LAC with an identified substance misuse problem was 33 in December 2013. 23 of the cohort are aged 16 and above, 8 are aged 15 and one aged 14 and the other 12. The 12 year old was in fact referred for support as a result of his level of cigarette smoking given his age. The intervention has been positive and he has been discharged from the service.

The Leaving Care Service has access to a specialist worker whose role it is to provide assessments and interventions to minimise the use of substances by these young people. The graph below shows the number of young people who have been referred to the specialist worker. Those who were not referred were either newly identified at the time or young people who were refusing to accept a service, some because they have been working with CAMHS and did not wish to work with another agency. Four of the young people were also allocated within the Youth Offending Service and were receiving services to reduce both their offending and associated substance misuse directly from the Youth Offending Service. The LSCB was therefore assured that appropriate services and responses were made to young people in respect of substance misuse.



- **Stability of LAC placements**

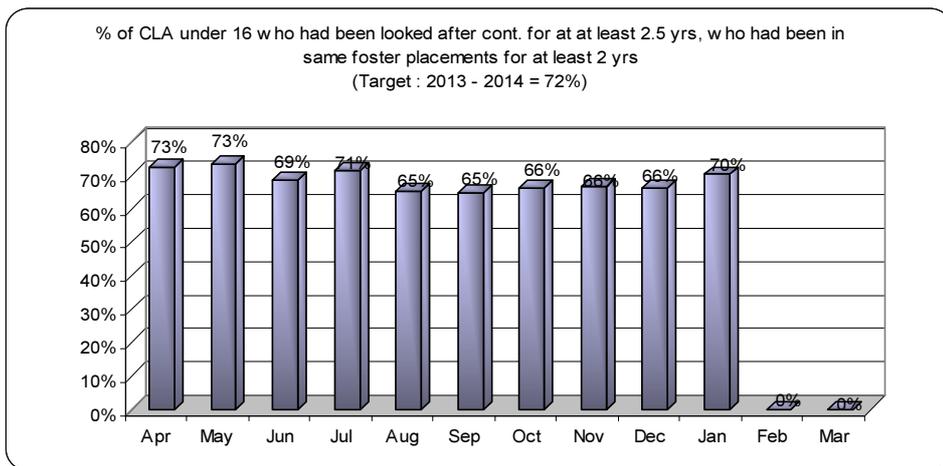
The stability of the LAC cohort is measured in three different ways. The table below shows the percentage of LAC who had been looked after continuously for at least 4 years, who were currently in a foster placement where they had spent at least 2 years.



As the chart suggests there has been a concerning downward trend in terms of the average length of foster placements reducing in time span in this cohort. Some initial analysis suggests the reasons for this are both varied and complex. Placements breakdowns are not only attributable to the needs and difficulties of the young people but also the life circumstances of the foster carers including divorce, serious life threatening illness, pregnancy and bereavement. The LSCB has therefore referred this matter to the Corporate Parent Board with a request that they investigate the possibility of developing some support to foster carers to improve their capacity for stability.

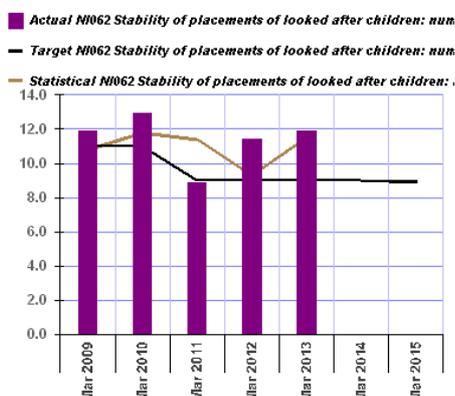
Further and ongoing audits of individual cases designated as 'unstable' by Independent Reviewing Officers (IROs) are required to ensure appropriate resources are targeted and every effort is made to reduce further instability and breakdown. An additional resource has been secured to undertake both this analysis and other related audit to provide a more comprehensive overall understanding. An update on this will be presented to the LSCB during 2014/15.

The second measure of stability measures the number of LAC under 16 who have been looked after for at least 2.5 years and who have been in the same placement for at least two years. This indicator captures both residential and foster placements. Residential placements are only used for the most complex and challenging children. These behaviours are often attributable to their earlier experiences of abuse and trauma. Unlike the first cohort which is predominately concerned with older children, this group also captures younger children who may have been looked after throughout protracted care proceedings. For this cohort changes in placement may have occurred as a result of court directed assessments of both family and other extended family. It can therefore also include children placed for adoption for whom the move is a positive social work decision. No actions were therefore deemed to be needed by the LSCB in response to this area of concern.

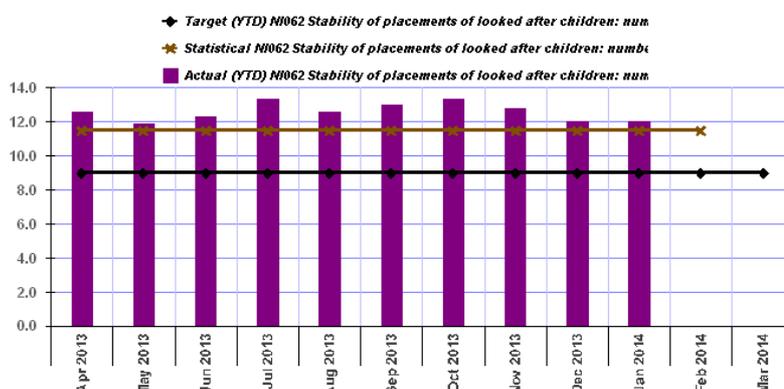


The third measure of placement stability looks at those Children and Young people who have had more than three placements in twelve months. This cohort includes all children with a variety of care plans. It can for example include young babies in court proceedings for whom a third move to an adoptive placement within twelve months is excellent for that individual child. Lewisham is in the top quartile for this measure on the adoption scorecard. This measure has been changed in year, to include young people who are missing for more than 24 hours. This has contributed to the Local Authority's difficulty in meeting its target. Whilst the LSCB understands that some of these factors may be positive in respect of their impact on the child, it was agreed that the Corporate Parent group should be charged with investigating how the number of unhelpful moves per annum could be reduced through good practice.

NI 62 % LAC 3 or more placement moves



NI 62 PAF A1 % LAC 3 or more placement moves during year



An audit has been conducted on where Lewisham Looked After Children reside. The national indicator on this

looks at children placed more than 20 miles from Lewisham. The outcome of these findings were shared with the LSCB, providing assurance that these children have all been placed appropriately and in accordance with their needs, wellbeing and safety.

### **3.2.6. Domestic Homicide Reviews**

This work is led by the Safer Lewisham Partnership Board. Two domestic homicide review reports were presented to the LSCB in March 2014 to share the learning and recommendations from these reviews with the partnership and to take account of any actions for the LSCB.

The key findings for **case 1** was in relation to the lessons to improved information sharing by agencies. It was not possible to determine if this person's death could have been avoided.

The key theme arising from **case 2** was around awareness raising of domestic violence and abuse, better training and culture of questioning especially in relation to vulnerable adults. Other key recommendations involve taking a closer look at the risk assessment procedures across all agencies and the understanding of the toxic trio of mental health, substance misuse and domestic violence and abuse.

SMART action plans have been put in place based on the recommendations from these reviews. Actions will be tracked by the Lewisham Community Safety Partnership, supported by a task and finish sub group. The LSCB will monitor completion of these plans.

### **3.2.7. Violence against Woman and Girls Plan (VAWG)**

This work is also led by the Safer Lewisham Partnership Board. Lewisham Council has a long history of commitment to tackling domestic and sexual violence. This work is now supported by a unified and comprehensive approach to tackling violence against women and girls through a systemic VAWG Plan.

A needs assessment was undertaken in the summer of 2013 to look at the prevalence of VAWG locally and to determine what Lewisham's Saver Partnership's priorities should be. Council partners were consulted as well as residents and victims of VAWG. The aim is further to have focus groups with local resident women and girls, to ascertain wider feedback.

The needs assessment identified gaps in local knowledge in a number of areas; and proposes 3 key strands for local focus and priority:

- Domestic violence and abuse
- Rape and sexual violence
- Sexual exploitation with particular focus on children

As with all partnership intelligence development documents it is likely priorities may be revised as further information on all strands of VAWG becomes available. All local partners are committed to dealing with any aspects of VAWG and will be reviewing and reassessing areas annually. The plan includes areas such as Female Genital Mutilation, Forced Marriages, Honour Based Violence, Child Sexual Exploitation, Stalking and Harassment.

VAWG is a multi-faceted issue that links to, and impacts on, a range of other social issues including poverty, unemployment, youth crime, homelessness, child abuse, health, and problematic substance use. A multi-

agency, integrated approach to tackling these issues is therefore required. The Plan sets out four important objectives and goals for Lewisham:

- To develop a better understanding of VAWG and its impact in our borough;
- Early intervention and prevention of VAWG;
- To ensure an improved access to the support and protection of women and girls in our borough;
- To hold perpetrators to account and consideration of rehabilitation provision.

The LSCB will hold to account progress in this area of work by means of regular reports and data sets to be provided by the lead body, the Safer Partnership Board.

### **3.2.8. MAPPA LSCB Protocol**

The protocol agreed by London MAPPA Strategic Management Board (SMB) and the London Safeguarding Children Board provides a high-level framework to guide borough-based arrangements designed to enhance co-operation and communication between safeguarding children and MAPPA structures.

The LSCB is required to provide a formal link between the LSCB and MAPPA, to enable the MAPPA to refer issues to the LSCB for its advice and comments and to enable the LSCB to receive, at least once a year, a formal performance report from the MAPPA to ensure LSCB scrutiny.

The Probation representative on the Lewisham LSCB has been identified as the most appropriate service to act as link between the LSCB and MAPPA and the MAPPA performance report has been placed on the LSCB annual reports rota.

## **3.3. Key activities and campaigns for the LSCB during 2013/14**

### **3.3.1. Working Together 2013**

In March 2013 the much anticipated revised Working Together 2013 Statutory Guidance was published. It was, as expected, a significantly reduced set of guidance which established a set of 'good practice principles' that underpin good safeguarding practice. The key aim of Working Together 2013 is to reduce prescription in local safeguarding arrangements, however at the same time it strengthens the role of the LSCB in monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of local safeguarding arrangements.

A gap analysis document has been derived to address any developments as a result of the new Working Together 2013 document and to ensure Lewisham is in line with government guidance. This is a standing item on the LSCB agenda and actions will be tracked until complete.

The single assessment framework has been implemented in Lewisham by Children's Social Care in November 2013. LSCB partner agencies have been informed regarding the changes and process, and the LSCB will continue to monitor the effectiveness and timescales of practice in this area.

### **3.3.2. Lewisham Hospital**

Lewisham Healthcare Trust has integrated with Greenwich Healthcare Trust on 1 October 2013. This meant joined up services between Lewisham Hospital and Queen Elizabeth Hospital, including safeguarding services

and staff. The LSCB has been kept informed regarding any safeguarding risk that might arise as a result of these changes, and is monitoring this on an ongoing basis.

### **3.3.3. Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL) Safeguarding Training Project**

With funding received from the LSCB, and in partnership with Safe Network, Educare, the NSPCC and Children's Society who helped to shape the bid, Voluntary Action Lewisham successfully delivered a programme of safeguarding training for up to 250 people, from 84 voluntary and community organisations in the borough. Designed to ensure that everyone who works or volunteers with children and young people from the voluntary and community sector knows how to keep them safe, the project also offered intensive support to up to 6 agencies to help them develop their organisation's safeguarding policy and practice.

This Safeguarding Children Project was very successful in engaging with the faith sector and 27 faith-based organisations were trained on the Essentials of Safeguarding, the highest overall attendance of any of the single courses offered. This was important as Faith based groups have access to hundreds of children and young people each week through their many and varied programmes. The projects interventions led to some of the following outcomes:

- Increased confidence in their role in safeguarding children and improved joint engagement on this issue
- Improved engagement among Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic and Refugee (BAMER) Faith Groups with difficult issues around safeguarding children and
- Beginnings of better established links between the faith sector and strategic safeguarding bodies such as the LSCB and other safeguarding agencies

A second tranche of support for this initiative has been approved in principle by the LSCB, conditional upon evidence that it will produce hard outcomes in terms of safeguarding referrals or use of the CAF/TAC by agencies in this sector.

### **3.3.4. Lewisham Bullying Strategy**

All children and young people living, working, being educated or socialising in the London Borough of Lewisham have the right to go about their daily lives without the fear of being threatened, assaulted or harassed whether physically, emotionally or through technology. The LSCB is committed to providing safe environments for children and young people, and therefore to effectively addressing bullying behaviour so that the incidence of all forms of bullying is minimised.

During 2013/14 the LSCB commissioned work to be undertaken in relation to updating Lewisham's standing bullying strategy. The document is intended to provide a strategy for effective management of bullying within organisations working with children and young people as well as to supplement and support the work both of Lewisham's Safeguarding Children Board and the objectives of the Children and Young People's Plan.

The revised Bullying strategy was presented to the LSCB in March 2014. It was recommended that a Bullying Task group is established to consider the consultation of the strategy, analyse the findings and put in motion any actions. The LSCB Business Plan 2012-15 will be updated to reflect this work strand.

### **3.4. Annual reports considered by the LSCB and key issues identified**

During 2011-12 the LSCB identified a comprehensive list of annual reports which it wishes to receive in order to fully hold to account all those services which contribute to effective safeguarding. A rolling schedule for the presentation of these reports was designed, so that the LSCB could challenge both performance and reporting coverage in these areas. Due to the timetabling some annual reports are presented in the year following the one which they are concerned with, nevertheless, this approach enables the LSCB to gain a comprehensive view across the partnership. The purpose is for the Board to scrutinise safeguarding arrangements and to ensure that safeguarding matters have been addressed appropriately throughout the year and services are contributing to positive outcomes for children. A full list of the annual reports covered is attached at Appendix E and the LSCB tracks any actions which derive from these in the MESI sub group.

The following annual reports have been added to the rota for 2014/15:

- Children missing from education
- Safeguarding children with complex needs
- MAPPA update

These will help to inform the LSCB's understanding of the bigger picture for safeguarding in Lewisham

#### **3.4.1. Annual report on Disclosure and Barring Systems (DBS)**

Arising from an Individual Management Review which identified the coverage of DBS/CRB checks as an issue of concern the LSCB agreed to receive an annual report on this particular issue in order to assure itself that the actions put in place to rectify the identified shortcomings were being used on an ongoing basis, and that they are effective.

Since the reviews of the DBS system a number of changes have been implemented. As a result of those changes the council can provide much more assurance that robust DBS processes are in place across the Council. The LSCB is therefore satisfied that the Local Authority is protecting children through safe recruitment of staff. This will be kept under LSCB scrutiny on an ongoing basis.

#### **3.4.2. Private Fostering**

Working Together to Safeguard Children 2010 set out a policy and procedure function for the LSCB in relation to private fostering. This has now been superseded by the revised 'Working Together to Safeguard Children (2013) The LSCB role includes its usual roles of co-ordination, monitoring and quality assurance, and a specific role with regard to awareness raising. The LSCB has a statutory duty to report annually on children who are Privately Fostered.

Under Standard 7 of the National minimum standards for private fostering the local authority should report annually to the Chair of the Local Safeguarding Children Board on how it satisfies itself that the welfare of privately fostered children in its area is satisfactorily safeguarded and promoted, including how it co-operates with other agencies in this connection.

The latest private fostering annual report indicated that there is a year-on-year increase in privately fostered children being referred to the Local Authority for assessment and support. The majority of notifications are

received from other local authorities and education (schools and education admissions department). A large number of referrals were received from TWIN who are an organisation based in Lewisham that provides training courses to children/young people from abroad in the UK and places them with host families.

The promotion of private fostering has continued to be a area of significant development for the team who deals with private fostering and links have been established and maintained with key agencies and departments whom large numbers of referrals are being received from. In addition, the steering group has continued to meet quarterly with members of key agencies present to help improve the number of notifications and service provision for privately fostered children.

Feedback and evaluation forms have continued to be distributed to children and young people in private fostering arrangements in order to ensure that the Local Authority is catering its service to the needs of the children. Feedback forms have been developed for carers.

The LSCB is satisfied that annual reviews, as part of the transfer meetings, have continued to be implemented before the case moves to the Looked After Children team for three monthly visits after the first year. The LSCB is further assured that assessments, records and checks will be rigorously monitored through the team manager peers audits, using the specialist audit form, which has been tailored specifically for private fostering cases.

A number of challenges have been identified. These include:

- Financial hardship for private fostering parents/carers, including No Recourse To Public Funds families
- Emerging theme of children whose parents have passed away or became severely unwell and unable to care for them
- Continued theme of children whose parents are serving a custodial sentence and having to make alternative childcare arrangements
- Large increase in private fostering notifications results in less capacity to promote and raise awareness
- Difficult to engage faith groups

The report highlighted a number of recommendations to take forward to ensure privately fostered children receive adequate support and services according to their needs. Recommendations have been transferred into an action plan, which will be tracked by the Referral and Assessment Team Service Manager until complete.

### **3.4.3. Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)**

Chapter 5 of Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013 places duties on Local Safeguarding Children Boards to review deaths of all children who normally reside in the Area. This has been a statutory duty since April 2008. The LSCB must collect and analyse information about each death with a view to identify:

- Any case giving rise to the need for a SCR
- Any matters of concern affecting the safety and welfare of children in the area of the authority.
- Any wider public health or safety concerns arising from a particular death or from a pattern of deaths in that area.

The function of the Child Death Overview Panel continues to be funded from the Public Health budget. Since 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013, Public Health Lewisham is a part of Lewisham Council, and the department's budget continues to be

used to fund this service.

It is clear from the CDOP annual report that the team has made good progress in its work and improved its functions, ensuring that child deaths are reviewed in a timely, rigorous manner. Helpful meetings have been had with the Coroner and relationships with the Coroner's service improved. A very helpful meeting has also been had with the Youth Offending Service and improvements are planned in the way violent deaths are reviewed.

The most common cause of the deaths reviewed was extreme prematurity. Of the 37 deaths reviewed by the CDOP, nine were identified as having modifiable factors. The proportion of deaths with modifiable factors was comparable to that of the previous year. A full review of all deaths that have occurred since April 2008 has been recommended to identify any equity issues as well as modifiable factors.

The CDOP identified a number of issues as a result of the deaths reviewed by the panel. The most important of these was the degree of chaos in the lives of mothers of some children who died because of prematurity.

The panel further emphasized the importance of the Coroner's team to respond with empathy and sensitivity when communicating with bereaved parents. Equipping GPs to deal with bereaved parents has formed part of the CDOP workplan for 2013/14.

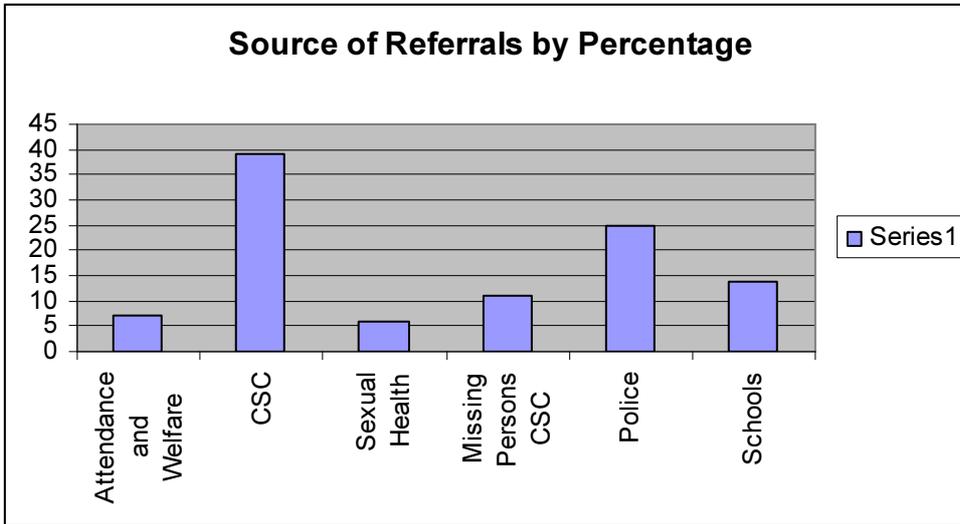
The LSCB will continue to monitor the work and functioning of the CDOP to ensure any areas of concern will be challenged and appropriately addressed, as well as learning any lessons from the death of a child in the case where this might have been as a result of neglect or abuse.

#### **3.4.4. Child Sexual Exploitation (CSE)**

The Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB) has been tasked with leading on CSE in the borough. An update report on the CSE action plan and other developments was presented to the LSCB in June 2013. This follows on from the scoping document and action plan derived by the CSE task group, which was presented to the LSCB in September 2012.

The report highlighted that in 2012, the Quality Assurance Service collated the best available data in the partnership, which was by no means complete or reliable. Lewisham Children's Social Care was aware of 20 cases of children who were being sexually exploited or at risk of sexual exploitation between 2006 and 2012. A database was set up in Children's Social Care in January 2013 and since then 37 cases of Child Sexual Exploitation have been identified. This is a significant improvement and evidence that the workforce are more aware of the warning signs of possible CSE and therefore making appropriate referrals for support.

A breakdown of the source of referrals can be found in the graph below:



Evaluation of information on the 37 cases collated since January to May 2013 shows that:

- The victims are overwhelmingly female
- Just over 50% of victims of child sexual exploitation are aged between 13 and 14.
- Legal status of victims:
  - 10 out of 37 children are LAC to Lewisham.
  - 6 out of 37 are under a Care Order to London Borough of Lewisham
  - 4 out of 37 children are Looked After under Section 20 of the Children Act 1989

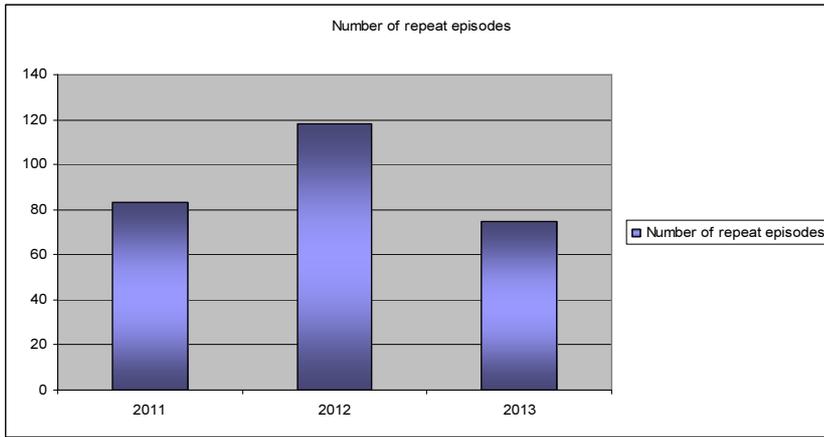
Lewisham has been chosen for a pilot by the Metropolitan Police. This pilot arose from recognition that multiagency intervention in cases of child sexual exploitation needed to be radically overhauled following the highly publicised case in Rochdale. The pilot started on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2013. The pilot requires the police to set up specialised child sexual exploitation units. These units hold monthly interagency meetings, known as MASE meetings, attended by Children’s Social Care, Education Lead, Youth Offending and Sexual Health Services to share information on cases of child sexual exploitation plans and track actions.

The Lewisham MASE meetings have been hugely productive with a ‘hot spot’ being identified where children are at risk of CSE. The police are now working with the Safer Neighbourhoods team as well as the Youth Service to target this area to prevent children and young people from being sexually exploited.

CSE training courses will continue to target workers such as youth workers, social workers, learning mentors as well as foster carers to ensure suspected CSE is identified at an early stage and appropriate action is taken to safeguard the child.

### 3.4.5. Missing Children

The data in the missing children annual report only goes up to August for 2013. The data collected enabled a provisional forecast to be made for the end of year. Month on month comparison showed that it was likely for the figures for 2013 to return to the 2011 levels of repeat missing episodes, which will represent a reduction of 20 children compared to the numbers from 2012.

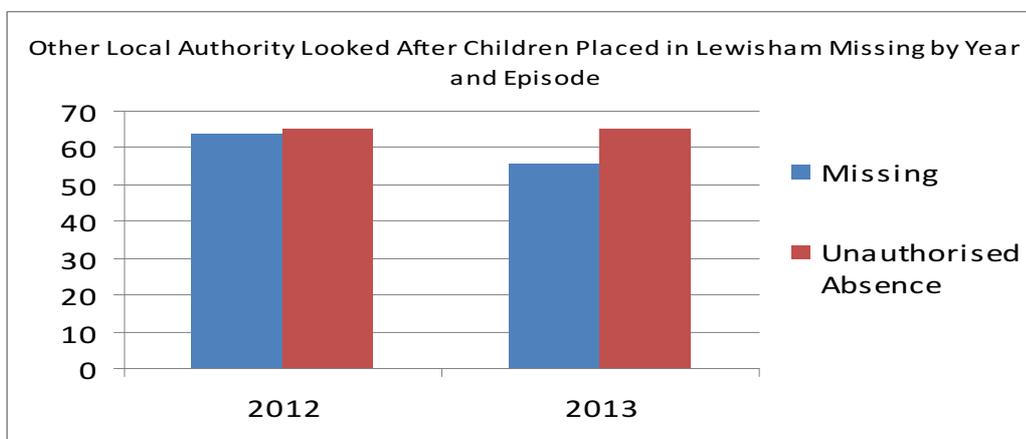


An audit has been undertaken to satisfy the LSCB that strategy meetings are convened for Lewisham Looked After Children (LAC) who goes missing from residential care (please see section 4.4.7)

A reduction in missing episodes and unauthorised absences for Looked After Children has been anticipated for 2013 compared to statistics from 2011 and 2012. this reduction is believed to be attributable to professionals recording unauthorised absences more accurately. An unauthorised absence is when a child has gone out without permission but their whereabouts are known. These used to be wrongly included in the missing figures thus wrongly inflating them.

There has been a year on year reduction of non LAC being reported missing. However, it is not clear if the reduction is as a result of fewer children going missing or whether mistrust of the authorities had led to fewer reports to the police. The data available will be interrogated further to establish the underlying reasons for the reduction. This exercise will be completed by May 2014.

The Local Authority forecasted that the number of missing episodes for LAC placed in Lewisham by other boroughs will remain roughly the same in 2013 as for 2012 and a reduction in unauthorised absences will occur. The police has conducted a lot of work to explain the difference between unauthorised absence and missing children with foster carers and residential care providers in Lewisham which might contribute to the correct data being collected in the future, but more importantly, for genuinely missing children to be located as soon as possible.



A number of actions for the Missing Children Liaison Officer has been identified to take forward in 2014/15, which includes comparison of data with statistical neighbours, which will enable Lewisham to establish the scale

of this problem for Lewisham children compared with surrounding areas.

### 3.4.6. Road Traffic Safety in Lewisham

This report is presented to the LSCB by Lewisham Public Health to look at the what measures have been applied to prevent children from being seriously injured or killed as a result of road traffic accidents and to establish if these measures have been successful and if alternative methods are needed.

Since 2001, six child road traffic accident fatalities were reported in Lewisham. Three in 2002, one in 2003 and two in 2008. It is evident that, in the last decade, the continuing work to reduce the number of fatal and serious casualties on the roads of Lewisham is helping to achieve the reduction in casualties. This has been achieved by the targeted work of the Road Safety and Sustainable transport team.

In 2012, the overall lowest ever total of injuries for people of all ages was recorded in Lewisham with 998 people injured on the roads. At this time there were 3 fatalities, 99 serious and 896 slight injured recorded. Despite the general reduction, it was noted at this time that certain road users remain vulnerable on Lewisham's roads and are still highly represented in the casualty figures. The most vulnerable road users by mode of transport remain to be cyclists, pedestrians and motorcyclists. Children aged fifteen years and under were found to be highly represented in the pedestrian figures, with those aged between 12-15 years deemed most at risk. This is similar to patterns noted both throughout London, and described nationally in the Department for Transport 2007 'Child Road Safety Strategy'.

