

Safeguarding within Hertfordshire always matters, whether we are safeguarding children or adults from neglect or abuse

Welcome to the second edition of the Hertfordshire Safeguarding Boards joint Adults and Children's newsletter. We hope that it gives all professionals reading it an opportunity to keep up to date with safeguarding developments across both the children and adults arenas and reinforces the message about 'think family'.

This quarter we have launched the 'See the Adult, See the Child guidance' which emphasises the overlap between the works of both Boards. As part of the review of the HSCB we have focused on what arrangements we can join up across the two boards with the Learning and Development groups working more closely together and the District Council group which brings together representatives working with both adults and children.

Working Together to Safeguard Children was published at the end of June. <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-safeguard-children--2>.

This provided the guidance for the implementation of the Children and Social Work Act including the multi-agency safeguarding arrangements that will replace LSCBs from September 2019. We have undertaken a review of the Board, its subgroups and structure and the new proposals will be agreed through partners' governance arrangements during the autumn. As part of this we bid to the DfE to be an early adopter and we were lucky enough to be chosen. Our focus will be on engagement of schools with the new safeguarding arrangements and the new scrutineer role which replaces the role of the Independent Chair.

The Adults Board has had an exceptionally busy few months. At the meeting the board reviewed and signed off several new policies and procedures relating to adult safeguarding. These policies included the Self Neglect Policy; which was put together following some recently completed Serious Adult Reviews (SARs) and the Complex Cases Policy which is to be used to promote effective multi-agency working.

Nicky Pace

Independent Chair
Hertfordshire Safeguarding
Children Board

Liz Hanlon

Independent Chair
Hertfordshire Safeguarding
Adults Board

This policy uses existing forums but guidance is given on what to do where there are no agreements reached between agencies; and the Escalation Policy which provides a clear protocol including a flowchart and a timescale for each level. All these new policies are multi-agency and are available on the HSAB website. The board launched the Self Neglect Policy on the 20th September.

The HSAB has also recently published a Safeguarding Adult Review relating to the death of 'Stanley'. This multi-agency review identified learnings across the partnership which led to individual agency and joint multi-agency recommendations. The 'Stanley' review is available on the HSAB website and is worth reading, giving an insight into self-neglect and complex cases.

Both the HSCB and HSAB annual reports are being signed off and will also be published on the HSCB and HSAB websites for everyone's information.

We hope you enjoy the newsletter.

Info for professionals added to HSCB the website:

Suicide prevention policy

Our vision is to make Hertfordshire a county where no one ever gets to a point where they feel suicide is their only option

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/childrens-services/hscb/professionals/herts-suicide-prevention-strategy.pdf>

CiN multi-agency protocol

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/childrens-services/hscb/professionals/cin-multi-agency-protocol-and-procedure.pdf>

Info for professionals added to the HSAB website:

HSAB Practice Guidance; including Escalation policy, Self-Neglect Policy and Multi-Disciplinary Guidance for complex cases:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/adult-social-services/report-a-concern-about-an-adult/hertfordshire-safeguarding-adults-board/procedure-for-professionals.aspx>



Apps!

Mental Capacity app and the Adult Safeguarding app

Online Training Opportunities

Did you know that the **HSAB/HSCB** provides access to several different online children's safeguarding and adults' safeguarding courses via **Virtual College**, which is ranked amongst the UK's top E-learning providers.

The Virtual College courses are CPD certified and provide a delegate with a certificate as proof of completion and as proof of the completed CPD hours that are relevant to their profession.

With an increased demand for more e-learning opportunities, we have been successful in procuring more licences this year.

The courses are free to all HSCB member agencies and delegates are allowed a maximum of 3 weeks to complete their course. The courses are available to non-member agencies at a cost of £30.00 per course.

Please see below a list of some of the courses available which are part of both Board's priorities:

- Awareness of Child Abuse and Neglect – foundation and core
- An Introduction to Safeguarding
- Safeguarding Children and Young People from Abuse by Sexual Exploitation
- Basic Awareness of Child and Adult Sexual Exploitation
- Safeguarding Everyone – Protecting Children, Young People and Adults at Risk

- Trafficking, Exploitation and Modern Slavery
- Self-harm and Suicidal Thoughts in Children and Young People
- Awareness of Domestic Violence and Abuse
- An introduction to FGM, Forced Marriage, Spirit Possession and Honour Based Violence
- Deprivation of Liberty Safeguards
- Safeguarding Adults at Risk Course - Social Care
- Understanding Pathways to Extremism and the Prevent Programme
- Working with adults who self-neglect

Follow this link to apply:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/services/childrens-social-care/child-protection/hertfordshire-safeguarding-children-board/professionals-and-volunteers/training-and-learning/training-and-learning.aspx#>

Events of Interest - Children

HSCB – Twilight Sessions

The Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board is continuing to run termly twilight sessions for designated safeguarding leads and Head Teachers in schools.

