

Harrow Safeguarding Adults Board (HSAB)



Minutes of Meeting - Wednesday 31st March 2021

HSAB Members	Organisation	Present
Samuel Abdullahi (SA)	Trading Standards (Brent and Harrow)	✓
Christine Asare-Bosompem (CA-B)	Harrow (NHS) Clinical Commissioning Group	X
Kate Aston (KA)	Central London Community Health Care NHS Trust	✓
Cllr Simon Brown (Cllr B)	Elected Councillor (Portfolio Holder) - LBH	✓
Theo Baron (ThB)	RNOH (for Julie-Ann Dowie/Paul Fish)	✓
Kim Chilvers (KC)	LBH – for item 3.1	✓
Julie-Ann Dowie (J-AD)	Royal National Orthopaedic Hospital	X
Mark Gillham (MG)	Mind in Harrow	X
Audrey Hall (AH)	Senior Probation Officer – Harrow/Ealing Crown Court	✓
Paul Hewitt (PH)	Children’s Services (LBH)	✓
Saj Hussain (SH)	Metropolitan Police	✓
Farah Ikram (FI)	LBH – for item 7	✓
Jeffery Jansen (JJ)	Business Intelligence (LBH)	✓
Jaya Karia (JaKa)	Westminster Drug Project	✓
Jonathan Kilworth (JK)	Business Intelligence (LBH)	✓
Francis Kudjoe (FK)	London North West Hospitals NHS Trust	✓

Yvonne Leese (YL)	NW London CCGs	✓
Barry Loader (BL)	Metropolitan Police	X
Nigel Long (NL)	Harrow Association of Disability (HAD)	X
Coral McGookin (CMcG)	Harrow Safeguarding Children's Board (HSCB)	✓
Chris Miller (CM)	Chair of the HSAB	✓
Angela Morris (AM)	Harrow Adult Social Services (LBH)	✓
Anne Mosley (AMo)	Harrow Adult Social Services	✓
Cllr Chris Mote (Cllr M)	Elected Councillor (Shadow Portfolio Holder) – LBH	X
Katie Nash (KN)	Probation – for item 7	✓
Marie Pate (MP)	Healthwatch Harrow	✓
Tanya Paxton (TP)	CNWL	X
Deven Pillay (DP)	Harrow Mencap	X
Vicky Rapti (VR)	Community Rehabilitation Company (CRC)	X
Anne Sinclair (AS)	CLCH	X
Tina Smith (TS)	Age UK Harrow	X
Trish Stewart (TSt)	CLCH	X
Carol Ann Williams (CAW)	London North West Hospitals NHS Trust	X
Hannah Whittington (HW)	LAS	X
Officers supporting the Board		
Sue Spurlock (SS)	LBH - Safeguarding Adults and DoLS Service	✓
Seamus Doherty (SD)	LBH - Safeguarding Adults and DoLS Service	✓

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** – 18th December 2020.

Agreed as accurate with the following correction:

YL – the previous minutes said that I was going to continue to be the LeDeR lead for Harrow, but it should be Christine Asare-Bosompem as the local area contact.

2. **Matters Arising**

2.1 **Appropriate Adult Scheme**

Kim Chilvers provided an update on the appropriate adult scheme. From 1st April 2021 the support will be provided to vulnerable adults and young people in custody as part of the Pan London appropriate adult scheme to which Harrow has contracted for one year. The police will try and contact a family member or a carer before they use the appropriate adult scheme. The new scheme is for those people who have no suitable person to act as an appropriate adult on their behalf. After the first year we hope to commission with Brent and possibly Barnet.

CM - the data shows that somebody who needs an appropriate adult to help them understand custody processes, generally spend several hours longer in custody than those people who do not require an appropriate adult. Congratulations to the team who have made this happen.

KC –will monitor the contract.