It has been possible to map the collisions in Lewisham by looking at road traffic accidents resulting in child Killed or Seriously Injured (KSI) casualties. Collisions occur on major roads, with increased concentrations of incidents taking place on the A20, the A2 and the A209 (South Circular), as well as in Lewisham and Catford town centres.

The use of traffic engineering measures as targeted local safety schemes remain an important method of reducing collisions. A comprehensive relighting of the Borough has jointly begun with the London Borough of Croydon, with the installation of new lighting to be finished by 2015. Maintenance works is also continually on-going and effort is made to ensure that work associated with road safety, such as the renewal of anti-skid materials, replacement of traffic signs, School Keep Clear marking and other safety markings are prioritised. The age range of children at increased risk of involvement in KSI accidents in Lewisham have previously been suggested to be those aged 12-15 years. However, recent statistics suggests a wider age range, with increased numbers of accidents occurring in children aged 10-15 years. This may indicate that road safety education should take place at an even earlier age, as by later ages, risk-taking behaviours may already have developed in children leading to KSI casualties.

The number of KSI casualties, in children and young people aged between 0 and 17 years old between 2007 and 2012 is shown in the figure below:

Accident Severity	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	Total
Fatal		2				1	3
Serious	22	21	9	14	10	10	86
Total	22	23	9	14	10	11	89

The report highlighted a few recommendations which will ensure the work which has been done so far is maintained for the years to come and to continue to allow road safety initiatives, both engineering and education based, to develop and grow further over the next decade with the aim of reducing the number of child KSI casualties in Lewisham even further.

### 3.4.7. Looked after children annual report

Generally children in care continue to have poorer outcomes than the wider population, particularly in relation to educational achievement, homelessness and mental health. It is difficult to determine the extent to which these outcomes were caused by the child's experiences prior to coming into care, rather than their experiences once in care. However, the LSCB acknowledge the importance of ongoing support and stability to help these children and young people overcome the effects of the abuse and neglect they have suffered. The LSCB therefore requests regular performance information data to be presented to the Board, including placement stability, substance misuse issues, LAC going missing from care, health assessments and personal educational plans. The LSCB review this data on an ongoing basis and will challenge any data causing concern.

The LAC annual report provides the LSCB with a picture of how these children are doing in care, including location of placements, general and mental health, placement stability, missing from care, education and participation of children and young people in care. The LSCB will continue to hold the quality of services for LAC to account through the LAC annual report and other related reports presented to the Board.

- **Health**

All Looked After Children and young people are required to have an Initial health assessment within 28 days of entering the care system. This is extremely important in terms of understanding their history and planning to mitigate the impact of earlier neglect.

The table below shows Lewisham's performance for Initial Health assessments. Whilst on a monthly basis this can be a small number of children they are not always placed locally. Historically it has been a difficult target to meet. However with a huge commitment from all agencies involved performance has increased recently and in August 2013 reached 100% for the first time.

2012 – 2013	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
	14%	50%	33%	53%	38%
2013-2014	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug
% CLA, who have had an initial health assessment within 28 days of BLA	64%	89%	94%	90%	100%
No.CLA who have had an initial health assessment within 28 days of BLA	14	8	16	9	12
No of IHA due in the month	22	9	17	10	12

- **Location of placements**

42% of Lewisham's Looked After Children are placed in Lewisham but 52% are cared for out of Borough. In London, this does not always equate with being placed a great distance from the family home or school. In some cases children just outside the local authority boundary have shorter journeys to school than they would have had whilst cared for at home. A better measure is 20-mile radius. An audit was conducted in 2013 to look at the reasons for children being placed more than 20-miles from their home address. The audit concluded that all these placements were in the children's best interest and according to their individual needs and to ensure their ongoing safety and wellbeing.

- **Children and Adolescent Mental Health Service (CAMHS)**

The CAMHS Symbol team is responsible for undertaking CAMHS assessments & delivering treatment for Lewisham Looked After Children. This team works with LAC placed within a 20-mile radius, assuming that the young person is able and willing to travel in borough for CAMHS support. If travel is not clinically possible, Lewisham CAMHS will travel to the child depending upon clinical urgency. Those young people over a twenty mile radius requiring a CAMHS service are referred to their local resource. If there are difficulties in obtaining a service LAC staff seek support from the commissioning team and this is proving effective.

- **Placement Stability**

Children and Young people looked after by Lewisham have individual care plans which reflect their unique needs. For those children and young people with a plan for long term fostering, placement stability is key to achieving positive outcomes in all areas. Many of Lewisham's young people have both complex needs and challenging behaviour which can impact on achieving this. However, the Local Authority recognises stability has a pivotal role in improving children's life chances and therefore places a lot of focus and resources in trying to achieve this.

All placements are reviewed on a regular basis by an independent chair. The stability of the placement and support required are discussed at every meeting. Fragile placements are given additional monitoring and concerns are escalated to team and service managers as appropriate. Any change of placement is presented to a Care Planning Panel which is chaired by the service manager of the Quality Assurance Service, a placement change will not be agreed unless the chair is satisfied everything possible has been done to resolve the difficulties.

Placement stability remains one of the LSCB's priority areas and therefore more information was requested on this subject to look at reasons for change of placement and what measures the Local Authority has put in place to try to prevent placements from breaking down. Please see section 4.2.5 of this report for more information.

- **Missing from Care**

Most Looked After Children are very vulnerable as a result of earlier trauma and abuse. There are concerns they will become involved in offending/gang activity, substance misuse and sexual exploitation and these concerns increase when they go missing from their placement.

When children are missing the allocated Independent Reviewing Officer chairs a meeting to ensure all possible actions are being taken by all agencies including the police. Children who remain missing are tracked by the

service manager who will chair subsequent meetings and make additional recommendations i.e. press coverage if required. All children (including those looked after) considered at risk of sexual exploitation are subject to meetings chaired by a Child protection chair who analyses the risk assessment and agrees actions. This cohort of young people are often difficult to reach and robust multi agency work is required with partner agencies. The LSCB is therefore assured that robust systems are in place to ensure missing LAC are found to prevent them from coming to harm.

- **Education**

The LAC education team ensures that as many young people as possible sit qualifications appropriate to their ability. During 2013/14, 30% of Lewisham's LAC gained 5 A-C's including English and maths. This is an improvement on 12-13 when 22% gained 5 A-C's. The LSCB will continue to monitor this and challenge any future concerns that might arise regarding LAC education.

### **3.4.8. Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) annual report**

In compliance with Working Together to Safeguard Children 2013, Lewisham Children's Social Care has a Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) who has management and oversight of individual cases where allegations are made against people who work with children.

The London Child Protection procedures are in the last stage of being updated. Chapter 7 of the draft deals with allegations against staff, and set out helpful guidelines for managing allegations against professionals. Chapter 2 of Working Together 2013 makes reference to having clear policies in line with those from the LSCB for dealing with allegations against people who work with children, and states that an allegation may relate to a person who works with children who has:

- Behaved in a way that has harmed a child, or may have harmed a child;
- Possibly committed a criminal offence against or related to a child; or
- Behaved towards a child or children in a way that indicates they may pose a risk of harm to children

Where the above criteria are met, the LADO is responsible for chairing (or usually delegating a Child Protection Chair to chair) a Strategy or Evaluation Meeting to consider whether there should be:

- A police investigation of a possible criminal offence;
- Enquiries and assessment by Children's Social Care about whether a child is in need of protection or in need of services; and
- Consideration by an employer of disciplinary action in respect of an individual.

As part of the Ofsted Inspection which took place in Lewisham in February 2012, the management of allegations against people who work with children was intensely scrutinised. The Ofsted report states that *"The identification and management of allegations against people who work with children are robust, and especially good in schools. The service provides high-quality support to a range of agencies in ensuring that children and young people are properly safeguarded. Good work is being undertaken to promote the function of the Local Authority Designated Officer and to ensure that agencies understand safe practices. Decision making is rigorous, robust and effectively tracked. Robust LADO arrangements are extended to foster carers. Allegations are rigorously investigated and foster carers' continuing suitability is appropriately considered."*

In Lewisham, it was the case that all allegations relating to Education staff and volunteers were dealt with by the Education Child Protection Coordinator / Designated Officer for Schools and Education Services, but with management oversight and responsibility retained by the LADO. This post has been deleted and from April 2013 all allegations are dealt with by the LADO, with robust arrangements made for delegation of this responsibility in her absence.

The number of referrals increased from 91 in 2012 to 158 in 2013. The reason for the increase in referrals are likely as a result of better awareness, reporting and training across the partnership. The LSCB challenged the fact that no data was available from other boroughs for the purpose of benchmarking. The LSCB recommended the LADO to address this matter via the network meetings. This is work in progress.

The LSCB further challenged the fact that no referrals are being received from the police, as well as very low referrals from health organisations and faith groups. It was established that the police have their own robust internal procedures in place for dealing with allegations against police officers. The LSCB has requested the police information to be provided to the LADO on a regular basis.

Health organisations explained that health professionals very rarely see children on their own. Consultations usually take place in the presence of a parent or carer, hence the reason for hardly any allegations being made against health staff. Voluntary Action Lewisham will distribute the recently updated multi-agency guidance to all faith groups as well as community and voluntary organisations to ensure they are aware of the procedures to follow.

#### **3.4.9. Multi-Agency Safeguarding Hub annual report (MASH)**

The Lewisham Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub ( MASH) has been in place since 13 December 2012. MASH brings together a variety of agencies into an integrated co – located multi agency team where information is shared appropriately in order to make timely and appropriate decisions. The team include staff from Children Social Care, the Early Intervention Service, Health and the Police Public Protection Desk. Information is also obtained from Probation, and the Youth Offending Service.

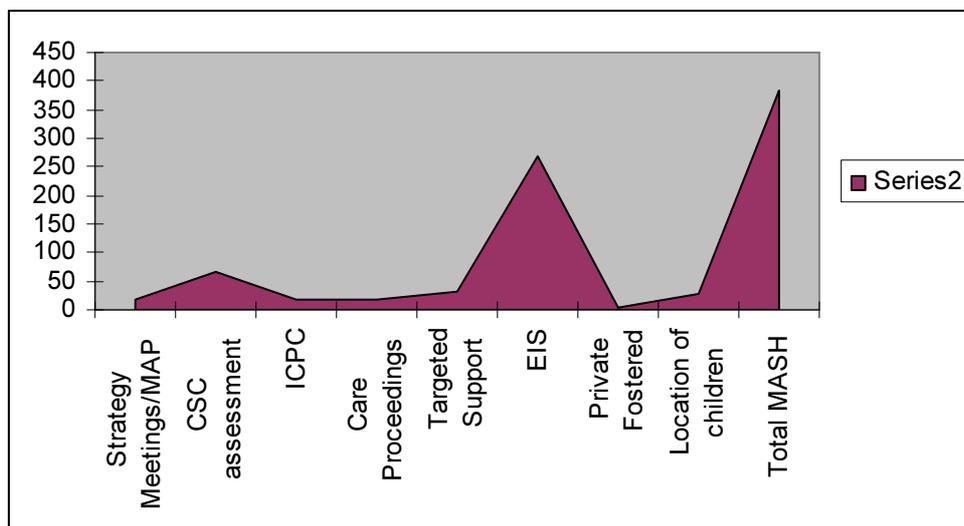
Lewisham took the approach of implementing the MASH process by a frontline practitioner taking the lead, named a Team Manager based in the Referral and Assessment Service. MASH is not a separate / specialist arm of the service; but integrated as part of existing working practices. The MASH process does not replace the assessment process in the Children's Social Care assessment teams. The Team Manager applies the following criteria to select a case for MASH enquiries:

- The case is not known and a contact is received from the NSPCC (National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Children)
- Anonymous contacts
- Borderline cases where there appears to be a risk to the child but the extent of the risk is not clear.
- Repeat missing children episodes

Each agency identifies what information they hold on a child/ young person and the adults around them. Each agency then assesses whether it is appropriate for the information they hold to be shared (in line with the information sharing arrangement) and a summary is provided to Children Social Care within 6 hours. The Team

Manager reviews the information and decides whether to take no further action, or signpost the case for Early Intervention or Children’s Social Care assessment. Once the MASH enquiry is completed the case is rag rated Red, Amber or Green. Red cases require an immediate response to safeguard the child. Amber cases are progressed to a planned assessment. Green are directed towards Early Intervention.

At December 2013, a total number of 384 cases have been processed by MASH. The chart below shows what actions were taken following a MASH enquiry.



MASH has been very valuable in reducing the turnaround time in dealing with cases. In some cases MASH has unearthed risk which has led to convening child protection conferences and care proceedings which otherwise would not have taken place because the information on the CAF referral form was such that the case may not have met Children’s Social Care threshold. These cases would have been closed. It is therefore evident that the MASH process is contributing to the safety and wellbeing of Lewisham’s children and young people.

Further developments for the MASH includes locating the health representative within the MASH team at Laurence House. Arrangements have also been started for a Probation representative to be located within the MASH team for one day per week.

### 3.4.10. Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust Annual report (LHT)

LHT shares its Annual Safeguarding Children Report with the LSCB to provide assurance that the statutory and local requirements regarding safeguarding and protection of children are being met, and to provide detail with regard to the means by which this is achieved.

The formation of LHT, following integration of Acute and Community services, has offered a valuable opportunity to enable closer working relationships between the sectors. Organisational boundaries, that often compromise safeguarding practice, have been minimized. Integration has also enabled a sharing of expertise to ensure an enhanced service delivery. Areas such as safeguarding training and reflective practice fora are now undertaken jointly with colleagues from Acute and Community sectors. This promotes a richer understanding of roles and responsibilities and allows for more effective use of resources.

All child protection policies and procedures are robust and were updated in 2013.

The overarching Safeguarding Action Plan and the safeguarding risk register are reported to the Integrated Operational Group who is responsible for reviewing and updating it and exceptions are reported to the integrated Adult and Children and Young People Safeguarding Committee. This committee feeds upwards to the Integrated Governance Committee, LHT Board and the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board (LSCB). The clear governance structure was commended by Ofsted / CQC in providing good quality and effective assurance of safeguarding practice.

There is a Safeguarding Team, consisting of safeguarding advisors, based in the hospital who has well established working relationships with hospital staff. They are an integral component of the Safeguarding Team ensuring that the needs of vulnerable children are not overlooked when they present to hospital. They are well placed to work with colleagues in the hospital to ensure speedy, safe and effective discharge of children and young people. The Safeguarding Advisors assist hospital based staff to conduct team around the child meetings and discharge planning meetings in order to plan care and reduce risk to vulnerable children. The role of the Safeguarding Advisor incorporates providing safeguarding supervision to all relevant staff.

The relationship between Health and Children's Social Care (CSC) is pivotal in providing an effective safeguarding function. Monthly electronic transfer of data from CSC is received, ensuring that an up to date awareness of children who are the subject of a child protection plan is maintained. This is important to ensure that supervision databases are up to date and that alerts and flagging systems are accurate. Access to the LA database by the LAC team has proved beneficial in providing more timely access to movements of children.

The Named Nurse and Doctor hold tri-monthly meetings with the Lead and Team Managers within Children's Social Care for Referral and Assessment and Family Social Work Teams.

This relationship ensures that there is an opportunity to discuss cases that present difficulties as well as maintaining a forum where operational issues can be addressed. Between these meetings, cases of concern are raised as required. These regular meetings are also an opportunity to communicate changes that may have taken place in either service and to enable this information to be shared with frontline practitioners through team briefings.

Health attendance at case conference is a key performance indicator and there is a robust system in place to follow up conferences that are not attended. The increasing number of conferences held during 2013/14 represents a significant impact on services required to contribute to the process. Feedback from Children's Social Care is that the quality of case conference reports from health staff is of a high calibre and attendance is very good.

Some key performance indicators for LHT are being reported and monitored by the LSCB. However, the LSCB will be developing its performance framework further in 2014/15 to include specific safeguarding data from LHT.

#### **3.4.11. Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group annual report (CCG)**

The statutory safeguarding duties of CCGs were clarified through the publication of two key documents:

- Safeguarding Vulnerable People in the Reformed NHS – Accountability and Assurance Framework (NHS Commissioning Board, March 2013)

- Working Together to Safeguard Children, A guide to inter-agency working to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. (Department for Education, March 2013).

Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group (LCCG) commissioned services from a wide range of providers including Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust, South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust and over 100 Independent Contractors. In terms of acute providers, LCCG holds contracts with many Trusts across the country but in terms of safeguarding, LCCG undertakes the primary role in assuring that robust systems are in place in Lewisham Hospital, Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust.

LCCG, Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust & South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust strengthened and maintained the operation of robust safeguarding arrangements, assurance systems and processes. These include effective supervision arrangements, proactively disseminating & embedding learning from serious case reviews into practice, innovative safeguarding training and strong interagency partnership working. This was recognised by Care Quality Commission & Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) inspection of Lewisham Borough in February 2012.

The LCCG board have embraced the framework and have built on and strengthened the safeguarding work that already exists in Lewisham. Safeguarding has remained high on local agenda. The LSCB has been satisfied that improved and effective robust safeguarding arrangements, assurance systems and processes continue to be in place across Lewisham's health economy.

### **3.5. Section 11 audits considered and key issues identified**

Section 11 of the Children Act 2004 places a duty on key people and bodies to make arrangements to ensure that their functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

The application of this duty will vary according to the nature of each agency and its functions. Section 11 places a duty on:

- Local authorities and district councils that provide children's and other types of services, including children's and adult social care services, public health, housing, sport, culture and leisure services, licensing authorities and youth services,
- NHS organisations, including the NHS Commissioning Board and Clinical Commissioning groups, NHS Trusts and NHS Foundation Trusts
- The police, including police and crime commissioners and the chief officer of each police force in England and the Mayor's Office for Policing and Crime in London
- The British Transport Police,
- The Probation Service
- Governors/Directors of Prisons and Youth Offender Institutions,
- Directors of Secure Training Centres, and
- Youth Offending Teams/Services

Section 11 submissions for Lewisham organisations have been divided into two cohorts and has been presented to the LSCB on a rota basis for scrutiny and comments. The following agencies' section 11 reports were considered during 2013/14:

- Community Services (including Crime Reduction and Supporting People, Sport and Leisure Services, Community and Neighbourhood development, Adult Social Care, Joint Commissioning)
- Youth Offending Service
- CYP Commissioning
- Youth Service
- Early Intervention Service
- Strategic Housing
- Probation
- CAFCASS
- Licensing Service
- South London and Maudsley (SLAM)
- Lewisham and Greenwich Healthcare NHS Trust
- General Practitioners
- Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group

Section 11 audits are submitted to the MESI task group (please see section 4.6.3 of this report for an explanation of the roles/responsibilities of this task group) for scrutiny and challenge where needed. The MESI task group will make recommendations to the agency where it is felt that their audit lacks clarity of their safeguarding arrangements under each of the safeguarding standards and highlight where further developments might be needed to ensure children's safety and wellbeing is taken into consideration during all aspects of work. All recommendations will be tracked by means of SMART action plans until complete. The MESI task group will escalate any identified concerns to the LSCB.

### **3.6. Task groups**

#### **3.6.1. Child Sexual Exploitation task group (CSE)**

The CSE task group was established to conduct an initial scoping exercise and to build on a protocol with the Metropolitan Police and other key agencies to tackle child sexual exploitation in the borough and to ensure Lewisham LSCB fulfil its statutory duties outlined in Safeguarding Children and Young People from Sexual Exploitation: Supplementary Guidance to Working Together to Safeguard Children, and to advise the Board on key CSE issues.

The CSE task group is drawing up a guidance and procedure document for dealing with CSE appropriately, based on the work done nationally by the office of the children's commissioner. In addition, the police PAN London Child Sexual Abuse Operating Protocol has been disseminated to the CSE task group for their consideration and consultation. The final document has been launched by the police in February 2014 and was distributed across the partnership in Lewisham, along with the CSE warning signs. The CSE task group further developed an information sheet on CSE which can be found on the LSCB website.

#### **3.6.2. Neglect Task group**

The Neglect task group is tasked to look into the effectiveness of early help/intervention in cases where neglect is a feature to establish if more needs to be done to prevent these cases from escalating to meeting the threshold for Children's Social Care involvement.

The group conducted an audit of 10 cases where neglect is suspected or identified through the Common Assessment Framework (CAF). The cases were selected from the CAFs received from Children's Social Care which did not meet the threshold for social work involvement. The Children's Social Care no further action CAFs are processed by the Family Support Team to ensure the relevant services are identified and support provided through early intervention. The purpose of the audit was to examine how well neglect cases are supported by early intervention.

The outcome and overall conclusion of the audit included the following:

- The Early Intervention and Assessment Service (EIAS) is continuing to provide practical support, advice and consultation to CAF practitioners ensuring complex cases are managed within the Team Around the Child (TAC) arrangements.
- Universal services have developed good assessment skills in using the CAF and TAC processes to identify and support children earlier in neglect cases.
- There is strong evidence that schools, child health and housing professionals are working collaboratively to provide early support to children and families before seeking Children's Social Care involvement.
- Primary schools and child health practitioners are more likely to share information with other agencies, contact the EIAS helpdesk or the designated area Early Intervention Coordinator when they have concerns about children and their families before starting the CAF assessment.

The audit revealed a lack of documented outcomes for children. The TAC meetings did record specific actions and expected outcomes for the family and TAC agencies with clear timescales. It was noted that communication between agencies was effective and transparent. The audit demonstrated that early intervention can be a robust mechanism for children's services to manage complex cases that do not meet the threshold for social work support. Practitioners need ongoing support to increase their confidence to manage cases when neglect is apparent and goes beyond the capacity of their routine frontline work. Less experienced staff will need additional support to develop their skills of engagement with challenging parents and self-confidence to work with cases when safeguarding issues are present. A number of recommendations were made as a result of the outcome of this audit, which will be addressed by means of a SMART action plan, which will be tracked by the Neglect task group.

The Neglect task group has been exploring training options in conjunction with the Policies Procedures and Training (PPT) task group to ensure the workforce is equipped with the appropriate skills and knowledge to identify signs of neglect at an early stage to ensure the best outcomes for the children they work with. The Neglect task group is developing a guidance document / tool to assist practitioners in their task to identify the signs of neglect at an early stage.

### **3.6.3. Monitoring, Evaluation and Service Improvement task group (MESI)**

This task group is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of what is done by agencies both individually and collectively to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. This task group is responsible for quality assuring practice by conducting multi-agency audits to identify lessons to be learnt across the partnership. This task group is also tasked with scrutinising and challenging agencies section 11 audits to ensure safeguarding arrangements are robust and effective in keeping children safe.

Children in residential care are extremely vulnerable to exploitation and abuse and the LSCB needs to be assure that children are safe in these settings. This followed a concern by Children's Social Care to identify and ensure that these particular children were safe. The MESI task group therefore conducted an audit in September 2013 on the safety of children in residential care to test how the local authority assures residential providers have robust safeguarding systems in place.

#### Findings and recommendations:

- The audit found that every effort is made to ensure children know how to complain and raise concerns about their care. Children know about the independent advocacy service. All children have access to an adult family member or an independent visitor who can support them. However measures need to be in place to ensure statutory visits to Look After Children take place so that children can convey any worries they may have.
- The audit further found that the local authority takes incidents of bullying seriously and action is taken to address bullying and safeguard children.
- The audit found evidence of restraints being proportionate to the threat posed by the child. Reports on restraints were sent promptly to the local authority. The social worker had spoken to the young people after the incident to ascertain what happened directly from them. Because of this discussion, action was taken in one case where two male members of staff restrained a female resident which is not appropriate.
- Appropriate action is taken when a child goes missing from care, which includes alerts to the police and social worker. The audit found that Missing from Care Meetings were held for children and young people who went missing for over 5 days. However there was no such meeting for children who repeatedly go missing for less than 5 days at a time. Procedures therefore will now be strengthened in relation to developing a multiagency strategy to reduce missing episodes for this group of children. Missing from Care Meetings are held as soon as possible for children deemed to be at high risk.
- The local authority must continue to encourage early disclosure of alleged abuses by professionals. All Looked After Children are given a child friendly booklet which sets out the various ways they can tell someone, other than the social worker or the Independent Reviewing Officer, such as Child Line and the NSPCC etc. More account needs to be taken of children's views when they refuse to engage with a social worker.
- This audit found that in the vast majority of cases children have a good relationship with social workers and are able to share their worries with them and ask for help
- The audit found that in the vast majority of cases Independent Reviewing Officers see children on their own, which is important for safeguarding.
- The audit found that procedures to safeguard children from Child Sexual Exploitation are being implemented.
- The Director of Children's Social Care as well as Service Managers have completed quality assurance visits on all children's homes where Lewisham have children placed. Issues about the homes and care planning were identified as part of this work and it is also an important component of Lewisham's quality assurance framework to ensure that these young people, some of who are placed a long way from Lewisham, are not "out of sight and out of mind".

#### Conclusion of the audit:

Although systems are in place to promote their safety and manage challenging risks, further actions have been

identified to strengthen safeguarding practice, which will be tracked by the MESI task group.

#### **3.6.4. Policies, Procedures and Training Task group (PPT)**

In Lewisham to meet the requirement to draw up local procedures we have always used the Pan London Child Protection Procedures to inform our practice and meet this requirement. The Pan London Procedures have been updated during 2013/14 after a rigorous consultation process.

Lewisham LSCB has its own interagency threshold document in line with the Working Together 2013 document, which can be found on the LSCB website.

The LSCB undertakes a comprehensive programme of workforce development and training via the Policy, Procedure and Training (PPT) task group. This group is responsible for developing policies and procedures, monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of single and multi-agency training in order to safeguard and promote the welfare of children.

This year the PPT conducted a training survey across the partnership to establish the main training needs and training gaps across the workforce. The survey also provided valuable feedback regarding previous training events facilitated by the LSCB.

Partner agencies made a financial commitment to the LSCB which allows for the training programme to be provided to everyone who works with children and families in Lewisham at no cost. The training programme for 2013/14 included the following courses:

- Female Genital Mutilation
- Safer Recruitment
- Understanding Gangs and Gang activity
- Child obesity
- Child trafficking
- Safeguarding children affected by parental substance misuse
- Working with evasive families
- Advance course on domestic violence
- Safeguarding level 2
- Race, culture and faith belief systems in safeguarding children
- Understanding and assessing neglect

In addition to the above, a number of lunchtime briefing sessions were offered as part of the training programme. This has proven to be an effective method of learning and information sharing, which makes use of local professionals' knowledge and experience and is delivered as a 'favour in kind':

- No recourse to public funds
- Young carers and hidden harm
- Child sexual exploitation awareness in Lewisham
- Family justice review and changes in law
- Fabricated and induced illness
- Forced marriages

- MARAC: Lewisham domestic violence process
- Learning from serious case reviews (local and national)
- CRB/ DBS

A breakdown of training attended by agency can be found in Appendix F.

The PPT group drawn up a new training strategy which provides a framework for the delivery of learning and development by the LSCB. The Lewisham LSCB Training Strategy is designed to support safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, including multi-agency working and information sharing. It is also designed to keep under review the effectiveness and impact of training on practice. This is a three year strategy which will be reviewed annually by the PPT group.

The strategy further sets out the new '3 level' evaluation process, which will be implemented from April 2014. This evaluation process is based on the London Safeguarding Board's framework and ensures to effectively evaluate the impact and change the training has made to the practitioners day-to-day work to ensure better outcomes for children they work with. The 3 level evaluation is set out as:

- Pre-evaluation – to be completed before the training event
- End of course evaluation – to be completed after the training event
- Post course evaluation – to be completed 3 months from the training event to evaluate impact on practice. This includes feedback from supervisors on the impact of training on casework practice.

The PPT group will be responsible for driving the strategy and reporting progress regularly to the LSCB.

### **3.6.5. Communications and Publications Task group (C&P)**

The C&P task group is responsible for communicating and raising awareness of the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and how this can best be done by agencies, children and young people, families and the community.

The C&P group's core business is to promote the key messages of the LSCB, which are:

- Children and young people in Lewisham must be safeguarded
- It is everyone's responsibility to safeguard children and young people: everyone has a part to play
- Organisations in Lewisham are committed to working together to safeguard and promote the welfare of children and young people
- The LSCB coordinates and ensures the effectiveness of organisations working with children, young people and families in Lewisham

During 2013/14, the C&P group revised the communications strategy of the LSCB to ensure the focus is on capturing the voice of the child. The group are driving this work forward by ensuring children's voices are heard by utilising existing Children and Young People's Forums in Lewisham.