The next sessions will be held throughout October and November. The topics to be covered are online safety, e-safety and 'sexploitation'.

HSCB - Anti-Child Exploitation Champions Event

The Board has nominated champions across its partner organisations to tackle child exploitation.

Their role is to review provision of awareness and education programs within their own organisations and to ensure high risk groups are receiving targeted and appropriate intervention and support. On Thursday 27th September, the HSCB hosted the first Child Exploitation Champions Event as an induction and development day for the champions.

The event had guest speakers from the National Working Group to Stop CSE, Hertfordshire Constabulary, Hertfordshire County Council, schools and education. There were also networking opportunities for the champions to help them to develop the best skills to tackle child exploitation and CSE and to share good practice and how to overcome challenges with other delegates.

Events of Interest - Adults

Self-Neglect

The HSAB launched the recently ratified guidance on Self Neglect on Thursday 20th September.

The launch included speakers on tackling self-neglect and also hoarding. More info:

<https://hscb.event-booking.org.uk/event-detail/%3D%3DwNxMDN/HSAB-Self-Neglect-and-Complex-Issues-Guidance-Launch>

HSAB Forums

Wednesday 12th December 2018 (09:00 - 13:00) – the HSAB will be running another forum.

This time the topic will be mental capacity – not all speakers are confirmed but bookings are open on the website.

Wednesday 20th March 2019 (09:00 - 13:00) – The topic for March 2019 has been confirmed as learnings from Domestic Homicide Reviews (DHRs)

HSAB Training Topics and Dates

Fire Safety Training Thursday 20th September and Thursday 15th November

HSAB Multi-Agency Safeguarding Adults awareness training Friday 19th October

HSAB Modern Slavery and Exploitation - Operation Tropic Lite Bite Monday 5th November

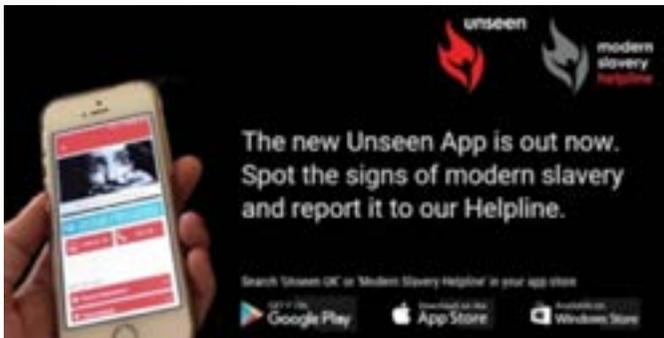


Are you aware of these Apps?

Unseen App:

The UK-wide Modern Slavery Helpline, which is operated by Unseen, was established in the autumn of 2016.

On Monday 30th July 2018, World Day Against Trafficking, the Unseen App was released to make reporting to the Helpline even easier. The app provides a simple guide to recognising the signs of modern slavery and reporting concerns in confidence to free more victims of slavery.



For Me App:

ChildLine has launched an app that is the first to provide counselling to young people in need of help directly through their mobile device.

The app has been named 'For Me' to ensure that it can be discreetly installed. This means that if someone happens to see the young person's phone they can't tell it's a ChildLine service.

<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/for-me-app/id1094217440?mt=8>

The Safe Car Wash App:

The Safe Car Wash app has been developed to allow the general public to engage with the problem, it is a new tool that will enable the largest community intelligence gathering exercise ever attempted in the United Kingdom.

Download the free app onto your smartphone and then when you are using a hand car wash, simply open the app and complete a short survey about the working conditions of the car wash.

<https://www.theclewerinitiative.org/s/mtvsff1nyye8wdvqjoh89uekfai57>

HSAB Mental Capacity App

This app is intended for use by Health and Social Care professionals.

It is meant to be used as an aid for decision making and does not replace clinical judgement.