Action: CMcG to invite KC to the Quality Assurance sub-group meeting

2.2 **Named GP for safeguarding adults (equity with child safeguarding)**

YL – The primary care networks have been developing over the last year but the pandemic has slowed it down. With regard to a named GP function for safeguarding adults, the questions that we are looking at are:

- what are the functions that we need to deliver?
- what are the arrangements that need to be in place to support primary care?
- what is the best model that we want in London, North West London and Harrow in order to be able to deliver those functions?

This remains a work in progress. We will consult with partners, primary care and safeguarding leads as to what will be the best way to deliver this function within the PCNs.

CM – at the moment, across the eight Boroughs of North West London, there is a variability of provision around named GPs for adults. Does the CCG aspire to provide named GPs equally across NWL?

YL - there are no named GPs for safeguarding adults across North West London in any of the eight Boroughs at the moment unlike for children. A named GP may be the optimum model, but there may be a better one delivered through primary care. Once the CCG changes have taken root we can have these discussions.

3. Q3 performance data

Jeffery Jansen attended for this item. His presentation is attached for reference. Following the presentation and discussion about the key points the following actions were agreed:

Actions:

- for the QA sub-group to “dip sample” the Police Merlins to see if the work around them can be refined (CMcG)
- greater understanding as to why there are proportionately fewer referrals from the Asian community (QA sub-group)

4. Domestic Abuse (DA)

CM clarified that this item is on the agenda because:-

- Harrow Council is re-procuring the domestic abuse service; and
- the Domestic Abuse Bill is going to become the Domestic Abuse Act fairly soon and there will be significant implications for local authorities

CM gave a presentation on The Domestic Abuse Bill (to become the Domestic Abuse Act) which is attached for reference. The Domestic Abuse Bill was introduced in March 2020. Because of it we now have got an appointed (national) Domestic Abuse Commissioner. They will have advisory panel. 27/80 of the original clauses of the Domestic Abuse Bill, relate to domestic abuse protection notices. These are ways in which victims can be protected from perpetrators. Breaches can lead to 5 years imprisonment. A relevant authority must set up partnership boards. In London, the relevant authority is the Greater London Authority. Harrow is going to have to be a co-operating body.

The GLA will have to carry out assessments as to London's need for Domestic Abuse services.

Katie Nash attended for the item re GPS tracking.

With regard to the DA GPS tagging pilot, this came about as a result of the acknowledgement of the prevalence of domestic abuse. The pilot was launched on the 5 March and is due to run for one year. To be eligible the offender must be over 18; they must be assessed by the probation service as a high risk of serious harm; they must be serving a sentence for a domestic abuse type of offence, they must have been released from a London prison or Highpoint; they must be released to a probation borough in London; they must be released to some viable accommodation to enable tag charging. (there would be no point if they lived with the victim of the offence). The aims of the pilot are to improve the management of risk posed to past, current and future partners and other known adults. It acts as a deterrent for domestic abuse perpetrators. It can be used for enforcement, e.g. if someone is tagged and they enter an exclusion zone where a victim resides, there will be a notification to the probation officer and then the probation officer can take enforcement action. The key partners are the National Probation Service London, not the CRC because it is only for high risk of harm cases, Met Police who will look at the data for each offender and if they are prolific offenders, they will track where they have gone to, to increase the intelligence profile, HMPPS because the prisons have to release them and Buddi Ltd, the electronic monitoring provider. We have ongoing work with IDVAs and MARACs, concerning victim safety.

CM –How many offenders will there be for North West London/Harrow in the next few months?

KN – up to 200 across London, that will probably work out about 6 - 7 per borough. As it was only launched this month, we have had 3-4 cases and none of them are in North West London. The staff in Ealing, Harrow and Hillingdon were only trained about 10 days ago. These boroughs were the second cluster to be trained.

Farah Ikram attended for the item on procurement of local DA services.

It is predicted that the level of demand is going to increase significantly, as a result of this new legal framework.

Part 4 of this duty is on the GLA which will be responsible to provide support within a refuge, such as counselling support and support for the children. It will also be required to provide support for victims once they move on from a refuge. Currently LBH has a 6 bedroomed refuge and the usual tenure for a victim is between 6-8 months when housing support them to move to other accommodation.