The C&P group has been updating the LSCB website on a regular basis during 2013/14 and ensured important safeguarding documents being disseminated across the partnership, such as the revised Working Together document, PAN London Safeguarding procedures and reports by the Office of the Children's Commissioner. This group is committed to raising awareness and promoting National events across partner agencies which

keeps the subject of Safeguarding high on local agenda and increases effective inter-agency working.

This group produces a quarterly newsletter which is disseminated across the partnership and published on the LSCB website. The newsletter is an effective tool for informing the partnership of new initiatives and services available and to promote ongoing safeguarding work across the Lewisham partnership.

### **3.6.6. Serious Case Review Panel**

The Serious Case Review (SCR) Panel is responsible for conducting Serious Case Reviews, as well as individual management reviews. Lessons and learning from these reviews are disseminated and shared across the partnership by means of briefing sessions and learning events.

During 2013/14 Lewisham LSCB commissioned three serious case reviews.

The LSCB has agreed that there are a range of methodologies available for undertaking case reviews, and our principle is that we will use the methodology which best fits the circumstances of each case. In general this has meant using some aspects of the “traditional” approach (the development of a chronology and the use of Individual Management Reviews and an Overview report) as well as some aspects of systems approach (the use of deeper analysis to determine not just what happened but to engage practitioners in a discussion about why this happened if it seems appropriate to question this, using learning events and interviews to secure this understanding). The Independent Chair and Overview Report Writer for each review are briefed on the principles of this approach and given the task of designing the process which best fits them, working in conjunction with our SCR standing Panel. The following serious case reviews initiated in 2013/14 used this general approach whilst tailoring the detail to the context:

- **Case 1: Child M**

This case was in respect of a three-year-old boy who died under suspicious circumstances while in the care of his uncle. The uncle was later found guilty of his murder. The SCR Panel met on 11th September 2013 to review the information from the Chronologies and Individual Management Reports (IMRs). There were no historical concerns known to any agencies in respect of Child M or his cousins. The Independent author had gained from his meeting with mother and Grandmother a clear picture of a little boy whose life was celebrated and enjoyed. This was evidenced through family mementos and corroborated by the generally positive nature of the IMRs and reports from those universal services which had contact with Child M.

The one significant learning point from the review, identified in the Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust Individual Management Review, relates to the concern raised by several serious case reviews in recent years, that of the “invisibility” of men/fathers to agencies working with children and their families. In this instance little information was known or sought about Child M’s Father and his role and impact in Child M’s life, by healthcare professionals who had contact with Child M and his Mother. Child M’s father lived abroad. This learning has resulted in an appropriate recommendation that Health Visitors should always record details of a child’s father on the family health needs assessment.

The SCR Panel concluded that there was no information of any concern that could have caused professionals to predict and avert this death. The independent Chair of Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board wrote to the National Panel of Independent Experts on Serious Case Reviews on 20th September 2013 to seek advice. On 18th November 2013 the National Panel replied with their agreement that, in the absence of any concerns

coming to light, or evidence that any agency failed in their duties in respect of the lack of concerns, it would be appropriate to stop the Serious Case Review at this stage.

- **Case 2: Child O**

This case is in respect of a child who sustained serious injuries in the care of her parents when she was twelve weeks old. Both parents have denied knowing how the injuries were sustained.

The serious case review process has started and the final overview report will be published once the criminal investigation has been concluded. However, the review team will ensure that any lessons identified from this review is addressed by means of a SMART action plan, which will be tracked by the LSCB until complete.

The following key themes have been identified as part of the review:

- Supervision management
- Domestic abuse
- Cognitive assessment of mother's parenting ability
- Invisible father
- Vulnerable pregnancy
- Information sharing

The view of the review team and independent author are that the injuries to the child were neither predictable nor preventable. However, improvements in recognising and responding to vulnerabilities in pregnancy might have influenced the outcome. The review team will consider the impact of any new information from the police investigation and the court case.

- **Case 3: Child S**

This case is in respect of a baby who was admitted to hospital one week after birth due to a significant weight loss, jaundice and positive toxicology for heroin. The baby's mother has a longstanding history of drug use and had a previous child removed from her care. No referral has been made to Children's Social Care in line with the London Child Protection Procedures.

The serious case review process has started and a number of recommendations have been identified by the Individual Agency Report writers, which will be tracked by means of SMART action plans.

- **Management Reviews**

The SCR Panel considered two further cases and concluded that the criteria for a SCR was not met. However, it was felt that there were important issues to address in respect of both cases and Management Reviews were therefore completed. Both reviews made a number of recommendations which are tracked by the LSCB by means of a SMART action plan. Some changes and improvements to partnership working has already been implemented as a result of these reviews. This includes:

- Improved maternity pathways (to include better communication between health professionals as well as with parents)
- Did not attend (DNA) policies are being audited and improved to ensure the focus remains on the child
- Multi-agency training on how to work with avoidant families will be delivered
- Better use of the Attendance Order process for children who are being home educated

- Audit on GP attendance and participation with the Child Protection Conferences process
- Robust process of escalation of cases for Children's Social Care Service Management reviews (social workers will inform Service Managers that they are formally escalating concerns regarding Team Managers advice and direction on a case where there are disagreement regarding the decision)
- Auditing programme for Elective Home Educated (EHE) children to establish if there are any safeguarding concerns as well as progressing cases to Attendance and Welfare service in a timely way
- A directory of extra-curriculum activities for Elective Home Educated children
- An agreed protocol with the EHE Safeguarding Board to identify systems and triggers for escalation of cases which causes concern
- Immunisation protocol for all GP practices
- Development of a Vulnerability Factors list and protocol for GPs

The outcomes and learning from these reviews have been shared with the partnership by means of briefing sessions. These are ongoing as part of the LSCB annual training programme.

### **3.6.7. Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP)**

The Child Death Overview Panel (CDOP) is responsible for reviewing the deaths of all children in Lewisham. This became a statutory duty in 2008.

CDOP reviewed its terms of reference during 2013/14 and adapted these to ensure its in line with the functions set out in paragraph 8 and 9 of chapter 5 of Working Together 2013. Lewisham CDOP aim to better understand how and why children in Lewisham die and use the findings from the comprehensive, multidisciplinary reviews to take action to prevent other deaths and to improve the health and safety of children in Lewisham.

CDOP submits an annual report to the LSCB, detailing the work done around the reviews of children who died in Lewisham. Please see section 4.4.3 of this report for more information on the work of CDOP during 2013/14.

## **4. Executive Board**

The LSCB main board feeds into the Executive Board (Appendix D) , whose main responsibilities are to direct and oversee the business of the LSCB and to ensure there is a focus on monitoring the strategic horizon and taking into account, understand and respond to the opportunities and threats posed by the national and local policy and resource changes. The Executive also controls resources for the LSCB and can direct or support staff in making contributions and provide financial support.

The Executive Board keeps a log of potential risks for the LSCB. The Risk Register is a standing item on the agenda and it is the responsibility of the Executive Board to manage these risk appropriately to ensure these from escalating.

During 2013/14, the key issues addressed by the Executive Board included the following:

- A LSCB Escalation Policy was put in place to address issues around partner agencies not cooperating with the LSCB in carrying out tasks that have been set by the Board. This policy has proven highly effective to date. Examples include: ensuring S11 submissions occur, monitor attendance of members of the LSCB, ensure reports are produced in a timely fashion and increase to the budget of the LSCB to support its work.

- A report on the DBS systems and checking arrangements is being presented to the LSCB on an annual basis. The LSCB was not satisfied that there were a number of outstanding DBS checks for school staff and the matter was escalated to the Executive Board for immediate action. The Executive Board was assured in June 2013 that all the outstanding risks have been eliminated or mitigated and an annual checking process has been put in place by Lewisham's Human Resources department. A letter was sent to all Lewisham schools, informing that the Executive Board takes a 'zero tolerance' approach on staff working without a full and up to date DBS check/clearance. The Executive Board further requested and received assurance from private schools and academies in relation to their compliance with safer recruitment processes. The Director of Children's Social Care has written to all the independent schools in Lewisham, inviting them to meet with him.
- The Executive Board received direct feedback regarding the progress of the safeguarding action plan for Lewisham Healthcare NHS Trust to ensure this is progressing in a timely manner.
- The Local Authority Designated Officer (LADO) annual report on allegations against professionals was referred to the Executive Board due to a lack of information provided by some agencies, such as the police and health services. The Executive Board was assured that the police and health services have rigorous processes in place to deal with such allegations appropriately. It was agreed that the police and health services will look into the possibility of providing the LADO with this information on a regular basis.
- The Executive Board committed to and oversees the work being undertaken by the LSCB in relation to developing the performance framework to ensure this includes key safeguarding data from across the partnership. This is work in progress and is monitored by the Executive Board on a regular basis.
- There has been a significant increase in children becoming subject to Child Protection Plans (CPP) during 2013/14. The Executive Board instructed the LSCB to look into this matter to establish possible reasons for the increase, as well as comparing Lewisham data with statistical neighbours to establish if this is a local or wider trend. Please see section 4.2.1 for further information regarding this.
- A comprehensive review of the LSCB funding arrangements and contributions were conducted during 2012/13, which resulted in Executive Leads agreeing for an increase in their financial contributions from 2013/14. The increase in contributions made allowance for the LSCB training to remain free of charge to all delegates as well as the increase in the working hours of the Business Manager.
- The Executive Board remains concerned about the low uptake of multi-agency training by police officers. The Board acknowledge that this is a London wide trend and the matter has been referred to the London Chairs by Lewisham's independent chair. The police has also been requested to provide the Executive Board with data regarding training for police officers so this matter can be looked into further to assure the Executive Board that police officers are receiving appropriate training to deal with safeguarding matters for children.
- The important matter of sharing police Merlin reports of incidents of domestic violence with health professionals was discussed by the Executive Board in February 2014. Both executive leads for Lewisham's Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT) and Lewisham Borough Police agreed that it is important to share these reports, unless there are clear evidence as to why it should not be shared.

## **5. Analysis of early help offer and CAF / safeguarding referral information**

Working Together 2013 emphasises the role of the LSCB, under regulation 5 of the Local Safeguarding Children Board Regulations 2006, to assess the effectiveness of the help being provided to children and families, including 'early help'.

In Lewisham, Children's centres and Targeted Family Support are commissioned by the Early Intervention and Access Service (EIAS) as part of their broader early intervention work. The aim of the Service is to deliver and embed the early intervention vision across the borough and work to ensure that the needs of children, young people and families are being identified and addressed by all services. This is underpinned through the following key principles:

- Delivering **outcomes** for children, young people and families
- **Be proactive** at first signs of trouble
- Using **predictive patterns** – supporting siblings
- **Tailored and creative** approaches which help
- **Partnerships and relationships which work for families** rather than for providers
- **Building resilience** – children, young people and families are able to make the difference themselves
- **No wrong door**
- Using an **evidence-based approach**

These key principles are all achieved through universal, targeted and specialist services working together with children, young people and their families to support them in reducing needs and preventing the future escalation to targeted and specialist services.

The Early Intervention and Access Service (EIAS) seek to support these principles through the delivery of commissioned children's centre and Targeted Family Support, which work across the borough to identify and address family needs and implement tailored and creative solutions with partners to improve outcomes. An example of this identification includes the outreach work of one children's centre that led to a family being identified in need of children's centre support by staff at a local supermarket .

The EIAS also provide multi-agency training and individual support to encourage the effective use of the Common Assessment Framework (CAF) and Team Around the Family/Child (TAF/C) meetings. The commitment to 'no wrong door' is also embodied through the Service working with practitioners who have made referrals that have not met the social care threshold and advising on appropriate support for that family.

The Government's Troubled Families programme is also supported through the EIAS by working with practitioners and families to ensure they have the appropriate borough wide services around them.

The EIAS undertake regular quality assurance exercises to ensure that the service are identifying key issues that Children's Centres and Targeted Family Support face and ensuring they are delivering value for money. An example of a key issue arising that have been addressed through this process includes the nature of the outcomes set with families. It was identified through submissions that providers were setting outputs rather than outcomes with families (e.g. 'parent X to attend parenting group' rather than measuring what the outcome of this attendance will be for the child). The EIAS has followed this up with site visits with Centre Managers reviewing the outcomes set with families. In addition the Service hosted an interactive workshop session with one of its provider's outreach team and managers on setting outcomes with families. Further Training on Outcome setting with a focus on the impact on the child is ongoing.

Please see section 3.2.4 of this report for more information regarding the Ofsted thematic inspection of Early Help that took place in February 2014.

## **6. Key performance data**

The primary focus of the LSCB is on the 'staying safe' outcomes of the Children and Young People's Plan 2012-2015, and to ensure that agencies are meeting their statutory requirements in safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people. The LSCB is responsible for ensuring that the appropriate action is taken by the partnership to address any areas of concern in relation to the key indicators and holding agencies to account.

The LSCB is in the process of developing the current performance management framework further to assist in understanding the manner in which agencies work both individually and together to safeguard children and young people and to identify any areas for development. The intention is for the information to incorporate quantitative data, information about the quality of services and information about outcomes for children. This work will form part of the key priorities for the LSCB during 2014/15.

### **6.1. Contacts, referrals and assessments**

The number of contacts in Lewisham remained significantly higher than the target. However, for the percentage and number of new referrals from contacts, monthly performance has been good. The number of contacts received increased from December 2013 to January 2014. This shows that referrals continue to be well targeted.

Section 47 enquiries has increased significantly during 2013/14, as previously discussed in this report. Section 47 enquiries which went on to Initial Child Protection Conferences dropped slightly in August 2013. Although the number of s47 enquiries increased by 25% at November 2013, the number of those progressing to Initial Child Protection Conferences remained relatively stable. Thus the position hasn't changed in Lewisham but there is still a slightly lower conversion rate than for Lewisham's statistical neighbours.

The number of parents attending Child Protection Conferences was a concern at 18% below target at November 2013. This increased to 5% below target at February 2014. The LSCB will continue to monitor this as it is of vital importance for parents to engage in this process.

Referrals going onto initial assessments continued to be lower than the 93% target. The early help inspection identified the need to understand the sources of these referrals better in order to assess whether all partners were being as pro-active as they should be in making referrals. This will be written into the business plan for 2014-2015.

Lewisham Children's Social Care began to use the Continuous Assessment in November 2013. 100% of Single Assessments were being completed within 35 working days during November and December 2013, dropping to 90% in January 2014. However, national timescales for completion is 45 days, so Lewisham has been performing well in relation to this. The LSCB will continue to monitor this on a regular basis.

Core assessments and initial assessments completed within timescales remained stable throughout the year.

## **6.2. CAFs**

CAFs initiated has increased throughout the year. The number of No Further Action (NFA) CAFs from Children's Social Care has also increased. The Early Intervention Service (EIS) follows up all CAFs that has been NFAs by Children's Social Care. However, there has been a significant decrease by 105 CAFs on the number of NFAs by Children's Social Care at January 2014 and the number accepted by Children's Social Care increased by 7%.

CAFs going straight to the EIS has also risen throughout the year. The amount of CAFs received linked to open referrals almost doubled at January 2014.

## **6.3. Child Protection Plans (CPP)**

Initial Child Protection Conference outcomes to start a CPP decreased in May 2013 to 82.2%. This was below SN (84%) and national (92.5%). However, this increased significantly to 97.8% at August 2013. This remained high at 100% for both September and October 2013, exceeding Lewisham's target of 96%. The number of children with a CPP continued to rise and a report was presented to the LSCB which considered the possible reasons for this. Please see section 4.2.1 of this report for more information on this.

There continues to be a relatively high number of CPP lasting 2 years or more in Lewisham, but this has started to decrease to 5.6% in May 2013 and much lower than the target of 8%.

The percentage of ICPCs held within 15 days continued to be a challenge. The LSCB will continue to monitor this to ensure children are protected in a timely manner by means of Child Protection Plans.

## **6.4. Looked After Children (LAC)**

The number of LAC in Lewisham remained relatively stable throughout the year and the total number of LAC is usually less than 500.

The incidence of LAC per 10000 population age 0-17 was 78.4% at May 2013. Lewisham continues to have a higher incidence of LAC than the SN (76.9) and national (59.1).

Placement stability for LAC (same placement for 2+ years) remained close to 73% during the initial months of the 2013/14 financial year. It was around 69% at August 2013 and 66% at October 2013, somewhat lower than the target of 72%. The placement stability measure for the number of placements (3+ placements in 12 months) remained a concern and is one of the LSCB's priorities to take forward.

Initial Health Assessments completed within 28 days have improved drastically with 100% assessments completed on time at August 2013 and October 2013. However, there has been a 6% drop since August 2013 in LAC who have had a up to date dental check within the last 12 months. The LSCB will continue to monitor these indicators to ensure LAC receive appropriate health care in a timely manner.

Please see appendix G for more performance information for 2013/14.

## **7. Key partnership data and activity**

The LSCB receives a regular suite of information from the Local Authority Performance team which enable both Local Authority and some partnership information to be analysed. However the LSCB is in the process of prioritising the data it requires in the shape of a few simple key performance indicators from partners, these being indicators which should go to the heart of the safeguarding task and effectiveness. These will be identified in 2014/15 for implementation during this year, providing a baseline from which to assess progress over time.

### **7.1. Early Intervention and Access Services (EIAS)**

Key safeguarding activity during 2013/14 for the EIAS included the following:

#### Youth Service:

- Refresh on safeguarding training for all staff as part of the re-structure
- Established appropriate supervision mechanisms to ensure ongoing support for youth workers on safeguarding
- Ensure all commissioned providers meet basic youth work standards including safeguarding policies

#### Early Intervention and Access:

- Audit of early intervention commissioned providers to ensure staff are up to date on safeguarding training
- Delivery of training on the safeguarding induction course
- Audit of quality of outcomes and provision of training to improve quality of outcomes

#### Commissioning and Strategy:

- Ensured that all contracted and commissioned activity, including Children's health services commissioned on behalf on Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group, complies with the Council's safeguarding standards and policies
- Responded to the increase in the number of children subject to a child protection plan - funding additional capacity in the School Aged Nursing Service and assessing how the increased demand can be best managed while retaining consistent safeguarding practice

### **7.2. South London and Maudsley (SLAM)**

The South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust is committed to safeguarding children across the organisation. This is reflected in the Trust's Safeguarding Children policies and procedures which the Trust is currently updating to ensure that we are working in line with government Working together 2013 and pan London procedures. Safeguarding children ensuring that safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children is embedded across every part of the Trust and in every aspect of its work.

Children and young people are considered in all interactions with service users and their carers. The welfare of children is the paramount consideration of all staff across the Trust and guides their work. All staff whether permanent, temporary or contracted have a duty to ensure that children are protected from harm and comply with the principles laid down in the Children Acts (1989 and 2004),

The trust continues to work to strengthen and improve safeguarding children arrangements by providing in house training levels 1, 2, 3 as a minimum for all clinical staff but also encouraging attendance at LSCB

multiagency training.

The following arrangements are in place:

- DBS Checks are in place for all relevant staff
- Policies currently being updated
- Accessibility of Information, Support and Guidance via Safeguarding leads and the Trust Safeguarding website
- Training
- Governance arrangements in place via the Trust Safeguarding committee and Trust Quality Committee
- Child Need and Risk Screen to be undertaken on all adults coming to SLaM for an assessment or intervention
- Roles and Responsibilities clearly laid out in the Safeguarding policies
- Participation in Governance Structures
- Contribution to Child Protection Conferences
- Inter-Agency Communication, Collaboration and Information-Sharing
- Young people participation in service feedback and individual feedback on own intervention

Priorities for the coming year:

- The Trust will be continually challenging all elements of our safeguarding children arrangements, striving to ensure that they are ever more embedded in day-to-day practice.
- To continue to establish methods of obtaining feedback from service users.
- To facilitate the full roll out of the Domestic abuse E-Learning which has been specifically developed for staff working in SLaM to ensure that the DV policy is embedded in practice.
- Engage in multiagency audits.
- To monitor Child Protection referrals made to Local Authority Children's Social Care Service to ensure that staff are completing CAF's appropriately and staff are making full use of Lewisham Early Intervention Services to provide early help and support.

To continue to strengthen partnership working with Children's Social Care and enhance links with Adult Mental Health Services.

### **7.3. Child Abuse Investigation Team (CAIT)**

The Metropolitan Police have a dedicated Child Abuse Command with dedicated Child Abuse Investigative Teams (CAITs) which cover all of the 32 Boroughs across London. These are supported by central functions such as training and partnership teams. The CAIT team for Lewisham covers both the Boroughs of Lewisham and Bromley and consists of one Detective Inspector, 3 Detective Sergeants and 16 Detective Constables.

Their remit covers:

- Intra-familial abuse
- Professional abuse
- Carer abuse

This list is not exhaustive and consideration is given to new forms of abuse such as those who facilitate child trafficking, exploit children sexually or use children in organised criminal activity. It also includes adult victims where the abuse occurred whilst he or she was a child, connected matters (offences against other children),

allegations such as parental abduction, intelligence led investigations in relation to Internet crimes and the investigation into the sudden and unexpected death in infancy of children under the age of 2 within the family.

Children at risk of significant harm are identified by police officers through robust risk assessments and reported to children's social care. Risks for children living within Domestic Abuse households are reduced and minimised as police have a good awareness of the impact this has on the emotional well being of children. Joint investigations undertaken by the CAIT and children's social care are underpinned by strong working relationships between both agencies. Strategy discussions are timely and actions match the risk accordingly. CAIT officers also attend Initial and Review Child Protection Case Conferences and attendance and contribution to these is extremely high and ensures risks are identified and responded to immediately.

All CAIT staff are required to complete the Specialist Child Abuse Investigators Development Programme (SCAIDP) and Achieving Best Evidence training. All non detectives are required to pass a national detective exam and complete the Nationally Accredited Initial Crime Investigator Development Programme (ICIDP) to develop their skills and confidence.

The Command has seen some recent developments during 2013/4 period, most noticeably the merging of SCO2 (Sapphire) and SCO5 (Child Abuse Investigation) to form the Sexual Offences Exploitation and Child Abuse Command (SOECA). This has not led to any changes with the way the Child Abuse Investigation command operates but has seen the introduction of a Grip and Pace Centre which monitors all matters of child abuse on a daily basis across the whole command to ensure daily grip and a prompt effective response to allegations. The Command also successfully launched CSE pan-London wide and so now manages all investigations in relation to Child Sexual Exploitation in liaison with BOCU CSE units.

#### **7.4. Lewisham Borough Police**

In support of Safeguarding Lewisham Borough Police have dedicated investigation units for Domestic Abuse, Missing Persons and Child Sexual Exploitation with a Public Protection MASH team embedded within the multi agency team. During the course of the financial year the Missing Persons Unit investigated 1619 missing person enquiries of which 66% related to young persons under 18. Sixty four level 1 (non crime investigation) CSE reports were received that led to strategy and intervention coordinated through MASE. Police made 124 referrals to MARAC and of the overall 450 cases addressed at MARAC 555 children were discussed and 16% of MARAC cases were repeat referrals. In addition Police schools officers have conducted bullying / online bullying awareness talks in schools across the Borough and worked closely with educational welfare officers to tackle incidents of bullying that fall outside of a criminal investigation.

#### **8.5 Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG)**

The CCG has a governance structure for safeguarding with the Accountable Officer assuming ultimate responsibility for safeguarding

The NHS Lewisham CCG Health Safeguarding Assurance Committee is assigned the responsibility of ensuring assurance to the Governing Body that all commissioned services are fulfilling their responsibilities on

safeguarding and to ensure training and awareness of safeguarding is up to recommended national standards. Providers safeguarding leads attend this quarterly meeting.

The designated and named professionals are members of the NHS Lewisham CCG health safeguarding Assurance Committee which reports to the Governing Body through FLAG (For learning and Action) as per the NHS Lewisham CCG governance structure. All the designated professionals work within the local health economies to influence local safeguarding strategy and practice.

Assurance is sought on the Quality of service provision for safeguarding using a safeguarding monitoring template.

- All organisations should be able to provide assurance that their safeguarding practice meets the standards within outcome 7 of the CQC Essential Standards
- Enable commissioners to seek assurance through visits by designated professionals and by sharing action plans and lessons learnt from SCRs
- Undertake regular case audits with reference to the standard of record keeping, sharing information and multi-agency liaison.
- Be able to demonstrate that they have acted on recommendations from local SCRs and National Inquiries.

In addition The For Learning and Action Group (FLAG) reviews the CQCs Quality Risk Profiles to see if there are any safety issues related to any of the providers for which Lewisham CCG commissions services from. The FLAG committee is chaired by the Governing body lead Director for Safeguarding (with the Nurse Director as deputy) and receives assurance and exception reports from the Safeguarding Assurance Group that the duties related to this accountability are completely discharged and to closely monitor all safeguarding arrangements, systems and process and escalate and manage safeguarding risks. The Nurse Director is a member of the Health Safeguarding Assurance Group (HSAG) and will present safeguarding assurance reports to the FLAG committee at every meeting, exception reports as required and escalate any risks with mitigating action plans.

The HSAG will meet on a quarterly basis and be chaired by the Governing body Director Lead. Minutes of the LSCB and the LSAB will be received by the FLAG committee for local health actions.

Minutes and exception reports from the HSAG are received by FLAG. Lewisham CCG Governing Body receives a bi monthly quality report in including safeguarding, with exceptions. The Governing Body also receives an annual report for both Adults and Children's safeguarding (including Looked After Children).

## **8.6 Lewisham & Greenwich NHS Trust**

Lewisham and Greenwich (LGT) NHS Trust was formed on 1 October 2013 following the dissolution of South London Healthcare Trust. LGT provides a full range of acute hospital services at Queen Elizabeth Hospital (QEH) Woolwich, University Hospital Lewisham (UHL) and community health services within the London Borough of Lewisham. On the Queen Mary's site LGT provides midwifery services and retained the responsibility for the management of the Children and Young Person's Assessment Unit (CYP AU) until the end of March 2014.

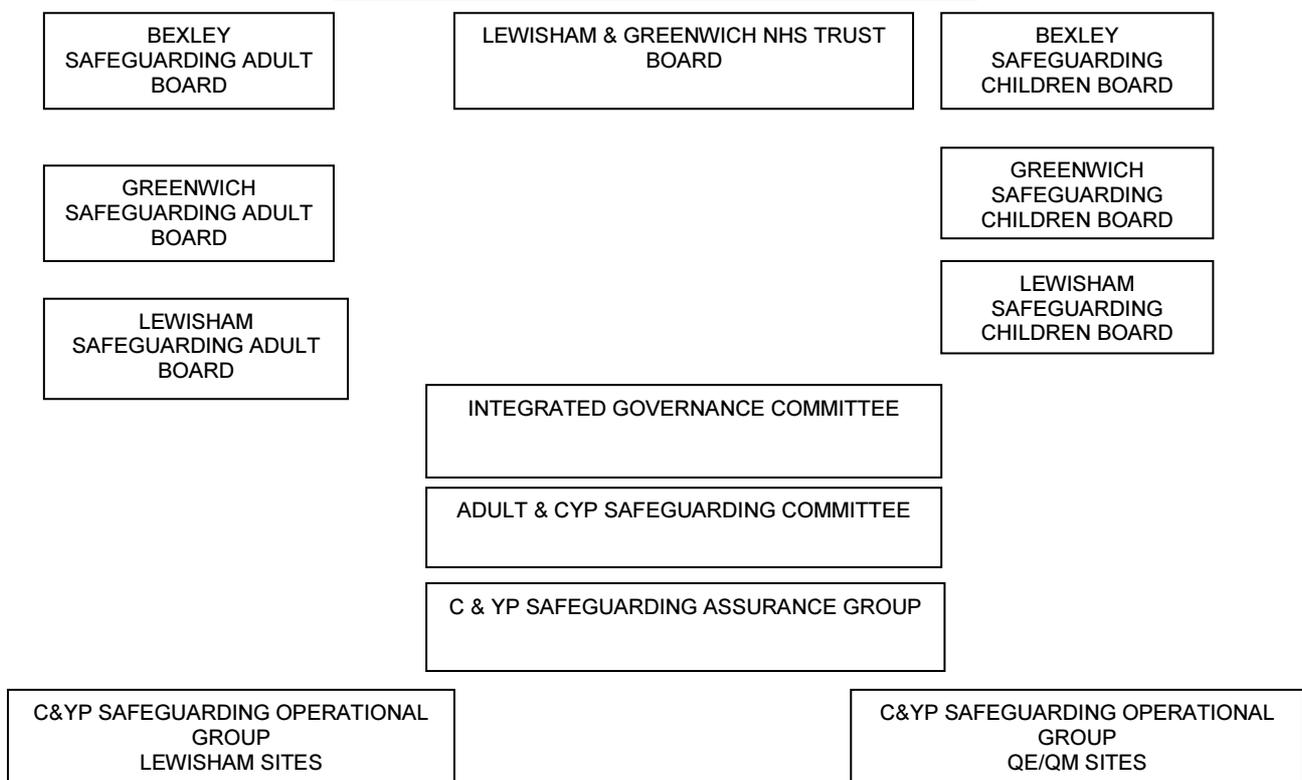
Section 11 of the Children Act (2004) places a duty upon the Trust to ensure its functions are discharged with regard to the need to safeguard and promote the welfare of children. Working Together (2013) highlights that health professionals are ideally placed to identify welfare or safeguarding needs of children and young people and, where appropriate, to provide support.