<https://itunes.apple.com/gb/app/hbl-dols/id1144884535?mt=8>
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=pharmdbb.Droid>

Keep Children Safe In The Water

Drowning is the third highest cause of accidental death for children in the UK. Keep them safe.



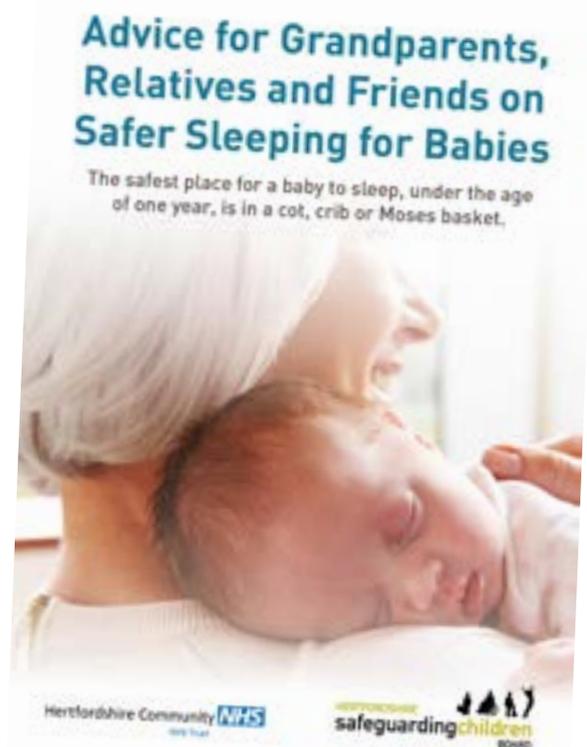
HSCB - Water Safety

The RLSS launched the Drowning Prevention Week on June 15th which the HSCB supported through social media. The HSCB also refreshed its water safety leaflet which can be found on its website:

<https://www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/media-library/documents/childrens-services/hscb/hscb-guidance-posters-and-publications/be-safe-in-the-water-campaign.pdf>

Advice for Grandparents, Relatives and Friends on Safer Sleeping for babies

The safest place for a baby to sleep, under the age of one year, is in a cot, crib or Moses basket. The HSCB has launched a leaflet for grandparents about looking after babies sleeping behaviours. Advice has changed significantly since they were parents and this helps bring them up to speed. Since the launch of the 'Back to Sleep' campaign, the rate of SIDS has fallen by 81%.



Private Fostering

Private Fostering launched an awareness week campaign on July 9th. Private Fostering is when the parents of children under the age of 16, or 18 if they have a disability, make arrangements for someone else to care for their children for 28 days or longer.

Private foster carers can include:

- other family members such as grandparents, aunts, uncles and cousins
- a step-parent who is not married to the parent of that child
- friends

To find out more about Private Fostering please visit www.hertfordshire.gov.uk/fostering

Safeguarding Adult Reviews (SAR) Library

The Safeguarding Adults Review (SAR) library is now in place and contains reports and associated resources to support those involved in commissioning, conducting and quality assuring SARs.

The work has been commissioned by the Department of Health, this library has been developed jointly by Research in Practice for Adults (RiPFA) and Social Care Institute for Excellence (SCIE), working closely with colleagues from the sector.

To keep improving with our Safeguarding methods we must attempt to learn from previous mistakes that have been made. A good way of doing this is by looking at lessons learned from national Safeguarding Adults Reviews (SARs) and how these may be applied locally, to avoid similar incidents occurring within our localities.

The HSAB will be using the new SAR library going forward to enhance the learning for Hertfordshire and share findings from other Safeguarding Adults Boards to identify key themes.

The SAR library can be accessed via the Social Care Institute for Excellence website:
<https://www.scie.org.uk/safeguarding/adults/reviews/library/apply>

For your information: New reports/guidance

<https://www.modernslaveryhelpline.org/uploads/20180713080158101.pdf>

<https://www.refuge.org.uk/domestic-abuse-suicide-refuge-warwick-july2018/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/news/new-relationships-and-health-education-in-schools>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/childrens-commissioner-vulnerability-report-2018/>

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/no-defence-for-abuse-a-strategy-to-tackle-domestic-abuse-within-the-defence-community?platform=hootsuite>

<https://www.refuge.org.uk/domestic-abuse-suicide-refuge-warwick-july2018/>

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/publication/are-they-shouting-because-of-me/>

Hoarding disorder article:

https://www.theguardian.com/society/2018/aug/18/it-looks-like-youre-a-lazy-idiot-hoarders-welcome-medical-classification?CMP=Share_iOSApp_Other

HSCB Learning Bulletin



The theme for this bulletin is the publication of the Serious Case Review (SCR) for Family H.