At the moment we provide:-

- support within safe accommodation, (management of a 6 bedroomed refuge and a refuge worker);
- a complex needs service for victims of domestic abuse;
- community based support, which comprises independent domestic violence advocates who work in the community and are based at the police service;
- a staff member doing safety planning in MASH;
- caseworkers who support victims who are assessed as medium risk;
- facilitation of the Borough's MARAC, which used to be monthly but since Covid has gone online and is taking place every two weeks

Once the GLA publishes its strategy with the support of all the London boroughs, it could be that the GLA may decide that Councils can continue to commission the services that they currently provide and will continue to commission our refuge and other safe accommodation support, or it may decide to take over full responsibility for commissioning refuge and safe accommodation services for the whole of London. There are a number of amendments being made to the bill which includes removal of a perpetrator from a joint tenancy. If a perpetrator is removed, where are we going to put them and that will put a demand on housing.

5. HSAB Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024

At the December board meeting the HSAB agreed to extend the existing plan to the end of March 2021. A new plan was circulated a few weeks ago which included the joint board priorities and also the priorities that were agreed at the annual review in September. SS asked for the HSAB's agreement to put the new HSAB Strategic Plan 2021 - 2024 in place tomorrow and exception reports can be discussed at future meetings. The board unanimously agreed the plan which is attached for reference.

6. Recruitment of HSAB and HSCB lay members

CMcG updated the meeting. A request had been sent to members to promote the advert for a lay person to join the adults board and to work closely with the lay person on the children's board. There were only two applicants, so the closing date has been extended until the end of April. Please could everyone advertise the position with their networks. We particularly want to attract someone who has a strong connection to Harrow, preferably a resident with an interest in community issues and particularly safeguarding. Any feedback about the advert is welcome. An update will be provided at the end of April and hopefully we will get a better response.

Action: CMcG to resend the advert so that HSAB members can promote it (e.g. WDP at Butler Road and SD will pass to local faith group leaders etc)

7. Sub-Group Updates

Case Review subgroup

The SAR is coming to a conclusion. It concerns a middle-aged woman who was unwilling to engage with local services and died of malnutrition. On 20th April there is a practitioner's event with those who were involved in the case so that their perspective can be obtained. Then a final report will be brought to the HSAB and some learning events for the wider workforce will be set up. The sub-group has also been working on a child safeguarding practice review. This involved the death of a 12 year old with learning difficulties and complex medical needs. There were issues around non-attendance at medical appointments, low school attendance and the use of mechanical restraint. Although this is a focus on children, the sub-group thinks there will be issues that are of relevance to adult services as well. We recently held an extraordinary meeting to consider the possibility for another SAR in relation to a gentleman who was placed in Harrow from a neighbouring authority. He was homeless and had substance misuse issues. He died as a consequence of substance misuse. It was decided that it did not meet the criteria for a SAR but public health who run a Panel to examine deaths that are related to substance misuse will conduct a review.. We will work closely with them and report back to this board. We have recently started a new learn lessons review in relation to a 16 year old with mental health issues who was self-harming.

The young person had been discharged from hospital, self-harmed again and whilst being re-admitted was arrested and tasered. This has met the criteria for carrying out a learned lessons review.

Quality Assurance sub-group

The group has been delighted with the support it has had from business intelligence with the data set for the adult's board. It is generating good discussion, more questions and further lines of enquiry. During the most recent QA group, there was an update on the position with referrals from care homes and there was a dip possibly because the number of people going into the care homes, were not generating referrals. This has been compensated by the increase of health staff going in for vaccinations.

We are jointly running a Section 11 audit. This is about ensuring that organisations have got their appropriate safeguarding arrangements in place. You will have the equivalent in the Care Act. Instead of going to individual agencies and asking what they have got in place, we have set up an online questionnaire that will be sent to frontline staff, children and adult services in April. It takes about five minutes to complete it. It will test how well your arrangements have informed frontline staff e.g. they will be asked who their lead safeguarding person is, when they last had safeguarding training. That way you can triangulate what your frontline staff are saying against the arrangements that your organisation has in place. It is a pilot scheme.