Key safeguarding themes identified by LGT/SLHT in 2013 include neglect, increasing levels of young people with mental health issues, children with disabilities and those affected by adult issues such as domestic abuse or mental health issues. There has been an increase in delay of discharge from hospital of mothers and babies where courts are involved, nil recourse to public funding and late disclosure of housing issues.

LGT Trust is promoting the 6 C's of communication, care, courage, compassion, commitment and competency and has taken as its mantra the following values and behaviours: respect and dignity, commitment to quality of care, compassion, improving lives, working together for patients and everyone counts.

The Trust maintains an Action Plan, Risk Register and an Annual Audit Programme around Safeguarding. These are reviewed bimonthly within the Trust's safeguarding forums (Trust Governance structure attached). An action plan has been formulated to harmonise safeguarding policies/procedures and guidance across the sites. This is expected to be completed by October 2014.

### safeguarding Governance Arrangements for C&YP



The Trust has contributed to and implemented actions resulting from the Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board audit plan. Senior LGT representation at the LSCB Main Board, the Monitoring Evaluation and Service Improvement (MESI) task group, neglect task group, Child Sexual Exploitation task group, Policies, Procedures and Training (PPT) task group and Communications group has been agreed and implemented.

#### Learning and Impact of Work

LGT inherited two Serious Case Reviews arising within 2013 from the University Hospital Lewisham site and community services. Learning from these reviews resulted in the development of a maternity safeguarding pathway and maternity substance misuse pathway. These themes are now included within all Safeguarding Training and arising action plans are monitored via the governance structure mechanisms.

The weekly Safeguarding Meetings in the Emergency Department Children's and Neonatal units, along with the Maternity Safeguarding meeting, are well embedded and offer an opportunity for identification of those children in need of early help services, interagency working, professional challenge and reflective practice.

#### Views of Children/ Young People/Parents/Carers

To improve information sharing and engagement of children and families in safeguarding processes when accessing Trust services, posters on confidentiality, information sharing, asking whether a child has a social worker and referral pathways to substance misuse services are now clearly displayed within the Emergency Department.

This is further supported by the development of a child friendly complaints leaflet. Two further guides for children/ young people and families explaining safeguarding roles responsibilities and information sharing are in development. Gaining the views of children accessing The Trust will be extended through several schemes and will build upon the use of 'Matron Mouse' on UHL site.

#### Equality and diversity

All women attending for ante-natal care are routinely asked whether they have undergone Female Genital Mutilation (FGM). There are multi-language posters displayed within the units and the use of interpreting services via telephone or face to face is available. All safeguarding training incorporates issues regarding equality and diversity.

#### What have we learned?

The Trust continues to progress harmonisation of safeguarding policies and practices in order to enhance safeguarding practice and the sharing of knowledge.

#### What do we need to do better?

The identification and support to those children and adults experiencing domestic abuse who access services is a priority for 2014. The safeguarding team are part of a multi-agency working party to address this.

A Trust wide policy on referral pathways for women who have undergone FGM and consideration of risk assessment for resulting children is required. This needs to be in line with London Child Protection Procedures (2014).

- To ensure that staff are aware of the differing referral pathways into early help provision and social care services offered by the three local boroughs.
- To ensure that safeguarding training levels increase and are maintained to improve staff safeguarding children skills.

### **8.7 London Probation Service**

Until 31<sup>st</sup> May 2014 Probation Services were delivered by the London Probation Trust (LPT). From June 2014 the service will be delivered by two separate organisations, the London Community Rehabilitation Company and the National Probation Service. Probation works with offenders over the age of 18 who have been sentenced to community orders or custodial terms by the Courts. The aim is to prevent further re-offending and

to manage risk by working with individuals to address a wide range of offending related needs including substance misuse, employment, emotional wellbeing, thinking and behaviour and relationship issues. In addition Probation carries out assessments and provides advice and information to the Courts and the Parole Board. Although Probation services work primarily with adults, Child Safeguarding is an absolute priority. Practitioners understand that offenders could be parents, carers or have younger siblings, who could be at risk. Practitioners are encouraged to 'Think Family' to ensure that the needs of the children in an offender's life are taken into account, and risk issues addressed. Activities to improve practice have included: :

- Mandatory training for all practitioners
- Case Audits
- Presentations for Children's Social care
- Access to Local Authority training
- Team case discussions
- Staff supervision

LPT has been committed to partnership working at all levels as demonstrated in its work in MAPPA, various MARACs, MASH, Lewisham Safeguarding Board and the Community Safety Partnership. Despite the changes Probation Service Providers remain committed to working in partnership to improve outcomes for children by reducing offending and helping to make our local community safer.

## **8. Future Priorities for the LSCB**

The overall role of the LSCB is to monitor how well safeguarding of children and young people is going in Lewisham, and to ensure and assure that children and young people are being kept safe. To achieve this the Safeguarding Board needs to do two things, it needs to have the right information to determine how well safeguarding is going, and it needs to act effectively to address any weaknesses by either taking action itself, or by holding to account those responsible so that they act to address the situation.

The LSCB, like the Partnership, puts children and young peoples interests, wellbeing and safety at the centre of everything it does. The LSCB aspires to arrive at a situation whereby it has a good understanding of how well safeguarding is going. To this end, over the last year, and carried forward into 2014-2015 and onwards, it is developing and refining its performance management system in order to improve the voice of children and young people, and to ensure that it has a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the quality of practice derived from both qualitative and quantitative data sources. Much progress has already been made with this work.

The priorities for next year are drawn from a number of sources. These include national priorities as set by Government policy or legislation. They also include priorities drawn from local findings such as recent Serious Case Reviews, multi-agency audits, performance management data or other local information sources. The LSCB also draw on local and national inspection findings, reviews, research and other best practice sources to challenge and improve its scrutiny. Taking into account all of these sources, the LSCB's priorities for 2014/15 include the following:

**Neglect** remains a priority having been identified in the Serious Case Review bi-annual report as an area of national concern. The LSCB will continue to draw from its audit findings and to work through its neglect task group in addressing this challenging area of work.

**Child Sexual Exploitation** continues to be a national priority, driven and informed by the work of the Children's Commissioner. The LSCB will continue to work on policies, procedures and partnership initiatives to drive up the numbers of CSE cases identified and responded to, and to ensure that offenders are brought to justice through effective prosecution strategies and victim support.

**Looked After Children**, including Care Leavers and children placed out of borough, continue to be a high priority for the LSCB due to the vulnerability of these children. Work will be ongoing in partnership with the Corporate Parent Group to ensure that all aspects of the wellbeing of Looked After Children are identified and addressed. This will include monitoring of the stability of placements for LAC which the LSCB has focussed on as an area of concern.

**Female Genital Mutilation (FGM)** is an area which the LSCB will focus on during 2014-2015, derived from the Violence Against Woman and Girls (VAWG) strategy. We are looking to improve identification both of FGM risks and of actual cases, ensuring better protection and prosecution of offenders as appropriate. Policies, procedures and joint agency actions will therefore be developed in this area.

**Child Protection** Increases in rates of referral remain a concern and the LSCB will monitor closely the ongoing situation to ensure that correct thresholds are in use and that plans are effective in the delivery of improvements and outcomes in safeguarding.

**Bullying** remains a priority area and the LSCB will continue to work on its action plan to support schools in their anti-bullying work, aiming to improve the quality and effectiveness of responses to bullying through best practice guidelines and through work to be commissioned on cyber bullying.

**Private Fostering** remains a priority for the LSCB and we look to see an increase in the number of placements identified and improvements in the quality of the environment being offered.

**Early Intervention** is a priority for this year, with the LSCB due to undertake a review of the current thresholds to test whether they remain appropriate, and also to ensure that outcomes are clearly embedded in early intervention plans so that improved information on the effectiveness of these services can be assured.

**Safeguarding in Health** is a priority area, drawn from our recent Serious Case reviews. Further analysis and audits will be undertaken this year to ensure that action plans are having an impact and outcomes are improving.

**Lewisham LSCB Website** During the next year we want to improve the website, making it accessible and informative to both professionals and to the local community.

**Road Traffic Safety** the LSCB continues to see this as a priority and will monitor the impact of work sitting with the Director of Public Health in this area.

**Safeguarding in the third sector** remains a priority area and the LSCB has funded Voluntary Action Lewisham (VAL) in order to improve the knowledge and awareness of third sector agencies in safeguarding. The LSCB will continue to look to strengthening this approach, including some of the faith groups who are currently less well networked in to the safeguarding system.

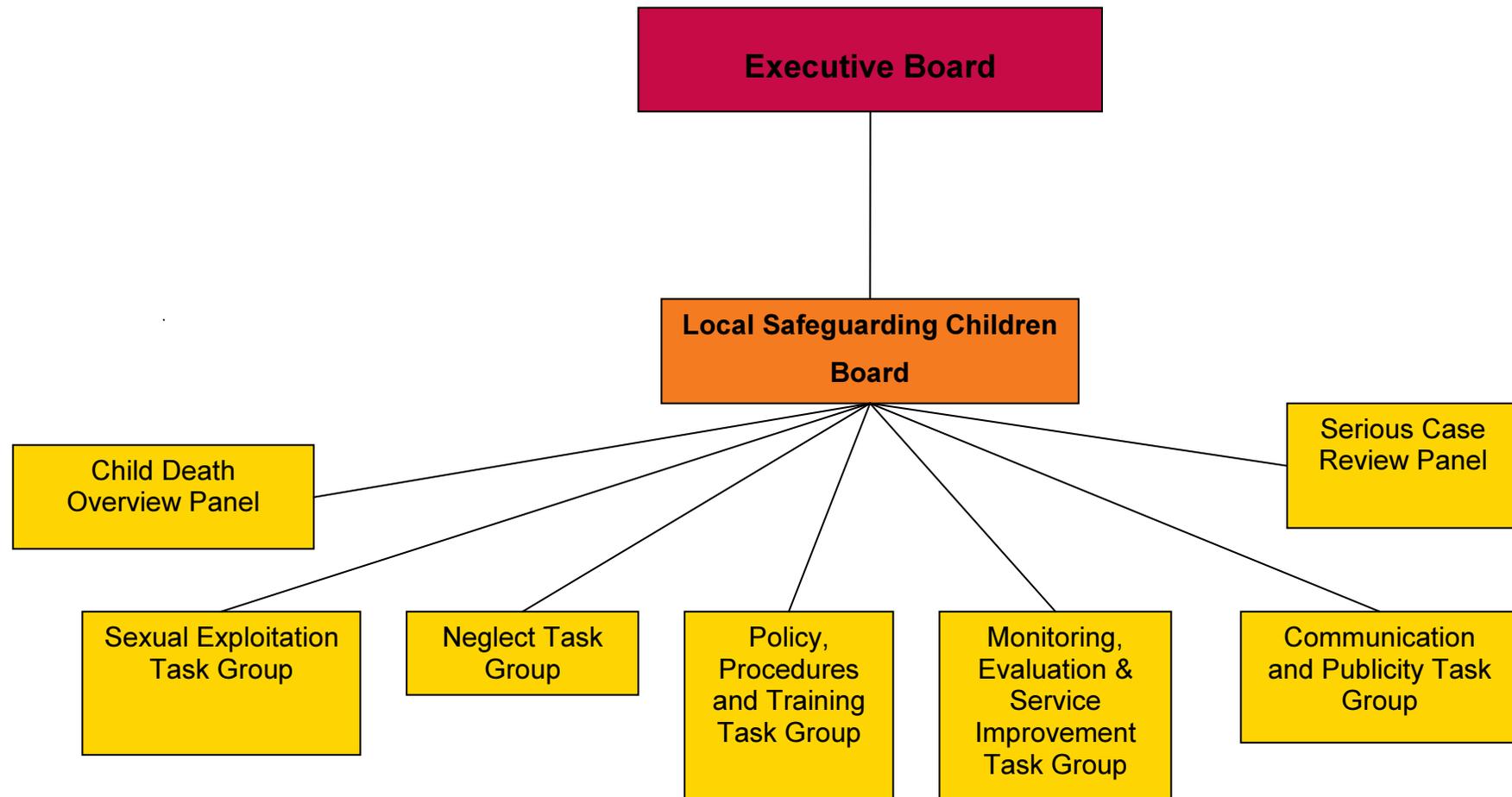
**The voice of Children and Young People** Whilst generally a strong feature of the Lewisham Partnership, we want to make sure that the LSCB is effectively listening to children and young people whilst not duplicating activities undertaken by the children's partnership. We will undertake an overview of how effectively the LSCB listens to young people and will look to strengthen this area during the next year.

Inspection Findings will be incorporated into the work of the LSCB as appropriate. The LSCB remains strongly sighted on all relevant partner inspections, including the recent CQC Lewisham and Greenwich NHS University Hospital Trust inspection, the OFSTED Lewisham Children's Services Early Help inspection and national overview and single agency reports as appropriate. Action plans derived from these are monitored by the LSCB until completed. We also create further action plans drawn from national sources where we believe they are relevant and monitor these for completion too. These are included in our business plan.

**Serious Case Reviews, Management Reviews and Audits** previously undertaken by the LSCB will continue to be monitored until all of the outcomes are achieved from the action plans.

**Performance Management** remains a priority for the LSCB as we want to make sure that we have enough of the right sort of information in order to know how well local safeguarding is going. We will be finalising this work during this year, having made great progress during 2013-14. Our detailed business plan will therefore continue to draw on information as it unfolds, in order to effectively challenge throughout the year those areas of practice which cause the LSCB any concern, and to assure that these are quickly addressed.

Appendix A: Structure Chart



## Appendix B: LSCB Budget

### Income

Agency	2013 / 14	% Contribution
CCG	£ 18,311	22.2%
CYP	£ 36,621	44.4%
Probation	£ 2,000	3.0%
CAFCASS	£ 550	0.8%
Met. Police	£ 5,000	7.4%
UHL	£ 9,115	11.1%
SLAM	£ 9,115	11.1%
<b>Total</b>	<b>£ 80,792</b>	<b>100%</b>

### Expenditure

Expenditure	2013 / 14
Training	£ 8,547
Business Manager's Salary	£ 37,100
Administrator's Salary	£ 23,145
Independent Chair's Salary	£ 12,000
<b>Total projected expenditure</b>	<b>£ 80,792</b>

## Appendix C: LSCB Membership

Name	Organisation / Role
Christine Doorly	Independent Chair
Marinda Beaton	LSCB Business Manager
Dr Abimbola Adeyemi	Consultant Community Paediatrician & Designated Doctor, Clinical Commissioning Group
Dr Judy Chen	Named GP, Clinical Commissioning Group
Dr Faruk Majid	Senior Clinical Director, Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group
Joy Ellery	Director of Knowledge, Governance and Communications, Lewisham & Greenwich Healthcare NHS Trust
Chris McCree	Acting Assistant Director of Nursing & Safeguarding, SLAM
Pat Barber	LGA Governor Representative
Louise Hubbard	Assistant Chief Officer, Probation
Cheryl Spender	Safeguarding Adults Strategy Development Officer
Cllr Helen Klier	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
David Travis	Head of Student Services, LeSoCo
Jonathan Sharpe	Brent Knoll School
Liz Jones	Executive Principal, Abbey Manor College
Jonathan Slater	Strategic Development Officer for CYP, Voluntary Action Lewisham
Genevieve Macklin	Head of Strategic Housing, Customer Services
Graham Norton	Ambulance Operations Manager, London Ambulance Service
Dr Donal O'Sullivan	Consultant in Public Health Medicine, Public Health
Bernice Walters	Service Manager for Quality Assurance, Children's Social Care
Chris Smart	South Regional DCI, CAIT, Metropolitan Police
Ian Smith	Director of Children's Social Care
Geeta Subramanian-Mooney	Head of Crime Reduction & Supporting People
Sue Tipler	Head of Standards and Achievement, Directorate for CYP
Deputy: Louise Comely	Principal Educational Psychologist
Nick Topliss	Borough Manager, CAMHS, South London & Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust
Neil Evans	Superintendent, Crime and Operations, Metropolitan Police Service
Maureen Gabriel	Designated/Lead Nurse, CP/Safeguarding Children & Young People and LAC, Clinical Commissioning Group
Zafer Yilkan	Service Manager, CAFCASS
Warwick Tomsett	Head of Commissioning, Strategy and Performance
Georgina Nunney	Principal Lawyer, Legal Services, (LBL papers only)
Dawn Smith	Lay Member
Filomena Brockwell	Lay Member
Derek Churchman	Lay Member

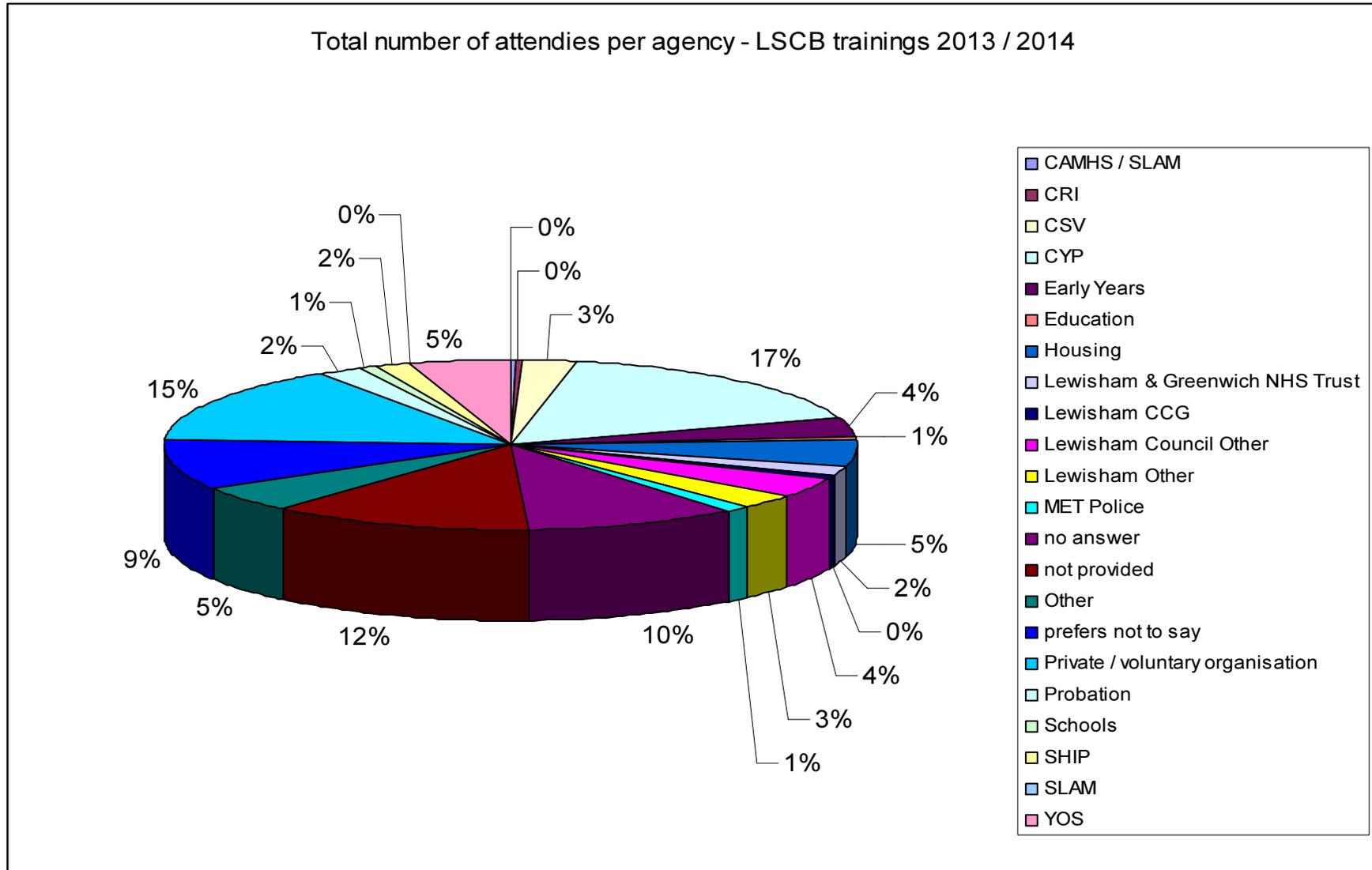
## Appendix D: Executive Board Membership

Name	Organisation / Role
Christine Doorly	Independent Chair
Marinda Beaton	LSCB Business Manager
Frankie Sulke	Executive Director for Children and Young People, Directorate for Children and Young People
Dr Faruk Majid	Senior Clinical Director, Lewisham CCG
Tim Higginson	Chief Executive, Lewisham Hospital
Cllr Helen Klier	Cabinet Member for Children and Young People
Russell Nyman	Chief Superintendent, Metropolitan Police
Justin Armstrong	South Regional DCI, CAIT, Metropolitan Police
Ian Smith	Director of Children's Social Care, Directorate for Children & Young People
Martin Wilkinson	Chief Officer, NHS Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group
Danny Ruta	Director of Public Health
Chris McCree	SLAM

## Appendix E: Rota for annual reports to the LSCB

<b>March:</b>	
<b>Agency:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>
<b>Early Intervention</b> (to include threshold suitability, outcome of sample audit of safeguarding outcomes achieved)	<b>Warwick Tomsett</b>
<b>Community Safety Partnership (including MARAC)</b>	<b>Geeta Subramaniam</b>
<b>Voluntary Action Lewisham</b>	<b>Jonathan Slater</b>
<b>Clinical Commissioning Group Annual Report</b>	<b>Faruk Majid</b>
<b>June:</b>	
<b>Agency:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>
<b>HR report on CRB systems</b>	<b>Andreas Ghosh</b>
<b>Private Fostering</b>	<b>Richard Hodgkiss</b>
<b>Child Death Overview Panel</b>	<b>Donal O'Sullivan</b>
<b>Children Missing from Education</b>	<b>John Russell / Warwick Tomsett</b>
<b>Safeguarding Children with Complex Needs</b>	<b>Keith Martin</b>
<b>September:</b>	
<b>Agency:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>
<b>CAMHS</b>	<b>Nick Topliss / Chris McCree</b>
<b>Road Traffic Safety in Lewisham</b>	<b>Donal O'Sullivan / Liz Brooker</b>
<b>LADO Annual Report</b>	<b>Bernice Walters / Lin Blakelock</b>
<b>LSCB Annual Report</b>	<b>Marinda Beaton / Chris Doorly</b>
<b>Safeguarding in Schools</b>	<b>Sue Tipler / Louise Comely</b>
<b>December:</b>	
<b>Agency:</b>	<b>Person responsible:</b>
<b>MASH Annual Report</b>	<b>Naeema Sarkar</b>
<b>Missing Children</b>	<b>Richard Hodgkiss</b>
<b>Looked After Children</b> (including placement stability)	<b>Tina Benjamin</b>
<b>Lewisham &amp; Greenwich Healthcare Annual Report</b>	<b>Joy Ellery</b>
<b>Child Sexual Exploitation</b>	<b>Bernice Walters</b>

Appendix F: Breakdown of training attendance by agency



## Appendix G: Key Performance Indicators

### Reduce child abuse and neglect (SS1)

Number of CAFs initiated in month		
Month	Number	Target
May 2013	393	300
August 2013	258	300
November 2013	443	300
February 2014	417	300
% of referrals going onto Initial Assessments		
Month	Number	Target
May 2013	83.20	93
August 2013	88	93
November 2013	85.50	93
February 2013	84.90	93
Initial Assessments within 10 working days		
May 2013	88	91
August 2013	89.10	91
November 2013	89.50	91
February 2014	89.10	91
Subject to CPP second or subsequent time		
May 2013	8.30	10
August 2013	9.60	10
November 2013	7.90	10
February 2014	10.30	10
CPP lasting more than 2 years		
May 2013	6.50	8
August 2013	6.10	8
November 2013	5.20	8
February 2014	4.90	8
Number of new referrals to CSC each month		
Month	Number	Target
May 2013	229	250
August 2013	165	250
November 2013	249	250
February 2014	112	250
% Referrals due to abuse/neglect		
May 2013	80	77
August 2013	67	64
November 2013	30	34
February 2014	33.30	34
Number of ICPC held within 15 days of the start of the s47 enquiry		
May 2013	78	85

August 2013	71.80	85
November 2013	71.40	85
February 2014	70.20	85
<b>Number of section 47 enquiries each month</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Target</b>
May 2013	90	80
August 2013	60	82
November 2013	128	82
February 2014	81	82
<b>% of s47 enquiries that went onto ICPC</b>		
May 2013	35.3	34
August 2013	33.50	36
November 2013	34.60	36
February 2014	34	36
<b>Number of children subject to protection plan</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Target</b>
May 2013	279	240
August 2013	280	240
November 2013	327	240
February 2014	307	240
<b>% children subject to CPP receiving stat visit within 6 weeks</b>		
May 2013	95.5	99.10
August 2013	98.80	98.80
November 2013	92	98.80
February 2014	85.90	98.80
<b>% Core group meetings within timescale</b>		
May 2013	91.70	94.20
August 2013	87.30	91.20
November 2013	92.60	91.20
February 2014	70.90	91.20
<b>% of CP conferences attended by parents</b>		
May 2013	74.80	80
August 2013	67.40	80
November 2013	62.30	80
February 2014	75.60	80

**Provide secure and consistent support for Looked After Children, particularly placement stability (SS3)**

<b>Stability of placements of LAC (% 3+ placements)</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Target</b>
May 2013	11.90	9
August 2013	12.60	9
November 2013	13.30	9

February 2014	12	9
<b>Stability of placements of LAC(% placement 2 years+)</b>		
May 2013	73.40	72
August 2013	63.10	72
November 2013	66.20	72
February 2014	70.30	72
<b>Number of LAC</b>		
May 2013	506	481
August 2013	506	481
November 2013	505	481
February 2014	501	481
<b>% LAC who communicate their views at reviews</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Target</b>
May 2013	98	99.30
August 2013	100	99.30
November 2013	99.50	99.30
February 2014	99.80	99.30
<b>% LAC placed outside LBL &gt; 20miles from home</b>		
May 2013	17	15.40
August 2013	17.20	15.40
November 2013	18.40	15.40
February 2014	18	15.40
<b>% LAC 28+ days age 5-16 with who've a completed PEP</b>		
May 2014	96.70	100
August 2013	96.70	100
November 2013	97.20	100
February 2014	96.60	100

**Ensure that children and young people feel safe (SS5)**

<b>Number of repeat missing LAC</b>		
<b>Month</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Target</b>
May 2013	22	25
August 2013	25	25
November 2013	25	25
February 2014	25	25
<b>Number of bullying incidents in primary schools</b>		
Summer 2012/13	30	
Autumn 2013/14	30	
<b>Number of bullying incidents in secondary schools</b>		
Summer 2012/13	21	
Autumn 2013/14	29	

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# Agenda Item 4

<b>Children and Young People Select Committee</b>			
<b>Title</b>	Young People's Mental Health Provision	<b>Item No</b>	4
<b>Contributors</b>	Executive Director CYP, Head of Service - Targeted Services and Joint Commissioning, Joint Commissioner CYP, Consultant in Public Health		
<b>Class</b>	Part 2	<b>Date</b>	12 November 2014

## 1. Summary

- 1.1. As part of a rapid review of children and young people's emotional well-being and mental health provision in Lewisham, officers have been invited to prepare an evidence paper, which highlights current need and service provision in the borough.
- 1.2. Lewisham has been awarded £500,000 by the Big Lottery Fund: Fulfilling Lives HeadStart programme to develop new and innovative provision in our schools and communities to: improve emotional literacy; enable young people to develop awareness of how to protect their own mental health and emotional well-being; and build the resilience of young people through learnt and taught techniques in and out of schools. There is an opportunity to bid for a further £10 million in the autumn of 2015.
- 1.3. This paper provides a summary of the emotional well-being and mental health needs of children and young people in Lewisham, gives an overview of current service provision and demonstrates how new examples of good practice and research can be applied to meet identified gaps in existing provision.