In December 2017, Hertfordshire Safeguarding Children Board (HSCB) published the report of the Serious Case Review (SCR) of the services provided to a family where the oldest child in the family is alleged to have seriously sexually abused his siblings.

The review has found no evidence that either the children's mother or professionals had specific reason to believe that the younger children were at risk of serious sexual abuse before the allegations.

The oldest child has complex needs and there has been involvement from different multi-agency professionals for a number of years. The SCR has identified 7 recommendations that have been adopted by the HSCB and that will be used to inform practice improvements across services for children and young people.

The recommendations and progress made is as follows:



Recommendation 1

The SCR identified the need for more effective input by Pediatricians and CAMHS colleagues in Child In Need (CIN) meetings.

What have we done

There is now a system in place where Childrens Services staff can report non-attendance to a designated health lead. This has been communicated via a Practice Guidance note. An audit of this process will be undertaken to consider its effectiveness.

Recommendation 2

The SCR identified issues around the management of correspondence by the Local Authority and sought assurance around the systems in place.



What have we done

A Practice Guidance note has been issued to all relevant Children's Services staff that clearly specifies the arrangements for the management of correspondence on open and closed cases.

Recommendation 3

This recommendation was in relation to the HSCB seeking assurance from Hertfordshire Children's Social Care on the quality of supervision and management arrangements in Child in Need and Family Safeguarding services.

What have we done

Children's Services had received a Peer Review of supervision and case management arrangements and have continued to implement the actions identified. In addition, supervision policies and documentation has been revised which has included new guidance for group supervision. There are tracking systems in place to monitor that supervision is taking place in line with procedure.



Recommendation 4

The SCR recommended that the HSCB request that the local authority and HPFT should explore a means of providing confirmation that a child is the subject of a CIN plan for CAMHS and other professionals. The arrangement should comply with data protection arrangements.



What have we done

This recommendation has proved to be challenging. This has included challenges in relation to technology and consent. It has therefore concluded that HPFT and other partners need to contact Children's Services if they need to ascertain if a child is subject to a CiN plan.

Recommendation 5

This focused on partnership working between Police and Children's Services and included a review of the criteria for reporting incidents of potential need.



What have we done

The police have undertaken force wide training in relation to vulnerability and mental health. Pathways for information sharing are in place for identification of need across the continuum.

Recommendation 6



The SCR indented a need for a multi-agency pathway for the management of children (including young children) who have complex social and emotional needs, linked to aggressive behavioral difficulties or risk to others (these would include those whose histories feature sexualized behavior, fire setting, sexual abuse and, chronic exposure to domestic abuse).

What have we done

The Child In Need procedures have been fully revised and include a Child In Need panel as well as links to a Complex Case Panel. This procedure has been signed off and widely disseminated. It can also be found at the following link:

[Here](#)

In addition, A pathway is being developed jointly through CS commissioning, HPFT and CAMHS to support the complex needs of children and young people who exhibit sexually harmful behaviors.

Recommendation 7

The final recommendation was for the HSCB ask commissioners to explore the possible use of CAMHS transformation funding to implement the proposed pathway, to include assessment and development of locally based treatment expertise, in line with NICE guidance.



What have we done

This agreement is now in place



If you have any queries about this bulletin, please contact Janet Jones – Safeguarding Boards Manager on 01438 737348. The full SCR report and Board Response can be found on the HSCB website:

[Here](#)

WARNING: CAR SEATS



There is a risk that your baby may **stop breathing** if they are not positioned correctly in their car seat

If the chin touches the chest whilst your baby is slouched forward, their airway can be cut off so they cannot breathe. This is called 'positional asphyxiation'.

You can **reduce the risk** by only using your car seat in the car and according to manufacturer's guidelines. Remove your baby's outerwear to make sure they are sat in an upright position, and to avoid overheating.

! THINK: CHIN OFF CHEST!

www.hct.nhs.uk/children-and-families

Car seats are designed to keep your child safe and secure when used correctly.