Learning and Development sub-group

The joint HSAB/HSCB conference went well and there was very good feedback which is still being collated. The sub-group will be approaching the delegates in 2-3 months' time to get their feedback and ask how they have embedded their learning. The proposal for the next conference is to cover the topic of safeguarding in technology or technology and safeguarding. The Safeguarding Children Board agreed to support this topic. CMcG – to make sure that the next joint conference is balanced, we need to have a planning group that reflects both adults and children. It does not have to be the same group of people every year. If there are other people with the expertise that we can bring into the planning group, please make recommendations. We would welcome them.

CM – we could broadly agree that if it is focused on “safeguarding in the digital age”, as a lot of our older clients are being served digitally in some cases. The topic was agreed by the HSAB.

8. Police update

SH – with regard to the public protection re-structure, since 2018 we have had a structure where the CAIT teams, the RASA teams and the domestic abuse teams were working in one safeguarding structure. It has been rebranded into public protection. There has been a new commander since April, who set a new public protection delivery plan with different KPI's. This matches with the Deputy Commissioner's framework around performance. There has been an effect on the sanction detection rates across the board.

With regard to the public protection re-structure it is still being reviewed. There is a new KPI for adult safeguarding to improve the outcome rates for vulnerable adults. With regard to the revised KPIs, the Commander is still writing them up and they will be published with the public protection delivery plan. This will be produced by the next board meeting. The Strategy & Governance Team changed their name to the MPS Data Office and they provide data sets for the frontline executive group. There is a new tool called the Met Insight Tool. It is not a performance reporting tool but a search which picks up volume types, times, locations of incidents and overnight incidents. It is still in its trial period. There will be a short introduction video made available to MPS staff. It might be possible for the HSAB to view it.

9. LeDeR update at Q3

YL – The number of learning disability deaths allocated in Harrow during 2020/21 was 17. All of them are now completed. 11 were Covid related. There was one further death in March 2021 (not included in the 17) also Covid related. There were no learning disability deaths between the 1 October and the end of February 2021. This reflects the hard work and joint efforts made by health and local authority colleagues supporting care homes and residential settings who look after people with learning disabilities. Between April and September, there were more learning disability deaths related to Covid. The infection prevention control support takes time to be delivered to all staff and be embedded into local practice. We have seen the results and a reduction in the number of deaths.

The discharge teams within the acute trusts have received support to ensure safe discharges were made to appropriate placements to guarantee the safety and wellbeing of other learning disability service users. In Quarter 1 from April to June, the teams will be working on the LeDeR Annual Report which should be concluded by June 2021. The Annual Report will include a breakdown of the cases and will highlight some of the issues in terms of the impact of Covid on the learning disability population and those that resulted in death. It will summarise the recommendations and the learning from the reviews and the actions that need to be taken forward to improve practice and learning. The report will be shared with the safeguarding adults board.

10. Feedback from the Harrow Strategic Safeguarding Partnership (HSSP)

CM – we have a financial settlement agreement that the North West London CCG have agreed that there needs to be equity across the 8 boroughs.

11. Updates from HSAB member organisations

CLCH (KA) - we have learnt a lot from the pandemic and have delivered training to 224 people in the past two weeks around no access to patients and the escalation process. We have had a SAR in Barnet around no access and we have been sharing the learning from that.

Harrow CCG (YL) – this is the last day of Harrow CCG. Tomorrow we will be North West London CCG which incorporates all 8 boroughs. There is a Borough Director and borough team. In terms of safeguarding there will be a strategic overview of safeguarding adults, the lead is Diane Jones across the North West London CCG. We have designated professionals who are specific to each borough. We recognise that safeguarding is a local borough placed issue and will continue to be.

Harrow Council Adults (AM) – the safeguarding adults team remain focused. Staffing has been good.

WDP (JaKa) – prior to the pandemic, we were facilitating a drug & alcohol related death panel. We will be starting the quarterly meetings again. We will be inviting partner agencies to attend these. It is about learning outcomes.