## 2. Purpose of paper

- 2.1. On 1 July 2014, the Committee decided as part of its work programme to undertake a rapid review of children and young people's emotional well-being and mental health provision in Lewisham.
- 2.2. This paper will respond to the key lines of enquiry as identified by the Select Committee of the 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014 Scoping Paper (please see Appendix 1).
- 2.3. Members of the Select Committee held a meeting with young people involved in the Big Lottery Headstart project Steering Group on 23 October, the notes of which are attached at Appendix 2.

## 3. Recommendations

The Select Committee is asked to:

1. note the content of the report and officer presentation
2. identify if any further information is required following discussion of the report.

## 4. Background

- 4.1 In Lewisham, mental health services are currently focused on the treatment of mental health disorders rather than prevention. HeadStart is an opportunity for us to invest in improving the mental well-being and resilience of children and adolescents before they become unwell and require specialist services. It will also equip them with life skills

which will support them into adulthood and enable them to value and protect their own mental health.

## 5. The Need for Mental Health Services in Lewisham

- 5.1. It has been shown that 1 in 10 children and young people aged 5-16 years suffer from a diagnosable mental health disorder<sup>1</sup>, which equates to around three children in every school class. The most common problems are conduct disorders, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), emotional disorders (anxiety and depression) and autism spectrum disorders.
- 5.2. In Lewisham, 8.4% of young people aged 5-16 have a diagnosed conduct disorder and 5.6% of young people of the same age have a diagnosed emotional disorder<sup>2</sup>. These levels are comparable with other London boroughs with similar Index of Multiple Deprivation scores. Assuming a national prevalence of 7%, Lewisham has 1,302 young people aged 11-16 who self-harm<sup>3</sup>.
- 5.3. According to a public mental health overview conducted by UCL Partners in 2013<sup>4</sup> the impacts of mental disorder are far reaching and can include:
  - Increasing the risk of suicide and self-harm
  - Engaging in health risk behaviour (such as smoking, alcohol abuse, drug taking)
  - Physical ill health
  - Poor educational outcomes
  - Unemployment
  - Antisocial behaviour and offending
  - Poor social skills.
- 5.4. Research has shown that mental health problems in children and young people can be long-lasting. It is known that 50% of mental illness in adult life (excluding dementia) starts before age 15 and 75% by age of 24<sup>5</sup>.
- 5.5. There are recognised risk factors for developing mental health problems, many of which are more prevalent in Lewisham's population than in other areas. This means that in Lewisham there will be greater numbers of children and young people with diagnosable mental health problems and with low levels of wellbeing/resilience putting them at risk of developing problems in the future. These factors include:
  - Living in poverty - 30.5% of under 16s live in poverty compared to 20.6% nationally and 26.5% in London. Similar levels are found in our neighbouring boroughs, 31.6% and 30.7% in Lambeth and Southwark respectively.
  - Being a looked after child - 77 children in every 10,000 are looked after; compared to 60 nationally and 55 in London.
  - Living in non-secure accommodation - 4.7 in every 1,000 households are homeless households with dependent children or pregnant women compared to 3.6 in London and 1.7 nationally.
  - Being exposed to trauma - 555 children in Lewisham were identified as being exposed to high risk domestic violence in the home in 2013-2014, with up to a

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<sup>1</sup> Green, H., McGinnity, A., Meltzer, H., et al. (2005). [Mental health of children and young people in Great Britain 2004](#). London: Palgrave.

<sup>2</sup> Champion & Fitch, 2012

<sup>3</sup> Green et al, 2005

<sup>4</sup> UCL Partners: Public mental health overview. October 2013

<sup>5</sup> Kessler RC, Berglund P, Demler O, Jin R, Merikangas KR, Walters EE: Lifetime prevalence and age-of-onset distributions of DSM-IV disorders in the National Comorbidity Survey Replication. Arch Gen Psychiatry 2005; 62:593-602

third of all children in the borough exposed to any domestic violence. The rates in London are known to be higher than other parts of the country.

- Having parents who experience mental health and/or substance misuse issues. These levels are likely to be higher in Lewisham than the rest of the country, for example, 1.24% of people on Lewisham GP registers have a serious mental health disorder compared to 0.84% in England as a whole and 1.03% in London. In every 1,000 people in Lewisham, 12.4 are opiate or crack cocaine users compared to 8.4 nationally and 9.55 in London.
- Being involved in crime – 811.8 per 100,000 10-17 year olds receive a first reprimand, warning or conviction in Lewisham, compared to 458 in London and 511 in England as a whole.

5.6. Other young people at risk include:

- Young carers
- Those from families affected by learning disability from a family affected by learning disability
- Families known to the criminal justice system
- Those with a physical illness/disability or learning disability
- Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Trans-sexual young people

5.7. The wide reaching implications of mental health problems and the costs involved highlight the importance of work to improve mental health across the population. Working with young people is an opportunity to focus on the prevention of mental ill health where possible and to develop targeted interventions to limit the negative impacts of mental health disorder.

## 6. Policy context

6.1. Children and Adolescent Mental Health Services (CAMHS) are commissioned within the context of National CAMHS policy, which include the Children and Young People's Health Outcomes Forum Report (2012); No Health Without Mental Health; An All Age Strategy (2011); Achieving Equity and Excellence for Children (2010); and The National Service Framework for Children, Young People and Maternity: The Mental Health and Psychological Well-being of Children and Young People (2004).

6.2. Commissioned services operate in compliance with the legislative frameworks of the Children Act 2004 and the Mental Health Act 1983, as amended by the Mental Health Act 2007. Care should be informed by evidence based practice including National Institute for Health and Care Excellence (NICE) and other best practice guidelines.

6.3. **Lewisham's Sustainable Communities Strategy<sup>6</sup>** sets out six key priorities for the borough as a whole. The review falls under the 'Safer' priority, which aims to keep our children and young people safe from harm, abuse and criminal activity as well as the 'Healthy, Active and Enjoyable' priority which aims to improve health outcomes and tackle the specific conditions that affect our citizens.

6.4. **Lewisham's Children and Young People's Plan<sup>7</sup> for 2012-2015**, entitled 'It's Everybody's Business' sets out key areas for impact and priorities surrounding children

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<sup>6</sup> Lewisham's Sustainable Community Strategy 2008-2020  
<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/mayorandcouncil/aboutthecouncil/strategies/Documents/Sustainable%20Community%20Strategy%202008-2020.pdf>

<sup>7</sup> Lewisham Children and Young People's Plan 2012-2015  
<http://www.lewisham.gov.uk/myserVICES/socialcare/children/Documents/CYPP2012-15.pdf>

and young people. This review will fall under the 'Be Healthy' (BH6) priority, which aims to 'Promote Mental and Emotional Well-being'.

- 6.5. Furthermore, mental health has been identified as one of nine Health and Well-Being Board priorities.

## 7. Current Service provision

- 7.1. Mental health services in Lewisham are divided into four tiers, reflecting the different levels of need of those receiving services. Historically, most service provision in Lewisham has been focused on highly specialised mental health services with less universal mental health promotion provision (although pockets of good practice do exist across the borough).
- 7.2. Lewisham Community Children's and Adolescent's Mental Health Services are commissioned by both NHS Lewisham Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG) and the London Borough of Lewisham (LBL). Services are provided by South London and Maudsley NHS Foundation Trust (SLaM) who provide support to Lewisham children/young people requiring assessment and treatment/support for emotional needs and mental health conditions, primarily at tiers 3 and 4. The Children and Young People's Joint Commissioning Team is responsible for contract monitoring and service planning arrangements on behalf of the CCG and the Local Authority, for the commissioned CAMHS service and for the non-statutory tier 2 provision outlined in this section.

### Tiers 3 and 4 Provision (Specialist CAMHS)

- 7.3. **Tier 4** provision includes highly specialised outpatient and inpatient units. South London and Maudsley (SLaM) NHS Foundation Trust are commissioned through a cost and volume contract to provide Lewisham patients with tier 4 outpatient and inpatient services through the SLaM national and specialist services. A small number of tier 4 outpatient services, all intensive day and inpatient care services are commissioned via NHS England. Non-contracted providers of Psychiatric Intensive Care Units (PICU) can be used where patients require more specialist provision.
- 7.4. In 2013/14 the average number of young people in a SLaM inpatient ward at any one time was 5.5, which resulted in total to 557 occupied bed days over the same timeframe. The most recent data available refers to Quarter 2 2014/15 and reveals that there were 8 CAMHS patients admitted to a SLaM inpatient unit during this three month period.
- 7.5. Performance data tells us that during 2011/12 and 2012/13, 1.01% of all young people from Lewisham were referred for inpatient care. Across other SLaM boroughs i.e. Lambeth, Southwark, Lewisham, Croydon, Bexley, Bromley, Greenwich, Kent and Medway the range over the same period was 1.01% to 3.06%. This leads us to believe that Lewisham CAMHS are ably managing mentally unwell young people in the community and are making relatively low numbers of referrals for inpatient care, especially when compared to other local areas.
- 7.6. **Tier 3** provision refers to specialised multi-disciplinary services, set up to respond to more severe, complex or persistent disorders. SLaM provides a range of tier 3 provision through a number of community teams including: SYMBOL (for Looked after Children); Lewisham Young People's Service (for young people with emerging psychosis); Neuro-Development (for learning difficulties); ARTS (for young people with a mental health disorder and a history of criminal offending); and East/West Generic teams. Commissioners have also given agreement for SLaM to expand the OASIS

service, an outreach service for people (14-35 yrs old) at risk of developing psychosis, to cover Lewisham.

- 7.7. In total 1,396 children and young people were referred to the Lewisham CAMHS service in the financial year 2013/14, with 1,052 of these referrals being accepted. This equated to a 75.4% acceptance rate of all referrals, with almost one in four referrals to the service not meeting the referral threshold. The average number of patients seen across the four quarters of 2013/14 was 862. The actual number of children and young people accessing services from some of these teams can be relatively small; hence there can be fluctuations between quarters regarding waiting times for these groups.
- 7.8. Functional Family Therapy (FFT), is an evidence-based family therapy intervention which is targeted at families who have a young person engaging in persistent anti-social behaviour, youth offending and/or substance misuse. The Lewisham Mayor and Cabinet have given agreement for this provision to be implemented. The FFT programme will be positioned at the 'specialist' level and will work with approximately 40-60 families per annum. The service is due to commence in March 2015.

#### Tiers 1 and 2 Provision (universal and targeted)

- 7.9. **Tier 2** provision is non-statutory provision that can be provided by professional groups which relate to each other through a network rather than a team. This can take place in schools or other community settings such as GP surgeries or youth centres. In Lewisham as indicated above, the majority of mental health provision is commissioned at a specialist / statutory level, but there are current examples of good practice operating at a universal / targeted level within the borough. Local approaches include:
- Place2Be (P2B), a national charity who provide a school based counselling service, offering 1:1 appointments, group sessions and drop ins. This is supported by a comprehensive training and consultative support programme for school staff. This service is currently available in ten schools, mainly primary, across the borough. This is commissioned through a tapered funding approach, between the Local Authority and Schools. Since April 2013, P2B have supported in excess of 800 pupils, with 90 children and young people having accessed 1:1 counselling sessions. Over 300 1:1 counselling sessions and approximately 500 group sessions have been delivered. In addition to this, over 500 Lewisham based professionals have benefited from P2B well-being training. Sessions have included: solution focused techniques; supporting children's emotional well-being; and understanding attachment. P2B has a robust evidence base, as part of their national evaluation, consistent improvements in the children accessing their services have been reported by teachers, parents/carers and children. P2B have also estimated that for every £1 spent on their counselling support services £6 is saved on other provision included those associated with social care services, welfare benefits and the criminal justice system.
  - Children and Young People's Improving Access to Psychological Therapies (CYP IAPT) is a Department of Health service transformation programme. Lewisham partners include CAMHS, Pre-School Learning Alliance (PSLA) and P2B. As part of this programme, three key principles are being adopted: collaborative working and participation; routine outcome monitoring; and evidence based practice. CYP IAPT includes delivery of psychological therapies and training for people working with children and young people outside of health settings. It focuses on extending training to staff and service managers in CAMHS, embedding evidence based practice across services. To date over 50 additional young people have received cognitive behaviour therapy for anxiety and depression with parent/carers benefiting from parenting support, where their

child has a behaviour/conduct disorder. Early findings have shown that families have welcomed support in these areas.

- 7.10. Tier 1 provision is primary or universal care, offered by professionals working in universal settings, such as teachers, school nurses and GPs. For example, schools may as part of their personal, social and health education curriculum run sessions about emotional health and self esteem. There is currently no clear overview of this provision across the borough.

## **8. Future Developments in Tiers 1 & 2 – HeadStart Lewisham**

- 8.1. In 2013 Lewisham was approached by the Big Lottery Fund as one of twelve areas in the country to consider how best to improve resilience and wellbeing in young people aged 10 – 14 years through the 'Fulfilling Lives: HeadStart Programme'. In July 2014, Lewisham was informed of its success when securing £500,000 which would be used to develop universal and targeted mental and emotional well-being provision. Lewisham has the opportunity in 2015, to bid for a further £10 million from the Big Lottery Fund, to further develop this work and create 'whole-system change'.
- 8.2. The HeadStart programme aims to equip young people to cope better with difficult circumstances in their lives, so as to prevent them experiencing common mental health problems before they become serious issues. This is called emotional resilience, and is an opportunity for young people to negotiate for and navigate their own way to resources that sustain their mental health. Evidence suggests that accessing those with low level symptoms and diagnosable problems through universal or whole group activity delivers better outcomes for the most vulnerable.<sup>8</sup> The HeadStart programme is aimed at a universal, targeted (those at risk of low levels of resilience) and intensive (those at risk of developing mental health problems) levels. The overall stated aim of HeadStart is:
- 'to better equip young people to prevent the initial occurrence of mental health problems, and to build the evidence for service redesign and investment in prevention'***
- 8.3. The programme is led by the London Borough of Lewisham on behalf of the wider partnership which includes NHS services, schools, young people, the Metropolitan Police and the voluntary and community sector.
- 8.4. HeadStart gives Lewisham an opportunity to expand and develop the universal and targeted offer, whilst working with existing provision and aligning with the wider partnership strategy to ensure that services intervene at the earliest point. Work is being undertaken throughout the period of the programme to engage those statutory and voluntary sector providers who are not directly funded by HeadStart to become part of a wider HeadStart community aiming to achieve the same outcomes. This will also ensure that HeadStart provision becomes embedded as part of the local delivery offer.
- 8.5. Extensive consultation was undertaken with a wide cross section of stakeholders including young people, parents/carers and professionals to develop the HeadStart Lewisham programme. A major area of focus was consultation with young people. This included establishment of a Young People's Steering Group which worked with the Partnership Steering Group to develop the programme. Young people completed a questionnaire about their mental health needs and the whole of year 7 at Forest Hill

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<sup>8</sup> <http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/headstart>

School took part in a morning of resilience testing out some of the potential services. The key issues identified from the consultation were:

- the transition between primary and secondary school as a time of emotional difficulty
- peer support for parents/carers
- training/supporting frontline workers rather than bringing in external agencies
- the varying provision of counselling support
- bullying (including cyber)
- school and peer pressures
- a lack of a good source of local information and resources

8.6. Four local outcomes for HeadStart Lewisham have been developed as a response to these findings:

- improved resilience
- increased school attainment and integration with the community
- improved emotional literacy
- preventing needs escalating for those most at risk

8.7. The HeadStart Lewisham programme delivers provision at universal, targeted and intensive levels in schools, the community, in the home and online, which directly responds to the findings of our consultation. In addition, the Big Lottery asked that the selected areas take a 'test and learn' approach. In response to this, the partnership has developed a programme which expands current provision to evaluate its effectiveness when scaled up. We will deliver new services in Lewisham which may have been tried in other parts of the country, but will also trial completely new ideas. The programme will complement existing specialist service provision in terms of providing the skills in the community to recognise and refer young people when appropriate and also in preventing escalation of needs which would require specialist support.

8.8. The programme is as follows:

- **implementing the 'Transition Curriculum'**, developed by local schools across two Lewisham school collaboratives (comprising of one all through school, one secondary school, nine primary schools and potentially one special school), which will focus on improving young people's resilience, well-being and achievement. The schools will receive consultancy support from Young Minds, the UK's leading charity for children and young people's mental health, who have a strong record of working with schools to improve emotional resilience. Young Minds will undertake a needs assessment at each school (which will include canvassing the views of pupils) by: developing a bespoke programme of work, which could include training of staff; implementation of support packages to families; delivery of well-being programmes to young people; and wider system change. They will also support "Communities of Practice"<sup>9</sup> across the collaboratives to identify shared problems and find solutions.
- **improving access to counselling support** for young people and their families, this responds directly to the findings of the consultation. This includes extending the Place2Be face-to-face counselling provision for young people and parents/carers to an additional five secondary schools. Place2Be have largely worked in primary schools so we will be working in partnership to test the

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<sup>9</sup> <http://wenger-trayner.com/theory/>

model's effectiveness in secondary schools. The programme also includes online counselling for four secondary schools and to those out of school, supported by a peer mentoring programme, to enable young people to access support in a range of settings as they requested. This will be the first time that such an online resource will be available in Lewisham.

- **developing an online resource kit** which will bring together national and local resources to support young people who are facing difficulties regarding their wellbeing or who are concerned about a peer and for parents/carers and professionals who are concerned about a young person.
- **developing a varied creative arts programme**, which includes youth-led film development. It is anticipated that targeted groups such as looked after children, children with disabilities and young carers will benefit from this provision via a range of community settings. We will also work with children who are not in school. As an example of this element of the programme, the film producers / directors of the film will work closely with local services such as CAMHS, the Police, the Youth Service and the Youth Offending Service to formulate the basic story line, which will then be enhanced and developed in partnership with local young people. This element of HeadStart programme will aim to improve resilience and prevent escalation for those involved in making the film, but will have much larger implications for the watching audience, both in organised workshops and through general access online, in terms of improving emotional literacy.
- **administering an innovation fund** to fund local organisations to pilot new ideas to achieve the HeadStart outcomes.
- the established 'Young Person' steering group has been provided with a budget to deliver a number of **'youth led events'** and have been allocated **additional funds to design and commission community projects** to build resilience, in partnership with local young people.

8.9. There are two cross-cutting themes across all the individual projects. The first is the use of digital technology as a means of raising awareness about a) emotional well-being and resilience and b) of new and existing services. The 10-14 age group are "digital natives" and using technology is key to meeting the partnership's outcomes. Examples of this are the development of the online resource kit, the provision of online counselling and the youth led film. We will work with a cross spectrum of providers to ensure that all digital work is co-ordinated, with each element linking in and complimenting each other. We will use the HeadStart webpage, 'youth led' events and partnership workshops to publicise the range of provision available.

8.10. The second crosscutting theme is the engagement of young people in both developing the strategic direction of the programme and the stage 3 bid and in shaping and evaluating the delivery of HeadStart projects. The Young Person's Steering Group will continue to be an important part of the strategic decision making process. As part of the service specification for each of the HeadStart projects, we have mandated a need for co-production where required (for example developing the online resource kit and the film) and the involvement of young people in the monitoring and evaluation of the project, at a minimum including satisfaction surveys and focus groups. The 'youth-led' events and the commissioning fund also enable young people to directly commission and shape services. The first youth led event held on the 18 October provided the partnership with further insight into the views of young people regarding their mental health and need for services.

- 8.11. HeadStart Lewisham will be subject to a robust monitoring and evaluation framework. This is to ensure we can measure the impact of interventions and understand the context within which they do or do not meet their objectives. There will be a local and national HeadStart evaluation. The phase two HeadStart programme, will be nationally evaluated through the Anna Freud Centre, in partnership with UCL partners. This will include measuring outcomes in schools where interventions have taken place and working with providers to carry out a process evaluation. Learning taken from this phase will be embedded in phase three.
- 8.12. Locally, we will be undertaking a validated well-being survey across the 8 – 16 year old population, to be conducted in the autumn 2014 and again the following year. Findings will be used to demonstrate improved outcomes for this age group. Furthermore, funded providers will be expected to provide monitoring and evaluation information on a monthly basis, this will include information about the number and demographics of people accessing the services and changes in wellbeing/resilience for those accessing the services using a validated tool. This local evaluation will enable us to provide evidence of impact for both the universal and targeted approaches.
- 8.13. This information will support the overarching HeadStart Lewisham outcomes. These outcomes will be supported by a set of indicators, measuring impact on Lewisham wide objectives, for example increasing educational attainment, attendance at school and engagement with out of school activities. The evidence suggests that HeadStart activities to increase emotional well-being and resilience will result in these positive changes. We have not included use of tier 3 and 4 CAMHS services as an indicator as the HeadStart programme is likely to have two effects. It would be expected that intervention at the younger end of the HeadStart age group could prevent the development of mental health disorders in childhood, however, this will be tempered by the impacts of increasing awareness both in young people, parents/carers and professionals of the signs of mental health disorders, which is likely to result in an increase in referrals to CAMHs. The overarching aim of the programme is that we prevent the development of mental health problems throughout the life course, and therefore impacts are likely to be seen over the very long term in reductions in the use of adult mental health services.
- 8.14. Both the local and national monitoring and evaluation findings will be used to inform the application for further funding from the Big Lottery, which is due in autumn 2015. Providers will also be expected to engage with service users with regards to access and support.

## **9. Financial Implications**

- 9.1. Lewisham has successfully secured £500,000 from the Big Lottery Fund to develop a range of interventions to build resilience in young people aged 10 – 14 years through the 'Fulfilling Lives: HeadStart Programme'. This funding is ring-fenced for this purpose and there will be a strict monitoring regime in place to support this. As part of the commissioning process, a further £240,000 has been secured through matchfunding, obtained through a range of sources such as, schools, health and the private, voluntary and community sector.

## **10. Environmental Implications**

- 10.1. There are no direct environmental implications associated with this report.

## **11. Equality Implications**

11.1. The overall HeadStart programme will take account of equality of access, with some elements being universal and others targeted to particular disadvantaged groups.

## **12. Crime and Disorder Implications**

12.1. There is evidence that greater levels of personal resilience are protective in reducing the likelihood of a child becoming involved in anti-social or offending behaviour. Therefore, increasing resilience in the 10-14 populations should result in less contact with the Criminal Justice System.

## **13. Conclusion**

13.1. Lewisham has a very strong Children and Young People's Partnership, that is committed to improving the emotional well-being of our young people. HeadStart Lewisham is being viewed by parent/carers, young people and professionals as an opportunity to change the way we view mental health at an individual, family, school and community level.

## **14 Timetable**

<b>APPLICATION SUBMISSION / DELIVERY</b>	<b>TIMEFRAME</b>
Stage Two Application Submission	April 2014
Stage Two Delivery	September 2014 – December 2015
Stage Three Submission	Autumn 2015
Stage Three Delivery	January 2016 – December 2020

For further information please contact Caroline Hirst, Joint Commissioner, Children and Young People's Directorate on 020 8314 3368 or email [caroline.hirst@lewisham.gov.uk](mailto:caroline.hirst@lewisham.gov.uk)

## Appendix 1

**Extract taken from the Children and Young People 'Young People's Mental Health Provision Rapid Review: Scoping Paper'**  
**Date: 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2014**

### Key lines of Inquiry

In order to understand mental health service provision for children and young people, the Committee should address the following key questions:

- What are the emotional wellbeing and mental health needs of the children and young people of Lewisham
- What services are in place to meet these needs
- How can examples of current good practice and research be used to meet the gaps in service provision.

The BLF HeadStart project takes a universal and strategic approach to mental health in the borough and could have a significant impact on the mental health of young people in Lewisham. Therefore the Committee is recommended to focus on the work being carried out in this area. The Committee should consider the following key lines of inquiry:

- How is the Big Lottery HeadStart project developing new ideas for providing services or providing new services
- How are these new ideas and approaches being embedded into local provision
- How are young people involved in developing and shaping their own services, do young people feel they are actively involved
- Whether young people are being targeted outside of a school setting
- How digital technology is being used both to reach young people and deliver mental health services to them
- How will the effectiveness of the universal approach be monitored
- What is the evidence that this will lead to a reduction in need for tiers 3 and 4 services and how can this be monitored

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## Young People's Mental Health Review - Children & Young People Select Committee

Notes from meeting with young people involved in the Big Lottery Headstart project Steering Group held on 23/10/2014.

Members of the Committee present:

- Cllr John Paschoud (Chair)
- Cllr Brenda Dacres (Vice-Chair)
- Cllr Jacq Paschoud
- Cllr Joan Reid
- Cllr Luke Sorba
- Cllr Alan Till

Young people present:

- Sara Dimitsu
- Kenya Fantie
- Leia Garwood-Stephenson
- Eden Snell
- Saffron Worrell

Officers present:

- Andrew Hagger (Scrutiny Manager)
- Caroline Hirst (Commissioner, Children & Young People)

Caroline Hirst outlined that mental health provision for young people is a statutory obligation, with this provision focussed around specialist services. There are 6 community teams that serve Lewisham, two generic teams, one focused on looked After Children, one on those involved in the criminal justice system, one for emerging psychosis and one for young people with disabilities.

Caroline Hirst outlined the background to the Headstart project, highlighting that the work is based on a strong partnership approach. The first bid was for £10k, which was successful and allowed scope to build and submit a second bid for £500k which was also successful. Work is now underway to use the funding secured to develop services and ideas in order to bid for the third and final round of funding, which could total £10m over 5 years.

There has been a young person's steering group in place from the start of the project to provide input on the direction for of the project. Provision is being rolled out based on priorities identified by the steering group. There have been directly youth-led elements to the project, including events, youth-led film and a commissioning budget for young people to spend. The involvement of young people has shown that people are passionate about mental health in the borough.

### Issues identified and the mental health needs of young people.

In response to questions from the Committee members about the mental health needs of young people, the young people present provided the following information:

- There is a general lack of education about mental health, both amongst young people specifically and people generally. Because people do not know about mental health they are unable to properly understand and address it.
- Mental health problems can affect 1 in 4 people, so that could mean up to 5000 young people in the borough. 95% of the prison population have mental health issues.
- Previously, members of the group were not as aware of mental health issues as they are now, so did not understand its seriousness. The group acknowledged that they may not have been as compassionate with people due to this lack of understanding, which emphasised the need for more information and knowledge.
- Parents/carers may not understand their child's situation and have less knowledge about mental health issues, which could be due to a generational lack of awareness.
- The group felt that there were not enough services available and that it was important to offer a range of mental health services for young people. Young people may not know what services are available and accessible.
- The priority basis for services can sometimes be unhelpful. Because services are limited people may only get treatment and help if the situation is really bad, such as suicide attempt or serious illness. This can mean that prevention work to stop mental health issues becoming more serious could be missed.
- While it is important that there is mental health support in school, young people may want to access services outside school so they can be anonymous. There can be reluctance to go to a teacher, some may prefer to go to a school nurse instead, or to look on the internet for advice and help.
- However some young people may feel comfortable going to a teacher because they have a different relationship with and can be more detached. Having options available so young people can turn to wherever they feel most comfortable is important.
- The use of a helpline might depend on the age range. Older young people might use it, but younger ones who may not have as much independence may not, for example a 12 year old would probably still rely on their parents/carers. It can be difficult to for people to call a helpline, but it may be used as a last resort. It would also be better to be able to choose the person you talk to, rather than speaking to an anonymous person. For example a girl may feel more comfortable speaking to a woman about their problems rather than a man.
- It is not always easy to go to a parent/carer about mental health issues. Parents/carers could see their child having a mental health problem as a fault of their parenting, that they did not do the 'right' things for their child. Parents/carers can feel responsible, even if they are aware of mental health issues.
- Education for parents/carers about mental health issues would be useful and should start early, maybe at primary school level so there is good awareness from the start.
- The group felt that they would tell people they knew to go to the GP if they had a mental health problem, but only if it was serious. The danger is that if it is not serious then the GP may not offer much help or downplay the issue, which could result in that person feeling worse. If the issue was not as serious they would encourage people to talk to their friends first.
- Counselling can be very useful for young people to access, although it can depend on the individuals involved, some young people may not feel a connection to their counsellor. Young people can be flexible about their interactions and use a form of media, although meeting people face to face first is

important, so a relationship is established and then using different media such as email and texts feels ok.

- There is a concern that even though work is being done to build awareness and tell people to ask for help, the support and services aren't in place to then provide help when people look for it.
- There have been a mix of experiences with mental health services among the group, with some good and some bad.
- There is a need for lower level support through the transition period while waiting to access CAMHS services. Access to a mentor or an equivalent to help in the meantime would be useful.
- Mental health can flare up and then go away, it is not always a permanent thing. Long waits can mean that you are ok by the time you see someone, or it could mean that you drop off the list and never see anyone, so don't get any help.
- Advice for young people would be useful, such as teaching coping mechanisms and how to support friends.

### Involvement of young people in the project

In response to questions from the Committee members about the involvement of young people in the Headstart project, the young people present provided the following information:

- While no young men could attend the meeting, there are young men involved in the steering group and the steering group is reflective of young people in Lewisham.
- There has been a recent event held in Lewisham about the Big Lottery Headstart project which involved a lot of young people.
- Members of the steering group have gone to schools to speak to young people to find out what mental health is in their opinion and find ideas on how to spend the budget available.
- Many of the group are involved with YoungMinds, a charity committed to improving emotional wellbeing and mental health of children and young people. YoungMinds have identified 5 main pressures for young people, which include sexual pressure, bullying, unemployment, school stress and access to counselling.

### The role of schools

In response to questions from the Committee members about the role of schools, the young people present provided the following information:

- The group talked in detail about school stress, including the pressure on young people about exams, grades and the pressure to do well. The feeling from schools is that school is all that matters and that grades are the most important thing. However the association with failure if people don't get good grades can stick and it should be more about valuing people, not just their grades.
- The education system could alleviate stress by spreading exams more widely across the year, so they are not all bunched together at once.
- The group's experiences outside experiences, for example being involved in the Headstart project and being involved in running for Young Mayor, showed that school is not all there is. When young people go to 6<sup>th</sup> form the emphasis changes, it is more about broadening horizons and young people are then told

that exam results alone won't get you into a university, you need a good personal statement.

- Pupils with the most obvious problems, for example those that are disruptive, get the most attention at school. However those that are struggling, but just about getting by, are then passed over. If you need to see a teacher you may be ignored in favour of the ones who are causing trouble.
- Some schools, such as Sydenham (Girls), have had a counsellor. Other approaches such as learning mentors could also be supportive.
- Every school has a bullying policy, but bullying isn't always easily spotted and policies are not always effective. The psychological impact of bullying can hurt and linger on into later life. Teachers should be well trained on picking up signs of bullying.
- There is a concern over lack of confidentiality in school. For example, a young person could tell a teacher about a mental health issue they have been facing, but then it can be quite obvious that knowledge of their issue has been passed to a number of staff and this has now changed their relationships. The group felt that separating out classroom and personal problems could be useful for teachers.
- Sessions in school about mental health can have an impact. Forest Hill Boys had a small workshop on mental health, a 1 day session with some follow-up that changed the mindset of young people. This was carried out by outside people, who can offer a different perspective.

#### Accessing services via digital technology

In response to questions from the Committee members about accessing services via digital technology, the young people present provided the following information:

- It is important to not rely solely on new technology and the internet to access and deliver services, although it can be useful.
- Online services, such as the online chat service run by Childline, can be slow and it can take a very long time to get responses.
- Face to face chats are still extremely valuable, with phone or other technology used after you are comfortable.
- There can be extremes in online interaction. Some people may be very blunt or almost rude, some may issue cries for help online, such as through social media sites.
- There are good and bad sides to online participation. It is possible to share information and raise awareness, such as promotion online around World Mental Health Day. However online sources can promote harmful things, such as sites that offer advice around self-harm that can almost sound as though they are providing 'tips'.
- Education about using online services and accessing information should emphasise selectiveness and being able to recognise the differences in information.
- Diagnosis websites aren't always useful as people may think that they have problem or condition that they don't have.

<b>CHILDREN AND YOUNG PEOPLE SELECT COMMITTEE</b>			
<b>Report Title</b>	Lewisham's Preparations for the Raising of the Participation Age		
<b>Key Decision</b>	No	Item No.	5
<b>Ward</b>	All		
<b>Contributors</b>	Executive Director, Children and Young People Head of Law		
<b>Class</b>	Part 1	Date:	12 <sup>th</sup> November 2014

## 1 Purpose

- 1.1 This report aims to inform Members of how the local authority is discharging its statutory duty under the Education and Skills Act 2008 relating to the participation of young people (aged 16-19 (up to 25 for LLDD) in education, employment or training.

## 2 Introduction

- 2.1 The majority of young people both locally and nationally already continue in education or training on completion of year 11. There remains a small group of young people who do not participate in education or training post sixteen. The legislation aims to ensure all young people take the opportunity to develop the skills needed for adult life and for them to achieve their full potential.
- 2.2 Young people who left Y11 in 2013 were required to participate in education or training for at least a further year until June 2014. However, those who left Y11 in summer 2014 need to continue in some form of education and training until at least their 18th birthday.

This can be through:

- full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider;
  - full-time work or volunteering (20 hours or more) combined with part-time education or training;
  - an apprenticeship or traineeship.
- 2.3 Local authorities are expected to play a key role in supporting young people to access education and training and to monitor participation. The duties on local authorities, and the roles that schools, colleges and training providers have in regard to post-16 participation are laid out in The DfE paper of September 2014: *Participation of young people in education, employment or training: Statutory guidance for local authorities* is attached at Appendix 1.
- 2.4 The DfE, while not prescriptive in how local authorities should carry out their duties, tracks the performance of local authorities in regard to participation post sixteen, using data collected by authorities and submitted to the National Client Caseload Information System (NCCIS).

2.5 In order to fulfil its duties the local authority is required to:

- secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people aged 16 to 19 and for those up to age 25 with a learning difficulty assessment (LDA) or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan in their area
- make available to all young people aged 13-19 and to those up to age 25 with an LDA or EHC plan, support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training
- collect information about all young people, identifying those in their area who are covered by the duty to participate and that those young people who are not participating, or are NEET, can be identified and given support to re-engage.
- promote participation in education and training of 16 and 17 year olds in the area with a view to ensuring that they fulfil their duty to participate.

2.6 For the borough RPA is not only a matter of numbers participating it is about the quality of that engagement in education and training and the impact it has on achievement and progression.

### **3 Recommendations**

That Members note the report.

### **4 Lewisham context**

4.1 The Council monitors the EET status of the 16-19 year olds who reside within the borough. Indeed there has been a recent call by Ofsted for local councils to be given the authority to require educational providers to submit robust and timely data to assist in the reduction of NEETs and unknowns; a clear indication that there is an issue nationally. In line with national guidance, Lewisham has data sharing agreements with education providers, other public bodies and with some neighbouring boroughs. It continues to work with schools to identify those who are in need of targeted support or who are at risk of not participating post-16.

4.2 Locally, the relationship between the local authority and providers is strong and there are processes in place that assist with tracking and NEET reduction. The timely release of information by providers to the borough is critical for the local authority to fulfil its responsibilities and there are some local variations in this regard. This can impact on the borough's capacity to finalise the September Guarantee<sup>1</sup> data and to consider the needs of young people who have not been offered a place by the close of Y11. In addition to information received from schools and other providers tracking through residency has been operating quite successfully for three years.

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<sup>1</sup> Every young person who reaches the age of 16 or 17 in any given academic year is entitled to an offer of a suitable place, by the end of September, to continue in education or training the following year. The local authority leads the September Guarantee process for 16 year olds who are educated in the area and 17 year olds who are resident in their area.

- 4.3 The Strategic Forum is the key 14-19 representative stakeholder group. Its membership comprises local authority officers, schools, colleges, higher education and other key stakeholders. It is chaired by the Head of Standards and Achievement. There is also a NEET Reduction Strategy Group. At provider level, the group is represented by heads and principals / senior leaders.
- 4.4 The local authority currently provides support for NEET young people and targeted support through Baseline, which is a drop in service for targeted Lewisham young people staffed by Youth Support Services keyworkers. The target client group are those who are NEET, and those young people identified as at risk of becoming NEET.
- 4.5 The responsibility for careers advice and guidance now rests with the schools; they have a duty to secure independent careers guidance for all year 8-13 pupils. An Ofsted report (2012) 'Going in the right direction?' showed that while some schools have responded well to the new duty, the majority of schools need to do more to set high expectations for all pupils and provide high quality advice and guidance that motivates them to succeed. In April 2014 the DfE published Careers guidance and inspiration in schools Statutory guidance for governing bodies, school leaders and school staff April 2014 laying out the responsibilities for providers and other agencies and stressing the need to ensure that guidance for young people is inspirational and impartial. Ofsted has been giving careers guidance a higher priority in school inspections since September 2013. There are also requirements on governing bodies to ensure that all registered pupils at the school are provided with independent careers guidance from year 8 (12-13 year olds) to year 13 (17-18 year olds).
- 4.6 With the local authority's duty to promote and encourage participation post sixteen, it continues to take a close interest in the content and quality of IAG. There is an active IAG Forum in the borough, an annual IAG conference and in recent months an extensive peer review of advice and guidance in local schools.
- 4.7 Schools have a statutory obligation to work with local authorities to support the more vulnerable young people including those with special educational needs, and those who are disengaged or at risk of disengaging.
- 4.8 Through the completion of 'Moving on Plans' (S139 Assessments) the Local Authority supports the transition of young people with learning disabilities and difficulties in to participation at post-16, either in mainstream and specialist provision, employment with training or apprenticeships.
- 4.9 NEET prevention surgeries are conducted at key stages throughout the year attended by providers and support agencies. Those at risk of dropping out of post sixteen provision for whatever reason are identified, information shared and re-engagement options put in place for individual young people
- 4.10 Destinations are part of the accountability framework for schools and colleges. One way that providers can measure the effectiveness of their careers activity is through monitoring student progression and destinations. In addition to the destinations data published by the DfE, Lewisham has developed a Student Tracking Tool which tracks student destinations/participation by provider for three years following completion of Y11. This tracking tool enables schools to follow the progress of each

Y11 cohort. It also informs the local authority's strategic overview of participation, local provision and progression. The reluctance of UCAS to release data to local authorities is however an issue when it comes to determining student outcomes post 18.

- 4.11 The local authority continues to produce and analyse data relating to school cohorts, risk of NEET indicators (RONI) and low achievement at KS2/3/4 to identify those at risk of becoming NEET. Evidence shows that the roots of disengagement often exist long before the age of 16. The local authority works with schools to identify particular cohorts and to map the interventions, support and provision in place for each 'at risk' cohort earlier.
- 4.12 Particular attention continues to be given to the contribution made by Alternative Provision at both pre and post 16. In January 2013 the Dfe published a report Alternative Provision Statutory guidance for local authorities, headteachers and governing bodies of all educational settings providing alternative provision. The local authority is fulfilling its responsibilities in line with this guidance. It undertakes a quality audit of alternative providers that wish to be included within the Lewisham AP directory. A new borough wide student monitoring process has been introduced this term. Providers meet with schools and other agencies in the various NEET meetings and surgeries and there will be a conference in late November to consider the future development of quality and collaborative provision that will best serve the needs and interests of the young people of Lewisham.

## **5 Progress against NEET targets**

The target for 2013/2014 was to keep the NEET percentage to below 5% and to keep the percentage of unknowns to 10% or under.

### **5.1 16-19 NEETs: August 2014 figures**

- 5.1.1 Lewisham NEETs are 4.7%. This is an increase of 0.4% on July 2014. It is below the national average of 5.5%, and the East London Average of 4.9% and at about the same level as the average for all of London 4.1%\*. Greenwich is currently at 6.6%, Bromley 5.4%\*, Tower Hamlets 4.7%. Southwark however is lower at 2.9%\*. Lewisham was 4.2% June 2014.  
(\*the latest figures available are for June 2014)

### **5.2 16-19 Unknowns**

- 5.2.1 Comparison between June 2013 and June 2014: Lewisham unknowns in June 2013 were 8.1%, but down to 6.7% in June 2014. This latter figure is below the England average of 8.6% but marginally above the London average of 6.5%, and the East London figure of 5.7%. We compare favourably with Tower Hamlets 9.25% and Barking and Dagenham 10.8%, with Bromley 7.2% and Southwark 7.7%, but less favourably with Greenwich at 5.4%. Since June the unknown % has increased to 8.8%.
- 5.2.2 There are points in the year when the numbers of NEETS and unknowns peak. Data on Y11 students resident in the borough but who attended schools out of borough is transferred to Lewisham at sixteen as part of the Y12 cohort for progression and NEET tracking purposes. This is a major challenge for NEET

tracking post sixteen as 510 young people are added to the existing known Y11 cohort. At this stage in the new term we don't yet have a complete picture as we only have data for those transferring from boroughs with which we have data sharing protocols. So for instance we know that there are 224 transferring to our Y12 numbers from Bromley and 139 from Southwark but we don't know the number transferring from Greenwich. Young people in private schools are not included in the activity survey, though those being electively home educated are.

### **5.3 16-19 'In Learning'**

#### **5.3.1 Lewisham has one of the highest 'in learning' percentages of the East London boroughs.**

In June 2014, 86% of the 16-19 cohort were in learning compared to the East London average of 85%, and England average of 81.1% and at around the London average of 86.4%.

By way of comparison with neighbouring boroughs Greenwich 'in learning' figure is 82.7%; Bromley 82.9% Lambeth 84.9% and Southwark 87.3%.

By August 2014 the percentage of Y12 in learning was 94.6%, Greenwich 93.9%

#### **5.3.2 Current intended destinations for Y11 is around 97% for progression to full time learning/training, although the process of data collection for this cohort is not yet complete.**

The current figure (October 14) of offers made of education/training (i.e. the September Guarantee) is 98.55%.

For those who have just completed Y12, 75.5% have an offer recorded by the tracking team but again we are still receiving school/6th form and college lists and are calling young people.

For a closer analysis of 'In Learning' patterns see section 10 below.

## **6 Process**

#### **6.1 Collecting the information is a major undertaking. The operational lead for this is with three members of staff; a NEET tracking manager, a NEET tracking coordinator and a CallPoint employee; this is a small team for what is a challenging data collection exercise each year.**

#### **6.2 There is a Post-16 Tracking Action Plan to ensure ongoing improvements of the service and a tracking timetable for the year. The challenge is to reduce the number of 'unknowns' further. 'Unknown' young people are not necessarily NEET but their situation may have changed e.g. change of address, expired programme of study or studying outside the borough. Reducing unknowns and NEETs is a far greater challenge as RPA now extends to 18 as it is very difficult to track participation at 17, 18 and 19.**

#### **6.3 What the NEET tracking team collect**

- Lewisham residents aged 16-19; details are entered into the IYSS database. This data includes personal details e.g. telephone number, email addresses, EET/NEET status.
- data from e.g. intended destinations / September offer / activity survey (final destinations).
- online forms completed by young people e.g. intended destination, are also distributed by schools and post 16 providers to students. Data collected this way is uploaded centrally on the IYSS system. Key staff in schools also have access to IYSS to record interventions.
- data collected by telephone tracking; where it has not been possible to collect data from a young person via an online survey, calls will be made to them. When calling young people, information, advice and guidance about Lewisham services is provided to support the young people into EET status.
- data collected by door knocking following up on those who it has otherwise been impossible to contact
- details of young people using Baseline.
- lists from other agencies – JCP, YOS, LAC, Admissions, 15billion and the Children’s Data Warehouse.

## **7 The Youth Service and Baseline**

- 7.1 The Youth Service’s specialist support for young people in relation to education, employment and training currently consists of 9 specialist one-to-one youth workers, each holding a maximum caseload of 15 cases at any one time, with an annual service reach of c.270 young people. Alongside a one-stop ‘holistic support’ shop, Baseline, in Lewisham town centre and a variety of commissioned providers, the Service provides one-to-one youth work and information, advice and guidance for the Borough’s most vulnerable including support to young fathers, young women and those considering their sexuality. This is currently under review and is the subject of savings proposals, which, if taken, will reduce the management capacity. The service would also be likely to be run and funded differently, possibly through the re-specification and re-commissioning of the Targeted Family Support Service. Funding opportunities through the Government’s Troubled Families Grant are also proposed.
- 7.2 Additionally, the NEET Programme has been offering four 6 week work support programmes for young people who are not in education, employment or training. As a part of the 2013/14 restructure the scheme is changing to become a 12 week Government-recognised traineeship, in partnership with Bromley College. The programme will run 3 times a year in line with school terms. It will continue to work with the same cohort of vulnerable young people, however the longer traineeship will allow them to achieve more robust qualifications, offer accredited numeracy and literacy support and stronger pathways post completion. The scheme will also allow participants to continue to receive out of work benefits whilst on the scheme.

7.3 The NEET programme is also the subject of savings proposals, and although this will not impact on the changes detailed, alternative funding is also being sought through schools, colleges and the EFA.

7.4 All of these activities and support systems take place at Council-run youth centres and adventure playgrounds, via street based work, at Baseline and at a variety of non-council run venues across the Borough.

- Services include:
  - initial assessment of a young person's needs
  - one-to-one key worker support in emergency situations
  - 48-hour referral service for one-to-one key work support
  - signposting to other services, e.g. sexual health advice, Jobcentre Plus
  - computer access for information, advice and guidance
- The day-time services at Baseline are primarily aimed at young people aged 16-18 and up to 25 years for those with additional needs. Younger people aged 13 and over are able to access services at Baseline if they need to outside school hours.
- Parents, carers and professionals will also be able to use the service to support a young person if required to do so.
- Information about additional services provided by Lewisham local authority and its partners will also be made available. These include:
  - youth centres
  - housing agencies
  - career guidance

## **8 How NEET tracking sits within the wider strategy of NEET reduction, NEET prevention and RPA**

8.1 Tracking is not only a statutory responsibility it also informs and supports every aspect of RPA strategy including:

- the suitability of provision for all young people 16-19 and up to 25 with LDA or EHC plan
- identifying those who are not participating or at risk of not participating
- promotion of effective participation
- borough wide provision of advice and support for young people to access education or training
- re-engagement strategies
- partnership working with neighbouring authorities

## **9 Overview of current performance and trends**

9.1 The local authority is very much reliant on information received from schools and colleges in the early stage of each academic year before national statistics are made available from census returns in October. Collecting data from schools and

college in early September is a challenge for the local authority as it is tasked with the responsibility of confirming the September guarantee in good time. It is also difficult to collect details of young people who have not been made an offer and, more important, to do much to support them other than by dealing with individual inquiries.

- 9.2 Much of the focus so far has been on working with providers, both mainstream and alternative provision, to ensure a range of opportunities for young people. In the future more attention also needs to be given to opportunities provided by voluntary organisations and other agencies.
- 9.3 With RPA being raised to 18 there has been a significant increase in the scope of the responsibilities that rest with the local authority. There is an expectation that this will be delivered within existing resources.
- 9.4 Once young people have been identified as having dropped out or at risk of dropping out of valid activity to meet RPA expectations, the challenge is to re-engage them quickly in a suitable programme. There are plenty of agencies available to provide advice and support but there is a need to develop a coordinated approach to ensure that support is relevant and focused on outcomes. There is a need to develop a learning pathway action plan for each young person.
- 9.5 There is a need to have a good range of quality provision that is recognised by young people and their parents/carers as leading towards skills, qualifications and employment. Work is underway to ensure that there is a good range of high quality collaborative and alternative provision accessible to young people in Lewisham including traineeships. There is also the need to have better promotion in schools of apprenticeships. A number of initiatives will be brought together in a strategy to increase the take-up of apprenticeships. Current figures show that at 2% of the KS4 cohort in apprenticeships Lewisham is 1% below the London average. However at KS5 the percentage is 3%; 1% above the London average and fourth highest in the capital
- 9.6 The local authority continues to focus on those who are most vulnerable of becoming NEET, in particular teenage mothers, young carers, young offenders, young people with substance misuse, young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities and our care leavers.
- 9.7 The 16-19 Bursary Fund is available to Lewisham post-16 learners and provides targeted support to help overcome any specific financial barriers to participation. The majority of this funding is administered by schools, colleges and training providers; funding for the most vulnerable young people is administered by EFA.
- 9.8 The fund particularly supports the most vulnerable young people (young people in care, care leavers, those on income support, and those in receipt of both Employment Support Allowance and Disability Living Allowance) receive a bursary of £1200. Beyond that, schools, colleges and training providers award bursaries to young people on a discretionary basis, to help those facing financial difficulties relating to participation. The local authority is not aware of any cases of barriers to learning as result of the changes to financial support.

- 9.9 The Lewisham post-16 transport policy ensures Lewisham young people are not prevented from participating because of the cost or availability of transport to post-19 education or training.

## **10 Participation in post-sixteen education**

- 10.1 The Student Tracker data allows us to follow the Y11 (1879 students) cohort in Lewisham schools for three years. The last complete cycle tracked the young people who left Y11 in Lewisham schools in 2010 for the following three years up to the academic year 2012/13. We will have the data on the 2011-2014 cohort shortly.
- 10.2 Of this cohort 71.6% progressed to level three programmes; 61% of those studying level 3 did so in a school sixth form, 39% of them in a college.
- 10.3 By the following year the percentage studying at level 3 had reduced to 68% of the original Y11 cohort (a reduction of 5.2% of the level 3 cohort). 58.7% of these were in a school, 41.3% in a college.
- 10.4 Of the young people studying at level 2 or below in Y12, 21% were in schools 79% in a college. 37.5% of these progressed to level 3 the following year. However also in the following year the number of young people studying at level 2 or below had risen by 6%; 14% of them in school, 86% in a college.
- 10.5 Of the cohort that began a level 3 programme in a school, 26.7% were still studying at this level (3) at a school or a college in Y14. Of those who embarked on a level 3 programme in a college in Y12, 30.9% were still on a level 3 programme in a school or college in Y14.
- 10.6 In total 28.4% of the Y11 cohort that began a level 3 course in Y12 were still on a level 3 programme in Y14.
- 10.7 7.4% of this original level 3 cohort were studying below level 3 three years after leaving Y11 to commence a level 3 programme.
- 10.8 It is a concern that a high number of young people who enrol on level 3 courses, and therefore are most likely to have met the GCSE entry criteria for courses at this level that are set by schools and colleges, are not successful on the courses they started in Y12 and nearly 30% of them are still studying at the same level after three years. Improved guidance for young people making choices at 16 might improve this picture. However an immediate concern for providers will be the significant changes to funding for 18 year olds and for those repeating subjects at the same level, together with proposed changes to league tables which will focus on progression outcomes not simply on courses studied. Only the achievement of the student's original learning goal will count as a successful outcome in the future reporting of results.

## **11 Local comparisons (2013)**

- 11.1 Over the coming months we will be working with the neighbouring boroughs of Lambeth and Southwark to explore a range of RPA issues and to consider common

approaches to meeting the challenges of maximising participation and building success.

- 11.2 The following table compares 2013 participation data for the three boroughs. This is an extract from a more comprehensive set of data produced in July 2014 by MIME consulting and available on Intelligent London

<b>factor</b>	<b>Lewisham</b>	<b>Lambeth</b>	<b>Southwark</b>
participation aged 16	97%	93%	95%
participation 16-17	93%	93%	94%
KS5 points per entry	201	207	215
KS5 points per student	631	613	725
Level 2 incl. Eng and Maths by 19	56%	61%	61%
Level 3 by 19	56%	58%	61%
Student destinations the year after KS5: EET	77%	71%	68%
UK HE	63%	57%	54%
Russell Group incl. Oxbridge	7%	6%	7%

- 11.3 There is additional guidance for re-engagement i.e. where there is provision that has been put in place specifically to help young people to re-engage in sustained post-16 education or training. This will meet their RPA duty.
- 11.4 The government recognises there will always be a very small number of young people who require a temporary break in education or training (such as new mothers or the very ill). It is important that the local authority has in place the appropriate support mechanisms to enable these young people to return to education or training as soon as is reasonably possible.
- 11.5 Young people who have longer term medical needs that affect their studies but who do not have an LDA, SEN statement or an EHC plan may be unable to fulfil the full requirement of RPA: for example they may not be able to manage full-time education or working over 20 hours per week while studying. The local authority recognises that full compliance may not be possible for these young people.

## **12 Conclusions**

- 12.1 The local authority is confident that there are systems and structures already in place to deliver the Raising of the Participation Age statutory duty. However the implementation will not be without challenges. The key challenges are as follows:
- 12.2 The general academic curriculum is extensive at level 3 but increasingly selective. There has been some small recent increase in level 2 and the vocational offer. Curriculum changes being introduced at a national level may have a considerable impact on the current high take-up of the educational offer. Provider accountability for student outcomes in GCSE maths and English, the phased introduction of linear A levels, and changes to the vocational learning pathways may all impact on the minimum entry requirements set by schools and colleges.

- 12.3 As the participation age reaches 18, there will be issues of engagement with the 17-18 age group. Data on this group is more difficult to collect than it is for Y12 young people and this is a resource issue for local authorities.
- 12.4 There is a need to develop advice and guidance that is truly impartial and inspirational. This will help all young people, including the most vulnerable, to make well informed decisions about the range of opportunities available to them. This should in turn reduce drop out and NEETs. While this is essential in the final years of secondary there is much that needs to be done much earlier than Y10 and also at post-sixteen. There are several regional initiatives that the local authority can access following on from the recent IAG peer review; these include the National Careers Service, Inspiring Learning (delivered by Prospects funded by the SFA) and London Ambitions (GLA)
- 12.5 There are new and exciting opportunities for young people to gain qualifications and develop the skills that will lead to meaningful employment and further learning. Traineeships, apprenticeships, and the new technical level qualifications are important additions to the offer. Take up however will in part depend upon better promotion of vocational pathways, informed choice and closer engagement of education providers with employers.
- 12.6 The engagement of all young people in learning is of course critical to the long term success of RPA. The most vulnerable young people post-sixteen are most likely to have been identified much earlier in the schools. Developing a range of opportunities that will encourage these young people to participate and develop through learning, linked with individual pathway plans and collaborative programmes between schools and other providers would decrease the likelihood of dis-engagement both pre and post sixteen.
- 12.7 For young people with learning difficulties and or disabilities the challenge is to ensure that there is both access and support to the full range of learning and career opportunities and that they are challenged to maximise their potential. In an increasingly selective and target driven educational environment the local authority will need to promote and safeguard the interests of these young people into adulthood.

### **13 Equalities Implications**

- 13.1 The intended impact of RPA is to ensure that all young people continue in education after sixteen and have the opportunity to further enhance their qualifications. This is particularly important for the most vulnerable who may have underachieved at school. There are also positive implications for provision for young people with learning difficulties and/or disabilities.

### **14 Financial implications**

- 14.1 Support for Raising of Participation Age is provided from both the General Fund and the Dedicated Schools Grant. The Specialist 1:1 Service: operated out of Baseline in Lewisham Town Centre (£450k) and the Mayor's NEET Programme (£197k) are both funded from the General Fund.

- 14.2 A contribution is made from the Dedicated Schools Grant (£146k) to cover the strategic lead on 14 -19 and their work.
- 14.3 These services are not solely focused on raising the participation age but help the authority fulfil its duties.
- 14.4 As part of the current savings round the Mayor is considering savings to services funded through the General Fund. Consideration is being given to reducing the Specialist 1:1 service budget to £390k and the NEET programme to £115k. Following the reduction to NEET programme, alternative sources of funding are being considered which would potentially come from schools, colleges and the Education Funding Agency.

## **15 Legal implications**

- 15.1 Section 15ZA of the Education Act 1996 requires local authorities to secure enough suitable, full and part time education and training opportunities to meet the reasonable of the following people of its area:
- young people who are over compulsory school age but under 19; and
  - learners aged 19 or over, but under 256, who have (or should have had) a learning difficulty assessment under s 139A or 140 of the Learning and Skills Act 2000but the duty does not extend to persons subject to a detention order.
- 15.2 In securing education and training opportunities, local authorities must take account of people's ages, abilities and aptitudes; any learning difficulties they may have; the quality of education or training; and the locations and times at which those opportunities are provided.
- 15.3 Section 10 of the Education and Skills Act 2008 requires local authorities (so far as their powers extend) to promote the effective participation in education or training of persons belonging to its area to whom Part 1 of the Education and Skills Act applies, with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training.
- 15.4 The duty to participate in education or training applies to all young people in England (from 28 June 2013) until the end of the academic year in which they turn 17; and from 26 June 2015, to their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday.
- 15.5 In fulfilling and exercising its functions relating to the participation of young people in education or training the local authority must have regard to statutory guidance from the Secretary of State.
- 15.6 The Equality Act 2010 (the Act) introduced a new public sector equality duty (the equality duty or the duty). It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.
- 15.7 In summary, the Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:
- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act.

- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.
- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

15.8 The duty continues to be a “have regard duty”, and the weight to be attached to it is a matter for the Mayor, bearing in mind the issues of relevance and proportionality. It is not an absolute requirement to eliminate unlawful discrimination, advance equality of opportunity or foster good relations.

15.9 The Equality and Human Rights Commission has issued Technical Guidance on the Public Sector Equality Duty and statutory guidance entitled Equality Act 2010 Services, Public Functions & Associations Statutory Code of Practice. The Council must have regard to the statutory code in so far as it relates to the duty and attention is drawn to Chapter 11 which deals particularly with the equality duty. The Technical Guidance also covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty. This includes steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The guidance does not have statutory force but nonetheless regard should be had to it, as failure to do so without compelling reason would be of evidential value.

15.10 The Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC) has previously issued five guides for public authorities in England giving advice on the equality duty:

- the essential guide to the public sector equality duty
- meeting the equality duty in policy and decision-making
- engagement and the equality duty
- equality objectives and the equality duty
- equality information and the equality duty

15.11 The essential guide provides an overview of the equality duty requirements including the general equality duty, the specific duties and who they apply to. It covers what public authorities should do to meet the duty including steps that are legally required, as well as recommended actions. The other four documents provide more detailed guidance on key areas and advice on good practice. Further information and resources are available at:  
<http://www.equalityhumanrights.com/advice-and-guidance/public-sector-equality-duty/guidance-on-the-equality-duty/>

## **16 Crime and Disorder Implications**

16.1 There are no crime and disorder implications arising from this report.

## **17 Environmental Implication**

17.1 There are no environmental implications arising from this report.

If there are any queries arising from this report please contact Sid Hughes on 020 8314 3499

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Department  
for Education

# **Participation of young people in education, employment or training**

**Statutory guidance for local authorities**

**September 2014**

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# Summary

## About this guidance

1. This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education (the Department). A local authority must have regard to it when exercising its functions relating to the participation of young people in education or training. The annexes to this guidance contain departmental advice to help recipients understand what the Department considers the statutory provisions to mean in particular circumstances.

## Review date

2. The Department will review this guidance by September 2015 and might publish an updated version following this review.

## What legislation does this guidance refer to?

3. This guidance is issued under sections 18 and 68(4) of the 2008 Education and Skills Act (ESA 2008) in relation to sections 10, 12 and 68 of that Act.

## Who is this guidance for?

4. This guidance is for all local authorities in England.

## Main points

5. Most young people already continue in education or training after they finish year 11, because it gives them the best chance to get the skills and qualifications that employers and universities look for. However, the small group of young people not participating includes some of the most vulnerable. We want to give all young people the opportunity to develop the skills they need for adult life and to achieve their full potential.

6. Participating in education or training for longer means young people are more likely to attain higher levels of qualifications and have increased earnings over their lifetime, better health and improved social skills. This in turn contributes to a more highly skilled, productive, and internationally competitive workforce.

7. Alongside introducing reforms to improve the quality of post-16 education and training, the government has raised the participation age (RPA) so that all young people in England are now required to continue in education or training for longer.

8. RPA does not necessarily mean staying in school; young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post-16. This could be through:

- full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider;
- full-time work or volunteering (20 hours or more) combined with part-time education or training; or
- an apprenticeship or traineeship (more information available at [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)).

9. Pupils who left year 11 in summer 2013 had to continue in education or training for at least a further year until June 2014. Pupils who left year 11 in summer 2014 or beyond need to continue until at least their 18th birthday.

10. Although the proportion of young people not in education, employment or training (NEET) is falling, it remains too high especially at ages 18 and 19. Whilst many young people are NEET for a relatively short period, there are others – especially more disadvantaged young people – who struggle to progress to sustainable education, employment or training. Intervening early is important to prevent the risk of long-term disengagement and the risk of adult unemployment, low wages and health issues.

11. Whilst the Department provides the framework to increase participation and reduce the proportion of young people NEET, responsibility and accountability lies with local authorities. Local authorities have a critical role to play in supporting young people to access education and training – and therefore in understanding the characteristics and current activity of the young people in their area. This guidance sets out the duties on local authorities, and the crucial roles that schools, colleges and training providers have with regard to post-16 participation.

12. The Department tracks the performance of local authorities in delivering their duties, using data collected by authorities and submitted to the National Client Caseload Information System (NCCIS). NCCIS includes data showing the numbers of young

people participating in education or training, those who are NEET or those whose current activity is not known.

13. This guidance has been updated to reflect a number of queries that have arisen during the first year of RPA and new arrangements for young people with special educational needs (SEN) and disabilities in the Children and Families Act 2014.

## Local authorities

### Responsibilities of local authorities

14. The government's approach is to give local authorities freedom and flexibility to decide how to fulfil their statutory duties. That is why we are only specifying key activities to help them to fulfil those duties. Local authorities should have regard to the following guidance when deciding how to organise and resource their services.

### Duties on local authorities relating to participation

15. Prior to RPA, local authorities had existing duties to encourage, enable and assist young people to participate in education or training which still apply. These duties are to:

- Secure sufficient suitable education and training provision for all young people aged 16 to 19 and for those up to age 25 with a learning difficulty assessment (LDA) or Education, Health and Care (EHC) plan in their area<sup>1</sup>. To fulfil this, local authorities need to have a strategic overview of the provision available in their area and to identify and resolve gaps in provision. Guidance on this duty is included at paragraphs 17-19.
- Make available to all young people aged 13-19 and to those up to age 25 with an LDA or EHC plan, support that will encourage, enable or assist them to participate in education or training<sup>2</sup>. Guidance on this duty is included at paragraphs 21 to 34.

Tracking young people's participation is a key element of these duties. Local authorities are required to collect information about all young people so that those who are not participating, or are NEET, can be identified and given support to re-engage. Robust tracking also provides the local authority with information that will help to ensure that suitable education and training provision is available and that resources can be targeted effectively.

16. In addition, ESA 2008 placed two RPA-related duties on local authorities with regard to 16 and 17 year olds:

- Local authorities must promote the effective participation in education and training of 16 and 17 year olds in their area with a view to ensuring that those persons fulfil the duty to participate in education or training<sup>3</sup>. A key element of this is identifying the young people in their area who are covered by the duty to participate and

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<sup>1</sup> Sections 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the Apprenticeships, Skills and Children and Learning Act 2009) and from 1st September 2014, Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014

<sup>2</sup> Section 68 Education and Skills Act 2008 as updated by Section 20 in Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014

<sup>3</sup> Section 10 Education and Skills Act 2008

encouraging them to find a suitable education or training place. Guidance on this duty is included at paragraphs 40 to 43.

- Local authorities must make arrangements - ie maintain a tracking system - to identify 16 and 17 year olds who are not participating in education or training<sup>4</sup>. Putting in place robust arrangements to identify young people who are not engaged in education or training or who have left provision enables local authorities to offer support as soon as possible. Guidance on this duty is included in paragraph 44.

## Funding for these duties

17. Local authorities are expected to meet any costs incurred in the delivery of these duties from their overall budgets, including central government grants.

18. Funding for education and training provision for 16 to 19 year olds and those aged 19-25 with an LDA or EHC plan is provided to schools, colleges and training providers by the Education Funding Agency (EFA). Where local authorities feel that there is a specific gap in provision that cannot be addressed by existing providers, there is a process by which this can be brought to the attention of the EFA for consideration and action as appropriate<sup>5</sup>. Re-engagement programmes should be used to support young people who are NEET back into learning where available and appropriate. Examples of re-engagement programmes include programmes funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), the EFA managed Youth Contract for 16 and 17 year olds (until March 2016<sup>6</sup>), National Citizen Service (NCS), Youth Engagement Fund, and Fair Chance Fund. Other ways of re-engaging young people may be sourced locally and further information and re-engagement principles are set out in Annex 3.

19. Local authorities will also receive a single 5 to 25 high needs allocation within the Dedicated Schools Grant (DSG) which includes funding for post-16 high needs students.

20. The 16 to 19 Bursary Fund provides targeted support to help young people to overcome any specific financial barriers to participation<sup>7</sup>. The majority of this funding is administered by schools, colleges and training providers; funding for the most vulnerable young people is administered by EFA. Local authorities can seek to work with institutions in their area to coordinate and support the delivery of the 16 to 19 Bursary. Local authorities also administer the fund in respect of their own direct provision, including local authority maintained schools with sixth forms.

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<sup>4</sup> Section 12 Education and Skills Act 2008

<sup>5</sup> For further information see the gov.uk guidance "[16 to 19 education: market entry](#)".

<sup>6</sup> In line with the contracts for delivery with the prime contractors, the EFA managed Youth Contract programme for 16 and 17 year olds will recruit young people until 31 March 2015 and will continue supporting young people on programmes to 31 March 2016 in local authority areas.

<sup>7</sup> For more information on the 16 to 19 Bursary Fund, see the gov.uk guidance "[16 to 19 education: financial support for students](#)".

## Delivering the existing duties on local authorities to support participation

21. This section relates to local authorities' existing duty under section 68 of ESA 2008. This applies to all young people aged 13 to 19 and those up to age 25 with an LDA or ECH plan.

22. Local authorities should provide strategic leadership in their areas to support participation in education, training and employment - working with and influencing partners by:

- ensuring a focus on participation is embedded and communicated throughout the authority's services for children and young people;
- ensuring the services for young people in the local area come together to meet the needs of young people – including funding for education and training places and re-engagement provision;
- agreeing ways of working with other partners such as Local Enterprise Partnerships (LEPs), Jobcentre Plus, employers, voluntary and community sector organisations, health services, police, and probation services; and
- working with neighbouring authorities, especially where young people routinely travel out of the area to access education and training, for work or other services.

23. To discharge this duty, local authorities must collect information about young people in their area in order to identify those who are not participating, or who are at risk of not doing so, and to target their resources on those who need them most. The information collected must be in the format specified in the NCCIS Management Information Requirement<sup>8</sup>. To meet this requirement, local authorities need to have arrangements in place to confirm all young people's current activity at regular intervals. This may be through the exchange of information with education and training providers, and other services within the local authority area such as youth offending teams and Jobcentre Plus, as well as through direct contact with young people.

24. Section 72 of ESA 2008 places a duty on educational institutions to provide information to local authority services in order for them to deliver their duties under section 68. Sections 76 and 77 provide additional data sharing powers to support local authorities to deliver their duties under section 68. Local authorities should agree data sharing agreements with education providers and other public bodies that set out the information they will provide, when it will be provided and how they will ensure that data is passed securely.

25. Local authorities are expected to continue to work with schools to identify those who are in need of targeted support or who are at risk of not participating post-16. They will need to agree how these young people can be referred for intensive support, drawn from the range of education and training support services available locally. For example,

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<sup>8</sup> See the gov.uk guidance "[NCCIS management information requirement](#)" for further information.

this may include engagement programmes and mental health services. Local authorities should pay particular attention to young people not in mainstream education, such as those not on school rolls, those attending alternative provision, and those in youth custody. Local authorities should support these young people to ensure they are not disadvantaged when applying for a suitable place in post-16 education or training.

26. Every young person who reaches the age of 16 or 17 in any given academic year is entitled to an offer of a suitable place, by the end of September, to continue in education or training the following year. Local authorities are required to lead the September Guarantee process for:

- 16 year olds who are educated in their area; and
- 17 year olds who are resident in their area.

27. Local authorities should work with schools and post-16 providers to identify those young people eligible for an offer, understand their post-16 plans and any offers they have received and record this information on their Client Caseload Information (CCIS) databases. Young people who do not have post-16 plans or an offer of a place are at risk of becoming NEET in September. Identifying these young people early enables services to provide additional advice and support about the options available, and to alert the EFA to any emerging gaps in provision. Local authorities will want to agree with schools who is best placed to offer support after the end of the summer term. They will also need to work with neighbouring authorities to establish offers made by schools and colleges outside their authority's area.

28. A significant proportion of young people are educated outside the area where they live or move between local authority areas. In the event of a local authority being given information about a young person who is resident in another local authority area, they should inform the home authority as quickly as possible. Local authorities may learn of young people moving into their area from other services, such as Jobcentre Plus, or from other local authorities. Local authorities must record these young people on their CCIS database and to co-operate fully with other authorities in order to minimise the risk of young people slipping through the net.

29. Information on the number or proportion of young people in each area who:

- receive an offer under the September Guarantee;
- are participating in education or training, including those meeting the duty to participate;
- are NEET; or
- whose current activity is not known;

is taken from the CCIS data reported to the Department and made available publically on gov.uk on a regular basis. The KS4 and KS5 destination measures also draw on information from NCCIS to identify young people in employment, training or NEET.

30. Local authorities are expected to pay particular attention to young people who are NEET or whose current activity is not known. This may include working with Youth Contract providers to refer 16 and 17 year olds who are NEET and eligible for support in line with the [Youth Contract: 16- and 17-year-olds](#) guidance issued by the EFA.

31. Local authorities should continue to maintain close links with Jobcentre Plus to ensure that young people who are NEET and receiving benefits get support that is appropriate to their needs. The Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) passes basic details of 18 and 19 year olds making a new claim for benefits to local authorities each month. The local authority is expected to use this information to offer support to the young person and to update CCIS. There is guidance on [working together to support young People](#) available on gov.uk. The information includes a Memorandum of Understanding that can be agreed to allow Jobcentre Plus to share information on young people who are NEET with local authorities.

32. In certain circumstances, 16 and 17 year olds are eligible to claim Jobseeker's Allowance (JSA), Income Support (IS), Employment Support Allowance (ESA) or Universal Credit. Whilst decisions about the payment of benefits will be made by Jobcentre Plus, any young person aged under 18 wishing to make a claim must first register with the local authority as a condition of entitlement. Local authorities must follow the processes set out in the [guidance on benefit liaison](#), issued by DWP, to ensure that benefit regulations are adhered to, and should be aware of the [Jobseeker's Allowance Claimant Commitment](#).

33. To enable local authorities in England to fulfil their duty to track participation, there will be occasions when they need to approach Welsh and Scottish authorities and educational institutions for information about individual young people who are resident in England but studying in Wales or Scotland.

34. Welsh and Scottish authorities and educational institutions are not under a specific duty to provide the information but we would expect them to respond to any request reasonably to support our shared objectives of helping young people to improve their skills and attain higher levels of qualifications.

# Supporting young people and providers to fulfil their duties introduced under RPA

## Duty on young people

35. Part 1 of ESA 2008 places a duty on young people themselves. This means that young people aged 16 and 17 are under a duty to continue in education or training for longer, as set out in paragraphs 8 and 9. The duty to participate on all young people who left year 11 in summer 2014 or later is until the young person's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday and not until the end of the academic year the young person turns 18. Young people should however be encouraged to complete the education or training they are undertaking. This section of the guidance relates to these age groups, though local authorities are free to consider its wider application to support other young people (eg those aged 18 or over).

36. Advice on the definitions of participation in education or training is set out in Annex 1 to this guidance. The aim is to ensure that every young person continues their studies or takes up training and goes on to successful employment or higher education.

## Duties on providers

37. ESA 2008 placed two RPA-related duties on providers with regard to 16 and 17 year olds:

- Section 11 places a duty on community, foundation or voluntary schools, community or foundation special schools, pupil referral units, schools and colleges in the further education sector to exercise their functions, where possible, so as to promote good attendance to enable young people to meet their duty to participate.
- Section 13 places a duty on all educational institutions (maintained schools, academies, colleges, and education and training providers – including apprenticeship providers and performing arts schools who receive Dance and Drama Award (DaDA) funding) to tell their local authority when a young person is no longer participating. This duty is applicable if a young person leaves an education or training programme before completion (ie 'drops-out') and enables local authorities to take swift action to encourage the young person to re-engage.

38. Schools also have specific responsibilities for young people with statements of SEN or EHC plans leaving school, including arranging an annual review of the statement or EHC plan which focuses on transition from school. The responsibilities placed on young people by RPA should be clearly built into that transition plan.

39. Schools and colleges are required to secure independent careers guidance for young people aged 12-18 (years 8-13). This is explained further in Annex 2 of this guidance. Local authorities can work within local partnerships with schools, colleges and other partners to help develop the careers guidance offer. For example, this may include

understanding pathways locally and embedding intelligence on the local economy. Destinations data are an important tool in helping schools to measure the effectiveness of their support by assessing how successfully their pupils make the transition into the next stage of education or training. Schools and colleges will be held to account for the destinations of all their leavers through the annual publication of destination measures.

## Duty on local authorities introduced under RPA to promote participation

40. The participation of young people in education and training should be actively promoted through local authorities' wider functions (section 10 of ESA 2008).

41. Specific examples of this are:

- When developing transport arrangements and preparing their post-16 transport policy statement, local authorities should, in accordance with their duty under the Education Act 1996, ensure that young people are not prevented from participating because of the cost or availability of transport to their education or training<sup>9</sup>. [Statutory guidance](#) has been developed to help local authorities to meet their post-16 transport duty.
- Local authorities should ensure a focus on participation is embedded throughout their education and children's services, youth offending teams, troubled families teams and pre-16 education teams, social services and economic development, amongst others.
- The Children and Families Act 2014 places a duty on local authorities to develop a local offer setting out what services they expect to be available for local children and young people with SEN or disabilities up to age 25. This must include post-16 education and training provision. Further information is available in the [SEN Code of Practice](#). The local offer will be a key tool in supporting young people with SEN and disabilities to make choices as they approach the end of school and successfully make the transition into post-16 education and training. Young people with SEN and disabilities should be encouraged and supported to follow a coherent study programme at an appropriate level that supports their progression. Where 16 to 18 year olds are NEET, or at risk of becoming NEET, their EHC plan should be maintained and they should be encouraged and supported to return to education and training as soon as practicably possible. Under the Children and Family Act 2014's regulations, local authorities must also consider carefully the action to take when young people with EHC plans aged 18 or over leave education or training before the end of their course, seeking to re-engage them where appropriate<sup>10</sup>.

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<sup>9</sup> Section 509AA of the Education Act 1996

<sup>10</sup> Para 9.203 of the [0-25 SEN Code of Practice](#)

42. Local authorities should provide strategic leadership in their areas, working with and influencing partners locally, such as LEPs, to promote participation. Local authorities may wish to consider:

- having agreements in place for working with neighbouring authorities;
- ensuring the services for young people in the local area come together to meet the needs of young people – including funding for education and training places and re-engagement provision; and
- agreeing ways of working with wider agencies including voluntary and community sector organisations and employers.

43. Sections 14-17 of ESA 2008 provide data sharing powers to encourage local authorities to promote effective participation.

## **Duty on local authorities introduced under RPA to identify young people not participating**

44. Local authorities need to identify young people not participating so that they can ensure that these young people get the support they need. CCIS is the main source of evidence that local authorities are discharging their duty under section 12 of ESA 2008 to identify young people who are not participating.

45. Local authorities are expected to act on any information they receive about a young person who has dropped out (paragraph 35 above refers); contacting them at the earliest opportunity and supporting them to find an alternative place in education, training or employment with accredited training.

## **Specific circumstances and exceptions**

46. The duty to participate in education or training applies to those young people resident in England. In certain circumstances, local authorities may need to make judgements about whether young people are resident in England (eg if a young person is in the country for an extended temporary period). Local authorities have discretion to make these decisions themselves based on the individual's circumstances. The EFA funding guidance sets out the criteria for eligibility for funding and this may be helpful in making these decisions.

47. RPA legislation applies in England only but there will be cases where young people living either side of the England borders will travel to education or training in a country in which they are not resident. Young people who live in England but travel to Wales or Scotland to study are still under a duty to participate. Young people who live in Wales or Scotland but travel to England to study are not covered by RPA. If young people who are normally resident in England move to Wales or Scotland to study, local

authorities should use their local discretion to decide whether they are classed as resident in England – see paragraph 46.

48. Young people attending education institutions that provide a specialist education would be considered to be meeting their RPA duty without the need for further investigation. See paragraph 14 in Annex 1.

49. We have made provision so that a serving member of the Armed Forces who is participating in the training given to new members will automatically be treated as meeting their RPA duty without the need for further investigation. See paragraphs 15 and 16 in Annex 1.

50. Young people undertaking re-engagement provision that has been put in place specifically to help a young person re-engage in sustained post-16 education or training will be meeting their RPA duty without the need for further investigation. Further information and re-engagement principles are set out in Annex 3.

51. The government recognises there will always be a very small number of young people who require a temporary break in education or training (such as new mothers or the very ill). It is important that local authorities are satisfied that they have in place the appropriate support mechanisms to enable these young people to return to education or training as soon as is reasonably possible.

52. Young people who have longer term medical needs that affect their study but who do not have an LDA, SEN statement or an EHC plan may be unable to fulfil the full requirement of RPA: for example they may not be able to manage full-time education or working over 20 hours per week while studying. Local authorities should consider these cases individually, recognising that full compliance may not be possible for these young people.

## Annex 1 - defining participation

1. This annex sets out further information about how the duties on young people apply.
2. The Government has raised the participation age (RPA) so that all young people in England are now required to continue in education or training for longer as set out in paragraphs 8 and 9 of the main guidance document.
3. Where young people have left year 11 of compulsory education in June and have accepted an offer of a place in education or training that does not start until September, there is no requirement for them to participate during the summer holidays. Similarly, where young people are meeting their duty to participate through full-time education they should still take the usual breaks in learning (eg school/college holidays).
4. Where young people who would normally be under a duty to continue to participate post-16 have already attained a level 3 qualification, for example two A levels<sup>11</sup>, they are no longer required to participate but may benefit from support to continue their education or get a job.
5. RPA does not mean staying in school; young people have a choice about how they continue in education or training post-16. The three primary routes for young people to participate are:
  - full-time study in a school, college or with a training provider;
  - full-time work or volunteering (20 hours or more) combined with part-time education or training; or
  - an apprenticeship or traineeship (more information available at [www.apprenticeships.org.uk](http://www.apprenticeships.org.uk)).

### Full-time education

6. Where a young person is attending full-time education at a school, they will be meeting their duty to participate.
7. For young people attending other full-time education – whether that be a sixth-form college, general further education college, independent college, or otherwise apart from the settings below (paragraphs 8 and 9) – the definition of full-time participation is at least 540 hours of guided learning a year. In accordance with the principles of 16-19 study programmes<sup>12</sup>, wider forms of education such as work experience can be included within those hours. In general, young people enrolled on a full-time study programme will be meeting the duty to participate.

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<sup>11</sup> Section 3 Education and Skills Act 2008

<sup>12</sup> For further information see the gov.uk webpage on [increasing opportunities for young people](#).

8. For young people who are being home educated, no hourly requirement of education applies. The amount and content of the home education is at the discretion of the home educator. In most circumstances it will be the young person themselves who states that they are home educated. If the authority believes there is some doubt in the matter, they may wish to seek confirmation of this from the parent or guardian, but no on-going monitoring of the education is required. If the authority has evidence to suggest that a young person who claims to be home educated is not, then they would be expected to clarify the position with the young person.

9. For young people who have been absent from the education system and are now attending a re-engagement programme, no hourly requirement of education applies. Local authorities should be satisfied that the express intention of the programme is to support the young person to move into full-time education at a school or college, an apprenticeship or traineeship, or full-time work or volunteering with part-time training alongside. Once re-engagement onto one of those routes is secured, the wider requirements for participation apply.

10. Local authorities are able to determine for themselves what counts as re-engagement provision. A suggested set of non-statutory principles for re-engagement provision has been developed by representatives from the sector and this forms Annex 3 to this guidance. [Advice on how local authorities can work with providers of the Youth Contract for 16-17 year olds](#) should be considered in deciding whether the provision put in place meets the needs of these young people.

## Apprenticeships

11. Entering into an apprenticeship agreement as set out in the Apprenticeship, Skills, Children and Learning Act 2009 satisfies the duty to participate and no further monitoring of that young person's training or employment is needed. Apprenticeship providers are included in the requirement to notify a local authority if a young person is no longer participating.

## Traineeships

12. Traineeships<sup>13</sup> are a new training route for young people aged 16-23 (and up to 25 for young people with a SEN). Traineeships aim to give young people the skills and vital experience they need to get an apprenticeship or other job. Traineeships are part of 16-19 study programmes so a young person enrolling on a traineeship would meet the duty to participate.

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<sup>13</sup>You can find out more about traineeships from the [traineeship frameworks for delivery](#).

## Full-time work with part-time education or training

13. Sections 5, 6 and 8 of ESA 2008 detail the requirements of this route. In order to be considered as participating, a young person must both be in full-time work and undertaking part-time education or training. The key definitions to which local authorities will need to have regard to are that:

- To count as full-time work, the job must be for 8 or more weeks consecutively and for 20 or more hours per week. The 20 hours employment can be undertaken with more than one employer. Where a young person's employment hours vary, employment of an average of 40 or more hours over a two week period can be considered as meeting the requirement.
- Full-time self-employment, holding a public office or working other than for reward (eg volunteering) should all be regarded in the same way as full-time employment. The 20 hours volunteering can be undertaken with more than one organisation and for each volunteering placement it is recommended that a written agreement is in place between the young person and the placement organiser.
- Part-time education or training alongside full-time work must be at least 280 guided learning hours (GLH) per year. There is no set pattern for how these hours should be taken - at a given time a young person might not be undertaking education or training as long as it is clear that over the course of the year the hourly minimum will be met. Part-time education or training pursued alongside full-time work must constitute education or training leading towards accredited qualifications<sup>14</sup> and therefore have a GLH value attached. This education or training may be provided directly by an employer or by another organisation.

## Young people attending non-registered education institutions

14. Education institutions such as seminary or talmudic colleges provide a specialist education and young people attending these institutions would be considered to be complying with the duty to participate beyond the age of 16. Independent colleges should, however, be encouraged to provide a balanced education based on prior achievement and to include the continued study of English and maths where appropriate.

## Young people joining the armed forces

15. Serving in the armed forces provides relevant training for young people and is a valid and valuable career route. As the terms of service and training within the armed forces vary, the government has made provision that a serving member of the armed forces who is participating in the training given to new members, will automatically be treated as meeting their duty to participate without further investigation or any

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<sup>14</sup> The [Register of Regulated Qualifications](#) can be found on Ofqual's website.

requirement to deliver specific subjects or programmes. For the purposes of RPA, armed forces means the naval, military or air forces of the Crown, but not the reserve forces.

16. Young people who have been recruited to serve in the armed forces may, on occasion, have to wait for a training place. Where this is the case, young people should consider how they might use this waiting time constructively, for example by improving their maths, English and other skills, volunteering or seeking temporary employment.

## Young people with full-time caring responsibilities

17. In exceptional cases where a young person aged 16 or 17 has assumed a full-time unpaid caring role for another person, they will be considered to be meeting their duty to participate if they are also undertaking accredited part-time education or training.

18. This provision is only for that small number of young carers who have had a young carer assessment and who are willing and able to undertake a full-time caring role, and balance that with their education or training, without any adverse impact on their own health or wellbeing. Local authorities will therefore need to establish that individual circumstances have been taken into account, a proper assessment of needs for support has taken place and professional judgement has been applied.

19. Young people who are parents caring for children are not classed as being young carers, and these young parents would normally be expected to participate full-time, and may qualify for Care to Learn funding to enable them to do so<sup>15</sup>.

## Young parents

20. Local authorities are responsible for identifying young parents who are not participating and for ensuring that there is appropriate support in place to help them return to education or training as soon as practicable.

21. There is no legal requirement that determines at what point a young mother on maternity leave should return to education and training. Local authorities could reasonably apply the same time period for which statutory maternity leave is available to those in work, although they should use their discretion and knowledge of the young mother's individual circumstances to agree a suitable return date.

## Young people in jobs without training

22. Those in jobs without the required training should be encouraged to take up suitable part-time accredited education or training alongside their work. Local authorities should be aware of their duty to secure appropriate provision<sup>16</sup> for all young people and

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<sup>15</sup> An [overview of Care to Learn](#) is available at gov.uk.

<sup>16</sup> Section 15ZA and 18A of the Education Act 1996 (as inserted by the ASCL Act 2009) and from 1st September 2014, Part 3 of the Children and Families Act 2014

so ensure that flexible provision is in place where needed. Local authorities should work closely with local employers to agree suitable arrangements for young people.

## **Young people in jobs with non-accredited training**

23. Those in jobs with training that does not lead to an accredited qualification should also be encouraged to take up accredited part-time education or training alongside their work.

## **Young people taking breaks in their formal education or training**

24. Young people should not take extended time out of education and training when they are required to participate. However, there will be occasions where young people are offered positive opportunities that have an element of education and training in them, although they may not fully meet RPA criteria.

25. If the opportunity is abroad, local authorities will need to decide whether the young person is classed as being resident in England during this period (see paragraph 46 of the main guidance about residency).

26. If the young person is deemed to be resident in England by their local authority, or if the opportunity itself is in England, the local authority will need to decide whether what the young person is doing meets the duty to participate in education or training.

27. If the local authority believes that the young person is not fully meeting their RPA duty but is engaged in a positive activity that is improving their maths, English or other skills, then this would appear to be a positive outcome for the young person. We would not expect local authorities to intervene in such cases.

## **Young people taking gap years**

28. Most young people who take gap years do so at 18 or older and have achieved level 3. As such, they will be unaffected by this legislation. For the small group of 16 and 17 year olds who are considering taking a gap year, where the gap year is taken abroad, a local authority may need to make a judgement about whether that young person will be resident in England (see paragraph 46 of the main guidance about residency). Those remaining in England to work or volunteer are expected to comply with RPA.

## Annex 2 - duties on other organisations in relation to RPA

### Careers requirement on schools and colleges

1. Schools are under a duty to secure independent careers guidance<sup>17</sup> for pupils in years 8-13 on the full range of education and training options, including apprenticeships<sup>18</sup>.
2. Schools are expected to work in partnership with local employers and other education and training providers like colleges, universities and apprenticeship and traineeship providers to ensure that young people can benefit from direct, motivating and exciting experience of the world of work, to develop high aspirations and inform decisions about future education and training options. They should also consider the needs of pupils who require more sustained or intensive support before they are ready to make career decisions.
3. Revised [statutory guidance](#) and [non-statutory departmental advice](#), published on 10 April 2014, outlines why schools must secure independent careers guidance for young people, what they must do to comply with their legal responsibilities in this area and the role of the governing body and head teacher in shaping the guidance and support offered by the school. It places a greater emphasis on ensuring schools are focused on having high aspirations for all students and to ensure that all schools are clear about what is expected of them in meeting their duty.
4. Funding agreements for further education colleges and sixth form colleges set out a requirement to secure independent careers guidance for all students up to and including the age of 18 and 19 to 25 year olds with a current LDA, SEN statement or EHC plan. [Guidance](#) published in June 2013, offers information which colleges may wish to draw on when interpreting the new requirement and deciding on the most appropriate forms of independent and impartial careers guidance for their students.

### Duties on employers

5. The duties on employers in the Education and Skills Act 2008 have not been brought into force at this stage<sup>19</sup>. The possibility of commencing them will be kept under review.

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<sup>17</sup> Education Act 2011 inserted a duty, section 42A, into Part VII of Education Act 1997

<sup>18</sup> While the legislative requirement applies to maintained schools, many academies and free schools are subject to the duties through their funding agreements, including those which opened from September 2012 onwards and those which have moved to the updated funding agreement. Academies without the requirement are encouraged to follow this guidance in any case as a statement of good practice.

<sup>19</sup> Section 19-39 Education and Skills Act 2008

## Annex 3 - effective re-engagement

1. For those young people who face significant barriers to participating post-16, re-engagement activity and provision can play a key role in supporting them back into education or training. Local authorities should ensure as far as they can that there is a coherent set of provision available in their area, and use it as appropriate to support young people.
2. Re-engagement provision (or programmes to encourage young people to re-engage) are available through the government funded Youth Contract<sup>20</sup>, and National Citizen Service<sup>21</sup> and through European Social Fund (ESF) funded initiatives<sup>22</sup>. Many local and national third sector organisations also offer programmes (often in partnership with private businesses, local authorities, and LEPs to help re-engage young people. Schools and colleges will also offer re-engagement services and provision seeking to prevent disengagement. Further re-engagement provision or support will be available in some pilot areas through the Youth Engagement Fund and support from Jobcentre Plus<sup>23</sup>.
3. Young people taking part in provision that has been put in place specifically to help them make the transition into sustained post-16 education or training will be regarded as meeting their RPA duty.

### The principles of effective re-engagement

4. The following non-statutory principles are designed to assist commissioners and providers when making decisions about the breadth and content of the re-engagement provision in their area. Local areas may want to build on this as they develop their provision locally. They were produced following consultation with a group of voluntary and community sector organisations and local authorities, who agreed that good re-engagement provision is likely to adhere to the following principles.

#### A personalised approach...

5. Provision is tailored to the young person, taking account of appropriate background information, and responds to individual needs in order to create an appropriate path back into education or training. An on-going individual needs assessment will allow the programme to develop with the young person, focused on the range of barriers preventing them from participating.

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<sup>20</sup> See Youth Contract: 16- and 17-year-olds guidance for further information.

<sup>21</sup> See gov.uk webpage on the [National Citizenship Service](#) for further information.

<sup>22</sup> See gov.uk webpage on the [European Social Fund](#) for further information.

<sup>23</sup> See gov.uk [press release on support from Jobcentre Plus](#) for further information.

### **...with clearly agreed outcomes...**

6. Achievable and agreed outcomes are decided with the young person and may be expressed in an individual plan. Re-engagement providers may want to consider how best to develop the social and emotional capabilities of the young person, whilst maintaining a focus on their sustained engagement in education or training.

### **...leading to progression into sustained education or employment...**

7. An effective re-engagement programme will lead to progression, monitored by the provider, into sustained education, employment or training. The amount of time a young person will spend on re-engagement provision will vary depending on their development needs but the focus should remain on securing progression to mainstream education, training or work with training.

### **...underpinned by appropriate information and support...**

8. Providers have an important role to play, working with local authorities where appropriate, in providing access to appropriate sources of information to help young people make informed choices about the education, training and employment opportunities available in their area, as well as to relevant sources of support, such as the financial support available to young people to continue in education or training.

### **...and strong partnership working.**

9. There are a number of key partnerships that are needed to ensure that re-engagement programmes are as effective as possible, providing all round support to allow a range of needs to be met. Regular communication will allow appropriate referrals – between support agencies or onto an education or training provider – and continued support while the young person makes that transition.



Department  
for Education

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# Agenda Item 6

Children and Young People Select Committee			
Title	Select Committee work programme		
Contributor	Scrutiny Manager	Item	6
Class	Part 1 (Open)	12 November 2014	

## 1. Purpose

To advise Members of the work programme for the municipal year 2014/15, and to decide on the agenda items for the next meeting.

## 2. Summary

- 2.1 At the beginning of the new administration, each select committee drew up a draft work programme for submission to the Business Panel for consideration.
- 2.2 The Business Panel considered the proposed work programmes of each of the select committees on 29 July 2014 and agreed a co-ordinated overview and scrutiny work programme. However, the work programme can be reviewed at each Select Committee meeting so that Members are able to include urgent, high priority items and remove items that are no longer a priority.

## 3. Recommendations

3.1 The Committee is asked to:

- note the work plan attached at **Appendix B** and discuss any issues arising from the programme;
- specify the information and analysis required in the report for each item on the agenda for the next meeting, based on desired outcomes, so that officers are clear on what they need to provide;
- review all forthcoming key decisions, attached at **Appendix C**, and consider any items for further scrutiny.

## 4. The work programme

- 4.1 The work programme for 2014/15 was agreed at the Committee's meeting on 1 July 2014.
- 4.2 The Committee is asked to consider if any urgent issues have arisen that require scrutiny and if any existing items are no longer a priority and can be removed from the work programme. Before adding additional items, each item should be considered against agreed criteria. The flow chart attached at **Appendix A** may help Members decide if proposed additional items should be added to the work programme. The Committee's work programme needs to be achievable in terms of the amount of meeting time available. If the committee agrees to add additional item(s) because they are urgent and high priority, Members will need to consider

which medium/low priority item(s) should be removed in order to create sufficient capacity for the new item(s).

## 5. The next meeting

5.1 The following reports are scheduled for the meeting on 12 November 2014:

Agenda item	Review type	Link to Corporate Priority	Priority
<b>Young People's Mental Health Provision Rapid Review – Report and recommendations</b>	In-depth review	Protection of children	High
<b>Nursery Education and Childcare Review - Update</b>	Performance monitoring	Protection of children	Low
<b>Children with Complex Needs update</b>	Standard item	Young people's achievement and involvement	Medium

5.2 The Committee is asked to specify the information and analysis it would like to see in the reports for these item, based on the outcomes the committee would like to achieve, so that officers are clear on what they need to provide for the next meeting.

## 6. Financial Implications

There are no financial implications arising from this report.

## 7. Legal Implications

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, all scrutiny select committees must devise and submit a work programme to the Business Panel at the start of each municipal year.

## 8. Equalities Implications

8.1 The Equality Act 2010 brought together all previous equality legislation in England, Scotland and Wales. The Act included a new public sector equality duty, replacing the separate duties relating to race, disability and gender equality. The duty came into force on 6 April 2011. It covers the following nine protected characteristics: age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

8.2 The Council must, in the exercise of its functions, have due regard to the need to:

- eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

- foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not.

8.3 There may be equalities implications arising from items on the work programme and all activities undertaken by the Select Committee will need to give due consideration to this.

**9. Date of next meeting**

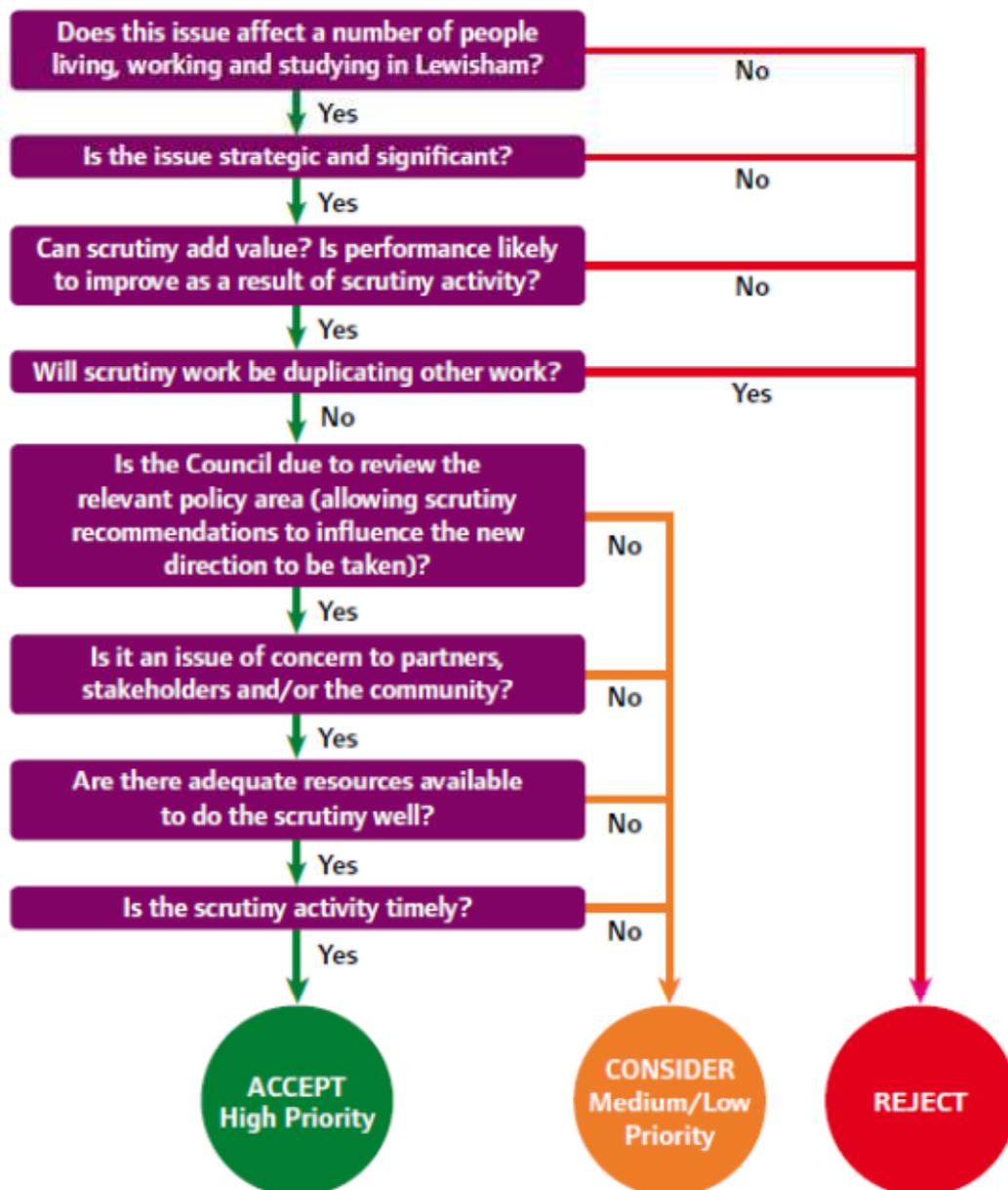
9.1 The date of the next meeting is Monday 15 December 2014.

**Background Documents**

Lewisham Council's Constitution

Centre for Public Scrutiny: the Good Scrutiny Guide

## Scrutiny work programme – prioritisation process



**Children and Young People Select Committee 2014/15**

**Programme of Work**

Work Item	Type of review	Priority	Strategic Priority	Delivery deadline	01-Jul	02-Oct	12-Nov	15-Dec	04-Feb	18-Mar
Lewisham Future Programme	Standard item	High		March						
Election of the Chair and Vice-Chair	Constitutional requirement	High		July						
Select Committee work programme 2014/15	Constitutional requirement	High		July						
Young people's mental health	Rapid review	High		December		Scope	Evidence	Report		
Gold Club schools - sharing best practice	Rapid review	Medium		March		Scope	Visits	Visits	Evidence	Report
Attainment and achievement in Lewisham schools	Performance monitoring	High		October						
LSCB annual report	Performance monitoring	Medium		October						
Raising the Participation Age	Standard item	High		December						
Nursery Education and Childcare Review - Update	Performance monitoring	Low		December						
Children with Complex Needs update	Standard item	Medium		December						
Schools capacity places planning	Standard item	High		February						
Secondary Schools Improvement	Standard item	High		February						
Corporate Parenting and LAC update	Performance monitoring	Medium		March						
Safeguarding update	Performance monitoring	Medium		March						
Youth Service update (incl. gap analysis of non-school services for young people)	Standard item	Medium		March						
CYPP	Policy development	High		March						

	Item completed
	Item ongoing
	Item outstanding
	Proposed timeframe
	Carried over from last year
	Item added

Meeting dates			
1)	01-Jul	4)	15-Dec
2)	02-Oct	5)	04-Feb
3)	12-Nov	6)	18-Mar

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**MAYOR & CABINET AND SCRUTINY  
PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS**

**Programme of Business for October 2014 – March 2015**

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
October				
Thursday, 30 Oct 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Thursday, 30 Oct 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Annual Parking Report	Customer Services Directorate	Lesley Brooks
Thursday, 30 Oct 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Lewisham Future Programme: 2015/16 Revenue Budget Savings	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	
Thursday, 30 Oct 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Waste Strategy	Customer Services Directorate	Nigel Tyrell, Kevin Sheehan
November				
Monday, 3 Nov 2014	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Main grant programme funding	Community Services Directorate	Liz Dart
Monday, 3 Nov 2014	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Violence Against Women and Girls review: scope	Community Services Directorate	Timothy Andrew
Tuesday, 4 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Tuesday, 4 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Procurement of a Corporate Scanning Service Provider		Kevin Sheehan
Tuesday, 4 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Drumbeat 6th form school: Phase 3 new build		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Financial forecasts 2014/15	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Selwyn Thompson
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Mid-year treasury management review	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Selwyn Thompson
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Management report	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Lewisham Future Programme: 2015/16 Revenue Budget Savings	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	David Austin
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Impact of people with no recourse to public funds in the borough		
Wednesday, 5 Nov 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Tuesday, 11 Nov 2014	Housing Select Committee	Communal heating systems review	Customer Services Directorate	Timothy Andrew
Tuesday, 11 Nov 2014	Housing Select Committee	Brockley PFI and Lewisham Homes mid year review	Customer Services Directorate	Jeff Endean
Tuesday, 11 Nov 2014	Housing Select Committee	Self build update	Customer Services Directorate	Jeff Endean
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Young People's Mental Health Review	Children and Young People Directorate	
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Raising the Participation Age	Children and Young People Directorate	Chris Threlfall
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Lewisham Safeguarding Children Board Annual Report	Children and Young People Directorate	Ian Smith
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Financial Forecasts 2014/15 and Mid-year Treasury Management review		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 Revenue Budget Savings		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Kenton Court and Somerville Extra Care Schemes: Update		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Proposal to enlarge Sir Francis Drake Primary School		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Corporate energy contracts - review 2014		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Education Contract Awards ICT Specialist Service Provider Framework		Frankie Sulke

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Supporting the Voluntary Sector - outcome of consultation and approval to open Main grants programme for applications		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 12 Nov 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Tuesday, 25 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Tuesday, 25 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Contract Award Report Coopers Lane Primary School 2 to 3 FE		Frankie Sulke
Tuesday, 25 Nov 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Award of contract for works at Kelvin Grove Primary (Primary Places Programme)		Frankie Sulke
December				
Tuesday, 2 Dec 2014	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Sustainability of community health initiatives	Community Services Directorate	Dr Danny Ruta
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	LSL sexual health strategy: action plan	Community Services Directorate	Ruth Hutt
Tuesday, 2 Dec 2014	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Community mental health review: update	Community Services Directorate	
Tuesday, 2 Dec 2014	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Campaign in Lewisham for Autistic Spectrum Housing	Community Services Directorate	
Tuesday, 2 Dec 2014	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Emergency services review: London Ambulance Service	Community Services Directorate	Dr Danny Ruta
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Annual Parking Review		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Approval for public consultation of the Lewisham River Corridors Improvement Plan Supplementary Planning Document		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Campshill Road Extra Care Scheme		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec	Mayor and Cabinet	Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review		Kevin Sheehan

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
2014				
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Customer Service Centre Out of Hours Switchboard Procurement		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Draft Flood Management Strategy		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Proposal to enlarge Forster Park Primary School and St George's CE Primary School		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Housing Acquisition Programme Update		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Housing Grounds Maintenance		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Introduction of a borough wide 20mph zone		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Ladywell Playtower		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Phoenix Community Housing Board		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Preserving Public Houses and assets of community value - response to Sustainable Development Select Committee		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	School Governor Appointments		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet	Young Mayor's Budget		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Award of Street Advertising and Bus Shelter Contract		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Award of a single Violence Against Women and Girls Service Contract		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Award of three drug and alcohol contracts: Young People, Aftercare, Shared care		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Delivery of the Dementia Advice and Information Service Contract		Aileen Buckton

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Extension of drug and alcohol contract		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Extension of contract with Turner & Townsend (Primary Places Programme)		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Award of Highways Public Realm Contract Coulgate Street		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Extension on all learning disability supported accommodation contracts		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Learning Contract provider		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Prendergast Primary School: Permission to spend on enabling works		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Procurement of the School Kitchen Maintenance Contract		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	School Minor Capital Works Programme 2013/14		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Responsible dog ownership		
Wednesday, 3 Dec 2014	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Gang associated women and girls review	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Timothy Andrew
Tuesday, 9 Dec 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Modern Roads Review	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Andrew Hagger
Tuesday, 9 Dec 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Bakerloo line consultation	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Simon Moss
Tuesday, 9 Dec 2014	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Annual complaints report	Customer Services Directorate	Peter Gadsdon

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Financial forecasts 2014/15	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Selwyn Thompson
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Management report	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Asset management update	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Rob Holmans
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	No Recourse to Public Funds Review - Evidence session	Customer Services Directorate	
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Funding and Financial Management of Adult Social Care Review - Update	Community Services Directorate	Joan Hutton, Robert Mellors
Wednesday, 10 Dec 2014	Public Accounts Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Monday, 15 Dec 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Monday, 15 Dec 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Young People's Mental Health Review - Draft Report and Recommendations	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Andrew Hagger
Monday, 15 Dec 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Children with complex needs update	Children and Young People Directorate	Keith Martin
Monday, 15 Dec 2014	Children and Young People Select Committee	Nusery Education and Childcare Review - Update	Children and Young People Directorate	Warwick Tomsett
Tuesday, 16 Dec 2014	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Wednesday, 17 Dec 2014	Housing Select Committee	Communal heating systems review	Customer Services Directorate	Timothy Andrew
Wednesday, 17 Dec 2014	Housing Select Committee	Private rented sector update	Customer Services Directorate	Madeleine Jeffery
Wednesday, 17 Dec 2014	Housing Select Committee	Proposed rent and service charge increases	Customer Services Directorate	Mark Humphreys
January				

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Access to primary care		
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Care Quality Commission: update		
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Development of the local market for adult social care services		
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Annual Complaints Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Bakerloo Line Extension Consultation		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Church Grove Custom Build		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Community Infrastructure Levy - Adoption Version		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Deptford Southern Sites Regeneration Project		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Management Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 Council Tax Base		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Housing Regeneration		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Pay Policy Statement		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Planning Obligations SPD - Adoption Version		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Highways Asset Management Plan - Corporate Aims, Policy, Investment, Performance and Engagement		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 NNDR Base Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 Revenue Budget Savings		Janet Senior

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Review of Blackheath Events Policy 2011		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Strategic Asset Management Plan 2015-2020		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Surrey Canal Triangle - Compulsory Purchase Order Resolution		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Award of Design and Build Contract Phase 1 Grove Park Public Realm Project		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Procurement of the School Catering Contract Service		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 14 Jan 2015	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Prevention and Inclusion Team Contract		Aileen Buckton
Tuesday, 20 Jan 2015	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Wednesday, 21 Jan 2015	Council	2015/16 Council Tax Base Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 21 Jan 2015	Council	2015/16 NNDR Base Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 21 Jan 2015	Council	Council Tax Reduction Scheme Review		Kevin Sheehan
Tuesday, 3 Feb 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Borough Police and Fire Commanders	Community Services Directorate	
Tuesday, 3 Feb 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Probation service update	Community Services Directorate	Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney
Tuesday, 3 Feb 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Emergency services review: update		
Tuesday, 3 Feb 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Local assemblies report	Community Services Directorate	Winston Castello

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
Tuesday, 27 Jan 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Tuesday, 27 Jan 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Education Business Panel	Contract Award Report Launcelot Primary School expansion		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 28 Jan 2015	Housing Select Committee	Lewisham housing strategy (2014-17)	Customer Services Directorate	Jeff Endean
Wednesday, 28 Jan 2015	Housing Select Committee	Downsizing and housing moves review	Customer Services Directorate	Timothy Andrew
February				
Wednesday, 4 Feb 2015	Children and Young People Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Wednesday, 4 Feb 2015	Children and Young People Select Committee	Schools Best Practice Review	Children and Young People Directorate	
Wednesday, 4 Feb 2015	Children and Young People Select Committee	Schools capacity places planning	Children and Young People Directorate	Chris Threlfall
Wednesday, 4 Feb 2015	Children and Young People Select Committee	Secondary schools improvement	Children and Young People Directorate	Sue Tipler
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Cost of bed & breakfast provision	Customer Services Directorate	
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	No Recourse to Public Funds Review - Final report		Andrew Hagger
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	2015/16 Budget Report		Janet Senior
Tuesday, 2 Dec 2014	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Leisure centre contract	Community Services Directorate	
Tuesday, 24 Feb	Healthier Communities	Transition from children's to adult social care	Community Services	

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
2015	Select Committee		Directorate	
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Management Report	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	
Thursday, 5 Feb 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Financial Forecasts 2014/15	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Selwyn Thompson
Wednesday, 11 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 Budget Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 11 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Milford Towers Update		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 11 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Rent Setting Report		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 11 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	New Homes Better Places Funding Update		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 11 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Pay Policy Statement		Janet Senior
Tuesday, 17 Feb 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Wednesday, 18 Feb 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	2015/16 Budget Update Report		Janet Senior
Tuesday, 24 Feb 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	Community education Lewisham annual report	Community Services Directorate	Helen Hammond
Tuesday, 24 Feb 2015	Healthier Communities Select Committee	King's elective service proposals: update		
Wednesday, 25 Feb 2015	Council	2015/16 Budget Report		Janet Senior
March				
Tuesday, 3 Mar 2015	Sustainable Development Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Comprehensive equalities scheme - monitoring and update	Resources and Regeneration Directorate	Paul Aladenika

Meeting date	Committee	Item	Directorate	Lead Officer
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Provision for Lewisham's LGBT community		
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Implementation of the volunteering strategy	Community Services Directorate	Liz Dart
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Library and information service	Community Services Directorate	Antonio Rizzo
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Housing Strategy 2015 - 2020		Kevin Sheehan
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	Management Report		Janet Senior
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Mayor and Cabinet (Contracts)	Prevention and Inclusion Framework Contract Award		Aileen Buckton
Wednesday, 4 Mar 2015	Safer Stronger Communities Select Committee	Safer Lewisham strategy monitoring and update	Community Services Directorate	Geeta Subramaniam-Mooney
Tuesday, 10 Mar 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Wednesday, 11 Mar 2015	Housing Select Committee	Annual lettings plan	Customer Services Directorate	Mark Dow
Tuesday, 10 Mar 2015	Public Accounts Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		
Tuesday, 17 Mar 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Wednesday, 11 Mar 2015	Housing Select Committee	Private rented sector update	Customer Services Directorate	Madeleine Jeffery
Wednesday, 25 Mar 2015	Mayor and Cabinet	School Admissions 2015-16		Frankie Sulke
Wednesday, 8 Apr 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Wednesday, 25	Mayor and Cabinet	School Admissions 2015-16		Frankie Sulke

<b>Meeting date</b>	<b>Committee</b>	<b>Item</b>	<b>Directorate</b>	<b>Lead Officer</b>
Mar 2015				
Wednesday, 8 Apr 2015	Overview and Scrutiny Business Panel	Executive Director decisions		
Wednesday, 11 Mar 2015	Housing Select Committee	Private rented sector update	Customer Services Directorate	Madeleine Jeffery
Wednesday, 18 Mar 2015	Children and Young People Select Committee	Select Committee Work Programme		

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